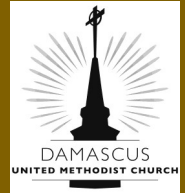


DAMASCUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
9700 NEW CHURCH STREET  
DAMASCUS, MD 20872  
PHONE: 301-253-0022  
E-MAIL: OFFICE@DAMASCUSUMC.ORG  
WEBSITE: WWW.DAMASCUSUMC.ORG

# THE BEACON

## NOVEMBER 2016



### CLERGY AND STAFF:

**David Cooney, Senior Pastor**

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

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

**Nick Works**  
**Director of Youth Ministry**

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

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

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

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

**Debbie Benson / Bookkeeper**

**Lisa Marshall / Property Manager**

**Tyrone (TJ) Budd, Jr. /**  
**Weekday AM Custodian**

**Julio Pedraza /**  
**Weeknight & Sunday AM Custodian**

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

Dear Friends,

Halloween is upon us. I know because mixed in with all of the Christmas decorations in the aisles of the big box stores are bags of candy, costumes for children, and spooky decorations for house and yard. 'Tis the season of ghosts, goblins, zombies, and vampires.

There are various traditions as to the origin of Halloween, such as the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain that marked the end of the harvest and the beginning of winter. It was believed that this seasonal transition created a bridge to the world of the dead. More in harmony with western Christianity is the understanding that All Saints Day, a feast day to celebrate the lives of the saints who do not have a specific feast day, falls on November 1, and All Souls Day, a day to remember the faithful who have died recently, falls on November 2. All Hallows Eve, All Hallows Day, and All Souls Day combine for a three-day observance of Allhallowtide. There were many traditions associated with All Hallows Eve (Halloween) eventually morphing into some of the traditions we know such as carving jack-o'-lanterns, bonfires, trick-or-treating, pranks, and scary stories. Put most simply, it represents a last fling of the unholy before the day honoring the holy.

Halloween has become a big deal. Commercially it ranks just behind Christmas and many, many people enjoy Halloween parties and costumes and trick-or-treating and putting up decorations. It is a great season for horror film fans and it is fun to walk through communities and see witches and ghosts and black cats and menacing pumpkins.

Because of some of the pagan roots, some Christians hold that we should not honor or celebrate Halloween. I am not one of them. Admittedly, it is not my favorite time. I'm just not a costume guy, but that's me, and I can appreciate how much fun others have. If that's you, God bless. I am all for others enjoying it.

I happen to like the next day, November 1, All Saints Day. Of course, in the Protestant tradition, we do not recognize canonized saints. We do, however, have faith heroes and heroines, which is pretty much the same thing, and it appeals to me to have a day to lift them up and to remember them. Thank heaven that, usually without fanfare or even notice, the holy walk among us because the Lord knows that the unholy also walk among us, often with fanfare and notice. It is good to be reminded that there are those who have and do model faith and mercy and kindness and generosity and grace. The sinister of Halloween make me gasp, but the saints take my breath away.

### *Pastor's Article (cont'd)*

Oh that the daily headlines would be about the life-giving words and actions of the saints instead of the life-taking rhetoric of campaigns and the actions of tyrants, terrorists, and criminals. If All Saints Day can provide even one day when the topic is different, I'll take it.

Interestingly, most of those we call saints were not always saintly. Some actually had quite sordid lives until Christ reclaimed them. We are now in a sermon series called Second Chances looking at biblical characters whose lives were turned around by Christ. In our All Saint's Celebration, we will be telling some of the stories about saints who fit that bill. They are stories that can inspire us.

If you want to dress as the sinister and have fun at a Halloween party, by all means enjoy it. But those are just costumes for what is hopefully a playful and silly night. When the costumes come off, may we all be dressed as saints, walking the path of the holy, bringing blessing and life. Our communities need saints. Why not us?

Thank God for Saints,  
David

### *It's not too late turn in your Commitment Sheet!*

If you happened to miss last week's service, or were out of town, the congregation had the opportunity to commit to support the church, with prayers, presence, witness and service, as well as gifts. This is an opportunity to commit to being a steward, not just financially, but in terms of all of God's resources. We finished up a three-week sermon series called Upper Management. Now the Commitment Sheet is a way to say to the Lord, "This is what I intend to do as a faithful manager on your behalf." Please give all these elements careful thought and prayer as you complete this form.



We have placed spare Commitment Sheets, with envelopes, in the Narthex for your use. Please complete one if you haven't done so already and put it either in the offering plate, mail-in or drop by the church office. **We would greatly appreciate your participation.**

### **Message in Music Offered for Children during 11 am service on Sundays**



Preschool and elementary children attending DUMC's 11 am Sunday service are invited to attend a session of singing and Bible learning through music during the sermon. This 15-20 minute weekly session will be led by Polly Baldrige and/or Mary Nieter, depending on the week. Children will be invited forward before the sermon and will return immediately afterward to participate in the conclusion of the service. Message in Music will be held in the Great Hall.

**REMEMBER...**  
**NEXT SATURDAY NIGHT TO**  
**TURN YOUR CLOCKS *BACK* ONE HOUR**  
**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS**  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2016**



## ***Worship in November . . . .***

Worship this month begins with our annual All Saints 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 as the month continues David and Amanda will continue to share the wondrous and life-altering stories of those who find second chances in encounters with Jesus. Our youth will lead us in Christ the King Sunday too, so don't miss out on that joyful experience!

The month will conclude with the 1st Sunday in Advent. This year our theme is "Keeping Christmas" inspired by the characters of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol.

Nov. 6 - All Saints Day; "Second Chances"

Nov. 13 - "Second Chances"

Nov. 20 - Christ the King Sunday; Youth Sunday

Nov. 27 - 1st Sunday of Advent; "Keeping Christmas"

---

### **Thanksgiving Day Service**

Thursday, November 24 at 10:00 am



Damascus UMC has a longstanding tradition of beginning Thanksgiving Day with a time of worship to offer gratitude back to God for our many blessings. Highlights of the morning include the altar beautifully dressed for the day by second-year confirmands and singing of the anthem *All Good Gifts* by all present and alumni members of the Chancel Choir and Charles Wesley Singers youth choir. We will share a homily, and hot cider and gingersnaps will be served during an informal time of fellowship following the service.

### **Another Worship Opportunity to Give Thanks**

### ***Interfaith Thanksgiving Service***

Hosted by: St. Anne's Episcopal Church

Date: Tuesday, November 22

Time: 7:00 pm

**Come join DUMC, St. Anne's Episcopal, St. Paul's Catholic Church ,  
and Congregation Or Chadash for an evening of interfaith worship.**

**Pastor Amanda will be preaching.**

## Spiritual Formation

### Tea Time Talk—November 6 @ 3:00 pm Great Hall

Join us for tea and biscuits (aka cookies)  
and some time to listen and chat!

Ever feel like you can't be honest about your opinion or that you aren't being heard or that you don't understand why other people think what they do? Do you wish you could have an honest conversation in a safe place where the goal is to understand and to be understood instead of argue, persuade or judge? Then, Tea Time Talks are for you!



Join Amanda and David for this 2nd talk in a series of four. Our focus topic will be on Sexual Orientation and Identification. Can we be the Body of Christ in love and grace even if we don't agree? Come and learn how.

#### What this isn't:

- a place for extreme view points with no desire to understand other view points
- a place to make decisions about how our church will respond
- a place to persuade or argue with others
- a place to judge others

Future Topics: Race (Date TBD) Immigration (Date TBD)

### YOUNG AT HEART EVENT *Sunday, December 4, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.*



Enjoy your Sunday afternoon listening to beautiful music as the ASCYO perform their fall concert at Damascus High School. The orchestra's mission is to serve the community by providing opportunities for young musicians to attain musical excellence through instruction, rehearsal, and public performances of the great musical compositions of the past and present. Let's support our youth by showing them that we appreciate all of the hard work that they have put into the preparation for this concert. Many of them are members of our church.

Afterward, we will meet at the **Hornet's Nest Grille** for dinner and fellowship (around 6:00 pm.) If you have never visited our newest Damascus restaurant, this is your chance! Soups, salads, sandwiches and filling entrees abound.

RSVP to Sue Constantinides at 301-253-65912 or [suehcon@yahoo.com](mailto:suehcon@yahoo.com) However, last minute attendees are welcome to meet us in the DHS lobby at 3:50 pm.

*Damascus High School Auditorium  
25921 Ridge Road, Damascus, MD  
Youth Orchestra, Prep Orchestra  
and Chamber Orchestra performing*

*Hornet's Nest Grille  
9867 Main Street  
Damascus, MD 20872*



**DAMASCUS UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S**



**FRIED OYSTER - BAKED HAM DINNER  
AND CHRISTMAS BAZAAR ARE COMING !!!**

**WHEN: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2016**

**And WE NEED YOU !**

**WHY DO WE NEED YOU ???**

**WE NEED YOUR HANDMADE CRAFT  
ITEMS  
YOUR COUNTRY STORE ITEMS**

**And**

**LAST BUT NOT LEAST - BAKE TABLE GOODIES**



We need your help to make our event SOMETHING SPECIAL!!!! Your donations are NEEDED. Please help make our fundraising event a BIG SUCCESS. Your donations can be brought on Friday, Nov. 4, after 12 noon or on Saturday, Nov. 5, before 10 am.

Please call or email me with any questions: Pennie Adams 301-831-7517 or pennie217@yahoo.com.

**THANK YOU!**

**THANK YOU!**

**THANK YOU!**

**Half-Day Women's Retreat  
FREE!!**

**Nov. 12 in the Great Hall  
8:30 am - 12 noon**

Before you make Thanksgiving Dinner for 16 people; before you go shopping for the presents; before wrapping the presents; before planning that holiday party; before baking cookies; before getting and decorating the tree; before the lights go up on the outside of the house...



...take a moment with your sisters in Christ and enjoy the "Calm Before the Storm." Take a few hours to gab, snack, laugh and learn! The day will include time for quiet reflection and devotion, suggestions for keeping God at the center of the holidays, and making your own spa product and more!

Please RSVP by Nov. 5 to Amanda via email: [amanda.mcmurtrey@damascusumc.org](mailto:amanda.mcmurtrey@damascusumc.org) or text: [970-231-5123](tel:970-231-5123) or call: [301-253-0022](tel:301-253-0022).

## Spiritual Formation (cont'd)



United  
Methodist  
Women  
Faith · Hope · Love in Action

## November United Methodist Women News

**Susanna JOY Circle** will meet in the church Dining Hall  
at 10:00 am on Monday, November 14.

The **WWJD Circle** will meet on Thursday, November 17, at 6:30 p.m. in the Great Hall at the church. We will share a soup/salad dinner and then work on cleaning the pews in the sanctuary. Come in your work clothes and be prepared to roll up your sleeves to help keep our beautiful pews looking their best. Anyone can join in. The more, the merrier. More detailed information will be sent out later. If you would like to join our group, email Marcia Hofman at [marciahofman67@gmail.com](mailto:marciahofman67@gmail.com) or call 301-253-2960.

**November 1, 2, 3, 4: Kitchen Prep Work for Saturday's Dinner**

**Friday, November 4: Bazaar set-up all day**

**Saturday, Nov. 5: Holiday Bazaar**

**Saturday, Nov. 5: Fried Oyster/Baked Ham Dinner (see flyer page #15 )**

**Thursday, Nov. 17: DUMW Executive Board Meeting in Annex/CR**

**Saturday, Dec. 3: DUMW Christmas Party & Brunch** - starts at 9:30 am with General Meeting in the Dining Hall, to include Nominations & Budget for 2017. WWJD will hold the program, Susanna JOY will do set-up & clean-up.

**Tuesday, Dec. 20: Lion's Club Christmas Dinner @ 6:45 pm/Dining Hall.** Need volunteer help and deserts. Contact Joy Schwab, 301-253-3294.

## LADIES' NIGHT OUT

**When: MONDAY, NOV. 14, 2016**

**Where: Red Robin @ 6 pm, 20001 Century Blvd.,  
Germantown, MD 20872 - RSVP by Nov. 12**

**THERE WILL BE NO  
Ladies' Night Out in December**

**THURSDAY, JAN. 19, 2017**

**CarterQue @ 6 pm  
1310 S. Main Street, Mt. Airy, MD 21770  
RSVP by Jan. 15**

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

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



## Men's Dinner

### Men's Night Out for October

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

**Monday, November 7, 2016  
at 7:00 pm at**

**Athens Greek Restaurant & Pizza  
425 South Jefferson Street  
Frederick, MD 21701  
Phone: (301) 694-3344**

*Please plan to join us ! ! ! !*



### Greetings from your Finance Committee!

We are currently developing the church's budget for 2017 and we attempt to reflect our priorities limited by our income. Our budget year runs from January 1 through December 31, and the three largest items in the budget are fixed: salaries, maintenance for the buildings, and the assessment we pay to the broader church.

Over the years, we have learned to rely on a "normal" pattern of contributions that enables us to establish the budget's baseline. We expect to see predictable contributions from January to June, followed by a "summer slump." This is followed by a robust catching-up in September and a predictable pattern from October through December. **This year has not followed the predictable pattern and we don't know why.** Giving in April & May was way off and the summer slump was actually somewhat less deep this year, possibly held up by enthusiasm generated by the single Sunday morning service. There was no catch-up giving in September and we can't, at this time, know what October, November, and December will bring.

#### **So where are we? We are currently about \$30,000 behind in meeting our obligations.**

We would note that we have been very careful managers of our resources. All of the discretionary items, the non-fixed items, are under budget: **we are not overspending.** We very much want to maintain the numerous ministries and programs such as our youth programs, the Charles Wesley Singers, the Stephen Ministry, the Sunday School program, and missionaries working in Central America and at home. They are at the heart of DUMC. These ministries serve our congregation, our community, and beyond.

We know that these are rather uncertain economic times that we live in, both as a Nation and as individuals & families. Perhaps the current economic stresses explain, in part, the decline in giving. **We would hope that each of you will thoughtfully and prayerfully review your giving and, if possible, increase it so that we can close our budget shortfall and finish the year free of unpaid bills.** Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,  
David A. Rust, Chairman

### 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 office at 301-253-0022 ext. 106, and she will give you more information and provide you with a form to use.



### 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](http://damascusumc.org))

The Youth Program here at DUMC gets a  
contribution for all purchases made through this link, with no additional cost  
to you!



# DUMC YOUTH FELLOWSHIP FALL SCHEDULE

## Youth Chapel Sundays @ 9:30 am

Breakfast/Music/Classes by age

## November Youth Fellowship Sunday nights @ 6:00 pm

Includes Dinner and an Activity

**Sunday 11/6**

**Destination Known: Butler's Orchard /  
Hayride & Bonfire**

**Sunday 11/13**

**Movie Night at DUMC. We will gather in the Annex  
(office) and watch a great movie together and  
have plenty of popcorn!**

**Sunday 11/20**

**Service Project for Damascus HELP/Go collect food  
in neighborhoods.**

**Sunday 11/27**

**No Youth Event - Happy Thanksgiving Weekend!**

## December Youth Fellowship Sunday nights @ 6:00pm

**Sunday 12/4**

**Youth Fellowship - Cookie Exchange**

**Sunday 12/11**

**NO Youth Fellowship - Living Nativity**

**Sunday 12/18**

**Youth Progressive Dinner**

**Sunday 12/25**

**NO Youth Fellowship - Merry Christmas**

**Sunday 12/30**

**NO Youth Fellowship - Happy New Year**

For questions or  
more info,  
contact Pastor Nick  
at [nick.works@  
damascusumc.org](mailto:nick.works@damascusumc.org)  
or 240-751-6695.

**Youth Praise Band  
Sundays @ 3:30 pm  
1st & 3rd weeks  
of the month**

**Youth Bell Choir  
Sundays @ 4 pm  
Sundays @ 4 pm in the  
Great Hall**

**Charles Wesley  
Singers Practice  
Sundays @ 5 pm  
in the Choir Room**

**Youth Puppets  
Wednesdays @  
5 pm in the  
Great Hall**

**UMYFO Meeting  
November 13 @  
4:00 pm in the  
Annex/Church Office**

**Christ the King Sunday  
Youth Service  
November 20  
Both Services — Please  
Mark Your Calendar!**

## Come Join Us !!!

We're hosting some 6th grade socials so the 6th graders and their parents can get to know each other.

In November, Curt and Kelly Shiflett are hosting the boys and girls for pizza and outdoor games on Nov. 12 from 3:30 - 6:00 pm. Their address is 9007 Kimblehunt Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20882 and phone 301-253-2989. Please RSVP.

We will have other combined events in January & February. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Thank you, Charlotte Kibak  
[301-956-6056](tel:301-956-6056)



# Worship Arts News and Events

November 2016 Polly Edmonds Baldrige, Minister of Music and Worship Arts  
240-750-8287 | polly.baldrige@damascusumc.org  
Stephen Kalnoske, Organist | 240-832-2112 | stephenkarnoske@gmail.com

## Worship Arts in November

- ♦ The Colorful Hands of Jesus puppet troupe and director Cathy Scarbrough are thrilled to welcome Nalynn Ryder as the new assistant director. Puppet ministries is also very thankful to Jamie Bautista who has served in that role for several years and will be taking a break to care for her newborn and young children.
- ♦ Praise Artisans Guild is gearing up for adorning our building for the Advent and Christmas season. Volunteers will assemble on Friday, November 25, at 10 am to dress the sanctuary and hallways for the season.
- ♦ The Charles Wesley Singers are already planning for the choir tour (summer youth mission trip) to New England. Anyone with connections in New England is invited to share names and contact information with Polly Baldrige. **See announcement section for details about CWS's holiday gift wrapping fundraiser.**



**Living Christmas Tree  
rehearsals are on  
Wednesday evenings  
at 8:15 pm -  
all SATB singers  
are invited  
to participate!  
Concerts are**

## WEDNESDAYS

- 4:00 pm **Colorful Hands of Jesus** Great Hall Stage Side  
Puppet troupe for elementary students 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and up led by Cathy Scarbrough & Nalynn Ryder
- 4:30 pm **Cherubs** Great Hall Back Half  
Choir for children 4 ½ years-olds to 1<sup>st</sup> grade led by Celia Hembrough and Lydia Turner-Little
- 5:00 pm **Youth Puppets** Great Hall  
Puppets/drama for 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up led by Cathy Scarbrough
- 5:00 pm **Choristers** Music Room  
Choir for children 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade led by Polly Baldrige (with Mary Nieter and Diane Fry)
- 6:30 pm **Inspiration Ringers** Stage (September – November; February – April)  
Handbells for students 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade led by Polly Baldrige
- 7:00 pm **Men's Choir** Music Room  
For all male changed voices, directed by Curt Shiflett with Kathryn Smith, piano
- 7:00 pm **Group Vocal Instruction for Treble Voices** Great Hall Back Half /Only January  
Singing technique session with Polly Baldrige will also include working on music for Women's Choir
- 7:30 pm **Chancel Choir** Music Room  
SATB choir for worship /special concerts led by Polly Baldrige with Stephen Kalnoske, accompanist

## SUNDAYS

- 3:30 pm **Youth Praise Band** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month; Shares each Sunday @ 9:30 am  
All instruments and vocals needed for this student led group facilitated by Polly and Tom Baldrige
- 4:00 pm **Youth Handbell Choir** Stage  
Handbells for youth 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades led by Tom Baldrige
- 5:00 pm **Charles Wesley Singers** Music Room  
SATB choir for 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades and up led by Polly Baldrige with accompanists Stephen Kalnoske and Katherine Williams.

## MONDAYS

- 7:30 pm **Ring of Joy** Stage  
Adult 5-octave handbell ensemble led by Polly Baldrige

## Earth Seen From Above

church  
circle  
singers

## Sunday, Nov. 13 @ 3 pm

Damascus UMC is glad to welcome the Annapolis-based Church Circle Singers, under the direction of Brian J. Isaac (Damascus HS choral director) with Stephen Kalnoske as accompanist. This concert features Eleanor Daley's *Requiem*. Tickets \$20 at the door.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Series Advent Evensong: *Ceremony of Carols*

### Sunday, Nov. 27 @ 7 pm

Benjamin Britten's beautiful and mysterious Ceremony of Carols will be shared by treble ensemble and harp in the context of an Advent evensong service.

Sunday, November 27, 2016

# *A Ceremony of Carols*

## FREE-WILL OFFERING

9700 New Church Street | Damascus, MD 20872 | 301-253-0022 | [damascusumc.org](http://damascusumc.org)

# MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

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



## Supporting our newest Missionary at Christmas for a special project

Missions has money from your giving in our 2016 budget which will be sent to Dr. Belinda Forbes, a dentist and public health missionary in Nicaragua as a Christmas gift. She and her team work with remote communities mostly in the eastern part of Nicaragua where there are no roads. It has been 25 years since dental assistants were trained for these rural communities. A \$1,000 gift from our congregation will begin the process of training new dental assistances over the next five-years. The funds will help with one year's travel, room, and board costs for those being trained by Dr. Forbes. Imagine not having to travel 2-3 days to get help for a toothache!!



## Mary Nieter and Gabrielle Hulcher at Stephen Ministry training.

Please pray for them and ask them how  
their training is coming along!  
We are so blessed to be so well-represented.



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

Sunday, December 18  
DUMC Sanctuary

A Service of Peace, Hope, and Light  
Anointing with Oil  
3:00 pm

DUMC's Stephen Ministry welcomes you to the sixth annual Service of Peace, Hope, and Light. This is a service where we gently encourage and invite you to come with 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.

As we embark upon this holiday season, consider attending.

Light a candle for a person/situation and receive healing anointing with oil.

For any questions, please call 301-253-0022.



# MISSIONS AND OUTREACH (cont'd)

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

## A Nicaraguan School Needs Our Help: 2016 Sunday School Mission Project

This year the Sunday School classes will be collecting donations for a school in Nicaragua. They are in need of financial donations as well as school supplies, teacher supplies, and books written in Spanish. Our next delegation to Nicaragua will travel in January, 2017, and they will be delivering the donated items to Amanda, Memo, and Eduardo of *Between Cultures*. The school is located in a low-income barrio in Managua and is run by Eduardo's church. World economics have caused their main source of funding to end so they are in desperate need of financial donations to help pay the teachers' salaries.



We will be collecting donations throughout November. Any donations you can make are greatly appreciated. Checks should be made payable to DUMC with "Nicaragua" in the memo line. We are hoping that our Sunday School children can bring in school supplies and books written in Spanish.

Thank you and God bless you!





# MISSIONS AND OUTREACH (cont'd)

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

**We have a Baby !!!!!**

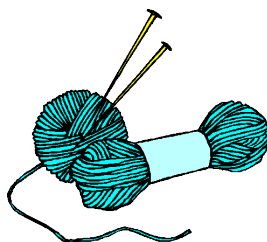


On Tuesday, Oct. 11th, at 2:48 pm Memo and I welcomed our baby girl **Sophia Amanda** into the world in Managua, Nicaragua, at 7 pounds 12 oz and 20.4 inches long. Though there were some bumps along the way (she had swallowed meconium, had the umbilical cord around her neck and was not in proper position), we are giving thanks to God for a great medical team who performed an emergency c-section and gave her the medical care she needed, and is now a healthy, happy baby. We are enjoying spending some time with Grammy Kate and Pop Pop this week, they flew down from the States. We want to say thank you for the well wishes and love & we can't wait for you to be a part of her life.

Hugs with a heart full of love,  
Amanda & Memo

***Come join the Prayer Shawl Ministry***  
**Monday, November 21**  
**at 12:30 pm**  
**Church Office**

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



**You can make a difference in our community!**

Damascus HELP needs volunteers (over age 18 due to insurance restrictions) to help in various capacities. HELP is a non-profit organization that provides emergency assistance to those needy individuals in the 20871 (Clarksburg), 20872 (Damascus), and 20882 (Gaithersburg and Laytonsville- north of Brink Rd.) zip codes.



Officers of the Day are needed to work from home (once a month) to answer calls from clients. We are also in need of food drivers to deliver food, client drivers to take individuals to appointments, and volunteers to help with transporting furniture to clients in need. Our furniture committee is also seeking persons or organizations with a truck or SUV to help assist with furniture moving. If you are interested in any of these opportunities please call 301-253-4100 or e-mail [dh20872@aol.com](mailto:dh20872@aol.com) or [www.damascushelp.org](http://www.damascushelp.org) for more information.



Many want to respond to the needs of the community over Thanksgiving and Christmas. Our church is providing several opportunities including financial support, donations of food/supplies and labor. You are invited to take advantage of one or more of them.

***If you would like to help stock the shelves for Damascus HELP:***

The Susanna Joy Circle is sponsoring a Diaper Drive, in response to an urgent call from Damascus HELP. All sizes are needed, but especially sizes 3-5. Any brand is welcome. There is a drop-off box in the Narthex or they can be left at the church office. Questions, call Pennie Adams at 301-831-7517. Thank you from ALL the LITTLE BABY BOTTOMS !

The Choristers are asking for you to bring canned good to their musical ***Room for Christmas*** on Wednesday, December 14, at 6:30 pm in the Great Hall. Donations will be presented during the musical as part of a retelling of the Christmas story.

DAMASCUS HELP has also asked for our help in replenishing "their" Cupboard. Items needed are individually wrapped bars of soap, peanut butter, grape jelly, spaghetti sauce, noodles, cans of fruit, canned pasta sauce, canned meat, canned mixed vegetables, mac and cheese, small bags of rice, hot cereal, and Weiss, Walmart, or Safeway gift cards. It has been a long hot summer and the requests for food have been high. Please help our local families (boxes will be provided in the Narthex).

***If you would like to help Faith Connections with holiday needs:***

**THANKSGIVING:** Damascus United Methodist Church has been given a list of needs for the Community Thanksgiving Dinner at Redeemer Lutheran Church to help families in Damascus. All items are to be delivered on Wednesday, November 23, between 10 am and 7 pm. **We are asked to provide:** 9 roasted, carved turkeys, 10 large apple pies, and 10 large pumpkin pies. **Volunteers are also needed on Thanksgiving Day to help serve at Redeemer Church.** Sign up at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4bada62fa5ff2-community>.

**THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT IN ACTION: THROUGH THE HOLIDAY GIVING PROJECT**

Damascus UMC has 25 local families that need sponsors for Christmas gifts and food. If you or a group would like to sponsor a family, we would match you with a family for you to contact to establish their needs. You would then provide gifts or gift cards to best assist them. We have both large and small family units and will match your preference in giving. The Christmas items will be delivered before Christmas. This can be a most joyful experience for you. In order for us to insure we have all 25 families covered, please **RSVP as soon as possible** to Hazel Strahorn (301-414-5459) [hazelstrahorn@verizon.net](mailto:hazelstrahorn@verizon.net), Gayle Conard [lightseeker123@yahoo.com](mailto:lightseeker123@yahoo.com), Kathy Leslie [kathleen.leslie@verizon.net](mailto:kathleen.leslie@verizon.net), and Cora Horst [cora1214@verizon.net](mailto:cora1214@verizon.net).

***If you would like to respond to the relief efforts following Hurricane Matthew:***

The devastation caused by Hurricane Matthew has been widely reported. Many United Methodists would like to help the people of the Caribbean, especially Haiti, and the southern coastal area of the United States.

The [United Methodist Committee on Relief – UMCOR](#) is responding with grants for water, food rations, and other emergency supplies. In Haiti, UMCOR works directly with the Eglise Methodiste d'Haiti (Methodist Church of Haiti). In the United States, UMCOR will work directly with the UM Conferences needing assistance. Cash contributions are the best and most efficient way to help at this point. Contributions to UMCOR go 100 percent to relief and rebuilding activities as UMCOR is funded separately by apportionments.

To make a donation on-line directly go to <http://www.umcor.org/Search-for-Projects/Search-for-Projects> and then select either Advance #982450/**International Disaster Response Advance** or Advance #901670/**Disaster Response in the U.S.**

Or you can make your checks payable to DUMC with a "notation" for either "**Advance #982450**" (International Disaster Response) or "**Advance #901670**" (Disaster Response in the US). Checks can then be placed in the offering plate, or dropped off or mailed to the church office.

Financial contributions are combined and coordinated to have the greatest impact. They go the farthest in having an immediate impact for relieving and employing the people of the hard struck areas. And, as always, we can pray.

# Fried Oysters & Baked Ham Dinner & Christmas Bazaar



**Damascus United Methodist Church**  
**9700 New Church Street, Damascus, MD**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2016**



## **BAZAAR: 11:00 AM TO 5:00 PM**

Arts & Crafts  
Bake Sale  
Country Store  
Christmas Ornaments  
Kids Kornor  
Nuts  
Woodmaking



## **DINNER: 12 NOON TIL ???**

Adults:	\$15.00
Carryouts:	\$15.00
Children (4-8):	\$ 5.00



## Announcements (cont'd)



## ADVENT WORKSHOP

SOMETHING FOR ALL AGES

**November 20, 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,  
enjoy Advent crafts,  
design your own Advent calendar,  
try your hand at stringing popcorn to decorate the tree,  
and more!**

***Bring cookies to share if you are able. Hot chocolate provided.***

**Contact Polly Baldrige ([polly.baldrige@damascusumc.org](mailto:polly.baldrige@damascusumc.org))  
or Amanda McMurtrey ([amanda.mcmurtrey@damascusumc.org](mailto:amanda.mcmurtrey@damascusumc.org))  
for more information or at [301-253-0022](tel:301-253-0022).**



## GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE

The DUMC Blood Drive is  
**Thursday, November 10, from 1:00 - 6:30 pm**  
in the church Dining Hall

Our fourth Blood Drive of the year is about to take place for 2016. So please check your calendars and **sign up**. Walk-ins may not be able to fit into the schedule so we strongly recommend making appointments. The shortest waiting times tend to be for those with appointments between 2:00 and 4:00.



**Please call 1-800-733-2767 or go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and use sponsor code:  
Damascus UMC MD to schedule your life-saving donation!**

Thank you to all who have participated in the blood drives at DUMC in the past. We have a terrific community of donors and volunteers!

**Volunteers are also needed to help prepare for the blood drive. Please contact Cathy Heinbaugh 301-253-0742 or [cheinbaugh@comcast.net](mailto:cheinbaugh@comcast.net) if you are able to help. Thank you for helping us save lives ! !**



## It's a Wrap

**The Charles Wesley Youth Choir will be hosting a gift wrapping party on  
Saturday, December 17 from 9 am - 5 pm to raise funds for their 2017  
Tour. Just bring your unwrapped Christmas gifts to the DUMC Dining  
Hall between 9 am - 3 pm --- and our youth will have all of your  
gifts wrapped and tree-ready for pickup between 2 pm - 5 pm. Yes, the  
work will be all wrapped up! Donations accepted - see you there!**





## Announcements (cont'd)

### YOUNG AT HEART ACTIVITY

#### ***Away in the Basement: A Church Basement Ladies Christmas***

**Sunday, November 20 at 2:00 pm  
at The Weinberg Center, Frederick**



Out of the basement shall come good tidings, great humor, and sheer joy! Travel back to rural Minnesota, 1959, where the four church basement ladies are called upon to save the Sunday school Christmas pageant from disaster. A holiday adventure inspired by the bestselling novel "Growing Up Lutheran," this heartwarming hilariously musical is sure to leave you smiling.

Tickets are \$30. A limited number of seats have been reserved. Please call Jane Webb 301-253-0022 / 240-620-6920 to reserve a seat. **YOU MUST RSVP BY November 1.** Payment will be due in the church office by the same date.



### **CHRISTMAS AT Harwood House Thrift Shop**



**Open House  
Sunday, November 6  
Noon - 3:00 pm**

Christmas ornaments, collectibles, decorations, wreaths, garlands, trees, clothing,  
many new toys, gifts and much, much more.

Enjoy some refreshments while you shop!

All at great prices, and your purchases support over 25 local charities!

### ***Harwood House Thrift Shop***

Calendar for November, 2016

November 6 – Christmas **OPEN HOUSE:** Noon – 3:00pm

November 24 – **CLOSED** Thanksgiving

November 25 and 26 – OPEN

Continue through all of November to shop for regular and Christmas items!

## Announcements (cont'd)



### The Youth are selling Butter Braids ! *You are not going to want to miss this Youth Fundraiser !*

What is a Butter Braid? They are a braided pastry (1 lb. 6 oz) with icing, that serves 11 people. Icing flavors are: Apple, Blueberry and Cream Cheese, Cherry, Cinnamon, Cream Cheese, Strawberry and Cream Cheese, Caramel Roll & Orange Roll. The “Braids” come frozen, you thaw overnight & can bake in the morning for a fresh breakfast pastry or dessert.

Butter Braids:

- ▶ Have a homemade appearance and taste
- ▶ Have quality ingredients; flour, sugar, and butter
- ▶ Are braided by hand with care
- ▶ Are made in small town Iowa
- ▶ Help you make a difference through each pastry you sell



Butter Braid® pastries are only available through fundraisers, so please ask a youth to place your order. You can also contact Lisa Marshall at 301-253-5241.

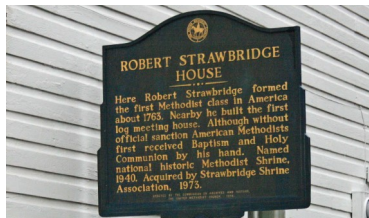
**PLEASE NOTE:** These exceptionally great tasting Butter Braids products have been know to make customers want more. In the case that this may happen to you, please be advised to order more than one as you **will not** be able to get more until another fundraiser comes to your area.

**ALLERGEN NOTICE:** This product may contain Egg, Milk, Soy & Wheat. This product does not contain nuts, but is manufactured in a facility and on equipment which processes not products.

*You will enjoy sharing your pastries during family gatherings,  
holidays, special occasions, or just because!*



### DUMC'S Couple's Retreat



The Brethren Center in New Windsor provided a comfortable setting for the recent Couples' Retreat. The theme was Living Gracefully . . . with family, with community, with God. DUMC will also offer both women's and men's retreats in the spring, so consider joining other members and friends for fellowship, fun, and spiritual growth at one of those events.

The Couples' Retreat included an optional field trip to the nearby Strawbridge Shrine, the location of the first Methodist class in America.



# CENTRAL MARYLAND DISTRICT *welcomes* BISHOP EASTERLING

Please join us... November 19, 2016

All Clergy and Laity in the CM District are invited to attend.

**RSVP** by November 11, 2016

We are kindly suggesting a \$10.00 donation for all those who plan to stay for lunch.

Donations (cash or check) will be collected at check-in. Please make checks payable to the Conference Treasurer.

9:00 AM - Gathering

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM - Fellowship

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM - Lunch

Damascus UMC

9700 New Church St., Damascus, MD 20812

You can also sign-up to help and/or attend that day on the website under the "Events" tab where it says special events.

## Welcoming Wednesday Dinners For October

The **Welcoming Wednesday Dinners** are 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 2:** NO DINNER - Ham/Oyster Prep Week
- November 9:** **Spaghetti with Meat or Marinara Sauce**
- November 16:** Rosemary-Orange Chicken
- November 23:** NO DINNER - Happy Thanksgiving
- November 30:** Shrimp Scampi with Linguine

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

**\*NOTE** – Menus are subject to change.



## Announcements (cont'd)



### Calling All Candelabras!!

The Praise Artisan's Guild is planning for the Advent décor and would like to use as many candelabras as we can borrow. Do you have a set (the larger the better, gold, silver, brass, pewter, etc.) that we might borrow from November 6 to about January 6? If so, please contact Connie Ross at 301-633-9504 or by email, [Connie@tedrossconsulting.com](mailto:Connie@tedrossconsulting.com). Thank you!!



### SAVE THE DATE!

Women's Spring Retreat 2017, Friday-Saturday, April 28-29.  
Brethren Center, New Windsor, MD  
(only a 35 min. drive from Damascus)

Theme for the Retreat: **"WE LOVE TO TELL THE STORY"**

More information after the first of the year...

Put the dates on your calendar and let's make this retreat the BEST one ever... those of you who have gone on these

### 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.

Do you feel called to participate as an adult buddy? A rotation of companions is scheduled for each buddy to serve approximately once a month. No experience or lesson preparation is necessary. Training is provided. Please consider this opportunity to get to know a delightful child or youth within our church family!

Contact Lynn Dennie: 301-775-7462 or [coyote831@aol.com](mailto:coyote831@aol.com)



### The Connection 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.

**Reminder:** We always 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 and speak with either Marcia Hofman or Gloria Maready to sign up to help and/or provide food. We could use you!



# A Living Christmas Tree

An evening of carols with chorus and orchestra

Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at 7 pm

Thursday, December 29, 2016 at 7 pm



A Damascus tradition, the Living Christmas Tree concerts include favorite seasonal carols and hymns sung by 60+ voices, accompanied by orchestra. This year's tree also will feature a semi-staged version of *The Wind in the Willows*, a musical by John Rutter based on the book by Kenneth Grahame. With the season of Christmas as a backdrop to the story, Badger, Rat and Mole help their friend Frog discover the true meaning and gift of home.

The Living Christmas Tree is a non-profit enterprise and tickets remain \$10 per person. In the wake of Hurricane Matthew, we want to give people in places like Haiti a chance to rebuild their homes and lives. This year, *Home for Christmas* tickets will be available for \$35 per person, with \$25 from each ticket directly benefitting international response through the United Methodist Committee on Relief.




Plan to stay and celebrate the season Christmas at a formal wassail reception following the concert!

**NOTE: Child care will be available during the concert.**

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

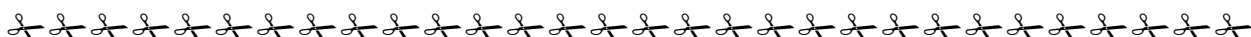
**Make your reservations early for this special celebration !**

## 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: **Wednesday, Dec. 28 (7pm):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Thursday, Dec. 29 (7pm):** \_\_\_\_\_

## GENERAL ORDER:

I would like to purchase concert tickets @ \$10 each for: Wed., Dec 28 (7pm) : \_\_\_\_\_ Thurs, Dec. 29 (7pm): \_\_\_\_\_

Family concert tickets \$40 for 4 or more in same family: Wed., Dec 28 (7pm): \_\_\_\_\_ Thurs, Dec. 29 (7pm): \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to purchase *Home for Christmas tickets* @ \$35\* each for:

**Wednesday, Dec. 28 (7pm):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Thursday, Dec. 29 (7pm):** \_\_\_\_\_

\*\$10 ticket price + \$25 tax-deductible gift for international disaster relief through UMCOR.

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

## Thank You's

Rita and I would like to thank the Lovefeast Class and the Stephen Ministry for their gifts to help us in an emergency home repair in September.

We would also thank Stan Jones for installation of the new water heater. I want to thank the Thrift Shop crew for their gift of a plaque depicting a father and child finding a name on the Vietnam Memorial. We are always thankful to God for this church in times of need whether local, national or globally.

Don and Rita Cosman



## Office Information

### Administrative Meetings For November, 2016

- Nov. 1 Heavenly Host Committee  
3:45 pm - Annex/CR
- Nov. 2 Office Staff Meeting  
10:00 am - 2 pm / Off Site
- Nov. 3 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 GH/SS
  - ▶ Finance Meeting to follow in the Annex/CR
  - ▶ Spiritual Formation Meeting to follow In the Sacristy
- Nov. 10 SPPRC Meeting  
7:30 pm in the Annex/CR
- Nov. 13 UMYFO Meeting  
4:30 pm in the Annex/CR
- Nov. 16 Technology Committee Meeting  
7:00 pm in the Annex/CR
- Nov. 21 Harwood House Committee  
1:30 pm @ Harwood House
- TBD Administrative Board Meeting  
7:00 pm in the Dining Hall

The Spiritual Formation Committee will not meet in the month of November .

### PLEASE NOTE:

*All are new e-mail addresses  
effective immediately.*

Main office: 301-253-0022



### PASTORS:

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

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

### STAFF:

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

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

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

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

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

Debbie Benson, Bookkeeper  
ext. #106 / [debbie.benson@damascusumc.org](mailto:debbie.benson@damascusumc.org)

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### IMPORTANT BEACON MESSAGE

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

**WEDNESDAY, November 9**  
(For Beacon to publish on Sunday, November 27).

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

**Thank You !**

## Your Connection to Care

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



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



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

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

## ABOUT OUR PEOPLE

**Pray for those who have recently lost loved ones:** George & Marcia Hofman's family with the passing of George's mom, **Rose Hofman**, on October 16 in Westminster.

**Pray for those receiving medical care, going through tests, facing surgery or in recovery:** **Pennie Adams** (Cochlear implant), **Benjamin Bautista** (developmental concerns), **David Bellefleur** (Hank's brother recovering from motorcycle accident), **Helen Boyer**, **Mary Burton** (heart issues), **Ann Cochran**, **Patty Crane** (Cheryl Minekime's cousin with medical issues), **Janice Dennie** (Rowland's mom with Alzheimer's disease and breast cancer), **Joyce Dooley** (Carol Taylor's mom), **Pat Duvall**, **Linda Evans**, **Larry Froeberg** (Karen Taylor's father recovering from complications from back surgery), **April Fry** (Diane Fry's daughter-in-law with M.S.), **Diane Fry** (having complications from her hand surgery recovery), **Marianne Goldup**, **Martita Jones** (severe headaches), **Patsy Kressig** (Judy's mom), **Miel Linthicum**, **Jeanette Long**, **Daniel Lorenzo** (Angie Thompson's brother with heart failure), **Tom Mielke** (Marilyn Kinsey's son-in-law with M.S.), **Teresa Morella** (recovering from back surgery), **Nancy Nickerson** (recovering from tear duct surgery), **Neal Pardini** (leg vascular problems), **Mary Richards**, **Carole Sacco** (Gina Wilson's sister-in-law) liver disease and candidate for a transplant, **Karen Turner** (Kathy Jones' niece with Lupus) and **Bill Walcott**.

**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**, **JP Feuillet**, **Kathy Geehreg**, **Dawn Helton** (Marge Taylor's daughter), **Rick Henderson** (Ken's brother), **Willa Kackley** (Judy Benedict's aunt), **Leroy** (friend of the Malley's going thru kidney cancer treatment), **Dave Lingrell**, **Tanner Matney**, **Christopher Matovich** (Gerry Pardini's nephew) **Frances Richards** (Rev. Beth Richards' sister) and **Tim Sanner** (Dan Krotz's uncle).

**Continue to pray for all who serve in the military:** The following are stationed in the United States: **John Clayton** – Army (Cathy Heinbaugh's brother), **Thomas LaMaster** – Navy (Ted & Esther Samakouris' grandson), **Gregory Lee** – Army (Cara Hardick Lee's husband), **Benjamin J. Saunders** – Navy (son of Connie Ross), **Alex Sauter** – Marines (son of Todd & Kelly), and **Kossi (Alfred) Setodji** –Army (son of Philip and Mary Davi Avudutu).

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