

March 15, 2026



**Mission Statement: To Bring People to Christ
And Nurture Them in the Faith**



Pastor: Rob Bacon
Lay Speaker: Carol Bacon
Rev. Jerry Swanberg, Emeritus
501 2nd Street, PO Box 307
Maxwell, IA 50161
Office and FAX: (515) 387-8594
Website: <https://www.maxwellmc.org>

Maxwell Methodist Church

March 15, 2026

Pastor: Robert Bacon; Lay Speaker: Carol Bacon

Pianist: Deb Mitchell

***Please stand if able**

Prelude Deb Mitchell

Welcome/Announcements

We Worship as We Rejoice

The Praise Team

We Worship as We Gather

***Call to Worship**

Leader: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**People: He Makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

People: We come to walk in His Light and live in His love.

Leader: Come, let us worship the one who opens our eyes
and leads us to life.

ALL: We lift our hearts to the Shepherd and Light of the world!

We Worship in Prayer

***Holy God, we confess that we have been hiding in the darkness over the living light of Christ. We close our eyes to Your truth and fail to walk as children of light. Forgive us, Lord, and open our eyes to Your eternal love and grace. We pray this in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.. Amen.**

We Worship as in Song

*Hymn. "The Light of the World is Jesus"Hymnal #215

We Worship in Prayer

Praises and Requests

Silent Prayer / Pastoral Prayer / The Lord's Prayer

We Worship in Giving

Offering plates are at both doors as you enter or leave and will not be passed.

***Doxology / *Offertory Prayer**

We Worship by Hearing the Word

Psalm 23 {KJV}

A psalm of David

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

²He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

³He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

⁵Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

John 9:1-41 (NIV)

Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind

¹As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

³"Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

⁶After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. ⁷"Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means "Sent"). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

⁸His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, "Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some claimed that he was.

Others said, "No, he only looks like him."

But he himself insisted, "I am the man."

¹⁰"How then were your eyes opened?" they asked.

¹¹He replied, "The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see."

¹²"Where is this man?" they asked him.

"I don't know," he said.

The Pharisees Investigate the Healing

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. ¹⁴ Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. ¹⁵ Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see."

¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath."

But others asked, "How can a sinner perform such signs?" So they were divided.

¹⁷ Then they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened."

The man replied, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸ They still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man's parents. ¹⁹ "Is this your son?" they asked. "Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?"

²⁰ "We know he is our son," the parents answered, "and we know he was born blind. ²¹ But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don't know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who already had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ That was why his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴ A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God by telling the truth," they said. "We know this man is a sinner."

²⁵ He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"

²⁶ Then they asked him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"

²⁷ He answered, "I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?"

²⁸ Then they hurled insults at him and said, "You are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses! ²⁹ We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don't even know where he comes from."

³⁰ The man answered, "Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly person who does his will. ³² Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."

³⁴ To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out.

Spiritual Blindness

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

³⁶ “Who is he, sir?” the man asked. “Tell me so that I may believe in him.”

³⁷ Jesus said, “You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you.”

³⁸ Then the man said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him.

³⁹ Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.”

⁴⁰ Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, “What? Are we blind too?”

⁴¹ Jesus said, “If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.

We Worship in Song

Hymn. “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” Hymnal #44

We Worship in Learning the Word

Sermon. “I Was Blind, but Now I See” Pastor Rob Bacon

We Worship as in Song

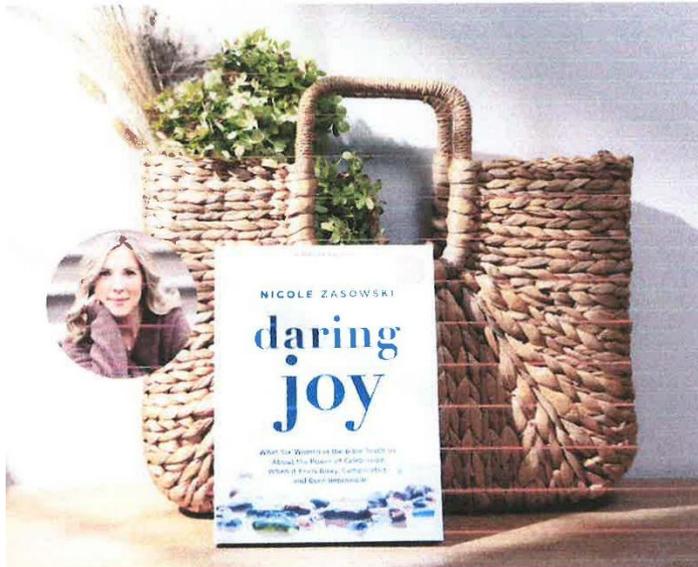
*Hymn. “Amazing Grace” Hymnal #572
(Vs. 1, 2, 3 & 6)

*Benediction

Postlude. Deb Mitchell

Announcements

- **Pastor’s Office Hours** : By appointment. Rob 515-460-8885; Carol 515-460-8969
- **Bulletin Announcements**: Please forward bulletin announcements to office@maxwellmc.org by Wednesday.
- **Fellowship Sign-up**: Please sign up to bring refreshments for fellowship time.
- **SSNOW**: Wednesday from 6:00 – 7:30 pm
- **Babes Bible Study**: Thursday @ 6:30 pm
- **Today March 15**: Ad Council Meeting following worship
- **March 22**: Youth Group Activity TBD
- **March 30 @ 9:00 am**: Volunteer Sewing Group



The image shows the cover of the book "daring joy" by Nicole Zasowski. The cover features a circular inset photo of the author, Nicole Zasowski, on the left. The title "daring joy" is written in a large, blue, serif font. Below the title, the subtitle reads: "What Six Women in the Bible Teach Us About the Power of Celebration, Vulnerability, and Celebration". The background of the cover is a photograph of a large, woven wicker basket filled with green plants and flowers, set against a light, outdoor background.

Join us for this 7-session
Bible study by Nicole Zasowski
to discover the enduring joy Jesus promises. Through the examples of six women in the Bible who model both the vulnerability of joy and the power of celebration, you'll see that God longs for you to embrace abundant joy!

Bible Babes (Build And Bless Every Soul)
When: Starting 3/12/26 for 7 weeks (Thursdays)
Time: 6:30pm-7:30pm
Location: Maxwell Methodist Church lower level