

## Spiritual Gifts Exploration – February – Understanding our Gifts

You are a gifted person. God has provided you with one or more spiritual gifts to be used to serve Him. Last month I shared with you a simple survey to help you claim your spiritual gift(s). If you didn't have a chance to complete that activity, do it now. Link to an online assessment at <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/spiritual-gifts-online-assessment> . What did you discover?

To be successful, the ministry of our church must be based on the gifts of its members. In order to fulfill our purpose as a church, we must discover and use our gifts. Each of our gifts is needed. I promised last month to give more definition to the gifts. For more information go to <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/exploring-your-spiritual-gifts>.

Administration – Allows a person to organize people and resources for greater efficiency, effectiveness and success.

Apostleship – Compels people to reach out to new and unfamiliar groups and individuals to invite them into relationship with God and community.

Compassion – Moves people to action on behalf of those in need.

Discernment – A gift of deep intuition and insight.

Evangelism – The gift of faith-sharing and proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ to those we meet.

Exhortation -Offering encouragement, wise counsel, unflagging support and empowerment.

Faith – More than just a belief in Jesus Christ, but an abiding foundation of confidence that God works all things together for good and that the people of God can rise above any obstacle.

Giving – The deep commitment to provide whatever resources are needed to support God's will and plan.

Healing – The ability to channel God's grace and healing love to those who suffer physical, emotional or spiritual pain.

Helping – Providing the support and behind-the-scenes effort that make groups, families and congregations more effective.

Interpretation of Tongues – Those gifted to interpret tongues help build bridges across cultural, general and language divides.

Knowledge – Allows people to convert facts, data and information into useful and important knowledge.

Leadership – A visionary and forward-looking gift that enables people to stay focused on where God might be leading us as individuals, congregation, and a community at any given time.

Miracles – Those gifted with miracles never doubt the power and presence of God in creation and are able to help others see and believe in God's power.

Prophecy – The ability to speak God's word to others, or more appropriately to be open for God to speak God's word through us.

Servanthood – Doing for others, sometimes to the exclusion of meeting personal needs.

Shepherding – Mentoring and providing spiritual guidance to others to help them develop in discipleship and faith formation.

Teaching – Allows people to transform data and information into life-changing knowledge.

Tongues – A communication gift that allows people to speak foreign languages and convey concepts they never formally studied.

Wisdom – Allows people to understand deeper meaning and apply knowledge, beliefs and experience to everyday situations.

Please contact Pastor Kristie or me if you are interested in further discussion. Jane Whitaker, [janewhitaker45@gmail.com](mailto:janewhitaker45@gmail.com), 865-603-8741.