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THE BEACON

JUNE 2017



CLERGY AND STAFF:

David Cooney, Senior Pastor

Amanda McMurtrey
Associate Pastor /
Children's Ministry

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 AM Custodian

Julio Pedraza /
Weeknight & Sunday AM Custodian

Devoted Servants, Drawn to Jesus, Dedicated to Making Disciples

Greetings,

This spring has been an important time for our young people. On Easter eve seventeen confirmands gathered for a special dinner and service, took their vows, and became full members of the church. Our seniors are now graduating from high school and preparing for the next stage of their lives. Later this month, the Charles Wesley Singers will head to New England for their annual Mission Choir Tour singing and witnessing in a variety of churches. It is such a joy to watch them blossom in these and other ways.

The summer season is upon us and this means a few changes in our programming and schedule. There is NO SUNDAY SCHOOL in June, July, or August. We do have some special opportunities during the Sunday School hour in June – 9:30-10:30 am in the sanctuary. On June 4, the Day of Pentecost, Rick Barr, our delegate to Annual Conference, will be sharing about the happenings at Conference this year. (Conference is May 31-June 2). Hear about what is happening in the denomination. Members of the OMG Class went with the Otienos, fellow class members, to Kenya to see their homeland and family church and mission projects. They will share about their experiences on June 11. The Charles Wesley Singers will provide us with a pre-tour concert on June 18. Then, on June 25, we have planned a Connections Café church party. Come eat, talk, and enjoy a relaxed time of fellowship. Be sure to stay after the first service or come early for the second service to enjoy these special happenings.

**In July and August we will have
ONE SERVICE ONLY at 9:30 am**

Vacation Bible School is July 24-28. This is always a wonderful time for our children. Have you registered yet? If you would like to help, additional volunteers are always welcome.

Get ready for the sanctuary to be refreshed! We are close to finalizing bids for painting, pew refinishing, carpet, and improved sound and projection. This means we will be out of the sanctuary for worship for some weeks. When and how many weeks is still to be determined. It will be clean and fresh and in good repair when the work is done. This is possible through the Preserving the Future Campaign and the Five-Year Plan prepared by the Trustees. Your contributions to the campaign allow us to keep our sanctuary and all of our property in good order. Thank you.

Soon you will hear about a new DUMC app available for your mobile device. This will allow you to receive messages, check events, register for events, make donations, post prayer requests and more. Get ready to download and stay connected. There is no cost to download the app, but lots of benefits.

It is impossible to say thank you enough to all who provide ministry throughout the year. This is a great

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Pastor's Article (cont'd)

church that makes a difference in the lives of many because of faithful volunteers. I mentioned that Sunday School stops for the summer season. Throughout the school year faithful and dedicated teachers meet with our children, youth, and adults. This crucial ministry is carried out quietly and, for most, behind the scenes. I am so grateful for our teachers and helpers who week in and week out teach the ways of Jesus. Our puppets also take a seasonal break. Behind the puppets, of course, are leaders and puppeteers. They add so much to our worship. Thank you! While music ministry continues throughout the year, "official" choirs take a summer break, from our children through adults to our bell ringers. Again, I am so grateful. Worship is greatly enhanced because of all who share their gifts in this way. Do you enjoy a cup of coffee or a treat between services? Volunteers in the Connections Café make this possible every week. I extend a big thank you to them. Our Wonderful Wednesday Dinners also end for the season. Cooks, dishwashers, servers and helpers provide fantastic meals week after week. Their culinary skills and efforts are appreciated.

There is no seasonal stopping of worship. You can count on a meaningful worship experience every Sunday, and I hope to see you. June begins with the Day of Pentecost, so wear red on June 4 and get ready to sway with the brass as we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The summer season is upon us, but, praise the Lord, God never takes a vacation. Come and worship and watch for a variety of special programs, and be blessed by God.

Yours in Christ,
David

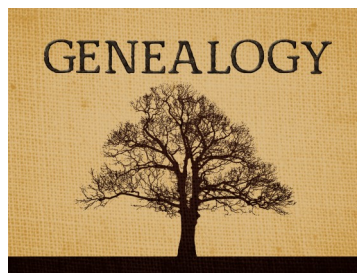
Greetings,

For the health and well-being of its pastors, the United Methodist Church recommends that a pastor takes renewal leave every 6 - 9 years. It is a time away from full-time ministry to refresh one's spirit. As I am coming to the end of my 7th year in ministry, I have decided to take my renewal leave this summer from June 3 to July 15. It is a great gift to me to have this time, and I look forward to coming back with a refreshed spirit to rejoin our ministry at DUMC!

Pastor Amanda



Genealogy Club Gathering



If you are interested in researching your family tree, whether you are a beginner or expert, this club is for you! Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is June 6 at 10:00 am in the Annex.

Join us to learn research tips and techniques, break through brick walls, explore ancestor's ties to faith, and have some fellowship with each other.

Contact Liz Vanderham [301-648-4493](tel:301-648-4493) or vanderca-tion@gmail.com for details.

A Women's Retreat Thank You



Fellowship, stories, laughter, friendship, food, crafts, fun, prayer - and 40 women - were all part of the April women's retreat.

Thank you to the Retreat Planning Committee for their guidance and leadership with the themed event, We Love to Tell the Story. . . and thank you to all who participated.

Women, stay tuned for our next event in the fall!

Spiritual Formation

***Yes !!! The Young at Heart actually has
TWO events this month !!!***



On Monday, June 12 come join us to tour Brookside Gardens / Wings of Fancy Butterfly House in Wheaton. We will meet at DUMC at 11 am to carpool to the Stained Glass Pub in Glenmont for lunch. After lunch you can walk around Brookside Gardens, tour the Conservatory, the Visitor's Center or the gift shops, or enjoy the butterfly exhibit (fee). If you have never walked among the butterflies, it is an amazing experience! To RSVP for this event, please contact Sharon Walton at 301-253-4860.

Then, we're headed to the Mountaintop!

The Tea Room at Gambrill State Park on the ridge of the Catoclin Mountains will be the site of a Young at Heart picnic/cookout **on Wednesday, June 28**. If you haven't been there you'll be awestruck by the beautiful views of the Frederick and Middletown valleys and the South Mountain area to the west. The Tea Room is a lodge-like structure that has been a popular feature of the Park for over 75 years, hosting weddings, family reunions, business meetings and other special events.



The Young at Heart fellowship group is open to all adults associated with DUMC and their friends and relatives. We'll do the cooking and all you'll have to do is take in the surrounding beauty outside and inside the Tea Room, which was constructed from native stone by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the mid 1930s. It is also wheelchair accessible.

We've already rented the Tea Room for that date, and as we get a better feel for the number attending, we'll provide precise information on the cost. We hope to do it for \$10 or \$12 per person. Carpools will be formed in the Church Parking lot at 3:00 p.m. It'll be about a 45-minute trip from Damascus. At this time of the year, the Park closes at sunset. Those wishing to come a little later because of work schedules are welcome to do so. **RESERVATIONS must be made by Sunday, June 18**. For planning purposes, we'd appreciate hearing from you sooner if you can do it.

We will be looking for drivers to carpool, and help with set-up, serving and clean-up duties. To make your reservations to attend and/or volunteer, contact Jane Webb @ jane.webb@damascusumc.org or 240-620-6920 or 301-253-0022.



United
Methodist
Women

Faith · Hope · Love in Action

June United Methodist Women News

**Susanna JOY Circle will meet Monday, June 12
at 11:30 am at the Mt. Airy Inn, 1401 S. Main Street, Mt. Airy.**

The WWJD Circle will meet on Thursday, June 15, in the Dining Hall of the church. We will enjoy a pot -luck meal beginning at 6:30 p.m. After dinner Rev. Stephen Ricketts, former pastor here at Damascus and now serving Linganore United Methodist, will present a program on Native American Bibles. His presentation will begin at 7:30 and is open to any interested persons. Pastor Stephen has been collecting Bibles for many years and is quite knowledgeable. You certainly won't want to miss this, so **PLEASE JOIN US!**



Calling all Heros!!

Save these dates for VBS 2017, July 24 - 28!

Don't miss this exciting chance to discover your strength in God. Any adults or youth willing to volunteer can contact Joan Hartle at hbj8102@gmail.com or 240-620-3343.

YOUTH HELPER Registration Forms are on Page #18 of this Beacon.

NOTE: VBS Registration form for CHILDREN is on Page #16 of this Beacon.

NEXT LADIES' NIGHT OUT

When: WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2017

**Where: The Vintage Restaurant
8 W. Main Street
New Market, MD 21774**

**Time: 6:00 pm
Please RSVP by July 17**

Fellowship · Conversa-

Fun · Sisterhood · Everyone Invited

tion · Companionship ·

CONTACT PASTOR AMANDA / AMANDA.MCMURTREY@DAMASCUSUMC.ORG

When "Pull Yourself Together" Doesn't Work

You've heard it time and time again:
"Pull yourself together. . . . Cheer up. . . .
Tough it out. . . . It's not that bad."

Perhaps people have said it to you. Or perhaps you keep saying it to yourself. But it hasn't helped.

You're still hurting. Things are coming apart. Here's the good news: You don't have to go through your struggles alone. Help is available. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers who will walk with you, listen to you, and provide confidential, one-to-one care as you search through the pieces and find what is truly in your heart.

To learn more about what Stephen Ministry can do for you, talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders: Janet Cornelius at 240.418.0516 or email her at janetmcornelius@comcast.net. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you.



Worship Arts News and Events

June 2017 Polly Edmonds Baldrige, Minister of Music and Worship Arts

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

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



Spread the News !
Invite your friends and
family across the states !!!!

Our Summer Youth Mission Tour choir will be performing at the following locations . . .

Tuesday, June 20 – 7 pm Concert @ Central Presbyterian Church,
100 W. Uwchlan Avenue, Downingtown, PA

Wednesday, June 21 – 7:30 pm Concert @ Union Baptist Church,
119 High Street, Mystic, CT

Thursday, June 22 – 7:30 pm Concert @ Mary Taylor UMC,
176 Broad Street, Milford, CT

Friday, June 23 – 7:30 pm Concert @ West Parish UMC,
129 Reservation Road, Andover, MA

Saturday, June 24 – 7:30 pm Concert @ Grace Episcopal Church,
1100 Washington Street, Bath, ME

Sunday, June 25 – 10:15 am Worship Service at Bath UMC,
Waterfront Park, Bath, ME

Sunday, June 25 – 6:00 pm Evensong @ Trinity Church,
206 Clarendon Street, Boston, MA

Tuesday, June 27 – 11 am Concert @ Cedar Woods Assisted Living,
80 Cedar Street, Branford, CT

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## Homecoming Concert Wednesday, June 28, at 7 pm

The Charles Wesley Singers and instrumental ensemble present Prayer and Prophecy concert, an inspirational evening of sacred music, including Mendelssohn's *Hear My Prayer* and a series of anthems based on Isaiah 55. Freewill offering benefits United Methodist Committee on Relief.

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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. The Charles Wesley Singers will sing at Sunday 8:15 am services in June, and Chancel Choir will sing at 11 am services in June. For July and August, both choirs will join to share in the single 9:30 am service – some mornings there will be more than one anthem to feature both groups. This is also an opportunity for children and youth to sing with their parents and other adult friends.

Voice Recitals

Emma Thompson, soprano

Sunday, June 11, 2017

2 pm in Sanctuary

Emma grew up singing at Damascus UMC and has recently graduated from Susquehanna University with a Bachelor of Music in Music Education.

She will share an afternoon of music to celebrate.

Emma plans to work next year in Japan with the JET Programme and donations may be made at the recital toward her travel expenses.

Julia Bratburd, soprano

Sunday, June 18, 2017

2 pm in Sanctuary

Julia is a member of the Charles Wesley Singers and DUMC youth group and graduates from high school this year. She will be sharing a recital of musical theater and popular song to celebrate the culmination of her musical and theater training.

Special Music Always Needed

Do you feel called to share your song in worship? If you'd like to share something special on a Sunday morning this summer, please contact Polly Baldrige.

WORSHIP ARTS ENSEMBLE NEWS

Worship Arts ensembles for all ages resume this fall. Damascus UMC offers the following opportunities:

Colorful Hands of Jesus

Puppet Troupe for 2nd to 5th grades

Cherubs

Vocal Choir for 4 ½ years to 1st grade

Choristers

Vocal Choir for 2nd to 5th grades

Youth Puppets

Puppet Troupe for Middle Schoolers

Inspiration Ringers

Handbell Choir for 2nd – 5th grades

Youth Handbell Choir

Handbell Choir for Middle and High School

Charles Wesley Singers

SATB choir for 6th-12th grades and beyond

Men's Choir

Vocal Choir for changed voices of all ages

Women's Choir

Vocal Choir and instruction for treble voices of all ages

Chancel Choir

Mixed voice choir for changed voices

Youth Praise Band

Band meets 1st and 3rd Sunday of month

Ring of Joy

Advanced handbell ensemble

For additional information,
please contact Polly Baldrige!

DUMC YOUTH FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

Summer, 2017 - Youth Fellowship Dinner @ 6:00 pm, followed by Activity

Sunday 6/4

Water Balloon Warfare. Come and duke it out with 1000's of water balloons.

Sunday 6/11

**Choir Tour Potluck & Parents Meeting
Chaperone Meeting @ 7:30 pm**

Sunday 7/9

Pool Party @ the Hulcher's Home

Tuesday 7/18

Fun Times @ Hershey Park

Monday 7/24-28

Vacation Bible School - YOUTH HELPERS NEEDED!

Sunday 8/13

**Hiking Expedition to Cunningham Falls State Park
Leaders: Tom & Polly Baldrige**

Sunday 8/20

Movie Night

Leader: Pastor Amanda

Sunday 8/27

Back to School Event

GRILL, Chill and Back to School THRILL!!!!

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The Charles Wesley Singers will depart for their  
New England Tour on Tuesday, June 20.

*Of course, we have to rehearse before you leave! Here's the remaining rehearsal schedule.*

- Wednesday, May 31 5:00 to 6:30 pm (no Wednesday night dinner)
- Sunday, June 4 4:00 to 5:00 pm  
(final regular CWS rehearsal from 5:00—6:00 pm)
- Wednesday, June 7 5:00 to 6:00 pm
- Sunday, June 11 4:00 to 6:00 pm  
(6 pm Potluck & Tour Mandatory Meeting)
- Wednesday, June 14 5:00 to 6:00 pm
- Sunday, June 18 Share tour music at 9:30 am Connections Café  
Maybe 4—6 pm rehearsal

**NOTE:**  
**The Last Day**  
**of**  
**Sunday School**  
**for**  
**all children**  
**and youth was**  
**Sunday, May 28.**

The next UMYFO meeting  
will be on Sunday, July 9  
@ 3:30 pm.

Let's get together to plan  
the Fall Calendar.

## HABITAT REMINDER !!

July 16 - 21

Sign-Up is Now!

For anyone who has never gone,  
this is a very rewarding experience!  
You will travel to Western Mary-  
land (up near Deep Creek Lake) and  
help with building homes for peo-  
ple in need. Plus, you can earn SSL  
hours at the same time!

Come experience the joy  
of giving to others in need!

For more specific details look  
for full article on page #7 of  
this Beacon.

**NOTE:** Anyone 14 or older  
is welcome to join us, although,  
14 and 15 year olds may not be  
able to fully participate in all  
aspects of construction.

# MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

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

**The Board of Harwood** House generously helps with scholarships for mission trips. They now have an **application form for requesting funds**. Because the Board meets every other month, they ask that any requests be made 8 weeks in advance of any trip. Thanks!

## **Habitat for Humanity / Help Build a House This Summer**



Join us as we travel once again to Garrett County, MD to help build houses for low-income people in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity. This is an unforgettable experience to work alongside future homeowners for one week, and then to return the following year to see them working in their yard or their children playing on the porch of a home that you helped build!

**Our trip will be July 16 through July 21** with a MANDATORY pre-trip meeting on June 14 at 7 pm in the Annex/Office conference room. Anyone 14 or older is welcome to join us although 14 and 15 year olds may not be able to fully participate in all aspects of construction. The trip is \$75 for DUMC members and \$125 for others. For more information, please contact Anita Duvall by cell/text at [240-485-7650](tel:240-485-7650) or by email at [anita.duvall@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:anita.duvall@fda.hhs.gov).

The application forms for the trip are now available on the church website:  
<http://www.damascusumc.org/getinvolved/missions/#Habitat%20for%20Humanity>.

## **THANK YOU KATHY AND STAN JONES, FOR THEIR LEADERSHIP FOR THE PLANT SALE.**

Thanks, too, to all who volunteered for the sale and to those who purchased plants. The proceeds go to support Missions at DUMC.

## **VOLUNTEER IN MISSION TRIP TO VIRGINIA BEACH**

- **When:** Leave Sunday, September 3 in early afternoon; return Friday late evening, September 8.
- **Who:** Adults willing to work for 4 ½ days helping restore homes damaged by Hurricane Matthew.
- **Staying:** In a local church—air mattresses and sleeping bags.
- **Meals:** Prepared by a few team members with help from the team.
- **Work assignment:** Not completely sure yet, but drywall, flooring, tile work, & painting are possibilities. Some assignments depend on the skills within the team.
- **Cost:** Maximum per person is \$150 to cover food, travel, etc.
- **Deadline for registration and fee:** June 30, 2017
- **Leaders:** **Doug Marshall**, work site leader; **Carol Yocum**, administrative leader; **Robin Cooney**, treasurer; **David Cooney**, spiritual director.
- **Size of team:** Currently 10 people; more slots for men and women are available.
- **Travel:** carpooling with personal vehicles
- **Information material:** Will be sent out by Carol Yocum (301-788-6446 or [carolyocum@msn.com](mailto:carolyocum@msn.com))
- **Next Team meeting:** Sunday, July 16, 2017, following the morning worship service. Meeting in the Great Hall.
- **If you cannot go on the trip but want to help—ways to do that:**
  - Be a prayer partner
  - House sit for a team member by watering plants, flowers and/or garden, caring for a pet
  - Bake some cookies or provide a light snack for the team to take
  - Stay with a team member's young person still at home in the evening and overnight
  - Donate to the Materials Fund for the projects the team will be doing

# MISSIONS AND OUTREACH (cont'd)

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

## NEEMA (swahili “Grace”) Kenya Missions

Jambo, rafikis!  
(Swahili for “Hello Friends!”)

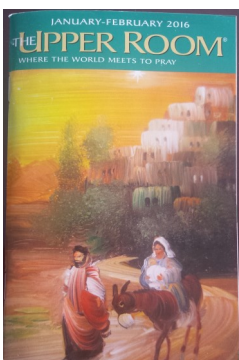
This month’s feature is about the Ndere Orphans & Parental Care Program that the OMG group visited in January, 2017. It is a preschool located in the far western part of Kenya, near Lake Victoria. Wellington Otieno was a friend of it’s founder and Sylvia Otieno conducted a children’s book drive for it a few years ago here at DUMC that you may remember.

The Ndere Orphans and Parental Care Program was established in 1996 by retired teacher Washington Kaguto, to address the high toll of HIV/AIDS on the community. As HIV/AIDS claimed the lives of more and more parents, the orphan population increased significantly, overwhelming the ability of families to provide for their basic needs. Many of these children were unable to join the school system. Some became child laborers, working on farms or other hard manual labor. These children were at risk of exploitation and abuse. Mr. Kaguto started this program to provide food, clothing and an opportunity for education. He mobilized the community and volunteers, donated land and constructed a mud thatched building. Additional classrooms were eventually begun but not completed.

The program’s benefactor passed away in 2016, leaving the orphanage without any consistent funding. The classrooms remain partially completed, with no teaching supplies, no toys or recreational materials, no toilet facilities. They struggle to provide even a morning cup of porridge for the children. The community remains committed and hopeful they will be able to provide a better place for these children.

Since our visit, with just one fundraiser, we have been able to provide for construction of desks and for a daily meal of porridge for the next six months.

The NEEMA Mission Group is elated as the mission develops with God’s grace



## The Upper Room

Please feel free to take a copy of the Upper Room which is kept in the pew hymnal racks in our Sanctuary.

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

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



## ***You Have a Bright Future Ahead!!*** **Graduating High School Seniors**



**Julia Bratburd:** Graduating Damascus High School, future plans undecided.

**Torie Brooks:** Graduating Damascus High School, will attend Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York to double-major in Vocal Performance & Music Education.

**Ashley Corbin:** Graduating DHS and plans to continue to work at this time.

**Lauren Dallas:** Graduating from Clarksburg High School and plans to attend the University of Delaware, double-majoring in Agricultural & Behavior Health Science.

**Caitlynn Dennie:** Graduating from Clarksburg High School and plans to attend Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC, major undecided.

**Clark Farley:** Graduating from Clarksburg High School and plans to attend University of Maryland, studying Computer Science.

**Sydney Fennington:** Graduating from Clarksburg High School and plans to attend Lycoming College in Williamsport, PA in the fall.

**Katharine Hanlon:** Graduating from Damascus High School and will move to a transition program with MCPS, called CCC (Community and Career Connections).

**Cecelia Hembrough:** Graduating Damascus High School and will be attending University of Pittsburg, Pittsburgh, PA and will study Chemistry.

**Christina Hernandez:** Graduating from Damascus High School and plans to attend the University of Maryland for Business, College Park, MD.

**Sheridan Maxwell:** Graduating Damascus High School and will be attending Montgomery College to pursue the dual majors of Automotive Technology and Business.

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### **ATTN: College Age Girls**

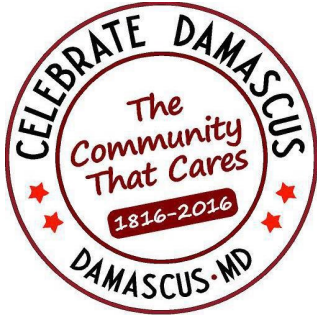
I am beyond excited to start a college age girls Bible study this summer! When high school ends, we all travel down different paths to find our future career and our calling. As we go forward with our lives, it is important for us as young adults to follow the Lord's plan as we follow our life dreams. This past fall I moved to Lexington, Kentucky to follow my career aspirations. Although I moved away from my family, my friends and my church, there was never once where I felt alone because it was evident that the Lord was with me and leading me to where I need to be. I am a member of a campus ministry called Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) which has helped me live my college life in Christ. I have become a Ministry leader for this campus fellowship. This summer we will come together as young ladies to grow in love for the Lord and connect in his love and grace. I would ask for the DUMC community to pray for this Bible study as we explore college life Christ. The Lord is a good Father and He is worthy of all of our praise!



Started: May 21, will continue each Sunday through the summer.  
Time: 7:00 pm  
Place: 7401 Damascus Rd  
Contact information: Text me at (301)788-1041

- Hanna Adkins

## Announcements



## *Come “Celebrate Damascus” with your Church Family ! !*

### **Friday, July 7 @ 7:00 pm**

Kick-off Parade & Fireworks

**NOTE: We are currently looking for someone to organize, plan, and lead our church for participation in the parade. Please contact the church office if you are interested.**

Following the parade there will be a fireworks display (around 9:15 pm) sponsored by Damascus Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. They will also have food for sale outside & chicken dinners served inside the air-conditioned Activities Hall.

### **Saturday, July 8:**

- 7 am - 11 am:** Community Pancake Breakfast served by the Lions Club in the **DUMC Dining Hall.**
- 9 am - 4 pm:** Damascus Lions Club Yard Sale on the front lawn.
- 10 am - 2 pm:** Pony rides and Moon Bounce on the **DUMC front lawn.**
- 12 noon - 2 pm:** Food Truck on site for lunch
- 10 am - 3 pm:** Harwood House Thrift Shop open - **EVERYTHING 50% OFF TODAY!**

On Saturday, there will be FREE TRANSPORTATION around town, provided by the Montgomery County Fair Trams, with assistance from Gladhill Tractor. Town Activities will start at 10:00 am at various locations including, *Damascus Community Bank, Damascus Volunteer Fire Department, Children’s Activities—Art & Kids Cars, McDonalds, Damascus Motor Company, Jimmie Cone and Damascus Heritage Museum.*

## **Faith Connections School Supply Drive**

Faith Connections is looking for volunteers for the school supply drive. This project runs from **May-August** each year, to collect and then distribute new school supplies to needy students in the Damascus-Clarksburg area schools.

Volunteers are needed to contact churches, businesses and organizations to request donations, work with school counselors, enter recipient names into a database, distribute collection bins, collect and sort supplies, and then pack and deliver supplies to local schools. **We are in need of 2-3 adult volunteers** to manage the project as well as teen and other adults to assist with collection, sorting and packing.

Please contact Jill Ochs 240-994-8979 or [jillbochs@gmail.com](mailto:jillbochs@gmail.com) if you are able to help.



## **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 prayer box in the Narthex.

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)

# Caring For Our Town

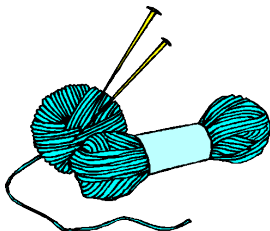
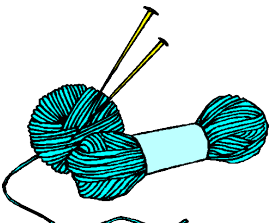
**Please join us on Saturday, June 3 at 8 am to help beautify Damascus. We will be picking up litter along Rte. 124 from Bethesda Church Rd to Rte. 27.**

**With many hands, this usually only takes about 2 hours. We have trash bags, gloves, orange vests and pix-sticks for you to use. We start at the end of the church parking lot nearest to 124. If you are interested, please contact Jeff Heinbaugh at [heinbjc@comcast.net](mailto:heinbjc@comcast.net) or 301-253-0742.**



***Come join the Prayer Shawl Ministry***  
**Monday, June 19**  
**at 12:30 pm**  
**(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.



## Save the date!

The annual Craft Bazaar will be held on **Saturday, November 4,** alongside the Ham and Oyster dinner.

We need YOU to make it a success! We will happily accept crafts of any kind!

If you haven't donated in the past because of a concern, please reach out to us! This year, we are encouraging crafters to set their own minimum price that we won't go below. Also remember that materials used in your crafts are tax deductible! More information will be forthcoming. Questions? Contact Mandy Sellers at [mandysellers@outlook.com](mailto:mandysellers@outlook.com).

## Welcoming Wednesday Dinner Update

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 weekly 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.



## Healing Service

Our monthly Healing Service will be held  
**Sunday, June 18, 2017 in  
the Church Parlor.**

*All who have healing needs and prayer requests for others are invited to come for this time of Eucharist (Holy Communion), laying on of hands, and anointing with oil (James 5:14-15).*

## Announcements (cont'd)

### Chloe Lenker Gold Award Reception



Chloe Lenker is having a reception to officially receive her Girl Scout Gold Award. For her project she held an event at the church to spread awareness about domestic violence. The church has been such an integral part of both her Girl Scout Silver and Girl Scout Gold Award. She would like to thank everyone who has helped her and supported her in both projects. Her reception will be held on June 4 in the Dining Hall at 3 pm and light refreshments will be served. Anyone who wishes to attend the reception is welcome to attend.



### New Montgomery County Tax Credit

On March 7, 2017, the Montgomery County Council passed Bill 42-16, which will provide a tax credit for people who are over 65 years of age and who either: (1) have owned and lived in the dwelling that they own for at least 40 consecutive years, or (2) are retired from one of the United States' Armed Forces (Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy).

More information may be found at this link: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Finance/bill-42-16.html> Please let all qualified people at the church, in your neighborhood, and at your work places know about this.

### 2017 Summer Youth Mission Tour

#### Welcome Home Concert CD Order

June 28, 2017

*Featuring...*

- ◆ Mendelssohn's *Hear My Prayer*
- ◆ Songs from 55th Chapter of Isaiah
- ◆ Congregational Singing
- ◆ Sacred Choral Anthems



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Number of CDs @ \$20 each \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping (optional) \$4 each \_\_\_\_\_ + \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Checks should be made payable to "DUMC"*

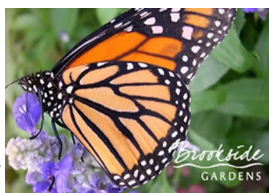


## Announcements (cont'd)

## Remaining Young at Heart Activities - 2017

### Monday, June 12

Tour of **Brookside Gardens and Wings of Fancy Butterfly House**, Wheaton. Lunch afterwards nearby. *See page #3 for more details.*



Contact Sharon Walton / 301-253-4860.

### Wednesday, June 28:



Potluck Lunch and Fellowship at the **Tea Room, Gambrill State Park**, Frederick, MD. *See article page #3.*

**Contact person:** Jane Webb / 240-620-6920

**Saturday, July 8:**  
**Frederick Keys Baseball Game.**  
*See article page #12.*

**Contact person:**  
Mike Springirth / 240-832-2404



### SEPTEMBER

**Pontoon Ride at Blackhills Park** in Clarksburg with dinner to follow. More info to come.

**Contact person:**  
Kathy Celli / 301-253-9652

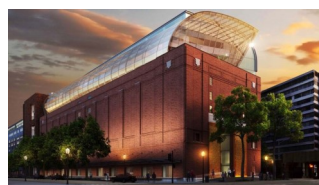


### OCTOBER

**"Steam into History,"** 1860's replica steam locomotive Civil War train ride, New Freedom, PA.

**Contact person:** Sandra Malley / 301-518-2220

### NOVEMBER



**Museum of the Bible**, Washington, DC. A 430,000 sq. ft. museum that invites all people to engage in the Bible. Scheduled for completion this fall, grand opening is advertised for November, 2017! **Contact person:** Sandra

### DECEMBER

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

**Coordinator/Contact person needed for this event to take place.** Call Ted, Sue or Jane to volunteer.

Sight and Sound Theater's *Miracle of Christmas*, Ronks, PA.  
**Contact person:** Sue Constantinides / 301-651-1178.



**Thursday, August 10**  
**Annapolis Bay Cruise**  
**11:00– 3:00 \$45**  
Cruise the Chesapeake Bay, see historic lighthouses and hear tales of smuggling and piracy on the Chesapeake Bay. Time afterward to explore historic Annapolis.

**Contact person:** Sue Constantinides / 301-651-1178.

### Sunday, August 20

**Picnic & Swimming** at the home of Bill & Lora Maynard, Damascus.

**Contact persons:**  
Lora & Bill Maynard / 301-461-0850.

**Please note that we have one person that has volunteered to help with arranging a Christmas Dinner, but they cannot do this alone. We would need several more people to make a commitment for the dinner to take place. Please prayerfully consider if you are able to do this. We know a lot of you out there enjoy attending this each year. I will offer to find "Santa" as my part.** - Jane

**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 Ted, Sue or Jane.**

## Announcements (cont'd)

### Young at Heart Activity FREDERICK KEYS BASEBALL GAME



**Play Ball! It's that time of year again!**

**On Saturday, July 8** everyone is invited to join us at Harry Grove Stadium in Frederick to see the Keys (Orioles affiliate) play Myrtle Beach Pelicans (Chicago Cubs affiliate). This is the perfect event to include your kids & grandkids. However, since these are reserved seats, the tickets are all the same price. Those interested in driving or riding in a carpool, please let us know.

**Gates open: 5:00 p.m. - Game Time: 6:00 p.m. - followed by Fantastic Fireworks**

*Bring the whole family and join us for a night of fun.*

**Great seats!! Good Food!! Great Fun!! Great price!! \$12.00 per ticket**

For tickets please contact Mike Springirth 240-832-2404 / [springirth8@netscape.net](mailto:springirth8@netscape.net)

**DEADLINE FOR SIGNING UP IS JULY 1st.**

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### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!! TO COUNT THE OFFERING**



**WHEN? – After the 11:00 am Service**  
**HOW OFTEN? – About once every 8 weeks**  
**HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE? – About 2 hours**  
**DO YOU WORK ALONE? – No, you will have a partner**  
**TRAINING? –Of Course! We will show you the ropes**  
**WHO TO CONTACT – David Rust – [darust@comcast.net](mailto:darust@comcast.net) or [301-414-5447](tel:301-414-5447)**



## Thank You's

Larry and I would like to thank everyone who has been praying for him while he's been recovering from brain surgery since December. Also, he has treasured all of the visits, both at the hospital, Lorien in Mt. Airy, the many cards, phone calls, and visits at home after his discharge. We are so very thankful for his progress in healing and recently being able to drive again. Our church family, friends, and our family have been so faithful for which we shall be eternally grateful. The support of my Stephen Ministry group and my WWJD circle has been invaluable as well.

God bless one and all, Jan and Larry Mullinix ☺

## Office Information

### PLEASE NOTE:

Main office: 301-253-0022

### PASTORS:

David S. Cooney, ext. #103  
cell: 240-529-8887 / [david.cooney@damascusumc.org](mailto:david.cooney@damascusumc.org)

Amanda P. McMurtrey, ext. #104  
cell: 970-231-5123 /  
[amanda.mcmurtrey@damascusumc.org](mailto:amanda.mcmurtrey@damascusumc.org)

### STAFF:

Polly Edmonds Baldrige,  
Minister of Music & Worship Arts  
cell: 240-750-8287 / [polly.baldrige@damascusumc.org](mailto:polly.baldrige@damascusumc.org)

Stephen Kalnoske, Organist  
cell: 240-832-2112  
[stephenkarnoske@gmail.com](mailto:stephenkarnoske@gmail.com)

Nick Works,  
Director of Youth  
cell: 240-751-6695 / [nick.works@damascusumc.org](mailto:nick.works@damascusumc.org)

Jane Webb, Office Manager  
ext. #101 / [jane.webb@damascusumc.org](mailto:jane.webb@damascusumc.org)

Linda Stastny, Office Administrator  
ext. #102 / [office@damascusumc.org](mailto:office@damascusumc.org)

Lisa Marshall, Property Manager  
cell: 301-253-5241 /  
[lisa.marshall@damascusumc.org](mailto:lisa.marshall@damascusumc.org)

Steve Malley, Bookkeeper  
ext. #106 / [steve.malley@damascusumc.org](mailto:steve.malley@damascusumc.org)  
††††††††††

## 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 for the day at 4:00 p.m. Additionally,

Pastor David is off on Fridays.

Pastor Amanda is off on Tuesdays.

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.

*Thank you !*

## Administrative Meetings For June 2017

- June 1 Missions Committee Meeting to  
7:00 pm in the Annex/CR
- June 6 Trustees Meeting in  
7:00 pm in the Great Hall
- June 7 Office Staff Meeting  
10:00 am in the Annex/CR
- June 21 Technology Committee Meeting  
7:00 pm in the Annex
- June 22 Administrative Board Meeting  
7:00 pm in the Dining Hall/back

**IMPORTANT BEACON MESSAGE**  
**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING**  
**ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION**  
**IN THE JULY BEACON**  
**WILL BE**  
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14**  
(For Beacon to publish on Sunday, June 25).  
**PLEASE SUBMIT ANY AND**  
**ALL ARTICLES BY THIS**  
**DATE AT THE LATEST.**

**Thank You !**

**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,  
with no additional cost to you!**



Damascus United Methodist Church  
**VBS Registration Form**

(Pre-K (age 4) through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**July 24 - 28, 2017 / 9:00 am - 12:15 pm**

(Please fill out one form for each FAMILY, and return it to the church office:  
DUMC, Attn: VBS, 9700 New Church Street, Damascus, MD 20872)

**Suggested Donation: \$30/per child**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade entering \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt size: Y \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ (S/M/L) (S/M/L/XL)  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade entering \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt size: Y \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade entering \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt size: Y \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade entering \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt size: Y \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) / Guardian(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church \_\_\_\_\_ Friends of Your Child\* \_\_\_\_\_

(\*Please list additional friends of additional children on the back)

**Allergies:** (please indicate which child) Our kitchen staff will purchase the snacks and drinks that will be served during VBS, and peanut-related items will not be bought. However, if your child has severe food allergies, it would be best for you to send in a snack each day for your child. We are not able to guarantee a complete peanut-free kitchen.

In case of emergency, I give permission for Shady Grove Hospital to treat (please list names if more than one child):

For any accident or injury that occurs while attending Vacation Bible School.

Name of Doctor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contacts:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Dismissal Information - Name(s) of person(s) who may pick up this child from VBS:

Person #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Person #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**Other Info (For Church Use Only)**

Hero Group \_\_\_\_\_

Are parents/guardians/family members helping with *VBS Hero Central*? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, where? \_\_\_\_\_



## Your Connection to Care

When you are facing a difficulty, faith issue, or serious illness, your pastoral care team is here for you. Pastors David and Amanda are easy to reach and available to you. Their contact information is below:



**David S. Cooney, ext. #103**  
cell: 240-529-8887  
[david.cooney@damascusumc.org](mailto:david.cooney@damascusumc.org)



**Amanda McMurtrey, ext. #104**  
office: 301-253-0022  
[amanda.mcmurtrey@damascusumc.org](mailto:amanda.mcmurtrey@damascusumc.org)

They can also help connect you to a

Stephen Minister.

## ABOUT OUR PEOPLE

**Pray for Charles Deering and family** with the passing of **Helen Deering** on Wednesday morning, May 24. Funeral arrangements are pending.

**Pray for those receiving medical care, going through tests, facing surgery or in recovery:** **Pennie Adams** (Cochlear implant), **Marylyn Anderson** (diagnosed with myasthenia gravis; prayers only, please no calls or visits), **Benjamin Bautista** (developmental concerns), **David Bellefleur** (Hank's brother recovering from motorcycle accident), **Bob Braden** (at Shady Grove Rehab Center), **Mary Burton** (heart issues), **Linne Carrier**, **Ann Cochran**, **Don Cosman**, **Annabelle Crane** (Cheryl Minekime's aunt with medical issues), **Susan Crane** (Cheryl Minekime's cousin with medical issues), **Pat Duvall**, **Lynn Engel** (recovering tracheal surgery), **Larry Froeberg** (Karen Taylor's father recovering from complications from back surgery), **April Fry** (Diane Fry's daughter-in-law with M.S.), **Miel Linthicum**, **Jeanette Long**, **Daniel Lorenzo** (Angie Thompson's brother with heart failure), **Tom Mielke** (Marilyn Kinsey's son-in-law with M.S.), **Teresa Morella** (recovering from back surgery), **Nancy Nicker-son** (recovering from shoulder surgery), **(Neal Pardini** (leg vascular problems), **Carole Sacco** (Gina Wilson's sister-in-law with liver disease and candidate for a transplant), **Jerry Smith** (step-son to Joyce Patrick and brother to Sharon Warfield with undetermined medical issues), **Dorothy Stull** (at home under hospice care), **Karen Taylor** (recovering from a broken collarbone), **Karen Turner** (Kathy Jones' niece with Lupus), **Bill Walcott** and **Matthew Works** (Nick's brother with spine tumors).

**Pray for those who have been diagnosed with cancer** including **Patty Benson** (Doug's wife), **Ann Boyer** (Kevin's mom), **Sue Bradley**, **Steve Capkovits** (Ruth Harward's cousin), **Karen Caroscio** (Stephanie Vara Carter's mother-in-law), **Linne Carrier**, **Mickey Cochran**, **Natalie Cosman** (Don & Rita's granddaughter), **Tammy Lee Cosman** (Don & Rita's sister-in-law), **Lauren Dunham**, **JP Feuillet**, **Dawn Helton** (Marge Taylor's daughter), **Rick Henderson** (Ken's brother), **Willa Kackley** (Judy Benedict's aunt), **Jan LaDuke** (Julie Kinnaman's cousin), **Leroy** (friend of the Malley's going thru kidney cancer treatment), **Dave Lingrell**, **Christopher Matovich** (Gerry Pardini's nephew) **Frances Richards** (Rev. Beth Richards' sister) and **Tim Sanner** (Dan Krotz's uncle).

**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), **Thomas LaMaster** – Navy (Ted & Esther Samakouris' grandson), **Gregory Lee** – Army (Cara Hardick Lee's husband), **Benjamin J. Saunders** – Navy (son of Connie Ross), **Alex Sauter** – Marines (son of Todd & Kelly), and **Kossi (Alfred) Setodji** –Army (son of Philip and Mary Davi Avudutu).



## 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.

**Damascus United Methodist Church**  
**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION**  
**2017 VBS -- Form for Youth Helpers**

*(Please fill out a form for each youth helper and return to the Resource Room or the Church Office)*  
***Return this form no later than June 25, 2017***

**DATE OF VBS WEEK:** **July 24 – 28, 2016** (Please plan to work 8:30am-12:30pm each day)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Adult Size S M L XL  
(Please circle one)

Grade Entering \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or other concerns \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In case of an emergency, I give permission for Shady Grove Hospital to treat (name of youth)  
\_\_\_\_\_ for any accident or injury that occurs while attending Vacation Bible School.

Name of Doctor \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone# \_\_\_\_\_

*As a youth helper for VBS, I understand that:*

- *I must attend the mandatory training meeting on **July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017** (Time: 3-4:30pm),*
- *I must complete the Safe Sanctuary Covenant Form with parent signature,*
- *I will be a role model for the children at all times during VBS week,*
- *I will fulfill my duties as described at the training meeting,*
- *I will act appropriately at all times, keep my cell phone turned off during VBS hours, and*  
*I will call the adult leader, with whom I am working, if I need to be absent any of the days during that week.*

Signed (youth): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate any dates/times you will **not** be able to help during VBS: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your preference for assignment (note that you will be assigned where we need you the most):  
**Booth Helper / Class Helper / Acting / Audio-Visual / Music / Safety Patrol**

(Also remember to complete the Safe Sanctuary Covenant Form, which must be turned in with this application.)  
Any questions? Please call the church office at 301-253-0022 or email [amanda.mcmurtrey@damascusumc.org](mailto:amanda.mcmurtrey@damascusumc.org)