

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

Church (330) 537-3031

Email: office@dumcohoio.org

Pastor John Fitch: Phone: 419-651-7244

Sunday School: 9:00 A.M.

Worship 10:00 A.M.

Fax (330) 537-3032

Church Website: www.dumcohoio.org

Praise and Worship 11:15am Youth Group 6-8pm

“Damascus Doings”

MAY 2023

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

Happy Mother's Day

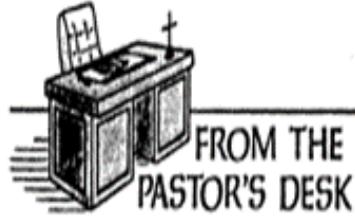


HE
has made
EVERYTHING
beautiful
in it's time.

Ecclesiastes 3:11



Memorial Day
May We Never Forget



PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVES May 2023

2 Corinthians 1:2-7 NASB

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. 5 For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our comfort is abundant through Christ. 6 But if we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; or if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which is effective in the patient enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer; 7 and our hope for you is firmly grounded, knowing that as you are partners in our sufferings, so also you are in our comfort.

Dear Friends (Congregation) at Damascus,
Sometimes no additional comment is necessary to improve upon a piece of scripture.

In Christ's love to you all,
Pastor Fitch

Bible Study



Pastor John and Krista will be continuing their Bible Study on Wednesdays from 6:00pm—6:45pm. Hope to see you there.



Souls After Living Truth News

Springtime is such a beautiful expression of God's creativity! Blooms open, colors emerge, birds and insects are nourished. Seeds which are planted, unfurl and the glory of God is revealed.

Just as the soil sprouts seeds, there are many other 'seeds' which sprout. They are planted from the tiniest of acts: a smile, a word of encouragement, the comradery of peers. "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches." Matthew 13:31-32 A seed has taken root in our youth group! Youth requested a Bible study (and a group was formed for Saturday mornings), youth have led devotions and small studies during youth group on Sunday evenings (with others wanting to share in the future), and, best of all, youth have stepped up to mentor younger kids. I am so proud of our young leaders. I am so proud of the spiritual passion the youth are experiencing. I love you all! Enjoy these pics of our crazy youth who know how to have fun...rolling cookies to win a gift certificate while avoiding cups with hot sauce, mayo, salad dressing, BQ sauce and other such nasties!

Blessings,
Linda Henderson



"STEWARDSHIP PAGE"



Elodie Joy— came home 4/24 after 101 days in the NICU



Ukraine– Shelter Plus
Government officials around the world
Jay Lucas– second knee surgery 4/17
Sheila Lucas– upper scope 5/3
Lane Heverly (9 years old) – surgery to remove cyst from his brain
Nancy Smith– healing and strength after a stroke
Pauline Wayne– healing and strength after heart catheterization with balloon placement
Donna Lutz– healing and strength
Gloria Mathie– dislocated hip
Scott Kurena– healing
Jamie Weingart– healing after surgery
Bethany Kholos- in need of prayer



SUPER SILLY STRING “SELEBRATION!” SUNDAY, MAY 7

The kids have been working hard to earn bonus points to earn a silly string party! They have met and surpassed their goal so it's time to celebrate! On Sunday, May 7, we will be taking the church van to enjoy lunch at McDonald's. Then, we will be having our silly string party! Please have your child wear play clothes or bring a change of clothes with them. The church van will be parked outside the back door so that you can place your child's booster seat in the van that morning. After our party, we will be driving your child home which should be between 1:30 – 2:00 p.m. It is sure to be a fun-filled celebration as we spend time together with our church friends. There is no cost for the children to attend but permission slips are needed and are on the welcome center.



V.B.S. COMING SOON! TREASURED! DISCOVERING THAT YOU ARE PRICELESS TO GOD!

Thank you to so many who have answered, “Yes, Lord!” and are serving as leaders for this year's V.B.S. It will be held on Sunday, June 11 – Thursday, June 15 from 6:00 – 8:30 in the evenings. It is for ages 3 – those who have finished 6th grade. We are in need of crew leaders and youth helpers! Please see Lois Niederhiser if you are willing to help! Also, please look for a sign-up sheet at the welcome center for snack donations. Set-up will begin on Sunday, 4. Please plan to lend a hand and help us transform the church into an exciting and welcoming space for the kids! Questions? Please feel free to call or text Lois @ 330-727-6841. Thanks in advance for all of your help and support for this very important event!



CALLING ALL CAMPERS!!!!

It's that time of year again! A large variety of camps are offered for kids ages 1st-12th grade! Be sure and read over the materials you were given and make your choice! Did you know our church has a camp scholarship fund? Church camp is a wonderful experience but it can be very expensive! Thank you to those who donate to this wonderful fund that enables our kids to attend camp!

From your Lay Leader ...

Keeping the Main Things Main

May 2023

Imagine if you will this scene in Heaven on that first Good Friday. One of the thieves on the cross shows up and is standing at the gate talking to the gate keeper. The gate keeper asks who he is. The thief replies; "I am known only as a thief. I have been a thief my whole life." This response confused the gate keeper and he asked: "Well, if you are nothing but a thief, why would you be here in paradise?" The thief says "I have no idea." The gate keeper thinks for a minute and thinks about some possible qualifications for the thief to enter. "Well, what kind of doctrine do you believe?" "Doctrine? I have no idea what that means." replied the thief. The gate keeper was taken aback! "What version of The Bible have you studied?" The thief was beginning to think there must be some mistake. Maybe, he isn't supposed to be here after all, but he knew that he was where he was supposed to be. "The Bible? I've never heard of the bible..." The shocked gate keeper thought to himself. "How can we have a Christian here that has no idea what he believes and has never studied The Bible?" He then said to the thief "I am confused. You are here so there must be a reason but you don't seem to fit the mold. What could possibly qualify you to enter paradise?" To which the thief replied; "Look, I have no idea about any of the things you just asked. All I know is I was sentenced to death by crucifixion and I deserved the sentence, every bit of it. I've lived a horrible life and done terrible things to many innocent people. There was another thief hanging on a cross with me and he too deserved the punishment we were getting. Earlier today, I died on that cross. There was another guy hanging a his own cross with us. He was innocent. He did not deserve to suffer such a terrible death but he actually forgave the very people killing him. The love he displayed was amazing! The other thief mocked the innocent man along with the crowd and it upset me like never before. I was overwhelmed with the realization that I have done so much wrong and had no way to save myself from this painful death. I rebuked the other thief for his insults. I suddenly had a fear of God that I had never felt before. I turned to the innocent man that hung between us and asked him to remember me when he comes into his kingdom. The man said something to me that I will never forget. He said that today I would be with him in paradise." Just then an amazing glow surrounds the two men as Jesus Christ walks nearby. The thief says "There is the man that said I could come here!" The gate keeper's attitude suddenly changed. He was full of joy. He said to the thief: "That's all I needed to know. If that man said you can come in, then you can come in. Welcome home, brother."

While we transition from The United Methodist Denomination to The Global Methodist Denomination, we must remember to keep the main things, the main things and remember not to elevate disagreements to a level higher than they deserve. There are many good reasons for our church to separate from The United Methodist Denomination but going forward we must remember 1 st Corinthians 1:1-13 If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing. If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing. Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

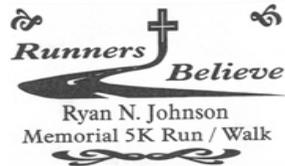


Summer Mission Trip June 25 – July 1, 2023

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 Cluster 13 Ministries in Camden, NY. Cost is only \$100.00 each for those who have been helping with the Breakfasts or any other fundraisers. Wow!

All our trips have been very successful and thrifty, even with high fuel costs. Please pray for those who have made the commitment to participate and give of their talents and time. It will be a life changing event for all!

Building and repairing for Christ,
Lenny



Ryan Johnson Memorial 5K Run/ Walk Saturday May 13, 2023

West Branch High School
14277 Main Street
Beloit, OH 44609
Race Time: 9:00am

Online registration available at: secondsleohio.com



May 6th at 8:00am

Miscellaneous projects inside and out please come and help, lunch will be provided.



May Birthdays

- 5: Ally Zion
- 6: Lane Loving
- 12: Karen Elsner
 Gayla Houshour
- 13: Tristan Beagle
- 16: Tracie Stitle
 Janice Ward
- 17: Harold Wilson
- 18: Bill Williams
- 21: April Dettweiler
- 22: Courtney Papic
- 24: Shaunda Uphold



May Anniversaries

- 27: Bill & Gayla Houshour
 Jack & Linda Henderson

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

Counters

Kathy Knoedler
&
Jane Menough

Bus Driver

Jerry Menough

Children’s Rotation

Sunday School

- 7: Lois Niederhiser
- 14: Linda Henderson
- 21: Shaunda Uphold
- 28: Shaunda Uphold

Junior Church

- 7: Lois Niederhiser
 & Abby Heverly
- 14: Brittany Sprague
 & Ally Zion
- 21: Troy Uphold
 & Ethan Dettweiler
- 28: Lois Niederhiser
 & Kaylea Pinkerton

Wee Worship

- 7: Holly Morrow
- 14: Linda Henderson
- 21: Shaunda Uphold
- 28: Nancy Cadile

Nursery

- 7: Amy Shoaff
- 14: Denise Linder
- 21: Terrie Rohrer
- 28: Barb Karlen

Acolytes

- 7: Kara Zion
- 14: Lane Loving
- 21: Max Weingart
 & Stella Smith
- 28: Codey Dettweiler



COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Saturday May 20th
7:00AM-10:30AM
Donation Only
(change will be available)

**The Damascus Methodist
Circuit Riders Monthly
Gathering at Copeland Oaks**



We had a nice visit with music, communion, a message and fellowship on April 11.

Circuit Riders next meeting:

Tuesday, May 9th at 3:30pm for worship music, message and communion in the Williamsburg Lounge.



There is a praise and worship service following our regular service from 11:15am to 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome for a great time of worship and fellowship. We hope to see you there.



You can help... There are approximately 200 homeless people in the Alliance and surrounding area. CLOTHED IN RIGHTEOUSNESS is a non-profit mission supported solely by community donations. Here’s our chance to seek the lost and live for Christ.

Please consider bringing food items and supplies that are listed on the donation box in the Narthex to help this mission. Thank you– Women of Faith. For more information see Helen Mincks or Terrie Rohrer.

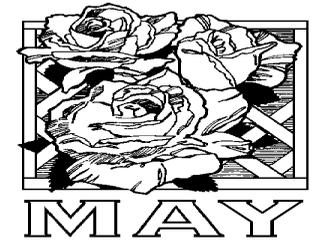
Matthew 25: 35-36, 40 “For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me.”

“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”



Damascus United Methodist Church

May 2023



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

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

	1	2	3	4	5	6
	6:30pm SPRC Meeting	8:30am West Branch Ministerial Meeting	6:00pm– 6:45pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	9:30am TOPS 6:00pm Praise Band Practice		8am ALL CHURCH WORK DAY
7 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:15am Praise & Worship 6:00pm– 8:00pm SALT Youth Group	8	9 ELECTION DAY 1pm– 6pm Red Cross Blood Drive 3:30pm Circuit Riders at Copeland	10 6:00pm– 6:45pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	11 9:30am TOPS 6:00pm Praise Band Practice 6:30pm Ruritan Meeting	12	13
14 6:55am Sunrise Service 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:15am Praise & Worship 6:00pm– 8:00pm SALT Youth Group	15 6:30pm Church Council	16	17 6:00pm– 6:45pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	18 9:30am TOPS 6:00pm Praise Band Practice	19	20 7:00am– 10:30am Church Breakfast
21 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15am Praise & Worship 6:00pm– 8:00pm SALT Youth Group	22 7:00pm Trustee Meeting	23	24 6:00pm– 6:45pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice	25 9:30am TOPS 6:00pm Praise Band Practice	26	27
28 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:15am Praise & Worship 6:00pm– 8:00pm SALT Youth Group	29 MEMORIAL DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	30	31 6:00pm– 6:45pm Bible Study			