

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 or concerns to Pastor 'Debo at 614-296-1081 ahead of the prayer time. Thanks!

Current Situation With Our Community of Faith – Update: At the meeting of the Administrative Council held on Tuesday July 15, 2025, your leadership decided to request authorization from our Presiding Elder, Rev. John Alice to hold a Special Church Conference on August 10, 2025 immediately after our worship service starting at 12 noon to consider and approve a recommendation of the Administrative Council for the commencement of steps to sell the current facility of Sixth Avenue GMC and adjoining lots. The leadership will also be bringing before the Church Conference a recommendation for approval to identify a possible location where the congregation will continue to meet. We will share more information with all members through a general communication in the next few days. Formal notification of the Church Conference will also be communicated with additional information. Please be in prayer for continuing wisdom and discernment for your leadership. If you have any questions or concerns about the ongoing situation, please see Paul Jassogne, Chairperson of the Admin. Council, Dr. Gregg Witham (Lay Leader) or Pastor 'Debo or any other member of leadership. Thanks!

Special Prayer Gathering: As part of our collective resolve to earnestly seek the face of the Lord as we discern His will and preferred future for our community of faith, the Administrative Council at the recommendation of Pastor 'Debo is inviting all members and friends of Sixth Avenue GMC to attend a Special Prayer Gathering this Tuesday, July 22 starting at 11am in the Sanctuary. Our focus texts for the time of prayer will be 2 Chronicles 20:12: "We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you" and Psalm 121:1-2: "I [We] lift up my [our] eyes to the mountains – where does my [our] help come from? My [Our] help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth." We encourage those who are able to fast (abstinence from food) to do so without compromising their health and after consultation with their health care or medical professional. Come and join us for the first of what we anticipate will be a regular huddle of prayer to seek divine intervention in our current situation. We are confident that as we seek the Lord's face in corporate and individual prayer, God will make a way for us where there seems to be no way. Please invite a friend to join us in this special time of intercessory prayer.

**Disaster Relief Offering** – **Texas Flood Response:** As was announced last week, our Conference Superintendent, Bishop Jeff Greenway in concert with the other GMC leaders is inviting us to support generously the disaster relief efforts in Texas through the Mid-Texas Annual Conference of the GMC. Our special offering collection which started last Sunday will continue today through Sunday July 27 in support of this ongoing need. You can either give directly online through our Conference website (AlleghenyWestGMC.org/special-offering) or give through the Church confident that your gifts will be remitted promptly. You can also send checks payable to Allegheny West Annual Conference (Write "Disaster Relief" in the memo line) and send to: Allegheny West Annual Conference, 700 Taylor Road, Suite 235, Gahanna, OH 43230. Please continue to pray for the victims and our emergency response professional and volunteers and federal, state and local leaders as they grapple with this tragedy. Let us remember that we are called to mourn with those who mourn and this is a clear opportunity for us to response in the name of Jesus Christ.

Summer Message Series: Our Summer Message Series, "By Faith" based on Hebrews Chapter 11 which started on Sunday July 6, 2025 will continue through Sunday September 7, 2025. This Message Series will help us have a deeper understanding of the biblical definition of faith and why it matters in the lives of those who are followers of Jesus Christ. We will be exploring the stories of some of the biblical personalities listed in what scholars have described as the Bible Hall of Faith (Hebrews 11) including Abel and Cain, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph and Moses and lessons of faith from their lives. Our Sermon in the Message Series for today will be entitled "An Offering Pleasing to God" based on Genesis 4:1-12 and Hebrews 11:1-4. Watch past sermons online at https://www.6thavegmc.org/

Invite a Friend Sunday Dates: This is an intentional outreach and evangelism initiative aimed at encouraging our members to live invitationally and in obedience to the commandment of Jesus to "GO" and make disciples of others in Matthew 28:18-20. The following are the next dates for the "Invite a Friend Sunday" for the remainder of 2025: Sunday August 3 and Sunday November 2. Please mark these dates on your calendar and use the special invite a friend note to invite a family member, friend or a neighbor.

## Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(Sixth Sunday after Pentecost)

July 20, 2025 10:30 a.m.

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

[2 Corinthians 9:6-7, NIV]

†

**PRELUDE** 

WELCOME Pastor 'Debo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

# 881

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

\*The Apostles' Creed

L: Cain worked the soil and brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the Lord.

P: Heavenly Father, teach us to make an acceptable offering of our lives and possessions to you.

L: And Abel also brought an offering to the Lord – fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock.

P: Heavenly Father, teach us to make an acceptable offering of our lives and possessions to you.

L: "The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering, but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor."

P: Heavenly Father, look on us with favor as we make an acceptable offering of our lives and possessions to you.

\*ENTRANCE OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

\*OPENING HYMN # 140

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

•

\*Gloria Patri Hymn # 70

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 4:1-12

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Pastor 'Debo

**HYMN** 

"Trust and Obey"

# 467

**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

"To God Be the Glory" (Fanny Crosby)
Jessica Thomas (Flute) & Jackie Howard (Piano)

**SCRIPTURE READING** 

Hebrews 11:1-4

**MESSAGE** 

By Faith - An Offering Pleasing to God

Pastor 'Debo

\*CLOSING HYMN

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

#664

\*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** 

\*For those who are able, please stand.

## **Week At A Glance:**

## **Tuesday, July 22, 2025**

11:00 a.m. Special Prayer Gathering (Sanctuary)

## Wednesday, July 23, 2025

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

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

## Saturday, July 26, 2025

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

## Sunday, July 27, 2025

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

## **CELEBRATIONS IN JULY 2025**

## **Birthdays**

## **Anniversaries**

22 Larry Kilbarger 23 Emily Johnson 22 Chuck & Judy Wheatley

## **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 Song Leader: Bob Trogus Pianist: Jackie Howard Liturgist: Gregg Witham Pastor: Rev. Dr. 'Debo Onabanjo



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

July 20, 2025 (Sixth Sunday after Pentecost)



By Faith: An Offering Pleasing to God

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 (July 20, 2025 – July 26, 2025):

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

#### Sunday July 20 (Sixth Sunday after Pentecost)

Scripture Reading: Genesis 4:1-16; Reflection Verse: Genesis 4:9

"Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?"

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What do think about Cain's response to God's question about his brother Abel?

#### Monday July 21

Scripture Reading: Genesis 8:1-22; Reflection Verses: Genesis 8:20-21

"Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. The Lord smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done."

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Why did Noah sacrifice burnt offerings to the Lord? What offering can you bring today?

#### Tuesday July 22

Scripture Reading: 2 Chronicles 20:1-21; Reflection Verse: 2 Chronicles 20:15

"He said: "Listen, King Jehoshaphat and all who live in Judah and Jerusalem! This is what the Lord says to you: 'Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's."

Reflection Questions/Action for the Day: Where do you need to trust God to fight your battle?

#### Wednesday July 23

Scripture Reading: 2 Chronicles 20:22-37; Reflection Verse: 2 Chronicles 20:20

"Early in the morning they left for the Desert of Tekoa. As they set out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Listen to me, Judah and people of Jerusalem! Have faith in the Lord your God and you will be upheld; have faith in his prophets and you will be successful."

Reflection Questions/Action for the Day: Where do you need to exercise faith in the Lord? How will you motivate others?

#### Thursday July 24

Scripture Reading: Job 1:1-22; Reflection Verse: Job 1:5

"Early in the morning he would sacrifice a burnt offering for each of them, thinking, "Perhaps my children have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." This was Job's regular custom."

Reflection Questions/Action for the Day: What do you do regularly to honor God? Where can you honor God today?

#### Friday July 25

Scripture Reading: Psalm 46:1-11; Reflection Verse: Psalm 46:10

"He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress."

Reflection Questions/Action for the Day: Where do you need to be still so you can experience God's power on your behalf?

#### Saturday July 26

Scripture Reading: Romans 12:1-21; Reflection Verse: Romans 12:1

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship?"

Reflection Questions/Action for the Day: How are you faithfully living into this injunction? How do you worship God?

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Cain worked the soil and brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the Lord.

P: Heavenly Father, teach us to make an acceptable offering of our lives and possessions to you.

L: And Abel also brought an offering to the Lord – fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock.

P: Heavenly Father, teach us to make an acceptable offering of our lives and possessions to you.

L: "The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering, but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor."

P: Heavenly Father, look on us with favor as we make an acceptable offering of our lives and possessions to you.

\*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

# **Genesis 4:1-12**

## **Cain and Abel**

**4** Adam<sup>1</sup> made love to his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain.<sup>1</sup> She said, "With the help of the LORD I have brought forth<sup>1</sup> a man." <sup>2</sup> Later she gave birth to his brother Abel.

Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. <sup>3</sup> In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. <sup>4</sup> And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, <sup>5</sup> but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

<sup>6</sup> Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? <sup>7</sup> If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it."

<sup>8</sup> Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

<sup>9</sup> Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

"I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?"

<sup>10</sup> The LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. <sup>11</sup> Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. <sup>12</sup> When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."

# **Hebrews 11:1-4**

## **Faith in Action**

**11** Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. <sup>2</sup> This is what the ancients were commended for.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.