

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

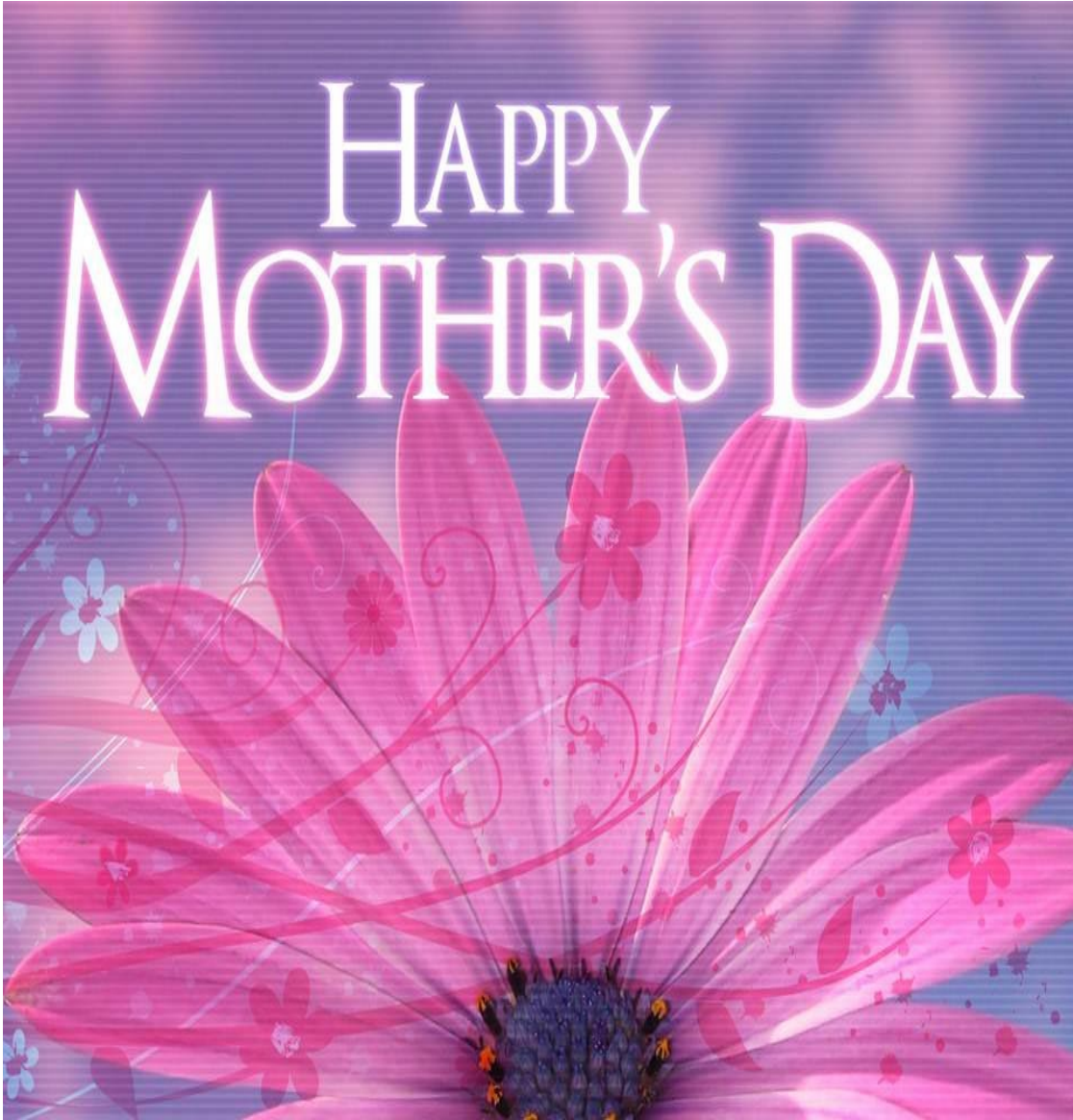
Church (330) 537-3031
Email: **office@dmc.church**
Pastor Jon Long 330-323-7066
Sunday School: 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M.

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

“Damascus Doings”

May 2025

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





**“A New Season is Upon Us!”
He's Alive and So is Damascus Methodist Church!**

1 John 5: 4-5

For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith. ⁵ And who can win this battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

Greetings Beloved in the name of Our Risen King, Jesus Christ of Nazareth! I'm always a little winded after a long and challenging Lenten Journey that ends with the Death of Jesus but rebounds four days later with the World Changing Resurrection of Jesus Christ My Lord!

The Journey through Lent challenges us in a deep and personal level, and the blessing of that journey is the freedom and forgiveness that comes from a commitment and step forward in our relationship with the Lord!

So, walking over to the Church this morning reminded me that there is truly a new season we are entering, “Spring Has Sprung!” With these changes in climate, sunshine, warmth and changing landscape comes a new excitement for living. Enjoying the Outdoors, longer Days, New Growth in trees, flowers, and all the animals of the world! This also holds true for us as Christians! Because He Lives, we can face tomorrow! There are so many opportunities that are just around the corner for us as Christ Followers, and this Church as a World changing force against the dark and angry world around us!

Our Kitchen & Fellowship are almost ready for it's reveal. The Men's Group is starting another “Bible Study” on John in May. The Daughter's of the King Banquet is right around the Corner! Community Breakfasts are coming Back, more opportunities for engaging the community through VBS in June, Outside Worship and Gatherings, and so much more! It's Our Time to claim Our Stake in the Revival of the World as Damascus Methodist Church Explodes for this New Season! Please come and be apart of what God is doing here at the DMC.

Let's Make Spring 2025 a Cornerstone Moment @ The DMC!

Simply Because HE is RISEN! And Because He Lives I can Face Tomorrow!

With Thankfulness & Love,
Pastor Jon

2 Corinthians 5: 17

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

SALT YOUTH MINISTRY

The youth have spent every Sunday evening during Lent discussing “what is new” at the cross on the altar. It's been such a wonderful teaching tool, helping them visualize the last days of Jesus on earth. And, we're traveling to Marengo, Ohio for the 2025 Allegheny West Encounter Conference! This years theme will be “God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit”. We will be joined by other Global Methodist youth for an enriching weekend of worship, fellowship and fun April 25-27!

In June/July/August S.A.L.T. is changing things up! We will meet every other Sunday after church (instead of every Sunday evening) for an afternoon outdoor adventure of hiking, canoeing, or whatever activity we encounter! We'll put aside our phones and other distractions and travel to some nearby parks to enjoy all of God's creation. And, of course, what trip would be complete without a stop for ice cream? All youth going into 6th grade in the fall and up to 12th grade are welcome. Come join us and see what S.A.L.T. is all about!

“That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ.”
Colossians 2:2

Blessings, Linda Henderson



Praise Reports

Wonderful Sonrise breakfast and 142 attendance Easter Worship!
Glen Wilson Cancer Free 1 yr!
Grayson Anderson had new baby boy, Zachary Allen Westover,
On Monday, 4/28
Walt Pontious home from hospital



Prayers:

World Peace, Government officials around the world
First responders, front line workers, military, veterans and their families
Recovering from Surgery: Bonnie McDermott, Joe Cadile, John Heverly,
Sawyer Anderson
Dina's sister, Liz, upcoming biopsy
Mary Ann Evans' residence will permanently be at Heritage Manor, Yo.
She is still unable to walk, so needs prayers for rehab.

*****Our Spring Mission Campaign is for the
Alliance Pregnancy Center!**

Pick up a bottle or two on welcome center and fill
with your loose change!



Mission Trip News

Our Summer Trip is scheduled for June 22-June 28. We will be returning Southern Central OHIO to work with Jackson Area Ministries. We have been there twice before and done many good things. The trip is different each time. We stay at different Churches in different towns. Our final destination has still not been determined by Jackson. I am positive it will be great! The group is ready to get back to serving others. We have been waiting for the kitchen Renovations to be done to continue our local outreach of breakfast every third Saturday. The Community has been very supportive and patient. Our group wants to thank Jerry and his fellow Trustees for their hard work to make this project become a reality. What a true blessing this kitchen is going to be!

Bennett Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship in memory of Lea & Janice Bennett and their son, Barney Bennett, is offered to support and promote training of church leaders. It was created to provide financial assistance to persons who commence training or education toward a Christian ministry, such as pastoral ministry, missionary service, religious education, youth ministry or music ministry. Eligible students are juniors or seniors in an undergraduate program as well as seminary students. Preference will be given to students from the Global Methodist Church as well as the Salem/Alliance area. The scholarship is awarded on a yearly basis. If you are interested or know someone who qualifies, please direct inquiries by May 20th to the Bennett Scholarship Committee c/o Damascus Methodist Church or contact the church office 330-537-3031.

Salem Community Foundation Ministerial Scholarship

This program is extended to those who wish to enter the fields of the Ministry, Christian Education, Youth Ministry, or a closely related field. Deadline to apply is June 4, 2025

Www.salemcommunityfoundation.org



WE CARE MINISTRY TEAM has decided to be a part of blessing new mothers and their little ones. If you would like to contribute to this ministry with your monetary donations, please memo WE CARE MINISTRY on envelopes. The church will be sending out 3 baskets very soon, as we already have two babies here and one more on the way! Olivia Mossow had baby girl, Adalynn Rose, Grayson Anderson had baby boy, Zachary Allen Westover. Brittany Sprague will be next.



Graduations are coming soon! College and High School!

Please let us know who all will be graduating and from what school and what date. We will be planning a special Sunday on May 18th to honor those graduates! **So far, we have: Grant Boyle, James Mincks, Grayden Grimm, Marissa Mountz, Cole Phillips, Colton Weingart, Jahmaray Williams and Caden Zion.** Please let us know if we left out anyone.

*****If you are a HS Senior and plan to continue your education, the**

West Branch Ministerial Assoc has scholarships you can apply for.

Please see Pastor Jon for an application. Deadline is May 4th, 2025.

Church Council Meetings:

The Church Council would like to make everyone aware that, during our March meeting, we decided, going forward, to hold the Council meetings **during the odd months of the year** (Jan, March, May, July, September, November) instead of every month. Typically, we do not have meetings in June, August or Dec. anyway. We will leave all meetings on the church calendar with the **even months listed as Council meeting if needed.** This will make it easier to enable us to hold a meeting during those months, if necessary. We also want to remind you that everyone is welcome to attend any Church Council meeting.

*****Endowment requests: Last day to submit is May 7, 2025.**

Youth Leader, Linda Henderson and I recently attended the annual GMC Allegheny West Conference Youth Retreat known as “Encounter” with several of our DMC youth. The theme this year was “We Believe” with the foundation of The Apostle’s Creed. The sessions and sermons were delivered by several great pastors in the conference including Bishop Jeff Greenway (or as he put it, “some call me Pastor, some call me Doctor and now some call me bishop, just call me Jeff”). It’s hard to imagine a Bishop spending the weekend at a youth retreat but it is indeed a great time to be a member of the movement called The Global Methodist Church. The weekend was full of spiritual food for all “ages” of Christians. I say all “ages” because there are spiritual infants that have reached the age of eighty as well as spiritual parents that are only eight. We all have a choice whether or not to grow spiritually and whatever stage of spiritual growth we find ourselves in, The Apostle’s Creed is a great guide.

A youth retreat is a great place to find fields ready to plant and ready to harvest. Traditionally, we have presented the Gospel message as something like “let Jesus into your heart”. While this is good intentioned, it certainly leaves much unexplained and has left many people believing that they are Christians while still being on the road to hell. I’ve met many friends that declare something like “I am a Christian but I’m just not living it.” The fact remains; there is no middle ground. A Christian is a follower of Jesus Christ. Yes, The Holy Spirit lives in the heart of a Christian but being a follower of Jesus Christ involves your whole self. It is not a partial thing. This weekend, we heard an invitation to the Gospel message said like this “Give as much of yourself as you know, to as much of Christ as you understand.” What a great starting point to begin following Jesus! Everyone innately knows that God is real.

Romans 1: 19-20 They know the truth about God because He has made it obvious to them. For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see His invisible qualities—His eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.

Knowing that there is a need to be saved from the ultimate cost of sin and knowing that God is real is His Prevenient Grace. The fact that God sent His Son to take that punishment and make a way for us to be with Him eternally is His Justifying Grace. We are pretty good at explaining the Grace that leads to salvation.

Ephesians 2: 8-9

God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

But there is so much more! We are meant to live into being a reflection of Jesus Christ We are meant to be an example of His Sanctifying Grace. We are meant to do His good works and live for Him.

Ephesians 2: 10

For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.



Birthdays

5/2 Rich Hawk
5/4 Ally Zion
5/6 Lane Loving
5/12 Karen Elsner
5/12 Gayla Houshour
5/13 Triston Beagle
5/16 Tracie Stitle
5/16 Janice Ward
5/17 Harold Wilson
5/18 Bill Williams
5/21 April Dettweiler
5/24 Randy Murphy
5/24 Shaunda Uphold

Children's Rotation

Sunday School ****Older Class**

5/4 **Lois Niederhiser
& Linda Henderson
5/11 **Brittany Sprague
& Shaunda Uphold
5/18 **Brittany Sprague
& Lois Niederhiser
5/25 **Lois Niederhiser
& Linda Henderson

Junior Church

5/4 Steve Sprague
& Codey Dettweiler
5/11 Troy Uphold
& Ethan Dettweiler
5/18 Brittany Sprague
& Jahmaray Williams
5/25 Lois Niederhiser

Wee Worship

5/4 Lois Niederhiser
5/11 Shaunda Uphold
5/18 Abby Heverly
5/25 Linda Henderson

Nursery

5/4 Amy Shoaff
5/11 Terrie Rohrer
5/18 Samara Anderson
5/25 Denise Linder

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

Counters

Kathy Knoedler &
Linda Henderson

Bus Driver

Jerry Menough

Acolytes

5/4 Addie Zion
& Triston Beagle
5/11 Elise Smith
& Maxon Weingart
5/18 Kara Zion
& Lane Loving
5/25 Stella Smith
& Triston Beagle



5/1 Larry & Jan Zielke
5/19 Pastor Jon & Jenny
Long
5/27 Jack & Linda
Henderson
5/27 Bill & Gayla
Houshour



TIME TO DIVE IN TO VBS!!!
SUNDAY, JUNE 1 – THURSDAY, JUNE 5

6:00 P.M. – 8:30 P.M. (CHECK-IN 5:45)
AGES 3 – 103!

Get ready for SCUBA VBS- the special week that helps kids and adults dive into a friendship with God! At SCUBA, we will explore what it means to have a friendship with a real loving, trustworthy God- a friendship that lasts forever! Our exciting VBS is only a few days away! Thank you to so many who have answered “yes, Lord,” to help out! Set-up will begin on Sunday, May 25! Come and lend a hand whenever or wherever you can! A sign-up sheet for the needed snack items is on the welcome center. Please be in prayer as we open our doors and our hearts to welcome in lots of kids and their families! There is an adult Bible study taking place each evening, too! Plan on being a part of this exciting week as we welcome everyone to dive into a deeper friendship with God!

Breakfast is back!!

Saturday, May 17th at 7:00 am –10:30 am

DAMASCUS METHODIST CHURCH

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 National Day of Prayer 9:30 am Tops 6:30 Men’s Bible Study	2 Daughters of the King Banquet 6:30 pm	3
4 9:00 am SS 10:00 am Worship 6-8 pm SALT	5	6 8:30am WB Minis Primary Election Day OCC Breakfast 9:30	7	8 9:30 am Tops 6:30 pm Men’s Bible Study 6:30pm Ruritans	9	10 All Church Clean up Day 8-? Lunch provided
11 9:00 am SS 10:00 am Worship NO SALT Youth Happy Mother’s Day!	12	13 Finance Mtg 5:30 pm	14	15 9:30am Tops 6:30 Men’s Bible Study	16	17 Community Breakfast 7-10:30 am
18 9:00 am SS 10:00 am Worship 6-8 pm SALT GRADUATES CELEB	19 Council Mtg 6:30	20	21	22 9:30 am Tops 6:30 Men’s Bible Study	23	24
25 9:00 am SS 10:00 am Worship No SALT Youth	26 Memorial Day Office Closed	27 7:00 pm Trustees Mtg	28	29 9:30 am TOPS 6:30 pm Men’s Bible Study	30	31