

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

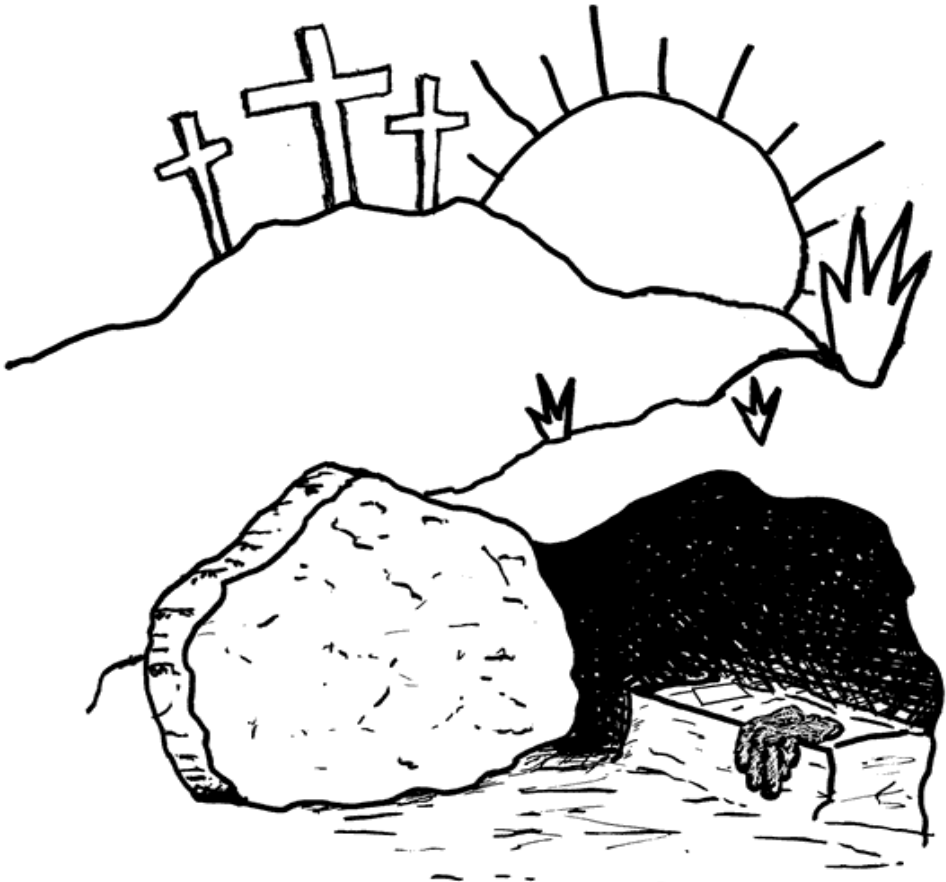
Church (330) 537-3031
Email: office@dumcoho.org
Pastor Frank's Email: pastorfrzugaro@gmail.com
Sunday School: 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M.

Fax (330) 537-3032
Church Website: www.dumcoho.org

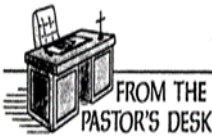
“Damascus Doings”

April 2021

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



**He is not here; for He is risen, as He said.
Come, see the place where the Lord lay.
Matthew 28:6**



PASTOR’S PERSPECTIVES

April 2021



As we celebrate Easter on this first Sunday in April, I want to take a moment to reflect on our Lenten Journey together. Normally at this time that we reflect on scriptures dealing with the life of Jesus. The ones that deal with His glorifying triumph over the devil and death itself.

Last month I posted this scripture in the newsletter a scripture from **Matthew 6:33** – *But seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

I hoped to focus the church family and our personal thoughts to giving up the list of items posted in Marches newsletter. By reading and embracing the attached scripture to the specific item. It was a daunting list and one, that at times, I struggled with myself.

The United Methodist church is struggling with many issues today and we are struggling with returning our lives to a “new normal” that has been placed upon us. I was struck again by the amazing grace that God bestowed on me as I sat down to write this message. Originally, I picked Mathew 6:33 for my personal Lenten focus. It was to help me do the things that glorify God in my personal life. To be kinder, gentler, caring, and more compassionate, to think more about others and less about me. This month I was going to post the scripture verses 31 and 32 from Mathew 6 only and ask “Did you receive these this Lenten season and did you seek the kingdom of God this month?” Instead, I have chosen to add verse 34 as well. I believe we as a church family and as individuals will draw spiritual renewal from these words. Renewing our spirit and refocusing our thoughts for embracing the new and unknown journey we are embarking on this Spring.

Matthew 6 31-34
³¹ *Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’* ³² *For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.* ³³ *But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.* ³⁴ *“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”*



As a good friend of mine once told me: “Do not rent out space in your head to others who say or do things that may upset you!”. At this time as I struggle with reopening the church, trying to keep everyone happy and moving forward, with “in person” worship, doing “normal” church activities, and accepting change these words and the message in **Charlie Mackesy’s** drawing have brought me a peaceful heart I pray they do the same for you.

Your Partner in Christ,
Pastor Frank (330)212-0275



Souls After Living Truth News

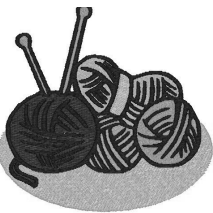
April Events

Hello from the DUMC youth!

In Romans 8:11 (AMP), the apostle Paul says this: “And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, who lives in you.” It’s an encouraging statement for multiple reasons. First, it reminds us that we serve a *living* Savior because our God is stronger than *death*! Secondly, it reassures us that those who put their faith in Jesus will one day rise again just as *he* did, courtesy of the same amazing God who resurrected *him*! Thirdly, it suggests that those of us joined by faith to Jesus can experience God’s life-giving power *this* side of heaven! “The Spirit of Him who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies”, Paul states, but why limit that idea to resurrection? Why not seek to receive new life *right now*? I believe God is willing and eager to help His people receive healing and even miracles so we can serve Him effectively in the here and now. That, too, is part of the hope of Easter.

Blessings,

Phil



“Yarn For Christ”

I am planning a group for knitters and crocheters and those wanting to learn called “Yarn For Christ”. Projects will be donated to a variety of facilities. I plan to hold meetings on Wednesdays from 3:30pm–4:30pm. If you are homebound and unable to attend meeting, project directions will be provided.

Please call Abby Heverly for details (234)567-0299.

"STEWARDSHIP PAGE"



Thomas and Lauren Niederhiser welcomed Kit McKenzie on 3/10
Jen Bixler– home, doing well after covid



Sheila Lucas– continued healing
John Turola– sarcoma
Rich Hawk– dialysis
Karen Palo– tendon repaired in foot
Carol Bradway– chemo, breast cancer
Cindy– treatment of melanoma
Joanne Dobbs– health issues
Roger– colon cancer



Family of Agnes England



DAMASCUS UNITED METHODIST PRESCHOOL Greetings from Preschool

Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these. Matthew 19:14

Last year at this time we were doing our preschool on-line. This year we are thankful and blessed to be back in the classroom. Our year hasn't been without some challenges, but God is faithful. We are happy to be in the classrooms and with our friends.

Thank you to all that participated in our Walnut Creek fundraiser. We will be holding a Little Lambs Gourmet Popcorn sale. I will be making a one-call when the fundraiser starts. God has been faithful and provided what we needed. We have faith He will continue to provide for us.

We are accepting registration for the 2021-22 school year. If you know of someone who might be interested in our programs, please let me know and I will contact them. If you have a business that would let you hang one of our flyers, please ask me, I will be happy to get one to you. Also if you are interested in putting one of our signs your yard, please let me know.

For right now our Preschool Sunday and End of the Year Program are still on hold. We know that God has a plan and a purpose for us.

Our prayers are with all of you. Continue to pray for us! Pray for our families, our current students and our future students. Pray that God leads us those that need to hear His word through us.

Many Blessings,
Andrea, Amy, Phil, Abby & Courtney



Children's Ministry Announcement

In March we held a Candy/Egg donation drive for our Easter Egg hunt. We had a total of 17 Candy Donations and 1 big bag of plastic eggs!!! Thank you so much to everyone who was able to donate.

If you are interested in camp please see Brittany Sprague for the two financial aid applications for all campers for all camps. Please fill out and submit these forms ASAP. Church camp is a wonderful experience but can be quite costly. Ranging in cost from \$209-\$599. Mahoning Valley offers a \$50 Scholarship that is **due by Friday May 1st**. East Ohio Conference offers up to one half of the camp fee or \$150, whichever is less. This scholarship is on a first served basis so it should be turned in asap. A scholarship is also available from Damascus UMC, up to \$250 **after** the other scholarships have been applied. In order to receive the benefit of the Damascus UMC scholarship the camper must: participate in at least three Work Credits (Parents must be present), apply for the district and conference scholarships, pay the \$40 deposit and register by May 1st.

Our First Work Credit day will be at the church on April 24th from 9am to 1pm. Parents must be present with children and only have to attend 2 of the 4 hours. This is a great opportunity to help our church since we currently do not have a janitor.

On April 18th we are going to be having a Family night! Parents with children age 3 to 6th grade are welcome to attend the Magic Show! This will take place in the Fellowship hall. A light snack will be provided. Check in starts at 5:45pm. The show will begin at 6pm and will end about 7:30pm. Please let Brittany know if you are able to attend.

We are in need of volunteers for our check in/check out stations. If you have ever been a greeter in the Narthex then this is a perfect volunteer opportunity for you! The kids love a friendly familiar face on Sunday morning! Please Contact Brittany Sprague if you would like more information about this important opportunity.

Text or Call
Brittany Sprague
(234) 600-0706
dumcohoeddirector@gmail.com



From your Lay Leader ...

Take My Place

April 2021

Have you ever thought of taking punishment for someone else? One time many years ago, we had a backfire on an industrial heat treat furnace that my dad and I were working on. The flames billowed out of the furnace door and burned my face. I ended up in the hospital for a few days to have the burns treated while they healed. The human body is such an amazing display of God's creation and everything healed just fine after a few weeks. It seems that I remember less these days but I remember very clearly that first evening in the hospital my Dad saying that he wished it were him in that bed instead of me... I did not do anything to deserve that particular injury but neither did my Father, and yet, he would have done anything to take the pain that I was experiencing upon himself in order for me not to have to go through it. My Dad did not have the ability to take my place but he would have done so if he could have.

Jesus was not only willing to take the punishment that we do deserve, but He had the ability to do so and He did it. There is a Christian comedian named Jeff Allen and he jokes a lot about raising children. In a bit talking about teenagers, he said something like this; "I believe teenagers are God saying, let's see how mankind likes it to create something that denies their own existence. Nowhere in the Bible does it say how old the devil was when he rejected God's authority, but I'd say he was about sixteen." LOL Some jokes are funny because there is maybe a little truth to them. **Jeremiah 1:5(a) Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.** Jesus knew everything we would ever do when He took the punishment that we deserve. He knows our deepest secrets and yet He loves us enough to take our place. He knew that we would sin against Him not only in big ways but even in small ways often while we don't even recognize that He is here.

We take the opportunity of Holidays to gather with our families and friends. This Easter, as we celebrate and thank God for what He did on the cross and for rising from the dead, let's not forget to listen to The Holy Spirit as He urges us to tell others how they can know forgiveness and Love like never before. God took our place on the cross but there is one way in which He will not take our place. He created you uniquely and He wants to use you to plant seeds of Hope. Your story is yours and yours alone. Your whole life is your testimony and someone you come in contact with needs to hear how God has and is working in your life in order to have those seeds planted in them. We don't have to be theologians to tell our stories. We only have to be willing to recognize how and from what God has saved us and be willing to tell others about it.

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



April Birthdays

- 1: Alex Wandle
- 2: Lori Dearth
- 3: Jade Papic
- 10: Abby Heverly
Shaylee Muckleroy
Brittany Sprague
- 12: Andrew Coffee
Brandon Metts
- 13: Barb Zura
- 15: Marylee Blasiman
- 16: Barbara Baird
Michelle Papic
- 18: Bev Mosher
- 21: Jameson Kenneally
- 22: Geri George
Troy Uphold
- 23: Codey Dettweiler
William Lyda
- 26: Clayton Wright
- 30: Fred McPherson



Anniversaries

22: Don & Barb Jones



Worship Assistant
Carolyn Caldwell

Counters

Kathy Knoedler
&
Barb Karlen

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

ENDOWMENT REQUESTS



Updated forms are located in the work room in the Endowment mail slot. Return completed requests to the mail slot or to Gary Mercer by May 10th.



The SPR committee is looking for one or two people to take the entire responsibility or to share the responsibility of keeping the church clean. If anyone is interested or you know of someone who might be interested please contact myself or any SPR member. -Carolyn Caldwell



We are planning to collect an **item a month** so that next November we will have a wide variety of beautiful items! **April items** are socks, underwear and Easter clearance.



Dear Church Family,

Please accept our gratitude for the love demonstrated to our family after George’s sudden passing. We were blessed in so many ways. You provided prayer, delicious food and encouraging cards with loving words which gave us support and comfort when it was desperately needed. I have heard many times about our church being so loving and now I have experienced that love first hand. You are amazing!

I am also thankful for Pastor Frank who came to be with me at the hospital after receiving my call in the middle of the night. He remained with me for several hours until my family arrived and then stayed to provide continued prayer and comfort. His support was a life line for me.

Thank you for your prayers and love.

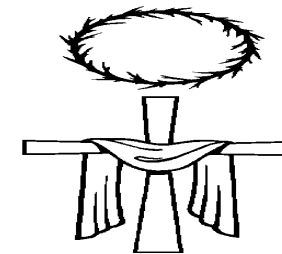
With love,
Marge, Jennifer and Dustin Zeigler.



Damascus United Methodist Church

APRIL 2021

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



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

				1 9:30am TOPS	2 Good Friday No Preschool	3
4 Easter Sunday 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 7:00pm– Talk with the Pastor 6:00pm– 8:00pm SALT	5 No Preschool 6:30pm SPRC Meeting	6	7	8 9:30am TOPS	9	10
11 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 7:00pm– Talk with the Pastor 6:00pm– 8:00pm SALT	12	13	14 6:00pm PAC Meeting	15 9:30am TOPS	16	17
18 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 Worship 6:00– 7:30pm Children's Magic Show 6:00pm– 8:00pm SALT	19 6:30pm Church Council	20	21	22 9:30am TOPS	23	24 9:00am-1:00pm Children's Ministry Work Day
25 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 7:00pm– Talk with the Pastor 6:00pm– 8:00pm SALT	26 7:00pm Trustee Meeting	27	28	29 9:30am TOPS	30	