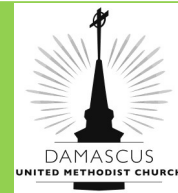


DAMASCUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
9700 NEW CHURCH STREET
DAMASCUS, MD 20872
PHONE: 301-253-0022
E-MAIL: OFFICE@DAMASCUSUMC.ORG
WEBSITE: WWW.DAMASCUSUMC.ORG

THE BEACON

JULY 2017



CLERGY AND STAFF:

David Cooney, Senior Pastor

Amanda McMurtrey
Associate Pastor /
Children's Ministry

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. /
Weekday AM Custodian

Julio Pedraza /
Weeknight & Sunday AM Custodian

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

Grace and Peace,

Summer is fully upon us now and we are moving into our summer schedule. This means, for one thing, that there will be

ONE SERVICE ONLY DURING JULY AND AUGUST.

This service will be at 9:30 am.

We tried this last summer and it was very popular as people from the 8:15 and 11:00 services were able to worship together. Our choirs all worked as one keeping our tradition of quality music alive. Be with us whenever you are not traveling and enjoy your church family as you worship our God. If you are traveling, worship on the road. You can have great experiences doing this and maybe get some good ideas to bring back.

Most of our committees will also not be meeting these next few months. This gives our officers a well-deserved break. We resume full speed ahead come September.

July is the month for our Vacation Bible School. This summer we are learning about Superheroes. For a full week our church will be filled with children learning about Jesus. It is a very important time for them and us. Don't hesitate to invite children in your neighborhood. Encourage their families to register them. All are welcome.

On August 27 we will have our annual Rally Day. It is going to be extra special this year. This is a Sunday you do not want to miss.

The big news for the summer is the refreshment of our sanctuary. The first thing that will happen is that all of the pews will temporarily leave. They are being taken to be repaired and refinished. Fear not. They will return. They will look new and beautiful. The sanctuary, entrance ways, parlor, and narthex restroom will receive a new coat of paint. When done you will see a cleaner, warmer look. The wood floor in the chancel will be refinished, we will have new flooring in the places you see tile today, and new carpet in the sanctuary, narthex, and entry ways. Finally, we will have enhanced sound with a new sound board to replace our present board which is beginning to fail and a projection system that will take away the need to run extension cords and a projector up the center aisle every time we have something to show. Our worship area is going to look clean, fresh, new, and beautiful. I know you will be thrilled when it is complete and unveiled. All of this is possible because of the Preserving the Future Campaign. Sanctuary refreshing is part of the Trustee Five Year Capital Improvement Plan.

Now, what all of this good news means is that we will not have the sanctuary available to us for nearly two

Pastor's Article (cont'd)

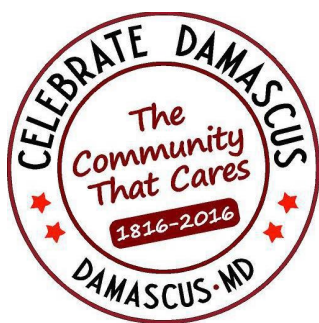
months. During this time, we will be worshipping in different places, primarily the Great Hall. (We will be able to pass through the sanctuary to get to the hall. Watch for dirt and dust and don't look too closely if you want to be surprised at the end). We are going to make this fun, not a problem, and it will be worth it in the end. We just have to put up with "Pardon Our Dust" signs for a few months. The work will begin on July 31, following VBS. The latest estimate has us back in the sanctuary in mid-October.

Just as the sanctuary is being refreshed, so summer is a natural time for us to be refreshed. Things tend to move at a slower pace and some everyday business is laid aside for a while. It is a time to rest, be with family and friends, catch our breaths, and renew our souls. I pray this summer can be a refreshing time for you.

Remember: 9:30 am on Sundays.

In Christ's love,

David



***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.*

REMINDER:

Pastor Amanda will remain on renewal leave through July 15, 2017.

She will return to the office on Monday, July 17. She will not be available/reachable until this time.

Amanda feels this has been a great gift to her to have this time and looks forward to coming back with a refreshed spirit to rejoin our ministry at DUMC!



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 • Conversation • Companionship •
Fun • Sisterhood • Everyone Invited**

**CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AT
EITHER 301-253-0022 OR
OFFICE @DAMASCUSUMC.ORG**

Men's Night Out for July

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



Mon-

day,

July 10, 2017

at 6:30 pm at

Mt. Airy Tavern

1001 Twin Arch Road

Mt. Airy, MD 21771

Phone: (301) 829-3212

RSVP to Ted Ross at 301-704-7992.

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!



United
Methodist
Women
Faith • Hope • Love in Action

July United Methodist Women News

The Susanna JOY Circle
and
the WWJD Circle
WILL NOT meet
in the month of July.

**Look for their Fall meeting dates
in the August Beacon.**

Spiritual Formation (cont'd)

Damascus-Clarksburg Area School Supply Drive

Again this year 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!



We will have collection bins starting the first week of July, in both the Narthex (back of church) and the church office. The collection will continue until mid-August.

Help needy students in our area have a bright start to the new school year by donating new school supplies.

We are collecting:

Backpacks	Lined paper (college and wide ruled)	Safety scissors
Spiral notebooks	Composition books	Pocket folders
Pencils	Pens (blue, black and red)	Dividers (5-7 subject)
Crayons	Glue sticks (not regular glue)	Colored Pencils
Erasers and eraser caps		Markers



Thank you again for your continue support of our community and our school children.

Blessings,
Jill Ochs, Faith Connections, Inc.

Our Young at Heart Group is very busy this summer !!

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 car-pool, 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

DEADLINE FOR SIGNING UP IS JULY 1st

Our Young at Heart Group (cont'd)



A THREE-HOUR BOAT TOUR! (YOUNG AT HEART OUTING) Cruises on the Bay by Watermark Thursday, August 10, 2017 11:15 am - 2:15 pm Cost: \$45



Ahoy Matey! Join us for a *Chesapeake Bay Trio Cruise* as we explore the Severn River, two historic light-houses and the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. Hear tales of the Chesapeake from a live interpreter. Your guide delivers a connection with the waters of Annapolis (the crown jewel of the Bay) through rich and diverse legends and lore. Hear tales of smuggling, rum running and piracy plus the legend of Chessie, the Chesapeake Bay Sea Monster. Also included will be a short history of Kent Island including information on its original North American inhabitants.

Bring a bag lunch to eat on the boat. Drinks are available for purchase on the boat. Don't forget a hat and sun screen! No, this boat isn't "The Minnow!" The boat is large, well-equipped and holds 90 people. It leaves from City Dock (1 Dock Street) in Annapolis promptly at 11:15 am. Handicap parking is available right on the dock (with a 4-hour maximum.) Otherwise, parking is available at the Noah Hillman Garage, 150 Gorman Street. For those who want to extend their Annapolis experience, feel free to explore and shop the historic downtown area afterward. Perhaps an early dinner at one of their nearby restaurants? Make a day of it!

If you are computer savvy and want to order your own tickets, go to <http://cruisesonthebay.com>. Select the "Annapolis" location and type in "August 10" under the search bar. The Chesapeake Bay Trio Cruise will pop up. Then click on "Purchase tickets" at the top and you are set. If the idea of ordering tickets online gives you cold sweats, contact Sue Constantinides at 301-253- 6591 (Home) or 301-651-1178 (Cell) and she will do it for you. Be sure to get the \$45 fee to her or you will owe her a nice dinner.

If you want to carpool, meet at the church ready to leave at 9:30 am sharp. Whether you are buying your own tickets or not, please RSVP to Sue no later than Sunday, July 30, so she will have a head count and can order tickets. See you on the bay!



Young At Heart Cookout and Pool Party Sunday, Aug. 20, 2017 at 4:00 pm



You are invited for a cookout at our house. We will provide the main dish and paper products. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Please call or text us if you plan to attend this Young at Heart gathering.

Looking forward to your attendance and a sunny day!

Lora & Bill Maynard, [301-461-0850](tel:301-461-0850), 25108 Silver Crest Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20882.

DUMC YOUTH FELLOWSHIP - SUMMER 2017

Homecoming Concert

Wednesday, June 28 at 7:00 pm
Pool Party to follow at the Nardones
5512 Griffith Road, Laytonsville 20882

Pool Party at the Hulchers

25212 Woodfield School Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20882

Vacation Bible School

Youth Helpers Needed !!
See flyer on page # of this Beacon to
sign-up or for more information.

Hiking Expedition to Cunningham Falls State Pk.

Sunday, August 13
Leaders: Tom & Polly Baldrige

Movie Night

Sunday, August 20
Leader: Pastor Amanda

Back to School Event

Sunday, August 27
Grill, Chill and Back to School THRILL !!!!

Note:

The Hershey Park trip has been postponed and will be rescheduled: TBD



Our Charles Wesley Singers on
tour at Union Baptist Church, Mystic, CT



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.

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

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

Carol Yocum, Chairperson

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 4½ 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)
- **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

Neema (Grace) Kenya Mission: Joint Partners Medical Clinic



Meet **Joyce and Adan**, founders of the Joint Partners Medical Center in Musasa, Kenya. Joyce, a nurse-midwife, is **Gladys Otieno's sister!** The community had no other health facility, and prior to the opening of their clinic community members would come to Joyce and Adan's home seeking help. Their home became a labor and delivery ward and treatment center. With sheer will and faith, they opened their clinic in January 1999 in a rented room, using cardboard to create examination and treatment rooms. Patients flocked to the clinic, seeking treatment for Malaria, Typhoid and other diseases so rampant in their area. Eventually, Joyce and Adan purchased land and built their current clinic, expanding to include preventive services including maternal-child health care, family planning, and cancer screening.

They have come so far, but the challenges remain significant. The cost of drugs is prohibitive, often absorbed by the Clinic when patients cannot afford treatment, depleting their limited resources. Lack of equipment requires the Clinic to refer patients to facilities outside the community. Lack of funding continues to prevent many women from seeking treatment for themselves and their children for **preventable, life-threatening illnesses**.

What we have done so far: We provided Joyce a small donation in January, which she used to hold a screening clinic for the children of the community. During the screening, a four year old boy was diagnosed with acute intestinal obstruction. They were able to transfer the child to a nearby mission hospital, where he underwent immediate surgery, saving the boy's life. Joyce wrote us, **"God worked through you in a very mysterious way to save the life of this child."** To which we said, "Amen!"

Last month we sent Joint Partners funds to purchase a blood pressure machine, glucometer, hemometer, diagnostic kits and a baby scale. To us it was a small investment with potential for enormous dividends. To Joyce and Adan, it was another example of God's Neema grace. It is exciting to see DUMC becoming one of the partners in this amazing, life-saving Joint Partners outreach! Asante sana (thank you very much) for all of your support!

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH (cont'd)

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

FAITH CONNECTIONS SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Faith Connections is looking for volunteers for the school supply drive. This project runs from **July-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 if you are able to help.

DESPERATELY LOOKING FOR HABITAT CHAPERONES

We are presently in dire need of additional adult males who are willing to sleep at the church where we will be staying. We need adult males to help us with the Safe Sanctuary guidelines of two adults in the room with the youth.

In addition, we are also in need of someone (male or female) who is willing to drive the church van for the whole trip.

While it isn't ideal, we would take volunteers for just a few days (perhaps if we had several volunteers, they could split the week).



PRAYER NEEDS FOR JULY

Pray for Anita Duvall and the Habitat team that leaves July 16 for a week of work in Garrett County on homes.

Pray for the Charles Wesley Singer now enroute on the Summer Youth Mission Tour. As they continue to sing before many people, may their music be used by God to bring faith and hope to those who listen and those who sing.

Pray for the newly trained dental assistants in remote villages of Nicaragua trained by Dr. Belinda Forbes.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



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 11, 2017. 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, talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders: Rev. 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).



Healing Service

Our monthly Healing Service will be held
Sunday, July 16, 2017 at 7:00 pm
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).

Missions and Outreach

Local National International

<p>Between Cultures Kathy Jones 301-580-4591 or kathyjonesrgpm@gmail.com</p>	<p>Between Cultures is a mission and ministry shared with the people of Nicaragua. There are opportunities to travel to the La Danta community, become a prayer partner, support ongoing mission work, and more!</p> <p>Next trip: January 2018</p>
<p>Blood Drives Cathy Heinbaugh 301-253-0742 or cheinbaugh@comcast.net</p>	<p>Damascus UMC hosts 3 to 4 blood drives each year! Volunteer to give blood and change the life of a person at a time of life and death need.</p> <p>Next Blood Drive: August 24, 2017</p>
<p>Damascus HELP 301-253-4100 or DH20872@aol.com</p>	<p>Damascus UMC supports this local community organization that provides assistance to individuals and families in need in upper Montgomery County with emergency food, holiday food and gifts, transportation, furniture, and emergency financial assistance. The church office serves as an anytime drop-off location for non-perishable food items.</p>
<p>Neema Kenya Mission Jackie Perry 410-489-2557 or jackiedalr@yahoo.com</p>	<p>As a developing mission, Neema (Grace) Kenya Mission seeks to build a mutually enriching relationship between DUMC and our Kenyan brothers and sisters. Their goal is to journey with fellow Kenyans in experiencing God's grace as they partner with Ndere Orphanage and Joint Partners Medical Clinic to address their educational and health care needs.</p>
<p>Earth Stewards Jeff Heinbaugh 301-253-0742 or heinbjc@comcast.net</p>	<p>We are an outreach ministry committed to educating and increasing community awareness about environmental preservation. Projects have included reducing energy use at our church, increasing recycled materials, sponsoring nature walks, hiking trips, and bicycling trips, participating in the Adopt-a-Road program, assembling and giving away rain barrels, and regularly publishing "green tips" in the church newsletter.</p>
<p>Faith Connections Debbie Thomlinson 301-482-0522 or debtom3@msn.com</p>	<p>Faith Connections is a community organization that provides emergency service to families in crisis situations and helps empower clients towards self-reliance.</p> <p>Faith Connections needs volunteers to serve: at the "Rock the House After School Program" located in Damascus Gardens Community Room on Tues., Wed., and Thurs., from 4:15 pm to 6 pm; with the GED (on-line) Program at the Damascus Recreation Center on Thursday evenings from 7 pm to 8:30 pm; and to serve on the Good Shepherd Team, an emergency help line. (Volunteers serve on the team and answer calls from their homes.)</p>
<p>Habitat for Humanity Anita Duvall 240-485-7650 or anita.duvall@fda.hhs.gov</p>	<p>Damascus UMC sends a yearly team to Western Maryland to help build homes for low income families each July. The team stays in local United Methodist churches and includes both adults and youth.</p> <p>Next Trip: July 16-21, 2017 / Mandatory meeting: June 14 @ 7:00 pm</p>
<p>Harwood House Thrift Shop Debbie Stone 301-253-6536 or dafstone@comcast.net</p>	<p>Damascus UMC has a second-hand store located in our former church building. Volunteers sort and price donations and manage the store. All profits are used for church and local community missions and ministries!</p> <p>Location: Corner of Woodfield Rd. and Main St. in Damascus, MD</p> <p>Open for Sales: Thursday - Saturday 11 am to 3 pm Open for Donations: Tuesday 9 am to 2:30 pm; Thursday - Saturday 11 am to 2:30 pm</p>
<p>Meals on Wheels Pam Rust 301-414-5447 or pamela.rust@comcast.net</p>	<p>Drivers volunteer for this wonderful community program that delivers meals to homebound persons in our area.</p>
<p>Children's Sunday School Cathy Scarbrough 301-972-6844 or tom.scarbrough77@gmail.com</p>	<p>The Fall mission projects have students raise money to help children in need in other countries (Kenya, Ethiopia, Nicaragua, etc.) For the Lenten mission project, the students donate food items each week for Damascus Help.</p> <p>VBS: July 24-28, 2017</p>

Missions and Outreach

Local National International

<p>Pleasant Plains Preschool Cora Horst 301-253-9798 or pleasant.plains@damascusumc.org</p>	<p>Our preschool offers a high-quality, educational program which enables children to grow socially, spiritually, academically, physically, and emotionally. Our program is open to all preschool-aged children in the community. The preschool curriculum uses letters of the alphabet as a springboard to engage our students in a variety of activities including art, cooking, fine and gross motor skills, literature, music, science and social studies, as well as readiness skills for reading and mathematics. Pleasant Plains Preschool offers classes for children ages 2, 3, 4, and pre-kindergarten.</p>
<p>Prayer Shawl Ministry Cathy Heinbaugh 301-253-0742 or cheinbaugh@comcast.net</p>	<p>The 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 offer tangible evidence of God's love to each recipient. This ministry provides an opportunity to learn how to knit or crochet--the basic shawl pattern is easy to learn. The gift of a prayer shawl can make such a difference in the life of a person who is healing, suffering, grieving, or just needs to know they are loved. We are expanding the prayer shawl ministry to include Prayer Squares. They are smaller and easier to make. We are happy to teach you how to make them.</p> <p>Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the 3rd Mondays at 12:30 pm in the Annex.</p>
<p>Hopi VIM / Volunteers in Mission Norm & Cheryl Minekime 301-414-0098 or cminekime@verizon.net</p>	<p>Members from Damascus UMC join together with other United Methodists from the Baltimore-Washington Conference to travel to the Hopi reservation in NE Arizona. This is primarily a mission of relationship with the Hopi people but teams may also perform a variety of tasks from light maintenance to yard cleanup. It is a wonderful opportunity to offer transforming work while being transformed by the Hopi Culture.</p> <p>Next Trip: TBD</p>
<p>UMW Travel Toiletries for Homeless Women Wanda Miente 301-972-1876 or rmiente@verizon.net</p>	<p>The Damascus United Methodist Women (DUMW) has an outreach program to help homeless women. During travel for work and pleasure throughout the year, the UMW encourages you bring home those small unused bottles of shampoos, conditioners, lotion, and body wash from your trip; place them in the specially marked "red" basket in the Narthex.</p>
<p>Stephen Ministry Jan Mullinix 301-482-1122 or jmullinix74@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Trained volunteers become pastoral caregivers for people who are homebound, grieving, in the midst of a personal crisis, or facing an ongoing illness. Stephen Ministers listen, offer compassionate friendship, share faith and encouragement.</p>
<p>United Methodist Missionaries Abroad General Board of Global Ministries Carol Yocum 301-788-6446 or carolyocum@msn.com</p>	<p>DUMC is in covenant relationship with and helps support the work of Nan McCurdy & Miguel Mairena, currently Western Jurisdiction Mission advocates and trainers; and Dr. Belinda Forbes, a dentist who provides dental services and public health service in some of Nicaragua's remotest villages. DUMC also supports Dr. Forbes with expenses for training new dental assistants in these villages.</p>
<p>Charles Wesley Singers / Summer Choir Tour Polly Baldrige 240-750-8287 or Polly.Baldrige@damascusumc.org</p>	<p>The DUMC youth choir travels to various parts of the US for approximately ten days to two weeks, every summer, to sing and witness. They build relationships with congregations that they meet and spread goodwill through music and shared fellowship. Throughout the year, they sing concerts in churches, nursing homes, and retirement communities and also sing spontaneously in other places they visit.</p> <p>Summer Trip: June 20-27, 2017</p>
<p>Volunteer in Missions / VIM Carol Yocum 301-788-6446 or carolyocum@msn.com</p>	<p>Volunteer in Mission projects are state/national/international relief and rebuilding projects, often for communities that have experienced a natural disaster. VIM also includes opportunities to serve these communities with worship and children's Bible school experiences.</p> <p>Next Trip: Sept. 3-9, 2017 to Virginia Beach, VA – Storm damage relief to homeowners to help replace drywall, flooring, tile & painting</p>

Announcements

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:	Continues each Sunday through the summer.
Time:	7:00 pm
Place:	7401 Damascus Rd
Contact information:	Text me at <u>(301)788-1041</u>

- Hanna Adkins

Sharing from the Men's Retreat



After's receiving Communion
(Unfortunately missing Cliff Bergstresser & Martin Carr)



The beautiful lake at the
Hallowood Retreat Center

A wonderful time of sharing and fellowship.

Just a few pictures shared from the Annual Men's Retreat
that took place June 9 and 10 at the
Hallowood Retreat & Conference Center in Comus, Maryland.

Announcements (cont'd)

SUMMER CHOIR – FOR ALL AGES

NO ROBES | NO PROCESSIONAL | NO ONE EXCLUDED

9:30 am Sunday Service in July and August

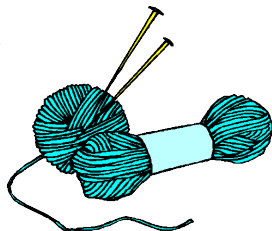
All singers are invited to sing during worship over the summer! Come 20 minutes before services each week for a quick rehearsal to review anthem. Both choirs, Charles Wesley Singers & Chancel Choir, will join to share in the single 9:30 am service – some mornings there will be more than one anthem to feature both groups. 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.

Come join the Prayer Shawl Ministry

Monday, July 17

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, 301-253-0742, or Jan Mullinix, 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.

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.



Announcements (cont'd)

A Special Thank You

The children that attend the Rock The House After School Program at Damascus Gardens would like to thank everyone at Damascus United Methodist Church for the snacks you collected and contributed to the program! Snack time is a favorite part of each day!! We really appreciate your gift!

The children are looking forward to attending Vacation Bible School at your church this summer! Thanks for all of the ways you all make a difference in our local community!!!

Debbie Tomlinson
Program Director
Faith Connections
[301-512-5130](tel:301-512-5130)



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 _____ E-mail: _____

Address _____ City _____

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

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

TOTAL: \$ _____

Checks should be made payable to "DUMC"

Graduating College Seniors

2017



Michaela Bass graduated from Colorado State University with a Masters Degree in Biomedical Science. In September, she plans on starting a job to gain clinical hours in preparation for Physician Assistant School. She will remain in Fort Collins, Colorado until then.

Andrew Dallas graduated from the University of Maryland with a double major in Aerospace Engineering and Computer Science. He will be working as a multi-skilled rotational engineer for Boeing, Long Beach, CA.

Matt Dehoff graduated from Towson University with his Bachelor of Science degree in Electronic Media and Film and Mass Communications (a double major).

Nicholas Robert English graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Michigan with a BS degree in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering on April 29. He was commissioned an Ensign in the US Navy on April 28 and gave the ROTC class speech at the commissioning ceremony. His is the son of Jennifer Braden Morgan and grandson of Bob and Julie Braden.

Laura Janss graduated from Johns Hopkins University with a double major in Economics and International Studies. She is pursuing a job for the future. Laura is the granddaughter of Jacque Janss.

Kathryn Evans graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park, with a major in Economics. She is pursuing a job with the US Government. Kathryn is the daughter of Tom Evans.

Laura Keegan graduated from James Madison University with a BA in Psychology and minor in Spanish and Human Resource Development. She is currently interviewing for campus recruiting positions in northern Virginia.

Derek Klahre graduated from Susquehanna University Cum Laude with a BA degree in Corporate Communications and minors in Corporate Business and Religious Studies. He received two honors: Excellence in Service and Philanthropy from Greek Life (Fraternity and Sorority) and most outstanding student in Corporate Communications. He will reside at Lake James, NC until he accepts a position in this field of study.

Emily Maier and Amy Maier are recent graduates (granddaughters of Earl & Joyce Patrick.) Emily graduated on May 12 from Virginia Tech with a dual degree in Hospitality and Tourism Management & Marketing. Amy graduated from Touro University in California on May 23 with a double master degree as a Physician Assistant and in Public Health. Amy and Emily are the daughters of Marilyn and Donald Maier.

Linda Otieno graduated from the University of Maryland, Baltimore with a major in Master of Public Health-Epidemiology. She plans to attend the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

Sylvia Otieno graduated from Towson University with a major in International Studies. She will be doing a year of service with Americorps Vista, an organization that aims to help meet educational needs of Baltimore city students.

Michelle Packard graduated from Beacon College in Leesburg, Florida on May 6, 2016 with a BA in Psychology. She's currently working for the Center for Social Change in Elkridge, MD.

Lindsey Robinson graduated from James Madison University with a major in Health Sciences. She plans to continue on to graduate school to study in Epidemiology. Lindsey is the granddaughter of Marylyn and Jon Anderson.

Emma Thompson graduated from Susquehanna Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Music degree.

Robert Williams graduated from Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida and received his masters degree in music (horn performance, student of Greg Miller).

Announcements (cont'd)

Remaining Young at Heart Activities - 2017

SEPTEMBER

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

Contact person: Kathy Celli / 301-253-9652



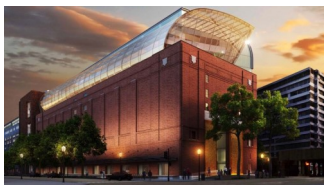
OCTOBER

“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

Malley / 301-518-2220

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.

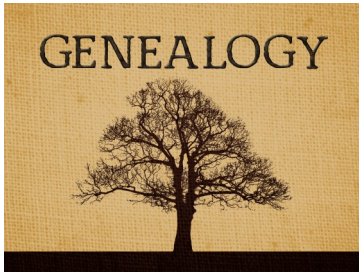
Contact person: Sue Constantinides / 301-651-1178.



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)

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 at 10 am in the church office. However, due to the July 4th holiday, we will meet Tuesday, July 11 for this month.

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

Thank You's

Many THANKS to everyone who sent cards and prayers my way during my treatments for Myasthenia Gravis. I have started on a new medication and have been feeling so much better that I will be at the Young at Heart function on Wednesday. I look forward to seeing you all again. Thanks again. Your cards and prayers are appreciated so very much!

Sincerely,
Marylyn Anderson

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Thank you!

Your prayers and support are what gave me hope through the last two-year journey with my stomach issues.

I know what it means to have God's peace that is beyond all understanding. It was a very bumpy road and I had a lot of discouraging days, but knowing that you were praying and giving me support, got me through. Your many cards and well wishes brightened my days by letting me know that someone cared.

The surgery, I had on May 2, has been an absolute miracle. After two years, I am able to eat again. Praise God. Thank you all for your continuing prayers.

- Pat Duvall

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Dear Friends,

I just want to thank David and Amanda for their visits, as well as others that also sent cards & prayers during my recent time of illness. All was greatly appreciated.

- Rev. Bob Braden

Office Information

PLEASE NOTE:

Main office: 301-253-0022

PASTORS:

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

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

STAFF:

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

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

Nick Works,
Director of Youth
cell: 240-751-6695 / nick.works@damascusumc.org

Jane Webb, Office Manager
ext. #101 / jane.webb@damascusumc.org

Linda Stastny, Office Administrator
ext. #102 / office@damascusumc.org

Lisa Marshall, Property Manager
cell: 301-253-5241 /
lisa.marshall@damascusumc.org

Steve Malley, Bookkeeper
ext. #106 / 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 !



THE CHURCH OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED FOR
THE FOURTH OF JULY HOLIDAY
ON TUESDAY, JULY 4, 2017.

IMPORTANT BEACON MESSAGE
THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING
ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION
IN THE AUGUST BEACON
WILL BE
WEDNESDAY, JULY 19
(For Beacon to publish on Sunday, June 30).
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 6th 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



Amanda McMurtrey, ext. #104
office: 301-253-0022
amanda.mcmurtrey@damascusumc.org

They can also help connect you to a

Stephen Minister.

ABOUT OUR PEOPLE

Pray for Hank & Sylvia Bellefleur and family with the passing of Hank's mother, Anna Bellefleur, on Tuesday, June 13.

A Celebration of Life for Helen Deering will be held here at DUMC on Sunday, July 2, at 12:00 pm, followed by a light reception in the Dining Hall. All are welcome.

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), **Bob Braden**, **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**, **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 Nickerson** (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 **Carol Ackeman** (Mary Nieter's sister with terminal cancer), **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).

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.

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, 2017** (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 23rd, 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