

# Voices of Penn Towne

Advancing Healthy Families & Promoting Health Communities

Link Sylvia Watts McKinney, Newsletter Editor

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Healthy Families/Healthy Communities Umbrella Program  
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## Online Dating: New Attitudes/New Opportunities

By Link Sylvia Watts McKinney

The HHS committee asked if I would devote this issue to discussing **Online Dating**, specifically to share information with our Link sisters, family members and female friends at Methodist Services. More and more women are participating in this online movement. In fact, many of my young female colleagues met their partners/spouses via an app – not like in the old days where we met our husbands in high school or college, at social events, or matched by our parents or dear friends. The algorithm of apps has opened many new opportunities to meet someone from all over the world. Check out 10 dating apps and advice on how to protect ourselves, our family and our female friends @ Methodist Services.

Online dating allows access to new personal connections via an app on your personal computer or your phone with the goals of developing personal, romantic, or sexual relationships.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Online Dating: Interesting **Facts** by the Pew Research Center

Suggestions of Dating **Apps**

Advice on how to **Protect** Ourselves, Family and female friends @ Methodist Services



## 5 Facts About Online Dating -- Pew Research Center

According to Aaron Smith and Monica Anderson at the Pew Research Center, **5 Facts About Online Dating** (February 2016). Attitudes toward online dating has grown more positive:

1. **Online dating has lost much of its stigma, and a majority of Americans now say online dating is a good way to meet people.**
2. **Online dating has jumped among adults under age 25 as well as those in their late 50s and early 60s.**
3. **One-third of people who have used online dating have never actually gone on a date with someone they met on these sites.**
4. **One-in-five online daters have asked someone else to help them with their profile.**
5. **5% of Americans who are in a marriage or committed relationship say they met their significant other online.**

Despite the wealth of digital tools that allow people to search for potential partners, and even as one-in-ten Americans are now using one of the many online dating platforms, the vast majority of relationships still begin offline. Even among Americans who have been with their spouse or partner for five years or less, fully 88% say that they met their partner offline—without the help of a dating site. To see the full article, please press [here](#).

## Dating Sites Suggestions

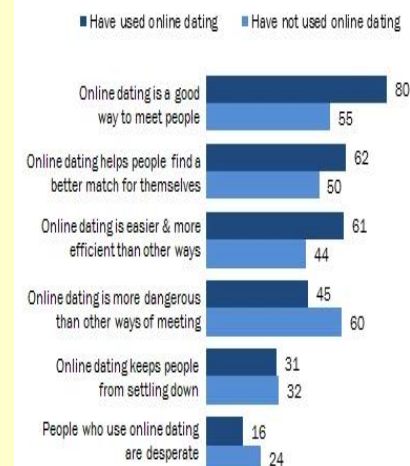
I'm not an expert on the dating sites. Below are apps that I think are interesting and free to use:

1. Our Time -- <https://www.ourtime.com>
2. Bumble -- <https://bumble.com/date>
3. Zoosk -- [www.zoosk.com](http://www.zoosk.com)
4. Match.com -- [www.match.com](http://www.match.com)
5. BlackPeopleMeet -- <https://www.blackpeoplemeet.com>
6. \*Bae (Before Anyone Else)- <https://www.facebook.com/Baeapp/>
7. Christian Mingle -- <https://dating.christianmingle.com>
8. RealBlackLove -- <http://realblacklove.com/>
9. Soul Swipe -- <http://www.soulswipe.com/>
10. Tinder -- <https://www.gotinder.com>

\*Developed by Black Entrepreneurs and acquired by If(we).

## Those with online dating experience are more likely to have positive attitudes towards dating digitally

% in each group who agree that ...



Source: Survey conducted June 10-July 12, 2015.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

## Event

Saturday, January 19th from 9:30 - 11:30

“Women’s Health - Healthy Living”. Links Drs. Lynda Thomas-Mabine and Kimberly Bridges-White will lead the “Real Talk” discussion on the importance of GYN exams, pap smears, mammograms, sexually transmitted infections (STI), safe sex practices, vaccinations and online dating.

## Some Additional Advice on Online Dating

Practice being cautious. Ryan Anderson, author of [The Ugly Truth About Online Dating](#), offers points to consider: 1) people lie on their online dating profiles; 2) looking for a relationship might mean all you want is sex; 3) watch out for scams (be careful about giving out your banking information, as an example); 4) relationships don’t last; and 5) the experience of multiple choices might make you picky and judgmental.