

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.

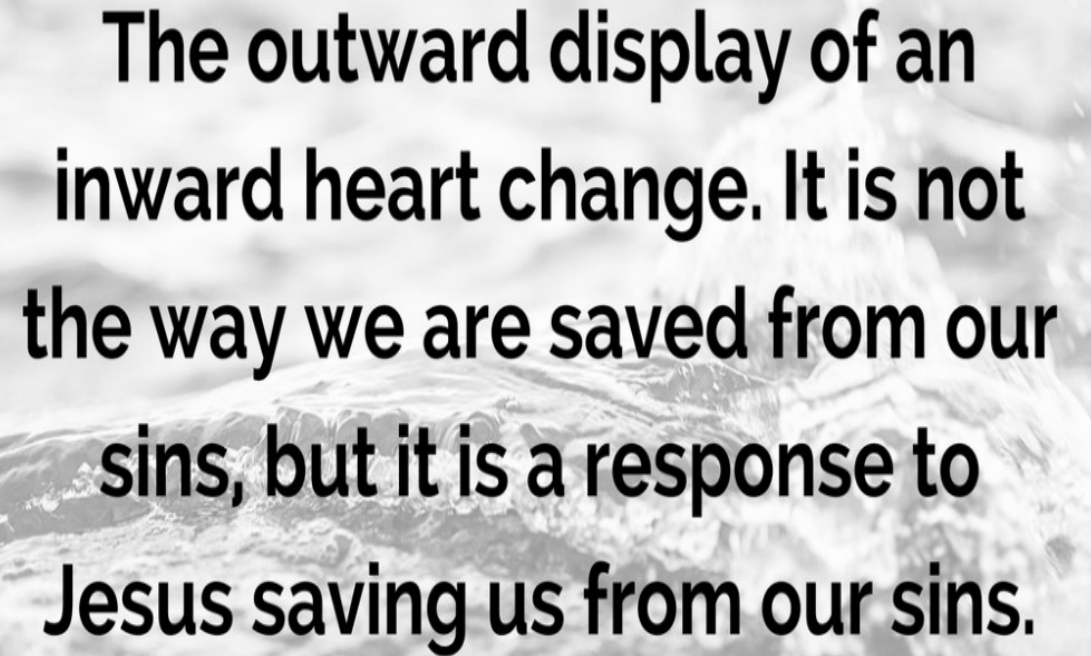
Fax (330) 537-3032
Church Website: www.dmc.church
SALT Youth Group - Sunday 6-8pm

“Damascus Doings”

September 2025

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

WHAT IS BAPTISM?



**The outward display of an
inward heart change. It is not
the way we are saved from our
sins, but it is a response to
Jesus saving us from our sins.**



September 2025
Come and See What God is Doing!

Acts 9: 31

The church then had peace throughout Judea, Galilee, and Samaria, and it became stronger as the believers lived in the fear of the Lord. And with the encouragement of the Holy Spirit, it also grew in numbers.

Greetings in the Name of Our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ!

Can you feel it? Are You comfortable in His Presence? Are You Amazed?

These are just a few of the emotions that are pulsing through my heart & mind as I am convinced that God is Doing Something BIG in this world! Our Church is growing, young and old are coming to this place, experiencing His Spirit, and left wanting more from this Community of Believers that are seeking God’s will for tomorrow.

Beloved, I NEED YOUR HELP! I can’t let DMC be like so many churches waiting for something or someone to wave a magic wand and make all things like they used to be.

God’s Spirit is in this Place. Every week we have new and old faces coming to see what God is doing and we must be prepared to show them Jesus in All His Glory!

It’s Not just the Pastor’s Job, or Secretaries, or Children’s education directors.....

It’s the Job of the entire “Body of Christ” banding together as a community of faith and each of us taking a part of this Spiritual revival and rebirth that our world so desperately needs!

Can you Pray, then Pray! Can you Sing, Then Sing! Can you Serve, Then Serve!

Can you Give, then Give with Joy and Excitement! That God has Chosen Us to be a catalyst for REVIVAL! There are so many things we can do together to make His Kingdom be Glorified for all to see!

We are in the process of rebuilding and reshaping our church leadership personnel and this is where everyone of us can serve. There is something for everyone.

We need to continue in Outreach and new Ministry Ideas for a World that is changing every day. We must engage our community in Joy and Praise of what God is doing here at DMC and invite everyone to be apart of this Amazing Act of Rebirth and Renewal!

It’s Our Time Church. We have been invited to be apart of a Revival of Faith.

Come and See What God is Doing!

In Christ’s Love, Pastor Jon

Romans 15:13

I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit .

SALT YOUTH MINISTRY

It is with bittersweet feelings that I am stepping away as S.A.L.T. Youth Director. Four years ago, when asked to take on this role, I felt ill equipped, even though, apparently (thank you MaryKay), I was seen differently than my self perception. I accepted and now four years later, I can honestly say it has been quite an adventure! But, not because of what I did, but rather what I learned – from listening to and following the Spirit and especially by the guidance of my closest Christian friends at Damascus Methodist, as well as all who have supported me with kind words along the way. I sincerely thank you from the bottom of my heart. I didn’t know it then, and sometimes I still forget, but God does equip you to do His work. All you have to do is trust Him! Case in point: one year ago, when our group needed a servant leader, God spoke to Zach Crouse’s heart and; he joined us. Thank you Zach for your dedication, passion and support! We love you!

The future of the S.A.L.T. Youth Ministry will be guided by Sam Bryan who has accepted the job of Youth Pastor. Our Church has been so blessed! I know that God has great plans for this Ministry. He has put the recent events in place for such a reason! Please pray for the future of all involved – and especially pray for our youth. They are worthy of our love and support!

I can honestly say that the youth have taught me as much as I hope I have taught them. In fact, I like to think that we learned together how to live more like Jesus! I trust that God will guide me in what new way I can best serve our Church in the future.

“So then just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, overflowing with thankfulness.” Colossians 2:6-7

In Gratitude, Linda Henderson

Salt Life Youth Group Family Meeting—Sept 10th at 6:30 pm in Gathering Rm

Salt Life Youth Group will be having a meeting at this time to discuss the details and expectations of the youth group this coming year. This time will give us a chance to get to know each other a little better, and you can ask me any questions you may have about the new direction of Salt Life Youth Group. All parents/guardians of youth who are in 7th-12th grade are invited to attend along with their teens. If you don’t fall into this category but know someone who does, let them know! I’m excited to see you all there!

Salt Life Youth Group Official Start—Sept 17th in youth room f/6:30-8:00 pm

Students who are in 7th to 12th grade are invited to the first official Salt Life Youth Group meeting of this school year on September 17th at 6:30 in the youth room. The meeting will last until 8:00. There will be snacks, games, and opportunities to really get into Scripture!

Sam Bryan, Youth Pastor

Praise Reports

New Custodian and Youth Pastor at DMC

Great trip by Youth to Lakeside

Exciting gathering at Lois's house Sunday School kids



Prayer Requests

Prayers for healing: Julie Morris, Jon Reed, Brian (Dina's cousin),

Sheila Lucas, Patty Dyer, Charlene Henderson

Family of Andy McFarlane who passed 8/24 (Jackie's husband)

Quint Bryan recovering from surgery

Charlene Henderson prayers for healing

Family of Paul Gordon (Jenny's uncle) who passed

JUNIOR CHURCH / SUNDAY SCHOOL REMODEL AND REVEAL!



Thank you so much to all who helped to remodel and make-over our Junior church/Sunday school space! This room has been well-loved and used for many years and was definitely needing an update! (It was last painted when Jonny Sprague was in the 4th grade and the carpet was bought with a fundraiser when Barry French was our youth leader!) EVERYTHING is brand new from the ceiling tile to the fresh new carpet and painted walls! We are enjoying some new furnishings and shelving as well! The old, outdated bulletin boards have also been replaced with new magnetic white boards! All together it provides a clean, safe, welcoming space where kids can continue to come and learn about God and His amazing love for each one of them! Thank you to all who came to our ribbon cutting and big reveal on Aug. 17. What a wonderful time to watch Pastor Jon pray a blessing over each one of our church kiddos from the tallest to the smallest! Stop back and see our new space! To God be the glory for the things He has done and is doing through these little ones!

CELEBRATION SUNDAY!



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2025
Celebration Worship & Lunch after Church!
New Members, Baptism, Dedications, Graduations
and a Fresh Dose of the Holy Spirit!
A Wonderful Time of Faith & Fellowship

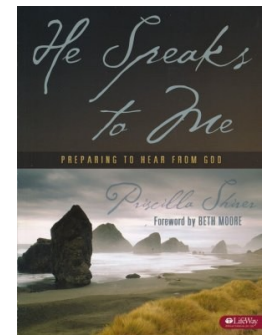
“He Speaks to Me”

New Women's Bible Study

Starting Thursday, September 18th at 6:30 pm.

7 week study Book \$17.00

(deadline to order books 9/8)



Why do we settle for the word of the Lord revealed to someone else and passed on to us as if God doesn't speak to us individually? This shouldn't satisfy us. In “He Speaks to Me”, Priscilla Shirer shows us how God spoke to Samuel and how He speaks to Christians today. He wants us to hear His voice, understand and obey. The Lord desires to speak to us personally. He wants to meet us where we are despite who we are and reveal His will for our lives.

God is going to reveal Himself and His plan for you in new ways. Make a commitment to be obedient to whatever He says. The results will be glorious!

Electronic Giving Methods Available at DMC!
Simple and Secure.

Give a gift one time, or schedule recurring donations using your checking account, debit or credit card. If interested, the QR code is safe to scan with your smart phone. This will take you to the myEoffering website that the church has been established with since 2016. After your account is set up, you will be ready to go!

If you are unable to scan the code, our church website has a link at the bottom of the page. The church website is **dmc.church**. Just look for the myEoffering Logo. Setting up an account is very simple and only takes a couple minutes.

Trans. Feess: ACH (checking/savings).30 per trans, Credit/debit card: 2.75% + .30 per

If you have any complications or questions, feel free to reach out to Brittany Sprague. She can help you!



Ministry Survey for Damascus Methodist Church.

Dear church family, God calls each of us to Serve his Church and Kingdom in different ways. As we continue to grow and vision ourselves for the future, we need individuals who can step up and help in many areas of church leadership and service. Below are some examples of Ministry teams that we need to increase numbers in for the **2026** year. Please prayerfully consider where you can help be part of the future of God’s Church.

Endowment Team:

Finance Team:

We Care Ministries Team:

Church History Team:

Missions Team:

Nominations Team:

Staff Parrish Relations Team:

Bennett Scholarship Team:

Trustees Team:

Worship Team:

If You would like to talk about or serve on one of these teams, just Check an X beside the teams that interest you and leave your name and phone number and we will be in touch to answer any questions.

Name: _____
Phone Number: _____

From your Lay Leader ...

Because He Said So

September 2025

I bet we can all remember our frustrated parents put an end to a conversation with something like “because I said so, that’s why...” As curious and/or restless and frustrated children, that was not the answer we were seeking but we knew it was time to stop asking. I have heard that some people have trouble thinking of God as “Father” because of issues they had with their earthly father. Humans are far from perfect and if you don’t believe that, well just ask my wife or children. I understand why people might have trouble with the concept. However, Our Heavenly Father is perfect. Jesus Christ created everything on earth, was born in the flesh, yet lived a sinless life and then died to take the punishment that we all deserve so that we imperfect beings can be made right with our perfect Heavenly Father. God - Our Father, deserves our complete trust and faith to say the least.

1st Peter 3:15 But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. Jesus Christ is Lord and savior to all that believe and give their lives to trusting in Him. We know this because he said so but there is so much more. The Bible contains all truth but the truth is not revealed simply in the words. When Jesus asked the disciples who He was, Peter answered that Jesus is “Messiah, Son of God.” Peter had spent three years with Jesus. He had seen first-hand, the miracles and heard His miraculous teaching. He had given his life to serving Jesus and had been taught how to really serve by the example of Jesus washing his feet. To say the least, Jesus had “told him so” in so many ways. But he did not arrive at the truth because of what he had been told. Peter knew who Jesus is because the truth had been revealed to him by God through faith, not because of what he had been told. When someone asks about your faith (the reason for the hope that you have), it’s because they are missing that reason. If we are seeking God, then it is only because He is seeking us. Our answer is always going to be some form of “because he said so” or “for the Bible tells me so” and that is perfectly fine because God doesn’t waste a thing and He certainly will use us if we are just willing to be used. Pray for an opportunity to share your faith today. We are all called to do so.

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



Birthdays

9/1 Mitchell Coffee
9/7 Amy Shoaff
9/9 Barb Jones
9/10 Bill Houshour, Sr.
9/11 Bruce Rohrer
9/12 Don Jones
9/13 Luci Knepper
9/21 Sally Wilson
9/27 Sawyer Anderson
9/27 Elise Smith
9/29 Stella Smith

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

Counters

Gary Mercer &
Jane Menough

Bus Driver

Steve Sprague

Children's Rotation

Sunday School **Older Class

9/7 Lois Niederhiser
9/14 **Celebration Sunday**
9/21 **Lois N/
Shaunda Uphold
9/28 **Lois N/
Linda Henderson

Junior Church

9/7 Steve Sprague/
Codey Dettweiler
9/14 **Celebration Sunday**
9/21 Troy Uphold/
Ethan Dettweiler
9/28 Lois Niederhiser

Wee Worship

9/7 Abby Heverly
9/14 **Celebration Sunday**
9/21 Shaunda Uphold
9/28 Linda Henderson

Nursery

9/7 Terrie Rohrer
9/14 **Celebration**
9/21 Denise Linder
9/28 Samara Anderson



9/4 Ralph & Kathryn
Landon (60)
9/9 Troy & Shaunda
Uphold (25)
9/14 Jonny & Brittany
Sprague (6)
9/28 Dave & Amy
Shoaff (34)

Acolytes

9/7 Elise Smith/
Kara Zion
9/14 Max Weingart/

9/21 Sawyer Anderson/
Stella Smith
9/28 Triston Beagle/
Lane Loving

Youth Ministry at DMC!

Meet Sam and Molly Bryan



Hello! **My name is Sam Bryan**, and I am the new youth pastor here at Damascus Methodist Church. I grew up in the Damascus area and graduated from West Branch in 2019. While at West Branch, I met my wife, Molly, who graduated the same year as me. I graduated from Liberty University in 2023 with a Bachelor of Science in History and a minor in Biblical Studies. I did not originally plan to go into the ministry, but in the fall of 2021, God called me into the pastorate through the call of the prophet Samuel in 1 Samuel chapter 3. Since my full name is Samuel, I felt God was calling me by name in that passage. At that moment, I knew that the life of ministry was God's plan for me.

Right after graduating college, Molly and I got married and moved down to Wilmore, KY, so that I could attend Asbury Theological Seminary. At the time of writing this, I am going into my third year of Asbury's Master of Divinity program. However, a few months ago, Molly and I felt like the Lord was calling us back to the area, so I decided to finish out my degree online while living in the area. With all that said, Molly and I are very much looking forward to what the Lord has in store for us here and thank you for giving us this opportunity to be a part of your church family!

Meet our new Custodian, Gerry Brain



My name is Gerry Brain and I have been a lifelong resident of Goshen/ Butler Townships. I am married to Melanie and we have four children (Amanda, Jeremy, Emily, and JD). We are also proud grandparents to Payton, Ryan, Alli, Luke, Abigail, and Willow. I am a graduate of West Branch High School and The University of Mount Union. I am retired from West Branch Schools, in which I served in various capacities throughout my working career. I look forward to serving the Damascus Global Methodist Church in the role of custodian.

DAMASCUS METHODIST CHURCH

September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day— Office Closed	2 Budgets Due	3	4 9:30 am TOPS	5	6
7 9:00 am SS 10:00 am Worship Meeting for members, baptisms, dedications	8 6:30 pm Nominations Committee Mtg	9 5:30 pm Finance Mtg 6:30 Special Ruritan Dinner	10 SALT Youth Family Meeting 6:30 pm	11 9:30 am TOPS	12	13
14 9:00 am SS 10:00 am Worship Baptism/new member Sunday! PICNIC!	15	16	17 Salt Youth 6:30 pm	18 9:30 am Tops 6:30 pm Ruritans 6:30 pm Women’s Bible Study “He Speaks to Me”	19	20 Community Breakfast 7-10:30 am
21 9:00 am SS 10:00 am Worship	22 6:30 Council Meeting	23	24 Salt Youth 6:30 pm	25 9:30 am Tops 6:30 Women’ Bible Study	26	27
28 9:00 am SS 10:00 am Worship	29 Trustees Mtg 7:00 pm	30				