

Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

(Transfiguration Sunday)

March 2, 2025

10:30 a.m.

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'" (Matthew 25:21, NIV)

†

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Pastor 'Debo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Jesus taught the parable of the three servants to remind us that we will be held accountable for our stewardship.

P: *Loving God, help us to be good and faithful servants as we await the return of our Master.*

L: In the parable of the three servants, Jesus underscores the importance of using our time and resources wisely.

P: *Loving God, help us to invest our time and resources wisely by following the example of Jesus Christ.*

L: The rich man's land yielded an abundance but he failed to invest God's blessings on those in need.

P: *As faithful stewards, we will be rich towards God by investing our time and resources for His glory.*

*ENTRANCE TO THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*OPENING HYMN

399

"Tale My Life, and Let It Be"

*The Apostles' Creed

881

*Gloria Patri

Hymn # 70

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 36:2-7

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Pastor 'Debo

HYMN

"I Surrender All"

354

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 "Living for Jesus" Jackie Howard, piano

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25:14-30

MESSAGE

Pastor 'Debo

Week # 9 of Christian To The Core - Faithful Stewardship - Effectively Managing Resources God Entrusts To You

HOLY COMMUNION (see bulletin insert or on screen)

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

462

"'Tis So Sweet"

*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*For those who are able, please stand.

Week At A Glance:

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

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

11:30 a.m. Strategic Planning Team (Parlor)

6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)

Thursday, March 6, 2025

5:30 p.m. Evangelism meeting in Parlor

Saturday, March 8, 2025

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

*Set your clocks **AHEAD** 1 hour*

Sunday, March 9, 2025

*Daylight Savings Time starts at 2:00 a.m.

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

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

CELEBRATIONS IN MARCH 2025

Birthdays

4 William Cattran

5 Jane Pool

5 Molly Trogus

6 James Funkhouser

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

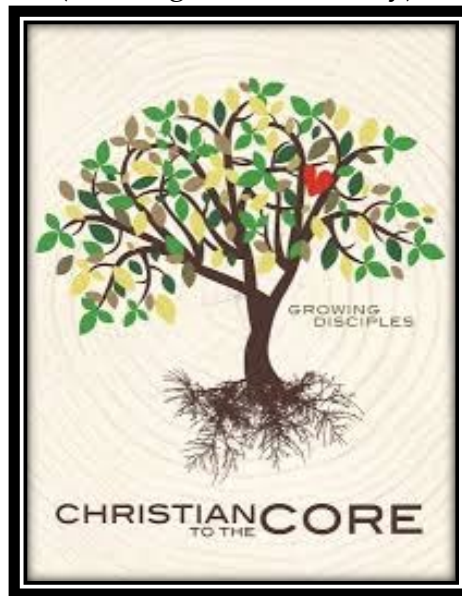
Sixth Avenue Global Methodist Church

1004 West Sixth Avenue

Lancaster, OH 43130

March 2, 2025

(Transfiguration Sunday)



Week # 9: Faithful Stewardship - Effectively Managing Resources God Entrusts to You

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.



Please remember that Daylight Saving Time Begins on **March 9, 2025**. Make sure to set your clock to accommodate this change. Thanks!

New Year Message Series – Christian To The Core: We continue our “Christian To The Core” Message Series today with the Week # 9 Sermon entitled “**Faithful Stewardship – Effectively Managing Resources God Entrusts To You.**” 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 # 9 Session in the Message Series today will help us understand how Faithful Stewardship is an important way to demonstrate our discipleship and reiterate the Lordship of Jesus over every area of our lives, especially our material possessions and our time. 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. 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 if interested in starting a Small Group.**

Invite a Friend Sunday (March 2, 2025): We would like to extend a special welcome to any visitor or returning guest who is here with us on this “Invite a Friend Sunday.” 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**). Thanks to all members who invited their family, friends or a neighbor for our worship service today.

Small Groups for New Year Message Series – We 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!

Ash Wednesday Service: We will kick off the **Lenten Season** this week with **Ash Wednesday Service on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 6:30pm**. It will be a combined service of the Lancaster Charge - Mt. Zion GMC and Sixth Avenue GMC. The service will be hosted by our Church. Please invite your family members and friends. Also, you can 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.

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. **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 by looking at **Chapters 36-40**. We will also take time to review the teaching for this week from our New Year Message Series: “Faithful Stewardship – Effectively Managing Resources God Entrusts To You.” 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.



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Exodus 36:2-7

² Then Moses summoned Bezalel and Oholiab and every skilled person to whom the LORD had given ability and who was willing to come and do the work. ³ They received from Moses all the offerings the Israelites had brought to carry out the work of constructing the sanctuary. And the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning. ⁴ So all the skilled workers who were doing all the work on the sanctuary left what they were doing ⁵ and said to Moses, "The people are bringing more than enough for doing the work the LORD commanded to be done."

⁶ Then Moses gave an order and they sent this word throughout the camp: "No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary." And so the people were restrained from bringing more, ⁷ because what they already had was more than enough to do all the work.

Matthew 25:14-30

The Parable of the Bags of Gold

¹⁴ "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag,^[a] each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

¹⁹ "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.'

²¹ "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

²² "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.'

²³ "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

²⁴ "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

²⁶ "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.'

²⁸ "'So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹ For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Jesus taught the parable of the three servants to remind us that we will be held accountable for our stewardship.

P: Loving God, help us to be good and faithful servants as we await the return of our Master.

L: In the parable of the three servants, Jesus underscores the importance of using our time and resources wisely.

P: Loving God, help us to invest our time and resources wisely by following the example of Jesus Christ.

L: The rich man's land yielded an abundance but he failed to invest God's blessings on those in need.

P: As faithful stewards, we will be rich towards God by investing our time and resources for His glory.

***The Apostles' Creed**

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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

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS (March 2, 2025 – March 8, 2025):

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

Sunday March 2 (Transfiguration Sunday)

Scripture Reading: Matthew 17:1-13; Reflection Verse: Matthew 17:5

“While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What is the significance of the Transfiguration of Jesus? Are you listening to Jesus?

Monday March 3

Scripture Reading: 2 Peter 1:12-21; Reflection Verses: 2 Peter 1:16-17

“For we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: What is your testimony about Jesus? Who can you share your testimony with?

Tuesday March 4

Scripture Reading: Exodus 36:1-7; Reflection Verses: Exodus 36:6-7

“Then Moses gave an order and they sent this word throughout the camp: “No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary.” And so the people were restrained from bringing more, because what they already had was more than enough to do all the work.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How did the people respond to the request for voluntary gifts?

Wednesday March 5

Scripture Reading: Matthew 25:14-30; Reflection Verse: Matthew 25:21

“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Are you a faithful steward? What is the promise or reward for faithful stewards?

Thursday March 6

Scripture Reading: Luke 16:1-15; Reflection Verse: Luke 16:13

“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: How do you know which master you are serving when it comes to stewardship?

Friday March 7

Scripture Reading: Luke 12:13-21; Reflection Verse: Luke 12:15

“Then [Jesus] said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Are you a greedy person? What is your relationship like with your possessions?

Saturday March 8

Scripture Reading: Luke 19:11-27; Reflection Verse: Luke 19:17

“Well done, my good servant!’ ... ‘Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.’”

Reflection Question/Action for the Day: Are you a trustworthy servant? Do you have room for improvement?

MESSAGE NOTES – Transfiguration Sunday (3/2/2025)
Christian To The Core – Week # 9: Faithful Stewardship –
Effectively Managing Resources God Entrusts To You

(Exodus 36:2-7 & Matthew 25:14-30)

“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’” (Matthew 25:21, 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.

The biblical word that encompasses the dynamic way of living under the Lordship of Jesus Christ in the world is “Stewardship.”

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION - The first biblical truth about stewardship stands in contrast with this human notion—God is the owner of everything (see **Psalm 89:8-9**).

God’s ownership is established by the following truths about God:

He created the world and everything in it. (**Psalm 89:11**)

He is powerful and exalted (**Psalm 89:13**)

He is in control of the entire universe and the very forces of nature (**Psalm 89:9**)

As Humans, we are MANAGERS (STEWARDS) of God’s Resources. This includes our money, material properties, family, time, and even our own bodies.

From Matthew 25:14-30, we glean a profound truth - we are ACCOUNTABLE to God for what He has entrusted to us (Matthew 25:19)

Effective Stewardship Is A Learned Skill - We do not automatically know how to manage God’s resources.

Financial Stewardship – The Bible teaches Three important Stewardship Principles that help us successfully manage the material resources God entrust to us:

The Principle of Faithful Tithing - The Scripture commands God’s people to tithe, or return 10 percent of their income or the product of their work, to God for use in worship and service.
(Lev. 27:30 & Malachi 3:10-12)

The Principle of Sound Management - Tithing is the first step, but there is more to faithful stewardship.

The Principle of Generous Giving - Giving is as great a blessing to the giver as it is to the receiver. The Bible often affirms the blessing of giving
(Luke 6:38)

Stewardship of Time: God gives each leader various gifts for ministry. Of everything God has given to us, time is perhaps the most perishable and wasted.

What Is Time? - It is the passing of life. Time is our most valuable resource. It is unique, because unlike other resources, time cannot be saved or recovered.

Time is the same for everyone. Time does not discriminate. Leaders and followers, organized or haphazard, lazy or hard-working, each have 24 hours a day.

We must be mindful of **Time Robbers**.

What Tobs Our Time? PROCRASTINATION. POOR PLANNING and SCHEDULING. LACK OF CLEAR PRIORITIES.

The Example of Jesus: The Bible teaches us to imitate Jesus.

Jesus knew that His time was limited.

Jesus never lost sight of His purpose.

Jesus understood that there is a right time to do the important things.

Time Management Has Significance:

Conclusion: We are accountable to God for the wise and effective use of both our material resources and the time we are given on this earth.