

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Meeting was held on Thursday, June 11, 2026, with 7 members and 1 guest present.

### LAY LEADERSHIP

- The Committee is on hiatus until Fall 2026

### WORSHIP COMMITTEE

- No Report

### PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (PPRC)

- July & August – Pastor Barre will be available by appointment only (when not on vacation)
- Pastor Barre will be on vacation August 3 – 24, 2026. An emergency contact will be identified
- Cindy Gottschall will lead the church services on August 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>
- The Dunneman's will lead the combined Avoca/Mitchellsville service on August 16<sup>th</sup>. A potluck dinner will follow

### TRUSTEES

#### Projects Completed:

- Cleanup around the church
- New emergency lights installed – Additional new one to be put in the dining room
- Bumpers along the sidewalk have been reinstalled

#### Old Business:

- Install for the new letter rails on the sign at the parsonage has been tabled until the church sign is removed
- Sign assembly and installation when parts arrive
- Furnace considerations – Keelers bid to install a new high efficiency boiler to replace the current 29-year-old boilers was discussed. A motion was made and approved by all to proceed with this project. UPDATE: New boiler has been installed

#### New Business:

- Carpet cleaning in the sanctuary, narthex, offices and boiler room was approved. Randy Pierce will be doing this work. UPDATE: This has been completed
- Removal of pews and cabinet in choir room was discussed to allow the room to be reorganized. Janet and Bruce will put the excess items on marketplace

- Electrical and roof contractors are needed to inspect roof and wiring for the insurance company before the end of 2026. Keeler will do the electrical inspection. Fred Wood is contacting a roofing contractor
- Allen Belanger is contacting Anthony Allison to get a price to seal the cracks in the parking lot. UPDATE: \$200 was the bid

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

- Current membership is 74. Of the 74 members, 55 are active, 12 are Inactive and 7 are pending Church Conference Removal
- Pastor Barre will lead a Reception into the Global Methodist Church and Reception into the Local Congregation Covenant to welcome the two individuals transferring their membership from another church and three individuals from our congregation who wish to join the Avoca Methodist Church.

### SCOUTS

- Currently finishing this season; gearing up for Fall
- All set-up for summer camp at the end of July
- District meeting last week was successful

### OLD BUSINESS

- 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 – in progress. Will be completed next week
- Training of Henry & Cindy on the operation of the sweeper – Sweeper parts will be ordered shortly. Training will be conducted after new parts are installed

### NEW BUSINESS

- Vincent House donation – A \$2,000 check will be issued to the Vincent House this week. It was included in the Budget

### PASTOR'S TIME

- Pastor Barre at Annual Conference

## FUNDRAISERS

- Merchant and Tops cards - \$611.39

## CONCERT

- The Puffers – Friday, August 14, 2026 picnic @5:30 PM; concert @ 7:00 PM
- The Dunneman’s Church Service – Sunday, August 16, 2026 @10AM, combined service with Mitchellsville, potluck dinner to follow
- Dave Burdick Christmas Dinner Concert – Saturday, December 12, 2026. Concert @3PM – Love offering, Dinner @4:30PM, advance tickets

### SUMMER SCHEDULE:

No Thursday Bible Study during July and August  
Church office will be open Mondays and Thursdays during July and August from 9:00 – Noon

July - Pastor Barre available by appointment only

July 21 - 2:00 PM-8:30 PM Directory Pictures @ Mitchellsville

July 22 - 2:00 PM-8:30 PM Directory Pictures @ Avoca

August – Pastor Barre on Vacation: 3<sup>rd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Emergency contact: **To be announced**  
Pastor Barre available by appointment only 24<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>

August 14 – 5:30 PM Church Picnic  
7:00 PM **The Puffer’s** Concert

August 16 – Service by **The Dunnedmans-10:00AM**  
Combined Service with Mitchellsville  
Potluck fellowship dinner to follow – pulled pork will be provided

### **TREASURER’S REPORT**

**May 2026– 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, 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, and flying purple pigs, etc. I continue to pay our bills on time.

On the Mission Fund side, we have a modest reserve in the mission fund as we build our efforts for later in the year. 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. We did, however, after the Trustees voted, replace the boiler system for \$12,400.00. It was the original and was having some issues. We were able to cash out a \$10,216.00 Certificate of Deposit and took the remainder from General Fund reserves. Praise God that we had the funds to make this happen and happen out of season! The next hot topic with the Trustees is the roof. It is 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).

### **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) or Mike.

## LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTMAS – 2026

**Jim Young**

It is a bit early to talk about Christmas. However, the next few months are going to be very busy for our church so we need to start planning for the Lighthouse Christmas now.

This year's Lighthouse Christmas will be Saturday, **December 5th**. The distribution will be a drive-thru morning event.

As in past years, each family will receive a banana box top and a bottom filled with food as well as a bag containing paper products. Each family will also receive a gift card to purchase meat for their Christmas dinner.

In addition, each family will receive a gift basket of household goods, towels, gift items, tools, etc. Families with children will receive new toys for each child. Each individual in the family will also receive a folding lawn chair. By making all the baskets the same, we hope to be able to take advantage of quantity discounts.

At this time, we are planning for 96 families. This number is an estimate based on last year's participation. The current economic situation is hitting all households. We hope to have the school list and the AMC referrals in early September. Invitations will go out as soon as possible with a reply date in mid-October.

New toys for children of all ages are needed for the gift boxes. It is easier for the Lighthouse shoppers to standardize the family gifts if cash or gift cards (Walmart, Target, etc.) are available for quantity purchases.

A cart will be placed in the narthex July through November to collect food. A can to collect cash to purchase toys, gifts and food (if that would be easier for you than doing the shopping) will also be on the cart. Please give as you are able.

The food items needed and suggested giving months are listed below. However, anything you can donate will be sincerely appreciated and put to good use. Please be sure the "best used by" date is June 2027 or beyond.

**JULY** Pears, Peaches, Pineapple, Mandarin Oranges, Misc. Canned Beans (Pinto, Kidney, Pork & Beans)

**AUGUST** Spaghetti Sauce, Pancake & Waffle Mix (2#), Pancake Syrup (24 oz.), Peanut Butter (16-18 oz.), Canned Peas

**SEPTEMBER** Pears, Peaches, Pineapple, Mandarin Oranges, Misc. Canned Beans (Pinto, Kidney, Pork & Beans)

**OCTOBER** Saltine Crackers (4 stack box), Chunky Soup, Condensed Soup, Meal in a Can (spaghetti, ravioli, spaghetti O's, hash)

**NOVEMBER** Jiffy Corn Muffin Mix, Tuna/Chicken, Macaroni & Cheese, Misc. Pasta, Cranberry Sauce, Stuffing

We sincerely appreciate your support for this local Mission project. Because of you, many families living in the Avoca School District or who regularly attend the Avoca MC will have a nicer Christmas during these uncertain times.

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

Arrangements have been made with Universal Church Directories (UCD) to publish a new church directory. A minimum of thirty-five families are needed to participate. Pictures will be taken at Mitchellsville on Tuesday, July 21<sup>st</sup> from 2:00 PM to 8:30 PM and at Avoca on Wednesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2:00 PM to 8:30 PM. You may have your pictures taken at either church. Bev Belanger will schedule the photo appointments and oversee this project. Please see Bev if you have any questions.

## AVOCA-KANONA FOOD PANTRY

When the Kanona UMC closed two years ago, the food pantry was transferred to Avoca as a new mission project here. Food and cash have been collected weekly to support this mission. Because of the other items requested during the next months, the collection of food for the pantry will be on hold through November. However, cash collections or food donations left by the pantry door during this time will be sincerely appreciated. The cash collection container for the Avoca-Kanona Food Pantry will be on the table leading into the sanctuary. Please give if you are able. Thank you.

## THE RAMP GUYS

**Adam and Jackie Ormsby**

The Ramp Guys have completed four new builds with Ramp #[ 753-757] and are nearly finished with Ramp #758.

Our Partnership builds with BOCES students of Hornell campus continued successfully through the Spring but will be taking a break with the end of the school year. We expect this relationship will resume in September with another partnership build in the works for our friends at Vincent House in Wayland NY.

The Ramp Guys have also recovered four ramps that were donated back to the ministry. Most of these recovered sections have already been refurbished and used in the fore mentioned listed donation builds for our neighbors in need that required a ramp, but did not meet the specifications set forth by the Office for the Aging contract.

The Ramp Guys have successfully added a new member Dave Boyles which has been a blessing for the program. If you or anyone you know that is 55 years of age and interested in Volunteering for the Ramp Guys program please reach out to Jackie or Adam Ormsby Ramp Guy Coordination (315-706-9596).

Respectfully submitted with service, gratitude, and in One Spirit,

**DID YOU HEAR** the about the painter who was hired to whitewash a church? Unfortunately, he thinned the paint too much, causing it to wash away entirely during the first rain.

The minister called the painter to complain.

What do you want me to do about it?' the painter asked.

"Repaint," said the minister firmly, "and thin no more."

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Gary Weldy**

We pray you will join us for two new Rick Warren studies planned for the summer months:

We will study "The Habits of Happiness" from June 28<sup>th</sup> through August 9<sup>th</sup>. Now, more than ever, people are yearning for true happiness. Through this study, you will learn how to:

1. Cultivate the transformational habits of gratitude, forgiveness, humility, and contentment
2. Relieve stress and conflict by staying focused on your God-given purpose
3. Stop comparing yourself to others
4. Release the pain of your past hurts
5. Grow deeper in your relationship with Jesus

From August 23<sup>rd</sup> through October 4<sup>th</sup> we will be studying "Created to Dream – The 6 Phases God Uses to Grow Your Faith". God has a dream for your life. Before you took your first breath, He had already placed the gift of imagination into your brain and hardwired creativity into every cell of your body. But discovering your God-given dream will take faith on your part – just as faith was required of great dreamers in the Bible such as Abraham, Joseph, Moses, Ruth, Esther, and others. Whether you're feeling stuck, forgotten, afraid, or uninspired, "Created to Dream" will give you the tools you need to awaken and pursue the custom-made dream God created you to fulfill.

## MERCHANT CARD ORDERS

Time to start planning for 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, PetSmart, 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 or Carol Preston if you have any questions about this program.

## BONE BUILDERS COMING BACK TO THE AVOCA METHODIST CHURCH ??

RSVP Bone Builders is a free osteoporosis exercise program for those 55 and over. The Bone Builders program is designed to:

- prevent and reverse osteoporosis
- improve balance to protect against falls and fractures
- enhance the participant's energy level and sense of well-being.

The Office for the Aging has scheduled an exploratory get-together for both men and women on **Friday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM – Noon** to determine if there is enough interest in re-starting a Bone Builders class at AMC.

If it is determined that the class is "a go", some other issues will be determined:

- number of classes per week
- day(s) of week classes will be held
- time of day for classes
- site leaders/coordinators responsibilities
- application process
- physician's approval to participate
- items needed for class (towels, weights, etc.)

Please consider coming to this exploratory meeting and bring your family and friends who may also be interested in the benefits participation in Bone Builder classes can bring.

## RECIPE CORNER

### The Best Fruit Salad

#### Ingredients:

1 (29 oz.) can sliced peaches  
 1 (20 oz.) can pineapple chunks  
 1 (3 1/8 oz.) box dry vanilla instant pudding mix  
 1 lb. strawberries (quartered)  
 1 banana (sliced)  
 1/2 pint blueberries  
 1 bunch red grapes  
 1-2 tablespoons sugar (optional)

#### Directions:

- In a large bowl, combine peaches, pineapple, and vanilla pudding mix – this includes juice from the cans

- Mix well until pudding is dissolved
- Stir in strawberries, banana, blueberries, grapes and sugar (if desired)
- Chill

### Honey Butter Skillet Corn

#### Ingredients:

2 tablespoons butter (I use salted)  
 2 tablespoons honey  
 1 bag (16 oz.) frozen corn  
 2 oz. cream cheese, cut into chunks  
 1/4 teaspoon salt  
 1/4 teaspoon black pepper

#### Directions:

- In a skillet pan over medium-high heat, melt and butter and honey together
- Once melted, add the frozen corn. Cook for 5-8 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the corn is cooked through
- Add the cream cheese, salt and black pepper to the skillet
- Stir together and let it cook for about 3-5 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the cream cheese is melted and well incorporated
- Serve immediately. Leftovers can be kept covered in a container and stored in the fridge.

**Notes:** This recipe yields 6 side dish servings. Gold n' white corn works great for this recipe, but any frozen corn will do. Make sure to use a 1 lb. (16 oz.) bag.

## BIRTHDAYS

### July

11 Ernie Wise  
 14 Paula Bidlack  
 17 Bob Kenville  
 17 Remi Slayton  
 23 Doug Sick  
 25 Ann McInroy  
 29 Roy Hann  
 30 Earle Jean Kenville

### August

5 Cindy Gottschall  
 8 Candice Dockstader  
 9 Janet English  
 15 Henry Gottschall  
 18 Kelly Slayton  
 19 Robin Scouten  
 26 Jean Wise  
 30 Ruth Hann

## ANNIVERSARIES

### July

15 Larry & Jean Wise

### August

26 Doug & Donna Sick  
 29 Ron & Sally Rogers  
 30 Forrest & Kelly Slayton

## LIBRARY – NEW ADDITIONS

A donation of 14 books was made to the church called Extraordinary Women of the Bible. There are many women in Scripture who do extraordinary things. Women whose lives and actions were pivotal in shaping their world as well as the world we know today. In each volume of the series, you'll meet these well-known women and learn their deepest thoughts, fears, joys, and secrets. Read their stories and discover the unexplored truths in their journeys of faith as they follow the paths God laid out for them.

Tender Mercies – Elizabeth's story  
 At His Feet – Mary Magdalene's story  
 Woman of Redemption – Bathsheba's story  
 A Harvest of Grace – Ruth & Naomi's story  
 A Heart Restored – Michal's story  
 Highly Favored – Mary's story  
 Sins as Scarlet – Rahab's story  
 Jewel of Persia – Esther's story  
 The Beginning of Wisdom – Bilqis's Story  
 The Ones Jesus Loved – Mary & Martha's story  
 Beauty's Surrender – Sarah's story  
 The Woman Warrior – Deborah's story  
 The God Who Sees – Hagar's story  
 The First Daughter – Eve's story

Another book was also donated by Max Lucado – **It's Not About Me**. What would change if we finally found our place – and lived it? For our entire lives we've been urged to look out for number one. To find our place in the sun and soak it for all its worth. To make a name for ourselves as if we are the headliners in life's drama. But what happens when the sweet life we imagined proves to be sour? When our expensive toys break and our work is no longer needed and our bodies grow soft? What's next when all our efforts to take care of number one leave us feeling unsatisfied and the drills we were promised turn up empty? Best-selling author Max Lucado turns the greatest lie we've believed on its head – the one that says, "It's all about me – and sets our sights on a different goal. We were not made to live this way." Max insists. What would happen if we all took our place and played our parts? If we started living like "Son" reflectors rather than individual stars and suns? If every person's priority became a divine pursuit, not a performance?

Please feel free to borrow and return the book that you wish to read. There are also many other books available in the Library. Happy Reading !

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Men's Closer Walk Weekend #129

July 16-19, 2026

Christ Community Church of the Nazarene  
 Camillus, New York

### Church Directory Pictures

Tuesday, July 21, 2026

2:00 PM - 8:30 PM

@ Mitchellsville

See Bev Belanger for more information

### Church Directory Pictures

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

2:00 PM - 8:30 PM

@ Avoca

See Bev Belanger for more information

### Women's Closer Walk Weekend #129

August 13-16, 2026

Christ Community Church of the Nazarene  
 Camillus, New York

### Church Picnic

(All Food Furnished)

5:30 PM

Friday, August 14, 2026

### The Puffers Concert

7:00 PM

### The Dunneman's

Combined Church Service

Sunday, August 16, 2026

10:00 AM

Potluck dinner to follow  
 (pulled pork will be furnished)

### Bone Builders Exploratory Meeting

Friday, August 24, 2026

10:00 AM - Noon

