
The Four Kinds of Friends We All Need

By Jennifer Dukes Lee

I was a first-grader. It was a warm spring day, so all of the kids had stripped off their heavy coats at recess and left them in a big pile. As I walked past the pile, I heard voices. The voices belonged to two girls in my class — girls who I thought were my friends.

From underneath the pile, they were calling me horrible names. I was heartbroken and spent the rest of recess hiding behind the evergreen trees on the edge of the playground, wiping tears away with my sleeve. I wondered if maybe my friends were right. Maybe I was as awful and ugly as they had said I was.

At age seven, I hadn't developed the inner strength to fight off the lies that found me under that pile of coats. I wasn't much better as the years went on. I encountered more scenarios where I encountered the cruelty of other kids, and I often felt like the odd kid on the outside of everything cool. With each rejection, my self-worth was eroded. All that pain eventually became the story I believed about myself.

I did a lot of things to try to be amazing and compensate for my flaws. But most of the time I just felt . . . weird.

It took me a lot of years to find that my own brand of weird was actually quite wonderful. It took me quite a long time to realize I was preapproved.

That journey toward loving myself — as I *was*, not who I was *trying* to be — began in college. Of course, God was a huge part of that. One of the ways He worked was through friends. In college, I found a few people who helped me be the best version of myself, and I did the same for them.

That was a huge step toward embracing who I was and becoming all God created me to be.

Like my friend Holley Gerth says, "The journey of life isn't about how far we go — it's about who's with us."

What's true at age seven is also true at age nineteen, twenty-eight, forty-two, fifty-five, seventy-eight, ninety-two.

Who we surround ourselves with makes a big difference in who we will become.

There are four kinds of people we all need in our lives. (Ideally, one person can accomplish all four.) That said, be with these kinds of people:

1. Be with those who help you be you.

You are wired the way you are for a reason — to make this world a better place and to bring God glory with your unique set of gifts. Surround yourself with people who want to nurture *that* person.

2. Be with those who believe in your dreams.

We need cheerleaders on our journey. We need people who will see the best in us. We need friends who will help us stand up when we fall — because they believe in our dreams as much as we do.

3. Be with those who make you better, not bitter.

There's enough negativity in the world; try not to insulate yourself with people who see the worst in everything. Negativity is contagious, but so is positivity. Find the positive people and *be* one of those people.

4. Be with those who aren't afraid to hold you accountable.

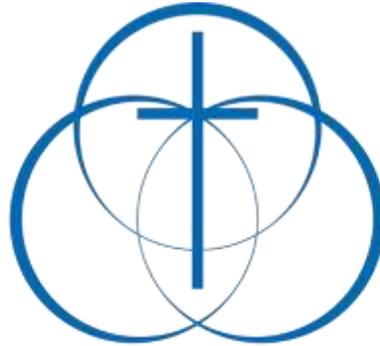
Often, the people who believe in you the most — the ones "who help you be you" — are the same people who aren't afraid to speak truth when it needs to be spoken. Keep those friends especially close.

And lastly, it's not enough to surround yourself with these people. *BE* one of those friends to the people in your life.

Submitted by Peg Hill

Comparing The United Methodist Church with the Global Methodist Church (in Formation)

By Thomas Lambrecht September 8, 2021



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH

What will the proposed new Global Methodist Church look like? How will it operate? In what ways will it be different from what we have been accustomed to in The United Methodist Church?

These questions weigh on the minds of people who are thinking about the option of aligning with the GM Church after the UM Church's 2022 General Conference likely adoption of the *Protocol for Reconciliation and Grace through Separation*.

Forming a new denomination essentially from scratch is a difficult and complex undertaking. Most United Methodists have never read the *Book of Discipline*; they trust their pastor, district superintendent, and bishop to know how the church is supposed to run. Therefore, comparing provisions in the UM Church's 800-page *Book of Discipline* with the GM Church's shorter *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline* would be a tedious task for most United Methodists.

That is why we have undertaken to produce a [comprehensive comparison chart](#) that summarizes the main provisions of the UM Church's *Book of Discipline*, the GM Church's *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline*, and proposals from the Wesleyan Covenant

Association's draft "[Book of Doctrines and Discipline.](#)" The chart shows how most of the important provisions of church governance are handled in the UM Church compared with how they would be handled in the GM Church during a transitional period from launch to its convening General Conference, and how the new church is likely to function after its convening General Conference.

It is important to keep the three documents clear in our understanding. The *Book of Discipline* governs how UM Church functions today. It was adopted by the 2016 General Conference (with a few revisions in 2019) and is the result of an evolutionary process extending back to the very first *Discipline* in 1808. We do not know what the UM Church's *Book of Discipline* will look like after the realignment contemplated by the *Protocol* is accomplished.

As noted above, the *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline* will govern how the GM Church functions from its inception until its convening General Conference meets (an approximately one-to-two-year period). It borrows some features from the UM *Discipline* and some ideas from the WCA's draft "[Book of Doctrines and Discipline.](#)" It was drafted by a three-person writing team and then amended and approved by the Transitional Leadership Council, which is the governing body for the GM Church from now through the transition to its convening General Conference.

In order to minimize the amount of change congregations would experience during the transitional period, the Transitional Leadership Council sought to maintain continuity with the current UM *Discipline* where it made sense. At the same time, some critically important reforms were incorporated in the *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline*.

Ultimately, the GM Church's convening General Conference, composed of delegates elected from among those who align with the new church, will have the authority to formally adopt a new, more permanent *Book of Doctrines and Discipline*. It will undoubtedly build upon the *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline*, the WCA's recommendations, and other ideas laity and clergy wish to propose.

The comparison chart is meant to be an easy way to compare how the GM Church will function during the transition, and it gives an indication of some of the directions envisioned for its future. The chart may be reproduced and shared freely. Questions and feedback are welcome and can be sent to info@globalmethodist.org.

The Rev. Thomas Lambrecht is a United Methodist clergyperson, the vice president of Good News, and a member of the WCA's Global Council.

PLEASE SEE SIGN-UPS LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX.

⇒ **Worship Leaders**

⇒ **Community Meals**

New Path Pregnancy Center Update.

Website: www.newpathprc.com

If you encounter someone with needs for an infant see below.

The center is closed but they will make arrangements for supplies of diapers, formula, wipes if they are a current/active client.

If someone is not a current client but has an emergency need for baby supplies please have them email with their contact information.

Email kshanks@newpathprc.com

If you are unable to email call (937) 642-5683 and leave a message with contact information

Church Hours and Contact Information

Please like us on Facebook and stay tuned to One call for instructions to join us online for services and meetings.

Pastor: Carolyn Christman Tuesday & Thursday 2:00 PM-4:00 PM.

Also available by appointment

Secretary: Judy Slemmons Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Website www.middleburgumc.com

Facebook Page: Middleburg United Methodist Church

Facebook Group: Middleburg Ohio UMC

Church Office Email: mumcoffice@embarqmail.com

Pastor's Email: cjchrist4u@gmail.com

Church Office Phone: (937) 666-2844 **Parsonage Phone:** (937) 666-0003

How Can I Still Give To The Church? You can continue your giving of your tithes and offerings by mailing a check to the church or by utilizing bill pay options online from your checking account. If you need assistance with this, please contact the church office.

FOR THOSE UNABLE TO JOIN US IN WORSHIP DURING THIS TIME...

PLEASE join us online each Sunday on our Middleburg United Methodist Facebook page.

PLEASE stay connected and continue to be involved in fellowship and prayer for the ministry of the church even though you are unable to attend. You are still called to serve in whatever way possible. We are doing our best to keep you informed through this newsletter and One Calls.

PLEASE continue to share your praises and prayer requests with the church office or Pastor Carolyn. She remains available and on call for all your pastoral needs. She is accessible by phone, text, or email, and is willing to visit if so desired.



October Birthdays

Linda Smith	10/3
Fred Wagner	10/6
Mary Henry	10/7
Lindsey Chismar	10/10
Dalanie Logan	10/11
Scott Swisher	10/11
Gweneth Hinkle	10/12
JoJo Hinkle	10/12
Kristy Ackley	10/14
Carolyn Morgan	10/20
Kathy Funderburgh	10/22
Rob Drumm	10/24
Rachel Mears	10/24
Audrey Christman	10/25
Seth Jaunzemis	10/27
Michelle Jones	10/27
Nila Henry	10/29

October Anniversaries

Chris & Nikki Hardman	10/1/1994
Russ & Pam Kienitz	10/3
Marlen & MaryBeth Roose	10/8/1988
Chuck & Patti Mally	10/9/1993
Matthew & Patty Curtis	10/9/2004
John & Becky Porter	10/10/1987
Jack & Linda Nicholas	10/11/1963
Ben & Tracey Nicholas	10/13
Quincy & Carlie Glunt	10/19/18



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We will be collecting the following items for Operation Christmas Child for our boxes this year.

August: School supplies: markers, crayons, pencils, scissors, tablets, colored pencils, erasers, and pencil sharpeners.

September: Bars of Soap and Washcloths

October: Small Toys (no military or war related)

November: Money for Shipping

No more shoe boxes please.... We are using preprinted boxes from Samaritan's Purse

Thank you for your generosity as you support this mission outreach.



THE OUTREACH TEAM will be providing the October Community Meal. We are having Spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, fruit and desserts.

Below is an account of the Outreach Team's work over the past two months:

August Union Station \$400
 UMCOR Haiti - \$600
 Domestic Disaster Relief \$700
 Weekday Religious Education \$300

September UMCOR - Domestic Disaster Relief \$700
 Caring kitchen \$250
 Union Station \$400
 Wycliffe Bible Translators - Dave and Molly Mason \$250
 Wycliffe Bible Translators - Eric and Sue Bartels \$250
 CRU- Dave and Shelley Smyth \$250
 OMS International - Mark and Cindy Freer \$250
 Mailbox Club Ministry - In Honor of Abendroth Kericho Office Project - \$250

FELLOWSHIP TEAM...The Fellowship Team met Tuesday night and set the date for the ***Fall Festival***. We are planning to have it at the church on October 23, 2021 from 4-7pm. We will be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs. We are also planning to have a pumpkin carving contest for the older kids and adults, pumpkin painting or decorating for younger kids, possibly a cornhole tournament as well as other games and relays. Other activities include a hayride and a bonfire. We will provide the meat, s'mores, drinks, and paper products and ask you to bring 1 or 2 dishes to share and lawn chairs. Hope to see everyone there.

Please review the calendar below for meeting times. Contact the committee leader if you have any questions if your committee is meeting on a certain date. We will send out one call with instructions and cancellations as they are decided.

October 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5 8 am <i>Ladies Breakfast</i> 6 pm <i>Trustees</i>	6 7 pm <i>Praise Team</i>	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 7 pm <i>Praise Team</i>	14 6:30 pm <i>Finance</i> 7 pm <i>Ad Council</i>	15	16
17	18	19	20 7 pm <i>Praise Team</i>	21 6 pm <i>Community Meal</i> 7 pm <i>Outreach</i>	22	23 4 - 7 pm <i>Fall Festival</i>
24 <i>Jeremy Liles 9:30 Worship</i>	25	26	27 7 pm <i>Praise Team</i>	28	29	30
31						

YOUTH.

Kids Club! resumed their regular gatherings. At the first gathering the kids studied two verses regarding friendship qualities - Proverbs 17:17 and 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. They then practiced showing these qualities of kindness, trust, perseverance, not getting angered easily as they led each other blind-folded through an obstacle path. Only verbal instructions were allowed. Many laughs were involved! At the second gathering of the month on Sept 29th, they will discuss jealousy with Joseph and his coat of many colors. They will work on cleansing jealousy away - squirt guns may be involved.

Upcoming dates:

Oct 13 - and Oct 27 - at the church 6:30-7:30,

Nov 3 - Shopping outing for Operation Christmas Child 5:00-7:30

Youth58 met twice during the month of September. The main verse of discussion was Luke 5: 1-11. The study point was that sometimes we do our best and still come up empty. Then Jesus tells us to try it another way. "Cast your nets on the other side." Although we may not understand why, if we listen and obey His voice, He gives us exactly what we are needing - in the story of the fisherman, it was an abundance of fish! The youth also put some costumes on, got their fishing poles out, and made a skit video of this Bible story. They plan to share the video during worship at a future date.

Upcoming dates:

Oct 10 at Kevin & Mary Henry's home 6:30-8:00,

Oct 24 Lazer Tag outing 6:00-7:45

HELP US GET TO KNOW

ONE ANOTHER BETTER

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM ON THE NEXT PAGE SO THAT THOSE WHO ARE NEW TO THE CONGREGATION CAN GET TO KNOW THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN AROUND AWHILE AND VICE VERSA. LET US HAVE SOME FUN SHARING ABOUT OURSELVES SO THAT WE CAN ALL FEEL BETTER CONNECTED TO ONE ANOTHER AS WE PRAY AND SERVE TOGETHER.

RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE CHURCH OFFICE OR PUT IT IN THE SECRETARY'S MAILBOX OR, SCAN AND EMAIL IT TO: MUMCOffice@embargmail.com

Get to Know Me Questions

1. Are you Married? Yes___ No___ Spouse name? _____
2. Do you have children? Yes___ No___ How Many? _____
Names? _____
3. Do you have grandchildren? Yes___ No___ How Many? _____
Names? _____
4. How long have you attended Middleburg UMC? _____
5. What do you most enjoy about attending services here? _____

6. Where did you grow up? _____
7. What school(s) did you attend? _____
8. What is a favorite childhood memory? _____
9. What do you do in your free time? (such as hobbies?) _____

10. If you could have an endless supply of any food, what food would you pick?

11. Where are/were you employed? How long? _____

12. What is your favorite Praise Song/Hymn? _____
13. What is your favorite Bible verse? _____
14. What would be your dream vacation? _____

15. What special thing would you like people to know about you? _____

Please feel free to use the back of the form as needed

Submitted by _____

