

DAMASCUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
 9700 NEW CHURCH STREET  
 DAMASCUS, MD 20872  
 PHONE: 301-253-0022  
 E-MAIL: OFFICE@DAMASCUSUMC.ORG  
 WEBSITE: WWW.DAMASCUSUMC.ORG

# THE BEACON

## AUGUST 2018



*Devoted Servants, Drawn to Jesus, Dedicated to Making Disciples*

### CLERGY AND STAFF:

**Kathryn Woodrow, Senior Pastor**

**Sherwyn Benjamin (Pastor B)  
 Associate Pastor**

**Polly Edmonds Baldrige  
 Minister of Music & Worship Arts**

**Nick Works  
 Director of Youth Ministry**

**Cora Horst  
 Director, Pleasant Plains Preschool**

**Jane Webb  
 Office Manager**

**Linda Stastny  
 Office Administrator**

**Stephen Kalnoske  
 Organist / Pianist / Worship Arts**

**Steve Malley / Bookkeeper**

**Lisa Marshall / Property Manager**

**Tyrone (TJ) Budd, Jr. /  
 Weekday PM Custodian**

**Julio Pedraza /  
 Weeknight & Sunday AM Custodian**

### SUMMERTIME SPIRITUALITY

*Earth is crammed with heaven,  
 and every common bush afire with God;  
 But only he who sees, takes off his shoes.  
 – Elizabeth Barrett Browning (1806-1861)*

I love summer, with its hot days and warm nights, vacations and “staycations”, visits to ballparks and dog parks. It’s just a great season.

It’s also a time to connect with God in different ways, especially through God’s good creation. Here are some things I hope to do with what is left of summer, a few of which you may wish to try too:

- Watch the lightning bugs blink
- Walk barefoot in the grass
- Pray and meditate outdoors—on the beach, by the campfire, under a shade tree in your backyard.
- Keep a summer journal or photo book that helps you capture where you have experienced God’s presence this summer.
- If you’re out of town on vacation, worship some place new. Appreciate what is different; remember what you love about your DUMC.
- Put away the technology: put down the cell phone, the iPad, the laptop and get out into nature. Appreciate the majesty of God’s creation.
- Appreciate water: from the hose, in the pool, at the ocean, on the lake, by a stream. Touch that water and remember your baptism and be thankful.
- Use your senses: Feel the warm, soft breeze on your skin. Listen to the rain as it falls. Be astounded at the power of lightning and thunder.
- Give yourself permission to do nothing. Seriously, nothing (except breathe, of course!).

May you enjoy Sabbath time and the goodness of God’s creation this summer!

Grace and peace,

*Pastor Kathryn*

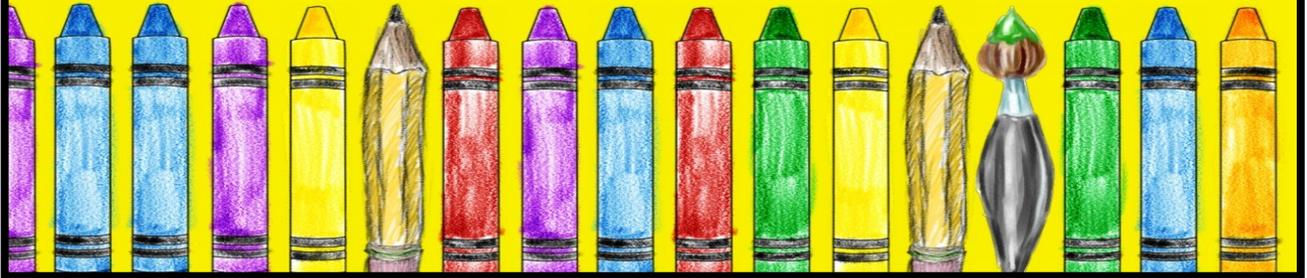
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## School Supply Drive

Faith Connections will be collecting school supplies for needy students in the Damascus-Clarksburg area. Please buy extra supplies when you are shopping during this summer. Donations can be placed in the labeled blue bins located at many local businesses and churches. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Donations will be collected from early July until August 20th .



### We are collecting:

Backpacks

Lined paper (college and wide ruled)

Spiral notebooks

Composition books

Pencils

Pens (blue, black and red)

Crayons

Markers

Colored Pencils

Erasers and eraser caps

Safety scissors

Glue sticks (not regular glue)

Dividers (5-7 subject)

Pocket folders

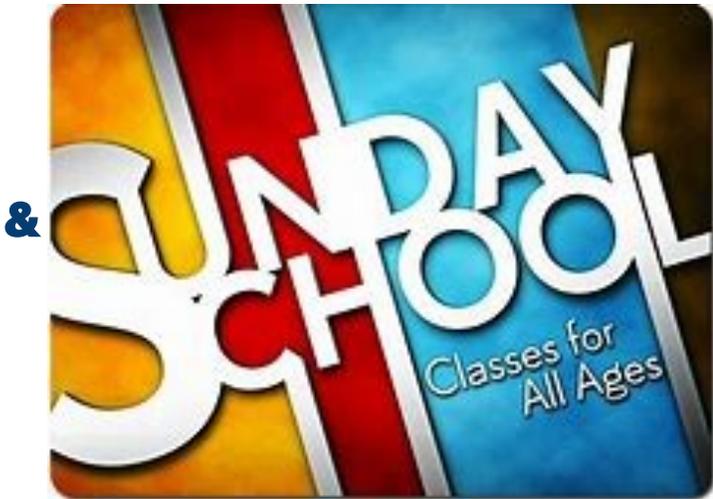
## Ever Thought about Becoming a Stephen Minister?



Damascus United Methodist Church, along with other churches in our network, will be training another class of Stephen Ministers beginning Monday, September 10, 2018. Classes will begin at 7 PM.

Stephen Ministers work alongside our pastors to care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people who are going through a difficult time, such as divorce, grief, hospitalization, unemployment, terminal illness, relocation, chronic illness, or loneliness. If you have gifts for caring, encouragement, and listening, please begin to prayerfully consider whether you might want to be part of this exciting ministry.

If you think you might be interested, please talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders: Pastor Janet Cornelius (240.418.0516), Jan Mullinix (301.518.2204), Bonnie Custer (301.606.2314), Ted Ross (301.704.7992), or Jan Jaremko (240.277.5884). You can always call the DUMC office and speak to Pastor Kathryn or Pastor B as well (301.253.0022).



# Rally Day

## Blessing of Backpacks

**Sunday, September 9  
@ Damascus UMC**

CONTACT: Cora Horst | 301-529-3047

Come on Rally Day and get your backpack or briefcase blessed, meet wonderful Sunday School leaders, register for Sunday School, meet the pastors and ministry staff, and see what else is happening at Damascus UMC for children, youth, and adults.

**8:15 am Worship Service with Blessing of the Backpacks**

**9:30 am Fellowship, Signups, Refreshments**

**11 am Worship Service with Blessing of the Backpacks**

**REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR BACKPACKS!!!**

**Sunday School Classes at DUMC begin September 16.**



### United Methodist Women News

Susanna Wesley JOY Circle will meet August 13

**VIA INTERNET - check your Email**

UMW missions funded for many decades by Damascus UMW will be highlighted using the 2018 Prayer Calendar.

Pray this day for work in the CONGO, Cedartown GA, Dulac LA  
Birthday greetings sent to D P Guinkpa, Nigeria



The WWJD Circle will not meet during July and August.  
Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be **Thursday, September 20.**  
Have a lovely summer!

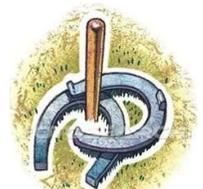


### United Methodist Men News

#### Men's Night Out — Family Barbeque

will take place on **Saturday, August 18** at The Ross' @ 5:00 pm  
7901 Warfield Road, Gaithersburg, MD.

Barbeque, Campfire, Yard Games, Horse Shoes, Hay Rides for young and old kids alike. Event will run 5:00—10:00 pm, or later until the last one quits! Dress is casual, shorts and flip flops are ok. **Please RSVP to Ted Ross** at 301-704-7992 if you plan on attending.



# Worship Arts News and Events

August, 2018

Polly Edmonds Baldrige, Minister of Music and Worship Arts

240-750-8287 | polly.baldrige@damascusumc.org

Stephen Kalnoske, Organist | 240-832-2112 | stephenkarnoske@gmail.com

## Worship Arts Ensembles Resume in September

From September through May, music and arts ensembles for all ages are offered at Damascus UMC.

A description of the groups and start dates is below, but please contact Polly Baldrige for additional information. These ensembles are open to DUMC members and anyone else in the community interested in participating.

Plans are also underway to provide transportation for families who need assistance in getting their children to Wednesday rehearsals because of parent work/transportation conflicts. Contact Polly Baldrige if you'd be willing to be part of a team to carpool/ help drive children to Wednesday practices.

## MONDAYS

7:30 pm **Ring of Joy** Great Hall Stage /Resumes Sept. 10 (75-minute session)

Primarily adults, but open to all ages—medium/advanced handbell ensemble

## WEDNESDAYS

4:30 pm **Colorful Hands of Jesus** Great Hall Stage Side /Resumes Sept. 12 (30-minute session)

Puppet troupe for elementary students 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and up led by Cathy Scarbrough & Nalynn Ryder

5:00 pm **Cherub Choir** Great Hall Back Half/Resumes Sept. 12 (30-minute session)

Choir (singing, games, movement) for children 4 ½ years old to 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> grade led by Lydia Turner-Little

5:00 pm **Youth Puppets** Great Hall /Resumes Sept. 12 (45-minute session)

Puppets/drama for 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up led by Cathy Scarbrough & Nalynn Ryder

5:00 pm **Choristers** Choir Room/Resumes Sept. 12 (60-minute session)

Choir (w/singing music and worship education) for children 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade led by Polly Baldrige (with Mary Nieter and Diane Fry)

6:00 pm **Inspiration Ringers** Stage/Resumes Sept. 12 (30-minute session)

Handbells for students 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade led by Polly Baldrige

7:00 pm **Men's Choir** Stage/Start date TBD (seasonal)

For all male changed voices, directed by Curt Shiflett with Kathryn Smith, piano

7:00 pm **Women's Ensemble** Great Hall Back Half /Start date TBD (seasonal)

Singing technique session with Polly Baldrige will also include working on music for Women's Choir

7:30 pm **Chancel Choir** Choir Room /Resumes Sept. 12 (90-minute session)

SATB choir for 11 am worship— primarily adults, but open to all ages, led by Polly Baldrige with Stephen Kalnoske, accompanist

8:15 pm **Concert Choir** Choir Room/Start date TBD - (SATB Choir working on special concerts — seasonal)

**Special Note:** 30th Anniversary Living Christmas Tree performances for 2018: Dec. 28 & 29

## SUNDAYS

4:00 pm **Youth Handbell Choir** Stage/Resumes Sept. 9

Handbells for youth 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades (medium/advanced handbell ensemble) led by Tom Baldrige

5:00 pm **Charles Wesley Singers** Choir Room/Resumes Sept. 9

SATB choir for 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades and up led by Polly Baldrige with accompanist Stephen Kalnoske

Shares weekly @ 8:15 am worship service

## ONGOING ARTS/WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Acolytes/Crossbearers (youth and adults to light candles, lead procession, and assist in liturgical functions of worship services)
- Praise Artisans Guild (open to all ages - decoration of sanctuary/building seasonally and art exhibit coordination)
- Youth Praise Band (open to all youth - singers, guitar, pianists, drummers - shares weekly at 9:30 am youth Sunday School gathering in Youth Chapel from September to May)

# Worship Arts News and Events (cont'd)

August, 2018

Polly Edmonds Baldrige, Minister of Music and Worship Arts

240-750-8287 | polly.baldrige@damascusumc.org

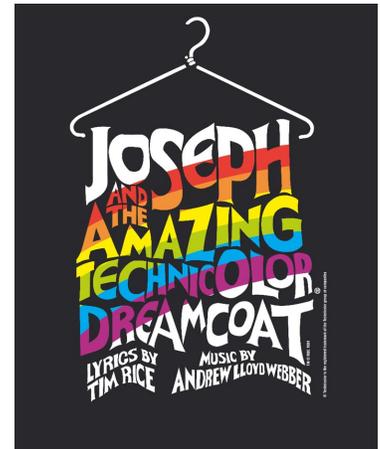
Stephen Kalnoske, Organist | 240-832-2112 | stephenkarnoske@gmail.com

## DAMASCUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PRESENTS...

Friday/Saturday,

Aug 24 and 25 @ 7 pm

Sunday, August 26 @ 3 pm



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Tickets \$10 | 301-253-0022 | [damascusumc.org](http://damascusumc.org)

Performances in Great Hall

Damascus UMC | 9700 New Church Street, Damascus, MD

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT  
is presented by arrangement with The Musical Company, LP.

### SUMMER CHOIR – FOR ALL AGES

NO ROBES | NO PROCESSIONAL | NO ONE EXCLUDED

9:30 am Sunday Service in July and August

All singers are invited to sing during worship over the summer! Come 20 minutes before services each week for a quick rehearsal to review anthem. Both choirs, Charles Wesley Singers & Chancel Choir, will join to share in the single 9:30 am service—some mornings there will be more than one anthem. This is also an opportunity for children and youth to sing with their parents and other adult friends. Come join us – anthems will be picked from familiar repertoire.

### Special Music in Worship

Anyone willing to share their musical gifts during worship is invited to share solo or ensemble selections during the summer and beyond.

Please contact Polly Baldrige if you would like to sing or play something.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Performances August 24 and 25 @ 7 pm;

August 26 @ 3 pm

**HELP NEEDED**

This is an outreach to the community and production of the entire congregation! Please contact Polly Baldrige if you are willing to help in any of the following ways:

Costumes / makeup / ushering / ticket sales / pit orchestra / publicity / set painting / concessions at intermission

# MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

Carol Yocum, Chairperson  
carolyocum@msn.com / 301-788-6446

## SPRING/SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES TO BE IN MISSION TO OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

- Volunteering at Harwood House which serves the community and whose proceeds support nearly 30 other helping organizations
- July 1—Nan McCurdy & Miguel Mairena began their assignment in Puebla, Mexico, with *Give Ye Them to Eat* which serves the marginalized residents of Puebla
- Painters needed at Harwood House for some outdoor trim painting this summer
- VIM TRIP MONEY IS DUE FROM EACH PERSON GOING: \$150 on July 29.
- VIM trip - October 7 - 13, Tarboro, NC
- Crop Walk in Damascus October 14, providing food for Damascus Help and others
- Safe Haven work - Fall
- Change for Change - end of year holiday season
- Nicaragua & possible Kenya trips winter 2019

## Volunteers in Missions Fall trip

### **VOLUNTEER IN MISSION TRIP: SECOND TEAM MEETING AUGUST 12 @ 10:45 am -- ANNEX/CHURCH OFFICE**

This fall, October 7-13, a team of volunteers will travel to Tarboro, NC, to work on homes damaged by Hurricane Matthew in the fall of 2016. This hurricane did \$15.09 billion in damages from Venezuela, north to NYC. The hardest hit states were Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina. People who want to help with all manner of repairs, and if any have bonafide trade skills, or no trade skills, are invited to participate. We will be staying at a center in Tarboro, outfitted with bunk beds by UMCOR; we will prepare our own meals. Cost is \$150 per person for room, board, and travel. Call or email Carol Yocum if you are interested. Contact info: carolyocum@msn.com or 301-788-6446.

**In response to the overwhelming devastation caused by Hurricane Matthew in October of 2016, the NC Conference United Methodist Disaster Recovery Ministries has set up 5 disaster centers in eastern NC. Hundreds of volunteers have mucked out hundreds of flooded homes and reconstruction is in progress. Some homes still need to be mucked out and sprayed for mold. While, in other cases, volunteers are needed to repair houses: replace floors, insulation, ceilings, roofs, drywall, porches, decks. Disaster Response has begun building new replacement homes. Each center has a site manager, construction manager, and case manager who coordinate and oversee the volunteer work.**

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## Notes Received:

To: Doug Marshall  
Subject: Laytonsville Safe Haven garden

Hi Doug –

We have already harvested several bunches of red leaf lettuce – enough to feed all of our residents and give some to our men’s Safe Haven program! We now also have peppers.

The tomato plants have gotten so big that they have outgrown their cages and we’ve propped them up with tree branches. We are eagerly anticipating their ripeness soon.



Of course there are those that want to crash our garden party: Groundhogs. Thankfully, your fence has held and the groundhogs have to be happy with whatever else they can find.

I just wanted to thank you again for all the hard work that made our garden possible. It means so much to our residents that people care about their well-being. And fresh veggies are such a treat.

Marlene Deal, Assistant Program Director  
Safe Haven, Laytonsville

(continued) ⇨⇨⇨⇨ 6

# MISSIONS AND OUTREACH (cont'd)

Carol Yocum, Chairperson  
carolyocum@msn.com / 301-788-6446

## Notes Received (cont'd):

Dear friends at DUMC,

We want to say thank you for your thoughts and prayers during this time of turmoil for Nicaragua. It's been almost 3 months since the violence began over protests to social security reform. More than 300 lives have been lost, and many more were injured or are missing. Many have lost their jobs, and safety in the streets is no longer guaranteed. Roadblocks are being used as a form of protest in many parts of Managua (esp near universities) and around the country. International human rights groups are here investigating the deaths, and the Catholic Church is mediating dialogues between the government, student groups and civil society.

The La Danta church community is doing well in spite of the situation. They have had a good rainy season and are hopeful for a plentiful first harvest in August. There are no roadblocks near them, so they can get to the market. What is most worrisome is rising food prices for the basics other than what they grow, because of the lack of access for vehicles. They send their love, prayers and greetings for their sisters and brothers at DUMC.

Our second daughter Julia Isabella arrived on May 29th in the midst of all of this, and has been a beacon of hope and light for us. We give thanks to God that we were able to make it safely to the hospital and that she was born at a healthy 7 lbs 15 oz (two weeks early!). Thank you so much for the baby shower fund, that was very thoughtful and we are so grateful!

Memo and I have made the decision to relocate our family to MD for 6 months starting in August. We feel that Managua, especially at night, is no longer a safe space for raising young children. Eduardo and Luis will continue the work of Between Cultures here in Nicaragua, and we will stay in close contact with them. We have faith in God that this struggle will lead to a better future for the country, but in the meantime we look forward to connecting and spending time with the DUMC community in these upcoming months.

Nicaragua needs solidarity and support more than ever, and we continue to ask for your active prayers and positive energy to bring an end to the violence and find a peaceful resolution for this humble country that so many of us love so much.

Paz en Cristo,

Amanda Jones-Dominguez --  
on behalf of Between Cultures



To ALL Volunteers in Mission and Team Leaders who organized mission trips to Virginia Beach, we send our heartfelt hurrahs and appreciation! On July 28<sup>th</sup> we are having an "End of Hurricane Matthew Continued Recovery Celebration" with our homeowners, complete with a picnic luncheon. At that time, we will also be celebrating YOU, knowing full well without your labors of love our goal of finishing well could never have been achieved. Fifty-two families have been touched through you as you worked to repair their homes and share Christ's love.

Knowing you have come from so many different areas across the Nation, we know it is impossible to gather us all together. So, set your phones or mark your calendars for noon on July 28<sup>th</sup> and send up a Praise God for His provision and goodness, then pat yourselves on the back for your mighty efforts and willingness to share your time and talents. The homeowners are so thankful for each, and every one of you!

Bob, Michele, and Chuck will be busy at St. Luke's through the month of August packing up and tearing down bunk beds, etc. (I finish up the end of this month.) But, Oh, the wonderful memories, sweat, tears, and joys we've shared together; they will last a lifetime.

We know your servant hearts will answer calls to help in enormous ways and in a variety of places. No doubt our paths will meet again, but in the meantime, best wishes to you all and safe travels wherever you go.

We are grateful for both your presence and help- you are awesome!

God Bless.

Bob, Michele, Chuck, and Janet

# MISSIONS AND OUTREACH (cont'd)

Carol Yocum, Chairperson  
carolyocum@msn.com / 301-788-6446

## Notes Received (cont'd):

Hi Carol,

Everything is going well. The team is terrific and we are learning a lot. This METHODIST conference had 102 churches in 8 states, including the Yucatán. We are in our first of three days at the Conference and meeting many people. We will send you something soon. **There is a Susquehanna group arriving Oct 5 for 9 days. Maybe some people would want to join?**

We so enjoyed being with you and sharing with folks. Take good care. Please share our greetings!

Nan McCurdy and Miguel Marirena,  
Global Ministries Missionaries  
(based in Puebla, Mexico)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Hi, Carol,

Thanks for your concern and it has been a terrible couple of weeks. As the OAS pressures the Nicaraguan government to stop the violence, the violence continues. So many deaths, so much polarization, so many obstacles to reach justice and reconciliation or even an immediate solution. It is amazing how quickly everything has escalated.

We are doing as well as can be expected, and remain safe and mostly at home, but are deeply saddened by the events and so many people we know and don't know who have been affected. I share Bible study time with Amanda and other missionaries (we have taken to doing it over Skype or Whatsapp since we have been unable to meet in person due to insecurity) and she shared that they were planning some time away in the US. A sound decision given the circumstances. Our youngest daughter will be leaving for college in August which is kind of a relief, too. Our eldest was hoping to work in Nicaragua for a year, but we are giving that some time before we look at alternatives.

Your prayers are welcome, there is not a whole lot more to be done at the moment, but I do encourage all groups and supporters of Nicaragua, AMC or whatever ministerial connection is, to continue sending support both financial and spiritual. It means a lot in times like these. Surprisingly, AMC's project sites which are located in some of the most socially unstable parts of the country, are enjoying relative calm and projects and grants are underway with only some limitations. Damascus UMC support for the dental workers is also giving results. I have been remiss in getting more information to you, but a young dental worker named Yassir Obregon has been developing his skills and practice and goes out regularly with Ministry of Health mobile teams to really far out places to offer extractions. I have helped to train this young man and he also apprentices with his father, Secundino Obregon. He was a young man on a bad path, so this opportunity has helped to turn his life around.

We are also grateful for your prayers, both personal and in church. And we still find time to celebrate global events that give us perspective like the three young missionaries in the Philippines who are now safely home. And Eritrea and Ethiopia are getting along after decades of strife. So hope remains in the midst of anguish.

Grateful for your message, I hope your vacation travels are a time of rest, relaxation and fun!

Grace and peace,  
Dr. Belinda Forbes,  
General Board of Global Ministries Missionary & Dentist  
with Accion Medica Cristiana in Nicaragua

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

# DUMC YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

## AUGUST & SEPTEMBER, 2018

### Hershey Park Trip

**Monday, July 30th**

**Leader: Nick Works**

**Last day tickets available: \$53**

**CALL NICK ASAP IF YOU'D LIKE TO GO !**



**Sunday, September 2 @ 5 pm**  
Pavilion/Dining Hall

### YOUTH FALL KICK-OFF EVENT



### BIG, HUGE, GARGANTUAN

things are going to happen this year in the Youth Ministry at DUMC.

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN????

COME TO THE KICKOFF PARTY

To Grill, Chill and a

Back to School THRILL !!!

- Everyone is welcome including parents to enjoy an evening of fun.
- We will be talking about the upcoming year's schedule and signing up to help out.
- Dinner will be provided.
- Location TBA, (hopefully someplace with a pool!)

**Sunday, August 12 @ 4:00 pm**

### UMYFO Meeting

**in the Annex/Church Office**

**Friday, August 31 @ 9:30 pm**

### 5th Quarter Events

**Note: 5th Quarter Events take place at DUMC on Friday nights after DHS Football Games, until 11:30 pm**

**Tuesday, September 4**

### First Day of School

**(For Montgomery County Students)**

**Begins September 9**

**Youth Fellowship, Sundays @ 6:00 pm**

**Includes Dinner and an Activity**

**Youth Bell Choir, Sundays @ 4 pm**

**in the Great Hall**

**CW Singers Rehearsal, Sundays @ 5 pm**

**in the Choir Room**

**Youth Puppets, Wednesdays @ 5 pm**

**in the Great Hall**

**Start Date TBD**

**Youth Praise Band**

**Rehearsal times TBD by group**

**in the Youth Chapel**

**For questions or  
more information,  
contact Pastor Nick at  
[nick.works@damascusumc.org](mailto:nick.works@damascusumc.org)  
or 240-751-6695.**

## Greetings from your Finance Committee

We started our February 2018 Finance Committee Report by saying, “We have very good news to report on 2017 ... after three years of declining income ... our terrific congregation responded with increased giving that wiped out the projected deficit, balanced the 2017 budget (giving) us confidence that our 2018 Budget will be balanced.” This strong pattern of giving has, for the most part, continued, and we are pleased to report that by the end of June, half way through the fiscal year, all bills were paid including our apportionment payments to the Conference. WE CAN REPORT THAT DR. WOODROW AND PASTOR BENJAMIN WERE VERY PLEASSED TO RECEIVE THEIR FIRST FINANCIAL UPDATE ON DUMC. Please keep up the good work.

Having said that, we are now in the annual “summer slump” and income has fallen below budgeted projections. We urge you to:

- please make up missed contributions as soon as you return from vacation or
- better yet consider going to our new Damascus UMC App to sign up to give electronically. Information on electronic giving is on the next page of this Beacon.

We want to note several major accomplishments so far in 2018:

- The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) under the leadership of our Lay Leader, Vanessa Leiby, oversaw four very smooth clergy transitions with skill and grace.
- We had a very successful plant sale that helps fund a number of DUMC’s missions in our community and around the world.
- The Charles Wesley Singers had a wonderfully successful Summer Mission Tour touching the lives of hundreds of people from here to Florida and back.
- A team from DUMC continued our long history of service to the people of Garrett County this summer through their work with Habitat for Humanity.

In closing, let me say we will never be able to do everything we want to do to further God’s work on earth; however, each of us can work to meet and hopefully exceed our commitments to support the work of DUMC in our community, our nation, and around the world.

Sincerely,

David A. Rust, Chairman

Factoid # 7

*One of John Wesley’s best known and best loved quotes is : “Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, as long as ever you can.” While it unquestionably reflects his teaching and “sounds like something he would have said” scholars and historians can find no record that he ever said it.*

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## ABOUT e-GIVING

Just a reminder that the DUMC offers the capability of giving your weekly or monthly offering by e-Giving. You don’t have to remember to bring your envelope, checkbook or carry cash. It’s a convenient way of making sure your donation gets to the church in a timely manner whether you’re at church or not. You can call the church bookkeeping department to find out more or get an e-Giving form in the Narthex.

## **But Remember, There Are Many Ways to Give to DUMC**

Damascus United Methodist Church wants to meet your needs on how you would like to make your tithe and offerings to the church. Please use the method that best fits your needs.

- You can bring your check/cash to services on Sunday and put your offering in the collection plate
- You can set up with your bank to send the church a bank draft for the frequency and amount you determine.
- You can download the church smart device application and go to the option to digitally give to the church. The instructions to set this up are intuitive once you are on that portion of the church app.
- You can text giving to the church. This can be set up by texting the word GIVE to the phone number (240) 428-6258. Once you do this you will get a response on how to set this up for future giving. Once set up you can then text OPTIONS to that phone number and it will give you the various options how much and to which fund that offering should be credited.
- You can call the church office bookkeeping department and set up e-Giving using a credit card, this can be done either monthly or twice a month based on your needs. Your credit card account will be charged the amount and frequency you determine.
- You can call the church office bookkeeping department and set up e-Giving using your bank ACH (automated clearing house). This can be done on a monthly or every two week period based on the amount and frequency you determine.
- You can donate stock. This is a win-win situation for you and the church. You
- bypass paying the capital gains tax if the stock value has grown. Call the bookkeeping office to find out more.
- If you are 70 ½ or older you can give your Required Minimum Distribution or a portion of it to the church and won't pay the tax on the distribution. Talk to your financial advisor on how to do this.

**Your presence is most important but your presents are appreciated.**

## **Announcements**

### **The Courtyard Garden**



**Kudos to Gene and Wilma Orndorff!** for planning, planting and mulching the courtyard garden and to Kevin Williams for preparing the area.

The garden, envisioned by Gene along with the 2014 Trustees, is a beautiful compliment to the cross installation creatively constructed by Gene from recycled organ pipes.

A very special thanks to Donnie Whitmeyer of Grey Goose Farms for his generous donation of rock and plant materials enabling the garden to become a reality.

## YOUNG-AT HEART TRIP!!

Friday, October 5, 2018

JOIN US FOR A THREE-HOUR CRUISE IN BALTIMORE  
DURING FLEET WEEK!!!!



Watch the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds as they practice their air show over Ft. McHenry (and fly right over our heads!)



Be in awe as we cruise past navy vessels. Vessels will also be boarding visitors at the Inner Harbor for tours from 1- 6 p.m.!

As in 2016, Baltimore has been chosen by the Navy to be one of a few select cities to be an official Fleet Week destination, honoring our nation's military and paying homage to the state's deep cultural and historical maritime connections. More than a dozen ships will participate in Maryland Fleet Week & Air Show Baltimore, including U.S. Navy and Coast Guard, Canadian and British Naval ships as well as sea service vessels and traditional sailing ships. The vessels will be open for tours at the Inner Harbor, Fells Point, Canton and Locust Point. The USAF Thunderbirds will be having their practice flying demonstrations on Friday, with the F-16 Fighting Falcon thundering above Ft. McHenry! Fleet Week festivals will also be taking place throughout the Inner Harbor from 11- 6 p.m. with exhibitors and vendors from maritime, military, cultural, and historical organizations. There will be hands-on activities, local food and drink, musical acts, and other entertainers. Make a day of it and enjoy all there is to offer!

We have 20 tickets reserved for this awesome event on a **first-come, first-served basis**. Carpoolers will meet at the church at 11:00, which will give us plenty of time for the 12:30 check-in time with the cruise ship. The cruise will end at 4:00, giving us an additional two hours to explore the Inner Harbor festival and tour a few vessels before they close at 6:00. Those who wish to leave directly after the cruise should provide their own transportation.

Our Watermark Cruise will be departing from the Baltimore Finger Piers at the Inner Harbor at 1:00. **Bring a bag lunch to eat on the boat.** Beverages are available for purchase on the boat.

**Cost: \$56.00** Make check out to DUMC, with the notation "Y-A-H Baltimore" on the check. Drop your payment off to Jane in the annex. All money due by **August 26<sup>th</sup>**.



The Genealogy Club is on break for the Summer. They will resume meetings in the Fall, 2018. Questions, contact Liz Vanderham @ [vandercation@gmail.com](mailto:vandercation@gmail.com) or 301-428-2873.

## Announcements (cont'd)

The **Welcoming Wednesday Dinners** have ended for the summer so that our fabulous kitchen volunteers can take a break over the summer.



### PLEASE NOTE AND PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER

In order for Wednesday night dinners to continue, we need new volunteers! Some of our faithful helpers are less available this fall. Think about helping out once a month in the fall for this worthy mission of fellowship and food!

Contact Gabrielle Hulcher (301-414-7468), Kenny Sue Robertson (301-253-5405), Tina Soule (301-540-5943) or Lora Maynard (301-253-5868) for details.

**Sunday, August 19 @ 7:00 pm**



Join us for this service held monthly, now being moved back to the Parlor location. This service is a time for sharing Holy Communion, laying on of hands, and anointing with oil (James 5:14-16a).

All are invited and you may come to ask for healing for others.

***Come join the Prayer Shawl Ministry***  
**Monday, August 20 at 12:30 pm**  
**in the Annex (Church Office)**

Prayer Shawl Ministry is a creative way to combine the love of knitting and/or crocheting with ministry to people in need of comfort. The shawls we make offer tangible evidence of God's love to each recipient. If you would like to give a prayer shawl to someone whom you know, you can contact one of the pastors, or Cathy Heinbaugh, [cheinbaugh@comcast.net](mailto:cheinbaugh@comcast.net), 301-253-0742, or Jan Mullinix, [jmullinix74@yahoo.com](mailto:jmullinix74@yahoo.com), 301-482-1122.



## Prayer Requests

The Intercessory Prayer Group invites you to write any prayer requests on the prayer cards located in the pews.

Prayer cards should then be placed in the offering plate.  
All requests will be kept confidential.

Prayer requests may also be made on-line at [www.damascusumc.org](http://www.damascusumc.org).



## Announcements (cont'd)

### Victory Haven Apartments

Construction of the Victory Haven apartments across New Church Street from DUMC is anticipated to commence in September 2018. The sale of the property by the Boyer family to Victory Housing, Inc. (VHI) was finalized at the end of June. VHI serves as the affordable housing development arm of the Archdiocese of Washington. More information can be found on their website [www.victoryhousing.org](http://www.victoryhousing.org)



The complex will include 72 apartments in a 4-story, L-shaped building. The rentals will be to seniors age 55 and up. Rent will be a sliding scale based on income. Victory Haven residents and guests will have dedicated parking on site, but in the event of overflow, they will be allowed to use the parking spaces on New Church Street temporarily. These spaces were always part of a shared easement with the Boyer (now VHI) property. The artist's sketch shows the view from Main Street; our church is located beyond the building. Because the property slopes down from New Church Street, only 2 ½ to 3 stories will be seen from the church. Additional project information can be found on the County Planning Board website <http://montgomeryplanningboard.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Victory-Haven-Preliminary-Plan-No.-120170200-and-Site-Plan-No.-820170040.pdf>

The project will probably take 18 months to complete. Will some disruption affect DUMC? Of course, but all parties will work to limit it as much as humanly possible. They must tie into a sewer pipe under New Church Street which will be inconvenient and likely messy. But it's for a short time, and then the street will be restored to its present state. After the project is complete, DUMC Trustees are planning to patch holes and repair the street, and if enough funds are available, repave the entire asphalt. The Trustees negotiated for VHI to share in this expense. Further, VHI will also contribute to our annual snow removal costs and they've pledged to work with us to limit any construction activity during regular services and special events. The project's primary construction access is off Main Street, not New Church Street; however, some deliveries of equipment may be made via New Church Street, but these will be kept to a minimum. The parking lot will be re-striped after construction and repaving of the street are done. Also, the path to the Youth Chapel will be relocated by VHI because it currently resides on their property.

Please look at this as an opportunity for DUMC. There will be a new population of potential members right next door! Our new neighbors may join us for Welcoming Wednesday dinners. Although no youth will live at Victory Haven, the residents may have children and grandchildren in the area. Let's welcome them into our community!

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### Altar Flowers for 2018



A sign-up notebook to provide altar flowers for this year has been placed in the rack in the narthex next to the Welcome Station. The sooner you sign up for your special dates, the better! You may order the flowers yourself from one of two local florists:

Blossoms and Basket at [301-829-8300](tel:301-829-8300)  
or Beall's at [301-253-2840](tel:301-253-2840)

**NOTE:** Both florists charge a \$5 delivery fee to DUMC.  
If you have any questions, contact Linda Stastny in the church office.

## Announcements (cont'd)



### Earth Stewards Street Clean-Up Saturday, August 25 at 8:00 am

If you have noticed the litter along Woodfield Road near Safeway and the Post Office, now is your chance to do something about it. Our first clean-up after snow melts is always a big one. We will pick up the litter along Woodfield Road from Bethesda Church all the way to 27 and it usually takes less than 2 hours. We have gloves, orange vests, trash bags, and pick-up sticks. The group will meet in the parking lot near Woodfield Road at 8 am on Saturday so we can divide and conquer! If you would like to join us, please let Jeff Heinbaugh know so he can contact you in case of inclement weather. [heinbjc@comcast.net](mailto:heinbjc@comcast.net) or 301-253-0742.



### GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE

The DUMC Blood Drive is  
**Thursday, August 23, from 1:00 - 6:30 pm**  
in the church Dining Hall

Please check your calendars and **sign up**. Walk-ins may not be able to fit into the schedule so we strongly recommend making appointments. The shortest waiting times tend to be for those with appointments between 2:00 and 4:00 pm.

Please call 1-800-733-2767 or go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and use sponsor code:

**Damascus UMC MD to schedule your life-saving donation!**

Thank you to all who have participated in the blood drives at DUMC in the past. We have a terrific community of donors and volunteers! **Volunteers are also needed to help prepare for the blood drive. Please contact Cathy Heinbaugh 301-253-0742 or [cheinbaugh@comcast.net](mailto:cheinbaugh@comcast.net) if you are able to help.** Thank you for helping us save lives !!

Going to buy something  
on Amazon.com?



Don't forget to go through the DUMC link located at the bottom of the home page on the DUMC website ([damascusumc.org](http://damascusumc.org)).

The Youth Program here at DUMC gets a contribution for all purchases made through this link, with no additional cost to you!

**SAVE THE DATE !!!**

**Saturday, November 3, 2018**

The annual DUMC Craft Bazaar (& dinner)  
will be held on  
**Saturday, November 3, 2018.**

We need YOU to make it a success! We will happily accept crafts of any kind! We also encourage you to eat with us that day.

For more information will be forthcoming.

Questions?

Crafts: Contact Mandy Sellers at [mandysellers@outlook.com](mailto:mandysellers@outlook.com)

Food: Contact Hazel Strahorn at [hazelstrahorn@verizon.net](mailto:hazelstrahorn@verizon.net)

## Announcements (cont'd)



# 2018

**Friday, October 5 12:30 pm**

Maryland Fleet Week 3 hr. boat tour of Baltimore Harbor and Thunderbird Airshow. **See flyer on Page #12 of this Beacon.**

**RSVP'S WILL BE NEEDED BY AUGUST 26, 2018.**

Contact: Sue Constantinides / 301-253-6591

**NOVEMBER, 2018** Date and Time TBD

**Tour of Arlington National Cemetery and lunch.**

**Contact person: Sue Constantinides / 301-253-6591**

**DECEMBER, 2018** Date and Time TBD

Traditional Young at Heart Christmas Dinner & Party, held at DUMC, Dining Room

**Coordinator/CONTACT PERSON NEEDED FOR THIS EVENT to take place.** Call Sue or Jane to volunteer.

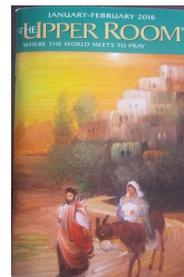
**NOTE:** *Young at Heart activities are open to all adults in our church and community.*

*We try to plan a variety of events that appeal to people, but please feel free to make suggestions, and possibly sponsor or co-sponsor an event. Contact Sue, Sandra or Jane.*

## The Upper Room

Please feel free to take a copy of the Upper Room which are located in the **NARTHEX** by the **WELCOME BOOTH**.

Better yet, take a couple of copies and share with friends and neighbors !



## Did you know?

The Upper Room Living Prayer Center has a 24-hour, 7-day-a-week intercessory prayer ministry staffed by Christian volunteers. When you call 1-800-251-2468, a person will answer the phone, receive your prayer request and pray with you. After your call, your prayer concern will be forwarded to one of 300 Upper Room Covenant Prayer Groups located all over the world. On the Web, requests can be submitted by visiting [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org), click on "pray" in the green box. Your request will be e-mailed to the Prayer Center within 24 hours and sent out to Upper Room Covenant Prayer Groups as well. More than 30,000 prayer requests are received each month.

## Office Hours

The office is open Monday - Thursday, 8:00 am - 6:00 p.m. On Friday, we open at 8:00 a.m., sometimes close for lunch (approx. an hr.) and occasionally close early. Additionally,

Pastor Kathryn is off on Fridays.

Pastor B. is off on Mondays.

Jane Webb is off on Mondays.

Linda Stastny is off on Tuesdays.

Please keep this in mind when waiting for a response to e-mail or phone messages.



