

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

The regularly scheduled meeting was held June 13, 2024 with 9 members and 1 guest present.

### Lay Leadership

- On hiatus until Fall 2024

### Worship

- July 21 @ 10AM @ Avoca - The Dunnemans will do the worship service while Pastor Barre is on the Closer Walk.

### Pastor Parish Relations Committee (PPRC)

- Nothing to report

### Trustee's

- Completed – Spring clean-up, kitchen faucet replaced, mulch spread
- Gary W will purchase an oxygen tank to have on hand
- Goodrich's will donate use of lift to assist painting the church trim
- Retainers and letters for the downtown sign have been obtained
- A new riding mower has been purchased
- Al Belanger is checking on the cost to have the parking lot blacktop topcoat applied
- Lights for the front sign have been purchased and installed
- Planning to purchase lights for under the kitchen cupboards

### Finance Committee

- Donations have nearly covered the cost of the refrigerators for the Avoca - Kanona Food Pantry

### Membership Committee

- Current membership is 82
- 17 letters were sent out this year

### Puppets

- Puppets will be on hiatus until September

## OLD BUSINESS

- Non-disposable place settings for pancake breakfast and other events approved. Disposable settings can be used as needed.
- Memorial Day Chicken BBQ – Motion made by Bill Heard that proceeds be transferred to the Trustees for use towards the parking lot cost. Motion was approved.

- Aaron Benton from Maple City Financial will meet with key people to explain the coverage provided in the new insurance policy
- Scouts sent their thanks for the use of the building for their recognition dinner. They have asked to use the building for their monthly discussions starting in September
- Mike mentioned that some of the camera system needs to be completed
- Several accounts need to be updated with the new church name and tax-exempt number

## NEW BUSINESS

- Donations still needed for the replacement of the refrigerator and freezer for the Avoca – Kanona Food Pantry
- August 10 – pulled pork drive-thru, 11AM – 1PM, Saturday
- Scouts will be doing a recruitment program in September

## PASTOR'S TIME

- Special Olympics is looking for a donation. Motion made by Bill S and seconded by Glenn to donate \$100. Motion was approved

## FUNDRAISERS

- Merchant and Tops cards - \$428.93
- Pulled Pork Drive-thru Dinner – **August 10, 2024**, Saturday @ 11AM – 1PM

## 2024 SPECIAL SERVICE @ Avoca

- The Dunneman's – **July 21, 2024**, Sunday @ 10AM – Combined service with Mitchellsville. Wheeler will be invited. Potluck dinner. Pulled pork, coleslaw and baked beans will be provided.

## 2024 CONCERTS

- The Puffers – **August 23, 2024**, Friday, AMC congregation dinner @ 5:30PM, concert for community @ 7PM
- Dave Burdick – **December 14, 2024**, Saturday @ 3:00PM, dinner to follow

## TREASURER'S REPORT May 2024 - 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.

As of March 21, 2024 we are officially disaffiliated from the United Methodist Church. Although on March 19, 2024 we have been accepted to join the Global Methodist Church (more to come as we receive it), we are currently operating as an independent church. We have a new federal ID number (EIN) and a new NYS Tax Exempt Number for the Avoca Methodist Church, Inc. This means we must change all of our business accounts over to the new name and tax numbers. We are currently working on doing just that. This will not change under the Global Methodist Church.

On the Mission Fund side, we also have some modest mission reserves as we build for the missions later in the year. This year we are concentrating 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. We are also looking into a mission project for the upcoming school year.

As of June 2<sup>nd</sup> the Avoca – Kanona Food Pantry, Refrigerator Fund has reached \$1450.00 of the \$2,000.00 goal. Thank you!

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 **NEW** webpage at [www.avocamethodistchurch.com](http://www.avocamethodistchurch.com) and find the links to our **NEW** Facebook page at

[www.facebook.com/AvocaMethodistChurch](http://www.facebook.com/AvocaMethodistChurch) and **NEW** YouTube Channel at [www.youtube.com/@AvocaMethodistChurch](http://www.youtube.com/@AvocaMethodistChurch).

**Please subscribe to the NEW Facebook and YouTube channels.** Please update our new email [avocamethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:avocamethodistchurch@gmail.com). We will eventually be closing down the old social media accounts and the old email address.

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 now helping me with the sound system and video recording. Thank you Mike!

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

### RAMP MINISTRY Glenn Davis

Well, the Ramp Ministry has been blessed and busy. We started the year by building ramp number 688 in February. This week we will build ramp number 707. We celebrated a major milestone by building number 700 with lots of help, God's Blessing and plenty of news coverage. It was nice to see the dedicated volunteers get

some well deserved recognition. The news however, brought many more requests for ramps, so it appears the rest of the year will be busy if the County can find more funding. The cost of materials has come down a little, but it's still high. We pray everything falls into place so we can help more people with safe access to their homes. Our moto is "helping-a-neighbor-in need". We do it with GOD'S HELP. Keep the Ramp Guys in your Prayers as we work through this unpredictable weather. GOD IS GOOD !!!

### **MEN'S FELLOWSHIP** **Fred Groner**

PRESENCE - Many of the lessons in our study guide can be described as dealing with our presence with the LORD. Simply stated, if a person does not have a presence with the Lord that person does not have a relationship with the Lord. A person is not a Christian if that person does not have a relationship with the LORD. Simply stated Christianity is not a religion it is a relationship. It is an in-your-heart-relationship with the Lord. A relationship with the Lord is a marriage with the Lord and no paper documentation such as a marriage license, payment of membership dues, water Baptism, or even church membership is required to achieve that relationship. A believing heart is the only thing required.

The group frequently discusses the many ways we have and can have a presence with the Lord. Basic to those discussions is keeping in mind we are Christians and we know the meaning of being Christian. There are people who think they are Christian who are not Christian. Jesus talks about this in Math 7:22. Jesus said "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in your name? and in your name have cast out devils? and in your name done many wonderful works? And then I (Jesus) will profess unto them, I never knew you." Jesus is saying works without relationship is not Christian. This commandment is plain and simple.

Presence in our lives involves praying as well as our thoughts, words, and deeds. The group adds much to what is absent in the study guide concerning presence such as giving thanks in prayer even for the simplest blessings, seeking Biblical truth, and worshipping in truth and grace, and not just on Sunday.

Men's Fellowship meets almost every Sunday at 9:30am. Welcome

### **LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTMAS – 2024** **Jim Young**

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

This year's Lighthouse Christmas will be Saturday, December 14th. The distribution will be a totally 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 from Tops 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 lounge throw/blanket. 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 84 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 early October.

A cart will be placed in the narthex July through November to collect food and cash to purchase additional food if that would be easier for you than doing the shopping. 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 2025 or beyond.

### **FOOD BASKET SUGGESTIONS**

<b>JULY</b>	Fruit Cocktail, Pears, Peaches, Pineapple
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**AUGUST** Apple Juice, Applesauce, Beets,  
Mandarin Oranges, Misc. Beans  
(Black, Kidney, Pork & Beans)

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

**OCTOBER** Saltine Crackers (4 stack box),  
Cereal (18 oz.), Stuffing, Chunky  
Soup, Condensed Soup, Ramen  
Soup (6 pk.)

**NOVEMBER** Cake mix, Frosting, Jiffy Corn  
Muffin Mix, Tuna, Macaroni &  
Cheese, Spaghetti (1#), Macaroni  
(1#), Misc. Pasta, Cranberry Sauce

### **GIFT BASKET NEEDS**

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 is available for quantity purchases. A cash collection container will be placed on the food cart for your donations. Please give if you are able.

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.

### **PERSONAL CARE ITEMS**

The School Nurse and Guidance Counselor keep personal care items for students in their office. In the past, they have purchased them using their own funds.

This year we are coordinating our giving with the Avoca Central School. We will collect the following personal care items that are needed:

- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant – Men & Women’s
- Travel size bodywash
- Travel size shampoo & conditioner
- Socks – all sizes
- Feminine hygiene products – anything  
but no tampons with cardboard applicator
- Underwear – Girls 12/Medium
- Underwear – Women’s small, medium,  
large, extra large

Leggings – Girls 12/14  
Leggings – Women’s small, medium,  
large, extra large, extra extra large

A separate box will be placed in the narthex July through November to collect these items. Your help is appreciated.

### **BIRTHDAYS**

#### **July**

3 Sally Stiles  
9 Bill Snyder  
11 Ernie Wise  
14 Paula Bidlack  
17 Remi Slayton  
23 Doug Sick  
25 Ann McInroy  
29 Bob Anderson  
29 Fred Groner

#### **August**

5 Cindy Gottschall  
8 Candice Dockstader  
9 Janet English  
10 Carl Dockstader  
15 Henry Gottschall  
18 Barb Nichols  
18 Kelly Slayton  
19 Robin Scouten  
20 Randy Hammond  
26 Jean Wise

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

#### **July**

15 Larry & Jean Wise

#### **August**

23 Don & Penny Sorge  
26 Doug & Donna Sick  
29 Ron & Sally Rogers  
30 Forrest & Kelly Slayton

### **BEFORE THE COFFEE GETS COLD**

Don’t leave anything for later.

Later, the coffee gets cold.

Later, you lose interest.

Later, the day turns into night.

Later, people grow up.

Later, people grow old.

Later, life goes by.

Later, you regret not doing something...

When you had the chance.

Life is a fleeting dance, a delicate balance of moments that unfold before us, never to return in quite the same way again. Regret is a bitter pill to swallow, a weight that bears down upon the soul

with the burden of missed chances and unspoken words. So, let us not leave anything for later. Let us seize the moments as they come, with hearts open and arms outstretched to embrace the possibilities that lie before us. For in the end, it is not the things we did that we regret, but the things we left undone, the words left unspoken, the dreams left unfulfilled.

-Before the Coffee Gets Cold is a novel by Toshikazu Kawaguchi.

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**One flag, one land, one heart, one hand, One Nation evermore!** *Oliver Wendell Holmes*

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**Let every nation know,** whether it wishes us well or ill, we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and success of liberty. *John F. Kennedy*

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So let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire!  
Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York!  
Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania!  
Let freedom ring from the snowcapped Rockies of Colorado!  
Let freedom ring from the curvaceous peaks of California!  
But not only that; let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia!  
Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee!  
Let freedom ring from every hill and every molehill of Mississippi.  
From every mountainside, let freedom ring.  
*Martin Luther King Jr.*

**A PRAYER FOR HEALING OUR COUNTRY**  
*Ronald Reagan*

To preserve our blessed land we must look to God... It is time to realize that we need God more than He needs us... We also have His promise that we could take to heart with regard to our country, that "If my people, which are called by my name

shall humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." Let us, young and old, join together, as did the First Continental Congress, in the first step, in humble heartfelt prayer. Let us do so for the love of God and His great goodness, in search of His guidance and the grace of repentance, in seeking His blessings, His peace, and the resting of His kind and holy hands on ourselves, our nation, our friends in the defense of freedom, and all mankind, now and always. The time has come to turn to God and reassert our trust in Him for the healing of America... Our country is in need of and ready for a spiritual renewal. Today, we utter no prayer more fervently than the ancient prayer for peace on Earth. If I had a prayer for you today, among those that have all been uttered, it is that one we're so familiar with; "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace..." And God bless you all.

*From a speech to the American people, February 6, 1986.*

## GRANDMA'S GLASSES

A little boy said to a playmate: "When I get older I want to wear glasses just like Grandma wears. She must have a special kind because she can see much more than most people."

"She can see when folks are hungry or tired or sorry, and she can even see what'll make them feel better. She can see how to fix a lot of things to have fun with, and she can see what a feller meant to do, even if he didn't do it right. She can see when a feller is about to cry and she can see what to do to make him feel better. I asked her one day how she could see so good, and she said it was the way she learned to look at things as she got older. So when I get older I want a pair of glasses just like Grandma's so I can see good too."

**FAITH** is trusting God in all circumstances; believing what God says without asking any questions; believing not only that God can, but that he will.

## IS THIS FOOD EXPIRED? Understanding Date Labels

The dates that food companies put on packages are not regulated and do not mean that the food is unsafe to eat, except in the case of baby formula. Most foods are still tasty and nutritious after the date has passed. **Not sure if food is spoiled? Check for off odor, flavor or texture.**

### **“Best By” or “Best If Used By” Date**

This date tells you when the food will have the best flavor. **It is still safe to eat** past this date.

### **“Use By” or “Expiration Date**

This is the last date that the product will be at its peak quality. **It is still safe to eat** past this date (except for baby formula).

### **“Packing/Manufacturing Date”**

This is the date used by manufacturers for tracking. **It is not an expiration date** – it is not related to food quality or safety.

### **“Sell By” Date**

This tells the store how long to display the product for sale. **It is still safe to eat** past this date.

### **GOOD UP TO ONE YEAR AFTER DATE:**

- Packaged food like cereal, pasta, dried beans, and baking mixes
- Frozen foods
- Canned goods including soup, condiments, meat, fruit, and vegetables

### **GOOD UP TO 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE:**

- Butter
- Cheese
- Eggs

### **GOOD UP TO SEVEN DAYS AFTER THE DATE:**

- Milk
- Yogurt
- Cream Cheese

Questions? Contact 215-223-2220 or [info@sharefoodprogam.org](mailto:info@sharefoodprogam.org)

## RECIPE CORNER Cinnamon Rhubarb Bread

### Ingredients:

Butter, for greasing the pan  
1 ½ cups all-purpose flour  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
½ teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
¾ cup brown sugar  
½ cup canola oil  
½ cup buttermilk  
1 egg  
½ teaspoon vanilla extract  
2 cups diced rhubarb  
½ cup chopped pecans

### Directions:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Grease an 8 x 4-inch loaf pan

In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, baking soda, salt and cinnamon. Stir in the brown sugar, oil, buttermilk, egg, and vanilla, combining thoroughly. Fold in the rhubarb and pecans.

Pour the batter evenly into the prepared loaf pan. Bake for 50 to 55 minutes, until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out dry. Let cool in the pan slightly, then cool completely on a rack before slicing.

### 5-Cup Ambrosia Fruit Salad

### Ingredients:

1 cup crushed pineapple, well drained  
1 cup mandarin oranges, well drained  
1 cup miniature fruit-flavored marshmallows  
1 cup shredded sweetened coconut  
1 cup sour cream

### Directions:

In a large bowl, combine pineapple, mandarin oranges, marshmallows, and coconut. Fold in sour cream, mixing well. Cover and refrigerate at least 4 hours or overnight before serving. Serves 8.