

DAMASCUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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THE BEACON

MARCH 2019



Devoted Servants, Drawn to Jesus, Dedicated to Making Disciples

CLERGY AND STAFF:

Kathryn Woodrow, Senior Pastor

Sherwyn Benjamin (Pastor B)
Associate Pastor

Polly Edmonds Baldrige
Minister of Music & Worship Arts

Nick Works
Director of Youth Ministry

Cora Horst
Director, Children's Ministries
Director, Pleasant Plains Preschool

Jane Webb
Office Manager

Linda Stastny
Office Administrator

Stephen Kalnoske
Organist / Pianist / Worship Arts

Steve Malley / Bookkeeper

Lisa Marshall / Property Manager

Tyrone (TJ) Budd, Jr. / PM Custodian

Brittnay Tarpley / PM Custodian

Bob Tarpley / AM Custodian

Dear DUMC Members & Friends,

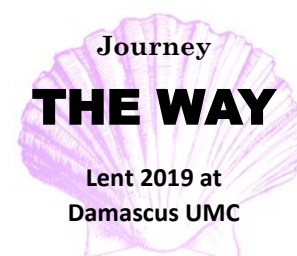
The Season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday which this year falls on March 6. Lent is a six-week or 40-day season in which we recommit ourselves to turning back to God and following Jesus as he moves toward the cross. Having prepared our hearts, minds, and spirits through prayer, fasting, and other spiritual disciplines, we will find ourselves ready to celebrate Easter with special joy.

Our theme for Lent 2019 is "The Way." Lent is a time of reflection, of soul-searching and taking stock of our lives. For thousands of years, religious people have made journeys—both literal and figurative—as a way of gaining perspective and insight, with pilgrimages of many different kinds. Inspired by passages in the scriptures that talk about the journeys, roads, and pathways of lives, we will make our way together through this poignant season. We will grow as we follow Jesus who said of himself "I am the way, the truth, and the life." (John 14:6)

Following Jesus on "the way" will be woven through the Lenten season: in our worship; through a book study led by Pastor Kathryn on "The Way: Following in the Footsteps of Jesus," by Adam Hamilton; as we gather to view the 2010 movie "The Way," about a pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago in Spain (whose symbol is the shell) featuring Emilio Estevez and Martin Sheen; through use of our labyrinth; in the devotional booklet written by our members and staff; and more. You will find information on these and other events throughout this edition of The Beacon.

I hope that you will join me as we journey with Jesus on the way of faith.

Grace and peace,
 Pastor Kathryn



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

***Praying our Way Forward: United to Love
The Baltimore-Washington Conference
gathers via live stream March 2***

On Saturday, March 2, from 9 a.m. to noon, Bishop LaTrelle Easterling is calling the people of the BWC together at the Mission Center and via live streaming to pray and share information following the Special Session of General Conference. The live stream will be available at www.bwcumc.org. A number of local churches are hosting gathering spots. The closest churches to DUMC are:

- Calvary UMC, 403 S Main St, Mt Airy, MD 21771
- Grace UMC, 119 N Frederick Ave, Gaithersburg, MD 20877
- Jackson Chapel UMC, 5609 Ballenger Creek Pike, Frederick, MD 21703

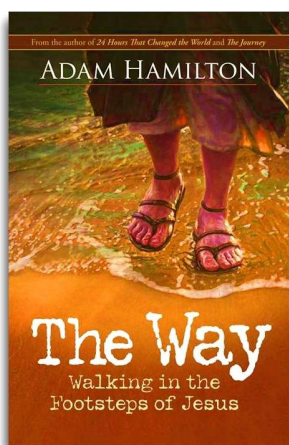
Bishop Easterling encourages us to gather at these locations to share prayers and information together, but you can also access the live stream on your computer, laptop, or smartphone.

LENTEN BOOK/BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR KATHRYN

THE WAY: WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS by Adam Hamilton

Five Sundays: March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

9:30 – 10:30 am in the Dining Hall



About the study: Using historical information, archaeological data, and stories of the faith, Hamilton follows in the footsteps of Jesus from his baptism to the temptations to the heart of his ministry, including the people he loved, the parables he taught, the enemies he made, and the healing he brought. This Lenten study will help you grow deeper in faith and learn more about the life of Christ.

Copies of the book may be purchased online from Amazon. Please RSVP to the church office if you plan to attend. If you would like for the church office to order your book (cost is \$10), let us know when you RSVP. Deadline to order is Monday, February 25.

CONGRATULATIONS NEWLY COMMISSIONED STEPHEN MINISTERS



Please congratulate, acknowledge, and pray for DUMC's newly commissioned Stephen Ministers:

George Hughes

Kathy Leslie

Christy Taylor

Mary Walcek

They were commissioned at DUMC at the 11 am service on February 17, 2019. They attended a commissioning banquet with their fellow Montgomery County Network trainees on February 18. Their commissioning follows extensive training. we are blessed to have such a respected and vibrant Stephen Ministry.

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

March Worship: “The Way” of Lent

Our theme for this Lenten season is “The Way.” Lent is a time of reflection, of soul-searching and taking stock of our lives. For thousands of years, religious people have made journeys of the heart as a way of gaining perspective and insight, with pilgrimages of many different kinds. Inspired by passages in the scriptures that talk about the journeys, roads and pathways of life, we will make our way together through this poignant season. We will explore the many ways in which we follow Jesus and are guided by the Holy Spirit through pilgrimage and journey in our lives.

3/6 Ash Wednesday

“The Way Back” – Theme: Repentance

Worship at 6:45 am, 12:00 pm, and 7:30 pm with the Imposition of Ashes

Scriptures: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17. God calls us to leave the destructive pathways that we are on and to make a U-turn, back towards the Lord. The prophet Joel says, “Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.” (Joel 2:12-13)

3/10 First Sunday of Lent

“The Wandering Way” – Theme: Temptation and Testing, Wilderness Journeys.

Scripture: Luke 4:1-13 (Jesus in the Wilderness). While Jesus was in the wilderness he encountered what we all encounter along life’s path: temptations to stray from the path that God has intended for us. But “all who wander are not lost,” for it is in the wandering that we often find our true selves. Pastor Kathryn will preach.

3/17 Second Sunday of Lent

“The Way Around” – Theme: Following God’s Call

Scripture: Luke 31:31-35. We are not always understood. Jesus found this out, just like so many others whose closest family, friends, and neighbors have created an idea of who we are and cannot imagine the possibilities to which God has called us. Sometimes we must go around obstacles to claim our identity as the person God has created us to be, even in when others misunderstand us. Nick Works, DUMC’s Youth Director, will preach.

3/24 Third Sunday of Lent

“The High Way” – Theme: Radical Hospitality

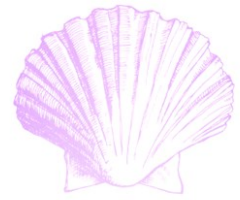
Scripture: Isaiah 55:1-9. We are told there is a cost to everything. But our ways are not God’s ways; God’s ways are higher. We are all invited, without price, to the table of God’s grace. This is “high way” that we are invited to embody to others. Hospitality is the way. Even when we do not agree on everything, we are still one family at one table. Pastor B will preach.

3/31 Fourth Sunday of Lent

“The Way Home” – Theme: Finding a Home with God

Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 5:16-17; Luke 15:11b-32. No matter what we call “home” in this physical world, we yearn for a spiritual home within that offers serenity, acceptance, belonging. The extravagant acceptance of the father for the son in Jesus’ parable is difficult for us to believe sometimes. That no matter what we have done, who we are, how far we are from who we want to become, we are welcomed home by God, our Loving Parent. Pastor Kathryn will preach.

Lent 2019: Join us on "The Way"



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, March 5, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., Dining Hall. Cost: \$7.00 per person. Hosted by the UMM. Shrove Tuesday, also known as Fat Tuesday or Mardi Gras, is the day before Lent begins. Traditionally, people used up all the fats and indulgent foods in their homes on this day before the season of Lent and fasting began.



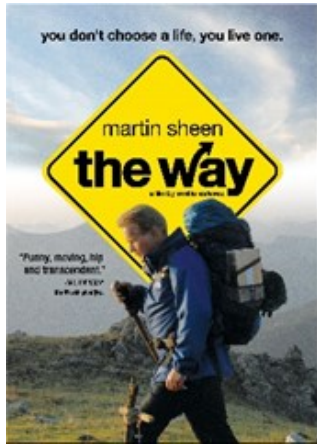
Ash Wednesday Worship – March 6

6:45 a.m. – Morning Communion & Prayer with Imposition of Ashes, followed by continental breakfast. Location: Great Hall (back).

12:00 p.m. – Brief service of worship with Imposition of Ashes. Location: Pavillion.

7:30 p.m. – Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary with Imposition of Ashes.

Music by the Chancel Choir and Ring of Joy.



Movie: "The Way" – 2010, Rated PG-13, 2hrs. 3min.

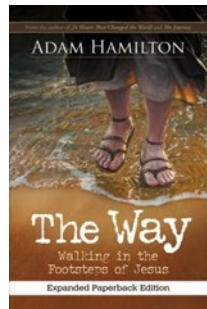
Sunday, March 10 at 12:45 p.m. in the Great Hall

"The Way" is a powerful and inspirational story about family, friends and the challenges we face while navigating this ever-changing and complicated world. Tom is an American doctor who goes to France following the death of his adult son, killed in the Pyrenees during a storm while walking The Camino de Santiago, also known as The Way of St. James. Tom's purpose is initially to retrieve his son's body. However, in a combination of grief and homage to his son, Tom decides to journey on this path of pilgrims. While walking The Camino, Tom meets others from around the world (three in particular), all broken and looking for greater meaning in their lives.

Morning Communion and Prayer

Wednesdays, 6:45 a.m., March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10

Begins on Ash Wednesday. The service is approximately 20 minutes followed by a light, continental breakfast. Stop in on your way to school or work. Come one week or every week!



Lenten Book and Bible Study

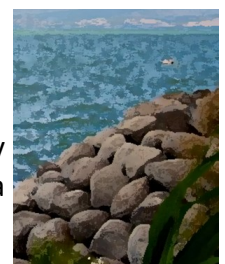
Sunday, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m., March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

in the Dining Hall (Front half, hall side). "The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus" by Adam Hamilton. Follow in Jesus' footsteps from his baptism, to temptation, teaching, miracles, and more. Led by Pastor Kathryn. Book cost: \$10.00. RSVP to the church office by Monday, Feb. 25.

Intergenerational Musical: "By the Sea."

Sunday, March 31, 2:00 p.m. in the Great Hall.

Three seekers in need of help are looking for Jesus but always are one step behind him. They learn about Jesus' life and events in his ministry from witnesses along the shores of the Sea of Galilee. Join the Choristers, youth, and adult actors in this story of journey and discovery.



A Message from Pastor B

UPON THIS **ROCK**

It was a joy to attend the ROCK 2019 youth retreat with some of our youth and adult chaperones. Thank you, Nick, for your leadership and labor. For those who may not know, ROCK is a two-day retreat held in Ocean City, Maryland, by the Baltimore Washington Conference for youth—and maybe not-so youth, judging from the adults dancing in the aisle—to enjoy a time of worship and fun-filled events that present the Good News of God's love in Jesus Christ. So, youth and the not-so youth gather with their peers from all across the conference to learn about their faith in a way that may not likely be shared with them in their local churches on Sunday morning.

I was captured by the ROCK 2019 theme, taken from Matthew 16:18, “Upon this rock I will build my church.” I thought the theme sent a profound message about how we ought to view youth and young adult ministry, as we consider the current state of The United Methodist Church. The theme is taken from the narrative in the gospel where Jesus is essentially commissioning Simon, now known as Peter (Rock), to be



one who will lead the movement that will ultimately establish Christ's church. As I thought about Peter and his maturation from fisherman to Apostle, I liken his journey to that of a young person. In fact, I resonated with his journey because in many respects it reminds me of my own.

Peter could be described as faithful, impulsive, overzealous, and enthusiastic. Peter was also found at times, as the young people say, “doing too much”. Think about some of Peter’s well-known actions. He got out of the boat on a lake to walk on water, before he was truly ready to walk with that level of faith. Jesus had to put him in check, when he was trying to tell Jesus how to carry out Jesus’ mission. He had the impulse to cut someone’s ear off in an effort to defend Jesus. When it was unpopular to claim Jesus, Peter did the popular thing and denied that he knew Jesus three times. It is safe to say that sometimes Peter’s behavior was questionable. I wonder how many people we have given up on or labeled, because their impulses are like Peter’s. Some may find that kind of zeal for God to be overbearing and unnecessary. People like Peter may not be found among the leadership in our churches. One thought or perspective to consider is that Peter may have possibly been overcompensating for his feelings of inadequacy; yet he was called to be an Apostle of Christ.

As mentioned earlier, Peter was faithful and I believe Jesus saw his energy as a gift. There was something special about him. It was Peter who declared that Jesus was the Christ, while others were still trying to figure what to say about Him! It was at that moment that Jesus confirmed Peter to be the one who would play an instrumental role in something transformational. Scripture informs us that it was Peter’s proclamation that ignited the movement that shifted the landscape of faith, as we now know it.

As I sat in the bleachers at ROCK and observed the freedom and authenticity, with which the young people celebrated their faith, I could not help but think how the precarious circumstance the Church finds itself in would affect them. I wondered how much consideration is given to them or are we even having conversation with our young people about the state of our Church. They are often considered the “future of our church.” Have we thought about them, as we become more anxious about the future of the Church? The interesting



I wondered how much are we willing to fight for a Church that our young people would embrace and be proud to call their own. I wondered if they could be a part of a Church, where they could enjoy that same freedom of expression that I saw at ROCK 2019 and be their authentic selves—just as God created them.



We are the church today because Jesus chose Peter, a Rock that was probably a little rough around the edges. So, I asked myself, as I ask the Church, what is the *Rock*, upon which Christ will build the Church in the 21st century? Maybe we are experiencing a new Pentecost moment—a shift in paradigm that will cause our Church to look like a Church that some of us would have never imagined for the future. Maybe a Peter-like enthusiasm, *enthousiasmos* in Greek, which means to be possessed or inspired by God, will help us to reconcile that reality. And maybe, just maybe, that Church will resemble the Kingdom of God.

Spiritual Formation

NEW DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

The Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations Committee is excited to announce the hiring of **Cora Horst** in the newly formed position of Director of Children's Ministries. The Director of Children's Ministries is responsible for DUMC's Children's Sunday School program (Pre-Kindergarten through 5th grade), the Vacation Bible School program, and other Children's ministries that are part of the church life.

Cora worked for us in a similar temporary position in 2018 and helped organize and lead the summer Vacation Bible School program and the fall Children's Sunday School program. This was particularly important as Pastor Kathryn and Pastor B were new to their roles at DUMC in July.

Many of you already know Cora as she's the director for our Pleasant Plains Preschool program and you also see her in the church nursery on Sunday mornings.

Please join me in congratulating Cora in her new role!

Don Hecht
Chairperson, Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations Committee



Spiritual Formation (cont'd)

Gentlemen, just a reminder that for the March Men's Night Out, on Tuesday the 4th, we are hosting the Shrove Tuesday Dinner at the DUMC dining Hall, 9700 Church Street, Damascus, Md. 20872. This dinner is in place of the regular Wednesday night dinner. We will be doing breakfast for dinner and Gabrielle Hulcher, will be our "Kitchen Captain." We will need about eleven (11) volunteers to make this happen, this will include four (4) people to come in at 4 pm and another five (5) to come in around 5 pm the remainder can come between 5:30 and 6PM, dinner will be served at 6 pm. Please let me know if you can help or if you will just be coming for dinner. This is a fundraiser for our Men's Ministries.



A Great Time Together

Men's Night Out in February at
Firebirds Wood Fired Grill,
Gaithersburg, MD

A Special Notice

One of our own men, Robert Deimel, will be having his Christmas Poem preformed as a song, set to music by a renowned Russian composer at the Russian Culture Center, 1825 Phelps Place, NW Washington, D.C. 20008, Thursday March 14th. Please contact Bob, for more details at 301-253-3061, if you wish to attend.

DUMC Men's Group — 2019 Remaining Schedule

- April 8: Men's Night Out @ CarterQue Barbeque, Mt. Airy, MD
- May 18: Host District breakfast at DUMC
- May 23: Men's Night Out @ Long Horn Steak House Germantown, MD
- June 7 & 8: Retreat Hallwood Retreat Center, Comus, MD
- July 15: Men's Night Out - Mt. Airy Inn, Mt Airy
- August : NO Men's Night Out
- Sept. 10: Men's Night Out @ Carrabbas, Germantown, MD
- Oct. 12: Annual Church Picnic @ Ted Ross' House, Gaithersburg, MD

October and November
Men's Mission Focused Project

LADIES' NIGHT OUT

**Fellowship · Conversation · Companionship ·
Fun · Sisterhood · Everyone Invited**

When: Tuesday, March 12
Where: Peruvian Chicken and Grill
26400 Ridge Road
Damascus, MD 2982
Phone: 240-745-2292
Time: 6:00 pm



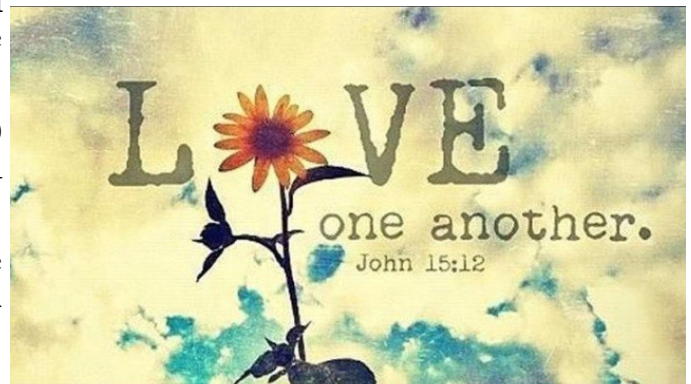
**Please RSVP to the church office (either Linda or Jane)
by Monday, March 11 at 301-253-0022.**

The Love One Another (LOA) group focuses on ways for us to learn to love "the other," people traditionally not accepted into the church.

Our next meeting is Saturday, March 9 at 9:30 am at Cora Horst's house, We'll discuss a cultural identity tool.

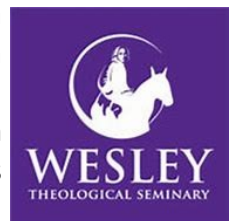
We welcome new members to the group. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to join.

Thank you,
Charlotte Kibak
301-956-6056



The WWJD circle has an event open to all. It is a tour of Wesley Theological Seminary. Wesley has some beautiful artwork and of course the buildings and the grounds are lovely too. The date is March 21. We will carpool from the church.

Please meet at 9 am so we can arrange the carpool. Our own Nick Works will give us a tour of the campus with not too much walking involved. Lunch will follow in the cafeteria at \$9/per person, payable in cash or with credit card. After lunch we will have a chance to sit in on an actual class. We should return to DUMC no later than 3:30 pm. There is no cost except for lunch. Please make reservations with the church office no later than March 8.



Prayer Requests

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

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

Prayer requests may also be made on-line at www.damascusumc.org.

Worship Arts News and Events

March, 2019

Polly Edmonds Baldrige, Minister of Music and Worship Arts

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

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

We're looking for Jesus, pray, where can he be?
They said we might find him down here by the sea.



Featuring the Choristers Choir
and special guests from the Chancel Choir and Charles Wesley Singers

Sunday, March 31, 2019

2 pm on the Great Hall Stage

Damascus United Methodist Church
9700 New Church Street, Damascus, MD
Damascusumc.org



Worship Arts News and Events

March, 2019

Polly Edmonds Baldridge, Minister of Music and Worship Arts

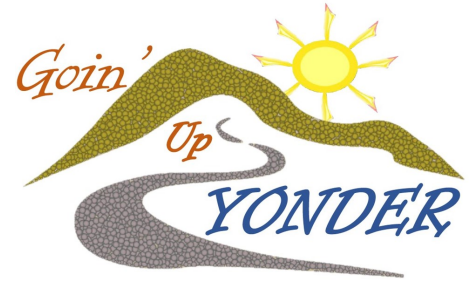
240-750-8287 | polly.baldridge@damascusumc.org

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

TRAVELING WEST

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

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



REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

MONDAYS

7:30 pm **Ring of Joy** Great Hall - Stage side / 75-minute session
Primarily adults, but open to all ages—medium/advanced handbell ensemble

WEDNESDAYS

4:30 pm **Colorful Hands of Jesus** Great Hall - Stage Side / 30-minute session
Puppet troupe for elementary students 2nd grade and up led by Cathy Scarbrough & Nalynn Ryder

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

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

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

7:00 pm **Men's Choir** Music Room / 30-minute session

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

SUNDAYS

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

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

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

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

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

WINTER/SPRING OPPORTUNITIES TO BE IN MISSION TO OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

- **Harwood House** which serves the community and whose proceeds support nearly 30 other helping organization, is LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR TUESDAY AND THURSDAY EVENING IN LENT TO RECEIVE DONATIONS FROM PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY.
- **April 27 workday at Safe Haven**
- **Hopi VIM trip (Arizona)** July 7—13; contact Cheryl/Norm Minekime
- **Possible Kenya trip** Fall, 2019
- **Possible trip to Puebla, Mexico**, 2019
- **Habitat Work** week July 14-19, 2019; contact Anita Duvall
- **Fall Volunteers in Mission trip**; contact Carol Yocum

Pray for those who serve and share God's love

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

Change for Change Offering – small sacrifices making a difference!

DUMC bookkeeper, Steve Malley deposited **\$1,309.49** from the Change for Change offering. The United Methodist Committee on Relief will receive those funds to help the many communities who have suffered in recent months from wildfires and hurricanes. UMCOR stays in communities until people are back in their homes which sometimes takes years to accomplish. UMCOR sponsors Volunteer in Mission trips to stretch the dollars given so that materials can be purchased for rebuilding and repairing with volunteer labor from congregations across our denomination. **A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED THIS EFFORT.**

COFFEE AND DONUTS FUNDRAISER for Nicaragua

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

Thank You

- To those who volunteer week-in and week-out at Harwood House
- To those who knit prayer shawls for those in facing challenging places in life.
- To those who donated blood in February—the Gift of Life. And thanks to Cheryl Heinbaugh for organizing the Red Cross Blood Drive and those who helped her.
- To Sandy Malley, Stephen Leslie, Norm Minekime, Bonnie & Dave Custer & Carol Yocum for counting the Change for Change offering.

A VISION FOR MISSION MINISTRY

In January 2017, the OMG Sunday School class went on a trip to Kenya with the Otienos who are part of that class. It was meant to be a winter vacation. While in Kenya the class members became convinced that God was calling them to more than just a winter vacation. There were needs in Kenya that the class felt they could help with and make a difference by being partners in ministry with Christians who lived in Kenya. That was the beginning of a wonderful ministry to an orphanage in Gem and a clinic run by Gladys Otieno's sister.

The OMG class has an ongoing, monthly commitment to provide food for the orphanage and they have financed improvements to the school (books, furniture, uniforms, equipment, materials) and the other orphanage buildings like the kitchen and latrine. They have been purchasing equipment for the clinic (mattresses, bedding, delivery beds) to make its service more effective to the

11
(continued) ⇨⇨

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH (cont'd)

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

individuals and families whose health needs and maternity needs are fulfilled by the clinic. The OMG class calls the project the NEEMA Kenya Mission. Neema means grace. This past year the OMG class has been very busy in supporting their two ministry projects and **received donations and raised funds totalling \$8,960**. Dollars go much farther in Kenya than in the States. Thank you OMG members and the people of DUMC who have made these opportunities to serve in the name of Jesus happen. Thank you, thank you!

Damascus Help — February report:

Volunteer News: Hope you are all keeping warm during these wintery days. Think Spring! We are saying goodbye to Cindy Vogle, an OD, as she is moving from the area. We wish her well. We are in great need of ODs, transportation drivers and furniture moving teams. If you know of anyone who might be interested in these opportunities, please have them contact Damascus HELP at 301-253-4100, email dh20872@aol.com or www.damascushelp.org for additional information.

Holiday Giving Project: The overall project gave food and gifts to 300 families for Christmas. Damascus Help served 18 families for Christmas and one family for Thanksgiving. Our thanks to Kathy Thornett and her helpers.

In Focus: Global Health **YOUR APPORTIONMENT \$\$ AT WORK AROUND THE WORLD** (By Olusimbo Ige*)

The United Methodist Church has had a long-standing and active engagement in global health efforts for many decades. The latest expression of this work was the \$75 million Imagine No Malaria campaign, which culminated at the 2016 General Conference. We joined the world to celebrate over 6.2 million malaria deaths averted in sub-Saharan Africa between 2000 and 2015. The success of this malaria effort led to a palpable United Methodist desire to “do more” in the realm of health.

The United Methodist Church recognizes that every child is filled with promise and potential and our mission to protect children from preventable causes of death and disease aligns with the promise of Abundant Life in John 10:10. In 2016, the people called United Methodists, therefore, decided to embark on new paths to improve the lives of people everywhere through a Global Health Initiative, which would focus on saving the lives of children around the world.

Ample evidence shows that simple, cost-effective best practices in child and infant health could save the lives of approximately 1.5 million children under 5 each year. Breastfeeding; prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition; immunizations; prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene; and prevention and treatment of malaria and other serious infections can reduce preventable child deaths by at least two-thirds. Yet children continue to die because these interventions are not reaching them.

In recognition that the knowledge and interventions to reduce child deaths are already available and affordable, the Abundant Health initiative made a commitment to expand lifesaving interventions to 1 million children by 2020. This will be the United Methodists' contribution to the global goal to end preventable deaths of newborns, children and adolescents. Every Woman Every Child is an unprecedented global movement that mobilizes governments, multilaterals, the private sector and civil society to address the major health challenges facing women, children and adolescents around the world, with a goal to end all preventable deaths in these vulnerable groups within a generation while ensuring their well-being.

Since the launch of the Abundant Health initiative in 2017, we have invested more than \$15.5 million in 30 countries, mobilized over \$4 million in partner in-kind contributions, and reached more than 503,902 children and adolescents with health interventions in thousands of communities across Asia, Africa, North America and Central America. Most inspiring to me is that children are now more likely to survive their 5th birthday, more children are thriving through healthy meals, substance-abuse prevention and positive youth-development programs. Our support has improved the quality of care for mothers and babies in some of the most challenging places in the world. And our assistance to improve provider capacity and strengthen health systems has helped revitalize United Methodist mission hospitals and clinics in many low-income countries.

Abundant Health transformed the life of Marie Ngombe of Dingle Village, Congo. Marie had been pregnant three times and carried all three pregnancies to term, but none of the babies survived the delivery process. Now she has a healthy 10-month-old daughter. The difference was the education she received from the trained community health workers who encouraged her to access prenatal care and deliver her baby at the new United Methodist clinic where a doctor could help her during the delivery with all the equipment and medication necessary to intervene in the event of a complication.

As the lead agency for the Abundant Health initiative on behalf of The United Methodist Church, our contributions to the global goal of Every Woman Every Child makes me incredibly proud. Clearly, when we harness our efforts across the global United Methodist network, we make enormous progress toward our shared goal. Our continued success depends on our unwavering commitment to effective, equitable and sustainable child health-service delivery strategies so that children not only survive but also continue to thrive as they grow into their adult life.

**Olusimbo Ige is the executive director for the Global Health Unit of Global Ministries*

March/April Youth Events & Fellowship

Youth Fellowship, Sundays @ 6:00 pm

Includes Dinner and an Activity

Sunday 3/3

6:30 pm: Ice Skating in Rockville

Sunday 3/10

12:45 pm: Lenten Movie: "The Way" - GH
(with the congregation)

No Youth Dinner or Evening Activities

Sunday 3/17

6:30 pm: Gaelic Games - DH or outside

Sunday 3/24

6:30 pm: Walking in the Way Activity

Sunday 3/31

2:00 pm: Chorister Musical "By the Sea" - GH

6:30 pm: April Fool's Party - DH

Saturday 4/6

**11:30 am: Lunch at the Frederick
Rescue Mission, Frederick, MD
(departure DUMC 11:00am)**

Sunday 4/7

Rehearsals Only

No Youth Dinner or Evening Activities

Sunday 4/14 Palm Sunday

6:30 pm Game Night and Devotional

Sunday 4/21 Easter Sunday

No Handbell or Choir Rehearsals

**Next UMYFO Meeting
Sunday, March 10 @ 4 pm**

Youth Sunday Schedule

8:15 am: Worship

Charles Wesley Singers share

9:30 am: Youth Chapel

Breakfast (\$5), Music/Worship Time
(Praise Band shares),
Class by Grade, & Confirmation

11:00 am: Worship

4:00 pm: Youth Handbell Rehearsal

(weekly, except when UMYFO meets)

5:00 pm: CWS Youth Choir Rehearsal

(weekly, even if no Youth Activity)

6:00 pm: Youth Dinner (most weeks)

6:30 pm: Youth Activity (most weeks)

Youth Events typically end at 8:00 pm

Lenten Communion

Breakfasts

Wednesdays at 6:45 am



**March 6, 13, 20 & 27
April 3 & 10**

Church League Basketball

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

Schedule will be shared weekly in the Sunday bulletin and in Youth email. Plus can be viewed on the website damascusumc.org, under "Youth Ministry."

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

Announcements

DAMASCUS LIONS SPRING BREAKFAST

Pancakes, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs & More !!!!



Saturday, March 16, 2019

7:00 am to 11:00 am

Here at Damascus UMC - Dining Hall

Adults: \$10, Children (4-8) \$5, under 4 free

Also, be sure to visit our Bake/Craft Table.

Tickets available at the door or ask a Lion's Club member.

www.damascuslions.org



CEMETERY INFO



Cemetery displays will be removed on Ash Wednesday.
Those made of permanent material are placed at the end of the row,
under the arborvitae trees where you may recover them.
Any displays left after Easter will be donated to the thrift shop.



It's a Diaper Drive!



Instead of giving something up for Lent, our children's Sunday School classes are hosting a diaper drive, March 10 - April 14, for Damascus Help and the Damascus Free Little Pantry. Sizes 3, 4 and 5 are most needed.

We are asking our students to do good works to earn the money to contribute for their donations. A case of 144 diapers is around \$21. If we can fill Ms. Cora's office with diapers, the children earn a pancake breakfast. Help from the congregation will be greatly appreciated. Look for the boxes with the above emoji for your diaper donation! We are kicking off the diaper drive on March 3 with a day of diaper science experiments and games during the Sunday School hour. To help out, contact Cora Horst, cora.horst@damascusumc.org. Thank you for supporting our children as they learn to support others in need.

Another Young at Heart Trip !

**National Law Enforcement Museum
Washington, DC**

Date: TBA (will be sometime in April)

Cost: \$19.95 / Seniors 65+
\$21.95 / under 65

SEE. HEAR. EXPERIENCE.

Feel what it's like to walk in the shoes of law enforcement. Set in a stunning, all new museum, hear the untold stories that shaped our nation.

Announcements (cont'd)

Prayer and Healing Service Sunday, March 17 @ 7:00 pm

Join us for this service held monthly in the Parlor or just off the main Sanctuary area.

This service is a time for sharing Holy Communion, laying on of hands, and anointing with oil (James 5:14-16a).

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



Come join the Prayer Shawl Ministry Monday, March 18, at 12:30 pm in the Annex (Church Office)

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

Robert M Tregoning Memorial Scholarship

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

College Scholarships Available !

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



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!





Save the Date!

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

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

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

Registration Form is on page #19 of this Beacon.

DAMASCUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Age 4 – entering 5th grade

July 22 – 26, 2019 · 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

(Notes to parents --- please keep this page!)

1. A donation of **\$30** per child is requested at the time of registration or may be made during the week of Vacation Bible School to help offset our costs. Cash, or checks made out to Damascus UMC, are greatly appreciated.
2. 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.
3. Our primary mode of communication to parents will be via email, which is why we request your email address. A week before VBS, you'll receive an email indicating the class to which your child is assigned and the classroom location.
4. If you would like to volunteer to help during VBS, please send an email to Cora Horst, cora.horst@damascusumc.org. Adult helpers are needed and most welcome! You will need to complete Safe Sanctuary training and associated forms, so please sign up early. You can also volunteer to be a floater to help for one, two, or more days during VBS as your schedule allows. Thanks!
5. We welcome a limited amount of **Youth helpers** (grades 6th -12th) to help us during Vacation Bible School. Students can earn SSL hours, and have a great time helping the children. Youth helpers need to complete a *Youth Helper Registration* form and a *Safe Sanctuary Covenant Statement* form, which are available in the Resource Room and online at <http://damascusumc.org>.

Feel free to contact Cora Horst, cora.horst@damascusumc.org if you have any questions or would like to volunteer.

Office Info

Main office: 301-253-0022

Kathryn Woodrow, ext. #103
kathryn.woodrow@damascusumc.org

Sherwyn Benjamin, ext. #104
sherwyn.benjamin@damascusumc.org

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

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

Cora Horst, Director of Children's Ministries
office: 301-253-9798
pleasant.plains@damascusumc.org

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

Jane Webb, Office Manager
cell: 240-620-6920 / 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

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

March, 2019

Trustees Meeting to follow
in the **Great Hall - stage side**

March 10 UMYFO Meeting at
4:00 pm in the Church Annex

March 19: Technology Committee meets at 7:00 pm in the church Annex

March 21: SPRC Committee
7:00 pm in the church Annex

March 28: Administrative Board Meeting at 7:00 pm in the Dining Hall/back

NOTE: Missions Committee **WILL NOT** meet in the month of March.

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

Pastor Kathryn is off on Fridays.

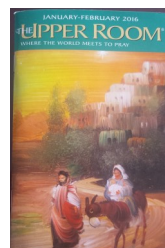
Pastor B. is off on Mondays.

Jane Webb is off on Mondays.

Linda Stastny is off on Tuesdays.

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

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



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

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

Reminder

IMPORTANT BEACON MESSAGE

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING

ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION
IN THE **APRIL** BEACON **WILL BE**
WEDNESDAY, March 20

(For Beacon to publish on **Sunday, March 31**).

**PLEASE SUBMIT ANY AND
ALL ARTICLES BY THIS DATE.
DATE AT THE LATEST.**

Thank You !

About Our People

ABOUT OUR PEOPLE

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



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

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

Did you know?



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

Altar Flowers for 2019

A sign-up notebook to provide altar flowers for this year has been placed in the rack in the narthex next to the Welcome Station. The sooner you sign up for your special dates, the better!

You may order the flowers yourself from one of two local florists:

Blossoms and Basket at [301-829-8300](tel:301-829-8300)

or Beall's at [301-253-2840](tel:301-253-2840)

NOTE: Both florists charge a \$5 delivery fee to DUMC.

If you have any questions, contact Linda Stastny in the church office.



**DAMASCUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORM**

Age 4 – entering 5th grade

July 22 – 26, 2019 · 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**(Please fill out one form for each family, and return it to the Resource Room
or the Church Office: DUMC, Attn: VBS, 9700 New Church St., Damascus, MD 20872)**

Name _____

Grade entering _____

Name _____

Grade entering _____

Name _____

Grade entering _____

Name _____

Grade entering _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) _____

Address : _____

Email: _____

Phone Numbers: Home _____ Cell _____

Work (specify person) _____

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.*

Does your child receive accommodations at school that would help them to have a more enjoyable VBS? Please provide details below so we can make arrangements.

In case of an emergency, I give permission for Shady Grove Hospital to treat my child/children for any accident or injury that occurs during VBS for any accident or injury that occurs while attending Vacation Bible School.

Name of Doctor _____ Phone Number _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone Number _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____