

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

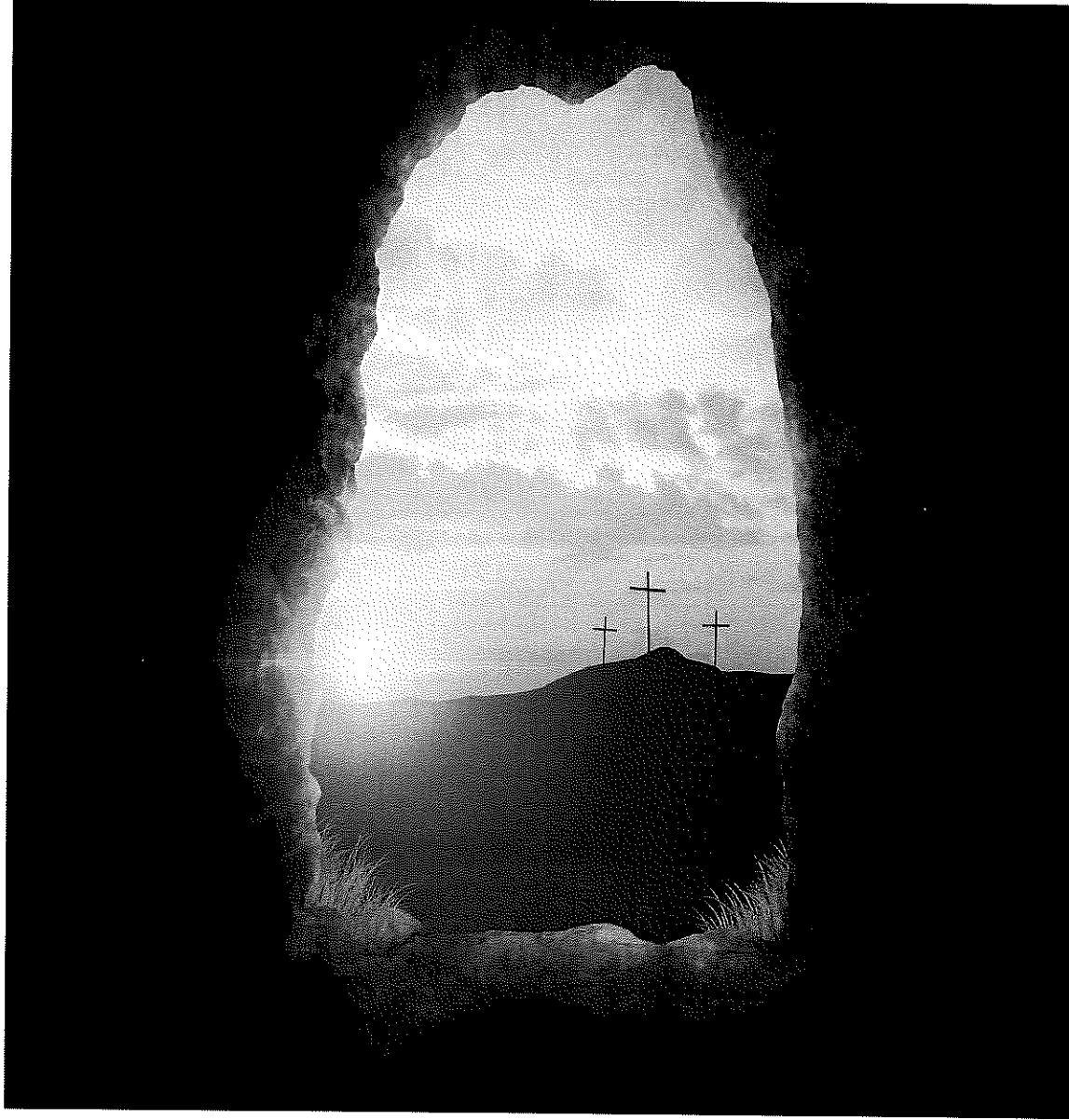
Church (330) 537-3031  
Email: [office@dmc.church](mailto:office@dmc.church)  
Pastor Jon Long 330-323-7066  
Sunday School: 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M.

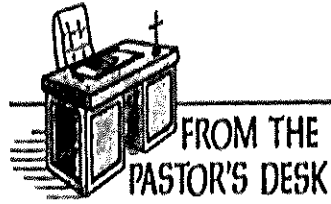
Fax (330) 537-3032  
Church Website: [www.dmc.church](http://www.dmc.church)  
SALT Youth Group - Sunday 6-8pm

# “Damascus Doings”

March 2024

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





## March 2024 Newsletter: Pastors Moment “Our Countdown to Victory”

### John 12: 12-15

*The next day, the news that Jesus was on the way to Jerusalem swept through the city. A large crowd of Passover visitors took palm branches and went down the*

*road to meet him. They shouted, “Praise God! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the LORD!” Hail to the King of Israel! Jesus found a young donkey and rode on it, fulfilling the prophecy that said: “Don’t be afraid, people of Jerusalem. Look, your King is coming, riding on a donkey’s colt.” Blessed is He, who comes in the name of the Lord!*

Hello Church! Here we are walking together into March and before we know it we will be celebrating the “Glorious Resurrection” at the end of the month.

We begin the month together in our Lenten journey of repentance & preparation for the greatest Gift ever Given in Christ Jesus Our Lord! Our time to look truthfully at our walk with Jesus and honestly surrender our will and sins at the foot of the Cross to receive a complete and total blessing in the Blood of Jesus.

These are challenging and difficult times as we look into our mirror and ask ourself honest and complete question of truth as we seek a closer walk with Jesus.

But Do Not Be Afraid! As Jesus promises all who believe, I am With You, Always, Even until the end of the ages!

I look forward to our Lenten Journeys as a time of deep reflection and surrender receiving the full grace of God in the Love of his children through Jesus Christ his son. Victory is near my friends, may you freely surrender all to Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Peace Be with You! For we know the TRUTH, He is RISEN!

### John 20: 26-27

*Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. “Peace be with you,” he said. Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don’t be faithless any longer. Believe!”*

In Christ’s Love, Pastor Jon

## Souls After Living Truth News

“I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” John 14:6. We’ve all heard it many times. We can recite it. But, do we understand? The youth spent a fabulous weekend at Snow Camp in Somerset, PA. While they only saw slight snow Saturday morning and most of the “snow” activities were a bust, the weather didn’t dampen the outdoors fun! There were outdoor team building activities where the youth had to work together. Key takeaway: SALT youth ARE tenacious and don’t give up when they don’t first succeed! It was exciting as adults to watch which youth stood out as leaders and to see them all either as participants or helpers. Then, the afternoon was time for sign-up activities – horseback riding, paintball, laser tag, ATVs. There was the X-Barn with a climbing wall, GaGa, a giant slide, basketball and an archery range. And, the Tin Spur snack bar was the place for great milkshakes as well as a pool table, ping pong and a fireplace to just warm up.

Each morning and evening there was a rally with a live praise band and Pastor Scott who gave the message: Seek truth. Speak truth. With my whole heart I seek you. Psalm 119:10. The youth were led to understand what “truth” is and how to seek the truth. When put in the context of John 14:6 it began to make sense. They asked themselves, do I seek Jesus? At Snow Camp, youth leaders were also given some tools and resources to help us help our youth. We had approachable mentors to help with problems we face as youth leaders! We are already talking about another retreat there! Thanks for all the prayers for safe travels, etc. God heard you and provided a wonderful, fun-filled, spiritual enriched weekend!

Blessings, Linda Henderson



## "STEWARDSHIP PAGE"



Safe Harbor" new mission project for Lent—BE THE CHANGE!  
Patty (Gail Murphy d-in-law) recovering from knee surgery  
Five guys went to "Walk Worthy" conference  
Great Retreat for Youth 2/23



World Peace  
Government officials around the world  
First responders, front line workers, military, veterans and their families  
Jon Reed had prostate biopsy—waiting on results  
Janet Buell and family need prayers for decisions  
Fred Criss upcoming hip surgery  
Dorothy Walther having severe back issues  
Charlene Henderson needs strength for healing  
Wanda Book had successful surgery, possibly another one  
Russ McDermott had Heart cath —home being monitored  
Pastor Ron Dixon in hospital to have heart surgery  
Becky battling Cancer —Son, Denver need of support and prayers  
Elaine visiting surgeon for a tumor  
Mary Ann Evans having lot of pain—trying new meds  
Family of Milton Lazear (Marsha Coffee's father passed 2/18)  
Jim Elsner (son of Karen/Dick) diagnosed with pancreatic cancer  
Ron Dunham back and hip surgery  
Hannah and many other college students dealing with stress  
Kaitlyn travel mercies—visiting sister in Spain  
Lois and other travelers to Dominican Republic March 1st-17th

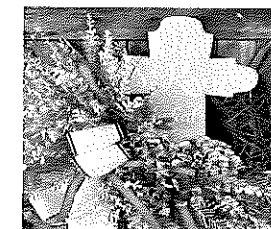
### Easter Week Schedule:

March 24th Palm Sunday 10:00am Service

March 28th Maundy Thursday 6:30pm Service DMC

March 29th Good Friday 7:00 pm Service at:

Reading Church of the Brethren, Homeworth, OH



March 31st **Easter Sunday: 9:00am Breakfast** in Fellowship Hall

(No Sunday School or Junior Church) Nursery available

**10:00am Resurrection Service**



**Our 2024 Lenten Offering will be given to "Safe Harbor"**

Help us "Be the Change" for those that need Hope and Healing

From the dangers of the Children's Sex Trafficking World.

[info@safeharborohio.org](mailto:info@safeharborohio.org)

### Clothed In Righteousness



The Homeless are always in need of clothing, easy to open canned goods, supplies, bottled water blankets and snack items.



**Join Us For Breakfast**

### COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Saturday March 16th

7:00AM-10:30AM

Donation Only

(change will be available)

### Community Breakfast Plea for Help!



We are always looking for new volunteers, both young and seasoned. Our group is responsible for maintaining and staffing the Monthly Community Breakfast. This is a noticeably big task due to the recent upsurge in popularity of the event. I have been asking for volunteers for a long time now. The work is a little crazy at times but only 1 Saturday a month and only 1/2 day! Please consider the Trip and/or volunteering for the Breakfast. Our Church is blessed to serve the Community through this Outreach. This is what we are supposed to be doing as Christians. The best part is this Breakfast is a blast! Did I mention I said PLEASE!!!!

### From your Lay Leader ...

### Equipped

March 2024

Last month we discussed loving those that may not love us. How are we doing with that? **Ephesians 6:12 For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.** When Jesus Christ hung on the cross after being beaten worse than we can imagine, mocked and stripped naked, He asked God the Father to forgive his attackers. He did not attempt to love them on His own. As children of God, we are equipped to live out this kind of supernatural loving when we rely on The Holy Spirit to guide us. My default in the flesh is revenge and if I react quickly, that is exactly where I go. **James 1:19-21 Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires. So, get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.** It is not only wise to slow down when we have the urge to react in anger but it is basically commanded in The Book of James and elsewhere in The Bible. God does not command us to do something that He does not also provide the power for us to do when we allow Him to work in our lives. When we allow ourselves to be controlled by our own natural desire for unrighteous “justice,” we not only ruin our own testimony but we damage the testimony of our own Christian brothers and sisters. So, what should we do just wait before we react? I don’t know about you but while a “cooling off period” can be helpful, it can often be a recipe for anger to fester. However, if the time is spent in prayer and reflection, we are able to be a conduit of God’s Love and forgiveness rather than our own wrath.

Damascus Methodist Church is currently hosting both women’s and men’s Bible Studies. Jenny Long is hosting the women’s Bible Study and it is going great! Seeing almost twenty Christian sisters studying God’s Word together is awesome. The men’s study is being hosted by Jon Long and we are not only being filled by worshipping together but we are also being challenged. The study is based on a book titled “Warrior” by Lance Ingram. The subtitle of the book is “Equipping Men for Spiritual Victory.” It is really about relying on God The Father, God The Son and God The Holy Spirit rather than relying on our own strengths (and weaknesses) to stay strong in the faith, fighting off the attacks of the devil. It is so satisfying to see a group of Christian men stepping up together. It is through things like this that God is strengthening His Church and equipping us to Love like Him. If you are not actively engaged in a Christ centered Bible study today, don’t wait. It will change your life.

**Steven Sprague – Lay Leader**  
**[stevespra@gmail.com](mailto:stevespra@gmail.com)**  
**cell 216-789-4650**

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## March Birthdays

- 3/8 Terrie Rohrer
- 3/8 Colton Weingart
- 3/10 Charlene Henderson
- 3/11 Brian Pinkerton
- 3/12 Jane Beck
- 3/12 Helen Mincks
- 3/12 James Mincks
- 3/14 Lleyton Uphold
- 3/15 Harry Hancock
- 3/17 Addie Zion
- 3/18 Mary Kay Heverly
- 3/22 Nancy Cadile
- 3/22 Dakota Murphy
- 3/23 Colleen Martsolf
- 3/24 Jerry Menough
- 3/26 Becky Vignon
- 3/28 Marge Zeigler

# Happy Anniversary

- 3/17 Jerry & Jane Menough

\*\*\*\*\*

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

## Counters

Art Johanson & Linda Henderson

## Bus Drivers

Steve Sprague

## Acolytes

- 3 Stella & Elise Smith
- 10 Corianna Hauter/Triston Beagle
- 17 Maxon Weingart/Lane Loving
- 24 Addie & Kara Zion
- 31 Stella & Elise Smith

## Children's Rotation

### Sunday School\*\*older class

- 3\*\*Brittany Sprague/Linda Henderson
- 10\*\* Linda Henderson/Denise Linder
- 17\*\* Brittany Sprague/Shanda Uphold
- 24\*\* Lois Niederhiser/Linda Henderson
- 31 No Sunday School

### Junior Church

- 3 Brittany Sprague/Codey Dettweiler
- 10 Steve Sprague/Richey Hill
- 17 Troy Uphold/Ethan Dettweiler
- 24 Lois Niederhiser/Abby Heverly
- 31 All Children stay in church for Easter celebration

### Wee Worship

- 3 Holly Morrow
- 10 Linda Henderson
- 17 Shaunda Uphold
- 24 Linda Henderson
- 31 all Children in church for Easter celebration

### Nursery

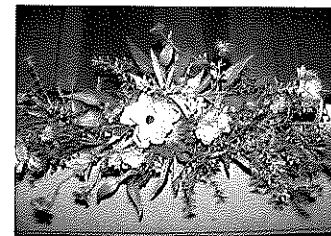
- 3 Terrie Rohrer (Nancy Cadile SS)
- 10 Denise Linder
- 17 Amy Shoaff (SS&worship)
- 24 Holly Morrow
- 31 Terrie Rohrer

# Summer Mission Trip June 23 – June 29, 2024

Our group is extremely excited about this year's trip. I am very excited about some more new faces on the trip. The old faces are exciting too! We have made our decision. We will be returning to Jackson Area Ministries in Jackson, OHIO. Cost is only **\$100.00** each for those helping with the Breakfasts. Wow! All our trips have been very successful and thrifty, even with high fuel costs. Please prayer fully consider coming on the trip this next summer. I can guarantee you will not regret your decision! Our fundraisers are already in full swing with the Community Breakfast every third Saturday at our DMC. Stay tuned to your Sunday bulletin and listen for special announcements regarding the trip and fundraisers! Building and repairing for Christ, Lenny

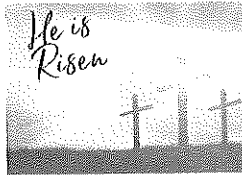
**P.S. We need adults, especially men! Please consider coming along. Remember its NOT too late to go...the trip is open to all Youth and Adults...grade 7 and up!!!!**

## FLOWER CHART



*We will be posting a Flower Chart on the Narthex Bulletin board for the rest of this year's Sundays. If you would like to honor someone for a birthday*

*or anniversary, sign up on the proper Sunday. You could also bring your Own arrangement, but please signup for that also.*



# DAMASCUS METHODIST CHURCH

## March 2024



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

						1	2
							Walk Worthy Retreat
<p><b>3</b></p> <p>8:45-9:45 am Gathering 9:00am SS, 10am Worship 6:00pm- 8:00pm SALT <b>PICTURE DAY</b> Choir Sings</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>6:00pm SPR 6:30pm Transitional team Mtg</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>8:30am WB Ministerial 6:00 Endowment Mtg</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>9:30am TOPS 6:30pm Men's&amp;Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Change clocks ahead 1 hour</p> 	
<p><b>10</b></p> <p>8:45-9:45 am Gathering 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 6:00pm- 8:00pm SALT DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Begins</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>8:30am Men's Breakfast <b>1-6pm Blood Drive</b> 7pm Choir</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>9:30am TOPS 6:30pm Men's&amp;Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>7:00-10:30am Church Breakfast</p>	
<p><b>17</b></p> <p>8:45-9:45 am Gathering 9:00am SS, 10am Worship 6:00pm- 8:00pm SALT <b>St Patrick's Day</b> Choir Sings</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>6:30pm Council</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>Primary Election Day</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>9:30am TOPS 6:30pm Men's&amp;Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	
<p><b>24</b></p> <p>8:45-9:45 am Gathering 9:00am SS, 10am Worship 6:00pm- 8:00pm SALT <b>PALM SUNDAY</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>7:00pm Trustees</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>7pm Choir</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>9:30am TOPS <b>Maundy Thursday</b> 6:30pm Service</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p><b>Office Closed</b> <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> Service at Reading Church, Homeworth 7:00pm</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	
<p><b>30</b></p> <p><b>EASTER Breakfast 9</b> <b>Worship 10</b> No Sunday School</p>							