

DAMASCUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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THE BEACON

FEBRUARY 2019



Devoted Servants, Drawn to Jesus, Dedicated to Making Disciples

CLERGY AND STAFF:

Kathryn Woodrow, Senior Pastor

Sherwyn Benjamin (Pastor B)
Associate Pastor

Polly Edmonds Baldridge
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. / PM Custodian

Brittnay Tarpley / PM Custodian

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Thoughts on Love

February: The month in which we send cards to those we love on the 14th, otherwise known as St. Valentine's Day. But who was St. Valentine? According to my Pocket Dictionary of Saints (yes, it's a real thing), Valentine was a physician, priest, and Bishop who was martyred on February 14th in the year 269. Is this card-worthy? Apparently, the custom of sending valentines on February 14th stems from the medieval belief that birds began to pair on that day.

The word love appears in the Bible more than 500 times. One of the most famous passages that has to do with love is found in 1 Corinthians 13, often referred to as "the love chapter," which is frequently read at weddings. It includes these familiar words:

"If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends." (1 Cor. 13:1-8a, NRSV)

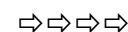
However, these beautiful, inspirational words were not written about romantic love. They were written by the Apostle Paul to the Christians in Corinth about the type of love that should exist among believers. It is a vision of what the Christian community should look like at its best, with love as the essential feature of life. Love was something that was lacking in the fractious Corinthian congregation.

Over and over in the Bible, we are told—even commanded—to love:

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." (Mark 12:28-34)

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." (John 15:12)

The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also. (1 John 4:21)



"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." (Mt. 5:43-44)

How can we love not only those who love us, but all of our neighbors and even our enemies? Certainly not through our own strength. Reading 1 John 4 can help us to understand and to find the strength to love: *"God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them...There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear...We love because God first loved us."* We must call upon the power of the Holy Spirit to help transform our hearts to be more loving.

This month, when Valentine's Day cards and hearts are everywhere, may they be a visual reminder to us to love as Jesus loved—loving not just those who are easy to love, but those who are tough to love because it is our calling as Christians. To love the unlovable—even those we may think of as enemies—has the potential to change the world.

And, as Paul reminded the Christians in Corinth, may our congregation be the place in which we practice those loving ways: patience, kindness, generosity, humility, and civility. May we take those loving ways out through the doors of the church, into our families, our schools, our workplaces, and our communities, to make our world a more Christ-like place.

In Christian love,
Pastor Kathryn

Understanding "A Way Forward"

Here at Damascus UMC we will have two opportunities to gather to learn more about the work of the Commission on A Way Forward, its recommendations to the upcoming special session of General Conference, and possible implications of the special session for our denomination and local congregations. The same information will be covered at both meetings:

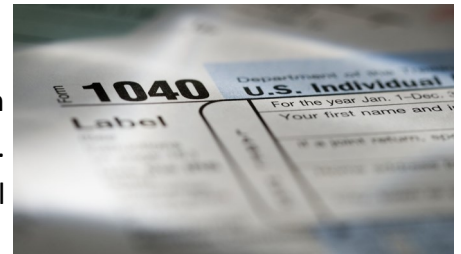
Tuesday, January 29, 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the Great Hall

or

Sunday, February 3, 12:30 - 2:00 pm in the Great Hall

Free Tax Help

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is available free to taxpayers of any age with low and moderate incomes, with special attention to those 60 or older. AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is offered in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service.



Schedule an appointment beginning on January 28*

240-777-2577 / Monday—Friday / 9:30 am to 3:00 pm

or go to: **www.montgomerymd.gov/taxaide**

Appointments available - Tuesdays, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Select Saturdays (Feb. 16; March 16 & April 6). 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

*Book an appointment by March 1, 2018 to guarantee availability

Damascus Senior Center and Library
9701 Main Street, Damascus, MD 20872

February Worship / Worship Services at 8:15 and 11:00 am

Jeremiah's Call and Commission
The Gift of Love

February 3, 2019: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

We will celebrate Holy Communion together at both services. Pastor Kathryn will preach on Jeremiah 1:4-20 and 1 Corinthians 13:1-13.

Music: 8:15 a.m. – Charles Wesley Singers (youth);
11:00 a.m. – Chancel Choir (adults);
Choristers (elementary-aged children).



February 10, 2019: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Pastor Kathryn will begin a four-week, lectionary-based sermon series called “See All the People.” Each week we will consider one of the stories from Luke’s Gospel that tells us about Jesus’ actions and helps us learn more about how to *be* disciples and how to *make* disciples of Jesus Christ.

The sermon for this day will focus on “The Pressing Crowd” (Luke 5:1-11).

Music: 8:15 a.m. – Charles Wesley Singers (youth); 11:00 a.m. – Chancel Choir (adults).

February 17, 2019 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Pastor B will preach, “See all the People: The Expectant Crowd” (Luke 6:17-26).

Music: 8:15 a.m. – Charles Wesley Singers (youth); 11:00 a.m. – Chancel Choir (adults).

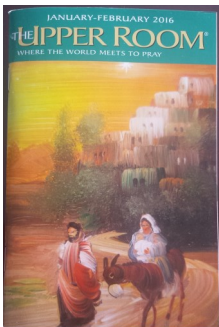
The Inspiration Ringers will also participate in worship.

At the 11:00 a.m. service we will commission four new Stephen Ministers (George Hughes, Kathy Leslie, Christy Taylor, and Mary Walcek).

February 24, 2019 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Pastor Kathryn will preach, “See All the People: The Questioning Crowd” (Luke 6:27-38).

Music: 8:15 a.m. – Charles Wesley Singers (youth); 11:00 a.m. – Chancel Choir (adults), Cherub Choir (our youngest children). The Men’s Choir will also sing.



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.

This publication is a wonderful way to encourage daily scripture reading!

Men's Night Out for February

The Men of DUMC
(and male friends, family & neighbors)
are invited for a Men's Night Out on

Monday, February 4, 6:00 pm

**Firebirds Wood Fired Grill
390 Spectrum Ave, Gaithersburg, MD 20879**

***RSVP to Ted Ross by Friday, February 1
at 301-704-7992***

Please plan to join us ! ! ! !



DUMC Men's Group — 2019 Schedule

- Feb. 4: Firebirds Wood Fired Grill, Gaithersburg (See details above)
- March 5: DUMC Men prepare and serve Shrove Tuesday dinner.
(Fat Tuesday - breakfast for dinner)
Fund raiser for men's ministries.
- April 8: Men's Night Out @ CarterQue Barbeque, Mt. Airy, MD
- May 18: Host District breakfast at DUMC
- May 23: Men's Night Out @ Lone Star, Germantown, MD
- June 7 & 8: Retreat Hallwood Retreat Center, Comus, MD
- July 15: Men's Night Out - Mt. Airy Inn, Mt Airy
- August : NO Men's Night Out
- Sept. 10 Men's Night Out @ Carrabbas, Germantown, MD
- Oct. 12 Annual Church Picnic @ Ted Ross' House, Gaithersburg, MD



October and November
Men's Mission Focused Project

NEXT LADIES' NIGHT OUT

**In honor of the constant threat of
bad weather we will not have a
Ladies Night Out in the month of February.**

However, we will be back in March.

The committee for Holiday Giving would like to recognize and thank those from DUMC and the Damascus community who made our Holiday Giving project a huge success. Our efforts provided Christmas help for families in two ways. Individual gifts were bought for family members, especially children. Grocery gift cards were provided as well. In all we met some needs for 25 families. This included 63 children and 52 adults. Many people and groups are involved in this effort. Adult and young teen Sunday School classes, women's and men's groups, our Youth group, neighborhood groups, individual families and even the Damascus cheerleaders squad and wrestling team helped us fill this need.

***A Big Thank You and Blessings on you
from the Holiday Giving Committee***

Cora Horst
Kathy Leslie
Amanda Dominguez
Hazel Strahorn



The WWJD Circle will meet at the home of Mary Walcek, 24400 Kakae Drive, Damascus, at 7:00 on Thursday, February 21. We will discuss books that we have read recently that we feel are worthy of a recommendation to friends. This is the same program that we were to have had on January 17, but postponed due to inclement weather.

Our circle is open to anyone interested in socializing with church friends, at least the female ones. Please come and join us for a fun evening of books and lively conversation! If you'd like to come, please call or email Mary so she knows how many to expect: 301-253-3908 or mlwalcek@gmail.com



Love One Another (LOA) Group

We will be meeting at 9:30 am on Saturday, February 16, at the Music Café to discuss the next steps. The focus of this group is how to include all people in our church and how can our church respond in regards to social justice issues.

We do this in following the example of Jesus who reached out to various groups of “untouchables,” affirming that God loves them. One example is the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:4-42). In this story, Jesus crosses societal norms and engages her in conversation. He tells her who he is and she believes him. She goes to get the rest of her village, Samaritans, to come listen to Jesus. They believed.

The LOA group is in its infancy. About 10 people from our congregation went to the “United to Love” rally last August. Then a few of us went to see the movie “The Hate U Give” and felt compelled to take some action in response to the inequality we saw in that movie. So far, we have gathered a couple of times to discuss groups that historically may not have been included in the church. While we began with a movie that focused on the topic of race, our intent is to address inequality in all areas—race, economic disparity, women, LGBTQ community. As Jesus welcomed all to follow him in order to have a relationship with God, so must we.

We will be continuing the discussion on February 16. All are welcome to join us. If you have questions, please contact Charlotte Kibak at 301-956-6056. Hope you can join us!

Worship Arts News and Events

February, 2019

Polly Edmonds Baldrige, Minister of Music and Worship Arts

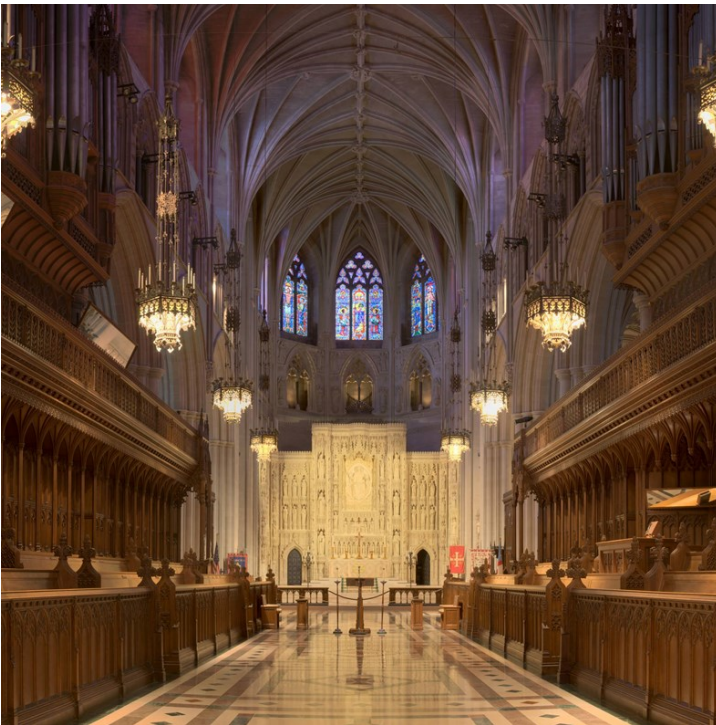
240-750-8287 | polly.baldrige@damascusumc.org

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

Worship Arts in February

Let's Go To Where the Music Is Happening!

TRAVEL TO DC



Washington National Cathedral
3101 Wisconsin Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20016

**Sunday, Feb. 17
at 5:15 pm**

**DUMC's organist Stephen Kalnoske
is playing a 50-minute program
at the National Cathedral.**

**A group from DUMC will caravan
down to listen,
gathering at 3:30 pm
on the day of the concert to depart.**

NOTE: Charles Wesley Singers will rehearse from
3:00 to 3:30 pm that day and other Sunday rehears-
als will not be held.

TRAVEL TO MOUNT AIRY

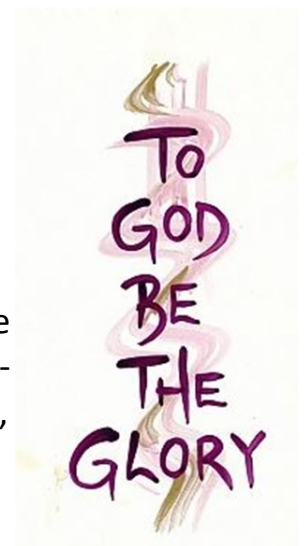
Choral Hymn Festival

Sunday, February 24, 2019

3 pm at Calvary UMC in Mt. Airy, MD

The Chancel Choir from Damascus UMC will collaborate with the adult choir at Calvary UMC in Mt. Airy to present a concert of favorite hymns and anthems including *What A Friend We Have in Jesus*, *Then Will the Very Rocks Cry Out*, and *You Are Mine*.

Free-will offering



Worship Arts News and Events

February, 2019

Polly Edmonds Baldrige, Minister of Music and Worship Arts

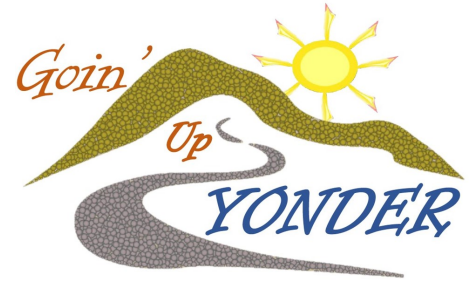
240-750-8287 | polly.baldrige@damascusumc.org

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

TRAVEL WEST

The Charles Wesley Singers are traveling west this summer on choir tour. Tentative dates are June 17/18 - 23, 2019. The theme of our trip is ***Goin' Up Yonder***.

If you have any family and friends in West Virginia, Kentucky, or Tennessee that might host our choir, please be in contact with Polly to share suggestions and names.



REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

MONDAYS

7:30 pm **Ring of Joy** Great Hall - Stage side / 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 / 30-minute session
Puppet troupe for elementary students 2nd grade and up led by Cathy Scarbrough & Nalynn Ryder

5:00 pm **Cherub Choir** Great Hall - Back Half / 30-minute session
Choir (singing, games, movement) for children 4 ½ years old to 1st/2nd grade led by Lydia Turner-Little and Stephanie Greer

5:00 pm **Youth Puppets** Great Hall / 45-minute session
Puppets/drama for 6th grade and up led by Cathy Scarbrough & Nalynn Ryder

5:00 pm **Choristers** Choir Room / 60-minute session
Choir (w/singing music and worship education) for children 2nd to 5th/6th grade level
by Polly Baldrige (with Mary Nieter and Diane Fry)

7:30 pm **Chancel Choir** Choir Room / 90-minute session
SATB choir for 11 am worship— primarily adults, but open to all ages,
led by Polly Baldrige with Stephen Kalnoske, accompanist

SUNDAYS

4:00 pm **Inspiration Ringers** Great Hall - Back Half / 30-minute session
Handbells for students 2nd to 5th grade led by Polly Baldrige

4:00 pm **Youth Handbell Choir** Stage / 60-minute session
Handbells for youth 6th to 12th grades (medium/advanced handbell ensemble)
led by Tom Baldrige

5:00 pm **Charles Wesley Singers** Choir Room / 60-minute session
SATB choir for 6th to 12th grades and up led by Polly Baldrige with
accompanist Stephen Kalnoske
Shares weekly @ 8:15 am worship service

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

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

WINTER/SPRING 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.
- **April workday at Safe Haven**
- **Possible Kenya trip** Fall, 2019
- **Possible trip to Puebla, Mexico**, 2019
- **Habitat Work** week July 14-19, 2019
- **Fall Volunteers in Mission trip**

Pray for Those who serve and share God's love

- 1) Amanda Jones-Dominguez & Memo Dominguez and daughters Sophia & Julia currently in MD from Nicaragua (Between Cultures)
- 2) Dr. Belinda Forbes & husband, Dr. Gerardo Gutiérrez & daughters, General Board of Global Ministries Missionary & dentist with Accion Medica Cristiana in Nicaragua, serving rural eastern villages
- 3) Nan McCurdy & Miguel Mairena serving in Puebla, Mexico, with Give Ye Them to Eat The primary school children at Ndere Orphans School, Gem, Kenya.

2019 Habitat Work trip

Our annual trip to Garrett County Habitat for Humanity will be July 14-19, 2019. More information will follow in the spring, but mark your calendars now. Put in requests for leave if needed.

Change for Change Offering

We will share the final amount of the offering in the March Beacon and in a February bulletin. Thanks to all who made this gift a part of their holiday giving.

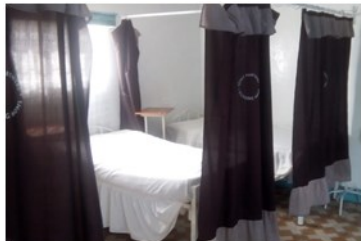
COFFEE AND DONUTS FUNDRAISER for Nicaragua

Once a month on Sunday we will be in the Narthex selling Nicaraguan Coffee, from the Twin Engine Coffee Company, and also delicious Krispy Kreme Donuts to support the **Between Cultures** Mission Team. All funds raised will go to provide immediate basic food assistance (rice, beans, cooking oil) to our friends in La Danta, Nicaragua, who have endured two recent poor harvests and are now in need of some assistance to get them through to the next harvest. Coffee can also be ordered online from Twin Engine and shipped directly to your home. When ordering on line, just go to www.twinenginecoffee.com and be sure to apply the promo code CULTURE at checkout. Between Cultures will then automatically receive a portion of your purchase. Enjoy, and thank you for your support.

Neema Kenya Mission

A huge THANK YOU for your generous support of the SERRV (\$608) and Evans Christmas Tree (\$366) fundraisers! More to come on how these funds will be used to support an upcoming Rainwater Harvest Project.

In November 2018, our friends Joyce and Adan at Joint Partners Medical Clinic hosted government and health officials, to dedicate their new maternity unit, named **"Neema Mission Maternity Wing"** in honor of your generous support (which included medical equipment, delivery beds and linens). It was a very big deal for Joint Partners Clinic, and it is a very big deal for Neema Kenya Mission!



(continued)

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH (cont'd)

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

Neema Kenya Mission (cont'd)



Just when we thought we could not be more humbled, we received this word from Joyce and Adan. The first set of twins was born in the Neema Mission Maternity Wing. The mother was so grateful for the excellent care she received, she named one of the babies for her nurses, "Joynet," and the other she named "**Neema.**" We are overjoyed at the impact Joint Partners Medical Clinic is making and are so honored to be part of it. Thank you, DUMC, for making this possible!

As a reminder, "Neema" is Swahili for "Grace." May God's abundant grace continue to bless you and our Kenyan brothers and sisters in 2019!

Thank You

- To those who volunteer week-in and week-out at Harwood House
 - To those who knit prayer shawls for those facing challenging places in life.
 - To those who donate blood—the Gift of Life.
 - To Kathy Leslie who has served so creatively and faithfully on the Missions Team.
- Our best wishes as you continue to serve in another area at DUMC.

Damascus Help - January Newsletter

In November Damascus HELP made 45 food deliveries serving 155 people, helped two families with financial assistance, two families with clothing, and gave rides to three people.

Volunteer News: Happy New Year! Thank you for volunteering for Damascus HELP as our neighbors depend on you in their time of difficulty. Damascus HELP sponsored 17 families for the Holiday Giving Project. Each family enjoyed a holiday meal. We are continuing to look for additional volunteers so please ask your friends and neighbors to join our team. Opportunities include ODS, food drivers, pantry pick-up helpers, and volunteers to be part of a furniture delivery team. Furniture delivery teams with their own trucks are in great demand as well as transportation drivers. Another financial caseworker is needed to work with the clients and their utility bills. Special project volunteers are also needed. For all volunteer opportunities, call Damascus HELP at 301-253-4100, or email dh20872@aol.com or www.damascushelp.org for additional information.

News from Dr. Belinda Forbes 12/24/2018



Belinda Forbes is a missionary of the United Methodist Church assigned to serve in Nicaragua as the international liaison for cooperation and community health a development agency, Accion Medica Cristiana (AMC). In the photo above she is with her husband Dr. Gerardo Gutierrez, Project Director at AMC.

In my Thanksgiving newsletter, I shared about dental health projects. Among AMC's other ongoing grants are two Global Health projects funded by Global Ministries in Maternal-Neonatal-Child Health in the Kukra River and Tasba Pri field offices that bring training, resources and access to quality health care for women and children. In addition, UMCOR supports AMC with a Sustainable Development Project in Food Security in 5 communities along the Coco River (border with Honduras) which equips farmers to train other farmers, community fairs for commercialization, and for young people to develop school gardens. Whenever you give to UMCOR and Global Ministries or directly to AMC's Advance #14846A at umc.mission.org you are supporting these life-giving grants. AMC also partners with United Methodist Women, Church World Service, World Renew and other agencies from the US, Canada and Europe for their projects in health and development.

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MISSIONS AND OUTREACH (cont'd)

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

News from Dr. Belinda Forbes 12/24/2018 (cont'd)

Biointensive Farming Course

Along with her usual work of dental care and fundraising for AMC, Belinda and daughter Isabel had a hand at farming and joined AMC Matagalpa field staff and agronomy engineers Xochitl Sequeira and Francisco Cruz in a Biointensive Agriculture training course held in Managua and Condega. The method is designed to produce food for a family in a small space and with little irrigation. AMC's uses different methods with its farming partners as part of the Food Security Strategy of the current Five-Year Plan.



February Youth Fellowship

Sunday 2/3

- 4:00 pm: Youth Handbell Rehearsal**
- 5:00 pm: CWS rehearsal**
- 6:00 pm: Super Bowl Party (Location TBD)**

Sunday 2/10

**Youth Return from ROCK Youth Retreat
No Rehearsals, Dinner or Activity**

Sunday 2/17

- 5:00 pm: CWS rehearsal**
- 6:00 pm: Youth Dinner & Devotional
Game Night**

Sunday 2/24

- 4:00 pm: Youth Handbell Rehearsal**
- 5:00 pm: CWS Rehearsal**
- 6:00 pm: Youth Dinner**
- 6:30 pm: Youth Activity:
Nerf War in Great Hall**

NEXT UMYFO

MEETING

Sunday, February 3

@ 4:00 pm

in the Church Office.

For questions or more info,
contact Pastor Nick at
nick.works@
damascusumc.org
or 240-751-6695.

Church League Basketball

All Youth are invited to play on the middle school or high school Damascus UMC co-ed basketball team. Jerseys are provided, and you can be a beginner or advanced player. All are welcome to play or come watch, and it's very fun!

Schedule will be shared weekly in the Sunday bulletin and in Youth email.

Coaches are Derek Johnson, Brad Turner-Little, and Tom Baldridge. For more information or to receive full schedule via email, contact Tom B @ [301-802-4775](tel:301-802-4775).

Announcements



PLEASE
REMEMBER
THAT DURING
THE WINTER
MONTHS,
WE WILL
KEEP THE
WEBSITE
HOME PAGE
and
OFFICE VOICEMAIL
MESSAGE
UP-TO-DATE
WITH
POSTPONEMENTS
AND
CANCELLATIONS
AS SOON
AS DECISIONS
ARE MADE.



ADA American Dental Association®



Pediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics

806 W. Diamond Ave.

Suite 250

Gaithersburg, MD 20878

(301)977-2200

Providing Dental Care & Orthodontic Evaluations

FREE of Charge

for children from low-income families who don't
have access to dental care such as Insurance or Medicaid.

Friday– February 1st , 2019

8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

FREE of Charge Dental Care Including:

Exams, Orthodontic Evaluations, Oral Hygiene Education,
Cleanings & Fluoride Treatment
Also X-Rays & Sealants as necessary

Children Ages 1-18 years old

*Children must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian in order to receive treatment

Call to Register and Sign Up today !!!

(301)977-2200

**Registration Required, Space is limited Please call today to reserve
your spot.**

www.MVPsmiles.com



Save the Date!

VBS is on a mission to Mars this summer,
July 22-26, 9 am – 12 pm

Contact Cora Horst, cora.horst@damascusumc.org
or 301-529-3047 to Volunteer.

Volunteers are needed NOW to help with planning, the week of VBS to lead classes, and the week after to clean up. It's going to take a lot of work to get us to Mars! Thank you for considering volunteering your time. It's going to be a BLAST!

Announcements (cont'd)

GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE

The DUMC Blood Drive is **Thursday, February 7, 2019**
from 1:00 - 6:30 pm in the church Dining Hall



Our fourth Blood Drive of the year is about to take place for 2018. So 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 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 if you are able to help. Thank you for helping us save lives ! !



The Church Basement Ladies are at it again!

This time, the men are involved too!

Join the Young-at-Heart for a fun and laughter-filled evening with their latest installment called

“Rise Up O Men!”

“Church Basement Ladies” is a celebration of the church basement kitchen and the women who work there, featuring four characters and their relationships as they organize the food and the problems of a rural Minnesota church. In this sixth installment, “Rise Up, O Men,” the stage comedy franchise adds a little Y-chromosome to its successful shtick without souring the “Church Basement Ladies” formula.

When: FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 2019 | 7:00 PM

Where: WEINBERG THEATER

20 West Patrick Street, Frederick, MD

Cost: \$25.50

We have 23 seats reserved for this fun show (*first come, first served.*)

Please RSVP to Jane or Sue Constantinides (301-651-1178) and hand in your check no later than **Sunday, February 10** if you are interested in attending.

We will arrange carpooling options once we have a list of attendees.

If you would like to have dinner before the show, you have the option to join us at 5:00 at

La Paz Mexican Restaurant (only a 3-minute walk from the theater.)

Let us know if you plan to attend so we can make reservations.

Announcements (cont'd)

6th Annual Evolution Week-end in Maryland

February 10, 2019, 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Baltimore-Washington Mission Center,
11711 E. Market Place, Fulton, MD 20759

**Global Community and the Science of
Human Origins**

Panel:

Dr. Briana Pobiner: Research scientist and director of all aspects of education and outreach of the Smithsonian's Human Origins Program, leader for an ongoing project on the teaching of human evolution in U.S. high schools currently funded by the National Science Foundation, Associate Research Professor at George Washington University.

Dr. Connie Bertha: holds an M.T.S., Master of Theological Studies, from Wesley Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. in Geology from Arizona State University. She is currently an independent scholar and consultant for Science and Society Resources. She is the Co-Chair of the Broader Social Impacts Committee of the National Museum of Natural History's Hall of Human Origins, and teaches on contemporary issues in science and religion at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington DC.

Pastoral Response: Rev. Dr. Eliezer Valentín-Castañón
Rev. Dr. Eliezer Valentín-Castañón has been an Elder in the United Methodist Church since 1993, has served churches in Maryland, New York, and New Jersey. Since 2013 he has served as Senior Pastor at Trinity United Methodist Church, in Frederick, Maryland.

No advance registration required but preferred with a light lunch and refreshments provided. Free admission and plentiful parking. More information can be found at www.wesnex.org.

Come join the Prayer Shawl Ministry Monday, February 18, 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, 301-253-0742, or Jan Mullinix, jmullinix74@yahoo.com, 301-482-1122.

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, 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.

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).**

**The Youth Program here at DUMC gets a
contribution for all purchases made through this link,**



Announcements (cont'd)

The Wednesday Fellowship Dinner

For this year (2019), we, the Kitchen Committee, have decided we will return to a **ONCE A MONTH DINNER**, due to declining attendance and the weather getting a bit colder.

**Our next Wednesday Fellowship Dinner will be February 6.
Menu will be: Spaghetti dinner, garlic bread, salad & dessert**

We would like to give a big THANK YOU to the Vanderham family — Peter, Liz, Gregory & Ben — who shared an old family favorite dinner last month with us, “Grandma Becker’s Parkway Chili.” It was delicious and enjoyed by all !!!!!

We, in the kitchen, are very excited to be starting the new year with a new flair . . . should there be other families that have favorite dinners **they would like to share**, please contact Kenny Sue Robertson at home 301-253-5405, cell 301-471-7298, or see her at church.

We will continue the "pay as you can" policy. But, the suggested prices have increased to \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children 10 and under. There is a family cap of \$25.00. Inflation is even causing difficulties for us.

As always, we can use extra hands to help in preparation, serving and clean-up. Many hands do make lighter work. We thank you for your past support and are looking forward to a year filled with fun, love and good fellowship. ***Menus are always subject to change.**

Wishing all a Healthy and Prosperous New Year from the DUMC Kitchen!

College Scholarships Available !

The Baltimore –Washington Conference awards a variety of college scholarships. The application process opens January 3, 2019 and closes March 7, 2019. To be considered for a scholarship. Students must complete the full online application, which includes uploading their current transcripts. In addition, the student must provide contact information for their pastor and one additional church reference. For full information go to www.bwcumc.org and enter “scholarships” in the search box.



Robert M Tregoning Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship will grant at least one \$2,000 award to a deserving student. The scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior who attends Paint Branch HS, Blake HS, Clarksburg HS, Damascus HS, or **Damascus United Methodist Church**, and who will be enrolled in a full time undergraduate program at an accredited college/university in Maryland for the fall 2019 term. The recipient will be selected based upon academic accomplishments, extracurricular activities, community service, character and leadership. More details on the scholarship and the application are attached. Complete scholarship applications must be submitted via email by **April 1, 2019** to the Greater Washington Community Foundation (The Community Foundation) via scholarships@thecommunityfoundation.org with “Tregoning Scholarship Application” in the subject line. For questions about the scholarship or the application process, please contact Kevin Donnelly, Donor Services Officer, at (301) 495-3036 x162 or scholarships@thecommunityfoundation.org.

Office Info

PLEASE NOTE:

Main office: 301-253-0022

PASTORS:

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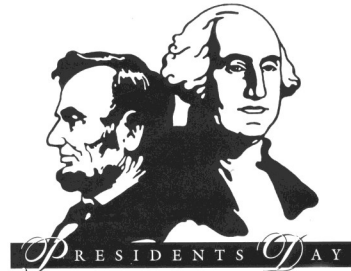
Nick Works,
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Jane Webb, Office Manager
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Linda Stastny, Office Administrator
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Lisa Marshall, Property Manager
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Steve Malley, Bookkeeper
ext. #106 / steve.malley@damascusumc.org



The Office will be closed on
Monday, February 18 for
President's Day.

Administrative Meetings

February, 2018

- Feb. 3 UMYFO Meeting at
4:00 pm in the Church Annex
- Feb. 7 First Thursday Ministries Meeting
7:00 pm in the **Sanctuary**
- Trustees Meeting to follow
in the **Great Hall - stage side**
- Missions Meeting to follow
in the **Great Hall - back**
- Feb. 12 Finance Committee
7:00 pm in the Annex/CR
- Feb. 20 Technology Committee meets at
7:00 pm in the Church Annex
- Feb. 28 Administrative Board Meeting at
7:00 pm in the Dining Hall/back

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.

Reminder



IMPORTANT BEACON MESSAGE

THE DEADLINE FOR
SUBMITTING
ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION
IN THE **MARCH** BEACON
WILL BE

WEDNESDAY, February 13

(For Beacon to publish on **Sunday, February 24**).

PLEASE SUBMIT ANY AND ALL ARTICLES BY THIS DATE.

DATE AT THE LATEST.

Thank You !

About Our People

ABOUT OUR PEOPLE

Pray for those receiving medical care, going through tests, facing surgery or in recovery: **Pennie Adams** (Cochlear implant), **Benjamin Bautista** (developmental concerns), **Jessica Bowers** (Chris Adams' girlfriend), **Bob Braden**, **Mary Burton** (heart issues), **Ann Cochran**, **Judy Dalrymple** (sister-in-law to Jackie Perry), **Pat Duvall**, **April Fry** (Diane Fry's daughter-in-law with M.S.), **Debbie Hoar**, **Jim Maggio** (recovering from rotator cuff surgery), **Tom Mielke** (Marilyn Kinsey's son-in-law with M.S.), **Teresa Morella**, **Neal Pardini** (leg vascular problems), **Jerry Smith** (step-son to Joyce Patrick and brother to Sharon Warfield with undetermined medical issues), **Dorothy Stull** (at home under hospice care), and **Karen Turner** (Kathy Jones' niece with Lupus).



Pray for those who have been diagnosed with cancer including **Patty Benson** (Doug's wife), **Ann Boyer** (Kevin's mom), **Sue Bradley**, **Karen Caroscio** (Stephanie Vara Carter's mother-in-law), **Linne Carrier**, **Michael Donaldson** (liver tumor), **Ethel Frear** (under hospice care), **JP Feuillet**, **Dawn Helton** (Marge Taylor's daughter), **Rick Henderson** (Ken's brother), **Willa Kackley** (Judy Benedict's aunt), **Dave Lingrell**, **Christopher Matovich** (Gerry Pardini's nephew) **Frances Richards** (Rev. Beth Richards' sister) **Tim Sanner** (Dan Krotz's uncle), **Kristen Smith** (Gina Wilson's niece), **Marie White** (Pat Duvall's sister-in-law), and **Matt Works** (Nick's brother).

Continue to pray for all who serve in the military: The following are stationed in the United States: **John Clayton** – Army (Cathy Heinbaugh's brother), **Gregory Lee** – Army (Cara Hardick Lee's husband), **Benjamin J. Saunders** – Navy (son of Connie Ross), and **Alex Sauter** – Marines (son of Todd & Kelly).

A Thank You

We wish to express our sincerest thank you for all of the love, support and condolences we have received after Norm's mother passed in December. Your prayers and words of comfort are greatly appreciated and have helped us both through this difficult time. We are blessed to be a part of such a loving church family.

With love and gratitude, Norm & Cheryl Minekime

Altar Flowers for 2019

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

or Beall's at 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.

