

### Week At A Glance:

#### **Wednesday, January 21**

10:00 a.m. Bible Study (Chapel)

12:00 p.m. Chair Yoga (Parlor)

#### **Sunday, January 25 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany/ Ecumenical Sunday)**

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School (Parlor)

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)

### **CELEBRATIONS IN JANUARY 2026**

#### **Birthdays**

18 Carol Davis

19 Krista Spangler

#### **Anniversaries**

#### **MINISTRY STAFF**

Ministers: The People of This Congregation

Media Team: Paul Jassogne

Media Team (Live Streaming): Lee Ann Whitmer

Church Secretary: Lee Ann Whitmer

Pianist: Jackie Howard

Liturgist: Greg Howard

Pastor: Rev. Jeremy Shank

## **Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church**

1004 W. Sixth Avenue

Lancaster, OH 43130

January 18, 2026  
(2<sup>ND</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany)



## **“You’re Not Better Than Anyone Else”**

Worship Service starts at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday.

Children’s Church (ages 5-13) starts at 10:45 a.m.

Church Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday through Friday

Pastor: Rev. Jeremy Shank

Pastor’s email: [revshankgmc@gmail.com](mailto:revshankgmc@gmail.com)

Office email: [sixthgmc\\_email@yahoo.com](mailto:sixthgmc_email@yahoo.com)

Church: (740) 653-1196

Fax: (740) 653-6780

Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church  
(3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany / Ecumenical Sunday)

January 18, 2026 10:30 a.m.

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** Liturgist

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Lord, lead us into your ways of love and mercy, with others needs in mind and not our own.

**People: Help us to hear the Father's voice as you did Jesus; to walk and obey.**

Leader: People wind up in our path everyday. Will we show them mercy? Will we help where we can?

**People: Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.**

**\*Gloria Patri** Hymn # 70

**\*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

**\*OPENING HYMN** #733  
"Marching to Zion"

**GOSPEL READING** Matthew 4:12-17

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT'S** Ruth Bowland

**HYMN** "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" #133

**OUR TIME OF PRAYER**

~Joys and Concerns

~General Prayers & Intercession

~The Lord's Prayer (in unison) # 895

**OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*Doxology** "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" # 95

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Pastor Jeremy Shank

**SCRIPTURE READING** Jeremiah 2:1-2a, 9-19

**SPECIAL MUSIC** Pastor Jeremy

**MESSAGE** Pastor Jeremy Shank  
"You're Not Better Than Anyone Else"

**CLOSING HYMN** #172  
"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

**\*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

\*For those who are able, please stand.



**Edgewood Manor (Lucasville):** Alan Fick, C3

**LanFair:** Mary Chilcote, 313

**Luxe:** Jim Funkhouser, Eckert Wing, 207A

**Magnolia Terrace:** Jane Patterson, 56

**Primrose:** Bill & Doris Shauger, 121

**The Ridge:** Fred Beougher, 140

**Continued Prayers are requested for:**

Phyllis Flowers, Ed Gurile, Clara Herrick,  
Lloyd & Diann Helber, Eleanor & Bob Kane, Carl & Sharon Mathias,  
Vicki Oatney, Michael Parrish, Beth Patton,  
Rod Shouldis, Kathy Starner, Billie Stebelton, Don Taylor.

\*Please note: Names will be removed from the bulletin prayer list after three Sundays and will only be added if a new request is made.

If you have a prayer concern or praise to share, please fill out a green prayer card found in the pew and give it to an usher before the worship service begins. Thank you for allowing us to pray for and with you!

If you would like the church to pray for you or someone you know on the Sixth Avenue GMC e-mail prayer chain, contact Lee Ann or the church office. You can also let her know if you would like to be added to the prayer chain email list.

When a Level 2 or higher snow emergency is issued, all church functions are canceled. This includes worship services, meetings, and activities.  
Please check your local TV listings. (ABC 6 & 10TV)

On Wednesday, **January 21, 2026**, as part of his ordination process in the GMC, Pastor Jeremy will be presenting a sermon topic in the Parlor at 10:00 AM. **Bible Study** for this week will be postponed to the following week. The sermon will be videotaped and everyone is invited to attend.

We will be having a **Chili Bowl luncheon** on February 7 from 1-3 p.m. We are doing this as a celebration before Super Bowl LX on Sunday February 8<sup>th</sup>.

The **Evangelism Committee** is selling homemade noodles for \$5/lb. and are also selling **RADA Cutlery**. Proceeds from these fundraisers are used to support the Evangelism team in our community. Please see Lee Ann of interest in either.

Reminder: all of Pastor Jeremy's sermons, including the upcoming Sunday's, is posted on the Shank Bank. Feel free to pass it around, post it to Facebook and tell a friend:

<https://shankbank.blogspot.com/2026/01/lets-start-over-again.html>

- Your Administrative Council held its monthly meeting on **Tuesday, January 6, 2026** and continues to discuss important matters in this season of transition. The leadership remains fully committed to be transparent and give timely dissemination of information to all members and friends of the Church in this season and beyond.
- The church property continues to be listed for sale. While there have been some inquiries in the property, no offers have been made at this time. It is the Council's prayer that we can remain serving the people of this community in our current building.
- There was some discussion about returning our Worship Service to begin at 10:00 am instead of 10:30 as it has been for several years. Please contact any of the leadership if you have strong feelings either way with this decision. Everyone's opinion is important to us.
- If Worship would change to 10:00 am, we would consider Adult Bible School to begin at 9:00 am.

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## **Matthew 4:12-17**

### **Jesus Begins to Preach**

<sup>12</sup> When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali – <sup>14</sup> to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

<sup>15</sup> “Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,  
the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan,  
Galilee of the Gentiles –

<sup>16</sup> the people living in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of the shadow of death  
a light has dawned.”<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>17</sup> From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

## **Jeremiah 2:1-2**

### **Israel Forsakes God**

**2** The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup> “Go and proclaim in the hearing of Jerusalem:

“This is what the LORD says:

““I remember the devotion of your youth,  
how as a bride you loved me  
and followed me through the wilderness,  
through a land not sown.

## Jeremiah 2:9-19

<sup>9</sup> “Therefore I bring charges against you again,” declares the LORD.

“And I will bring charges against your children’s children.

<sup>10</sup> Cross over to the coasts of Cyprus and look,  
send to Kedar<sup>[a]</sup> and observe closely;  
see if there has ever been anything like this:

<sup>11</sup> Has a nation ever changed its gods?  
(Yet they are not gods at all.)

But my people have exchanged their glorious God  
for worthless idols.

<sup>12</sup> Be appalled at this, you heavens,  
and shudder with great horror,”  
declares the LORD.

<sup>13</sup> “My people have committed two sins:  
They have forsaken me,  
the spring of living water,  
and have dug their own cisterns,  
broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

<sup>14</sup> Is Israel a servant, a slave by birth?  
Why then has he become plunder?

<sup>15</sup> Lions have roared;  
they have growled at him.  
They have laid waste his land;  
his towns are burned and deserted.

<sup>16</sup> Also, the men of Memphis and Tahpanhes  
have cracked your skull.

<sup>17</sup> Have you not brought this on yourselves  
by forsaking the LORD your God  
when he led you in the way?

<sup>18</sup> Now why go to Egypt  
to drink water from the Nile<sup>[b]</sup>?  
And why go to Assyria  
to drink water from the Euphrates?  
<sup>19</sup> Your wickedness will punish you;  
your backsliding will rebuke you.  
Consider then and realize  
how evil and bitter it is for you  
when you forsake the LORD your God  
and have no awe of me,"  
declares the Lord, the LORD Almighty.

## SERMON TEXT

James 2:1-12

New International Version

### **Favoritism Forbidden**

**2** My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. **2** Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. **3** If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, “Here’s a good seat for you,” but say to the poor man, “You stand there” or “Sit on the floor by my feet,” **4** have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

**5** Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? **6** But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? **7** Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

**8** If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,”<sup>[a]</sup> you are doing right. **9** But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. **10** For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. **11** For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery,”<sup>[b]</sup> also said, “You shall not murder.”<sup>[c]</sup> If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

**12** Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom,