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 2018



Devoted Servants, Drawn to Jesus, Dedicated to Making Disciples

#### **Every Christian a Saint**

On the Sunday closest to November 1, All Saints Day, we celebrate All Saints Sunday in worship. This year, we will hold our All Saints celebration on Sunday, November 4. Through the lighting of candles and the tolling of bells, we will remember those members of the Damascus UMC church family who have died since last All Saints. John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement, enjoyed and celebrated All Saints Day. In a journal entry from November 1, 1767, Wesley calls it "a festival I truly love."

But who is a saint? In the New Testament, the Apostle Paul refers to all Christians as saints as in 1 Corinthians 1:2 where Paul writes, "To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints..."

There is no system in United Methodism by which people are elected to sainthood. We do not pray to saints, nor do we believe they serve as mediators to God. When we in the UMC call people "saints," it is because they exemplified the Christian life. In this sense, *every* Christian can be considered a saint. It is with that understanding of sainthood in mind that I share this poem I wrote many years ago after visiting a church member in a nursing home. He is now one of the saints in glory.

My hand was kissed today and kissed again and kissed again

By a man in his nursing home bed.

Greeted as if I were royalty come to visit.

He dozed in bed in the thin, late-afternoon, December sun.

After the greetings and kisses he sighed and closed his eyes again,
Still tightly clutching my hand
Like a child, ready to be tucked in for the night.
Wearied, not by the events of the day
But by the events of a lifetime.

He made no demands, asked nothing.

There was nothing needing to be said.

So, I stood beside his bed
and quietly held his hand,

Looking down at him in his bed with the side-rails,

As one might look down at a sleeping child.

#### **CLERGY AND STAFF:**

Kathryn Woodrow, Senior Pastor

Sherwyn Benjamin (Pastor B) Associate Pastor

Polly Edmonds Baldridge Minister of Music & Worship Arts

Nick Works
Director of Youth Ministry

Cora Horst Director, Pleasant Plains Preschool

Jane Webb Office Manager

Linda Stastny Office Administrator

Stephen Kalnoske
Organist / Pianist / Worship Arts

Steve Malley / Bookkeeper

Lisa Marshall / Property Manager

Tyrone (TJ) Budd, Jr. / Weekday PM Custodian

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After a few minutes of standing by him,

Holding his hand,

Silently praying for him as the light faded,

I was ready to depart.

And so I tried to withdraw my hand—

But his grip just tightened.

After a prayer said aloud,

Asking God to continue to surround and uphold him in Love,

He opened his eyes and smiled,

Bestowing yet another kiss upon my hand.

No Communion served.

No long conversation.

No reminiscences about bygone days and people.

No visit with his wife

in the green-walled living room

of the home with the pretty gardens.

The old is passing away; the new is not yet come.

Perhaps we did share Communion after all—

The communion of saints

that transcends time and space

and even elements of bread and wine.

Sleep on, dear saint.

Your church family stands beside you yet,

and still communes with you,

And greets you with the peace of Christ.

I receive your holy kiss

And share it with the other saints.

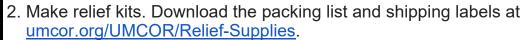
In Grace and Peace,

Pastor Kathryn



#### Disaster Relief .... How can you help?

1. Pray for those whose lives have been impacted by the recent disasters. Please also pray for Early Response Teams, disaster coordinators and the many volunteers who are working tirelessly to provide relief.



- 3. Give to UMCOR's relief and recovery efforts by giving cash or check, made payable to DUMC, w/notation "US Disaster Response."
- 4. Donate requested items only.
- 5. Please wait for an invitation to volunteer.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief is grateful for your prayers and support.

Text to Give: UMCOR to 91999 • umcor.org

REMINDER: 100% of what you give to UMCOR goes to the cause!

Worship News

## November Worship

#### November 4 All Saints Sunday

On All Saints Sunday
we remember our
connections with
Christians past,
present, and future:
The Communion of
Saints. In particular,
we remember by name



those members of our congregation who have died since last All Saints Day. We will also celebrate Holy Communion. John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement, celebrated All Saints Day, calling it a "festival I truly love." Scriptures: Isaiah 25:6-9; Ps. 24; Rev. 21:1-6a; John 11:32-44.

Music: 8:15 - Charles Wesley Singers; 11:00 - Chancel Choir and Women's Ensemble.

## November 11 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Veterans' Day

As part of our service we will join with Americans all across the country who will be ringing bells to mark the centennial of the end of World War I and to remember those who served and sacrificed.



Scriptures:

Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17;

S Psalm 127 or Ps. 42;
Hebrews 9:24-28;
Mark 12:38-44.

A World War I Remembrance

Music: 8:15 - Charles Wesley Singers; 11:00 - Chancel Choir.

## November 18 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Stewardship Sunday

During worship we will have the opportunity to return our pledge cards and ask God's blessing on the financial commitments that we will make to support our ministries in 2019.

Scriptures: 1 Sam. 1:4-20; 2 Sam. 2:1-10 or Ps. 113; Hebrews 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25; Mark 13:1-8.

Music and More: 8:15 - Charles Wesley Singers, Youth Puppets; 11:00 - Chancel Choir, Colorful Hands of Jesus.



### Thursday, November 22 at 9:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Day

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us as we give

thanks to God for our many blessings!



Scriptures: Joel 2:21-27; Psalm 126; 1 Timothy 1:1-7; Matthew 6:25-33.

A combined choir will sing All Good Gifts.

#### November 25 Christ the King Sunday

On this, the last Sunday of the Christian year, our youth will lead worship today as they have on past Christ the King Sundays. Youth will

lead prayers, read scripture, and share sermons. Special instrumental music will be shared.



Scriptures: 2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132:1-12;

Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37.

Music and More: 8:15 - Charles Wesley Singers, Youth Handbells; 11:00 - Chancel Choir, Youth Handbells.

#### **Spiritual Formation**

### Advent Study with Pastor Kathryn "Christmas Gifts that Won't Break"

Five Sundays: Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. in the Music Room

The Pastor's Class will resume with this five-week study on "Christmas Gifts that Won't Break," based on the book of the same name by James W. Moore (with Jacob Armstrong). This year as you light the candles of your Advent wreath, reflect on the unbreakable gifts that God has given us: hope, love, joy, and peace, and be reminded of God's greatest gift...Jesus Christ.

James W. Moore explores the spirit of Christmas with stories, Scriptures, and thoughts that warm our hearts throughout the season while challenging us to rethink the gifts we ask for and give at this time.

We will be using the expanded edition of the book with daily devotions for Advent. Copies of the book may be purchased online from Amazon or Cokesbury.

Please RSVP to the church office if you plan to attend. If you would like for the church office to order your book (cost approximately \$10.00), let us know when you RSVP. **Deadline to order is November 14.** 





#### United Methodist Women News

#### **Break the Fast Meeting**

Join the Damascus United Methodist Women as we recognize and pay tribute to the Angels who walk with us every day. Our annual Recognization Breakfast will be held December 1, 2018 in the Dining Hall starting at 9:00 am.

DUMC Women sponsor this event, but you need not be female or even an angel to attend. We want to recognize all our volunteers in an easy going, social atmosphere. It takes a band of angels to accomplish the goals of our many programs here at DUMC. You will stand and applaud in wonder at the many people-hours put in by DUMC volunteers.

Please bring a breakfast item to share with the group. DUMCW will provide the items we need to put out, eat and clean up from our Break the Fast feast.

Please join us:

December 1 at 9:00am
Dining Hall of DUMC

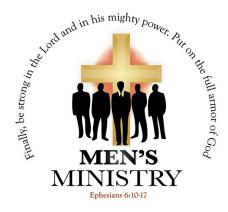
If one of your Spiritual Gifts is Hospitality, please come help with this event. Contact: Hazel Strahorn, 443-553-9848 or hazelstrahorn@verizon.net

#### "Un-Save" the Date!!

Our Annual Fall DUMC Craft Bazaar (& dinner)
ORGINALLY scheduled for Saturday, November 3, 2018,
HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

Sorry for the late notice and we apologize to all persons this is affecting.

#### Men's Night Out for November



The Men of DUMC
(and male friends, family & neighbors)
are invited for a Men's Night Out on
Monday, November 19
at 6:00 pm at Carrabba's Italian Grill,
19935 Century Blvd., Germantown, MD 20874
Phone: 240-686-1100
RSVP to the church office.

Please plan to join us!!!!

# NEXT LADIES' NIGHTS OUT

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

When: Wednesday, Nov. 14

Where: Lu & Joe's

1024 Ridge Road Mt. Airy, MD 21771

Time: 6:00 pm

Please RSVP by Nov. 12

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



## The Annual Young at Heart Christmas Dinner Event is Back !!!!!

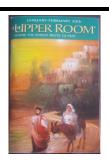
Friday, December 14 at 6:30 pm

The annual Young at Heart Christmas Dinner and Program will be held this year in the Church Dining Hall. If you want to get in the Christmas spirit a little early, this is the place to be! We'll have a few performers of Christmas music and perhaps a few special stories, Santa is likely to appear, there'll be some caroling by all, and who knows what else we'll think of in the coming weeks. Come and join us for a special dinner and some wonderful fun and fellowship. You can RSVP by contacting either Bob Newlin (301-631-6840) or Jane Webb (240-620-6920 / jane.webb@damascusumc.org. **Deadline to RSVP is Sunday Dec.** 

#### The Upper Room

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

Better yet, take a couple of copies and share with friends and neighbors! This publication is a wonderful way to encourage daily scripture reading!



#### An Invitation to Church Membership

Several people have spoken to Pastor Kathryn about the process of becoming members of Damascus UMC. If you feel that God is leading you to make DUMC your church home, please contact the Church Office or speak with Pastor Kathryn personally. She would like to meet as a group with those who are interested and plan a date (or dates) when we will receive people into membership.





"Take my hands, Lord Jesus, let them work for you; make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do; let me watch you Jesus, till I'm gentle too; till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you."

WHO: Families of children in Sunday School ages 3-5<sup>th</sup> grade

WHAT: Collecting supplies to support Laytonsville Safe Haven, a shelter for women

who are struggling with their mental health and have become homeless.

Some of the residents are veterans.

WHEN: The children will attend an assembly on Sunday, October 14 to learn about

the project. Collections will begin on October 21 and end on November 25th.

WHY: The overall theme of our Sunday school classes this fall is Jesus and

families. Jesus calls us to help those in need especially those without the

support of family.

HOW: Oct. 21st - Twin sheet sets and pillows

Oct. 28th - Twin comforters or blankets

Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> - Towels and washcloths

Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> - Bars of soap

Nov. 18th - Toothbrushes and toothpaste

Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> - Shampoo, conditioner, combs and brushes

#### JOIN THE YOUNG-AT-HEART FOR A TOUR OF

#### **ARLINGTON CEMETERY!**

#### Tuesday, November 13, 2018

If you have never visited Arlington Cemetery, don't miss this opportunity! The grounds of Arlington National Cemetery honor those who have served our nation by providing a sense of beauty and peace. The rolling green hills are dotted with trees that are hundreds of years in age and complement the gardens found throughout the 624 acres of the cemetery. This impressive landscape serves as a tribute to the service and sacrifice of every individual laid to rest within the hallowed grounds of Arlington National Cemetery.

BERNIE Beall will be with us for this two-hour tour as we ride a tram through the cemetery, giving us historical facts and spiritual lessons about this sacred place. We will make stops at JFK's grave site and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, watch the Changing of the Guard and take short walks to nearby sites as well as spend some time at the Visitor Center. Depending upon the weather, our tram may be open or closed, so please dress warmly with comfortable, walking shoes.

**Costs:** Parking is \$2.00 per hour. Tram: \$13.50 for adults, \$10 for seniors (65+); \$6.75 for any military ID; free for military in uniform (plus 3 family members); free for government-issued handicap ID (plus a guest.) WE WILL NOT COLLECT MONEY AHEAD OF TIME! PLAN TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS WHEN YOU ARRIVE.

ALSO, Bernie Beall is a faith-supported evangelist. A donation of \$10 cash per person is suggested, to be given to Bernie, which will be gathered by Jane when we meet to carpool from the church.

Carpoolers will meet at DUMC ready to leave at 8:30 a.m. (GPS direction to Arlington Cemetery is: 1 Memorial Avenue, Fort Myer, VA.) Tram tour will be from 10:00 am until noon. Lunch is planned afterward at The Cheesecake Factory

(7101 Democracy Blvd, Bethesda, MD 20817) We are estimating a return to DUMC between 2:30 and 3:00 pm.

RSVP to Sue Constantinides at 301-253-6591.



Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends - John 15:13

## **Worship Arts News and Events**

November, 2018

Polly Edmonds Baldridge, Minister of Music and Worship Arts 240-750-8287 | polly.baldridge@damascusumc.org Stephen Kalnoske, Organist | 240-832-2112 | stephenkalnoske@gmail.com

Mark you calendars for these worship arts events during the Advent/Christmas season



#### The Volunteer Reindeer,

Children's Musical (an original story by DUMC member Nancy Lacy)

#### Sunday, December 2 2 pm in the Great Hall

An interactive workshop will immediately follow the show where children of all ages can decorate Christmas cookies, make ornaments and prepare for the Christmas season.



#### **Live Nativity Pageants**

in the DUMC Courtyard

Sunday, December 16 / 5:30 and 6:30 pm

(w/warm refreshments served afterwards)

#### **MONDAYS**

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

#### **WEDNESDAYS**

4:30 pm **Colorful Hands of Jesus** Great Hall Stage Side / 30-minute session

Puppet troupe for elementary students 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and up led by Cathy Scarbrough & Nalynn Ryder

5:00 pm **Cherub Choir** Great Hall Back Half / 30-minute session

Choir (singing, games, movement) for children 4 ½ years old to 1<sup>st</sup> /2<sup>nd</sup> grade led by Lydia Turner-Little and Stephanie Greer

5:00 pm Youth Puppets Great Hall / 45-minute session

Puppets/drama for 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up led by Cathy Scarbrough & Nalynn Ryder

5:00 pm **Choristers** Choir Room / 60-minute session

Choir (w/singing music and worship education) for children 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade led by Polly Baldridge (with Mary Nieter and Diane Fry)

6:00 pm Inspiration Ringers Stage / 30-minute session Handbells for students 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade led by Polly Baldridge

7:00 pm Men's Choir Choir Room / 30-minute sessions

For all male changed voices, directed by Curt Shiflett with Kathryn Smith, piano

7:00 pm Women's Ensemble Great Hall-Back Half / 30-minute sessions Singing technique session with Polly Baldridge will also include working on music for Women's Choir

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

4:00 pm Youth Handbell Choir Stage / 60-minute sessions Handbells for youth 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades (medium/advanced handbell emnemble) led by Tom Baldridge

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

**Decorating for Advent** Saturday, Dec. 1 1:00 - 4:00 pm

For questions, or to volunteer Contact: Connie Ross 301-663-9504 or connieross7901@gmail.com

#### LIVING CHRISTMAS TREE **30th Anniversary CONCERTS**

Friday, December 28, 7 pm Saturday, December 29, 3 pm



Tickets: \$15 (available on DUMC website/Facebook page or in church office)

(\$60 family ticket available through church office for 4 or more people from one household)

REHEARSALS WEDNESDAYS, at 8:15 pm in Music Room



## A Living Christmas Tree

An evening of carols with chorus and orchestra

**Christmas 2018: 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concerts** 

**Damascus United Methodist Church** 



Friday, December 28, 7 pm Saturday, December 29, 3 pm

WASSAIL RECEPTION FOLLOWING
EACH CONCERT

**TICKETS \$15 PER PERSON** 

Family Ticket \$60 (more than 4 people)

Our 30th Anniversary festival concert features a 70-voice chorus and 30-piece orchestra in the

#### SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION

Gold ornaments \$100 donations are Benefactors and will be given four concert tickets

Red ornaments

\$75 donations are Patrons and will be given three concert tickets



All checks to DUMC, designated Living Christmas Tree – place in offering plates with tear-off below or mail to
Damascus UMC, Attn: Jane Webb, 9700 New Church Street Damascus, MD 20872.
Name:

General Order

\_\_\_\_\_ Concert tickets (\$15 each) good for concert on Dec 28 *or* 29

Concert tickets purchased by submitting this form may be picked up at the church office during

Sponsorship: \_\_\_\_\_ Gold (\$100) \_\_\_\_\_ Red (\$75) \_\_\_\_ Green (\$50)

### MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

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

#### FALL/WINTER OPPORTUNITIES TO BE IN MISSION TO OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

- Volunteering at Harwood House which serves the community and whose proceeds support nearly 30 other helping organizations
- Safe Haven work—Saturday, November 10, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
- Induction into Habitat Hall of Fame on November 10: Martin Carr
- THANKSGIVING DAY COMMUNITY MEAL food donations: see Hazel Strahorn
- Neema Kenya sale of SERRV products for gifts
- Change for Change Thanksgiving Day through the Season of Christmas Jan. 5
- Possible Kenya trip Fall, 2019
- Possible trip to Puebla, Mexico, 2019

#### **Help Celebrate Martin Carr**

The Garrett County Habitat for Humanity (GCHFH) has voted to induct Martin Carr into their Hall of Fame. Many of you have likely worked with Martin on past Habitat trips. The Hall of Fame was set up in 2016 to honor people wo have demonstrated a long-term passion to supporting our mission of providing affordable housing to qualifying, low-income families of Garrett County.

Martin has been selected by the Board of Directors and volunteers to be inducted in this year's ceremony to be held on November 20, 2018 at 6:00 pm at the Oakland Fire Hall in Oakland, MD. Tickets are \$12 and will include a supper and the induction ceremony.

If you are interested in attending the ceremony, please call the Habitat office at 301-533-0600 to RSVP by November 3.

#### <u>Laytonsville Safe Haven Work - Saturday, November 10, 8am – 4pm</u>

- Meet in church parking lot at 8am
- Ride to Laytonsville in church van or drive your own vehicle
- Lunch will be provided
- Please RSVP with either Doug Marshall (301-325-9071) or the church office (301-253-0022).
- Work tasks include:
  - ∼ leaf raking
    ∼ repair and paint exterior railing
  - gardening, weeding, mulching lawn cleanup
  - gutter cleaningdigging drainage ditch

#### LaDanta, Nicaragua support during the fall/winter months

**Between Cultures** coffee and donuts sales: proceeds to support La Danta and getting them seeds/ food to help them get thru the droughts and flooding this year, on top of the political situation affecting their income (article, page #14).

**Neema Kenya team** is also selling SERRV products late November & early December to support the food ministry for the orphanage (See article page #15). See Gabrielle Hulcher for a catalog.

#### **Crop Walk!**

It is with great pleasure that Kay Orr, 2018 Damascus Crop Walk Coordinator and I share the results of Sunday's Walk. Nine churches and 48 walkers participated. To date, the donations recorded are \$11,117.00.

**Damascus UMC gave a record \$5,810.00!!!** Thank you for your part in this 48th Annual Walk for Hunger.

### MISSIONS AND OUTREACH (cont'd)

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

#### UMCOR update on buckets/kits for disaster relief

UMCOR recently updated their kits and packing instructions and we wanted to make sure everyone has the most recent instructions. As evidenced by the flooding this summer in local areas and throughout the nation, the need for flood buckets and hygiene kits will be constant. The same holds true for the school kits. Liberty Grove is happy to continue to receive your kits and transport them to Mission Central in Pennsylvania. We recently installed a storage shed to assist in our ministry! In a few weeks, we will be taking a school bus load of kits (school, buckets and hygiene) to Mission Central and are ready for more to arrive at our church. Give us a call or send us an email if you have any questions or would like to drop off kits.

Here is an article explaining the changes in UMCOR's kits.

https://www.umcor.org/umcor/resources/news-stories/2018/may/0531changes-to-umcor-relief-supply-kits-empower-communities

#### Volunteers in Missions Fall trip: Tarboro, NC what was accomplished

October 7-13, a team of volunteers traveled to Tarboro, NC, to work on homes damaged by Hurricane Matthew in the fall of 2016. The team of 10 worked with a team from PA on some projects.

Steve Leslie, Cheryl & Norm Minekime, David & Bonnie Custer, Anita Duvall, Dennis & Carol Yocum from Damascus UMC and Steve D'Amato & Ed Koch from Calvary UMC, Mt. Airy did the following work:

- Roofed a home and repaired rotted support wood
- Painted the siding, trim and doors of a ranch home, installed shutters, repaired a screen door, and trimmed shrubbery
- Installed new cabinetry (sanding and staining) and new counters in a kitchen, sealed and stained a handicap ramp and backyard deck
- Tore out damaged subflooring and installed new subflooring in a home and insulated the outside walls
- Organized the three tool trailers for the incoming team
- Trimmed shrubbery & trees, weeded beds and cleaned up the outside of the Center
- Cleaned most of the Center being used by teams of Volunteers





#### **Damascus HELP**

Do you have a few hours a month to help your community? Damascus HELP needs volunteers. Our volunteers must be over the age of 18 due to insurance restrictions. We need individuals to answer the phone from home (call forwarding system), food delivery drivers, transportation drivers to take individuals to appointments in the area, furniture movers who have a truck, language translators, and individuals to pick up food donations. If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please let us know. For information please call 301-253-4100 or email dh20872@aol.com.

Thank you! Kathy Thornett, Volunteer Chairperson

In August Damascus HELP made 57 food deliveries serving 205 people, helped 16 families with financial assistance, and gave 4 rides to appointments.

We are always in need of peanut butter and grape jelly, canned fruit, canned vegetables, spaghetti and sauce, size 4 diapers and canned meats. Could also use canned soups and canned macaroni.

### MISSIONS AND OUTREACH (cont'd)

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

#### Supporting people in the Damascus community during the Holidays

The Holiday Giving Project was created to help support local families during the upcoming holidays (Thanksgiving and Christmas) see page #13 of this Beacon. Contact Persons: Cora Horst, Kathy Leslie, Gayle Conard and Hazel Strahorn.

#### Needs for the ministry of Nan McCurdy and Miguel Mairena in Mexico

- To upgrade 2 pickup trucks for used trucks that are more gas efficient and in need of fewer repairs.
   Many tasks require trucks related to farming.
- Providing a strawbale home for a woman who is living in a home made of cardboard, reeds, and sticks which floods in the rainy season. They cannot afford more. Total cost: \$5,558.00.

#### A new holiday Season for Change for Change

The Missions Committee invites the DUMC congregation to share the many blessings of the holidays with those in need in a small way: donating your change from Thanksgiving Day--as a way to be thankful everyday for the many ways we are blessed by God, and through the Christmas season--as a way to honor our Lord's birth by remembering the least and last of the world that Jesus commanded us to serve. Save your change in a container of your choice from **Thanksgiving Day through January 5.** On January 6, Epiphany Day, bring your gift of change to worship to be dedicated for the benefit of those whose needs are greatest. Last year we received in change a gift of nearly \$2,500! What a wonderful amount through small sacrifices given to UMCOR for hurricane and wildfire relief.

#### Thank You's

- To those who walked for CROP on October 14.
- To the 10 person team who worked with UMCOR in Tarboro, NC in October.

#### Pray for our missionaries and our mission projects overseas

- Amanda Jones-Dominguez & Memo Dominguez and daughters Sofia & Julia from Nicaragua (Between Cultures) who are staying in Damascus because of the political turmoil in Nicaragua.
- Dr. Belinda Forbes & husband, Dr. Gerardo Gutiérrez & daughters, General Board of Global Ministries Missionary & dentist with Accion Medica Cristiana in Nicaragua, serving rural eastern villages.
   They have concern for their two late-teen daughters, should they send them to the US or not.
- Nan McCurdy & husband, Miguel Mairena, in a new assignment in Puebla, Mexico, with Give Ye Them to Eat.
- The daily food program DUMC provides for the primary school children at Ndere Orphans School, Gem, Kenya, as well as support for the Joint Partners Clinic.
- For the people being helped though UMCOR after natural disasters: Carolina's, Florida, Texas floods, Puerto Rico.
- For the families/individuals in Damascus who use the Harwood House to make ends meet.
- For the children in Damascus whose families don't have enough resources to provided needed school supplies.

Next Missions Committee Meeting: Thursday, November 1, 2018 @ 7:00 pm







## It's time to start thinking about the Holiday Giving Project

This year YOU can participate in a couple of ways. Is hospitality your gift? We have been asked to provide turkeys and pies for a community Thanksgiving lunch at Clarksburg Church. You and your family can also serve that day! To participate in this community dinner, go to https:

www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4bada62fa5ff2-community1.

New this year: YOU can be an Angel and help to decorate our Giving Tree in the Narthex. Donate a \$25 Weis or Safeway gift card and hang an angel on the Christmas tree. We hope to collect 150 gift cards to add to the Christmas gifts DUMC provides for local families in need at Christmas. We can't wait to see the love represented on our tree!

Maybe shopping is your thing? The Holiday Giving Project committee is also looking for individuals/groups to sponsor 25 local families at Christmas. A sponsor registration form can be found in this Beacon (page #22) or in a basket on the Welcome Station in the narthex. This is a great project for families OR groups from DUMC OR the community. It's a wonderful way to help our neighbors in need. We are blessed to be a blessing!

DUMC Holiday Giving Committee: Cora Horst, Kathy Leslie, Gayle Conard and Hazel Strahorn, <a href="https://hazelstrahorn@verizon.net">hazelstrahorn@verizon.net</a>, 443-553-9848

#### Going to buy something on Amazon.com?

Don't forget to go through the DUMC link located at the bottom of the home page on the DUMC website (damascusumc.org).

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





## CHRISTMAS at Harwood House Thrift Shop

Open House Sunday, November 4 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!

#### **COFFEE AND DONUTS FUNDRAISER**



On Sunday November 4<sup>th</sup> we will be in the Narthex selling great Nicaraguan Coffee, from the Twin Engine Coffee Company, and also delicious Krispy Kreme Donuts to support the Between Cultures Mission Team. All funds raised on November 4<sup>th</sup> will go to provide immediate basic food assistance (rice, beans, cooking oil) to our friends in La Danta, Nicaragua who have endured

two recent poor harvests and are now in need of some assistance to get them through to the next harvest. Coffee can also be ordered on-line from Twin Engine and shipped directly to your home. When ordering on line, just go to <a href="https://www.twinenginecoffee.com">www.twinenginecoffee.com</a> and be sure to apply the promo code **CULTURE** at checkout. Between Cultures will then automatically receive a portion of your purchase. Enjoy, and thank you for your support.





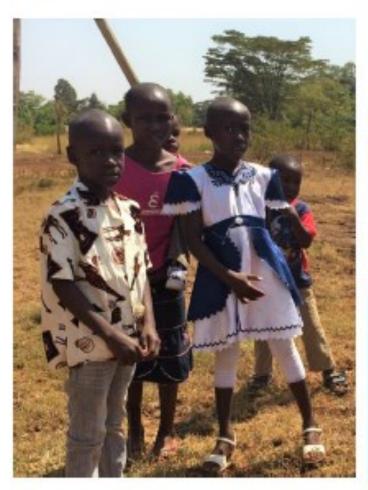
Saturday, Dec 1st

Christmas Tree Sale & PIG ROAST

Supporting
Neema Grace Charity\*

\* Mission organized by DUMC members to support an orphanage in Kenya, Africa.







serrv

## Fair Trade

To benefit Kenya Neema

Sundays, Nov 18 & 25, Dec 2

Proceeds used for life-saving newborn medical equipment at Joint Partners Clinic: Funds also buy preschool teaching materials for vulnerable kids in the

DUMC Connections Cafe

Or shop online via URL address: serrv.org?a=Neema

### **DUMC YOUTH FELLOWSHIP**

### NOVEMBER, 2018

#### **Youth Fellowship, Sundays @ 6:00 pm**

Includes Dinner and an Activity

**Sunday 11/4** 

4:00pm UMYFO Meting (no handbells)

6:30 pm Youth Fellowship

**Bible Movie NIght** 

Saturday 11/10

4:00 pm Hayride & Cookout at the Ross' home

**Sunday 11/11** 

**CWS and Youth Handbell Rehearsals only** 

**NO Youth Dinner or Evening Activity** 

**Sunday 11/18** 

2:00 pm CWS visit Asbury Village 4:00 pm Christ the King Rehearsal NO CWS or Youth Handbell Rehearsals

nu cws or routh nandbell kenearsals NO Youth Dinner or Evening Activity

Sunday, 11/25

**CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY** 

Youth lead both worship services

CWS and Youth Handbell Rehearsals only

**NO Youth Dinner or Evening Activity** 

Sunday, 12/2

2-4 pm Children's Musical & Workshop

6:30 pm Rock and Jump (\$25 for jump & food)

**Sunday**, 12/9

4:00 pm UMYFO Meeting (no handbells)

6:30 pm Youth Fellowship

**Devotion and Game night** 

Saturday, 12/15

4:00 pm Live Nativity Rehearsal 5:00 pm Youth Progressive Dinner

**Sunday 12/16** 

4:00 pm CWS Rehearsal

(no handbell rehearsal)

5:00 pm Pizza Dinner

5:30 & 6:30 pm Living Nativity Performances

**Sunday**, 12/23

6:30 pm Youth Fellowship - Caroling

**Monday**, 12/24

**CHRISTMAS EVE** 

8:00 pm Worship Service (CWS sing)

**Youth Sunday Schedule** 

8:15 am: Worship

Charles Wesley Singers share

9:30 am: Youth Chapel

Breakfast (\$5), Music/Worship Time (Praise Band shares),

Class by Grade, & Confirmation

11:00 am: Worship

4:00 pm: Youth Handbell Rehearsal

(weekly, except when UMYFO meets)

5:00 pm: Charles Wesley Singers Rehearsal

(weekly, even if no Youth Activity)

6:00 pm: Youth Dinner (most weeks)

(most weeks)

6:30 pm: Youth Activity (most weeks)

Youth Events typically end at 8:00 pm

For questions or more information on

**Youth Activities & Events,** 

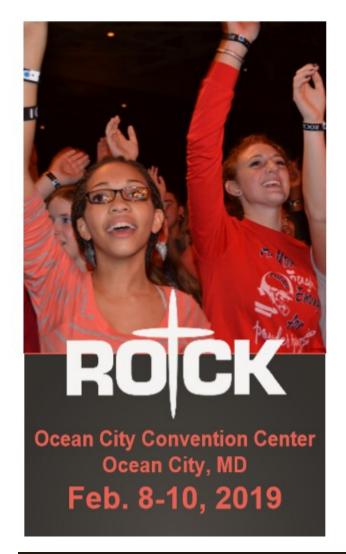
**contact Pastor Nick at** 

nick.works@

damascusumc.org

### DUMC YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (CONT'D)

### NOVEMBER, 2018



## ROCK MISSION STATEMENT:

mpowering Youth to Follow Jesus and Transform the World

Our Annual Youth Retreat that is normally scheduled in January, will NOT take place this year.

Instead we will attend the 'ROCK Retreat" Weekend February 8 - 10, 2109 in Ocean City, as a Youth Group. This event is sponsored by the Baltimore-Washington Conference, reaching out to United Methodist Youth, family and friends.

NOTE: Seating for this event is granted on a first-come, first-served basis. Hence for us to get good seats, we need to register quickly. So please let us know ASAP.

ROCK IN THE God-encountering, life changing, high-energy retreat focusing on revival for youth and adults. Join over 5,000 people to worship, have fun, and begin (or deepen.) your relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

ROCK is open to youth and adults regardless of religious affiliation.

To reserve space for your youth please contact either Nick Works (Youth Director @ nick.works@damascusumc.org) or the church office (301-253-0022). You will also need to submit a \$50 deposit to hold a spot (make checks payable to DUMC w/notation "ROCK Retreat.")

More details on the event can be found at www.bwcumc.org/ROCK. Information from the church office will be forthcoming (weekend details, overnight rooms, etc.)

#### **Announcements**



### Why Are There Stephen Ministers in the Parlor?

Stephen Ministers at DUMC volunteer to be available to provide various types of assistance on Sunday mornings following services. We are located in the parlor, which is the lovely sitting room adjacent to the front of the sanctuary and visible as one heads towards the parking lot. You will normally see a Stephen Minister already in the parlor as you leave church service. If a Stephen Minister is not immediately available, please wait just a few minutes. There are times when we are readily available; and there are times when we are very busy and you may have to wait just a few minutes. Look for our blue name tags. They will identify us as Stephen Ministers.

The Parlor Ministry is designed to give you a trained listener when you need to talk with someone. Perhaps you have an issue you simply want to get off your chest. Perhaps you or a loved one is experiencing a medical issue or is scheduled for an upcoming medical procedure and you would like to discuss your concerns and have someone pray with you personally. Perhaps you would like to make an appointment with one of the pastors and aren't sure how to get that done. Perhaps you feel you might benefit from being assigned a Stephen Minister for either yourself or for someone else and want to know how to get the ball rolling. We providina are areat at referrals and resources. Just ask us whatever you might want to, and we will do our best to help. God bless you.

The DUMC Stephen Ministry





#### Annual Church Conference Meeting Sunday, November 11, 2018 @ 2:30 pm

This year's Church Conference Meeting will be held as a Cluster Conference meeting.

That means that other Damascus area UMC's will be meeting here at DUMC and that portions of the Conference will be held together before churches split off for individual meetings.

#### **GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE**

The DUMC Blood Drive is

Thursday, November 8, from 1:00 - 6:30 pm

in the church Dining Hall



Our fourth Blood Drive of the year is about to take place for 2018. 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 pm.

Please call 1-800-733-2767 or go to 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 if you are able to help. Thank you for helping us save lives!!

#### Announcements (cont'd)

#### The Welcoming Wednesday Dinners have Returned!!!

This year, we, the Kitchen Committee, have decided to try having Wednesday dinners **two times a month.** For the most part they will be the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. November is different because of the way the holiday fall. So please join us on the dates below at **6:00 pm**.

The schedule for the remainder of 2018 is:

November 7: Bruschetta and cheese stuffed chicken breast,

green beans, carrots, rolls/butter, apple cake for dessert

November 28: Dinner has been cancelled

December 5: Menu TBD December 19: Menu TBD

We will continue the "pay as you can "policy. But, the suggested prices have increased to \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children 10 and under. There is a family cap of \$25.00. Inflation is even causing difficulties for us.

As always, we can use extra hands to help in preparation, serving and clean- up. Many hands do make lighter work. If you feel you can spare a little time on the days we have dinners, please give us a call or send an e-mail to :

Lora Maynard <u>ljbcouch@aol.com</u> 301-461-0850 Gabrielle Hulcher <u>gabriellehulcher@gmail.com</u> 240-316-6815 Kenny Sue Robertson <u>charrobe@verizon.net</u> 301-471-7298

We thank you for your past support and are looking forward to a year filled with fun, love and good fellowship.

Your Kitchen Committee

PS: Menus are always subject to change.....

## Come join the Prayer Shawl Ministry Monday, November 19 at 12:30 pm in the Annex (Church Office)

Prayer Shawl Ministry is a creative way to combine the love of knitting and/or crocheting with ministry to people in need of comfort. The shawls we make offer tangible evidence of God's love to each recipient. If you would like to give a prayer shawl to someone whom you



know, you can contact one of the pastors, or Cathy Heinbaugh, <a href="mailto:cheinbaugh@comcast.net">cheinbaugh@comcast.net</a>, 301-253-0742, or Jan Mullinix, jmullinix74@yahoo.com, 301-482-1122.

#### **Prayer Requests**

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



Prayer cards should then be placed in the offering plate.

All requests will be kept confidential.

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

<sup>\*</sup>A menu will appear in each monthly Beacon and in the Sunday Bulletin.

#### Announcements (cont'd)

#### Sunday, November 18 @ 7:00 pm

Join us for this service held monthly, now being moved back to the Parlor location. This service is a time for sharing Holy Communion, laying on of hands, and anointing with oil (James 5:14-16a).



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

#### A Special Thank You . . .

Dear DUMC Family,

We cannot find the words to express the depth of gratitude we feel. Your constant support, love and prayers during Carole Sacco's illness, and then her passing, has been a great comfort to our entire family.

Blessings,

The Wilson Family and the Sacco Family

#### **About Our People**

**Congratulations** to **Christine Thompson and John Hutchinson** on the birth of their daughter, Stella Elizabeth, who arrived on October 19.

**Pray** for **Mary Emma Linthicum and family** with passing of **Miel** (90) on Monday, October 23. The viewing will be held at Molesworth-Williams Funeral Home, Damascus, on Sunday, October 28, 2-4 pm and 6-8 pm. His service will be here at DUMC on Monday, October 29, at 12:00 pm with a viewing from 11-12 pm.

Pray for those receiving medical care, going through tests, facing surgery or in recovery: Pennie Adams (Cochlear implant), Benjamin Bautista (developmental concerns), Judy Benedict (hand surgery), Jessica Bowers (Chris Adams' girlfriend), Bob Braden, Mary Burton (heart issues), Ann Cochran, Judy Dalrymple (sister-in-law to Jackie Perry), Pat Duvall, April Fry (Diane Fry's daughter-in-law with M.S.), Debbie Hoar, Jim Maggio (recovering from rotator cuff surgery), Tom Mielke (Marilyn Kinsey's son-in-law with M.S.), Teresa Morella, Neal Pardini (leg vascular problems), Jerry Smith (step-son to Joyce Patrick and brother to Sharon Warfield with undetermined medical issues), Dorothy Stull (at home under hospice care), 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), Ann Boyer (Kevin's mom), Sue Bradley, Karen Caroscio (Stephanie Vara Carter's mother-in-law), Linne Carrier, Mickey Cochran, Michael Donaldson (liver tumor), Ethel Frear (under hospice care), JP Feuillet, Dawn Helton (Marge Taylor's daughter), Rick Henderson (Ken's brother), Willa Kackley (Judy Benedict's aunt), Dave Lingrell, Christopher Matovich (Gerry Pardini's nephew) Frances Richards (Rev. Beth Richards' sister) Tim Sanner (Dan Krotz's uncle), Kristen Smith (Gina Wilson's niece), and Matt Works (Nick's brother).

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

#### Office Info

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

Main office: 301-253-0022

#### **PASTORS:**

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

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

#### **STAFF:**

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

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

Nick Works, Director of Youth

cell: 240-751-6695 / nick.works@damascusumc.org

Jane Webb, Office Manager cell: 240-620-6920 / jane.webb@damascusumc.org

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

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

Steve Malley, Bookkeeper ext. #106 / steve.malley@damascusumc.org

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## IMPORTANT BEACON MESSAGE

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING

ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION

IN THE **DECEMBER** BEACON

**WILL BE** 

#### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14**

(For Beacon to publish on Sunday, Nov. 25).

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

The Church Office will be closed on both Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23.

The office will re-open at 9:00 am on Monday, November 26.



## Administrative Meetings For November, 2018

Nov. 1 First Thursday Ministries Meeting 7:00 pm in the **Sanctuary** 

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

Missions Meeting to follow in the **Great Hall - back side** 

Nov. 4 UMYFO Meeting 4:00 pm in the Annex/CR

Nov. 25 Staff Meeting 10:00 am in the Annex/CR

Nov. 28 Administrative Board Meeting 7:00 pm in the Dining Hall/back NOTE: Day and Date Change

NOTE: Technology Committee will not meet during the months of November or December

#### 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 early. Additionally,

Pastor Kathryn is off on Fridays. Pastor B. is off on Mondays. Jane Webb is off on Mondays. Linda Stastny is off on Tuesdays.

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

# Damascus United Methodist Church Christmas Giving Project Sponsor Registration

Group:			-	
Contact Person:			-	
Phone(s):			-	
E-mail:			-	
What is the best way to contact you?:			-	
Number of families you a	re requesting to a	dopt:		
Size of family:				
1-3 people	4-6 people	☐ large 7+ peo	ople any size	

Please return this form in a way that is most convenient for you. If you are able to return it electronically, send it to the church office at <a href="mailto:office@damascusumc.org">office@damascusumc.org</a>. There is also a basket at the Welcome Station in the narthex where you can drop off your form or you can drop it off in the church office. You will be contacted by the committee as soon as we receive contact information for the families. Thank you for your kind support of members of our community in need!

Faith Connections, Inc. and Damascus HELP work in coordination with Montgomery County Government to coordinate the Holiday Giving Program for the greater Damascus-Clarksburg area. Monetary donations can be mailed to Faith Connections, Inc. P.O. Box 28

Damascus, MD 20872. Please indicate Holiday Giving in memo section of check.