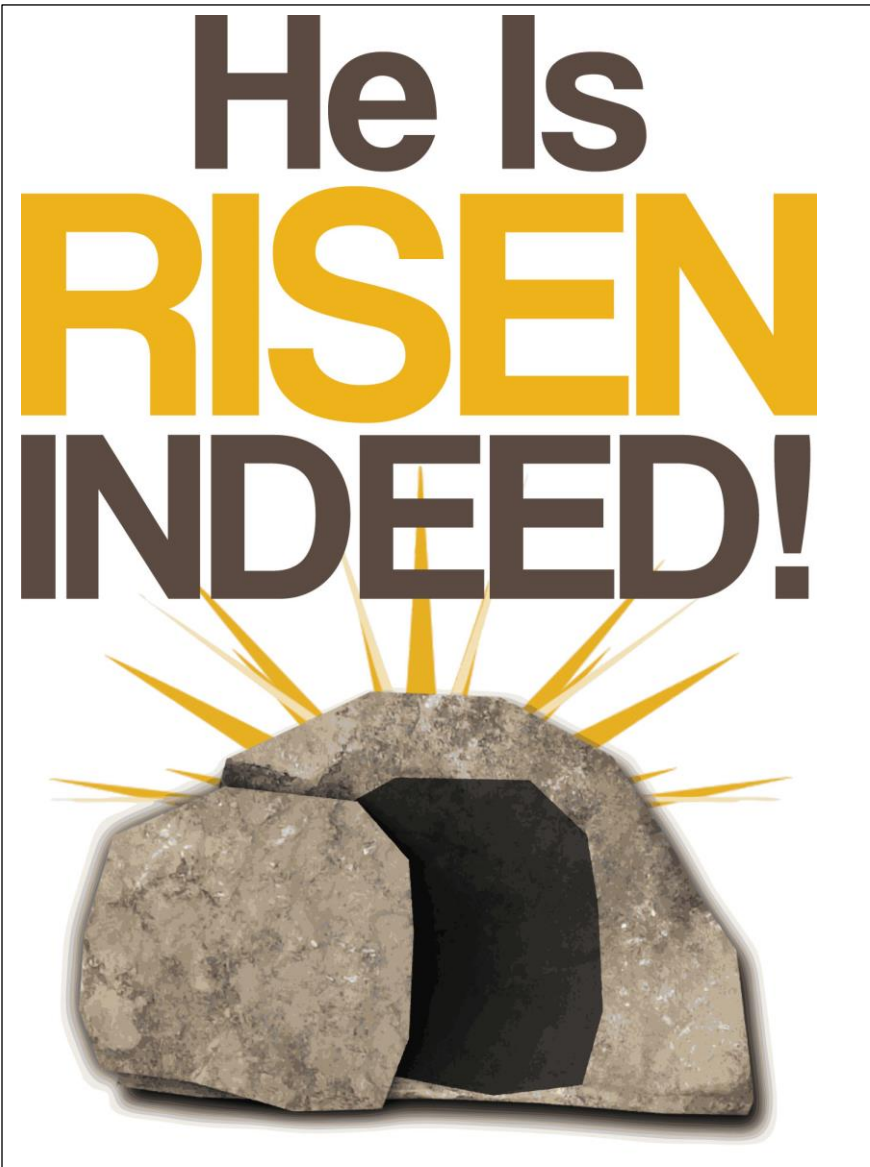


TAWAS METHODIST CHURCH

THE BEACON

Volume 53 Issue 4
April 2026



Words from the Pastor

Hello My Friends! Spring is arriving (I will have to admit a little slow) in the Tawas area. I hope that you are anticipating the new life that is about to come forth. The resurrection of Christ and the spring season provides a sense of renewed hope. Death has been defeated and the cold, darkness, and isolation of winter is behind us. We now look forward to the promise of new life.

Once again as a Family of Faith, we have journeyed through Holy Week and the wonder of Easter. Together we toured the Stations of the Cross, relived the heartache of Good Friday, and gathered in fear of Saturday afternoon. Once again, we proclaimed the beauty and reality of the empty tomb and risen Lord. Easter morning confirms God's promises and gives us hope for His glorious plan ahead.

The disciples were filled with confusion from what they witnessed and experienced. They had to wonder, where do we go from here? What is next for us now that Jesus is gone? Together they met the risen Christ and in Matthew 28: 18-20, Jesus gave them the Great Commission.

“Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (NRSV)

Like the disciples, we may be thinking the same thing. Where do we go from here? What's next? We cannot deny the realities of the resurrection and Jesus as the Son of God; therefore, what do we do with this knowledge? We follow Christ's command in the Great Commission! As a Family of Faith, we share Jesus Christ to the world around us. What greater gift can we offer to our family, friends, and neighbors than the love of Jesus. With the resurrection comes new life.

May God Bless You!
Pastor Dan

Other meetings and events

- 4/7 Tawas Methodist Women's Meeting 1pm
- 4/22 Ladies Lunch Bunch at Barnacle's
- 4/27 Outreach Committee Meeting 12:15pm
- 4/28 FISH Meeting 2:30pm
- 4/30 Trustee Meeting at Parsonage 6:30pm

Regular Meetings

Mondays:

Ladies Bible Study, 11am

Tuesdays:

Ladies Pickleball 9-11am

Friends Together Cancer Support Group 5pm

Prayer Ministry 5pm

Bell Choir Practice 6pm

Wednesdays:

Choir Practice 5:45pm

Pastors Book Study 7pm

Thursdays:

Ladies Pickleball 9-11am

Flourish Home School Group 1-4pm

Saturdays:

MMPG 8:30 pm

Casual Service 4pm

No Anniversaries in April

Birthdays

4/7 Gwen Burt
4/12 Kay Klenow
4/12 Sharon Schlagel
4/13 Marsha Kerr
4/16 Nancy Seymour
4/22 Jessica Sanker
4/23 Sandee Simmons
4/26 Mindy Caudill
4/27 Ashley Boudreau
4/27 Al Denhoff
4/27 Bev Williams
4/29 Nancy Shellenbarger
4/30 Linda Koehn

CHURCH FINANCE UPDATE

February 28, 2026

GENERAL FUND

2026	2026	2025
BUDGET	GIVING	GIVING
35,476	61,520	35,816

Facilities Improvement Project

Donations	35,944
Expenses	29,133 (2024 & 2025)
Balance	6,811

From of the Office

Happy Easter & Thank You,

A big thank you to everyone who helped prepare the church for the Easter Holiday. It is quite an undertaking to prepare for four services, four days in a row, changing the look of the church and the mood from sadness to jubilant.

Pastor Gonder did a great job preparing services and messages for each day and mood, the Worship Committee had to change the church into nine different scenes for the stations of the cross, take all the color off and shroud the altar area in black for Good Friday and Saturday, then magically turn the altar area into a fragrant colorful garden for Easter Sunday, while setting up for Holy Communion at the same time. They are a group of hard-working people who are dedicated to doing great things in the name of our Lord.

The Easter Dinner was another success story. It started off slow but grew to around 50+ attendees. They enjoyed a delicious dinner, shared fellowship with good friends and didn't have to go home to dirty dishes! All in all, it was a meaningful, delicious, fun, Holiday Week.

Thank you again to all who helped make this such a memorable event.

Education Grants

Over the years Tawas Methodist Church has received monetary gifts from individuals and estates given with the intent that they benefit the church for years into the future. Some of these gifts have been designated for specific purposes, others have been undesignated. Those gifts make up an Endowment Fund which has been invested with the earnings from those investments used to benefit the church and its missions. One of the missions is to assist young people from our church who choose to pursue further education after graduating from high school.

The fund has existed for almost 40 years and has provided more than \$100,000 in grants to hundreds of students from our church. To qualify for a grant an individual must be a recent high-school graduate, be a member or otherwise associated with TMC and by personal actions display Christian principles and beliefs. A recipient is eligible to receive grants for four years of post-secondary education. Applications for grants may be obtained at the church office and should be returned there when completed.

The applications are reviewed by the Education Grant Committee to determine those who qualify for a grant and the amount to be awarded. In 2025 two grants were awarded in the amount of \$500.00 each. Applications for 2026 Grants should be submitted to the church office not later than June 1, 2026.

Methodist Women

Happy Easter and Happy Spring! Our next meeting will be on May 5th at the Church in the Fireplace Room at 1 pm. All the ladies of the Church are encouraged to attend. If you have begun your Spring Cleaning don't forget about the Rummage Sale on June 26th. Our next LUNCH BUNCH will be on April 22nd at the Buckhorn on M-55 across from Zubeck Motors at 12pm. We have a great fellowship and would love for you to attend.

Sincerely and in Christian Love,
Judy Hills

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee has been very busy this Lenten season. Maundy Thursday we had a tour of the Stations of the Cross, we walked the footsteps of Christ to the Cross. Our Good Friday service was ecumenical and very solemn. Shawn Waygant provided moving music and Diane Bushman accompanied one of the hymns with her bells. We are certainly blessed to have such wonderful talent for our music ministry. Thank you Shawn and Diane. Holy Saturday was lightly attended, as expected. Easter Sunday was heavily attended with more than 120 celebrants. Our Cross was surrounded with 30 plants provided by our members.

The Worship Committee would like to thank Pastor Dan and everyone else who contribute to our worship services, without you we could never pull off all the work. Have a blessed Spring!!!



Tawas Methodist Church
20 E. M-55
Tawas City, MI 48763

POSTAGE
REQUIRED
IF
MAILED

Join us for Sunday Service
Saturday 4:00pm Worship
Sunday School 9:00am
Sunday Worship 10:00am
At the Church, on WIOS-AM 1480
or at www.tawasmc.org
Pastor: Rev. Daniel Gonder
Parsonage: 989-362-5399
Office Manager: Laura Loeffler
Music Director; Shawn Wygant
Custodian: Judy Hills
Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday
9am to 2pm (Lunch 11:30 to Noon)
Monday- Closed
Church Office: 989-362-4288
Fax: 989-362-6320
Email:
frontoffice.tawasmc@gmail.com

Our Purpose...
To connect people to
God and one another
through Jesus Christ.

