

Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(Second Sunday after the Epiphany)

January 19, 2025

10:30 a.m.

"Then [Jesus] said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.'" (Matthew 9:37-38)



PRELUDE

WELCOME

Pastor 'Debo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: "Come, follow me." Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

P: *Lord Jesus, help us to prioritize your call to follow you and learn how to fish for people.*

L: Jesus saw the crowds and had compassion on them because they were harassed and helpless.

P: *Lord Jesus, grant us compassion for the stray sheep and teach us to lead them to you the Good Shepherd.*

L: Jesus said to His disciples: "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few."

P: *Lord of the harvest, please send us out as workers into your harvest field.*

*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*OPENING HYMN

568

"Christ for the World We Sing"

*The Apostles' Creed

881

*Gloria Patri

Hymn # 70

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Timothy 2:1-10

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Pastor 'Debo

HYMN

"Lord, Speak to Me"

463

OUR TIME OF PRAYER

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER (in unison)

~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

Accept our tithes and offerings, O Lord, together with our lives, to be used by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, for the expansion of your kingdom, in our local Community, and around the face of the earth, that many shall come to know your Son, Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Jackie Howard, piano

SCRIPTURE READING

John 4:27-38

MESSAGE

Pastor 'Debo

Week # 3 of Christian To The Core – Passion for the Harvest

*CLOSING HYMN

593

"Here I Am Lord"

*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*For those who are able, please stand.

Week At A Glance:

Sunday, January 19, 2025

9:30 a.m. Adult Discipleship/Sunday School (Chapel)

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

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

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

5:30 p.m. Evangelism meeting in the Parlor

Saturday, January 25, 2025

7:00 a.m. Weekly Prayer Huddle (see details in announcements)

CELEBRATIONS IN JANUARY 2025

Birthdays

19 Krista Spangler

25 Tim Schaffer

25 Doris Shauger

25 Lou Ellen Reef

26 Sonya Chaffin

26 Howard Eblin

27 Angela Trogus

30 Sharon Funkhouser

Anniversaries

27 Carl and Sharon Mathias

MINISTRY TEAM/STAFF

Ministers: The People of This Congregation

Media Team: Jessica Thomas, Daniel Onabanjo & Paul Jassogne

Media Team (Live Streaming): Lee Ann Whitmer

Church Secretary: Lee Ann Whitmer

Custodian: Jeff Byerly

Pianist: Jackie Howard

Liturgist: Greg Howard

Pastor: Rev. Dr. 'Debo Onabanjo



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH
Allegheny West

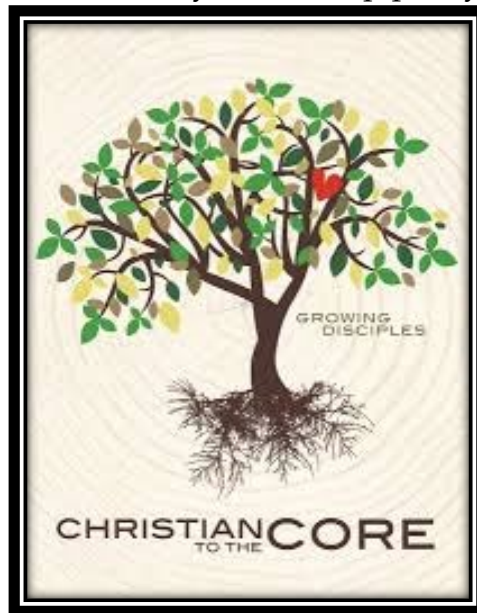
Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

1004 West Sixth Avenue

Lancaster, OH 43130

January 19, 2025

(Second Sunday after the Epiphany)



Week # 3: Passion for the Harvest

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: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Monday through Friday

Pastor: Rev. Dr. 'Debo Onabanjo

Pastor's email: aaonabanjo@yahoo.com

Office email: sixthgmc_email@yahoo.com

Church: (740) 653-1196

Fax: (740) 653-6780

Website: 6thavegmc.org



*Jane Patterson now resides at Magnolia Terrace, 1110 North Market St., Galion, Ohio 44833 Room 56

Magnolia Terrace: Jane Patterson, 56

Edgewood Manor (Lucasville): Alan Fick, C3

LanFair: Mary Chilcote, 313

Luxe: Jim Funkhouser, Eckert Wing, 207A

Primrose: Bill & Doris Shauger, 121

The Ridge: Fred Beougher, 140

Continued Prayers are requested for:

Sharon Byerly, Phyllis Flowers, Ed Gurile, Clara Herrick, Lloyd & Diann Helber, Joan Irwin, Eleanor & Bob Kane, Carl & Sharon Mathias, Carla (Mathias), Vicki Oatney, Michael Parrish, Beth Patton, Rod Shouldis, Kathy Starnier, Don Taylor.

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!

*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.



Inclement Weather Policy: When a **Level 2** or higher Snow Emergency is issued for the City of Lancaster or Fairfield County in general, all church events will be cancelled. This includes worship services, meetings, and other activities. Please check your local TV listings for more information (ABC 6 & 10TV).

New Year Message Series – Christian To The Core: As previously mentioned, in this New Year, we want to be more than ever committed to living faithfully into the Great Commission in **Matthew 28:18-20** and also into deeper discipleship. We started the 12 Week Series that will take us through the **Eight Core Values** that have been identified after detailed research and prayerful discernment as foundational to living a life of faith and obedience to the Great Commission mandate of Jesus and His instruction to us to be witnesses recorded in **Acts 1:8**. The **“Christian To The Core” Curriculum** was developed by the **International Leadership Institute (ILI)** to equip leaders and promote the spread of the gospel. This aligns with the mission of the **Global Methodist Church (GMC)** to make disciples of Jesus and to spread scriptural holiness across the globe. As the ILI global team of leaders met, they focused on a very important question: **What is the single most important factor impacting the acceleration of the spread of the Gospel?** The answer to the question was **LEADERSHIP** empowered by the Holy Spirit. In order for us to be able to faithfully and confidently obey the Great Commission, we are going to help one understand the foundation principles that will be taught during this Message Series. Through fervent prayer, in-depth discussions, and two years of research, the ILI team identified the answer to the development of leadership values. They discerned that the best Christian leaders live by Eight Core Values that affect who they are and everything they do. The values are: **Intimacy with God - Passion for the Harvest - Visionary Leadership - Culturally Relevant Evangelism - Multiplication of Leaders - Family Priority - Faithful Stewardship and Integrity**. Through the partnership between the ILI and the GMC, we will all have access to the rich materials that will help us stay connected and develop these critical leadership values. The Message Series will start on **Sunday January 5, 2025**, and run through **Sunday March 23, 2025**. The Week # 3 Session in the Message Series today will cover **“Passion for the Harvest”** and will help us better understand how passion for the harvest results from going deeper in our relationship with the Lord. Please refer to the Message Notes in your bulletin for more details and insight on today’s Message. We urge everyone to continue to pray that this Message Series will build on and sustain the crucial work that has been done in the past and launch us as a community of faith into a new season of impactful ministry of reaching others with the gospel. **Please see our Lay Leader, Dr. Gregg Witham or Pastor ‘Debo for more details about starting a Small Group.**

Small Groups for New Year Message Series – We would like to continue to encourage members to strongly consider joining one of our existing **Discipleship/Small Groups** so they can go deeper and benefit more from the New Year Message Series. A Small Group has been formed by a group of ladies at the Church with the goal of meeting weekly to discuss the Christian To The Core Curriculum. Please contact **Sue Griffin** for more information about this Small Group. We encourage the formation of more Small Groups to help us maximize the benefit from this spiritual journey. We will include information on Small Groups in subsequent weeks. Thanks!

Adult Discipleship/Sunday School Class – We would like to remind everyone that the Adult Discipleship/Sunday School Class being facilitated by our Lay Leader, Dr. Gregg Witham which started at the beginning of October 2024 is held weekly in the Chapel from 9:30 to 10:15am. The introduction of this Class was one of the feedbacks received during the survey of members carried early in 2024. This gathering will offer an opportunity to discuss topics that will be of interest to those who attend. They are currently using a Bible Studies For Life Series Resource titled “Thrive: Living on Purpose – Navigating Family Conflict” published by Lifeway. The group will also be starting the Christian to the Core Curriculum this month. Please contact Dr. Witham with any questions and for more information. Thanks!

Pastor’s Weekly Bible Study: We will continue our study of the Book of Isaiah this week by looking at **Chapters 7-9**. We will also take time to review the teaching in our New Year Message Series, on **Passion for the Harvest**. Please mark your calendar for our weekly time of study and growing deeper on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. This Bible Study remains open to all members of the community and we also pray for personal and general requests. Please invite a neighbor/friend to join us.

Notice of Congregational Meeting: We will be having a meeting of the members and friends of the Church on **Sunday, February 2, 2025** after the worship service at Noon. Please mark your calendar for this important gathering and be on the lookout for more information. Updates about the church will be shared at the meeting. Thanks!



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WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (January 19, 2025 – January 25, 2025):

(Scripture passages are from the New International Version (NIV) Bible unless otherwise indicated)

Sunday January 19 (Second Sunday after the Epiphany)

Scripture Reading: 2 Timothy 2:1-10; Reflection Verses: 2 Timothy 2:1-2

“You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What things about faith have you heard that you are entrusting to other reliable people? What is your testimony?

Monday January 20 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)

Scripture Reading: John 4:1-14; Reflection Verse: John 4:10

“Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What living water is Jesus alluding to in this passage? Have you received the living water from Jesus Christ?

Tuesday January 21

Scripture Reading: John 4:15-26; Reflection Verse: John 4:26

“Then Jesus declared, “I, the one speaking to you—I am he.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Have you encountered Jesus as the Messiah? How has this changed your life and witness?

Wednesday January 22

Scripture Reading John 4:27-42; Reflection Verses: John 4:34-35

“My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Don’t you have a saying, ‘It’s still four months until harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Do you share the passion of Jesus and His Father to reach the lost? Can you see the ripe harvest around you? What are you doing about it like the Samaritan woman met by Jesus at the well? (see **John 4:28-29**)

Thursday January 23

Scripture Reading: Luke 19:1-10; Reflection Verse: Luke 19:10

“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Do you have unbelieving friends like Zacchaeus that you can bring to Jesus?

Friday January 24

Scripture Reading: Matthew 9:1-13; Reflection Verses: Matthew 9:12-13

“Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.. For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Do you have a passion to share the good news with sinners?

Saturday January 25

Scripture Reading: Matthew 9:27-38; Reflection Verse: Matthew 9:37

“Then **[Jesus]** said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Can you see the plentiful harvest around? What did Jesus tell us to do about it?

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: "Come, follow me." Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

P: *Lord Jesus, help us to prioritize your call to follow you and learn how to fish for people.*

L: Jesus saw the crowds and had compassion on them because they were harassed and helpless.

P: *Lord Jesus, grant us compassion for the stray sheep and teach us to lead them to you the Good Shepherd.*

L: Jesus said to His disciples: "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few."

P: *Lord of the harvest, please send us out as workers into your harvest field.*

***The Apostles' Creed**

881

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell, the third day he arose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER (in unison)

Amazing God, we pray that through the Holy Spirit your preferred future for Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church will be made known to us. We ask that you use us to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to our friends, family, and community. Give us the courage to follow the leading of your Holy Spirit wherever that may take us. Open our eyes so that we may see the new things you are already doing among us. AMEN.

2 Timothy 2:1-10

The Appeal Renewed

2 You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. **2** And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others. **3** Join with me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. **4** No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding officer. **5** Similarly, anyone who competes as an athlete does not receive the victor's crown except by competing according to the rules. **6** The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops. **7** Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.

8 Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, **9** for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. **10** Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

John 4:27-38

The Disciples Rejoin Jesus

27 Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?"

28 Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, **29** "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could

this be the Messiah?" ³⁰ They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

³¹ Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something."

³² But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about."

³³ Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?"

³⁴ "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. ³⁵ Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. ³⁶ Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. ³⁷ Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. ³⁸ I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor."

MESSAGE NOTES – Second Sunday after the Epiphany (1/19/2025)

Christian To The Core – Week # 3: Passion for the Harvest (2 Timothy 2:1-10 & John 4:27-38)

“Then [Jesus] said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.’” (Matthew 9:37-38)

CORE VALUE: God looks for men and women who share a passion for those without Christ. Jesus came to “seek and to save the lost.” God desires that everyone be reached with the life-transforming power of the Gospel.

What then is PASSION? - Passion is a force burning within us, which seizes us; a power that moves us beyond ordinary human activity.

PASSION IS A FIRE (Jeremiah 20:9)
PASSION IS CONVICTION (Acts 4:18-20)
PASSION IS A CRUCIFIED LIFE Galatians 2:20)

Examples of Historical Figures that Had Godly Passion:

JOHN WESLEY (LEADER OF REVIVAL IN ENGLAND)
JOHN KNOX (LEADER OF REVIVAL IN SCOTLAND)
GEORGE WHITEFIELD (EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY BRITISH EVANGELIST)
WILLIAM BOOTH (FOUNDER OF THE SALVATION ARMY)
AMY CARMICHAEL (MISSIONARY TO INDIA)
SADHU SUNDAR SINGH (INDIAN EVANGELIST)
MOTHER TERESA (FOUNDER OF THE MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY)

PASSION AND THE HARVEST - Jesus almost two thousand years ago made it clear that **THE FIELDS ARE RIPE FOR HARVEST**. Jesus said: “Don’t you have a saying, ‘It’s still four months until harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.” (John 4:35)

Jesus also said: “**THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL, BUT THE WORKERS ARE FEW**. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field.” (Matthew 9:36-38)

WHAT IS THE HARVEST FIELD?

Approximately one-third of the world identifies as Christian. This broad figure includes all the different Christian denominations and groups. These people are saying, “**Thank you, Jesus.**”

Another group comprising 28% of the world population are not Christians but have access to the Gospel. They live where they can hear, learn, and respond to the Gospel, but they are not yet following Christ. These people are saying, “**No, thank you, Jesus.**”

That leaves 40% of the world’s population with little or no access to the Gospel. In most cases, they have no Christian influence in their lives, no churches in their communities, and often no Bible in their languages. These people remain unreached by the Gospel and ask, “**Who is Jesus?**”

In the last century, the world population multiplied 3.7 times. During the same time, the percentage of Christians in North America has remained about the same. In Europe, Christians have not kept pace with the population change, growing only 1.5 times. However, in Asia, the number of followers of Jesus multiplied by 15, and in Africa, by 38.

The Church of Jesus Christ faces three formidable challenges in our generation:

CHALLENGE NUMBER 1: THE GOSPEL FOR EVERY PERSON
CHALLENGE NUMBER 2: A CHURCH FOR EVERY PEOPLE CHALLENGE
NUMBER 3: THE LEAST OF THESE (Matthew 25:35-40)

HOW CAN WE FULLY EXPERIENCE GOD’S PASSION FOR THE HARVEST - Passion is the direct result of our intimacy with God, our love for Christ, and our commitment to Him. Passion results in no longer living for ourselves, but living for God’s glory (2 Corinthians 5:14-15,

PASSION COMES FROM GOD: Matthew 7:7-8, James 1:17

PASSION MUST BE NURTURED - The fire of passion comes only from God through **PRAYER**. The steps are clear:
.Commit to becoming a bondservant of Jesus Christ
.Ask...Seek...Knock
.Receive