

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Meeting was held Thursday, February 12, 2026 with 9 members and 4 guests present.

### SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Aaron Benton gave an update on the Maple City Financial Services insurance coverage for 2026. He discussed in detail all insurance coverage as well as liabilities. There are no changes to the general coverages.

Two certifications are needed prior to the determination of the 2027 premium increase:

- Prior to December 31, 2026, a statement must be submitted from a roofing contractor that the roof is in good condition and that it is likely to last a specific period of time.
- Prior to December 31, 2026, an electrical contractor must submit a certification to Maple City Financial Services that all elements of the electrical system are in compliance.

### LAY LEADERSHIP

- The Committee is on hiatus until Fall 2026

### WORSHIP COMMITTEE

- March 4 – 6PM – Lenten Soup & Sandwich/Devotions
- March 5 – Noon – Lenten Soup & Sandwich/Devotions
- March 11 – 6PM – Lenten Soup & Sandwich/Devotions
- March 12 – Noon – Lenten Soup & Sandwich/Devotions
- March 12 – 15 – Men’s Closer Walk #128 Weekend @ Pine City
- March 18 – 6PM – Lenten Soup & Sandwich/Devotions
- March 19 – Noon – Lenten Soup & Sandwich/Devotions
- March 25 – 6PM – Lenten Soup & Sandwich/Devotions
- March 26 – Noon – Lenten Soup & Sandwich/Devotions
- March 29 – 11AM - Palm Sunday Service
- April 2 – 7PM - Maundy Thursday Service @ Avoca
- April 3 – 6AM - 6PM - Prayer Vigil @ Avoca
- April 3 – 1PM – Crosswalk – meet @ Parsonage

- April 3 – 7PM – Good Friday Service @ Mitchellsville
- April 5 – 6:30AM – Easter Sunrise Service @ Barry Anderson’s, continental breakfast to follow @ Avoca church
- April 5 – 11AM – Easter Sunday Service
- April 14 – 16 – Pastor Barre out of town
- April 16 – 19 – Women’s Closer Walk #128 Weekend @ Pine City

### PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (PPRC)

- Meeting held to elect officers:  
Chair: Gary Weldy  
Vice-Chair: Nancy Moir

### TRUSTEES

- Four new exit lights have been installed
- Dining room door has been re-keyed
- Fire Tax and Outdoor sign bills have been paid
- Both boilers failed overnight and have been repaired. March Board of Trustees meeting will discuss replacement of both boilers.

### TREASURER’S REPORT

- In December, Bill Snyder discussed a mission payment of \$1,000 to the SPCA in appreciation of the Ramp Guys use of one of their buildings to warehouse supplies. The plan was to discuss this during the January 2026 Budget meeting but this did not happen. This will be addressed during the April 9<sup>th</sup> Admin Council meeting.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A new Finance Committee chairperson will be appointed prior to Fall 2026

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

- Current membership is 77

### RAMP COMMITTEE

- One ramp, #749, was completed in January
- The Ramp Guys are a test site for the County’s mileage reimbursement program. Several of the volunteers are going to donate their mileage reimbursement to the Ramp program.
- The Ramp Guys were well represented at Dan Reppert’s funeral.

### LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTMAS

- Nothing new to report

## SCOUTS

- Waiting for one person to complete the youth safety certification
- The District Dinner for about 30 Scout leaders will be held at the Avoca Methodist Church on Monday, March 16th

## OLD BUSINESS

- AED replacement pads – Mike Wasserman has identified 3 sources which carry the items needed. Paster Barre and Ron Salles will make the purchases.
- AED and CPR Recertification – Jim Young is working with the Office of the Aging for a training class to be held @ Avoca Methodist Church

## NEW BUSINESS

- Ron Salles, Jim Young and Mike Wasserman attended the Electronics Expo in Rochester. A new sound board and drop mics for the choir have been ordered.
- After receipt of the new audio equipment, detailed instructions for the operation of the audio/visual equipment needs to be posted on the Audio/Visual room wall so that anyone will be able to start the sound system if both Ron & Mike are not available
- Mike Wasserman will be training Henry & Cindy on the operation of the sweeper before the April 9<sup>th</sup> Admin Council meeting
- Mike Wasserman will be training Jim Young on the operation of the outside security cameras before the April 9<sup>th</sup> Admin Council meeting

## PASTOR'S TIME

- Pastor Barre will be out of town the following dates for required meetings: - April 14-16, 2026 for International Leadership Institute Training – Syracuse NY and June 11-13, 2026 for GMC Annual Conference – Williamsport PA

## FUNDRAISERS

- Merchant and Tops cards - \$75.11

## CONCERT

- Final Harvest – Saturday, June 13, 2026 concert @4PM

## TREASURER'S REPORT December 2025 & January 2026 Ron Salles

We ended the 2025 Fiscal Year on December 31<sup>st</sup>. For the General Fund we spent \$127,952 in expenses, which was an average of \$10,663 per month. For the Mission Fund we spent \$35,233 in expenses, which was an average of \$2,936 per month.

We began the 2026 Fiscal Year on January 1<sup>st</sup>. We are projecting the General Fund to have \$94,320 in expenses; that's an average of \$7,860 per month. We are projecting the Mission Fund to have \$21,900 in expenses; that's an average of \$1,825 per month.

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 that occurred, currently 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 a modest reserve in the mission fund. We transferred some funds from the General Fund reserves to fund the current Mission Fund needs. Again for 2026 we are concentrating our efforts on our local mission projects; The Campership Fund (Scouts), The Ramp Mission (The Ramp Guys), The Lighthouse Mission (The Lighthouse Christmas), The Vincent House, and The Avoca – Kanona Food Pantry. Jane K's initial estimate of how many people she would be helping has tripled and we have increased our funding to help. We have also placed a donation cart for food and cash in the Narthex.

We are not currently projecting a Capital Project Campaign during 2026. That could change, however, the two hot topics with the Trustees are the boiler system (heat) and the roof. Both are almost 30 years old and will need to be replaced in the not-too-distant future.

Thank you and God bless you!

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

## MULTIMEDIA PRODUCTION

Ron Salles

Please visit our webpage at [www.avocamethodistchurch.com](http://www.avocamethodistchurch.com) and find the links to our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/AvocaMethodistChurch](http://www.facebook.com/AvocaMethodistChurch) and YouTube Channel at [www.youtube.com/@AvocaMethodistChurch](http://www.youtube.com/@AvocaMethodistChurch).

**Please subscribe to the Facebook and YouTube channels.** Our email is [avocamethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto: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.

Mike Wasserman and I are in the process of upgrading some of the sound and recording equipment. Please be patient with us as we learn the best way to use the new items.

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

### **MERCHANT CARD ORDERS**

Time to start planning for Easter, Wedding, Showers, and Graduation gifts. Through the Merchant Card program you can purchase gift cards from hundreds of retail stores, restaurants, drug stores, grocery stores, home improvements (Lowe's, Home Depot), Gas stations, and Specialty/Gifts (Flowers, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Staples, Pet

Smart, Staples, VISA, etc.) A great benefit of the Merchant Card program is that there is no activation fee for VISA cards (when purchased locally there is a \$5.95 activation fee per card, regardless of the amount). As you prepare for upcoming spring and summer events, please keep the Merchant Card program in mind. Please see Dorene Pierce if you have any questions about this program.

### **THE FRAUD AND SCAMMERS ALL AROUND US Mike Wasserman**

The fact is that no matter what you do today, you are at risk. Whether it be surfing the web, checking E-mail or even using our cell phones. Scammers are out there, and they are always trying to find new ways to trick us into giving them our information. The more sophisticated the defenses are, the newer ways the scammers find around them.

The best thing you can do is just be alert, watch what you do and who you talk to, and most of all, question anything that just does not feel quite right. How many times have you gotten a message saying do not accept something because you got your account hacked, or even worse, you had to send that message.

Think about this, we know how our friends talk to us, so if the verbiage changes and it does not seem like them, contact them another way and say did you just message me? Or maybe you got a message via text, email, or even a phone call from your bank or another company that you do business with, asking for personal information. **JUST STOP** and ask yourself, "Would they contact me this way?"

The best thing you can do is contact that institution directly and ask, did you just contact me? If it's a text or email, **NEVER** call the number they called or messaged from. Look up the number if you do not already have it.

And remember these people love to prey on the vulnerable, like kids and or the elderly. Trust me, there is not a soldier stuck somewhere needing you to send them money because they can not get home. If they want you to send them money via gift cards, **IT'S A SCAM.**

Talk to your kids, and or your loved ones, especially if you know they are not good with technology. Monitor what your kids do online, and even your

elderly parents. Trust me, it does not take very long to lose everything.

The newest thing is AI, artificial intelligence, and what it can do is quite amazing. But sadly, there are people out there who can recreate a website to look just like the real thing, and it just takes a click or two, and they've got you.

So, what can you do? First and foremost, be alert, as I have already stated. There are programs that you can get to help alert you to possible scams. I use a program called Guardio. I have it on all my devices, and if I click on a site, Guardio will stop me and tell me, this site is known for malicious activity. I have it attached to my emails, and it also gives me alerts. Another reason I really like it is that I pay one price and can put it on all my devices.

I could go on and on, but I hope you understand what I am saying. If you have a question, please feel free to reach out to me. I have many years of IT and computer experience.

Be safe, and God Bless and protect you.  
Michael Wasserman  
wassermanmichaela@gmail.com  
607-794-0851

### **EASTER**

**E** is for evil in each of us born  
**A** is for agony suffered that morn  
**S** is for Saviour Who gave up His life  
**T** is for tears that were shed though His strife  
**E** is for everything suffered for me  
**R** is redemption upon Calvary's tree

Put them all together they spell EASTER,  
the word that means eternity.

### **BIRTHDAYS**

#### **March**

#### **April**

3 Barry Anderson	2 Sharron Heard
3 Don Wise	6 Sue Rook
4 Joe Lawrence Jr	8 Mike Wasserman
16 Earl Sherwood	18 Connie Kearns
29 Eva Slayton	19 Sande Thomas
	25 Clay Ovenshire

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

#### **March**

#### **April**

26 Roy & Ruth Hann	24 Bruce & Janet English
29 Bill & Sharron Heard	

**How cool is it** that the same God that created oceans and mountains and galaxies looked at You and thought the World needed one of You too !!!

**Why should you never iron a four-leaf clover?**  
You don't want to press your luck.

### **JERUSALEM TIMES OBITUARIES**

#### **33 AD**

**JESUS CHRIST:** Jesus Christ, 33, of Nazareth died Friday on Mount Calvary, also known as Golgotha, the place of the skull. Betrayed by the apostle Judas, Jesus was crucified by the Romans, by order of the Ruler Pontius Pilate. The causes of death were crucifixion, extreme exhaustion, severe torture and loss of blood.

Jesus Christ, a descendant of Abraham, was a member of the house of David. He was the Son of the late Joseph, a carpenter of Nazareth, and Mary, his devoted Mother. Jesus was born in a stable in the city of Bethlehem, Judea. He is survived by his mother Mary, his faithful Apostles, numerous disciples and many other followers.

Jesus was self-educated and spent most of His adult life working as a Teacher. Jesus also occasionally worked as a Medical Doctor and it is reported that He healed many patients. Up until the time of His death, Jesus was teaching and sharing the good news, healing the sick, touching the lonely, feeding the hungry and helping the poor.

Jesus was most noted for telling parables about His Father's Kingdom and performing miracles, such as feeding over 5,000 people with only five loaves of bread and two fish, and healing a man who was born blind. On the day before His death, He held a Last Supper, celebrating the Passover Feast, at which He foretold His death.

The body was quickly buried in a stone grave, which was donated by Joseph of Arimathea, a loyal friend of the family. By order of Pontius Pilate, a boulder was rolled in front of the Tomb. Roman Soldiers were put on guard.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that everyone try to live as Jesus did and believe in Him. Donations may be sent to anyone in need.

## RECIPE CORNER

### POTATO-ONION BISQUE

Mike Wasserman

For 4 Servings

#### Ingredients

3 Cups Peeled Sliced Potatoes  
1 Cup Sliced Green Onions  
1 Cup Sliced White Onion  
1 ¼ Quarts Chicken Broth  
2-3 Sprigs Fresh Thyme  
1 ½ Teaspoon Salt  
Dash Ground Pepper  
3 Tablespoons Chopped Parsley  
1 Cup Half-and-Half  
Shredded Cheddar (Optional)  
Paprika (Optional)

#### Directions

1. In large saucepan heat the chicken broth
2. Add potatoes, bring to a boil, and cook for 10 minutes
3. Add green and white onions, bring to a boil
4. Add thyme
5. Cook under medium heat for 20 minutes until potatoes and onions are soft
6. Add salt, pepper and chopped parsley
7. (optional) Wisk or puree in blender or food processor
8. Add half-and-half and stir to combine
9. Warm over low to medium heat until heated
10. Serve in soup bowls, sprinkle with cheddar and paprika if used.

#### Note

Bisque basically means to Puree. This step can be skipped and will still be really good. If you do step 7, you may need to do it in parts and then recombine it in the pots.

### **Banana Bread Brownies**

#### Ingredients:

1 ½ cup sugar  
1 cup sour cream  
½ cup butter, softened  
2 eggs  
1 ¾ cup (3-4) ripe bananas, mashed  
2 teaspoons vanilla extract  
2 cups all-purpose flour  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
¾ teaspoon salt  
½ cup chopped walnuts (optional)

### **Brown Butter Frosting**

½ cup butter  
4 cups powdered sugar  
1 ½ teaspoon vanilla extract  
3 tablespoons milk

#### Directions:

1. Heat oven to 375 degrees. Grease and flour 15x10 inch jelly roll pan.
2. Mix together sugar, sour cream, butter and eggs
3. Blend in bananas and vanilla extract
4. Add flour, baking soda, salt and blend for one minute. (stir in walnuts - optional)
5. Spread batter evenly into pan. Bake 20-25 minutes or until golden brown
6. Meanwhile, for frosting, heat butter in a large saucepan over medium heat until boiling. Let the butter turn a delicate brown and remove from heat immediately
7. Add powdered sugar, vanilla extract and milk. Whisk together until smooth (it should be thicker than a glaze but thinner than frosting).
8. Using a spatula, spread the brown butter frosting over the warm bars (the frosting will be easier to spread while the bars are still warm.)

### **AVOCA-KANONA FOOD PANTRY**

Sincere thanks to all who have been so generous with their financial support and food donations to the pantry as their workload continues to grow. Special thanks to Lanny Partridge and the entire crew for doing such an outstanding job while Jane is dealing with serious medical issues. A list of food items needed for the pantry are on the Narthex Table. Please continue to give if you are able. Thank you.

### **Amazing Uses For Original Blue Dawn Dish Soap... Not Just For Dishes Anymore!**

**Bubbles:** Make your own giant bubbles with ½ cup Dawn Ultra dishwashing liquid. Mix it with ½ gallon warm water and 1 tablespoon glycerin to create a fun and safe bubble solution for kids to enjoy.

**Hair Product Buildup:** Use original Dawn as a monthly clarifying shampoo to remove excess oil and product buildup from your hair and scalp, keeping it healthy and clean without the need for expensive salon products.

**Repel Houseplant Insects:** Create a natural insect repellent for your houseplants by mixing a

drop of Dawn Dishwashing Liquid with water in a spray bottle. This solution effectively repels aphids, spider mites, and mealybugs without harming your plants.

**Clean Your Windows:** Make your own window cleaner by mixing 3 drops of Dawn Dishwashing Liquid with 1 gallon of water. Spray this solution on your windows and wipe them clean for a streak-free shine.

**Clean Automotive Tools:** Soak dirty automotive tools in Dawn Dishwashing Liquid to remove oil and grime before storing them away. This helps prevent rust and keeps your tools clean and ready for use.

**Ice Pack:** Create a reusable ice pack by partially filling a strong zip-type sandwich bag with Dawn Dishwashing Liquid and freezing it. The liquid soap stays cold longer and can be refrozen multiple times, molding to the shape you need for pain relief.

**Tub and Shower Cleaner:** Make a powerful tub and shower cleaner by mixing white vinegar and blue Dawn Dishwashing Liquid in a spray bottle. This solution effectively melts away soap scum, grime, and buildup, leaving your bathroom sparkling clean.

**Unclogging Toilets:** Pour a cup of Dawn detergent into a clogged toilet and let it sit for 15 minutes. Follow up with a bucket of hot water poured from waist height to clear the clog effectively.

**Laundry Pre-Treater for Oily Stains:** Treat oil-based stains on clothing with Dawn Dishwashing Liquid before laundering. Simply apply Dawn directly to the stain, scrub gently, and launder as usual for effective stain removal.

**Non-Toxic Lubricant:** Use Dawn Dishwashing Liquid as a non-toxic lubricant for sliding glass doors, door knobs, hinges, and other mechanisms. It provides long-lasting lubrication and cleans the surfaces it's applied to.

**Sidewalk De-Icer:** Create a sidewalk de-icer by mixing Dawn Dishwashing Liquid, rubbing alcohol, and hot water. Pour the solution over icy steps and sidewalks to prevent refreezing without damaging the concrete.

**Eyeglass Defogger:** Prevent eyeglasses from fogging up by rubbing a small drop of Dawn onto the lenses and wiping them clean. The thin film left behind by Dawn prevents fogging and keeps vision clear.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

<p><b>WEDNESDAYs - MARCH 4,11,18,25</b>  <b>6:00 PM</b>  <b>LENTEN SOUP &amp; SANDWICH</b>  <b>WITH DEVOTIONS</b></p>
<p><b>THURSDAYs - MARCH 5,12,19,26</b>  <b>NOON</b>  <b>LENTEN SOUP &amp; SANDWICH</b>  <b>WITH DEVOTIONS</b></p>
<p><b>SUNDAY - MARCH 8TH</b>  <b>PANCAKE BREAKFAST</b>  <b>8:00 AM - 10:00 AM</b></p>
<p><b>SUNDAY - MARCH 15TH</b>  <b>POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP DINNER</b></p>
<p><b>SUNDAY - MARCH 29TH</b>  <b>PALM SUNDAY</b></p>
<p><b>THURSDAY - APRIL 2ND</b>  <b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>  <b>7:00 PM (AVOCA)</b></p>
<p><b>FRIDAY - APRIL 3RD</b>  <b>PRAYER VIGIL</b>  <b>6:00 AM - 6:00 PM (AVOCA)</b></p>
<p><b>FRIDAY - APRIL 3RD</b>  <b>CROSS WALK</b>  <b>1:00 PM</b>  <b>MEET AT PARSONAGE</b></p>
<p><b>FRIDAY - APRIL 3RD</b>  <b>GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE</b>  <b>7:00 PM (MITCHELLSVILLE)</b></p>
<p><b>SUNDAY - APRIL 5TH</b>  <b>EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE</b>  <b>6:30 AM</b>  <b>AT BARRY ANDERSON'S</b>  <b>CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST TO</b>  <b>FOLLOW AT CHURCH</b></p>
<p><b>SUNDAY - APRIL 5TH</b>  <b>EASTER SERVICE</b>  <b>11:00 AM</b></p>
<p><b>SUNDAY - APRIL 12TH</b>  <b>PANCAKE BREAKFAST</b>  <b>8:00 AM - 10:00 AM</b></p>
<p><b>SUNDAY - APRIL 19TH</b>  <b>POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP DINNER</b></p>

