

**Upper Midwest Conference  
Global Methodist Church  
2024 Lay Ministry School**

**Course Syllabus  
Identifying Your Calling and Spiritual Gifts Course**

**Instructor Information**

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**Course Description/Overview**

Our Creator God has created each person uniquely and every person has some kind of calling in their lives to live out the Greatest Commandment and to share our faith so others experience new life with Christ. In order for disciples of Jesus Christ to live this commandment out, they need to recognize their unique giftings and the calling that the Lord has planned for their lives. The purpose of this course is to help you identify the Lord's calling upon your life and how he is equipping you to serve him and people everywhere.

**Course Learning Objectives**

By the end of this course you should be able to:

1. Share how the Lord has been a part of your life in a natural way, identifying significant times or experiences that you've had to nurture your faith
2. Begin to discern what the Lord's calling is upon your life.
3. Identify your spiritual gifts so that you can begin to use them and mature with your giftings.
4. Become better acquainted with your classmates as we grow into being the Upper Midwest Conference of the GMC.

**Required Course Resources**

Bible

Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts, Kenneth Cain Kinghorn, Zondervan

Paperback book from Christian Book Distributors, \$4.99

Ebook version from Christian Book Distributors, \$2.49

Computer with internet and Zoom capabilities

## Supplemental Resources

Seedbed, Wake-up Call, Daily Devotional email/podcast material; subscribe at Seedbed.com, JD Walt

Choose one of the following hymnals:

United Methodist Hymnal or Book of Worship

Our Great Redeemer's Praise Hymnal, Seedbed

Spiritual Gifts Inventory at this website: Discipleship Ministries/Spiritual Gifts Inventory Download (umcdiscipleship.org)

## "Pre-School" Assignments

1. Please fill out the student questionnaire, sharing what you're comfortable in sharing with me and your classmates. (This will help you be ready to share during our class time) Deadline: as soon as possible.
2. Tell me your faith story! Share your story in a way that you are comfortable:
  - write it out in story or narrative style
  - outline format
  - focus on one particularly meaningful event
  - some kind of creative expression: drawings, poem, handcrafts, powerpoints, photography, song, let me know ahead of time if you are choosing this one.
  - if you are a verbal story-teller type, let me know and we'll find a time where you can share with me in person in a Zoom meeting
  - Deadline: Friday, May 23
3. Please review the Calling Bible passages that I have identified and respond to the questions on that page. Deadline: Saturday, May 4
4. Please review the Spiritual Gifts Bible passages that I have identified and respond to the questions on that page. Deadline: Saturday, May 11
5. Please read Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts, by Kenneth C. Kinghorn Deadline: Saturday, May 18
6. Please take the Spiritual Gifts inventory that is in the book Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts, by Kenneth C. Kinghorn or the one from the "umcdiscipleship.org" website Deadline: Saturday, May 18