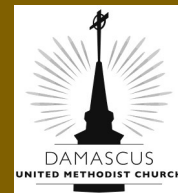


DAMASCUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
9700 NEW CHURCH STREET  
DAMASCUS, MD 20872  
Phone: 301-253-0022  
E-mail: [Damascus.UMC@verizon.net](mailto:Damascus.UMC@verizon.net)  
Website: [www.DamascusUMC.org](http://www.DamascusUMC.org)

# THE BEACON

## NOVEMBER 2015



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

### **CLERGY AND STAFF:**

**David Cooney, Senior Pastor**

**Amanda McMurtrey**  
**Associate Pastor /**  
**Christian Formation**

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

**Ben Constantinides**  
**Artist-In-Residence**

**Tom Baldrige**  
**Director of Youth &**  
**Young Adult Ministry**

**Cora Horst**  
**Director, Pleasant Plains Preschool**

**Jane Webb**  
**Office Manager**

**Linda Stastny**  
**Office Administrator**

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

**Debbie Benson / Bookkeeper**

**Lisa Marshall / Property Manager**

**Carlton Addison / Building Services**

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Greetings Friends,

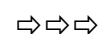
We often speak at church about the call to make disciples. We call this our holy mission in our mission statement which we recite every Sunday, and it is part of our denominational mission statement. As believers, we are charged by God with the responsibility of making disciples of Christ.

Have you ever stopped to think about what that actually means? If I set out to make a cake, I would know what ingredients were needed, how to go about it and, when finished, if I had successfully baked a cake or not. What, though, goes into making a disciple, and how do we go about it, and how do we know if we have successfully made a disciple or not? Perhaps the answers are obvious to you. Perhaps, like me, you are not immediately sure how to answer. This much I know, we cannot make disciples if we do not know what we are making.

Over the next year, in a variety of ways, we will be talking together about discipleship. Just what does it mean to be a disciple? What are we doing that helps shape and develop disciples? Where are we in our own discipleship? The results of our discussions together will be used to help us focus on our ministry, serving as a lens to help us evaluate what we are doing. We can then be sure that when we say on Sunday that we are dedicated to making disciples, we truly are dedicated and we know just what that means. Watch for opportunities to be part of the discussion!

There are some wonderful worship opportunities ahead of us. November 1 is All Saint's Sunday and is always a meaningful and moving time for us to remember and honor those who have gone before and to gather around the table with the communion of saints. Over the next three weeks, we will reflect on the kingdom of heaven. In multiple parables Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like..." and then told a story to help describe the indescribable. Amanda and I will each take a turn with "the kingdom of heaven is like..." theme and then our youth will share their thoughts and ideas. November 29 begins the season of Advent and we will be using music and the arts from different time periods to help tell this story. Of course, we have our traditional Thanksgiving Day service at 9:30 am.

You may notice over the next weeks that there are no boxes of offering envelopes to pick up. This is because in 2016 envelopes will be mailed to you each quarter. This is a far more effective way to deliver envelopes, allowing us to provide them for new persons right away instead of once a year, and stop spending on unnecessary printing for those no longer with us for whatever reasons or



giving and do not need envelopes. Any who want envelopes are welcome to them, of course. This is another attempt to be the best stewards of your gifts that we can be.

In your mind, what is it that makes a person a disciple of Christ?

- David

## ***This Month in Worship . . . .***

Worship this month begins with our annual All Saint's Day celebration; join us as we lift up our own saints who have died in the past year, plus a chance for each of us to remember the saints of our lives.

Then we will have three weeks exploring a new sermon series called, "The Kingdom of Heaven is like..." led by David, Amanda, and our youth. Each will offer their perspective on one of the parables around the Kingdom of Heaven.

Then we end our month with the beginning of Advent; a sacred time in which we remember our savior's birth and remind ourselves to be ready for his return. You don't want to miss any of these meaningful worship experiences!

- November 1 – All Saint's Day**
- November 8 – "The Kingdom of Heaven is like..."**
- November 15 – "The Kingdom of Heaven is like..."**
- November 22 – "The Kingdom of Heaven is like..." (Youth Sunday)**
- November 29 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**



## **Thanksgiving Day Service**

**Thursday, November 26**

**9:30 am**

For the second time, Pastor Amanda McMurtrey will share the spoken word on this special day. All present and returning Chancel Choir and Charles Wesley Singers will share in singing *All Good Gifts* and other favorite anthems. Our traditional homemade ginger snaps and hot mulled cider will be served at the close of the service. The cider is provided and cookies are lovingly baked by volunteers. The altar, filled with the sights and smells of harvest, is graciously and artistically prepared in a new way every year. Feel free to invite family & friends. **ALL ARE WELCOME !**



**REMEMBER...**

**NEXT SATURDAY NIGHT TO  
TURN YOUR CLOCKS  
BACK ONE HOUR**

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2015**

## Helping Children in Ethiopia



You might know our long-time DUMC member, Kolash Belete. She comes from central Ethiopia, and she has a sister who lives there. Kolash and her sister are starting a small school for impoverished children in the area of Sidoma, Ethiopia. Many children do not have enough food to eat or a school to attend.

For this year's Sunday School Mission Project, we are asking you to help raise money for the small school. Children in our congregation will be doing a variety of chores so that they can experience giving of themselves to help others. We would appreciate your help in arranging chores for the children to do in order to earn money to donate. It would be great if some adults would be willing to match whatever amount is raised by a Sunday School class!

### Young at Heart to attend Big Band Concert at Olney Theater, November 7



The Young at Heart Adult Fellowship Group will attend a Big Band Concert at the Olney Theater on Saturday, November 7 at 1:30 p.m. If you are interested, contact Bob Newlin at 301/620-8926 or [bob-newlin@comcast.net](mailto:bob-newlin@comcast.net) OR Jacque Janss at 301/620-7276, [janssiac@comcast.net](mailto:janssiac@comcast.net) and send a check made out to Bob Newlin by October 24. The cost is \$20 per person.

The group will carpool from the church parking lot at 12:45 p.m. Let Bob or Jacque know if you want to be a driver or if you prefer riding with someone else or if you wish to meet the group at the theater at 1:15 pm. The performance is expected to last until about 2:45. Stopping for a bite to eat after the performance will be optional and carpools will be adjusted accordingly.

Looking ahead to December and your busy holiday scheduling, the **Young at Heart Christmas Dinner will be held at the Church Dining Hall on Thursday, December 10 at 6:30 p.m.** This the biggest event of the year. Get your reservation in to Bob or Jacque soon. More details to come on this.

### Sunday School Buddy Program Needs Volunteers

Please consider joining our Sunday School Buddy Program! During the Sunday School hour, the Buddy Program provides adult companions to children and young adults with special needs. An adult companion is paired with the Sunday School student, allowing the flexibility and freedom to tailor activities to the student's needs.



For more information or to volunteer contact Wendy Keegan: 301-253-1656 or [mtkeegan@erols.com](mailto:mtkeegan@erols.com)

### FROM THERE TO HERE

Rev. Cooney continues to teach "From There to Here" on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the church office. The content is about how the church formed following the resurrection and ascension of Christ and then grew and changed over the centuries, ultimately leading to the United Methodist Church being here in this day and age.

No reading or preparation is necessary. We will meet in the conference room in the Annex. Wednesday evening not good for you? The same class is being taught in the Music Room on Sunday mornings between services.

## Christian Formation (cont'd)



### Pleasant Plains Preschool

*a ministry of Damascus United Methodist Church*

Director, Cora Horst

301-253-9798

[pleasant.plains@verizon.net](mailto:pleasant.plains@verizon.net)



Halloween is a special time at Pleasant Plains Preschool. I love to see all of the costumes. Several years ago a little girl came as Thomas Jefferson. Her mom made her costume from items she purchased at the Harwood House Thrift Shop. That was a great costume! One year a teacher came as a Christmas Tree with photos of her students as the ornaments. She even had lights. I'm sure we will make lots of memories this year too. Our Halloween parade is Wednesday, October 28 at 10:45 am. We will walk from the sanctuary to the annex and back if you would like to come and see.

**Well, it's working for the women, so we thought we'd give it a try !**

## MENS NIGHT OUT !!!

Join the Men for dinner on Monday, November 16 at Applebee's  
at 6:00 pm at Milestone Shopping Center,  
21048 N. Frederick Road, Germantown, MD 20876.

Please RSVP by November 14, for a head count for the restaurant.  
Contact Ted Ross by email ([ted@tedrossconsulting.com](mailto:ted@tedrossconsulting.com))  
or phone: (301-704-7992). Hope to see you there ! !

## The Connections Café

DUMC's Coffee Hour

Held Sunday mornings between services.

Come and enjoy a hot mug, a few nibbles, and relaxed fellowship. All are welcome.



**The Connections Café is  
located in the back half  
of the GREAT HALL.**

Joyfully, Pam Compton, Marcia Hofman, Kathy Jones, Gloria Maready, Kim Ferguson, and Gabrielle Hulcher have been using their gifts of hospitality to create this time of fellowship for our congregation. We would welcome more hands to assist, even if it is just **an hour here and there on any given Sunday**. We would also be grateful for food donations like baked goods and fresh fruit. Just stop in or call Pam Compton at 301-253-2958 or email her at [Pamstiches@aol.com](mailto:Pamstiches@aol.com) to sign up to help and/or provide food. We could use you!

# LADIES NIGHT OUT

## WHEN:

**Tuesday, Nov. 17 @ 6 pm**

## WHERE:

**Agrodolce  
21030-J Frederick Road  
Germantown, MD 20876  
RSVP by November 15**

**Fellowship · Conversation · Companionship · Fun ·  
Sisterhood · Everyone Invited · New Event Each  
Month**

## FUTURE EVENTS

**MONDAY,  
December 7**

**Mt. Airy Tavern @ 6 pm  
1001 Twin Arch Road  
Mt. Airy, MD 21771  
RSVP by December 5**

**THURSDAY,  
January 21**

**Bucca Di Beppo @ 6 pm  
122 Kentlands Blvd.  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
RSVP by January 19**

**TUESDAY,  
February 23**

**Ledo's Pizza @ 6 pm  
9805 Main Street  
Damascus, MD 20872  
RSVP by February 21**

**CONTACT PASTOR AMANDA  
AMANDA.MCMURTREY  
@VERIZON.NET  
Call 301-253-0022 or  
Text 970-231-5123**

## Christian Formation / Women's Ministry (cont'd)



### Damascus United Methodist Women

#### Susanna Wesley / Esther JOY Circle

Monday, November 9 at 10:00 am  
in the **Dining Hall**

#### WWJD Circle Meeting

Thursday, November 19 at 7:30 pm at the home of Linnie Carrier,  
21225 Hickory Forest Way, Germantown, MD

**Topic Video:** John Wesley: The Faith that Sparked the Methodist Movement  
There will be carpooling at 6:40 pm from the church parking lot

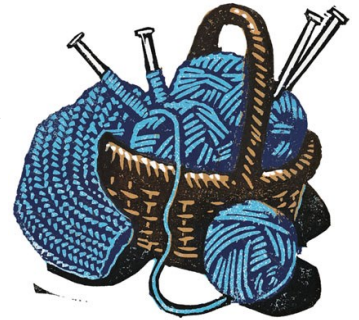
### *Special Upcoming Dates:*

**Thursday, November 19:** UMWomen Executive Board Meeting at 1:00 pm in the church Dining Hall. All officers should attend.

**Saturday, December 5:** UMW Christmas Party & Brunch at 9:30 am in the Dining Hall. All women are invited. Bring a covered dish to share and gifts for Elf Day at Asbury Home. Events to be covered are General meeting, Nominations for 2016 & Budget for 2016. Set-Up; Esther JOY: Program; Susanna Wesley; Clean-Up: WWJD.

### *Come join the Prayer Shawl Ministry* **Friday, Nov. 20 @ 3:30 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, Cathy Heinbaugh, [cheinbaugh@comcast.net](mailto:cheinbaugh@comcast.net), 301-253-0742, or Jan Mullinix, [jlm.jan3@verizon.net](mailto:jlm.jan3@verizon.net) 301-482-1122 .



## Hospitality

The hospitality ministry at DUMC has a fresh look - Welcome Teams are on duty each week and the Welcome Station is up and running. We invite **YOU** to be an active part of the ministry too, simply by greeting those seated near you in worship.



In conversations with different groups and individuals regarding the welcoming of our church guests, we frequently hear this: "What do I say to those with whom I am unfamiliar? I don't want to insult them if they have been attending here already and I just haven't met them before." Simply introduce yourself to them! You do not need to ask if they are visiting or if they are members. Just try something like, "Hi, I am Robin Cooney. I don't think we have met before." Oftentimes, if you introduce yourself and share a brief piece of information, others will respond to you in a similar manner. Give it a try! Even if you get little or no response in return, nothing is lost. If you discover they are visiting, ask if you may escort them to the Welcome Station. Either way, thanks for extending the hand of hospitality.

Robin Cooney, on behalf of Heavenly Hosts Committee

# YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS– 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

November 2015

Tom Baldridge, Youth Director | 301-802-4775 | redheaders@verizon.net

## Eat, Play, Praise and Pray!!!



Ice Cream Olympics – Many medals were won!!!

The month of October sure was fun with eating at the ice cream Olympics, playing four square and other board games, praising God around the campfire with songs and dancing at the Roses' and learning

how to pray in many different ways. The 5th Quarters continue to be a great Friday Activity. We also have been enjoying our weekly "Reflection Time With Friends" (RTWF).

November is always a special month for the youth. We have our fall lasagna fundraiser and lead the church services on Christ the King Sunday. Come out and join us for one or more events. We are working on creating a loving church community with our DUMC Youth program. Instructions for preparing for youth events will be shared before the events or in the weekly youth email. If you do not get the weekly youth email, please send me your email address.

## Lasagna Fundraiser

**Calling all Youth - We need everyone to help out and sell lasagnas to someone at church. The lasagnas will be made on November 21 and given out on November 22 after church. The cost will be \$25 per tray. What a great dinner just before Thanksgiving. We will start selling on November 1 in the back of the church.**

## CALENDAR

### Wednesday Schedule

- 5:00 pm Youth Puppet Troupe – Great Hall (stage side)
- 5:45 pm Wonderful Wednesday Dinners
- 7:00 pm Youth Handbell Choir – Great Hall stage

### Sunday Morning Schedule

- 8:15 am Charles Wesley Singers lead in worship
- 9:30 am Youth Blend Café, Breakfast, Group Discussion in the Youth Chapel

### Sunday Evening Schedule

- 3:30 pm Youth Praise Band practice (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays)
- 5:00 pm Charles Wesley Singers
- 6:00 pm Youth Dinner
- 6:30 pm Youth Fellowship Activity

### Sunday, November 1:

- 3:30 pm Youth Praise Band Rehearsal – Youth Chapel
- 5:00 pm Charles Wesley Singers Rehearsal – Choir Room
- 6:00 pm Youth Dinner in Dining Hall: **Turner-Little family**
- 6:30 - 8:30pm Youth Fellowship Activity: Duck-pin Bowling

### Friday, Nov. 6 thru Saturday, Nov. 7:

9:00 pm - 8:00 am **Sleepover 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter** (last of the year)– We will gather at the church after the Damascus football game for a night of fun, fellowship and food. Parents can pick up youth anytime throughout the evening. This event will end 8:00 am Saturday morning.

### Sunday, November 8:

- 4:00 pm UMYFO meeting - Annex
- 5:00 pm Charles Wesley Singers Rehearsal – Choir Room
- 6:00 pm Youth Dinner in Dining Hall: **Marshall family**
- 6:30 - 8:30pm Youth Fellowship Activity: Mystery Missions

### Sunday, November 15:

- 3:30 pm Youth Praise Band Rehearsal – Youth Chapel
- 5:00 pm Charles Wesley Singers Rehearsal – Choir Room
- 6:00 pm Youth Dinner in Dining Hall:
- 6:30 - 8:30pm Youth Fellowship Activity: Scavenger Hunt 3.0

### Saturday, November 21:

- 9:00 -10:00am Practice for Christ the King Sunday - Sanctuary
- 10:00- 12:30 Make Lasagna for the youth fundraiser

### Sunday, November 22 – Christ the King Sunday:

- 8:15 and 11am Youth lead both church services. We need everyone Theme:" The Kingdom of Heaven is Like....."
- 3:00 pm Youth Fellowship Activity: Advent Workshop
- 5:00 pm Charles Wesley Singers Rehearsal – Choir Room

### Sunday, November 29:

- 4:00 – 6 pm Charles Wesley Singers Rehearsal – Choir Room
- 6:00 pm Youth Dinner in Dining Hall: **Need a Family**
- 6:30 – 8:00pm Youth Activity: Advent Craft night and RTWF

# Worship Arts News and Events

November 2015 Polly Edmonds Baldrige, Minister of Music and Worship Arts | 240-750-8287 | redheaders@verizon.net  
Stephen Kalnoske, Organist | 240-832-2112 | stephenkarnoske@gmail.com

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Worship Arts Event.....

### ADVENT WORKSHOP



*SOMETHING FOR ALL AGES*  
**November 22, 2016, at 3 pm**  
**in Great Hall**

People of all ages and stages need to prepare for Advent!  
Come share in fellowship and make a wreath, make  
Christmas-carol-themed ornaments,  
write a Christmas card to military service members,  
share and hear open mic Christmas carols,  
and take a picture with Santa.

Contact Deborah Bowe at 301-529-9247 for more information or to help. Bring cookies to share if you are able. Hot chocolate provided.  
*Co-sponsored by Fellowship Ministries & Worship Arts Ministries.*

### Praise Artisan's Guild News

Questions or comments? Call or email Connie Ross  
301-633-9504 cell, or [Connie@tedrossconsulting.com](mailto:Connie@tedrossconsulting.com)

►• The PAG would like to thank the Second Year Confirmands in advance for taking on the task of decorating the Sanctuary for Thanksgiving. This is another opportunity to experience the “behind-the-scenes” workings of our church community.

►• Calling all Modern Madonna's - The Praise Artisan's Guild needs you! We are hoping to add your photo with your child (age 2 and under) to our hallway display of “The Nativity Through the Ages.” We'll be taking photos of Mother (OR FATHER) and Child at a date convenient to all but no later than November 7. One of our resident photographers, Brad West, has kindly agreed to take these photos for our display. The photos are then yours to keep. Contact Connie Ross at 301-633-9504 or [Connie@tedrossconsulting.com](mailto:Connie@tedrossconsulting.com) if you are a willing subject. Thank you.

►• Please watch for the Christmas Poinsettia order forms coming in the December Beacon. On December 20 you may take yours home after the 11 o'clock service, and we will need help distributing donated poinsettias to our shut-ins. Names and addresses will be provided, and it would be wonderful to have folks take one or two to their favorite shut-ins. Everyone was so helpful at Easter time to deliver the lilies and tulips that it made the job very easy. Thank you!

►• We would like to invite everyone willing to assist with decorating the church for Advent to join us on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, NOVEMBER 28, starting at 9:00 AM. This is a big job that is beyond just our small team. Come for any amount of time that you can give; we are organized and will have all needed items ready to put up. We just need willing hearts and extra hands!! Snacks and drinks will be provided and pizza, too, if we go past noon. Thank you in advance!

## WORSHIP ARTS ENSEMBLES\*

*New members always welcome!*

### WEDNESDAYS

**4:00 pm Colorful Hands of Jesus** (Great Hall)  
Puppet Troupe for 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades

**4:30 pm Cherubs** (Great Hall)  
Vocal Choir for 4 ½ years – 1<sup>st</sup> grade

**5:00 pm Choristers** (Music Room)  
Vocal Choir for 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades

**5:00 pm Youth Puppets** (Great Hall)  
Puppet Troupe for Middle Schoolers & up

**6:30 pm Inspiration Ringers** (Great Hall)  
Handbell Choirs for 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades

**7:00 pm Youth Handbell Choir**

**7:00 pm Men's Choir**

**7:00 pm Women's Ensemble**

**7:30 pm Chancel Choir**

**8:15 pm Living Christmas Tree Choir**

Mixed voice choir sharing concerts on  
December 29 and 30.

### SUNDAYS

**3:30 pm Youth Praise Band**  
Band meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of month

**5:00 pm Charles Wesley Singers**  
Vocal Choir for 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades and up

### MONDAYS

7:30 pm **Ring of Joy** (Great Hall)  
Advanced Handbell ensemble

### ORGAN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS



Improvements were made to DUMC's  
Skinner organ with funds raised  
through Sounds For Glory campaign!  
Listen for the refurbished reed pipes that  
were reinstalled in October.

# A Living Christmas Tree

An evening of carols with chorus and orchestra

Tuesday, December 29, 2015 at 7 pm

Wednesday, December 30, 2015 at 7 pm

2015-2016: Put On A Garment of Praise






Crown your Christmas celebration with this magical evening of carols by candlelight, featuring 60-voice choir and symphonic orchestra. Music this year will include many arrangements of familiar carols by David Willcocks, the world-renowned British composer and director who passed away earlier this fall. Willcocks wrote music for the royal weddings in England and his carol settings have been shared by countless choirs. The audience will join in singing also. ***Child care will be available during the concert.*** A Wassail Reception in the Great Hall follows both concerts.

Come experience the true beauty, warmth and joy of the Christmas season.

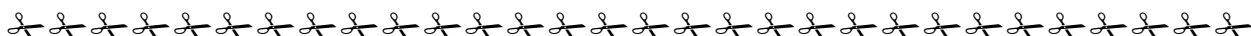
Make your reservations early for this special celebration !

## Sponsorship Information

-  Gold ornaments - \$100 donations are "Benefactors," and will be given four concert tickets
-  Red ornaments - \$75 donations are "Patrons," three concert tickets
-  Green ornaments - \$50 donations are "Friends," two concert tickets

All checks should be made out to DUMC with "Living Christmas Tree" specified on the check and may be placed along with the tear-off below in the offering plates or given / sent to:

Damascus United Methodist Church, Attn: Jane Webb  
9700 New Church Street, Damascus, MD 20872



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### SPONSORSHIP:

I would like to be a performance sponsor for: \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$75 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50

I would like my tickets for: Tuesday, Dec. 29 (7pm): \_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday, Dec. 30 (7pm): \_\_\_\_\_

### GENERAL ORDER:

I would like to purchase concert tickets @ \$10 each for: Tues, Dec 29 (7pm) : \_\_\_\_\_ Wed, Dec. 30 (7pm): \_\_\_\_\_

Family concert tickets \$40 for 4 or more in same family. Tues, Dec 29 (7pm): \_\_\_\_\_ Wed, Dec. 30 (7pm): \_\_\_\_\_

Total : \_\_\_\_\_

Mail my tickets to: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DINNER BEFORE THE TREE, AS OFFERED IN THE PAST, WILL BE REPLACED THIS YEAR BY THE WASSAIL RECEPTION FOLLOWING EACH CONCERT.**

# MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

## **Between Cultures sends Thanksgiving greetings and love to the DUMC community!**

We have had a very eventful Fall this year! In September, Amanda Jones, Eduardo & Memo accompanied six Nicaraguans from La Danta's neighboring community of Dulce Nombre de Jesus (Sweet Name of Jesus) to Boston, Massachusetts to visit their brothers and sisters at Church of the Covenant for two weeks. Between Cultures and the delegates participated in the church's annual retreat, visits to farms, talks on immigration and prison reform, sexual diversity, homelessness, and many more topics near and dear to the active Covenant community. BC and the delegation also led a Sunday church service in the Celebration of the Word style of reflecting on Scripture together, presented the Delegate of the Word movement project and songs, and reflected on the life of Newell Hendricks with his family and friends. We are so grateful to the Covenant congregation for their hard work and planning to make it such a memorable event.

Amanda Jones, Memo & Eduardo then visited McKendree University (a Methodist college located in Lebanon, Illinois that came to Nicaragua this year), giving talks about Between Cultures and Nicaragua. They then took the train up to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to participate in the Fall Retreat of the Lutheran Campus Ministry at Marquette University. Again, it was a time of sharing about Between Cultures' work, and giving thanks for the faith communities in the States that are committed to accompanying the struggle of the poor in Nicaragua.

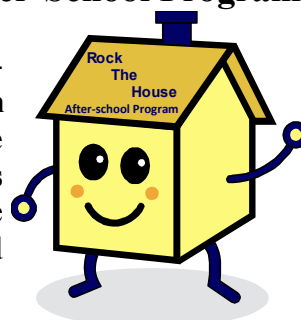
In La Danta, there still has been very little rain, so continued prayers are asked for them and all of the farming communities in Central America suffering from the drought. Between Cultures will host the final Biblical Retreat of the year for La Danta and the other communities that they work with in Managua in November. Memo and Amanda look forward to being with you all in December, especially at the Dec 13 church services, and in a Friends of Between Cultures meeting that day after the second church service. Below is a selection of pictures from our trip to the U.S.:



# MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

## Will “YOU” Volunteer to Serve at the Damascus Gardens After-School Program?

As brothers and sisters of Christ, we are told to “...love our neighbors as ourselves” (Matthew 22:39). **If you have a heart for sharing the love of Christ with young children and have a desire to make a positive impact on their lives, we invite you to volunteer at Rock the House After-school program which is sponsored by Faith Connections.** The after-school program provides a safe and fun environment for children who struggle with realizing their talents and how much they are loved by God.



The Rock the House After-school Program serves elementary-aged children who reside at Damascus Gardens Apartments, located at 9829 Bethesda Church Road in Damascus, Maryland. The program is held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays; it begins at 4:30pm and ends at 6:00pm. Volunteers range from high school students to adults. High school and college students have the opportunity to earn Student Service Learning (“SSL”) credit.

Contact: Shawna Offenberger, After School Program Director at 240-678-9060 or shalynno86@gmail.com

### Asbury Elf Day is Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2015

We will gather at 9:45 am at the Rosborough Hall. The year has just about flown by and we will have Christmas just around the corner. **We will collect gifts for Asbury residents on the following Sundays in November: Nov.15, 22, 29, & Dec. 6, 2015,** in a box in the Narthex of the church (back of the Sanctuary).



Help will be needed on Wed. Dec. 16, 2015, where gift bags will be filled and delivered to Wilson Health Care & others in Assisted Living. When you come to help, you become an ELF. Gifts should be wrapped and labeled as to content and gender. Some suggestions to give are: stamps, note cards, stuffed animals, knee-high socks, costume jewelry, puzzles, make-up, decorations for rooms, Kleenex, toothpaste & brushes, paperback books, hand lotion, soap, & anything else you may think of. **NO CANDLES, AND NO SHARP OBJECTS.**

To help out is a wonderful way to get into the Christmas spirit. Please bring your gifts on Sundays as noted and/or become an ELF on Wed. Dec. 16, 2015. Start the Christmas season off right.

### Holiday Giving Project, 2015

The Holiday Giving Project provides needy families with a Thanksgiving meal and Christmas/Holiday food and gifts. Through the Project, we strive to reach out to needy families and share hope and encouragement in their time of need.

In recent years, we have assisted over 300 families through the Holiday Giving Project. We rely on the generosity of the community, churches, businesses, civic organizations, and individuals to meet the needs of this project. We ask that you consider becoming a sponsor for a family(ies) or assist us through monetary contributions.

This year families in our area will be invited to attend a Thanksgiving dinner hosted by Greenridge Baptist Church in place of individual help.

However, we will still be looking for Sponsors for the Christmas season. **Please consider adopting a family for Christmas.** There are a lot of ways to sponsor: Sunday School classes, scout troops, a group of family members, fellow office employees, etc. Also, some prefer to provide general monetary support in lieu of becoming a direct sponsor.

In whatever way you would like to help, please contact Jane Webb and let her know at 301-253-0022 or great.jane@verizon.net.

# MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

## PROGRAM CONTACTS

**Between Cultures:** Shared ministry with people of Nicaragua. Kathy Jones, 301-580-4591 or [kathyjones@mris.com](mailto:kathyjones@mris.com).

**Blood Drives:** Red Cross Blood Mobile collections. Cathy Heinbaugh, [cheinbaugh@comcast.net](mailto:cheinbaugh@comcast.net) or 301-253-0742.

**Damascus HELP:** Provides food, financial assistance, furniture, clothes, holiday needs, and other necessities: 301-253-4100 or [DH20872@aol.com](mailto:DH20872@aol.com).

**Earth Angels:** Short term assistance, i.e. yard work, transportation. Claudia Klahre, [ck1klahre@verizon.net](mailto:ck1klahre@verizon.net) or call/txt: 301-351-0163; Kim Briglia, call/text: 240-731-9296 or [kim.briglia@marriott.com](mailto:kim.briglia@marriott.com).

**Earth Stewards:** Adopt-a-highway environmental program. Jeff Heinbaugh, 301-253-0742 or [heinbjc@comcast.net](mailto:heinbjc@comcast.net).

**Faith Connections:** Holiday Giving Project, Jane Webb, 301-253-0022 or [great.jane@verizon.net](mailto:great.jane@verizon.net); Healthy Choice Program, community ministries. Debbie Tomlinson, 301-482-0522 or [debtom3@msn.com](mailto:debtom3@msn.com).

**Habitat for Humanity:** Summer home building in Western Maryland--youth involvement. Anita Duvall, 240-485-7650 or [anita.duvall@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:anita.duvall@fda.hhs.gov).

**Harwood House Thrift Shop:** Work times—Tues. (8 am to 2 pm, plus evening) & Thurs. evening; Open: Thurs.—Sat, 11 am to 3 pm. Nancy Counts, [ncounts@verizon.net](mailto:ncounts@verizon.net) or 301-253-6284; Debbie Stone, 301-253-6536 or [dafstone@aol.com](mailto:dafstone@aol.com).

**Meals on Wheels:** Drivers for delivering meals to homebound. Pam Rust, 301-414-5447 or [pamela.rust@comcast.net](mailto:pamela.rust@comcast.net).

**Pleasant Plains Preschool:** Preschool classes & chapel for 2, 3 & 4 year olds. Cora Horst, Director, 301-253-9798 or [pleasant.plains@verizon.net](mailto:pleasant.plains@verizon.net).

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Shawls & lap robes given as a sign of God's love. Cathy Heinbaugh, 301-253-0742 or [cheinbaugh@comcast.net](mailto:cheinbaugh@comcast.net); Jan Mullinix, 301-482-1122 or [jmullinix74@yahoo.com](mailto:jmullinix74@yahoo.com).

**Medicine Pill Bottles for Malawi:** Leave containers w/ labels removed in the Narthex box. Nancy Nickerson, 301-253-6669 or [nanickerson@verizon.net](mailto:nanickerson@verizon.net).

**Hopi Volunteers in Mission:** Annual week in July serving on the Arizona reservation. Sign up in April. Norm & Cheryl Minekime, [nminekime@yahoo.com](mailto:nminekime@yahoo.com) & [cminekime@verizon.net](mailto:cminekime@verizon.net) or 301-414-0098.

**Volunteers in Mission/Disaster Relief:** National & international relief; rebuilding projects; worship & VBS for kids. Vern Schinski, [vschinski5@verizon.net](mailto:vschinski5@verizon.net) or 301-651-1224.



Damascus HELP, a local community nonprofit organization who helps those in crisis situations, is looking for committed volunteers. We are in need of Officers of the Day (answering the phone from home with a call forwarding system), transportation drivers (taking people to doctor's appointments or Social Service appointments, food drivers (taking food to clients), pantry pick up (picking up donated food and bringing it to the pantry), furniture delivery teams, and a financial case-worker who helps with contacting utility companies for our clients. For most of these opportunities your services are needed one or two days a month – it is up to you. Because of our insurance, only those over 18 are covered so school age children are not able to assist directly with the opportunities listed above. Please call Damascus HELP at 301-253-4100 or email [dh20872@aol.com](mailto:dh20872@aol.com) or [www.damascushelp.org](http://www.damascushelp.org) for additional information.

Damascus Help would like you to consider designating your United Way and Combined Federal Campaigns' contributions to Damascus Help, Inc. Our designation code for United Way is 8425 and for the Combined Federal Campaign it is 30335. Damascus Help is an all volunteer organization who helps people in our service area of Damascus, Clarksburg, Hyattstown, north Laytonsville, Frederick County south of Rt. 75 and Germantown north of Brink Rd. We provide food, financial assistance, furniture, holiday food and transportation to those in need. For further information, call us at 301-253-4100 or go to our web site at <http://www.damascushelp.org>.



One of Our  
Church Missions at DUMC,  
needs a driver to deliver meals  
ONCE A MONTH –  
the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday  
of every month.

The delivery run takes about 2  
to 3 hours

beginning at 9:45 A.M.

You will need a vehicle large enough  
to carry 8 large Igloo containers.

**Who will answer the call?**

For more information call Pam Rust  
at 301-414-5447.



DUMC's Stephen Ministry invites You to share in  
*Peace, Hope, and Light* this holiday season

*Sunday, December 6*  
*DUMC Dining Hall*

*Dinner & Discussion at 5:30 pm*

Followed by

*A Service of Peace, Hope, and Light at 7:00 pm*

DUMC's Stephen Ministry welcomes you to the fifth annual Service of Peace, Hope, and Light. This is a service where we gently invite you to bring your hurts, your pains, your losses, your angers, and your fears. This special, intimate service is created to shed love and light on you and on those things in your life that are troubling you as we embark upon this holiday season.

## **Earth Angels!**

Did you know that DUMC has 25 Earth Angels?

What a band! These angels are ready and willing to provide **TEMPORARY HELP** to DUMC members and folks in our community who are recovering from surgery or illness, navigating through a life transition or crisis, or grieving the loss of a loved one.

Here's what Earth Angels can do for you in your time of need:

Provide transportation to appointments, pick up prescriptions, drop off baked goods, make a meal, do yard work, help with household chores, shop for groceries and other needs, call to check in on your welfare, or make a caring visit. Simply contact either Claudia Klahre or Kim Briglia to let them know of your needs. If you would like to **SERVE** as an Earth Angel, Claudia/Kim can help you get started. You volunteer for what works for you on a short-term basis. The level of time and commitment is up to you. Come join the band and love your neighbors by lending them a hand in their time of need.

ck1klahre@aol.com

call/txt: 301-351-0163

kim.briglia@marriott.com

call/text: 240-731-9296

## **CALLING ALL WALKERS!!!**

**Enjoy the fun of fellowship while  
getting in some exercise!**

**Join us for some invigorating walking  
(usually between 2-4 miles).**

**If you want to continue or renew your walking habit  
or start a new one with other members from DUMC,  
call or email Lynn Gruner.**

**301-253-5017/ [grunerly@verizon.net](mailto:grunerly@verizon.net)**

## **Healing Service**

Our monthly Healing Service will be held  
**Sunday, November 15, 2015, 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).*



## Health & Wholeness (cont'd)

## Announcements



# CHRISTMAS AT Harwood House Thrift Shop

Open House  
Sunday, November 8 / Noon - 3:00 pm



Christmas ornaments, collectibles, decorations, wreaths, garlands, trees, clothing, toys, gifts and much, much more. All at great prices and your purchases support over 25 local charities!

*Light refreshments will be served.*

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### ATTENTION ALL DUMC CRUISERS!

Young at Heart is cruising again! ANYONE and EVERYONE is welcome to join in on this trip! Traveling alone? We may have a roommate for you.

Date: December 3-10, 2016 – A Very MerryTime cruise sailing!

Ship: Disney *Fantasy*

Itinerary: Eastern Caribbean, including Tortola, St. Thomas, and Disney's Castaway Cay

What's included: Shipboard accommodations, dining, entertainment, character experiences and select on-board activities.

What's extra: Gratuities, shore excursions, souvenirs (including photos), adult and specialty beverages, adults-only restaurants.

The rates vary greatly depending on the type of accommodations desired, so please contact Kelly Reed Bratburd at **855-99-GUEST x109** or [kellyb@beourguestvacations.com](mailto:kellyb@beourguestvacations.com) for pricing and availability info.



## Announcements (cont'd)



### Welcoming Wednesday Dinners Mark Your Calendar!

The *Welcoming Wednesday Dinners* are now available in the Church Dining Hall. We serve from 5:45 pm to 6:30 pm. The suggested donation is \$7.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children under 12. This is a chance to connect with your church family mid-week. It is also a **great opportunity to invite friends and neighbors to fellowship at DUMC!**

**November 4: Chicken Parmesan, oven roasted potatoes, green beans, salad, apple dump cake.**

**November 11: Steak & Cheese sub-bar with all the trimmings, fries, salad, lemon-berry trifle.**

**November 18: Roast Pork Loin, sweet potatoes, peas, kale salad, chocolate cake.**

**November 25: Day before Thanksgiving, there will be NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER.  
Enjoy your Holiday !!!**

Like to cook? Just want to help this ministry? You can volunteer for only a few hours on Wednesdays. We need helpers for dishwashing, general preparation, cooking or baking. Please sign up in the Narthex on Sundays, come by during dinners, or email [gabriellehulcher@gmail.com](mailto:gabriellehulcher@gmail.com).

### Like to work with PC's, Networks & Servers?

*Want to Help your Church by using your  
Technical Knowledge & Skills?*



The Computer Committee is looking for one or two good people with the technical support skills to occasionally help with a variety of computer and network problems, installations, upgrades, etc. in our client server network environment. The work is typically only a few hours a month on an "as needed" and "as-your-schedule-permits" basis, however, if you are available during church office hours, that would be extremely helpful.

**We can't pay you, but feeling good about yourself, and knowing you are contributing in a very real way to your Church is beyond measure. You don't have to join the committee or attend meetings but we would warmly welcome you if you choose to do so.** If you have the necessary skills and are in high school, retired, or somewhere in between we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Jane Webb at 201-253-0022, ext. #101. Jane will put you in touch with Jim Kelly or Pat Sweeney (our primary technical guys) to learn more about how you can use your skills in service to your Church. Also, if you know of someone who may be interested in helping us out and perhaps hasn't read this notice, please let Jane know so we can contact them. You will find it a rewarding experience and we would be most grateful.

- The Computer Committee



### FRESH AND FABULOUS DONUTS !!

On the first Sunday of every month (November 1st) we will be in the narthex selling a variety of fresh and delicious Krispy Kreme donuts. All funds raised go to support our Between Cultures mission team and the outstanding work they do in Nicaragua on behalf of the poor and in the interest of building a more just world. You can purchase a dozen donuts (\$7), a half dozen (\$4), or just a single donut (\$1). All the donuts are delicious and made fresh the same morning. Consider taking a dozen home with you, or to Sunday school, or to a social event, or to work Monday morning.

## Announcements (cont'd)



### Time to order your Habitat Christmas Wreaths! !

Garrett County Habitat-for-Humanity Christmas wreaths are perfect for holiday decorating and gift giving. The cost is \$30 per wreath.

If you wish to send a wreath to someone living out of town, shipping is available for an extra \$15 per wreath. In addition, your wreath will contain a gift card with your name. To order your Habitat wreath, contact Mike Ferguson, 301-275-8689, or see him in the Narthex after the Sunday Services. Be sure to order your wreath(s) before they are all gone !!!!!



### Knowledge Points Update

The tutoring center now has yet another "scholarship student." As stated before, we have never turned a student away. But, this is putting a strain on the staff. At this point, we are starting to "work for free" until the funds grow.

If anyone feels led to donate toward the scholarship fund, it would be greatly appreciated. Our mail box is in the church office.

- Marlin Heckendorn

## Prayer Requests

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

Prayer cards should then be placed in the prayer box in the Narthex.

All requests will be kept confidential.

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

## Stewardship/Finance

### E-GIVING

Do you E-Give? E-giving is a wonderful way to support your church home without worrying about making up for vacations and snow days. There are many ways to sign up and also to change your E-giving amount:

1. Fill out the form included in the Beacon and return it to the church office.
  2. Go to <http://www.damascusumc.org/> and click on the "E-Giving" link at the bottom of the home page, and fill out the request.
  3. Call our church bookkeeper, Debbie Benson, in the church office at 301-253-0022 ext. 106.
- Any questions? Call the church office.

### DONATIONS OF STOCK

Did you know that you can donate shares of securities to your church? Donating appreciated stock is a great way to give, while avoiding paying capital gains tax incurred when selling shares. Please contact our church bookkeeper, Debbie Benson, in the church office at 301-253-0022 ext. 106, and she will give you more information and provide you with a form to use.



## Announcements (cont'd)

### Prayer Needs Listing Revised

Beginning in December we are going to have a weekly prayer list and an ongoing, long-term prayer list. The short-term prayer list will appear in the weekly bulletin and will highlight recent prayer requests. The long-term prayer list will appear in a special prayer section of the Beacon and will reflect those who need ongoing prayer.

Prayer lists are meant to be tools that enrich and focus our prayer life. Please consider removing the ongoing prayer list each month from the Beacon and keeping it wherever you have daily prayer, so that you don't forget those persons who are counting on our continued prayer. Then you can simply add the short term prayers each week. Praying for and with each other is an important and vital part of being the body together and we hope that these new, clearer prayer lists will enable you to focus your prayer life.



### Did you know?

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

### Thank You's

#### To my DUMC family,

Many thanks for your thoughtful prayers, cards, and phone calls. I greatly appreciate your caring thoughtfulness and encouragement.

- Marilyn Kinsey

Patrick Walker would like to thank all those who donated to his Eagle Scout project way back in June. He was able to install padding on the side of kennel walls, preventing injury to large dogs. The project was a complete success, thanks to your generosity and the hard work of the Scouts who attended.

- Patrick Walker

To the Loving Damascus United Methodist Church Family,

We, Ruth Baxter's family, wanted to extend a very heartfelt thank you for all the love and support we received during this, the most difficult of times. Your outpouring of love, kindness, and caring has been a source of strength to all of us, and has truly lifted us up. Thank you for your kind words, your cards, your beautiful singing voices, your delicious baked goods and your hard work to make my mom's life celebration a very memorable and wonderful experience for us all, and just how my mom would have wanted it. We are truly blessed to have each and everyone of you in our lives. Thank you so much for all you are and all you do each and every day.

Sincerely & With Much love,  
Judi Baxter & Family (Ruth Baxter)

## Office Information

### PASTORS:

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

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

### STAFF:

Polly Edmonds Baldrige,  
Minister of Music & Worship Arts  
cell: 240-750-8287 / [redheaders@verizon.net](mailto:redheaders@verizon.net)

Ben Constantinides,  
Artist-In-Residence  
Cell: 240-205-9903 / [bencon09@gmail.com](mailto:bencon09@gmail.com)

Tom Baldrige,  
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry  
cell: 301-802-4775 / [redheaders@verizon.net](mailto:redheaders@verizon.net)

Jane Webb, Office Manager  
ext. #101 / [great.jane@verizon.net](mailto:great.jane@verizon.net)

Linda Stastny, Office Administrator  
ext. #102 / [damascus.umc@verizon.net](mailto:damascus.umc@verizon.net)

Lisa Marshall, Property Manager  
cell: 301-253-5241 / [lisamarshall.dumc@verizon.net](mailto:lisamarshall.dumc@verizon.net)

Debbie Benson, Bookkeeper  
ext. #106 / [dumc\\_finance@verizon.net](mailto:dumc_finance@verizon.net)

## IMPORTANT BEACON MESSAGE

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING  
ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION  
IN THE DECEMBER, 2015 BEACON **WILL BE**  
**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18**  
(For Beacon to publish on November 29)

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

Articles for the monthly **Beacon** (the newsletter)  
should be e-mailed directly to Jane Webb,  
[great.jane@verizon.net](mailto:great.jane@verizon.net).

## Administrative Meetings for November, 2015

Nov. 4 Office Staff Meeting  
10:00 am in the Annex/CR

Nov. 5 First Thursday Ministries Meeting  
7:00 pm in the **Sanctuary**

► Trustees Meeting to follow  
in the **Great Hall/back**

► Missions Meeting to follow  
in the **Great Hall/Stage Side**

► Finance Committee to follow  
in the **Sacristy**

Nov. 8 UMYFO Meeting  
4:00 pm in the Annex

Nov. 12 SPPRC Meeting  
**7:00 pm** in the Annex/CR

Nov. 16 Damascus HELP Meeting  
10:00 am in the Annex/basement

Nov. 18 Computer Committee Meeting  
7:00 pm in the Annex/CR

**NOTE:** The Administrative Board **WILL NOT** meet in the month of Nov.

The Christian Formation Committee  
**WILL NOT** meet in Nov or Dec.

## 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 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.

## About Our People

### 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@verizon.net](mailto:david.cooney@verizon.net)



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

They can also help connect you to a Stephen Minister or an Earth Angel.

**Congratulations to Ted and Sue Constantinides** on the marriage of their daughter **Christina** to George Moshogianis on October 3. The couple were married at the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation in Baltimore, the same church where Ted and Sue were married in 1973.

**Pray** for loved ones of **Hazel M. Duvall** (mother of Bill Duvall and grandmother of Anita Duvall) who died Friday, October 16. A service for her was held on October 20 at Roy W. Barber Funeral Home, Laytonsville.

**Pray for those receiving medical care, going through tests, facing surgery or in recovery:** **Pennie Adams** (Cochlear implant), **Shannon Barr** (recovering from broken leg), **Becky Burgee** (Myra Bacon's mother having tests & procedures), **Mary Burton** (recovering from pneumonia & heart issues), **David Bellefleur** (Hank's brother recovering from motorcycle accident), **Allen Baughman** (Byron's dad recovering from multiple medical issues), **Ann Cochran**, **Patty Crane** (Cheryl Minekime's cousin with medical issues), **Joyce Dooley** (Carol Taylor's mom), **Pat Duvall** (recovering from surgery), **April Fry** (Diane Fry's daughter-in-law with M.S.), **Diane Fry** (having complications from her hand surgery recovery), **Patsy Kressig** (Judy's mom), **Nancy Lacy** (recovering from a stroke), **Paul Lewis** (recovering from a hip replacement), **Miel Linthicum**, **Lauren Lloyd** (Jan Mullinix's daughter with health issues), **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), **Roberta Mullinix** (Larry's mom in declining health), **Nancy Nickerson** (recovering from shoulder surgery), **Earl Patrick** (recovering from a knee replacement), **Neal Pardini** (recovering from a vascular procedure), **Sue Pratt** (Amy Bilello's mom), **Carolyn Snapp**, **Karen Turner** (Kathy Jones' niece with Lupus).

**Pray for those who have been diagnosed with cancer** including **Patty Benson** (Doug's wife), **Mike Bowman** (Roz Bowman's son), **Ann Boyer** (Kevin's mom), **Sue Bradley**, **Steve Capkovits** (Ruth Harward's cousin), **Karen Caroscio** (Stephanie Vara Carter's mother-in-law), **Mickey Cochran**, **Tammy Lee Cosman** (Don & Rita's sister-in-law), **Lauren Dunham**, **Kathy Geehreg**, **Rick Henderson** (Ken's brother), **Willa Kackley** (Judy Benedict's aunt), **Marilyn Kinsey** (melanoma), **Dave Lingrell**, **Tanner Matney**, **Frances Richards** (Rev. Beth Richards' sister), **Greg Sacco** (Gina Wilson's brother), **Tim Sanner** (Dan Krotz's uncle), and **Sharon Stern** (Sandra Malley's sister).

If you would like to add or remove a name to the About Our People section, please e-mail the church office [Damascus.umd@verizon.net](mailto:Damascus.umd@verizon.net) or call (301)253-0022.