

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

LAY LEADERSHIP

- The Committee is on hiatus until Fall

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

- April 27 – Potluck Fellowship Dinner, movie to follow – “Is Genesis History?”
- May 8-10 – Northeast Annual GMC Conference @ Cortland NY
- May 11 – Mother’s Day, donation to Elizabeth Rose ministry
- May 18 – Final chapter “The Story”
- May 26 – Chicken BBQ Drive-thru
- June 8 – Pentecost Sunday
- June 15 – Father’s Day, donation to Ramp Guys
- July – Pastor Barre on vacation for 4 weeks
- July 13 – The Dunnemans lead service
- July 27 – Paul Gibbs leads service
- August 9 – Pulled Pork Drive-thru

PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (PPRC)

- No meeting held

TRUSTEES

- Projects Completed: both boilers were overhauled, two new toilets installed in the women’s bathroom, exterior of building sprayed for ants
- Old Business: Sign on 415 to be updated to Global Methodist Church - on hold
- Funds donated to date for the parking lot - \$34,732 (69.5% of goal), Parking lot paving on hold until week of May 12
- New Business: Request to have annual Scout Banquet at church on May 19 was approved, Bill Snyder retired from Trustee’s after 50+ years of service, Bruce English will temporarily fill the position until approved by Annual Church Conference

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- Everything already covered

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

- Current membership is 81
- Two individuals who requested transfer to AMC have been added to the membership roll.

- Membership status letter to be sent to 14 inactive members reviewed. Changes were proposed.
- A letter to be sent to 19 constituents who regularly attend church to invite them to become members of Avoca Methodist Church reviewed.

RAMP COMMITTEE

- Ramp #731 request to repair ramp that was constructed in 2017 completed
- Plans for 3 requested ramps being developed

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTMAS

- Henry Gottschall has collected 93 banana boxes of the 126 needed for 2025

OLD BUSINESS

- Administrative Council, Trustees, Worship, Lighthouse Christmas, the Sound Room and Membership have a vice-chair or other identified back-up. Other committees and programs will be asked to identify theirs. List will be maintained by secretary when completed

NEW BUSINESS

- Support for the Vincent House in Wayland will be explored as a potential mission project. It was approved later.
- Contribution to the Sheriff’s fund drive was included in the 2025 Budget
- Mike Wasserman would like to take the lead on quarterly mission events for the Caboose residents

PASTOR’S TIME

- Everything already covered

FUNDRAISERS

- Merchant and Tops cards - \$247.61
- Chicken BBQ – scheduled for May 26
- Pulled Pork Drive-thru – scheduled for August 9

CONCERTS

- Final Harvest – Saturday, June 21, 2025 @ 4PM
- The Puffers – Friday, August 22, 2025 @ 5:30PM picnic dinner for church family, @ 7:00PM concert for community

- Dave Burdick – Saturday, December 13, 2025 @3:00PM concert with dinner to follow

CHURCH SERVICES

- The Dunnemans – Sunday, July 13, 2025 @10AM with Mitchellsville
- Paul Gibbs – Sunday, July 27, 2025 @11AM with cookie hour to follow

TREASURER'S REPORT

March 2025 – Ron Salles

We continue to carry a reserve in the General Fund. The size of the reserve fluctuates from month to month, depending on the income and debts occurred, but most of the time there is enough working capital to keep our bills paid as they are received, along with any unexpected expenses that suddenly appear. The General Fund is the money we use to pay the everyday bills, like power and heat, pastor's salary, insurance, office expenses, etc. I continue to pay our bills on time.

On the Mission Fund side, we have minor reserves in the mission fund as we build the funds for this year. This year we again concentrated on our local missions as our missions' projects; The Campership Fund (Scouts), The Ramp Mission (The Ramp Guys), The Lighthouse Mission (The Lighthouse Christmas), and The Avoca – Kanona Food Pantry. Jane's initial estimate of how many people she would be helping has doubled and we have increased our funding to help. We have also placed a donation cart for food and cash in the Narthex.

The Capital Project Fund campaign to repair and repave the parking lot continues. This is work that needs to be done soon to save the current pavement. The work was to start the end of September but has been delayed due to weather. The expansion part, however, was completed at the end of September, with the major part now scheduled for some time in May 2025. The accepted quote is for about \$50,000.00, so that is the goal for this capital project. As of April 14, 2025, \$34,732.00 has been raised so far. That's 69.5%. Because of this outpouring, the Administrative Counsel decided not to seek a bank loan, but to borrow from our own reserves earmarked for other projects. We will need to replenish these reserves. Due to the delay in construction, and with the blessing of the

Administrative Counsel, on October 15th I purchased a \$25,000.00 Certificate of Deposit at 4.5% to mature May 15, 2025. This will help earn some money for the project.

Thank you and God bless you!

If you have any questions please contact Ron Salles (ronald.salles@me.com).

MULTIMEDIA PRODUCTION

Ron Salles

Please visit our webpage at www.avocamethodistchurch.com and find the links to our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/AvocaMethodistChurch and YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/@AvocaMethodistChurch.

Please subscribe to the Facebook and YouTube channels. Please update our new email avocamethodistchurch@gmail.com.

We continue to record the Sunday Service and publish it on our YouTube Channel. Unfortunately, anything that is copyrighted must be removed from the recording and things that are private (like prayer requests) are also removed. I try to only record the pertinent parts of the service, but sometimes someone may be recorded incidentally. If you don't want to be part of the YouTube recording, let me know and I'll edit you out.

If you can't attend, or are traveling, you can still see the service. I try to post it by that evening or the next day at the latest. The post goes to the church's Facebook account as well as the YouTube account. If you are a YouTube subscriber, you should get notification when you log on to YouTube. Please share with your family and friends.

The service is also recorded on DVD, so if you can't attend for any reason or you want to see the entire service with the prayers and music, etc., (or until the DVD is full, a little more than an hour), let me know and we will get a copy to you at no cost to you.

Mike Wasserman is also working with me on the sound system and video recording. Thank you, Mike!

If you have any questions please contact Ron Salles (ronald.salles@me.com) or Mike.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Fred Groner

The seven session series called "HOW TO GET THROUGH WHAT YOU ARE GOING THROUGH" by Pastor Rick Warren and led by Gary Weldy was completed. In this series Pastor Warren describes his views on how we can get through catastrophe in our lives. Lesson topics include dealing with shock, sorrow, struggle, surrender, sanctification, start seeing, and service.

Pastor Warren teaches that overcoming unexpected problems in life requires resilience which is the ability to bounce back from our problems and pain by seeing GOD's purpose in life.

Useful in obtaining that purpose is being a good friend, by helping a good friend, sharing grief, knowing how to struggle with our pain as well as other people's pain, appealing to GOD's nature, taking care of yourself by trusting in GOD, being like Jesus, keeping the faith, praising GOD even when in pain, and using pain to be more like Jesus.

Common to getting through the painful situations which we all encounter in our lives is the suffering which tests our faith. Pastor Warren teaches that suffering made Jesus perfect, and now he can save forever all who believe in Him and accept Him as their Savior.

A new twelve-week study, "Book of James" has started and will continue through June.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL meets almost every Sunday at 9:30am. All Welcome.

RIGHT NOW MEDIA

Pastor Barre

Right Now Media is a gift to the church family. It is completely free to you! You can log in at <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/AvocaUMC> or text: AUMC to 49775. (correct) Right Now Media has Bible studies for groups or individuals, Christian movies for all ages (do the kids, grandkids, great-grandkids need some safe entertainment?), videos of many Christian teachers and preachers, and many other workshops. I encourage you to log in and look at the variety that is available. I think you'll be glad you did.

"Did you behave in church?" asked Sam's mother. "I sure did." Sam answered. "You should have heard the lady sitting behind me say, 'I never saw a child behave like that before.'"

GOD'S PRESCRIPTION: REMEMBER

Shari Abbott

Remembering is the primary prescription God gives us. While there are many things we should do as God's children, remembering is something we NEED to do – especially remembering who God is, what He has done for us by sending Jesus to redeem us, and who we are in Christ.

Mother's Day is a special day to remember our mothers. We should remember all they have done for us, all they mean to us, and who we are because of them.

At birth, our mothers were an instrument in God's hand to bring us into this world. God knit together each of us in our mother's womb and placed us in her arms at birth. What a joy and blessing it is for a mother to cradle her newborn child for the first time at birth and then to hold her child's hand throughout life. That's how God intended it to be.

Just as a child is a gift from God to a mother (and father), mothers (and fathers) are gifts from God to the child. There is a bond in the parent-child relationship that should never be broken – and never really can be. One can divorce a spouse but not a parent.

Just as God loves us and has given us spiritual birth, we should honor and love the one who gave us physical birth. That's how God intended it to be.

BIRTHDAYS

BIRTHDAYS

<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>
1 Glenn Davis	6 Donna Miller
7 Rosemary Loveland	13 Kathy Ballinger
12 Shelly Cagle	20 Lois Daniels
16 Joyce McKeown	21 Heather Dodds
17 Judy Wightman	24 Nick Rogers
23 Wanda Travis	27 Lynn Anderson
26 Rob Gerych	30 Debra Dodds
27 Gary Weldy	

ANNIVERSARIES

<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>
3 Ron & Jane Salles	8 Chuck & Shelly Cagle
18 Glenn & Linda Davis	15 Fred & Marge Wood
25 Dale & Marguerite English	

**You Lovers of the English Language
might enjoy this . . .**

There is a two-letter word that perhaps has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that is "UP".

It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP?

At a meeting, why does a topic come UP?

Why do we speak UP and why are the officers UP for election and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report?

We call UP our friends.

And we use it to brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver; we warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen.

We lock UP the house and some guys fix UP the old car.

At other times the little word has a real special meaning.

People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, and think UP excuses.

To be dressed is one thing, but to be dressed UP is special. A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP. We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night.

We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP. To be knowledgeable about the proper use of UP, look the word UP in the dictionary.

In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4th of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions.

If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used.

It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more.

When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP.

When the sun comes out we say it is clearing UP. When it rains, it wets the earth and often messes things UP. When it doesn't rain for a while, things dry UP.

One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP for now – my time is UP, so . . . it is time to shut UP.

Now it's UP to you what you do with this.

DAD'S HANDS

Mary Fairchild

Dad's hands were king-size and strong.

With his hands, he built our home and fixed all the broken things.

Dad's hands gave generously, served humbly, and loved mom tenderly, unselfishly, completely, unendingly.

With his hand, Dad held me when I was small, steadied me when I stumbled and guided me in the right direction.

When I needed help, I could always count on Dad's hands.

Sometimes Dad's hands corrected me, disciplined me, shielded me, rescued me.

Dad's hands protected me.

Dad's hand held mine when he walked me down the aisle. His hand gave me to my forever love, who, not surprisingly, is very much like Dad.

Dad's hands were the instruments of his great, big, rugged-tender heart.

Dad's hands were strength.

Dad's hands were love.

With his hands he praised God.

And he prayed to the Father with those big hands.

Dad's hands. They were like Jesus' hands to me.

**ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY
CHICKEN BBQ**

Monday, May 26th @ 11:00 AM

**½ Chicken, Salt Potatoes,
Beans, Roll, Cookie**

\$13.00

**See Bill or Sharron Heard to purchase
your tickets and to take tickets to sell
to your family and friends**

One day a police officer pulls a car over and sees the backseat is full of penguins. The officer tells the driver, "You can't be doing this, you need to take these penguins to the zoo!" The next day, the police officer pulls the same car over again, and says, "Hey! I told you to take these penguins to the zoo!" The driver says, "I did, and today I'm taking them to the movies!"

HONOR EARNED

Author Unknown

Here we stand to honor our dead;
To remember them as these words are read.
To give that honor that they have earned;
Is a lesson taught, a lesson learned.
These men and women who gave their all;
And answered God's hallowed call.
And even though we are apart
They live on in minds and heart.
So, bow your head and let us pray;
God bless them all on this day.

ADVICE TO THE GRADUATE FROM GOD

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding; in all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."
Proverbs 3:5-6

"Commit they works unto the Lord, and they thoughts shall be established." Proverbs 16:3

"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go; I will guide thee with mine eye. Psalm 32:8

Timmy was a little five year old boy that his Mom loved very much. She was concerned about him walking to school alone when he started Kindergarten. She walked him to school for a couple of days, but then Timmy told his mother that he didn't want her walking him to school every day. He wanted to be like the "big boys." He protested loudly, so she had an idea of how to handle it.

She asked a neighbor, Mrs. Goodnest, if she would follow Timmy to school at a distance so he would not notice, but close enough to keep an eye on him. Mrs. Goodnest said that since she was up early anyway with her toddler, Marcy, that it would be a good way for them to get some exercise.

The next school day, Mrs. Goodnest and little Marcy set out following behind Timmy as he walked to school with another little boy he knew. She did this for a whole week.

As the boys walked along kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's friend began to notice the lady that followed them every day. Finally he said to Timmy, "Have you noticed that lady following us all week? Do you know her?"

Timmy nonchalantly replied, "Yes, I know who she is."

The little friend said, "Well, who is she?"

That is just Shirley Goodnest" Timmy replies. "Shirley Goodnest? Who is she and why is she following us?"

"Well", Timmy explained, "every night my Mom makes me say the 23rd Psalm with my prayers 'cuz she worries about me so much. And in it, the prayer psalm says, "Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life. So I guess I'll just have to get used to it."

Mr. Gable had a leak in the roof over his dining room table, so he called a repairman to take a look at it.

"When did you first notice the leak?" the repairman asked.

Mr. Gable scowled, "Last night, when it took me two hours to finish my soup."

RECIPE CORNER

JUNK YARD SALAD

1 can cherry pie filling
1 large can crushed pineapple, drained
1 can Eagle Brand milk
2 cups miniature marshmallows
1 cup pecans
1 (8 oz.) Cool Whip

Mix in order and refrigerate over night

CRACKER BARREL'S HASHBROWN CASSEROLE COPYCAT

Ingredients:

2 pounds frozen hash browns
½ cup margarine or butter, melted
1 (10 ¼ oz.) can cream of chicken soup
1 pint sour cream
½ cup onion, peeled and chopped
2 cups cheddar cheese, grated
1 teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon pepper

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350° and spray an 11 X 14 baking dish with cooking spray. Mix the above ingredients together, place in prepared pan and bake for 45 minutes or until brown on top.

MAC-N-VEGGIES PASTA SALAD

Ingredients:

- 4 cups uncooked macaroni
- 1 green bell pepper, diced
- 2 stalks celery, diced
- ¼ cup grated carrot
- 1 large onion, diced

Sauce:

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- ¼ cup vinegar (distilled white)
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 2 ½ tablespoons mustard (prepared)
- 1 ½ teaspoons salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper

Directions:

Cook macaroni, rinse and drain well. Meanwhile, dice the vegetables, place in a large bowl. In a separate bowl make the sauce. Add macaroni to veggies, fold in the sauce. Refrigerate 4 hours before serving. Stir well prior to serving.

RULES TO TEACH YOUR SON

1. Never shake a man's hand sitting down.
2. Don't enter a pool by the stairs.
3. The man at the BBQ Grill is the closest thing to a king.
4. In a negotiation, never make the first offer.
5. Request the late check-out.
6. When entrusted with a secret, keep it.
7. Hold your heroes to a higher standard.
8. Return a borrowed car with a full tank of gas.
9. Play with passion or don't play at all.
10. When sharing hands, grip firmly and look them in the eye.
11. Don't let a wishbone grow where a backbone should be.
12. If you need music on the beach, you're missing the point.
13. Carry two handkerchiefs. The one in your back pocket is for you. The one in your breast pocket is for her.
14. You marry the girl; you marry her family.
15. Be like a duck. Remain calm on the surface and paddle like crazy underneath.
16. Experience the serenity of traveling alone.
17. Never be afraid to ask out the best-looking girl in the room.
18. Never turn down a breath mint.

19. A sport coat is worth 1000 words.
20. Try writing your own eulogy. Never stop revisiting.
21. Thank a veteran. Then make it up to him.
22. Eat lunch with the new kid.
23. After writing an angry email, read it carefully. Then delete it.
24. Ask your mom to play. She won't let you win.
25. Manners make the man.
26. Give credit. Take the blame.
27. Stand up to Bullies. Protect those bullied.
28. Write down your dreams.
29. Take time to snuggle your pets, they love you so much and are always happy to see you.
30. Be confident and humble at the same time.
31. If ever in doubt, remember whose son you are and REFUSE to just be ordinary !!
32. In all things, give glory to God.

What was Moses' wife, Zipphora, known as when she'd throw dinner parties?

"The hostess with the Moses."

DATES TO REMEMBER

THURSDAY 1-May NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
SUNDAY 12-May MOTHER'S DAY
MONDAY 19-May DISTRICT SCOUT BANQUET
MONDAY 26-MAY MEMORIAL DAY CHICKEN BBQ
SUNDAY 8-June PENTECOST (wear red)
SUNDAY 15-Jun FATHER'S DAY