

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.

Lenten Season/Easter Message Series: We began our five weeks Series, "It Is Written" last Sunday and it will take us through the Second Sunday of Easter, April 27, 2025. This Message Series will focus on the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness recorded in **Matthew 4:1-11** and also **Luke 4:1-13** and the lessons for us from the example of Jesus in leveraging the power of the written Word to overcome the temptations of the devil. In this Message Series, we will also remind ourselves of the power of the inspired Word as our offensive and defensive weapon – the Sword of the Spirit (**Ephesians 6:17**). Today's Message will be titled "**Do Not Test The Lord"** based on **Psalm 91 and Matthew 4:7**: "Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test."

Administrative Council/Leadership Retreat: We would like to appreciate all those who participated in our Leadership Retreat on Saturday April 5, 2025. We want to extend our Guest Facilitator, Rev. Roland Mitchell, Lead Pastor, Hocking Hills Church, Logan, OH. The main focus of the Retreat was the planned transition our current Administrative Council Structure to a Leadership Board Model. Please be on the lookout for more information on next steps.

Quarterly Congregational Meeting: Please mark your calendar for the next quarterly Congregational Meeting on **Sunday April 27, 2025 after the service**. Lunch will be served. More information will be shared closer to the date. Please reach out to our Lay Leader, Dr. Gregg Witham for more details. Thanks!

Pastor's Weekly Bible Study: We will continue our Study of the Book of Isaiah this week with focus on Chapters 61-64. 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. Thanks!



Chair Yoga: Starting Chair Yoga: This Class kicked off as planned on Wednesday April 2, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. It will be held every Wednesday. It's free for all who want to enjoy time together and have some fun without the terrible thought of actual strenuous exercising. It will be fun! Just bring your favorite drink. Bottles of water will be available. Contact Lee Ann

Maundy Thursday & Good Friday Services: Please mark your calendar for our special Maundy Thursday Service on Thursday April 17, 2025 at 6:30pm and Good Friday Service on Friday April 18, 2025, at 6:30pm. The services will be held at Mt. Zion GMC, 5495 Lancaster Circleville Rd, Lancaster, OH 43130. If you would like to sing with the Choir at both services, please contact Jackie Howard. Thanks!

Invite a Friend Sunday Dates: The "Invite a Friend Sunday" 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, friend or a neighbor to invite.

Confirmation Class: This is to inform parents of children/youths in Middle School through High School that we are going to start Confirmation Classes in April. This special Class will help prepare our children and youths to become more invested and engaged in their discipleship journey. Every participant will get a copy of the Book, "The Absolute Basics of the Wesleyan Way" which will be used for the Class together with special videos. The resource books are now available. The plan is to schedule the Class for candidates from both Mt. Zion GMC and Sixth Avenue GMC. Please contact Pastor 'Debo to register your interest or with any questions.

New Members Class: If you are interested in exploring what it means to become a member here at Sixth Avenue GMC, we will be offering a New Member Information Class in April. This Class will offer basic information on Global Methodist distinctives, especially our Mission and Vision and Accountable Discipleship. Please contact Pastor 'Debo to register your interest in this Class. Thanks!



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Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(Fifth Sunday in Lent)

April 6, 2025 10:30 a.m.

"If you say, "The Lord is my refuge," and you make the Most High your dwelling, no harm will overtake you, no disaster will come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your

foot against a stone." (Psalm 91:9-12, NIV]

†

PRELUDE

WELCOME Pastor 'Debo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L "Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High, will rest in the shadow of the Almighty."

P: "I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

L: Surely, the Lord is a very present help in our time of trouble and we can stand on His promises.

P: Loving God, when challenges come our way for our faith in you, help us to remain steadfast.

L: We know that the Lord is able to guard us in all our ways and rescue us from danger.

P: Even then, may we never be deceived to test your faithfulness by our willful actions.

*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*OPENING HYMN

603

"Come Holy Ghost, Our Hearts Inspire"

*The Nicene Creed # 880

*Gloria Patri Hymn # 70

SCRIPTURE READING

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Psalm 91:1-16

Pastor 'Debo

HYMN "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

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

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 "Fill My Cup Lord" Jackie Howard, piano

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 4:5-7

526

895

MESSAGE Pastor 'Debo

Week # 2 of "It Is Written" - Do Not Test The Lord

HOLY COMMUNION

Prayer after Communion: Heavenly Father, thank you for this holy mystery in which you have fed us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of Jesus Christ. Send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses in the world. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN # 374

"'Standing on the Promises"

*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*For those who are able, please stand.

Week At A Glance:

Tuesday, April 8, 2025

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

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

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

12:00 p.m. Chair Yoga (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, April 12, 2025

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

Sunday, April 13, 2025

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

CELEBRATIONS IN APRIL 2025

Birthdays

Anniversaries

10 Angela Hill

9 Charles & Patti Crist Happy 65th Anniversary

11 Barry Axe

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



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

April 6, 2025 (Fifth Sunday in Lent)



Week # 2: It Is Written - Do Not Test The Lord

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

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (April 6, 2025 – April 12, 2025):

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

Sunday April 6 (Fifth Sunday in Lent)

Scripture Reading: Psalm 23:1-6; Reflection Verse: Psalm 23:4

"Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: When you face challenges, what gives you comfort and assurance that all will be well?

Monday April 7

Scripture Reading: Psalm 46:1-11; Reflection Verse: Psalm 46:1

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What does this passage tell us about God's ability to deliver us from trouble?

Tuesday April 8

Scripture Reading: Psalm 91:1-16; Reflection Verses: Psalm 91:11-12

"For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How do you understand the aspirational promise recorded by the psalmist in this passage? How did the devil twist this passage out of context during the temptation of Jesus (see **Matthew 4:5-6**).

Wednesday April 9

Scripture Reading: Psalm 121:1-8; Reflection Verses: Psalm 121:7-8

"The Lord will keep you from all harm— he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore."

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What gives the Psalmist assurance of the Lord's promise of protection from all harm?

Thursday April 10

Scripture Reading: Matthew 26:1-13; Reflection Verse: Matthew 26:13

"Truly I tell you, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How can you show undying love and devotion to Jesus? What do we learn about the anointing of Jesus in Bethany?

Friday April 11

Scripture Reading: Acts 20:13-38; Reflection Verse: Acts 20:35

"In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How are we called to relate with the weak in our midst?

Saturday April 12

Scripture Reading: Romans 8:31-39; Reflection Verses: Romans 8:38-39

"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How can we be encouraged by the declaration in this passage by Apostle Paul?

Psalm 91

- ¹Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. [a]
- ²I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."
- ³Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence.
- ⁴He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.
- ⁵You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day,
- ⁶ nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.
- ⁷ A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.
- ⁸You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked.
- ⁹ If you say, "The LORD is my refuge," and you make the Most High your dwelling,
- ¹⁰ no harm will overtake you, no disaster will come near your tent.
- ¹¹ For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways;
- ¹² they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.
- ¹³ You will tread on the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent.
- ¹⁴ "Because he[b] loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.
- ¹⁵ He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him.
- ¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."

Matthew 4:5-7

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. ⁶"If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written:

"'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'[a]"

7 Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'[b]"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L "Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High, will rest in the shadow of the Almighty."

P: "I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

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L: We know that the Lord is able to guard us in all our ways and rescue us from danger.

P: Even then, may we never be deceived to test your faithfulness by our willful actions.

The Nicene Creed #880

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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