

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](http://www.dmc.church)  
SALT Youth Group - Sunday 6-8pm

# “Damascus Doings”

July 2024

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





## July 2024 Newsletter: Pastors Moment “Independence Day”

### Isaiah 61:1

*The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is upon me, for the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to comfort the brokenhearted and to proclaim that captives will be released and prisoners will be freed.*

### **Good Morning Church!**

**Greetings in the Name of Our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ! WOW! What a year this has been in the life of Damascus Methodist Church and our lives together! I pray that you have enjoyed our time in ministry and also ask God’s blessing as we move forward serving God together.**

**I want to think back and praise God for all the blessings that his given us over the last year and furthermore throughout our lives!**

1. There is Jesus Christ, Our Precious gift from God to free us from the sin that has separated mankind from God for thousands of years!
2. Through the resurrection of Jesus, a gateway of Freedom has been offered to all believers! Praise the Lord!
3. That freedom then empowers us to Preach, Teach, and guide our families, neighbors, friends, and even strangers into the blessings we all have received as the “Body of Christ”.
4. It’s Our Time! To live our legacy, and to plot the future of Christ’s church by embracing rebirth & revival as the “Holy Spirit” guides us together as Christ’ Church for tomorrow!
5. Finally, yet not the end! This Freedom in Jesus allows us to resist and banish the power of EVIL from our lives! To live FREE in the power & presence of the Holy Spirit coursing through our hearts & minds and Christ Joyful servants!

**So, let us embrace & rejoice in the plans that God will reveal for Damascus Methodist Church as we follow Jesus into a new year, decade, & Century as his joyful & obedient church!**

### 1 Peter 2:16

*For you are free, yet you are God’s slaves, so don’t use your freedom as an excuse to do evil.*

In Christ’s Love, Pastor Jon

## SALT YOUTH MINISTRY

I would love to relay to you all the activities of S.A.L.T. Ministry, however, it has been a very quiet couple of months, with many celebrations such as Mother’s and Father’s Day, graduations, VBS, and others. But, it has also been a time of reflection as well.

Our church is so blessed to participate in this ministry! I have been thinking of the growth of the youth. They are all in high school now and most started coming as middle schoolers! I have been privileged to watch them grow and mature in so many ways. There have been ups and downs for sure. But positive growth certainly out-weighs the negative.

One thing I know for sure, this group seeks a righteous life in Jesus. Life as a teen, especially in today’s climate, is not easy to navigate. Every day these young people are presented with choices; and some of their choices are not going to be good ones because it’s also a time of maturing and learning.

But, there’s good news, too! Great news, actually! Jesus tells us about absolution from our bad choices. If we believe, and these young people do, we can bring our sins to our Lord and Savior. He died on the cross for our sins so that we are forgiven once and for all.

*“Therefore, there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”*

*Romans 8:1*

Shine your light, youth!

Blessings, Linda Henderson

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### **Drivers wanted!**

The **We Care Ministry team** is looking for **volunteer drivers**. We recognize the fact that some in our church family are no longer driving, or are not comfortable driving at night, during snowy weather, in the city, etc. We want to help! Therefore, we are looking for a list of volunteer drivers who are willing to help meet this need! There will be a sign-up sheet on the welcome center for drivers. Please indicate if you are willing to drive during the day, night or both! Once the list is compiled, it will be made available to our church office and our church family. This will allow those needing a ride to reach out to someone on the list! Please prayerfully consider signing up so that we can extend this much needed service to our church family.



## STEWARDSHIP PAGE

Art's son, Jeff, has diagnosis of gall bladder issues  
Ava came home from cancer treatment



World Peace  
Government officials around the world  
First responders, front line workers, military, veterans and their families  
Dorothy Walther in Hospice Care Crandall Medical Center  
Karen Elsner recovering from broken femur at Auburn  
Healing and recovery for Mary Ann Evans after knee surgery  
Mission Team successful and safe Trip to Jackson, Ohio and back home  
The Thompson family having hard times

Family of Jeff Wilson—Glen's brother  
Family of Donna Lutz



**2025 Budget Requests:** All committees and others who have submitted budgets in the past are being asked to submit their 2025 Budget Requests to the Finance Committee on or before Sunday, September 1, 2024. These requests can be placed in the Finance mail slot in the workroom or given to Tom or Amy. Thank you in advance for your timely response.



I would like to thank everyone in my church family for their prayers, support, cards, and food since my hip replacement surgery. I had a positive attitude before and during my recovery and you all helped that process even more. I am blessed to have so much love and concern around me.

Sincerely, Debbie Hawk

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**Don't miss out on the fellowship we have on Sunday**  
Mornings before Sunday School and before Church Service in the Gathering Room! Coffee and treats are available to enjoy!

We also need volunteers to serve and clean up

at this time. Sign up on Narthex!



**STELLAR VBS WAS OUT OF THIS WORLD!!!!**

Stellar VBS was a wonderful success! We had 33 kids ( plus 2 in the nursery) and LOTS of adults and youth who all came together to “Shine Jesus Light!” We sang, danced, played, studied, and prayed together for an amazing week! The up-lifting atmosphere was palpable! Thank you to our church family for coming together and supporting this wonderful outreach!

Our **VBS offering** will be given to the child’s heart project through Samaritan’s Purse. Our offering will help a sick child “soar” to the United States to receive a life-saving heart operation. We collected over \$570 for our mission project!

All and all, it was a wonderful, Spirit-filled time. We are always sad and surprised how quickly our VBS passes! And even though our VBS has ended, we still have many opportunities each and every day to “Shine Jesus Light!”  
In Christ, Lois Niederhiser



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**Blood Drive Tuesday, July 9th 1-6pm**  
**DMC Fellowship Hall**  
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**DMC GLOBAL METHODIST PICNIC!**  
**Celebrate our one year anniversary of becoming**  
**A Global Methodist Church!**  
**Sunday, July 7th at 11:30 am following Worship**  
**Sandwiches and salads to be provided.**  
**Feel free to bring a favorite dessert or snack!**  
**\*\*\*\* Let’s all wear our new Blue T-shirts! \*\*\*\***



**From your Lay Leader ...**

**The Heat of Summer**

**July 2024**

As I write this article, it will be close to 100° outside today. Thank God for air conditioning! However, air conditioning is not an option for all of us and certainly not all of the time. Think of the road workers paving with hot asphalt and so many more that work outside to help make the world a better place. Sometimes we just have to take the heat. Recently here at DMC there has been some great events such as our annual Vacation Bible School. This year we had just over thirty enthusiastic kiddos and around twenty enthusiastic (albeit exhausted) adult helpers. The week was out of this world with a space theme as we shared the good news of God’s love with the precious little ones. We even got to share some twinkies but I guess you had to be there to understand the importance of twinkies that week. Anyway, we had tons of fun and learned how to shine Jesus’ light when things are going well and even when they are not. We’ve also had some hard news with the deaths of several members of our church family. Many of us did not know Paul Wiemer very well but he was always pleasant no matter what he was facing and he loved to sing praises to God. The tragedy of losing his son and daughter during what turned out to be his last days on earth must have been hard to take. Paul never lost the faith. The most recent was Donna Lutz. Donna was the choir director for many years after her career as a school teacher. She has touched so many in so many ways. We miss her greatly. As we taught the kids last month, we need to be able to shine Jesus’ light when things are going great as well as when they are not. It is easy to praise God in the good times but it’s when the heat is on, that we need to turn to Him even more. It is good to let God know that we are sad, alone and even angry. Somehow by bringing our deepest despair before our God and Savior, we remember and feel His saving grace and mercy. God is so good and He alone can bring that peace that passes all human understanding. Let us never forget that God is in control and trust that He knows what He is doing even when we do not. The Psalms are full of songs expressing sadness that turn into praise. **Psalm 130: 1-7 From the depths of despair, O Lord, I call for your help. Hear my cry, O Lord. Pay attention to my prayer. Lord, if you kept a record of our sins, who, O Lord, could ever survive? But you offer forgiveness, that we might learn to fear you. I am counting on the Lord; yes, I am counting on him. I have put my hope in his word. I long for the Lord more than sentries long for the dawn, yes, more than sentries long for the dawn. O Israel, hope in the Lord; for with the Lord there is unfailing love. His redemption overflows. Psalm 42: 5-8 Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again— my Savior and my God! Now, I am deeply discouraged, but I will remember you— even from distant Mount Hermon, the source of the Jordan, from the land of Mount Mizar. I hear the tumult of the raging seas as your waves and surging tides sweep over me. But each day the Lord pours his unfailing love upon me, and through each night I sing his songs, praying to God who gives me life.**

**Steven Sprague—Lay Leader**  
**Stevespra@gmail.com cell 216-789-4650**





**July Birthdays**

- 7/1 Carey Weingart
- 7/3 Donna Lutz
- 7/4 Rev. Wm Buell
- 7/5 Jean Phillips
- 7/6 Larry Zielke
- 7/8 Jenny Long
- 7/10 Eldon Morckel
- 7/11 Gary Mercer
- 7/12 Zach Coffee
- 7/14 Barb Heverly
- 7/20 Alex Morrow
- 7/24 Kyari Graffuis
- 7/24 Caden Zion
- 7/25 Len Niederhiser
- 7/26 Kevin Wartluft
- 7/27 Rev. Jay Lucas
- 7/27 Jackie McFarlane



- 7/4 Brian & Marsha Coffee
- 7/15 Rev Jay & Sheila Lucas
- 7/18 Jeff & Holly Morrow
- 7/26 Ed & Christine Lydic

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

**Counters**

Kathy Knoedler &  
Barb Karlen

**Bus Drivers**

Jerry Menough

**Acolytes**

- 7/7 Elise Smith/  
Maxon Weingart
- 7/14 Addie Zion/  
Triston Beagle
- 7/21 Kara Zion/  
Lane Loving
- 7/28 Stella Smith/  
Corianna hauter

**Children’s Rotation**

**Sunday School\*\*older class**

**Sunday School \*\*\***

- 7/7 Lois Niederhiser
- 7/14 Brittany Sprague
- 7/21 Shaunda uphold
- 7/28 Linda Henderson

**Junior Church**

- 7/7 Lois Niederhiser
- 7/14 Brittany Sprague
- 7/21 Troy Uphold/  
Ethan Dettweiler
- 7/28 Steve Sprague/  
Codey Dettweiler

**Wee Worship**

- 7/7 Brittany Sprague
- 7/14 Lois Niederhiser
- 7/21 Shaunda Uphold
- 7/28 Linda Henderson

**Nursery**

- 7/7 Terrie Rohrer
- 7/14 Nancy Cadile (SS)  
Denise Linder
- 7/21 Amy Shoaff
- 7/28 Abby Heverly

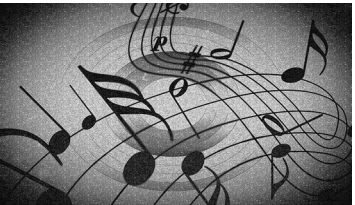
**Community Breakfast Saturday, July 20th**

**7-10:30 am**

**Donations only**



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**We are looking for Musical or other Talents to bless us for the Summer Season! If questions, talk to Chris Lydic! Or sign up at Narthex!**

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***\*\*\*Still a few T-Shirts for sale—\$10 each  
Be proud of our new DMC Global Methodist Church!***





# DAMASCUS METHODIST CHURCH

## July 2024



| Sunday   | Monday                    | Tuesday                | Wednesday | Thursday                               | Friday | Sat-                                   |
|--|---------------------------|------------------------|-----------|--|--------|--|
|  | 1                         | 2                      | 3         | 4<br>Independence Day<br>Office Closed | 5      | 6                                      |
| 7<br>8:45-9:45 am Gathering<br>9:00am SS, 10am Worship<br>6- 8:00pm SALT Ministry<br>DMC Cookout<br>11:30 after church | 8                         | 9<br>Blood Drive 1-6pm | 10        | 11<br>9:30am TOPS                      | 12     | 13                                     |
| 14<br>8:45-9:45 am Gathering<br>9:00amSS, 10am Worship<br>6- 8:00pm SALT Ministry                                      | 15<br>6:30pm Council mtg  | 16                     | 17        | 18<br>9:30am TOPS<br>6:30pm Ruritans   | 19     | 20<br>7:00–10:30am<br>Church Breakfast |
| 21<br>8:45-9:45 am Gathering<br>9:00am SS, 10am Worship<br>6- 8:00pm SALT Ministry                                     | 22<br>7:00pm Trustees Mtg | 23                     | 24        | 25<br>9:30am TOPS                      | 26     | 27                                     |
| 28<br>8:45-9:45 am Gathering<br>9:00am SS, 10am Worship<br>6- 8:00pm SALT Ministry                                     | 29                        | 30<br>6:30 Worship Mtg | 31        |  |        |  |