

Damascus United Methodist Church
PO Box 307 (300 Valley Road)
Damascus, OH 44619

Church (330) 537-3031

Email: office@dumcohoio.org

Pastor John Fitch: Phone: 419-651-7244

Sunday School: 9:00 A.M.

Worship 10:00 A.M.

Praise and Worship 11:15am

Youth Group 6-8pm

Fax (330) 537-3032

Church Website: www.dumcohoio.org

“Damascus Doings”

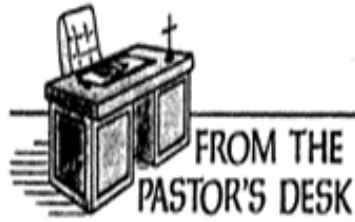
MARCH 2023

TO LIVE FOR CHRIST IS TO STRIVE FOR HOLINESS AND SEEK THE LOST



LENT

PASTOR’S PERSPECTIVES March 2023



I would like to bring back to our church from the Asbury revival some of the blessing that I received there in worship. As I entered Hughes Hall along with hundreds of worshipping Christians, I felt the Holy Spirit penetrate my heart and I went down to the altar and knelt there, as it were, at the feet of Jesus in deep contrition. As I was kneeling there praying, a man who I never saw, came up behind me, put his hands on my back gently and prayed for me to be blessed in the ministry of Christ. He prayed that my feet would become like the beautiful feet of those who bring the good news of the gospel (Isaiah 52:7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! And Romans 10:15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!) Then before he left he touched the heel of each of my feet. I’m sure I’ve been greatly encouraged. It was a moment of a lifetime to be present among all those kids leading worship in Spirit and in Truth. I will never forget that.

Linda Henderson, Cory Wolf, Madison Bufkin, Krista, and I led a confirmation class this past Sunday evening and Monday morning. 10 kids and 2 adults attended. The topics presented were Salvation, the Bible, Who is God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, Baptism, Communion, and Church Membership. Each person was presented with a 3-ring notebook with The Apostles’ Creed, The Nicene Creed (A.D. 381), The Definition Of Chalcedon (A.D. 451), Catechism for the Global Methodist Church, and pages 4-30 of The Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline. We used the Bible and notebooks as the basis of our teaching. It was a real blessing to work with these young people.

Yours in Christ’s service,
Pastor John Fitch



Looking ahead at Easter:

Maundy Thursday Communion Service here at 7:00pm.

Good Friday combined service with West Branch Ministerial pastors here at 7:00pm.

Easter Sunrise Service 6:55am at Township Park behind G’s Pizza in Damascus.

Souls After Living Truth News

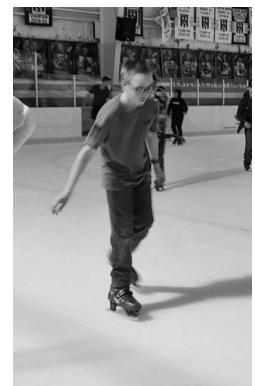
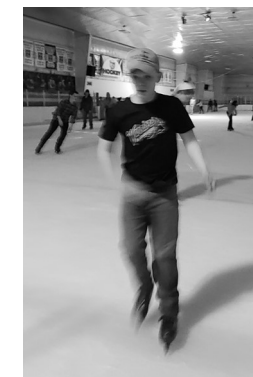


SALT News

February 2023

In February the S.A.L.T. youth spent an evening at Center Ice Rink in N. Canton. A full van load of youth fearlessly and enthusiastically took to the ice even though most had never been on ice skates. Ice walkers gave the non-skaters quick confidence and it was not long before the walkers were discarded and everyone was skating. One youth even informed me that he might like to play hockey! And, we were all pleasantly surprised when we ran into Lleyton Uphold and some others who were also enjoying some ice time! March 3-5, Friday through Sunday, some of the youth will be attending the Asbury Retreat in Hiram. We will learn about prayer and how to grow closer to God. I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer. Psalm 17:6 We expect to make new friends, learn in small breakout groups, enjoy good food and fun games. We hope to share our testimonies when we return. We welcome boys and girls, sixth grade through high school to check out the S.A.L.T. (Souls After Living Truth) Youth Group. We meet Sunday evenings from 6-8 PM at the church. A typical evening includes youth-led devotions and prayer time, a short lesson, food, games and activities. There are also once a month outings or special events. Please contact me or Pastor John for more information and come join the fun!

Blessings,
Linda Henderson



"STEWARDSHIP PAGE"



Birth of Elodie Joy to Angela & Dean Hornbeck 1/14/2023
 Jim Bruderly– doing better
 Lucy Esther– discharged from the hospital, home
 Josh Baker (Donna Lutz’s grandson) - home, long road ahead
 Sheila Lucas– negative results on the lactulose breath test for small intestinal bacterial overgrowth



Ukraine– Shelter +
 Government officials around the world
 Sue Johanson– healing and strength
 Jay Lucas– possible knee repair surgery
 Chris Zion– continued healing
 Kathy Sterling– serious health concerns
 Elodie Joy (daughter of Angela (Altenhof) Hornbeck– preemie, health and strength
 Pauline Wayne– fracture in back
 Julia & Jerimiah– helicopter pilots in the jungle of Brazil
 Rachel– leading women missionary pilots
 All effected by the East Palestine train derailment
 All effected by the earthquake in Turkey



Here’s What’s Happening With Children’s Ministries:

Welcome to the month of March! We have been “marching” forward and are looking forward to the Easter season and the promise that it brings!

Junior church, wee worship, nursery care, and Sunday school are all being offered on a weekly basis and are being led by a team of wonderful adults and youth helpers!

Keep an eye out for information about the fast-approaching camping season! There are many wonderful and exciting camping opportunities available for kids and youth from 1st-12th grade!

Thank you to those who supported, participated, and commented on our Share The Love Day! The boys and girls truly were the hands and feet of Jesus as they openly shared His love with our church family, shut-ins, and even a police officer just going through the drive-thru! From beginning to end, it was a wonderful day!

Our children’s program is growing and we are excited and thankful for the opportunity to share the love of Christ with all of those who come! We appreciate your continued support and especially your prayers as we strive to offer our best to these little ones!

Questions??? Concerns??? Ideas??? Please call, text, or email anytime!

In Christ,
 Lois Niederhiser
 330-727-6841 or dumckids@yahoo.com



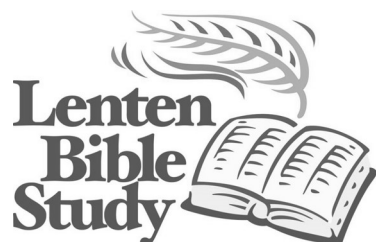
COMMUNITY BREAKFAST
Saturday March 18th
7:00AM-10:30AM
Donation Only
(change will be available)



There is a praise and worship service following our regular service from 11:15am to 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome for a great time of worship and fellowship. We hope to see you there.



The Women of Faith will meet March 2nd at 9:30am in the church library for our next meeting.



We are having a Lenten Bible Study on Wednesdays from 6:00pm– 6:45pm in the Fellowship Hall through Easter. We are learning about the Catechism for the Global Methodist Church.

From your Lay Leader ... Cancel Culture Season

March 2023



It is so exciting to be moving into warmer weather and getting out into the lawn and garden as well as other warm weather outdoor activities. Although we have had a mild winter, it is still good to see genuine warm weather on the horizon. As we spring into Spring, it is also plain to see that the season of cancel culture is alive and well. Cancel culture is the culture of cancelling or removing people from the public forum because they are saying things that are currently not en vogue or otherwise acceptable to the official narrative. A very recent example of someone cancelled for speaking a somewhat benign phrase is another CNN TV show host. This particular actor has a long history of saying crazy things that have never made much sense much less been any sort of news reporting. His gibberish had never been a problem because he hadn't upset the official narrative, not because he was spouting off anything much different than finally got him cancelled but because the acceptable language is rapidly changing and more about who is saying whatever to whom they are saying it to. Although free speech is officially the law of the land, in practice it is rapidly dying.

Seasons change the culture is constantly changing, but we serve a living savior that never changes.

Hebrews 13:6-9 So we say with confidence, “The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?” Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings. It is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace, not by eating ceremonial foods, which is of no benefit to those who do so.

We are called to be in the world but not IN the world. Christians are called to be different so embrace it.

There is a cancel culture that we can embrace though. None of us will avoid the pull of the world perfectly, so we thank God that he has created His own cancel culture.

Romans 8:1-4 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

When you accept the forgiveness provided by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the ultimate punishment for your sins past and present, is permanently cancelled.

Now that is a cancel culture that we can agree with and get behind!

Steven Sprague – Lay Leader
stevespra@gmail.com
cell 216-789-4650



March Birthdays

- 8: Terrie Rohrer
Colton Weingart
- 10: Charlene Henderson
- 12: Jane Beck
Helen Mincks
James Mincks
- 14: Larry Battles
Lleyton Uphold
- 17: Cole Phillips
- 18: Mary Kay Heverly
- 20: Dick Elsner
- 22: Nancy Cadile
- 23: Colleen Martsolf
- 24: Jerry Menough
- 26: Angela Linder
- 28: Marge Zeigler

March Anniversaries

- 17: Jerry & Jane Menough
- 26: Dick & Karen Elsner

Please inform the church office if your birthday or anniversary has ever been omitted from the Damascus Doings!

Counters

- Art Johanson
&
Jane Menough

Bus Driver

- Steve Sprague

Acolytes

- 5: Ethan Dettweiler
- 12: Max Weingart
& Stella Smith
- 19: Kara Zion
- 26: Codey Dettweiler

Children’s Rotation

Sunday School

- 5: Krista Fitch
- 12: Linda Henderson
- 19: Shaunda Uphold
- 26: Lois Niederhiser

Junior Church

- 5: Brittany Sprague
& Abby Heverly
- 12: Steve Sprague
& Ethan Dettweiler
- 19: Troy Uphold
& Ally Zion
- 26: Lois Niederhiser

Wee Worship

- 5: Nancy Cadile
- 12: Linda Henderson
& Richey Hill
- 19: Shaunda Uphold
& Codey Dettweiler
- 26: Holly Morrow

Nursery

- 5: Amy Shoaff
- 12: Terrie Rohrer
- 19: Denise Linder
- 26: Barb Karlen

**The Damascus Methodist
Circuit Riders Monthly
Gathering at Copeland Oaks**



We had a nice visit with music assisted with Chris Lydic, communion, a message and fellowship on February 14th, we talked about marriage and 1Corinthians 13 was read.

Circuit Riders next meeting:

Tuesday, March 14th at 3:30pm for worship music, message and communion in the Williamsburg Lounge.



Dominican Republic Mission Trip has arrived!!!

Thank you, thank you, thank you, or should I say...

Gracias!!! Your many donations of cuddly teddy bears, colorful bead bags, and delicious candy treats are all packed and ready to go! I am so grateful for your financial support that enables me to go and to purchase the many needed supplies for the VBS program! Now I am asking for the item needed most of all...YOUR

PRAYERS! I am so excited to be returning to the Dominican Republic to share the love of Christ through Bible stories, games, and crafts in many different villages. Please pray for the strength and safety of the entire Steel City Mission team. We will be serving these beautiful people through medical and dental care, construction, and VBS. This country whose livelihood depends on the tourism industry has been greatly affected by the pandemic in many ways. The need for medicine and clean water is even greater than in the past. Also, for the powerful reminder that our great big God will never leave us or forsake us even in these very trying times! Pray for God’s leading as we reach out in Jesus’ name! I look forward to sharing some amazing stories and pictures when I return!

Dios te bendiga!

Lois (Luisa) Niederhiser

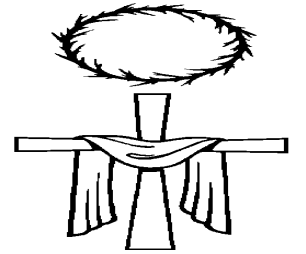


Tuesday March 14, 1:00-6:00pm: American Red Cross Blood Drive.



Damascus United Methodist Church

March 2023



“TO LIVE FOR CHRIST IS TO STRIVE FOR HOLINESS AND SEEK THE LOST ”

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

			1 6:00pm– 6:45pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	2 9:30am Women of Faith 9:30am TOPS 6:00pm Praise Band Practice	3 Youth Retreat at Camp Asbury	4 Youth Retreat at Camp Asbury
5 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:15am Praise & Worship Youth Retreat at Camp Asbury	6 6:30pm SPRC Meeting	7 8:30am West Branch Ministerial Meeting	8 5:30pm Worship Meeting 6:00pm– 6:45pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	9 9:30am TOPS 6:00pm Praise Band Practice 6:30pm Ruritan Meeting	10	11
12 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:15am Praise & Worship 6:00pm– 8:00pm SALT Youth Group	13	14 1:00pm– 6:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive 3:30pm Circuit Riders at Copeland 6:30pm Finance Meeting	15 6:00pm– 6:45pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	16 9:30am TOPS 6:00pm Praise Band Practice	17	18 7:00am– 10:30am Church Breakfast
19 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15am Praise & Worship 6:00pm– 8:00pm SALT Youth Group	20 6:30pm Church Council	21	22 6:00pm– 6:45pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	23 9:30am TOPS 6:00pm Praise Band Practice	24	25
26 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:15am Praise & Worship 6:00pm– 8:00pm SALT Youth Group	27 7:00pm Trustee Meeting	28	29 6:00pm– 6:45pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	30 9:30am TOPS 6:00pm Praise Band Practice	31	