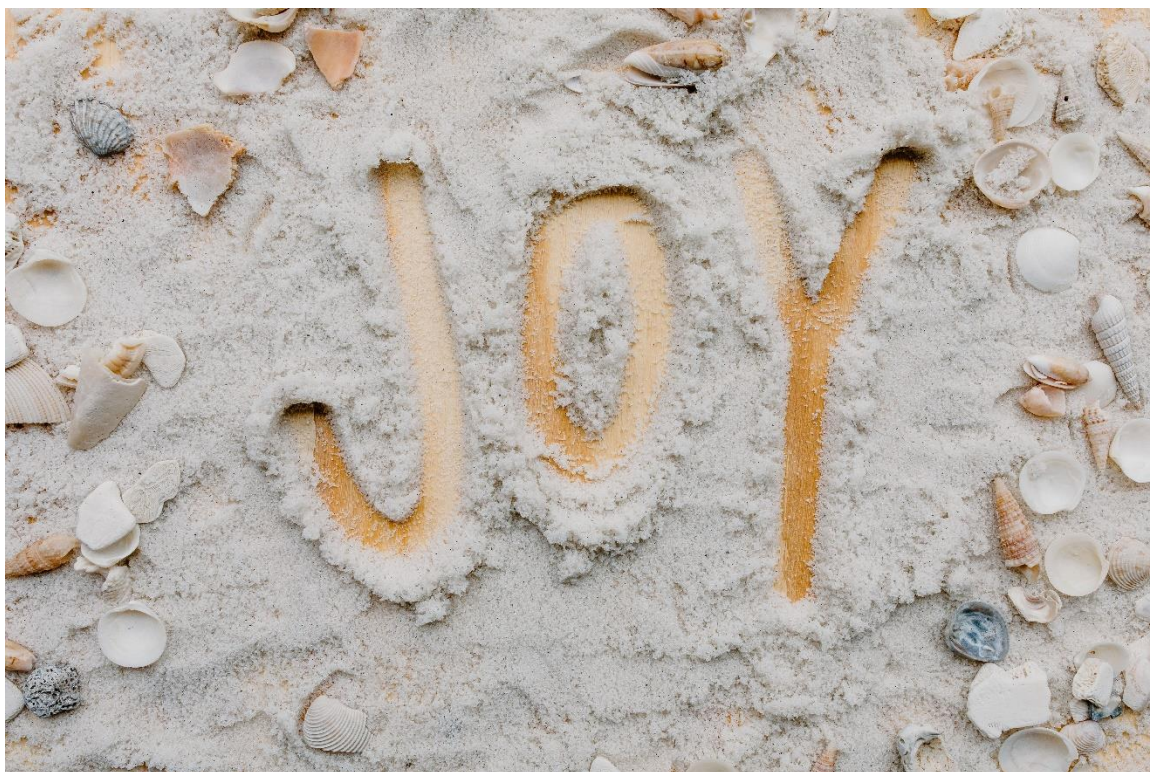




DAMASCUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Serving Damascus Faithfully Since 1822

Rooted in faith, growing in love, branching out into God's world.



Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 21, 2024 | 9:00 am

Welcome! We are a community of faith open to all and we are glad that you are here! We pray that this time of worship will be meaningful and uplifting for you. If you are with us for the first time this morning, please be sure to stop at the Welcome

Station in the Narthex (at the back, where you entered the Sanctuary). A host is there to answer any questions you may have. We also have a gift for you.

Worship Accommodations: We want each person to have a positive worship experience at DUMC. To that end, we have large print bulletins and hymnals available in the Narthex, as well as hearing assistive devices that can be used with or without a hearing aid. Children’s worship bags are also available. Please speak to a member of the welcome team if you would like to use any of these.

Sunday Nursery Care: A staffed Nursery for children aged **six months through Kindergarten** is provided beginning at 8:45 a.m. on the lower level. Our Nursery attendants are ready to welcome your child! A member of the Welcome Team would be happy to guide you to the Nursery. Children’s worship bags are available in the narthex.

Today’s Focus

Opening our hearts and minds, souls and lives to God is part of our lifelong journey as disciples of Jesus Christ. Taking part regularly in spiritual practices deepens our relationships with God and neighbor. Worship, prayer, Holy Communion, Bible study, fasting, daily devotional time, small group participation, faithful giving, acts of justice and compassion, and singing hymns are all ways to live, share, and grow in God’s grace.

How is the Holy Spirit transforming your life through these – or other - “means of grace”? What new practice would you like to explore?

FAITH TIME WORSHIP SERVICE

Please mute or turn off all devices. * = Please stand as you are able.

Words printed in **bold type** are the people's responses; **bold** and **CAPITALIZED** are spoken by all.

UMH=United Methodist Hymnal (red) PB = Pew Bible

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF THE LORD

ROOTED IN FAITH

Welcome and Discipleship Opportunities

The Ritual of Friendship

Please sign the Attendance Pad, located on the inside end of the pew, and pass it along.

Prelude

Hymn of Promise

Natalie Sleeth

Ring of Joy

*Call to Worship ("Prayer of Commitment" by Holley Gerth via Phil Maynard)

Because love is patient...

**Help me to be slow to judge, but quick to listen,
hesitant to criticize, but eager to encourage.**

Because love is kind...

Help my words to be gentle and my actions to be thoughtful.

Because love does not envy or boast, and it is not proud...

Help me have a heart that is humble and sees the good in others.

Because love is not rude or self-seeking...

Help me to speak words that are easy on the ear and on the heart.

Because love is not easily angered and keeps no record of wrongs...

Help me to forgive others as you have forgiven me.

Because love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth...

Help me stand up for what is right and good.

Because love always protects and always trusts...

Help me to be a refuge for those around me.

Finally, because love always perseveres...

Help my heart continually beat with love for You and others. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

UMH #715

GROWING IN LOVE

Prayer for Illumination

Michelle Wilson

Let us pray.

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed,
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson

1 Kings 19:11-13

PB, OT, p. 311

He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Walk Worthy

New Testament Lesson

Acts 17:16-28

PB, NT, p. 129

While Paul was waiting for [Silas and Timothy] in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and also in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. Also some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers debated with him. Some said, "What does this babbler want to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign divinities." (This was because he was telling the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) So they took him and brought him to the Areopagus and asked him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? It sounds rather strange to

us, so we would like to know what it means.” Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new.

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’

This is the Gospel of our Lord. **Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon	“The Journey of a Lifetime”	Rev. Helen Ballew
*Hymn	We Walk By Faith	TFWS #2196
Pastoral Prayer		
The Lord’s Prayer		UMH #895
	Ring of Joy Handbells (the congregation is invited to sing along)	
Invitation to the Offering Giving Our Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory	Improvisation	S. Kalnoske
*Doxology	<i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	UMH #94
*Offertory Prayer	(from: <i>Ministry Matters</i>)	

Giver of all gifts, we are grateful for your every blessing and for your presence through all of life in our joys and concerns, and in our hopes and fears. We pray for those who do not know the consolation of your presence in their lives, asking that you reveal yourself to them through the gifts we have given and through the lives we live. Reveal yourself, O God, that all your children may find their true home in you. Amen.

BRANCHING OUT INTO GOD'S WORLD

*Recessional Hymn Sent Forth With God's Blessing UMH #664

*Dismissal with Blessing

*Postlude Improvisation S. Kalnoske

Prayer Requests, Joys, and Concerns

If you have any joys, concerns, or prayer requests that you would like to have included in the bulletin or the weekly e-newsletter, please contact the church office at (301) 253-0022 or office@damascusumc.org

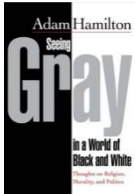
Please keep the following people in your prayers:

- The family and loved ones of Ernest Screen. Ernie died on April 10th. A Service of Death and Resurrection will be held for him on April 23rd at Molesworth Funeral Home. Visitation will be at Molesworth from 10:00am-noon. The funeral service will begin at noon, followed by interment at Pine Grove Cemetery in Mt. Airy. A reception will take place at 2:00pm at the American Legion Post 171 of Damascus.
- Jackie Perry and family, including her mother Jann. Jackie's father, Charles Dalrymple, passed away on April 14th.
- Yasuko Walcott, Todd Wilson, Sue Constantinides, Joyce and Earl Patrick, Sharon Warfield, Mary Emma Linthicum, Inga Tokar, Jean Barr, Ted Constantinides, David and Janet Lingrell, Nancy Nickerson, Pat Duvall, Stephen Tracy, Marilyn Kinsey, Pat Tregoning, Mary Nieter, Kate Musallam, Kathy (sister of Gail Kohlenburg), Kristin Smith (niece of Gina Wilson), Michael Dearin (nephew of Jacque Janss), Bob Duvall (father of Anita Duvall), and all who are facing health concerns.

Starting New Book Study April 14, 2024

When: Sunday, 4/14, 10:30am Where: Virtual, occasionally in person

Disciple Ship Voyage (DSV) Adult Small Study Group



Join the Disciple Ship Voyage (DSV) Adult Small Study Group as we read, study, and discuss this controversial and mind opening book.

The DSV study group will meet virtually, and occasionally in person, and we'll begin Sunday, April 14.

Damascus Theatre Company

DTC Kids

INTO THE WOODS
JR.

Friday, May 17, 2024 at 7:30PM
Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 2PM & 7:30PM
Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 2PM
at Damascus United Methodist Church
9700 New Church St, Damascus

\$15 General Admission/\$12 DTC Members
\$10 Senior Citizens/Students K-12/Children 2-5



**Plant Sale weekend hours 9 am to 5 pm (4/27-28 and 5/4-5)
Week days 4 -7 pm (4/29 - 5/1-3 and 5/6&7)**

Jiyoung Savage's Concert to benefit DUMC Missions



Reception of light refreshments
in the Great Hall
following the concert.

KINSHIP SINGERS COLLABORATION



APRIL - JUNE 2024

Rehearsals

Monday nights at 7:30 pm
(April 22, 29; May 6, 13, 20; June 3, 10, 17)
Thursday nights at 7:30 pm
(June 6, 13, 20)

Dress Rehearsal

Friday, June 21, 2024 @ 7 pm

Performance

Saturday, June 22, 2024 @ 7 pm

Performance (Gospel Mass ONLY)

Sunday, June 23, 2024 @ 9 am

Participation - sing or attend concert

Kinship Singers are hosting a collaboration with alumni of the Charles Wesley Singers and other guests to present Ray's Gospel Mass. All events happen at Damascus UMC.

Community Engagement: Blood Drive



Blood Drive
Damascus United Methodist Church
&
Damascus Lions Club

Register online at
www.redcrossblood.org and enter
Sponsor Code: "DamascusUMCMD"

Dining Hall, Damascus UMC



or

Friday, May 3, 2024
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

call 1-800-733-2767 to schedule your
life-saving donation!

**DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PUT YOUR FAITH INTO
ACTION!**

Laytonsville Safe Haven
DUMC Local Ministry



The DUMC Mission's Committee is organizing a workday at the Laytonsville Safe Haven located on Riggs Road in Laytonsville. This facility/program, run by the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless and funded by Veterans Affairs, provides emergency shelter and transitional housing for male and female veterans that are experiencing homelessness in the DMV area.

There are many maintenance needs on the property, we will focus on outside cleanup in the yard and garden. **PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING US!**

WHEN: Saturday May 4th, 9am – 3pm

WHERE: Meet at DUMC parking lot at 9am, return to DUMC by 3pm.

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

TOOLS NEEDED: shovels (for edging around gardens), garden trowels, pruning shears, rakes, leaf blower, tarps (for hauling leaves/weeds).

PLEASE LET DOUG MARSHALL KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO JOIN US AS WE NEED A COUNT FOR LUNCH: dougandlisamarshall@yahoo.com OR 301-325-9071

Week of April 21 – April 27

Sunday, April 21

9:00 am – 10:00 am

9:15 am – 10:30 am

10:00 am – 11:15 am

Faith Time Service (Worship)

Frogs Faith Time (Undercroft/DH)

Connections Café

10:15 am – 11:15 am
10:15 am – 11:15 am
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Monday, April 22

8:00 am – 12:00 pm
7:30 pm – 9:30 pm
7:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Tuesday, April 23

8:30 am – 2:00 pm
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
5:30 pm – 9:30 pm
6:15 pm – 7:30 pm

Wednesday, April 24

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
4:00 pm – 5:15 pm
5:15 pm – 6:00 pm
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
7:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Thursday, April 25

11:00 am – 3:00 pm
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Friday, April 26

11:00 am – 3:00 pm
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Saturday, April 27

9:00 am – 5:00 pm
11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Dad's Faith Time (Annex Downstairs C/R)
Faith Time (Youth/Adult Small Groups)
Jiyoung Savage Concert benefiting Missions (Sanctuary)
Reception following Jiyoung Savage's Concert (GH/Back)
Youth Group (Game Night - YC)
AA - Sunday Night Meeting

Earth Day

Harwood House (Vol. Workday)
Kinship Singers Credo Collab. rehearsal (Sanctuary)
FINAL Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal (GH/Stage)

Harwood House Thrift Shop (Vol. Workday)
YW Women Bi-Monthly Meeting (GH)
Harwood House Thrift Shop (Vol. Work Session)
ASCYO Rehearsals (GH & MR)
Confirmation (YC)

Administrative Professionals Day

Harwood House Open 4-6 pm
Cherub Choir Rehearsal (GH/SS)
Chorister Choir Rehearsal (MR)
DTC - ITW, Jr. Rehearsal (YC)
Adult Choir Rehearsal (MR)

Harwood House Thrift Shop OPEN
Sharp Voice Studio Lesson (Sanctuary/MR)
Fit 4 Life Bible Study (Library)

Harwood House Thrift Shop OPEN
AA - Friday Night Meeting (Dining Hall)

Mission Plant Sale (Pavilion)
Harwood House Thrift Shop OPEN

OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT INFORMATION

Monday – Thursday | 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. ☩ Friday | CLOSED
Office Phone: 301-253-0022 | Email: office@damascusumc.org | Web: DamascusUMC.org
DAMASCUS UMC | 9700 New Church Street | Damascus, MD 20872

PASTORS AND STAFF

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Lisa Marshall, Property Manager/Room Reservations

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Stephen Kalnoske, Director of Music and Organist

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Angie Thompson, Director of Children’s Music Ministry

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Tina Kelly, Director of Christian Education & Youth Ministry

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