Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(First Sunday in Lent)

March 9, 2025

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them.

There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work." (1 Corinthians 12:4-6, NIV)

†

PRELUDE

WELCOME Pastor 'Debo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

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

P: Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit afresh upon us and let us use our spiritual gifts for the common good.

L: Apostle Paul reminds us: "There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them."

P: Holy Spirit, help us identify our spiritual gifts and deploy them for your glory.

L: The Spirit distributes different gifts to the Body of Christ as He alone determines.

P: As faithful stewards, we will use our spiritual gifts to serve one another in love.

*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*OPENING HYMN # 539

"O Spirit of the Living God"

*The Apostles' Creed

881

*Gloria Patri Hymn # 70

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS Pastor 'Debo

HYMN "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" # 500

OUR TIME OF PRAYER

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER (in unison)

~Joys and Concerns

~General Prayers & Intercession

~The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

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

895

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 "Spirit Song" Jackie Howard, piano

SCRIPTURE READING John 16:12-15

MESSAGE Pastor 'Debo

Week # 10 of Christian To The Core - Faithful Stewardship - The Gifts of The Holy Spirit

*CLOSING HYMN # 420

"Breath on Me, Breath of God"

*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*For those who are able, please stand.

Week At A Glance:

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

10:00 a.m. Finance Meeting (Parlor) 11:00 a.m. Administrative Council Meeting (Parlor)

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

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

Thursday, March 13, 2025

1:00 p.m. Trustee Meeting (Parlor)

Saturday, March 15, 2025

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

Sunday, March 16, 2025

9:30 a.m. Adult Discipleship/Sunday School (Chapel) 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)

CELEBRATIONS IN MARCH 2025

Birthdays

Anniversaries

- 6 Robin Patrick
- 9 Jim Funkhouser
- 10 Karen Zumbro
- 11 Joshua Onabanjo
- 14 Carolyn Cattran
- 14 Mary Chilcote
- 14 Janet Reynolds

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

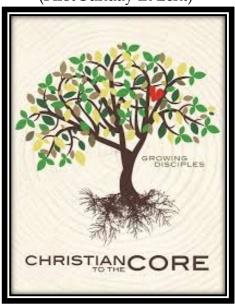
Custodian: Jeff Byerly Pianist: Jackie Howard Liturgist: Gregg Witham

Pastor: Rev. Dr. 'Debo Onabanjo



Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church 1004 West Sixth Avenue Lancaster, OH 43130

March 9, 2025 (First Sunday in Lent)



Week # 10: Faithful Stewardship - The Gifts of The Holy Spirit

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: <u>sixthgmc_email@yahoo.com</u>

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.

Weekly Online Prayer Gathering: Please join our weekly online prayer gathering on Saturday mornings from 7:00-7:30am to pray together for our church, local community, our nation, worldwide and personal concerns. Simply dial the Free Conference Call # 425-436-6200 from your phone and when prompted, enter the access code 603577 followed by the # key and you will be able to participate. The gathering is open to members and friends of Mt. Zion GMC and Sixth Avenue GMC and members of the public. Text prayer requests to Pastor 'Debo at 614-296-1081 ahead of the prayer time.

New Year Message Series – Christian To The Core: We continue our "Christian To The Core" Message Series today with the Week # 10 Sermon entitled "Faithful Stewardship – The Gifts of The Holy Spirit." We started the 12 Week Series on January 5, 2025 and it 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 # 10 Session in the Message Series today will help us understand how Faithful Stewardship of our Spiritual Gifts is an important way to demonstrate our discipleship. Every follower of Jesus Christ has been gifted by the Holy Spirit. It is however important that we prayerfully Discern (Discover) our Spiritual Gifts, Develop them and then Deploy them for the benefit of the community of believers. Please grab a copy of the Christian To The Core Curriculum and refer to the Message Notes in today's bulletin for more details and insight on today's Message. **Please see our Lay Leader, Dr. Gregg Witham or Pastor 'Debo for more details if interested in starting a Small Group.**

Invite a Friend Sunday (March 2, 2025) - Appreciation: We would like to extend our appreciation to all those who invited a family member or guest to our first "Invite a Friend Sunday" for 2025. This is an intentional outreach and evangelism initiative aimed at encouraging our members to live invitationally. This program is also driven by our desire 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 (Matthew 28:18-20). The following are the dates for the "Invite a Friend Sunday" for the remainder of 2025: Sunday June 1, Sunday August 3 and Sunday November 2. Please mark these dates on your calendar and be on the lookout for the special cards to help you record the names of a family member, friends or a neighbor to invite.

Small Groups for New Year Message Series – As we approach the final weeks of our New Year Message Series, Christ To The Core, we continue to encourage members to consider joining one of our existing Discipleship/Small Groups so they can grow deeper in their discipleship. 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 the Bulletin. Thanks!

Ash Wednesday Service - Appreciation: We kicked off the Lenten Season with a Combined Lancaster Charge Ash Wednesday Service on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 6:30pm here at Sixth Avenue. We want to appreciate all members who invited and the guests who joined us. Please mark your calendar for our Good Friday Service on Friday April 18, 2025, at 6:30pm. It will be held at Mt. Zion GMC, 5495 Lancaster Circleville Rd, Lancaster, OH 43130. If you would like to sing with the Choir on that day, please contact Jackie Howard. Thanks!

Evangelism Team Special Announcement: On **Saturday March 22** from 1-3 pm in the Fellowship Hall (Church Basement), we will be having a Chicken Noodle Dinner for Guests from our Community and Members. It is a free meal, but we encourage a Love Offering. Take outs will be \$3.00. Please consider supporting this event with either your monetary donation, chicken broth or canned chicken. Volunteers are also very much appreciated. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for those who would like to volunteer to serve. Please have any donations for the chicken dinner, whether it's monetary, canned chicken or broth, to the church by Monday, March 17th. This gives us time to figure what we still need. Thank you very much! **If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Lee Ann.**

Pastor's Weekly Bible Study: We will continue our Study of the Book of Isaiah this week with focus on **Chapters 41-45**. We will also review the teaching for this week from our New Year Message Series. Please mark your calendar for our weekly time of study on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. This Bible Study is open to all members of the community and we also pray for personal and general requests and concerns. Invite a neighbor/friend to join us.



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WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (March 9, 2025 – March 15, 2025):

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

Sunday March 9 (First Sunday in Lent)

Scripture Reading: John 14:15-26:1-13; Reflection Verses: John 14:25-26

"All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What is the role of the Advocate (Holy Spirit) in the life of a follower of Jesus?

Monday March 10

Scripture Reading: Romans 12:1-8; Reflection Verse: Romans 12:6

"We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your[a] faith;"

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Why is it important to identify and use our spiritual gift? How are you using yours?

Tuesday March 11

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; Reflection Verses: 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work."

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What is the significance of this passage to you? Do we have any right to complain about our spiritual gift (s)?

Wednesday March 12

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-20; Reflection Verse: 1 Corinthians 12:20

"As it is, there are many parts, but one body."

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How can we use our spiritual gifts as part of the Body of Christ for the collective good?

Thursday March 13

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:21-31; Reflection Verses: 1 Corinthians 12:30-31

"Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? Now eagerly desire the greater gifts."

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What greater gifts is Apostle Paul pointing us to in this passage? (read 1 Corinthians 13)

Friday March 14

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16; Reflection Verses: Ephesians 4:11-13

"So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How did Christ bless His Church? What is the role of the various leaders identified? How are you helping your leaders to exercise their gifts?

Saturday March 15

Scripture Reading: 2 Timothy 1:6-14; Reflection Verse: 2 Timothy 1:6

"For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands."

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What spiritual gift (s) lies dormant in you? Will you fan it into flame today?

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 Concerning Spiritual Gifts

12 Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. ³ Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

⁷Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, ^[a] and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ^[b] ¹¹ All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

John 16:12-15

¹²"I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. ¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. ¹⁵ All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you."

*CALL TO WORSHIP

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

P: Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit afresh upon us and let us use our spiritual gifts for the common good.

L: Apostle Paul reminds us: "There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them."

P: Holy Spirit, help us identify our spiritual gifts and deploy them for your glory.

L: The Spirit distributes different gifts to the Body of Christ as He alone determines.

P: As faithful stewards, we will use our spiritual gifts to serve one another in love.

*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

MESSAGE NOTES – First Sunday in Lent (3/9/2025) Christian To The Core – Week # 10: Faithful Stewardship – The Gifts of The Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:1-11 & John 16:12-15)

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work."

(1 Corinthians 12:4-6, NIV)

CORE VALUE: God looks for men and women who are faithful stewards of finances, time, and spiritual gifts in their personal lives and leadership with the result that people are reached with the Gospel.

Spiritual gifts result from God's grace. Like salvation, spiritual gifts are freely given from God to enable us to live the Christian life.

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION - THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE GIFT - The gifts of the Holy Spirit are manifestations of the greater gift that was promised by Jesus in the Gospel and poured out fully on the disciples at Pentecost. (see Acts 2:38).

Spiritual gifts are a result of God's grace working in and through us. The most common Greek word used for spiritual gifts in the New Testament is "Charisma." Broken down, this word is defined as:

"Charis" translates to "Grace"
"Ma" translates to "Result of"

There are four passages that are foundational for our understanding of the gifts (charismata) of the Spirit:

ROMANS 12:6-8; CORINTHIANS 12-14; EPHESIANS 4:11 & 1 PETER 4:8-11

Definition of Spiritual Gifts: Special and supernatural attributes of God's grace that the Holy Spirit distributes to the members of the Church, entrusting specific gifts to individual believers, enabling them to serve in the Church and proclaim the Gospel in the world.

Every Christian is the temple of the Holy Spirit. This means that, potentially, every spiritual gift is available to every Christian – we can use the following tools to identify our spiritual gifts:

Study the Scripture; Complete spiritual gifts profiles; Examine your life; Listen to advice from mature believers:

We Must DISCERN (DISCOVER) Our Spiritual Gifts – The 21 Spiritual Gifts identified in the New Testament are grouped in clusters below: : COMMUNICATION GIFTS: Exhortation, Prophecy, Teaching & Evangelism.

LEADERSHIP GIFTS: Administration, Leadership, Apostle & Shepherd **PRACTICAL GIFTS:** Giving, Mercy, Hospitality, Helps & Service

SIGN GIFTS: Tongues, Interpretation of Tongues, Healing & Miracles **RESOURCING GIFTS:** Discerning of Spirits, Knowledge, Faith & Wisdom.

GIFTS, TALENTS AND ROLES - Every person has particular talents and abilities, which can be natural, such as an ear for music, or learned, like the ability to play an instrument. Spiritual gifts are different than talents in that they are supernatural abilities imparted by the Holy Spirit to believers.

We Must DEVELOP Our Spiritual Gifts - Believers have a responsibility to develop their ability to use the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Paul wrote to Timothy, urging him "do not neglect your gift" (1 Timothy 4:14). In 2 Timothy 1:6, Paul exhorts Timothy to "fan into flame the gift of God which is in you."

We Must DEPLOY Our Spiritual Gifts - Our spiritual gifts are given by God to be used for bringing the Kingdom of God on earth in the power of the Holy Spirit. Scripture gives us clear principles on how to deploy our spiritual gifts. Scripture gives us clear principles on how to deploy our spiritual gifts:

SEEK OPPORTUNITIES; EXERCISE YOUR GIFTS IN LOVE; STAY ANOINTED BY THE SPIRIT

Key Takeaway: Each believer has the responsibility to prayerfully: **Discern (Discover)** the unique gifts that God has entrusted to them. **Develop** their gifts with the Bible as the foundation, and lastly, **Deploy** their gifts in the context of the community of believers so that we will all reach maturity in Christ — our full potential (Ephesians 4:12-13).