



WHY I LOVE BEING A UNITED METHODIST

1. The United Methodist Church is a **GLOBAL CHURCH** of 12 million members whose reach and impact can be felt around the world. From Imagine No Malaria to the support of Ukrainian refugees, from Africa University to Blue Lake Camp, The United Methodist Church is empowering people to love God and love neighbor around the world.

2. Jesus is at the center of all that we do. Together, we join in God's mighty acts of salvation, proclaiming and living the Lordship of Christ throughout the world. Our mission is clear, and we are committed to **MAKING DISCIPLES** of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

3. **GRACE** is central to our theology, our witness, and our ministry to the world. Steeped in the best of evangelical theology, we believe that salvation is a gift available to all, offered to us without price, through faith in Jesus Christ. In The United Methodist Church, everyone is welcome—including sinners! All are invited to follow Jesus.

4. Our evangelical theology is bolstered with a focus on **TWO SACRAMENTS**. In the sacrament of baptism, we are adopted into the family of God and given new life through Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of holy communion, all are invited to the table of our Lord where Jesus meets us. In both sacraments, God's amazing grace is poured out on God's people.

5. We are a **DIVERSE** church. "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity." With Christians around the world, we worship the Triune God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. At the same time, we believe there is strength in our diversity. We boldly welcome people from different backgrounds, with different political views, and with a variety of worldviews. As a community born out of the fires of Pentecost and shaped by the cross of Christ, our stories make us stronger, give us resiliency in times of uncertainty, and provide a rich testimony of the steadfast love of God in our lives.



6. We WORSHIP God in a variety of ways, across four continents, in a multitude of languages. United Methodists faithfully worship in traditional high churches and tiny house churches, in contemporary venues and on college campuses. Together, our varied voices proclaim the goodness and grace of God.

7. The United Methodist Church's IMPACT is felt and known across our country. Countless colleges, universities, hospitals, community centers, and social services agencies were born through the vision and gifts of United Methodists. This cultural impact continues from giant research universities to church-sponsored institutions like Huntingdon College and Birmingham-Southern College.

8. The United Methodist Church is a CONNECTIONAL church, wherein churches are joined with each other and the global church in a multitude of ways. Our connection provides training and resources for clergy and laity, produces curriculum and devotional material for all ages, sends missionaries and mission teams around the world, and empowers new ministries to reach new generations.

9. When there is a DISASTER our connection responds through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). United Methodists are often the first ones in and the last ones out when disaster strikes. After Hurricane Michael, our connectional partnerships gave us access to millions of dollars in aid that enabled us to build 40 new homes and repair 300 others for hurricane survivors.

10. The United Methodist church has a BRIGHT FUTURE, for God is at work in ways seen and unseen across our connection. God is using United Methodist churches to proclaim the gospel, feed the hungry, comfort the broken, and resists the evils of this world. God has called us, God has equipped us, and God will carry us forward to reach new people and new generations for Jesus Christ.