

LOVE is our FIRST RESPONSE

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, Children's Ministries
Director, Pleasant Plains Preschool**

**Jane Webb
Office Manager**

**Linda Stastny
Office Administrator**

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

Steve Malley / Bookkeeper

Lisa Marshall / Property Manager

Tyrone (TJ) Budd, Jr. / PM Custodian

Brittnay Tarpley / PM Custodian

Bob Tarpley / AM Custodian

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THE BEACON NOVEMBER 2019

Devoted Servants, Drawn to Jesus, Dedicated to Making Disciples

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (1 Thess. 5:16-18)*

Dear Members and Friends of Damascus UMC,

The apostle Paul, writing to the Christians at Thessalonica, reminds them to "give thanks in all circumstances." Note carefully that it does not say to give thanks *for* all circumstances. There are many circumstances of life for which I do not want to give thanks: illness, death of a loved one, financial hardship, acts of terrorism, war, gun violence, bullying—the list could go on and on.

However, it *is* possible to give thanks *in* all circumstances. Not easy perhaps, but possible. Because no matter what our circumstances are, we know that we are God's beloved children; we know that God loves us, cares for us, and wants the best for us. Even in the most challenging of times knowing God's love for us in Christ Jesus our Lord can help us to give thanks. We can give thanks because we know who God is, what God has done, and that God gives us a future with hope. These things are not dependent upon our circumstances.

Studies have shown that finding things for which to give thanks can even be good for your health. Keeping a "gratitude journal" in which you jot down the things for which you are thankful can help to improve one's mood and outlook. You don't even have to make daily notes—just a few times a week can be as effective. You may want to try this during the month of November and see what happens.



We have so many things for which to be thankful here at Damascus UMC. In addition to our usual gatherings for worship on Sundays we will also have two special opportunities to gather to worship and give thanks during Thanksgiving week. One is a community interfaith service of Thanksgiving on Nov. 26 at 7:00 p.m. at Congregation Or Chadash and the other is our traditional Thanksgiving service at DUMC on Nov. 28 at 9:30 a.m. Please see full details on the Worship Page of this newsletter and plan to join us at one or both events.

This November, I give thanks for **you**, the members and friends of Damascus UMC, and for all the ways in which you give of yourselves and share God's love with others. I feel incredibly blessed to be part of your pastoral team. May you have a blessed Thanksgiving season.

In Gratitude,

Pastor Kathryn

DAMASCUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

9700 NEW CHURCH STREET, DAMASCUS, MD 20872

PHONE: 301-253-0022

E-MAIL: OFFICE@DAMASCUSUMC.ORG / WEBSITE: WWW.DAMASCUSUMC.ORG

"Comfort Cases"
2019 Sunday School Mission Project
Collection of items through November 24



Our Fall Mission project is underway in support of Comfort Cases, a local organization which provides items to children (infants- age 21) receiving care in the foster system. Pajamas, single toothbrushes, travel size toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, soap, blankets, books, coloring books, crayons, journals and colored pencils/pens can be dropped off in the narthex or downstairs where children enter for Sunday school. All items must be new and able to fit in a backpack. Thank you for your support of children in need of love.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner – Donations of food needed

Redeemer Lutheran is hosting a Clarksburg/Damascus Community Thanksgiving Lunch. They have asked DUMC to contribute the following: 25 boxes of Chicken Flavor Stuffing, 8 Country Time Lemonade Mixes (32 oz.), and 25 cans of Sweet Potatoes (40 oz.). **Thank you to those who have already donated!** Please consider picking up an item or two on your next shopping trip so these items can be delivered to Redeemer before Thanksgiving.

There is a bin in the narthex to collect donations. Contributions will be delivered on Thursday, November 21.

Connections Café has resumed!
DUMC's Coffee Hour is held Sunday mornings
between services.

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



Come join us for a hot drink and a bite to eat at 9:30 am every Sunday in the Great Hall. Catch up with friends, hear about summer activities and fall plans, and connect with new folks. Or . . . you can grab a drink and go to your favorite class.

Gloria Maready, spanishfortotscc@yahoo.com, and Marcia Hofman, marciahofman67@gmail.com, are the coordinators for this service and would like your help. Please e-mail either one for information about how you can become a part of this team.

We need you!!!

Hey there DUMC Women ! !

To those interested in coming to our WWJD Circle in November,
it will be at the home of Sandra Malley on Thursday, November 14 at 7 o'clock.

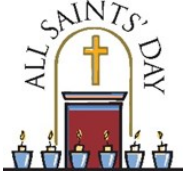
Her address is [12824 Clarksburg Sq.Rd., Clarksburg, MD](https://www.google.com/maps/place/12824+Clarksburg+Sq+Rd,+Clarksburg,+MD).

Jan Mullinix will facilitate our program for the evening, based on the reading for October 23, (***Wearing Our Badge***) on page #64 of the September/October Upper Room. After you have read the devotional, please review the questions on page #77 of the same Upper Room and think about contributing to a lively discussion when we gather. See you there !

Worship and Give Thanks!!



Sunday, November 3 – All Saints Sunday (8:15 & 11:00 a.m.)



On All Saints Sunday we remember our connection with Christians past, present, and future: The Communion of Saints. Each year we remember by name those of our congregation who have died since the last All Saints Sunday. We will also celebrate Holy Communion and light candles in memory of other special people we wish to remember. Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18; Psalm 149; Ephesians 1:11-23; Luke 6:20-31.

Music and More: Charles Wesley Singers (8:15), Chancel Choir (11:00)

Sunday, November 10 – Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Woodrow preaching, "When Jesus Follows You Home," Psalm 119:137-144; Luke 19:1-10.

Music and More: Charles Wesley Singers (8:15); Chancel Choir & Cherubs (11:00)

Sunday, November 17 – Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor B preaching. Isaiah 65:17-25; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19. Music and More: Charles Wesley Singers (8:15); Chancel Choir (11:00); Men's Choir, Ring of Joy (8:15 & 11:00)

Sunday, November 24 – Christ the King Sunday

Rev. Nick Works and our youth will lead us in worship on this last Sunday of the Christian year. Youth will lead prayers, read scriptures, and share messages. Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79; Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43.

Music and More: Charles Wesley Singers, Youth Handbells.



Tuesday, November 26, 7:00 p.m. – Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at Congregation Or Chadash, 24800 Kings Valley Rd, Damascus, MD 20872



Join with members and clergy from DUMC, St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Congregation Or Chadash, and friends from the Damascus community as we celebrate an interfaith service of worship to give thanks to our Creator. Members of the DUMC choirs, under the direction of Polly Baldrige, will sing.

Thursday, November 28, 9:00 a.m. – Thanksgiving Day Worship

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us as we begin Thanksgiving Day by giving thanks to God for our many blessings! Following worship, we will enjoy refreshments together. Scriptures: Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 100; Philippians 4:4-9; John 6:25-35. Rev. Woodrow preaching, "Fed by the Bread of Life."

Music and More: A combined choir will sing *All Good Gifts*.



Spiritual Formation

Pictures from the Men's Annual Picnic
and Youth Bonfire & Hayride at the Ross'
held Saturday and Sunday, October 12 & 13

A Big Thank-You to Ted and Connie for their Hospitality ! ! !



Spiritual Formation (cont'd)



Calling all helping hands!! Many hands make light work! What else can I say to get your support in this year's Christmas Giving Project? Please contact Cora Horst, 301-529-3047 or cora.horst@damascusumc.org, if you, your family, or your friends (think Sunday school class, neighbors, book club, scout group, sports team) are interested in sponsoring a local family in need this Christmas. A sponsor registration form can be found below or in a basket on the Welcome Station in the narthex. Donate a \$25 Weis gift card and hang a helping hand ornament on our Christmas tree. We hope to collect 100 gift cards. Let's share God's love with our community this Christmas!



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 are requesting to adopt: _____

Size of family:

☐ 1-3 people ☐ 4-6 people ☐ large 7+ people ☐ 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 office@damascusumc.org. 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 Cora Horst 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.

DUMC YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

Sunday, November 3

NO YOUTH DINNER

6:00 pm LaserTag @ ShadowLands

Sunday, November 10

4:00 pm UMYFO Meeting

6:00 pm Youth Dinner

7:00 pm Organ Concert/CW Singers*

***This is a fundraiser for CWS Summer Youth Mission Tour, 2020**

Sunday, November 17

6:00 pm Youth Dinner

6:30 pm Service Project

Sunday, November 24 (Christ the King Sunday) **YOUTH LEAD BOTH AM WORSHIP SERVICES**

6:00 pm Youth Dinner

6:30 pm Devotion and Game Night

Sunday, December 1

NO Youth Dinner or Fellowship Activity

Happy Thanksgiving Weekend !!

Sunday, December 8

6:00 pm Youth Dinner

6:30 pm Devotion and Game Night

Saturday, December 14

4:00 pm Live Nativity Practice

5:00 pm Progressive Dinner

Sunday, December 15

4:00 pm CW Singers* (Note time change)

5:00 pm Pizza Dinner & Get in costumes

5:30 pm Live Nativity Performance

6:30 pm Live Nativity Performance

Sunday, December 22

No AM Sunday School Classes

6:00 pm Youth Dinner

6:30 pm Holiday Movie Night

Would a walker of the sky please stand?

Sunday, December 29

No AM Sunday School Classes

NO Youth Fellowship Activity

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

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

CW Singers Rehearsal, Sundays @ 5 pm
in the Music Room

Youth Puppets, Wednesdays @ 5:15 pm
in the Great Hall

Youth Praise Band
Rehearsal times TBD by group
in the Youth Chapel



COOKS NEEDED!!!!

We need 1-3 more people who are interested in helping cook breakfast on Sunday Mornings in the Youth Chapel.

This is an important ministry in the lives of our teenagers. We have teams that rotate cooking every 5-7 weeks. Please consider joining the schedule. If you are interested in helping cook, please contact Nick at nick.works@damascusumc.org or 240-751-6695.

Worship Arts News and Events

November 2019

Polly Edmonds Baldrige, Minister of Music and Worship Arts

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

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



Angels, Lambs, Ladybugs & Fireflies

Children's Christmas Musical presented
by Choristers, Cherubs & Children's Sunday School

- ~ Choristers and Cherubs are rehearsing for the musical during their weekly practices.
- ~ All children are invited to participate - contact Polly Baldrige for details.
- ~ Extra rehearsals for all participants: Wednesdays, 12/4 and 12/11, 5:15 pm.
- ~ Dress rehearsal: Saturday, Dec. 14, at 9:30 am.

ENSEMBLE SCHEDULES FALL 2019

SUNDAYS

9:45 am **Praise Band**

Youth Chapel

Plays weekly at Youth Sunday School during breakfast | Coordinated by Polly Baldrige

11:00 am **Cherubs Church**

Music Room

4 yrs – 1st/2nd grades | Led by Stephanie Greer & Gloria Maready

Children attend first half of 11 am service and then meet

4:00 pm **Youth Handbell Choir Rehearsals**

GH Stage

6th to 12th grades | led by Tom Baldrige

4:00 pm **Choristers Choir Rehearsals**

Music Room

1st/2nd grades to 5th/6th grades | Led by Polly Baldrige

Includes singing, worship education, and handbells

5:00 pm **Charles Wesley Singers Rehearsals**

Music Room

6th to 12th grades and up | led by Polly Baldrige

Shares weekly @ 8:15 am Sunday worship service

MONDAYS

7:30 pm **Ring of Joy**

GH Stage

Primarily adults, but open to all ages | led by Polly Baldrige

WEDNESDAYS

4:30 pm **Colorful Hands of Jesus**

GH Stage Side

Puppets for 2nd – 5th grades | led by Cathy Scarbrough & Nalynn Ryder

5:15 pm **Youth Puppets**

Great Hall

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

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

Music Room

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

7:30 pm **Chancel Choir**

Music Room

Primarily adults, but open to all ages | led by Polly Baldrige

Shares weekly @ 11 am Sunday worship service

8:15 pm **Concert Choir**

Music Room

Primarily adults, but open to all ages | led by Polly Baldrige

Working on Handel's *Messiah* for Dec. 22, 9:30 am performance



Sunday, December 22, 2019

9:30 am

Presented by Combined Choir of
Charles Wesley Singers, Chancel
Choir, and Community Singers

With soloists & orchestra

Rehearsals begin in October during
CWS rehearsal and Chancel Choir
rehearsal.

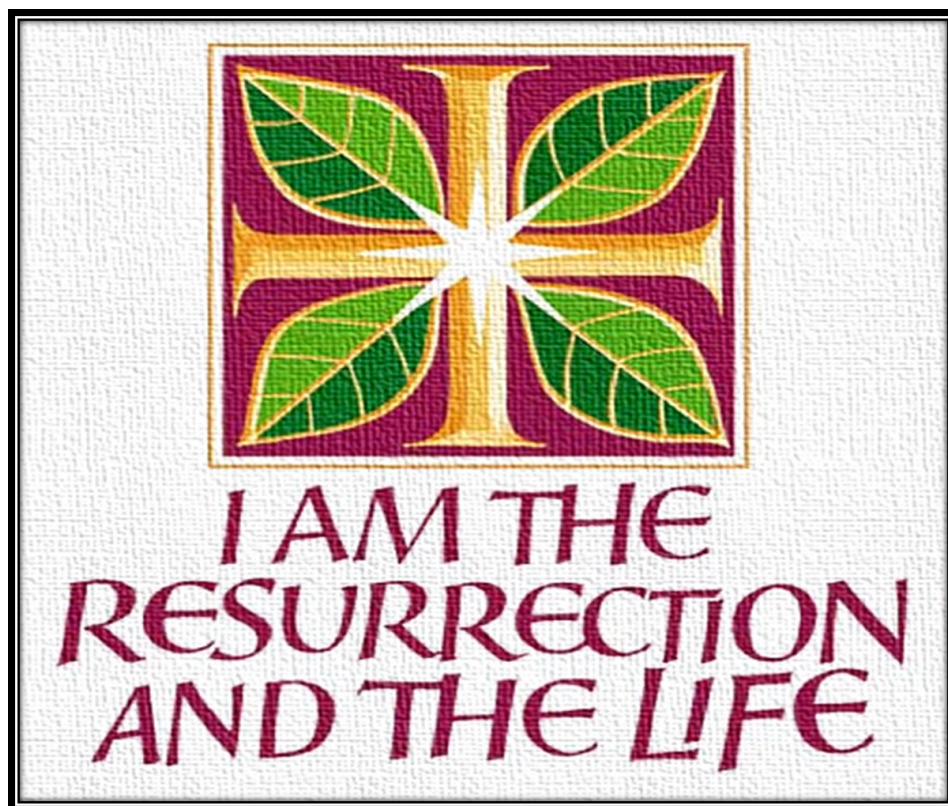
Flute Choir

Would you like to play your flute again with a group but have no place to play it? Do you need to look up the fingerings for anything above a high G or can't still reach a high G, lol? Then this group is for you!

The Flute Choir rehearses weekly on Mondays at 8:30 pm and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. All levels of flute players are welcome to come for this flute fellowship and the group will share in worship this fall. Contact Liz Vanderham by phone or text 301-648-4493 or by email vandercation@gmail.com to join or for more info.

DUMC Music and Worship Arts Ministry presents...

A Musical Celebration of the Church Year



Stephen Kalnoske, organ
The Charles Wesley Singers



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2019
7 pm in DUMC Sanctuary

**FREE-WILL OFFERING BENEFITS CHARLES WESLEY
SINGERS SUMMER YOUTH MISSION TOUR**

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

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

SUMMER/FALL OPPORTUNITIES TO BE IN MISSION TO OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

- Harwood House which serves the community and whose proceeds support nearly 30 other helping organizations.
- Fall Mission Sunday: October 27.
- Missionary visit from Dr. Belinda Forbes, (dentist from Nicaragua); November 17. *See more info on page #11.*
- Opportunities through Damascus Faith Connections to provide for a community meal on Thanksgiving Day and to serve (see article page #2 of this Beacon).
- Christmas support for Damascus Community families

Looking Ahead to 2020:

- * Change for Change Lent 2020: February 26—April 12
- * Rise Against Hunger Meal packing event: August 30, 2020
- * VIM, Fayetteville, NC: October, 2020
- * Kenya trip: October 2020

Pray for those who serve and share God's love

- 1) Amanda Jones-Dominguez & Memo Dominguez and daughters Sofia & Julia currently in MD from Nicaragua (Between Cultures)
- 2) Dr. Belinda Forbes & husband, Dr. Gerardo Gutiérrez & daughters, General Board of Global Ministries Missionary & dentist with Accion Medica Cristiana in Nicaragua, serving rural eastern villages
- 3) Nan McCurdy & Miguel Mairena serving in Puebla, Mexico, with *Give Ye Them to Eat*
- 4) The Ndere children @ St. Stephens School and the Joint Partners Medical Clinic in Kenya

Fall VIM to North Carolina:

October 6-12 in Fayetteville, NC. The 2019 team was: Steve Leslie, Anita Duvall, Dennis & Carol Yocum, Cathy & Jeff Heinbaugh, Doug Marshall, Stan Jones, Memo Dominguez, and Hazel Strahorn, who was our cook. Work accomplished: tore off old, unsafe deck and rebuilt a new deck; built a new well house; finished the front porch handrails, steps and pickets; cleared the yard of debris; mowed and weed whacked yard (owner did not have a working mower); patched holes in the roof and resealed the entire roof; installed a new front storm door; replace old outdoor light fixtures; planted a large garden box with vegetables and flowers, visited with owner when she was not working. The owner's thank you to the team:

Dear Crew:

I want to tell you all how much I appreciate everything you did to make my house look beautiful and for my garden (box). I love it. There are not words to express how happy and special you guys make me feel. I haven't been able to afford much since my divorce (12 years ago) and a lot was run down, but the work that your crew has done makes me glad to come home. I can pull into my driveway without looking at all that rust on the roof or go to the mailbox without seeing the pump house falling in. I am no longer ashamed of the outside of my house. I don't really spend a lot of time outside but I'm looking forward to spending time on my beautiful deck.

I am so glad that God sends you from place to place to help the less fortunate, and I'm so blessed that He sent you all to my house.

I want to thanks to each of you for everything that you have done for me. It means more to me than I can ever say. I will remember you all for the rest of my life and I know that God will bless each of you. . . . You guys have truly touched my heart. My outlook on people has changed; in a world where a lot of people who didn't care about anyone but themselves, I have met some of the nicest and most kind people I could ever hope to meet. Your crew is wonderful and I'm so glad we met. I wish I could keep you, (LOL). Have a safe trip home and keep me in prayer and I'll do the same.

Sincerely, Carolyn

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH (cont'd)

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

Fall VIM to North Carolina (cont'd):



Hopi VIM Update (from Kay Neff, of the Peace Academic Center Foundation)

The Peace Academic Center (formerly the Hopi Mission School) is celebrating the end of a successful first quarter of the year! We currently have students in Preschool and Kindergarten as well as continuing to host the GED program for 15 students working either from home or at the school's computer lab. Additional programs include volley ball, basketball, yoga classes and many other sponsored classes throughout the year. All is made possible through the help and support of our awesome visiting work groups like Hopi VIM, and through financial contributions. Your support of the Peace Academic Center is much appreciated and as we add programs and students, your gifts are most important. Asquali (thank you), – Peace Academic Center, Kykotsmovi, AZ.

Peace Academic Center, 718 N. Main Street, Newton, KS 67114

The most urgent need for the Hopi Peace Academic Center is financial help toward the purchase of propane to keep the school heated through the coming winter. Please prayerfully consider a gift to the school in which we have been in missional relationship since 2006.



Asquali (thank you),
Cheryl Minekime
Hopi VIM co-leader

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH (cont'd)

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

UMCOR help for the Bahamas

UMCOR Disaster Relief Offering: The need is still great for victims of Hurricane Dorian, both in the Bahamas and the southeast coast of the US. When you give to UMCOR, The United Methodist Committee on Relief, **100% of your donation goes to people in need.** Here's how you can give:

Online: For the Bahamas: <https://advance.umcor.org/p-641-umcor-international-disasterresponse-and-recovery.aspx>

Online: For the US: <https://advance.umcor.org/p-620-umcor-us-disaster-response-andrecovery.aspx>

By Mail: Make your check payable to ADVANCE-GCFA and write in the memo line one of these Advance numbers: Advance #982450 (Bahamas) or Advance #901670 (US). Send your check to: Advance GCFA, P.O. Box 9068 , New York, NY 10087-9068.

By Phone: Credit card gifts can be accepted by phone. Call toll free:

Thank You's

- To those who pray for and support financially with extra gifts for our missionaries
- For those who volunteer in the Damascus community through Damascus HELP
- To those who donate and deliver toiletries to people in need.
- To those DUMC Stephen Ministers who are friends and listeners for those individuals outside our congregation who have been in a challenging place in their lives.
- To those who support DUMC through their giving and thereby support DUMC's mission ministries and missionaries.
- To Debbie Stone for her many years of service on the Missions Committee as an advocate for Harwood House Thrift Shop.
- To the VIM team that just returned from NC: Hazel Strahorn, cook; Stan Jones, job site supervisor; cathy & Jeff Heinbaugh, Memo Dominguez, Anita Duvall, Doug Marshall, Steve Leslie, Carol & Dennis Yocum.

Your Mission \$\$\$ at work

DUMC/Harwood House Thrift Shop received a thank you from Habitat for Humanity Metro Maryland for the **\$500 donation** made. This is a gift that changes lives in Maryland as people get a chance to become a homeowner with a low cost mortgage.

DUMC missions made a \$2,500 gift to the North Carolina Conference of the UMC through UMCOR for materials to repair and rebuild homes damaged by Hurricane Florence in 2018. An additional \$350 was given by the volunteers to the center in Fayetteville that housed the DUMC team from Sunday to Saturday.

The October 6th Crop Walk: DUMC had six walkers who collected \$4,705 in sponsor donations of the more than \$10,000 raised at the Oct 6th, 49th Annual Damascus Crop Walk. Hunger is addressed in many places around the world; 25% comes back to Damascus Help. (Bernardine Beall reported)

Dr. Belinda Forbes, dentist ministry, in Nicaragua: Visiting DUMC, Sunday, November 17

Plan to come to the DUMC dining hall during the Sunday school hour to dialog with Dr. Forbes, A Board of Global Ministries missionary for more than 25 years in Nicaragua.

As a congregation we provide salary support for Dr. Forbes out of our Mission Budget (\$1,500) along with a number of other congregations across our denomination. Belinda is from New England and has been doing dental mission work in Nicaragua.

She works with a team of people who provide assistance to nine rural communities in eastern Nicaragua on the Caribbean side of the country. There are no roads to these villages. Her team consists of a dentist, a physician (her husband), an agriculturalist, a social worker, and a disaster relief coordinator. We also made a commitment to support the training of new dental assistants in these rural communities for 5 years.

Belinda will be with us in worship and during the Sunday School hour.

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH (cont'd)

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

DAMASCUS HELP OCTOBER NEWS

Thanks to the following groups and individuals for food donations made in AUGUST: Quincy's Restaurant, Chris Fletcher, Damascus UM Church, Hyattstown UM Church, Seneca Creek Baptist Church, St. Paul's Catholic Church, and Butler's Orchard.

In March Damascus HELP made 71 food deliveries serving 278 people and helped 11 families with financial assistance.

Volunteer News: Damascus HELP thanks all the volunteers for their services to help the community. We hope that you had a good summer. We wish Heidi Mahloch well as she will be leaving Damascus HELP to pursue other endeavors. Heidi was a food driver. HELP is in great need of ODs, transportation drivers and furniture moving teams. If you know of anyone who might be interested in these opportunities and other positions please have them contact Damascus HELP at 301-253-4100,

Next Missions Committee meeting November 7, 2019.



Evans Homes and Gardens

Tom Evans | (301) 253 - 9224 | tom@evanshomesandgardens.com

Saturday, Dec 7th

Christmas Tree Sale & PIG ROAST

TIME: 12pm-6pm

Supporting
Neema Grace Charity*

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



Come join the Prayer Shawl Ministry

Monday, November 18 at 12:30 pm in the Annex (Church Office)

If you would like a prayer shawl for yourself, or if you would like to give one to someone you know, please feel free to take one from the basket in the Narthex. We just ask that you put your name and the name of the recipient in the log book. The purpose of the log is to try and be sure that several people don't give shawls to the same recipient. You may also contact one of the pastors, Cathy Heinbaugh at 301-253-0742, cheinbaugh@comcast.net, or Jan Mullinix at 301-482-1122, jmullinix74@yahoo.com.

JUSTICE and COMPASSION

Love One Another (LOA) Ministry



Mission Statement:

Following Christ's example, we seek to inspire and equip our community to include and advocate for every age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, socio-economic status, family structure, and mental or physical ability. We will work to transform systems that disenfranchise, marginalize, and oppress.

Reconciling Community:

We'd like to share with our church community that we (LOA) has become a Reconciling Community. What does that mean? That means that we disagree with the General Conference 2019 vote on the issues of LGBTQIA inclusion in the United Methodist Church. We affirm that God loves everyone and as Christians, we are called to follow the example of Jesus. As it says in 1 John 4:11, KJV - ***Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.***

The LOA Ministry is one of nearly 1,200 Reconciling Communities affiliated with the Reconciling Ministries Network. Visit <https://rmnetwork.org/> for more information. If you would like to learn more about this decision or how to become a Reconciling Individual or a Reconciling Community, please speak with one of our members.

Members of LOA:

Charlotte Kibak, Rick Barr, Jean Barr, Bernardine Beall, Deborah Bowe, Kelly Bratburd, Mary Busby, Jane Clarke, Cora Horst, Magaly Lenker, Lisa Marshall, Tess Mills, Cheryl Minekime, Mary Nieter, Mandy Sellers, & Carol Yocum.



Black Lives Matter Rally:

We will attend the River Road Unitarian Congregation's Black Lives Matter Vigil on River Road Friday, November 15 from 6:30 - 7:30. After the vigil, members of River Road have invited us to join them for a potluck dinner. Please bring food to share. We'll gather at DUMC at 5:00 and go together. Please let Charlotte Kibak (301-956-6056) know if you intend on joining us and/or you'd like to carpool from DUMC.

New members:

New members are welcome to come to our monthly meeting or reach out to one of our members to find out about our next projects.

Next Meeting:

Saturday, November 9 from 9:30 – 11:30 am in the Conference Room in the Annex.

Questions? Please contact Charlotte Kibak, chaphil1@earthlink.net or 301-956-6056.

Stewardship/Finance

October 18, 2019

Greetings from your Finance Committee

In November 2018, the Administrative Board approved a \$1,015,272 operating budget for 2019. It represented a jump of \$24,000 from the prior year, but we felt that it was attainable based on an increase in 2019 pledges of tithes and offerings, a positive 2018 in which we met all obligations and finished with a surplus, and an expectation of continued economic growth nationally and locally. We concluded that it was worth making the leap because we believed that the budget is a statement of faith that reveals how the church intends to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. It reveals the true mission and purpose of the congregation. We knew our missions and ministries were doing wonderful and powerful work and we wanted to see that continue and encourage more. In a manner of speaking, we recommended putting our money where our faith was.

While the budget is aspirational, the financial health of the church is ultimately based on actual income versus actual expenditures. On this measure, our current financial condition is worrisome. As of October 1, actual expenses, which were well under budget, exceeded actual income by \$35,943. Although income during the final three months of the year is usually strong, if income and expenses during the last quarter only match our 2018 experience, we may end the year with expenses exceeding income by approximately \$30,000. Further, an assumption that we can at least match 2018 income is in doubt because 2019 income has exceeded 2018 income in only three of the first nine months. Thus, fully funding our missions and ministries and our ability to pay our bills and salaries are in jeopardy. In addition, our financial status this year will affect decisions on our 2020 budget which is currently under consideration.

How do we meet this financial challenge? First, we encourage those who may have fallen behind in their pledges to bring them up to date. Second, while an increase in income would be appreciated, what we ask is for you to assess your giving and determine if you are providing the appropriate support for our missions and ministries that bring spiritual vitality to our lives and foster our journey to discipleship. Determine whether you want to sustain our ministries that proclaim the gospel to others, provide opportunities for people to commit their lives to God, and nurture Christian living in our communities and throughout the world. As we engage in this self-analysis, we should remember that all we have is a blessing from God. The blessing is not an end in itself, but is meant to be used to reveal the power of God to all. We are blessed in order to be a blessing to others. After reviewing what this church and its ministries mean to you, remember Paul's advice in supporting God's mission. "Everyone should give whatever they have decided in their heart. They shouldn't give with hesitation or because of pressure. God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)

Richard D. Hardick

Chair, Finance Committee

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!



amazonsmile
You Shop. Amazon Gives.



Damascus United Methodist Women present...

PIG OUT!

Chesapeake Style

\$18 per person

12 noon - ???

\$10 Children Ages 5-10 | 4 and under FREE



PULLED PORK AND OYSTER DINNER

Thank you for supporting our missions!!

- ✓ bake sale
- ✓ handmade items
- ✓ new and vintage jewelry
- ✓ beauty and healthcare
- ✓ natural sugar scrubs
- ✓ SERRV/Fair Trade items
- ✓ Paparazzi
- ✓ Just Us Designs
- ✓ Color Street Nails
- ✓ LulaRoe
- ✓ Scentsy Candles
- ✓ Thirty-One Bags
- ✓ Perfectly Posh
- ✓ Pampered Chef
- ✓ Rodan and Fields
- ✓ Keep Collective
- ✓ Open Book Chocolates
- ✓ Loving Chaos Personalized Gifts
- ✓ ZYIA Activewear
- ✓ And More!

& Holiday Shopping



10 am – 5 pm

BAZAAR

Saturday, November 2, 2019

DAMASCUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

9700 New Church Street, Damascus, MD 20872

301-253-0022 | damascusumc.org

NOTE: We will gladly accept credit cards with a minimum purchase of \$10.00

Announcements (cont'd)

WHAT IS FAITH CONNECTIONS?

Faith Connections provides emergency service to families in our local community; and works in advocacy to support efforts to empower the individual/family towards self-reliance. Faith Connections is a collaboration of the churches in the Damascus-Clarksburg area.



HOW CAN YOU SERVE:

- 1) Serve on Faith Connections Helpline (approximately one hour a month)
 - ~ Serves with a team of people called the "Good Shepherd team" and answer Helpline phone calls 3 days per month.
 - ~ Provide assistance and referrals to families facing financial issues such as eviction. (simple training provided)
- 2) Serve with the Faith Connections After-School Program for elementary age children; that live in Damascus area, 4 PM – 5:30 PM (Tues. & Thurs.) during the school year. **This program is in need of VAN DRIVERS to pick-up and drop off (we supply the vans).**

For more information, please send e-mail to Debbie@Faith-Connections.org or visit www.Faith-Connections.org

"...Love your neighbor as yourself" Matt. 22:39



GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE

The DUMC Blood Drive is **Thursday, November 7, 2019**

from 1:00 - 6:30 pm in the church Dining Hall

Our second Blood Drive of the year is about to take place for 2019. 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!

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 ! !



Prayer and Healing Service Sunday, November 18 @ 7:00 pm

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

This service is a time for sharing Holy Communion, laying on of hands, and anointing with oil (James 5:14-16a). All are invited and you may come to ask for healing for others.

Announcements (cont'd)



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8
AT 3:00 PM
DUMC SANCTUARY
DUMC's STEPHEN MINISTRY
INVITES YOU TO JOIN US

FOR A SERVICE OF PEACE, HOPE, AND LIGHT
AND
HEALING ANOINTING WITH OIL

THIS IS A SERVICE WHERE WE GENTLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO ATTEND
WEARING YOUR HURTS, PAINS, LOSSES, ANGERS,
AND YOUR FEARS ON YOUR SLEEVE.

THIS SPECIAL, INTIMATE SERVICE IS CREATED
TO SHED LOVE AND LIGHT FOR ALL.

FEEL FREE TO LIGHT A CANDLE FOR
YOURSELF OR FOR ANOTHER PERSON
OR SITUATION IN NEED.

FOR ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE
AT 301-253-0022.

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AFTER THE SERVICE.



THE FIRST 150 YEARS 1869 – 2019 OF DAMASCUS METHODIST CEMETERY

This November our church Cemetery will have provided respectful burial of the remains for over 1,000 persons. This photo is of the tombstone of Rhoda Ann Warthan, died November 6, 1869, age 40. An earlier date of death in 1865 is engraved on the stone of Laura C. Gue age 6, but she was moved from the family farm graveyard at the time of her mother's death in 1875. Latest burial was this October of June Norwood Gue (1943-2019).



Marianne Uhler Baltrorsky, a 30 year DUMC member and experienced genealogist has recorded all the known burials. She has added maiden names and extensive family information, mainly using original obituaries. All this is being entered on our website: Go to damascusumc.org, then click on "Welcome," then "Ourhistory," then "Cemetery." Printed copies in three ring binders to simply review and/or to own November 3rd and 10th in the Narthex or contact Bernardine Beall 301-253-2014.

The Damascus "Y" Women Present

Kris Kringle Market - 2019



Tuesday, November 12 at
St. Anne's Episcopal Church
Community Room
25100 Ridge Road, Damascus

Doors open at 9:30 am, Bidding begins at 10:00 am.

Come by and Enjoy:
Live Auction, Silent Auction
Kris Kringle Market (small gifts & goodies)
and as always, loads of yummy refreshments!

We put the FUN in fundraising!

Contact Info:
iberkebi@yahoo.com OR sally_wildsmith@man.com



CHRISTMAS at Harwood House Thrift Shop



Open House
Sunday, November 3
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!

Announcements (cont'd)

The Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinner

Dinners are now being held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. So please join us on the date below at 6:00 pm.

November 13, 2019: Pot roast, with fixins', veggies, salad, bread & dessert.

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. 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: Kenny Sue Robertson / charrobe@verizon.net / 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.



Sunday, December 1, 2019

Meet at Ledo's at 12:30 pm for a pizza lunch.

*At 1:30 pm we will venture out to
share love & joy thru song
and pass out candy canes!*

*Bring the whole family to share a
connection with our community!*

*Please RSVP by Nov. 24, 2019 to the church office
at #301-253-0022 or office@damascusumc.org*

Sponsored by the "Love One Another" group & the DUMC Chancel Choir

Announcements (cont'd)



The Thrift Shop is looking for additional cashiers to help in the Shop. As little as a 2-hr. shift once a month would make a big difference!

Choose from Thursday, Friday or Saturday from 11 am - 1 pm or from 1 - 3 pm. A patient, sunny disposition is the most important qualification for this job. The cash register does most of the work.

For more information contact the Thrift Shop at 301-253-0025 on Thurs., Fri or Saturday from 11 am - 3 pm and ask for Kim or Barbara.

Interested in joining a Sunday morning Welcome Team?



Have you observed the Welcome Team members on duty at each service? Have you thought that you would like to be a part of one of the teams? If so, please read the brief summary of the various roles and complete the form at the bottom.

Welcome Team members (greeters, ushers and host) are asked to arrive 30 minutes before and stay 10 minutes after the service.

Greeter - greet people as they arrive and exit the service

Host - stand at the Welcome Station to answer questions, provide informational brochures, and distribute welcome gifts to guests

Usher - distribute bulletins, collect offering, and 'dismiss' pews during communion

Place the completed bottom half of your form at the Welcome Station or leave it at the church office. Thank you! Questions? Contact the church office OR Judy or Rocky Benedict

I want to join a Sunday morning Welcome Team!

Name: _____

Phone contact: _____ E-mail: _____

(This contact information will be shared with all Welcome Team volunteers.)

I am committing to join a Welcome Team as: _____ Greeter,
_____ Host, and/or
_____ Usher

Service Time: _____ 8:15 _____ 11:00

I am committing to join a Welcome Team: _____ one Sunday a month
_____ two Sundays a month

Office Info

Main office: 301-253-0022

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



**The Church Office will be closed on both
Thursday, November 28
and Friday, November 29.**

**The office will re-open at 9:00 am
on Monday, December 2.**



Administrative Meetings

November, 2019

- | | | |
|------|----|--|
| Nov. | 7 | Missions Committee Meeting
7:00 pm in the Great Hall Annex/CR
Trustees Meeting to follow
7:30 pm in the Great Hall - stage side |
| Nov. | 10 | UMYFO will meet
4:00 pm in the Annex/CR |
| Nov. | 19 | Finance Committee
7:00 pm in the Annex/CR |
| Nov. | 19 | Technology Committee Meeting
7:00 pm in the Annex/downstairs |
| Nov. | 21 | SPRC Committee will meet
7:00 pm in the church Annex/CR |

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.



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, November 24**).

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

Thank You !

A Special Thank You

Dear friends and DUMC family,

On behalf of my family and myself, please accept my utmost and most heartfelt gratitude for all of your many prayers, words of encouragement, and gifts of food and donations during Norm's recent hospitalization, ultimate passing, and the beautiful celebration of his life. Your overwhelming outpouring of love and support has encouraged me, bolstered me and helped me get through some of the darkest days of my life. I am truly humbled and eternally grateful for each and every one of you. God bless.

*With love and thankfulness,
Cheryl Minekime*

About Our People

Congratulations to Nicholas Portwood son of Rob & Laura, brother of Kathryn, grandson of Gene & Wilma Orndorff and nephew of Fred Orndorff (Eagle Scout), who has earned the rank of Eagle. Nicholas' Court of Honor will be held later in the year.

Pray for family and friends of **Steven Lambert** (72) who passed away from cancer on October 7 in Mississippi. His service was held on October 19 in Tennessee.

Pray for those receiving medical care, going through tests, facing surgery or in recovery: **Pennie Adams**, **Benjamin Bautista** (developmental concerns), **Jessica Bowers** (Chris Adams' girlfriend), **Elizabeth Bradley** (recovering from surgery), **Martin Carr**, **Ann Cochran**, **Donna Feuillet** (recovering from bypass surgery), **Judy Dalrymple** (sister-in-law to Jackie Perry), **Pat Duvall**, **April Fry** (Diane Fry's daughter-in-law with M.S.), **Debbie Hoar**, **Pat Hunt** (Liz Vanderham's mom), **Bobbie Kudzma** (recovering from hip replacement surgery), **Tom Mielke** (Marilyn Kinsey's son-in-law with M.S.), **Teresa Morella**, **Nancy Nickerson** (recuperating at home), **Neal Pardini** (leg vascular problems), **Jerry Smith** (step-son to Joyce Patrick and brother to Sharon Warfield with undetermined medical issues), **Dorothy Stull** (at home under hospice care), and **Karen Turner** (Kathy Jones' niece with Lupus), **Mary Walcek** (recovering from a fall).

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**, **JP Feuillet**, **Dawn Helton** (Marge Taylor's daughter), **Rick Henderson** (Ken's brother), **Dave Lingrell**, **Christopher Matovich** (Gerry Pardini's nephew), **Frances Richards** (Rev. Beth Richards' sister), **Kristen Smith** (Gina Wilson's niece), **Marie White** (Pat Duvall's sister-in-law).

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

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.