

Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

August 18, 2024

10:30 a.m.

"Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, 'Why couldn't we drive it out?' He replied, 'Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.'" [Matthew 17:19-20]



PRELUDE

WELCOME

Pastor 'Debo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Jesus tells us that if we have faith as a mustard seed, nothing will be impossible for us.

P: *Jesus, pioneer and perfecter of faith, give us courage to face and defeat our giants in your name.*

L: The Philistine giant Goliath relied on his strength and armor as he faced David in battle.

P: *But David trusted in the full armor of God and triumphed over Goliath with a sling and a stone.*

*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*OPENING HYMN

513

"Soldiers of Christ, Arise"

*AFFIRMATION FROM ROMANS

- UMH 887

Leader:

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress, or persecution or famine, or nakedness or peril or sword?

People:

No! In all things we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us. We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Gloria Patri

Hymn # 70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 17:41-51

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor 'Debo

NEW SCHOOL YEAR/BACKPACKS BLESSING

HYMN

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

400

OUR TIME OF PRAYER

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.

~Joys and Concerns

~The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS (We encourage you to share beyond your regular offering. The loose offering received today will go to The Foundation Dinner Fund.)

OFFERTORY

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

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen."



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH
Allegheny West

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

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

Joshua Onabanjo (Guitar)

"Speak To The Mountains"
(Chris McClarney)

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. 'Debo Onabanjo

"Courage Driven by Our Convictions - David & Goliath"

*CLOSING HYMN

580

"Lead On, O King Eternal"

*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*For those who are able, please stand.

MINISTRY STAFF

Ministers: The People of This Congregation

Media Team: Phyllis Flowers & 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

August 18, 2024
(Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost)



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: 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Monday through Friday

Pastor: Rev. Dr. 'Debo Onabanjo

Pastor's cell: 614-296-1081

Pastor's email: aaonabanjo@yahoo.com

Office email: sixthgmc_email@yahoo.com

Church: (740) 653-1196

Fax: (740) 653-6780

Website: 6thavegmc.org

Sunday, August 18, 2024

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

Wednesday, August 21, 2024

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

Saturday, August 24, 2024

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

Sunday, August 25, 2024

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2024

Birthdays

3 Sharon Mathias

4 Orion Thress

8 Art Dickson

9 Daniel Onabanjo

11 Dottie Raymond

15 Nicole Layne

16 Paul Jassogne

17 Bruce Goff

25 Autumn Brunney

25 Tonya Rowland

26 Mark Brunney

26 Clara Herrick

27 Donna Dickson

27 Charles Shafer

28 Kathy Shafer

Anniversaries

26 Paul & Dotty Jassogne



Bennington Glen: Jane Patterson

Edgewood Manor (Lucasville): Alan Fick, C3

LanFair: Mary Chilcote, 313

Luxe: Elaine Hill, Sheridan Wing, 108

Jim Robertson (Billie's brother), Sheridan Hall, 306

Jim Funkhouser, Eckert Wing, 207A

Main Street Terrace: Marilyn Lawson, 36

Primrose: Bill & Doris Shauger, 121

The Ridge: Fred Beougher, 140

Barb Cook, 103

Continued prayers are requested for:

Amanda Baker, Dave Bash, Sharon Byerly, Barbara Cook, John Cook, Ken Cook, Dorothy Dunn, Tommy Eblin, Walt Fawcett, Sharon Funkhouser, Ed Gurile, Clara Herrick, Cindy, Lloyd & Diann Helber, Mykel Henderly, Dixie Hoskinson, Joan Irwin, Billy Jeffery, Elizabeth Jones, Jill Jubach, Eleanor & Bob Kane, Marilyn Lawson, Carl & Sharon Mathias, Jingur Nichols, Vicki Oatney, Beth Patton, Mark & Donna Shouldis, Rod Shouldis, Kathy Starner, Don Taylor, Kara Whitmer-Beatty, Greg & Sandie White.

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!



Pastor's Bible Study: This holds on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. We will start the study of the Second Epistle (Letter) of Peter this week. The authorship is ascribed to "Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ," and it is directed to "those who through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours." (see **2 Peter 1:1**). Peter was the foremost apostle of Jesus Christ and was an acknowledged leader of the Jerusalem church and the audience were Jewish Christians in exile. Church tradition tells us that Peter himself was martyred during Nero's persecution of Christians. In the short but powerful letter written between AD 65-68, Peter teaches believers how to deal with false teachers and evildoers who have infiltrated the church and also talks about the end times and what to expect. We will do well to pay careful attention to his warnings. We will cover **chapters 1-2** this week - please read the chapters in advance. The Bible Study is open to all members of the community. In addition to the joy of worship and fellowship on Sundays, our time together during Bible Study is always a blessing. We spend some time to pray at the end of the Bible Study for personal and general prayer requests. Please invite a neighbor or friend and thanks for making time to attend.

New School Year/Backpacks Blessing: During our worship gathering today, we will offer blessings for the New School Year and pray for all students and school teachers, administrators, employers, custodians, Bus drivers, parents, policy makers and all those associated with our public and private schools, including higher institutions of learning. Home school parents will also be prayed for as they continue or prepare for another year of mentoring our young people. Thanks for inviting family and friends for this special time.

Summer Message Series: We continue our **Summer Message Series, "Courage Driven by Our Convictions"** as we explore the biblical story of bravery by **David** as he faced off against the **Philistine** giant **Goliath** in an epic battle in the Valley of Elah. In this Message Series, we are talking a deeper dive into the lives of some of the courageous men and women, ordinary human characters like us whose stories are captured in the Bible who through the courage of their convictions were used by God to do supernatural exploits. Courage borne out of our convictions is the confidence to act in accordance with one's beliefs. It is also the determination to do what we believe is right regardless of whether others approve or agree with us. This Message Series which started on Sunday July 14th will run through Sunday September 1st.

AWAKEN – Lay Equipping Weekend – You can still register for this special event by the Discipleship Team of the Allegheny West Provisional Annual Conference from **Friday September 6 to Saturday September 7** at Cornerstone Global Methodist Church, 207 S. Court Street, Marysville, OH 43040. This event is designed for individuals and teams who want to grow in their spiritual leadership, and **Awaken** is also the first component of our Certified Lay Ministry training. The rest of the training will be completed through four daylong equipping sessions focused on congregational care, teaching the Bible, being Global Methodist, and missions/evangelism. The cost is \$50 and will include snacks, breakfast and lunch. At the September Awaken event, more information will be shared for the additional sessions for those interested. If anyone feels led to attend this equipping event, please contact Pastor 'Debo to learn more. Thanks!

Global Methodist Church (GMC) Convening Conference – 40 Day Prayer Guide Now Available: We are excited that the Convening General Conference will hold next month, September 20-26 in San Jose, Costa Rica. A lot of preparation is being made for a successful time of holy conferencing for the approximately 350 delegates that will represent the Provisional Annual Conferences and Districts from all across the world. The Convening Conference Prayer Committee has prepared a 40 Day Prayer Guide for every Global Methodist to use from Wednesday August 7 to Sunday September 15. Limited copies of the 40 Day Prayer Guide are available for those interested. Please pick up your copy from the Information Stand in the Narthex. We encourage everyone to please take the time to be engaged in this time of prayer (and fasting after consultation with your medical care team) for a successful gathering. If you have any questions about the Convening General Conference, please contact Pastor 'Debo who is one of the elected delegates that will be representing the Allegheny West Provision Annual Conference at the global gathering. Thanks!

Weekly Online Prayer Gathering: Please join our weekly online prayer gathering on Saturday mornings from **7:00-7:30am**. During the prayer huddle, we 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 in this special time of prayer. The gathering is open to members 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.

Pastor's Corner:

Courage In The Face of Danger – David vs. Goliath (1 Samuel 17:45-46, NIV)

"David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel."

When we place our trust and confidence in the Lord, there is no mountain that will be too high for us to surmount. For forty days, battle-tested and battle-hardened soldiers of the Israelite army, including their king Saul cowered in fear as the Philistine Giant Goliath defied the name of the Lord. Not one person from the Israelite camp was bold enough to accept his challenge – until David arrived on the scene. For those familiar with the story, David turned out the unlikely hero of the day even though he was not given a chance by his own king and the giant. David was able to win the battle because he faced the giant not in his own power but in the name of the Almighty God. Who or what is the giant that has been intimidating you and telling you that there is no hope for you?

The time has come for us to let the giant or giants in our lives know how big our God is. However, to face and defeat our giants, we must learn to trust in the Lord, to walk by faith and not by sight. When Moses sent twelve Israelite men to go and spy out the promised land and bring back a report, even though they saw that the land was beautiful, they saw giants living in the land and their hearts melted: *"And they told him, "We came to the land to which you sent us; it flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. Yet the people who live in the land are strong, and the towns are fortified and very large; and besides, we saw the descendants of Anak there. The Amalekites live in the land of the Negeb; the Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live by the sea, and along the Jordan. There we saw the Nephilim (the Anakites come from the Nephilim); and to ourselves we seemed like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them."* (**Numbers 13:27-29, 33**) The majority report given by ten of the spies was negative because they chose to walk by sight and not by faith in God. Their report did not inspire the people, in fact, it led to palpable fear and insurrection.

But Joshua and Caleb presented their minority report: *"And Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes and said to all the congregation of the Israelites, "The land that we went through as spies is an exceedingly good land. If the Lord is pleased with us, he will bring us into this land and give it to us, a land that flows with milk and honey. Only, do not rebel against the Lord; and do not fear the people of the land, for they are no more than bread for us; their protection is removed from them, and the Lord is with us; do not fear them."* (**Numbers 14:6-9**) The minority report sought to inspire courage in the people by pointing them to God's abiding presence with them. But the people believed the majority report and in fact they were going to stone Joshua and Caleb for daring to inspire them to trust in the Lord.

David trusted in the Lord and was able to defeat the giant Goliath with a single well aimed shot from his crude but effective slingshot. Eventually, the Israelites overcame their fear of the giants in the Promised Land and under the leadership of Joshua they conquered the land with the help of the Lord. What giants are making your heart melt in fear? If the Lord is for you and on your side, no one can be against you as long as you do His will revealed in Scripture. With God, we all can subdue our giants like David subdued Goliath.

Hear this message from the Lord through the prophet Zechariah: *"He said to me, "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts. What are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain; and he shall bring out the top stone amid shouts of 'Grace, grace to it!'"* (**Zechariah 4:6-7**) Against all odds, David prevailed! Like David the shepherd, we also can take our stand against the adversary by putting on the "Full Armor of God" that Apostle Paul talks about in **Ephesians 6:18-17**. Let's go out and face our giants with courage today.

Pastor 'Debo

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (August 18, 2024 – August 24, 2024):

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

Sunday August 18

Scripture Reading Numbers 13:21-33; Reflection Verses: Numbers 13:27-28

“They gave Moses this account: “We went into the land to which you sent us, and it does flow with milk and honey! Here is its fruit. But the people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified and very large. We even saw descendants of Anak there.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Where are you allowing doubt and fear to cripple or dampen your faith?

Monday August 19

Scripture Reading Numbers 14:1-16; Reflection Verses: Numbers 14:8-9

“If the Lord is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. Only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will devour them. Their protection is gone, but the Lord is with us. Do not be afraid of them.” (read **Ephesians 6:10-20** for more insight on the “Full Armor of God”)

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Where do you need to trust the Lord and step out in faith today with His armor on?

Tuesday August 20

Scripture Reading Numbers 14:17-33; Reflection Verses: Numbers 14:29-30

“In this wilderness your bodies will fall—every one of you twenty years old or more who was counted in the census and who has grumbled against me. Not one of you will enter the land I swore with uplifted hand to make your home, except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Have you ever experienced regret for failing to act in faith? What did you learn?

Wednesday August 21

Scripture Reading Numbers 14:34-45; Reflection Verse: Numbers 14:34

“For forty years—one year for each of the forty days you explored the land—you will suffer for your sins and know what it is like to have me against you.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What do you think of God’s punishment for the Israelites? Do you understand why the righteous suffer due to the disobedience of others?

Thursday August 22

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 17:1-24; Reflection Verse: 1 Samuel 17:16

“For forty days the Philistine came forward every morning and evening and took his stand.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: When have you failed to take a stand for your conviction? How did you feel?

Friday August 23

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 17:25-40; Reflection Verse: 1 Samuel 17:37

“The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Why was David so confident in the Lord’s help and deliverance?

Saturday August 24

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 17:41-58; Reflection Verse: 1 Samuel 17:50

“So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What giant (s) do you need to conquer with God’s help? What is holding you back?

1 Samuel 17:41-51

in front of him, kept coming closer to David. ⁴² He looked David over and saw that he was little more than a boy, glowing with health and handsome, and he despised him. ⁴³ He said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. ⁴⁴ "Come here," he said, "and I'll give your flesh to the birds and the wild animals!"

⁴⁵ David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. ⁴⁶ This day the LORD will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. ⁴⁷ All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

⁴⁸ As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. ⁴⁹ Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground.

⁵⁰ So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

⁵¹ David ran and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine's sword and drew it from the sheath. After he killed him, he cut off his head with the sword.

When the Philistines saw that their hero was dead, they turned and ran.

Ephesians 6:10-20

The Armor of God

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.