

Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany)

February 16, 2025

10:30 a.m.

"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."

(2 Timothy 2:1-2, NIV)



PRELUDE

WELCOME

Pastor 'Debo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Jesus gave His disciples the Great Commission to "GO" and make disciples of all nations.

P: Holy Spirit, help us to be obedient to the Great Commission as disciples making disciples.

L: Jesus commanded that new disciples should be taught to obey His teaching and instruction.

P: Lord, forgive us for letting the Great Commission become the Great Omission.

L: Jesus promised that we will receive power to be His witnesses when the Holy Spirit comes on us.

P: Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we will witness to Jesus in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth.

*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*OPENING HYMN

567

"Heralds of Christ"

*The Apostles' Creed

881

*Gloria Patri

Hymn # 70

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 1:1-11

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Pastor 'Debo

HYMN

"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

430

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 "Shine Jesus Shine" Jackie Howard, pianist

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 28:16-20

MESSAGE

Pastor 'Debo

Week # 7 of Christian To The Core - Multiplication of Disciples: Fulfilling The Great Commission to "Go and Make Disciples"

*CLOSING HYMN

"Go Make of All Disciples"

571

*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*For those who are able, please stand.

Week At A Glance:

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

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

Saturday, February 22, 2025

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

Sunday, February 23, 2025

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

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

CELEBRATIONS IN FEBRUARY 2025

Birthdays

21 Lloyd Helber

22 Marilyn Smith

25 Karen Baughman

Anniversaries

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

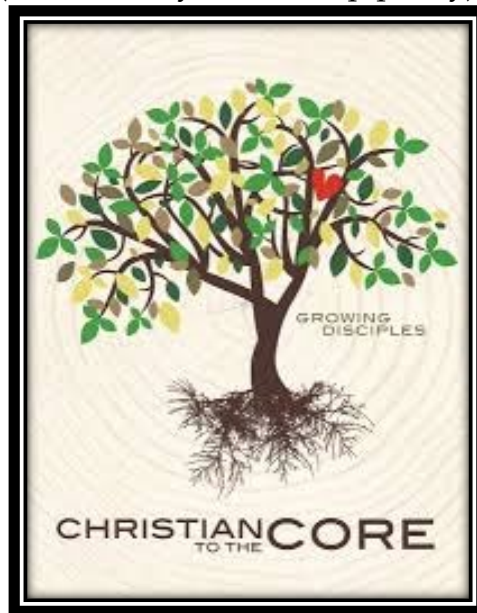
Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

1004 West Sixth Avenue

Lancaster, OH 43130

February 16, 2025

(Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany)



Week # 7: Multiplication of Disciples - Fulfilling the Great Commission to "Go & Make Disciples"

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



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, Eleanor & Bob Kane, Carl & Sharon
Mathias, Carla (Mathias), Vicki Oatney, Michael Parrish, Beth Patton,
Rod Shouldis, Kathy Starner, 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.

Congregational Meeting – Appreciation:

The Church Leadership would like to extend its appreciation to all those who attended the Congregational Meeting last Sunday. Please mark your calendar for the next quarterly Congregational Meeting on **Sunday April 27, 2025**. More information will be shared closer to the date. If you have any feedback or suggestions, please reach out to our Lay Leader, **Dr. Gregg Witham**. Thanks!

New Year Message Series – Christian To The Core: We continue our “Christian To The Core” Message Series today with the Week # 7 Sermon entitled “**Multiplication of Disciples – Fulfilling the Great Commission to “Go & Makes Disciples.”**” We started the 12 Week Series on January 5, 2025 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/disciples 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. Based on research over two years, 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**.

The Message Series which will run through **Sunday March 23, 2025**, will help us better understand what it means to be Christian To The Core as we follow Jesus all the way. The Week # 7 Session in the Message Series today will help us understand how Multiplication of Disciples is at the very heart of faithfully living into the Great Commission mandate by Jesus recorded in Matthew 28:18-20. Living Christian to the Core means that we invest the time, prayer, and patience necessary to disciples others. Please grab a copy of the Christian To The Core Curriculum and refer to the Message Notes in your bulletin for more details and insight on today’s Message. **Please see our Lay Leader, Dr. Gregg Witham or Pastor Debo for more details about starting a Small Group.**

Invite a Friend Sunday (March 2, 2025): As part of our plan to be more intentional in reaching out to others who are not yet part of the Church and in obedience to the commandment of Jesus to “GO” and make disciples of others, we would like to encourage all members to please prayerfully discern who they would like to invite to our service on **Transfiguration Sunday, March 2, 2025**. Please pick up an invite card at the Narthex to record the name (s) of those you would like to invite. We will be praying for God’s Spirit to move us all to obedience in this evangelism/outreach initiative. If you have any questions, please contact Lee Ann Whitmer, Sue Griffin or any other member of the Evangelism/Outreach Team. Thanks!

Small Groups for New Year Message Series – We would like to continue to encourage members to consider joining one of our existing **Discipleship/Small Groups** so they can grow deeper and benefit more from the current New Year Message Series. We have two Small Groups that have been formed here at Sixth Avenue GMC: Please contact **Sue Griffin** for more information about the Small Group that meets on Wednesdays for lunch and fellowship after Pastor’s Bible Study and the Adult Discipleship/Sunday School Small Group – please contact **Donna Dickson** for more information. We encourage the formation of more Small Groups to help us maximize the benefit from this spiritual journey. We will continue to include information on Small Groups in subsequent weeks. Thanks!

Adult Discipleship/Sunday School Class – The Adult Discipleship/Sunday School Class being facilitated by our Lay Leader; Dr. Gregg Witham continues to meet weekly in the Chapel from 9:30 to 10:15am. The introduction of this Class was one of the feedback items received during the survey of members carried out early in 2024. Please contact Dr. Gregg 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 26-30**. We will also take time to review the teaching for the week from our New Year Message Series: “Multiplication of Disciples – Fulfilling the Great Commission to “Go & Make Disciples.” 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.

AED and HOLDS Training: On Wednesday February 19, 2025, at 11:30am, there will be a free training here at the Church for anyone interested in getting trained on how to safely operate the **Automated External Defibrillator (AED)** equipment and also learn about additional hands on training, including CPR. Please let Lee Ann know if you are interested. We need at least six volunteers for this safety training. Thanks!



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WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (February 16, 2025 – February 22, 2025):

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

Sunday February 16 (Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany)

Scripture Reading: Acts 1:1-11; Reflection Verses: Acts 1:7-8

“[Jesus] said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What is your understanding of this mandate by Jesus for His followers to be witnesses to Him? How are you living into this mandate?

Monday February 17

Scripture Reading: Luke 24:36-53; Reflection Verses: Luke 24:45-48

“Then [Jesus] opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What are we to tell others about Jesus as His disciples?

Tuesday February 18

Scripture Reading: Matthew 9:1-13; Reflection Verse: Matthew 9:9

“As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector’s booth. “Follow me,” he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Why did Matthew invite his friends to come and meet Jesus? (see **Luke 5:27-32**)

Wednesday February 19

Scripture Reading: Mark 3:7-19; Reflection Verse: Mark 3:14

“He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Why did Jesus appoint the Twelve? Why are you a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Thursday February 20

Scripture Reading: Luke 9:28-36; Reflection Verse: Luke 9:28

“About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How much time are you spending with Jesus in private? What are you learning?

Friday February 21

Scripture Reading: 2 Timothy 2:1-15; Reflection Verse: 2 Timothy 2:2

“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.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Who mentored you as a Disciple? Who are you mentoring or discipling?

Saturday February 22

Scripture Reading: Titus 2:1-15; Reflection Verse: Titus 2:1

“You, however, must teach what is appropriate to sound doctrine.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Why is teaching/instruction an important part of discipleship? (see **Mathew 28:18-20**)

Acts 1:1-11

Jesus Taken Up Into Heaven

1 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with^[a] water, but in a few days you will be baptized with^[b] the Holy Spirit."

⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Matthew 28:16-20

The Great Commission

¹⁶ Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

MESSAGE NOTES – Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany (2/16/2025)

**Christian To The Core – Week # 7: Multiplication of Disciples
– Fulfilling the Great Commission to “Go & Make Disciples”
(Acts 1:1-11 & Matthew 28:16-20)**

“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.”

(2 Timothy 2:1-2, NIV)

CORE VALUE: God looks for men and women who disciple, coach, and mentor other leaders and disciples, who in turn become leaders of leaders and disciples who disciple and effectively train others.

There are many reasons for the explosive growth of Christianity. One of them is best expressed by Paul’s words to Timothy:

“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.” (2 Timothy 2:2)

Multiplication is a process involving three stages: Discipling, Coaching, and Mentoring.

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION - During the three years of His ministry on earth, Jesus modelled disciple-making in His relationship with His closest followers. Before ascending into Heaven, He gave specific commands to His disciples, and to all of us.

“Therefore go 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 I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” **(Matthew 28:19–20)**

The imperative to “GO” and Make Disciples has not changed and never will.

Jesus is the supreme example for how to make disciples.

Jesus selected key individuals and invested His life into them over a period of time. Jesus’ ministry can be illustrated by a series of circles. The outermost circle represents His ministry to the world. The innermost circle represents His ministry to Peter, James, and John.

Discipleship is practical and focuses on real-life application of the biblical teaching.

Definition of a Disciple: A disciple is someone who is living out the decision to follow Christ in everyday life. He or she is a person who knows Christ inwardly and is committed to living outwardly in love and obedience to Him.

Definition of Discipleship: This is the relational process of helping someone grow spiritually from childhood to maturity.

The Characteristics of a Disciple - Heart for God, Available, Faithful to God and Others, Teachable Spirit.

Spiritual disciplines are tools God uses in our lives to help us grow deeper in our intimate relationship with Him. The word “discipline” is defined as, “training that is expected to produce a specified character or pattern of behavior.”

Spiritual disciplines are a primary path God uses to build godliness in our lives. Some examples include:

PRAYER: Our depth of intimacy with God is directly related to the time we spend with Him in the discipline of prayer.

SCRIPTURE - Growing deeper in God’s Word is the mark of a disciple. Paul’s advice in 2 Timothy 2:15 is a good illustration of the need to deepen our knowledge of God’s Word: **Hearing, Reading, Studying, Memorizing, and Meditating.**

The ultimate goal is to OBEY - God’s Word tells us that if we obey His voice that we will be blessed and anointed.

Obedience is putting our faith to work in the practical day-to-day of our lives.

It takes consistency and effort in our Christian life to inspire others to grow in their spiritual lives; yet, the result is one of the most satisfying experiences we will know as a follower of Christ.

The words of the apostle John in his third letter powerfully express the joy of making disciples: “I have no greater joy than to know that my [spiritual] children are walking in the truth.” **(3 John 1:4) Are you walking in the truth?**

