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

Church (330) 537-3031
Email: **office@dmc.church**
Pastor Sam Bryan 234-567-3371
Sunday School: 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M.

Fax (330) 537-3032
Church Website:www.dmc.church
SALT Youth Group– Wednesdays 6:30-8 pm

"Damascus Doings"

November 2026

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



Damascus Methodist Church Family,

We sent Pastor Jon and Jenny off with warm and heartfelt goodbyes this last month, and I know we are all praying that they enjoy their retirements on the sunny beach. With their departure, it is time for me to take on the role of lead pastor here at DMC. Therefore, for my inaugural newsletter, I thought it fitting to attach the letter that I wrote for the Charge Conference this year. This letter outlines my vision for the church going into 2027 as your new pastor.

Beloved,

We are on the cusp of something exciting here at Damascus Methodist. We are stepping into a time of significant change, and it is during these times of transition that God's unchanging character ought to bring us supreme comfort. We serve the God Who is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8), and Who will always care for His people (Matthew 6:25-34). I call you Beloved because you are beloved by God — adopted sons and daughters of the Most High. As His beloved children, we are called to fulfill the two Great Commandments: love God with all our beings and love our neighbors as ourselves (Matt. 22:34-40, Mark 12:28-31). This is the core of our mission as a church. We are called to do everything that we can to love extravagantly and serve humbly. We are called to be holy as the Lord is holy (Lev. 11:44, 1 Pet. 1:15-16) and constantly ask the Lord to conform us to His mind and His heart (Romans 12:2). With all that said, I would like to present a list of things for us to do as a church that I believe will help us in living out our calling going into 2027:

1. Be dedicated to studying, digesting, and applying the Word in our lives.
2. Form and sustain class and band (accountability) meetings.
3. Pray without ceasing as a church.
4. Serve wherever we can.
5. Embrace our identity as Christians and, more specifically, Methodists.

We are a chosen people set apart for God — a holy nation and royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9). Let us, then, embrace this identity and fulfill this calling in 2027 and the years to come. By the grace of God, I will do everything I can as your new pastor to fulfill my end of this calling, but I know I cannot do this alone. There is no amount of force of will or individual effort on my part that will make our church thrive. It is only by God's unmerited grace and our collective obedience to Him that our church will be healthy. Let us pray, then, that the Lord makes us worthy of our calling into His most sacred and excellent ministry (2 Thessalonians 1:11).

1 Peter 1:14-16, *"As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy'"* (ESV)

Grace and peace, Pastor Samuel Bryan

"DAMASCUS DOINGS"

SALT YOUTH MINISTRY

Wednesdays 6:30-8:00 pm
Young Adult Group (YAG) 2nd & 4th Tuesdays 6:30 pm

Hello!

As a new chapter starts at DMC, the youth group is beginning something new as well. I will be stepping into the (interim) Youth Director role for the time being. Pastor Sam will still be involved with the youth while the lessons will be planned and led by me. We will be discussing various topics about how to walk a Bible led life and why we believe what we believe as Christians. Each Wednesday night meeting includes snacks, a game, and fellowship along with our lesson!

I'd like to take this time to re-invite all of the youth of DMC to come join us on Wednesdays. If you haven't tried out the youth group or just entered seventh grade, now is the perfect time to jump in!

~Molly Bryan



Sam and Molly's moving day! Lots of able bodies!

Praise Reports

Emmitt Christ Cancer Free!
Barb Jones had successful Shoulder Surgery
Pastor Jon and Jenny retiring in Florida



Prayer Requests

World Peace, First responders, military, veterans and families

Brody Fisher in Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

Sheila Lucas dealing with many health concerns

Missions

2026 Missions Giving

Local Missions	$17,500.00	Endowment Income	$29,200.00
Foreign Missions	$14,525.00	Envelope Income	$3532.00
Family Support	$ 2500.00		
Total Givings	$34,525.00	Total	$32,732.00

Meetings/Events for November
Sunday, Nov. 1st—All Saints Day
Tuesday, Nov. 3rd—Election Day—remember to Vote!

Community Thanksgiving Service:
Damascus Methodist Church, Sunday, November 8th at 7:00 pm

Wednesday, Nov. 11th—Veterans Day
Monday, Nov. 16th--Council Mtg 6:30 pm
Tuesday, Nov. 17th--Worship Comm Mtg 6:30 pm

Monday, Nov. 16th thru Nov. 23rd—OCC Drop off days

Saturday, Nov. 21st—Community Breakfast 7-10:30 am

Thursday, Nov. 26th—Thanksgiving Day



Save the Date: Saturday, December 11 & 12th
Light Up Damascus Events

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Requirements for 2026 DMC budget per week: $4039.00

Offerings received so far 10/25/26	**$183,550.41**
Expenses as of 10/25/26	**-$175,055.62**
Balance of General Fund	**$8494.79**



"We Care Ministry" will be collecting small items for our Service Members for a Christmas Box from home.

We have 3 in the service that attended our church when they were around home. We will be collecting the month of November. A Christmas Card with a little note is always a blessing to them. Ideas for items to purchase: Beef Jerkey, DUDE wipes, candy (no chocolate), black tea, crackers, mints.



Special Note: When sending cards for birthdays, get well, etc., please Use the updated address listing on the wall in Narthex. It is updated Periodically and is much better than our 2024 picture Directory. (Don't forget to let Office know if you change address!) And note for Christmas cards....please don't write cards to anyone who isn't at church on a regular basis. You can send them to their home address. Thank you!



Monthly Community Breakfast at DMC
Saturday, November 21st 7-10:30 am
Come and enjoy the fellowship!

"DAMASCUS DOINGS"

From your Lay Leader …

Change is in The Air **Steve Sprague**

I remember it like it was yesterday. On October 14th, 2023 Pastor Jon Long and I were leaving the convening annual conference of the newly formed Global Methodist Allegheny West Conference. It had been a big deal, to say the least. At the moment we were getting into our trucks to leave, we both looked at each other with tears of joy. We had just concluded a week of Holy Conferencing for the first time ever. The conference had been just as it was supposed to be. The leadership of the movement had written the policies, organized the gathering, bathed the event in prayer, and then got out of the way to give The Holy Spirit free reign over the event. This was the new beginning of The Damascus Methodist Church.

Now, three years later, we are at another exciting point. We here at Damascus have gotten quite used to change. Now that I think about it, I haven't heard the phrases "that's the way we have always done it" or "we've never done it that way" in quite a while. We have never changed our firm reliance on the truth of The Bible. We have always held firm to the fact that Jesus Christ is building His Church upon that rock. However, we have learned that we are not the most important part of the church and that allowing The Holy Spirit to move freely is the most important thing we can do, even if that may look different than we might think it should.

Over the past several years, we have had more than our share of pastoral change. For a while it was more or less an annual (or even less) event. That has changed. As Pastor Jon and Jenny move on to a well-deserved time of rest, we are going to watch God's plans come to fruition. Yes, we are beginning yet another pastoral change but this time is way different. In fact, I would argue that this pastoral change is the most different in the history of our local church. We have had the opportunity to watch over the last year-and-a-half as Sam Bryan has mentored with Pastor Jon and become Pastor Sam. We have heard Pastor Jon and Pastor Sam tell the story of how God is at work in this transition and we trust that He will continue to work in powerful ways through this thing that He continues to build. We are at another new beginning point but we are living at a time that may very well be the most exciting time of the church. As we wait patiently for Jesus' return and live as His servants, let's all take time to watch and reflect on what God is doing and look for how we can be used to further His mission in this exiting time.

Matthew 16:13-19 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

Matthew 28:16-20 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."



11/1 Emily Tedrow
11/3 Judy Reichart
11/6 Jay Lafferre
11/8 Jamie Weingart
11/9 Shawn Heverly
11/11 Ron Castles
11/13 Marsha Coffee
11/17 Brian Coffee
11/19 Michael Landon
11/19 Pauline Wayne
11/22 Mary Weingart
11/28 Barb Bell



11/2 Jerry & Helen Mincks
11/17 Harry & Pat Hancock

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

Counters
Art Johanson &
Barb Karlen

Bus Driver
Jerry Menough

Acolytes
11/1 Wyatt Schulze & Sawyer Anderson
11/8 Elise Smith & Kara Zion
11/15 Ruth Crouse & Addie Zion
11/22 Max Weingart & Triston Beagle
11/29 Wyatt Schulze & Sawyer Anderson

Children's Rotation:

Sunday School
11/1 Lois Niederhiser
11/8 Linda Henderson
11/15 Shaunda Uphold
11/22 Lois N.
11/29 Lois N.

Junior Church
11/1 Steve Sprague
11/8 Brittany Sprague
11/15 Troy Uphold
11/22 Lois Niederhiser
11/29 Lois N.

Wee Worship
11/1 Grayson Anderson
11/8 Abby Heverly
11/15 Shaunda Uphold
11/22 Grayson Anderson
11/29 Abby Heverly

Nursery
11/1 Terrie Rohrer
11/8 Amy Shoaff
11/15 Samara Anderson
11/22 Hannah Schroeder
11/29 Amy Shoaff

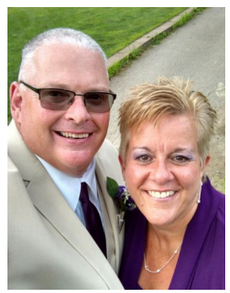
Floater
11/1 Vicky Smith
11/8 Andrea Altenhof
11/15 Katie Tedrow
11/22 Andrea Altenhof
11/29 Vicky Smith

"DAMASCUS DOINGS"

National Collection Week for OCC
Monday, November 16th-Monday Nov. 23rd

Fellowship Hall for Drop-off Nov.16-20
Hours 4:30 –6:30 pm
Might be different hours on Sat/Sun 12-2
Also Monday 11/23 will be 9-11 am.

Praise God for 538 packed and adopted Gospel Opportunity filled shoeboxes!!



To All Our Damascus Methodist Church Family!

It has been Our Honor & Privilege to serve you these last few years. And we wanted to Let you all know that we will always Love and Cherish the time God gave us together here at Damascus Methodist Church! It was truly a Blessing from Heaven to walk together and find our way back to Jesus after all the drama of Disaffiliation!

Stay True to His Word! Walk in His Light! And Love Like Jesus Loves!
In Christ's Love,
Pastor Jon & Jenny Long!
219 Tiger Lilly Drive
Parrish Florida, 34219

DAMASCUS METHODIST CHURCH

November 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 SS 10:00 Worship **ALL SAINTS DAY**	2 **SPR Meeting 6:00 pm**	3 **Election Day**	4 6:30 pm Salt Youth Group	5 9:30 am Tops 6:30pm Men's Study	6	7
8 9:00 SS 10:00 Worship/comm **Community Thanksgiving Service DMC 7:00 pm**	9	10 6:30 pm Young Adults (2nd & 4th)	11 6:30 pm Salt Youth Group **Veterans Day**	12 9:30 am Tops 6:30pm Men's Study 6:30 Ruritans	13	14
15 9:00 am SS 10:00 am Worship	16 **6:30 pm Council Mtg** **OCC Drop off**	17 **6:30 pm Worship Mtg** OCC Drop Off	18 6:30 pm Salt Youth Group OCC Drop Off	19 9:30 am Tops 6:30pm Men's Study OCC Drop off	20 OCC Drop off	21 **Community Breakfast 7-10:30 am**
22 9:00 am SS 10:00 am Worship OCC Drop off	23 **6:30 pm Trustees MTG** **OCC Drop OFF**	24 6:30 pm Young Adults	25 6:30 pm Salt Youth Group	26 **Happy Thanksgiving!**	27	28
29 9:00 am SS 10:00 am Worship **1st Sunday Advent**	30					