



Middletown United Methodist Church

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Lighthouse Congregation Motion by the Church Council August 9, 2023

Rev. Katie Bishop, Senior Pastor

Our congregation, Middletown United Methodist, moves that we become a Lighthouse Congregation of The Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church in partnership with our Frederick District and The Baltimore-Washington Conference.

In doing so, not only do we commit to remaining a part of the United Methodist Church, but we also commit to serving those who have lost their church homes through disaffiliation or closure.

We will partner in this work in the following ways:

- i. Provide a welcoming place to belong during this time of grief and transition, for as long as the individual or group needs it. This includes a place with caring relationships, listening hearts, and unconditional love within a congregation that is confident it will not disaffiliate and continue to remain in the UMC.
- ii. Offer “No pressure” ministry opportunities. These will include worship, discipleship, and mission.
- iii. Organize local Beginning Again groups by proactively finding and connecting with individual persons and groups that feel displaced by disaffiliating churches.
- iv. Connect persons or groups with Conference and District resources to help them discern their next steps as they consider a new church home.

Voted YES:

Steve Fong – Chair
Steve Henderson
Judy Garrett
John Tice
Sherie Koob
Ann Hummer
Sharon Fox
Beth Tice
Elaine Canonico
Jillain Trawick
Sandra Doggett
