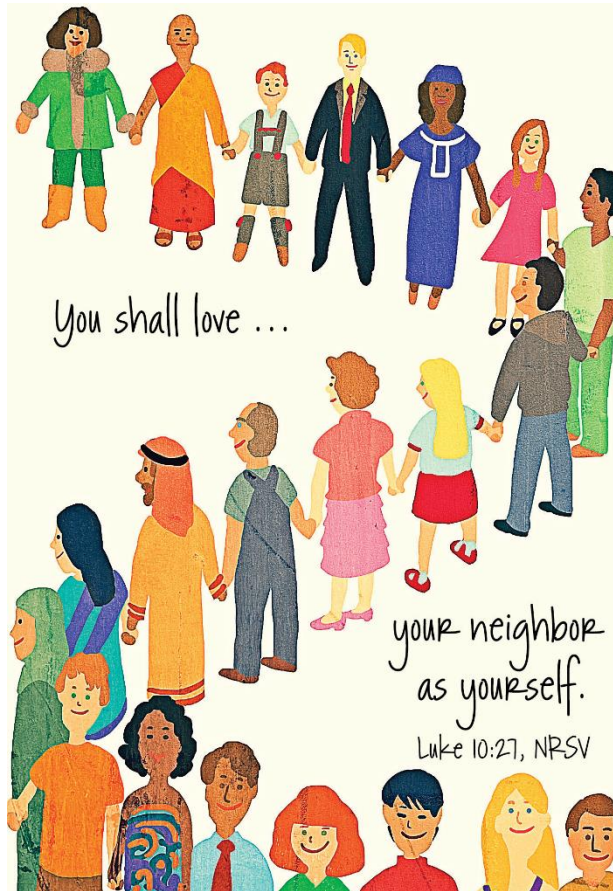




# DAMASCUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Serving Damascus Faithfully Since 1822*

*Rooted in faith, growing in love, branching out into God's world.*



**Seventh Sunday in Easter**  
**May 12, 2024 | 9:00 am**

**Welcome!** We are a community of faith open to all and we are glad that you are here! We pray that this time of worship will be meaningful and uplifting for you. If you are with us for the first time this morning, please be sure to stop at the Welcome Station in the Narthex (at the back, where you enter the Sanctuary). A host is there to answer any questions you may have. We also have a gift for you.

**Worship Accommodations:** We want each person to have a positive worship experience at DUMC. To that end, we have large print bulletins and hymnals available in the Narthex, as well as hearing assistive devices that can be used with or without a hearing aid. Children's worship bags are also available. Please speak to a welcome team member if you want to use any of these.

**Sunday Nursery Care:** A staffed Nursery for children aged **six months through kindergarten** is provided beginning at 8:45 a.m. on the lower level. Our Nursery attendants are ready to welcome your child! A member of the Welcome Team would be happy to guide you to the Nursery. Children's worship bags are available in the narthex.

---

## Today's Focus

Today we celebrate the ascension of Christ. This is a traditional observance which calls us to discipleship. This event's narrative, as recorded in Luke, makes the point that disciples are called to be in the world living out a mindset of service. We will also be celebrating the women who gave us birth. An observance of love, patience, and generosity will guide our liturgy.

**Thought:** *Take time to reflect upon and give thanks for the faithful women in your life.*

# FAITH TIME WORSHIP SERVICE

Please mute all devices.

## ROOTED IN FAITH

### Our Shared Life and Witness

*Please note various discipleship opportunities that may enhance your faith journey. These can be seen on the large screen in the Chancel, and in the bulletin. We also invite you to sign the Attendance Pad, located on the inside end of the pew, and pass it along.*

### Our Common Vision:

**At Damascus United Methodist Church we are: Rooted in faith, Growing in Love, Branching out into God's world.**

Prelude

*Improvisation*

Stephen Kalnoske

\*Call to Worship

*based on* Philipians 2:5-11

Call: In a world where power is the ultimate high, Jesus did not regard equality with God as something to exploit.

**Response: Instead, he emptied himself of power, claiming the lowly lot of a slave.**

Call: In human form he was brought low by death, death on a cross.

**Response: Therefore, God has highly exalted him, and granted him power above all the powers that be!**

Call: Lift up your hearts,

**Response: Jesus Christ is Lord! Hallelujah!**

\*Opening Hymn

*Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

UMH #173

Anthem

God Is So Good

Mother's Day

Cherub Choir— Bobby Lewis, Grady Lewis, Riley Korn, Matthew Korn, Bruce Lechliden, Lucie Barrick, Mila Pruiksma

Children's Sermon

Generous Bob

Rev. Phil & Bob

## GROWING IN LOVE

Prayer for Illumination

Carol Martin

Let us pray.

**We sit at your feet, O Lord. Lead us in the ways of your truth. Teach us how to be your blessed community. Amen.**

Epistle Lesson

Ephesians 1:15-23

PB, NT, p. 181

<sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

\*Gospel Lesson

Luke 24:44-53

PB, NT, p. 85

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

<sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; <sup>53</sup>and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

This is the Gospel of our Lord. **Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Anthem Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies C. Candlyn

Sermon Growing in Generosity Rev. Ayers

Anthem *For the Beauty of the Earth* arr. John Rutter

Pastoral Prayer  
The Lord's Prayer

UMH #895

Invitation to the Offering

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory I Love You Lord Laurie Klein  
Maya Kalnoske, Clarinet

\*Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH #94

\*Offertory Prayer

**We come with our gifts because that is what we do. May what we give bring hope to those who are hopeless. We give out of our bounty. May what we give allow someone else the simple joy of a meal to eat. We give out of gratitude. May what we give allow someone else the security of a safe place to sleep. In response to all that we have been given, we offer these gifts to you, O God. Thank you for giving us so much, for it enables us to be givers of grace. This we do with love in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

**BRANCHING OUT INTO GOD'S WORLD**

\*Recessional Hymn *Now Thank We All Our God* UMH #102

\*Benediction

Our Common Vision:

**At Damascus United Methodist Church we are: Rooted in faith, Growing in Love, Branching out into God’s world.**

\*Postlude

Nun Danket

S. Karg-Elert

---

### ***Update on General Conference***

April 23-May 3, 2024

As we continue to celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit during our denomination’s time of holy conferencing in Charlotte, NC, there is much to be shared – including the news that all restrictions to full LGBTQ participation in The United Methodist Church have been removed from the *Book of Discipline*.

We look forward to deepening our discipleship practices of welcome and inclusion together with you as the UMC enters this new season of Christian unity and revival.

### ***Additional actions from General Conference include:***

- Approval of regionalization legislation that would restructure The United Methodist Church into different geographical regions worldwide. Each region would have equal authority to pass legislation that responds to the unique needs of its ministry context. Because this legislation requires an amendment to the church’s constitution, it will need to be voted on by all annual conferences around the globe.
- A reduction in the base rate for apportionments. These “mission shares” are what local congregations and annual conferences pay towards our common ministry together as a world-wide, connectional church.
- Adoption of a newly revised set of *Social Principles* and a new *Book of Resolutions*. These statements inform the church’s witness to the world. They provide the official United Methodist response to current economic, social, political, and environmental issues.
- Removal of the disaffiliation policy that was added to the *Book of Discipline* by the special 2019 General Conference. Addition of a reaffiliation measure to support churches that wish to rejoin the UMC.

- Approval of sacramental responsibilities for deacons, authorizing them to preside at Holy Communion and baptism in their ministry settings.
- And much more!

We encourage you to take time to explore these resources:

- [Bishop Easterling's reflections at the close of General Conference](#)
- Discover Key Outcomes of this Historic General Conference  
- <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/general-conference-legislative-recap>
- Video overview: Experience General Conference  
- <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/wrap-up-video-general-conference-2020>

More information about GC is available on the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference website at [www.bwcumc.org](http://www.bwcumc.org) and on the General Conference website at <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/general-conference-2020>.

Grace and Peace,  
Deacon Helen and Pastor Phil

## Prayer Requests, Joys, and Concerns

*If you have any joys, concerns, or prayer requests that you would like to have included in the bulletin or the weekly e-newsletter, please contact the church office at (301) 253-0022 or [office@damascusumc.org](mailto:office@damascusumc.org)*

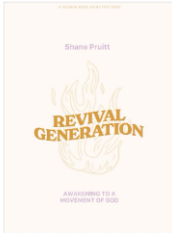
### **Please keep the following people in your prayers:**

- Marcia Hofman and family. Marcia's brother, Richard, passed away peacefully on May 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Delores Neal, Inga Tokar, Yasuko Walcott, Todd Wilson, Joyce and Earl Patrick, Sharon Warfield, Mary Emma Linthicum, Jean Barr, Ted Constantinides, David and Janet Lingrell, Nancy Nickerson, Pat Duvall, Stephen Tracy, Marilyn Kinsey, Pat Tregoning, Mary Nieter, Kate Musallam, Judy and Kathy (sisters of Gail Kohlenburg), Kristin Smith (niece of Gina Wilson), Michael Dearin (nephew of Jacque Janss), Bob Duvall (father of Anita Duvall), and all who are facing health concerns.

# Faith Time Summer Bible Study for Youth

Invitation to Join – Friends Welcome

RSVP to Ms. Tina by texting 240-678-9248



“Your generation is unique. You’ve never known a world without the internet; your parents can’t say that. You’ve lived through a global pandemic; something you’ll probably never forget. You’ve seen radical shifts in how society thinks, acts, and works – some good things and some not so good things.”

*Excerpt from Introduction of “Revival Generation” by Shane Pruitt.*

Join Ms. Tina for an 8-week Bible Study about “Awakening to a Movement of God”. We will be exploring what being a revival generation can mean for you, God, your family our church and the community.

The format includes a weekly in person group meeting and a few weekly activities for you. Beginning week of June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Exact time and location TBD based on those who sign up. I am hopeful our location can be at individuals’ houses.

NATIONAL BESTSELLING AUTHOR  
THICH NHAT HANH



## Adult Book Studies

**Stephen Leslie Class**

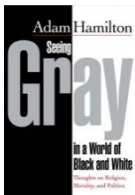
**When: Starting May 5 @ 10:30 am, Where: ground floor library**

**Group discussion on Living Buddha, Living Christ by Thich Nhat Hanh**

## Disciple Ship Voyage (DSV)

**When: Sunday, 4/14, 10:30 am, Where: Virtual, occasionally in person**

**Disciple Ship Voyage (DSV) Adult Small Study Group**



Join the Disciple Ship Voyage (DSV) Adult Small Study Group as we read, study, and discuss this controversial and mind opening book.

The DSV study group will meet virtually, and occasionally in person.



**Damascus Theatre Company**

# **DTC Kids**

## INTO THE WOODS JR.

**Friday, May 17, 2024 at 7:30PM**  
**Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 2PM & 7:30PM**  
**Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 2PM**  
**at Damascus United Methodist Church**  
**9700 New Church St, Damascus**

**\$15 General Admission/\$12 DTC Members**  
**\$10 Senior Citizens/Students K-12/Children 2-5**

## Community Yard Sale



Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND

**COMMUNITY YARD SALE SPONSORED  
BY NEEMA KENYA MISSIONS  
DATE: SATURDAY JUNE 8TH  
TIME: 9 TO 2 (Set up at 8am)  
PLACE: DUMC FRONT LAWN**

**RESERVE YOUR SPACE NOW \$20, TABLES AVAILABLE \$5 FOR MORE  
INFORMATION PLEASE SEE LINDA RICE(ricelinlu@aol.com), OR JACKIE  
PERRY(jackiedalr@yahoo.com)**

**RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE AT CHURCH OFFICE 301-253-0022**

## Week of May 12 – May 18

### Sunday, May 12

9:00 am – 10:00 am  
9:15 am – 10:30 am  
10:00 am – 11:15 am  
10:15 am – 11:15 am  
**12:00 pm – 4:00 pm**  
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm  
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

### **Mother's Day**

Faith Time Service (Worship)  
Frogs Faith Time (Undercroft/DH)  
Connections Café  
Faith Time (Youth/Adult Small Groups)  
**DTC Tech Work (GH)**  
Youth Group (YC)  
AA - Sunday Night Meeting (DH/KS)

### Monday, May 13

8:00 am – 12:00 pm  
**9:00 am – 12:00 pm**  
**9:30 am – 12:00 pm**  
**6:00 pm – 9:00 pm**  
**6:30 pm – 9:30 pm**  
7:00 pm – 9:30 pm

Harwood House (Vol. Workday)  
**PPP Kitchen Use (Kitchen)**  
**Piano Tuning (Sanctuary, MR & YC)**  
**DTC – Tech Work (GH)**  
**Kinship Singers Credo Collab. rehearsal (Sanctuary)**  
Sugarloaf Mtn. Region Antique Car Club Mtg. (DH/Back)

### Tuesday, May 14

8:30 am – 2:00 pm  
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
**6:00 pm – 10:00 pm**  
6:15 pm – 7:30 pm  
**7:30 pm – 9:00 pm**

Harwood House Thrift Shop (Vol. Workday)  
Harwood House Thrift Shop (Vol. Workday)  
**DTC Tech Work (GH)**  
Confirmation (YC)  
**DECT (Damascus Emerg. Comm. Team) Mtg (Annex C/R)**

### Wednesday, May 15

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
**6:00 pm – 10:00 pm**  
**7:30 pm – 8:30 pm**

Harwood House Open 4-6 pm  
**DTC Tech/Dress Rehearsal (GH/MR)**  
**Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)**

### Thursday, May 16

11:00 am – 3:00 pm  
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm  
**6:00 pm – 10:00 pm**  
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Harwood House Thrift Shop OPEN  
Sharp Voice Studio Lesson (Sanctuary/MR)  
**DTC – Tech/Dress Rehearsal (GH/MR)**  
Ladies Night Out - Clark's Lodge (Offsite)

### Friday, May 17

11:00 am – 3:00 pm  
11:30 am – 12:00 pm

Harwood House Thrift Shop OPEN  
PPP Mindfulness Moment w/Cora (Sanctuary)

**6:00 pm – 10:00 pm**  
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

**DTC – Into the Woods Jr. Performance 7:00 pm (GH/MR)**  
AA - Friday Night Meeting (Dining Hall)

**Saturday, May 18**

11:00 am – 3:00 pm  
12:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
6:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Harwood House Thrift Shop OPEN  
**DTC – Into the Woods Jr. Performance 2:00 pm (GH/MR)**  
**DTC – Into the Woods Jr. Performance 7:00 pm (GH/MR)**

**Sunday, May 19**

**9:00 am – 10:00 am**  
**9:15 – 10:00 am**  
10:00 am – 11:00 am  
**10:15 am – 11:15 am**  
**12:00 pm – 5:00 pm**  
**3:30 pm – 5:30 pm**  
**5:00 pm – 6:30 pm**  
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm  
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

**Pentecost (wear RED)**  
**Senior Sunday Worship Service (Sanctuary)**  
**Last Sunday for FrOGS (undercroft)**  
Connections Cafe (GH/Back)  
**Last Sunday for Youth Faith Time**  
**DTC – Into the Woods Jr. Performance 2:00 pm (GH/MR)**  
**Lipetsky Studio Piano Recital (YC Sanctuary & GR)**  
**DTC Strike Party (DH)**  
Youth Group (YC)  
AA Sunday Night Meeting (Parlor)

## **PASTORS AND STAFF**

**Rev. Phil Ayers, Senior Pastor**

301-253-0022 ext. #2; cell: (301) 751-3262; [phillip.ayers@damascusumc.org](mailto:phillip.ayers@damascusumc.org)

**Rev. Helen Ballew, Minister of Connection and Care**

(301) 253-0022, ext. #3; cell: (301) 661-1149; [helen.ballew@damascusumc.org](mailto:helen.ballew@damascusumc.org)

**Lisa Marshall, Property Manager/Room Reservations**

Cell: (301) 253-5241; [lisa.marshall@damascusumc.org](mailto:lisa.marshall@damascusumc.org)

**Rick Barr, Office Administrator**

(301) 253-0022; [rick.barr@damascusumc.org](mailto:rick.barr@damascusumc.org)

**Cora Horst, Director of Pleasant Plains Preschool**

Cell: (301) 253-9798; [pleasant.plains@damascusumc.org](mailto:pleasant.plains@damascusumc.org)

**Mike Powers, Bookkeeper**

cell #515-494-3327 [Mike.powers@damascusumc.org](mailto:Mike.powers@damascusumc.org)

**Stephen Kalnoske, Director of Music and Organist**

Cell: (240) 832-2112; [stephen.kalnoske@damascusumc.org](mailto:stephen.kalnoske@damascusumc.org)

**Angie Thompson, Director of Children's Music Ministry**

Cell:301-466-4940

**Tina Kelly, Director of Christian Education & Youth Ministry**

Cell: (240) 678-9248; [tina.kelly@damascusumc.org](mailto:tina.kelly@damascusumc.org)

**Sydney Fennington, Communications Manager**

[communications@damascusumc.org](mailto:communications@damascusumc.org)

**DAMASCUS UMC | 9700 New Church Street | Damascus, MD 20872**

**Office Phone: 301-253-0022 ext. #1**

**Web: DamascusUMC.org | Email: [office@damascusumc.org](mailto:office@damascusumc.org)**