

Confirmation

Day Camp
at Camp Tanako

MAY 1, 2021



CAMPER WORKBOOK

CAMPER NAME: _____

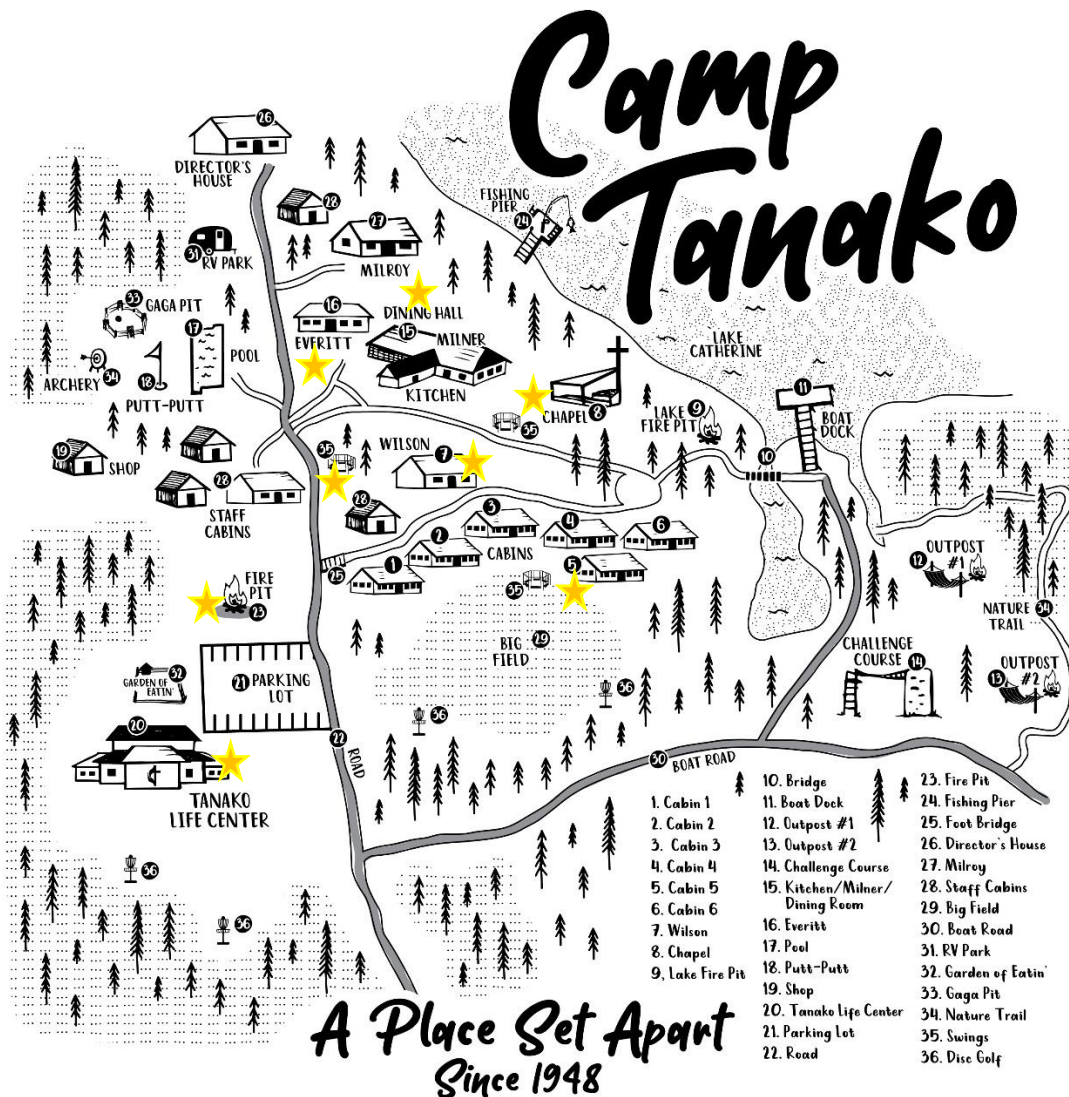
Confirmation

Day Camp

Saturday May 1, 2021

Schedule of Events

Time	Activity	Location
9:00 AM	Check in and Welcome	Tanako Life Center (TLC)
9:30 AM	What is Confirmation? -Rod Hocott	Chapel
10:15 AM	Small Group Rotation	*see map
11:00 AM	Camp Games	Big Field
11:45 AM	Lunch	Dining Hall
12:30 PM	Small Group Rotation	*see map
1:15 PM	Small Group Rotation	*see map
2:00 PM	Camp Games	Big Field
2:45 PM	Canteen	TLC
3:00 PM	Small Group Rotation	*see map
3:45 PM	Closing Worship	Chapel



Small Group Classes and Leaders

The Trinity

Jonathon Bevil
Steve Friese

Heritage & History

Mama Peaches Smith

Sacraments

Eva Englert-Jessen
Rachel Ringland

Our Vows

Justin Ledbetter
Roy Smith

★ Small Group Rotation Locations



Lesson 1: What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is the Orientation to the journey young people are about to embark on!

The Building Blocks of Confirmation

Relationships with other Classmates

This year one of the most important things we will be doing is building relationships – with God, with each other. The great commandment that Jesus gave us is to love - to love God and to love each other. In all we do this year we will be trying to fulfill this commandment. That means we will be getting to know each other better, building trust, building relationships, building community - this will be a part of everything we do.

Retreats

We'll begin the year with a retreat. At the retreat we will have a lot of fun, get to know each other better, and explore aspects of our faith in ways that we cannot do on Sunday morning

Regular Worship Attendance

Some of us already attend worship with our families. If we don't, plan to start a new lifetime habit this year. We can go with our family or go with our friends, but regular worship attendance is very important. We encourage you and your family to attend worship on a regular basis. This will help us to learn more about worship - which is one of the things we are learning about this year.

Missions

Christians don't just believe certain things. We do certain things. We are called to make a difference in the world and in the lives of others around us. There will be opportunities throughout the year for church, local and state missions.

Participation in Youth* and Other Church Related Service Areas

*(depending on age groupings of youth group, set forth by Youth Minister or those in charge of youth ministry)

This year, in addition to our confirmation activities, you will have opportunities to participate in Youth activities of our church. In particular you will be able to be in our youth choir and handbells, acolyte, and mission opportunities throughout the year. (if these opportunities are available in your local church) Other areas you may be able to serve: Scripture reader, Greeter, Usher, Praise band member, media assistant, etc. Find out who in your church you need to talk to in order to participate in one of these ministry areas.

Baptism

Many of you have already been baptized, however, some of you have not. Baptism is God's gift to us. Baptism reminds us that God accepts us and loves us even before we can respond. Our parents pledged to raise us in the faith with the church's help. The United Methodist Church believes that baptism is a sign or symbol of God's love for us. If you have not been baptized, you will have the opportunity to receive that during the Confirmation service.

Confirmation Worship Service

The service of Confirmation will be held on _____ where you, not your parents, will accept the Christian faith as your own and make a vow to become a Christian disciple. If you choose to be confirmed, you will become a professing member of the United Methodist Church and our congregation. Confirmation is done with the laying on of hands and a prayer that the Holy Spirit will work in your life.

DRAW SYMBOLS OF OUR FAITH

Overview:

What is the “House” that Jesus is inviting us to build?

What is the “rock” that we are invited to build our faith on?

What does the word “confirmation” mean?

Why do we do it?

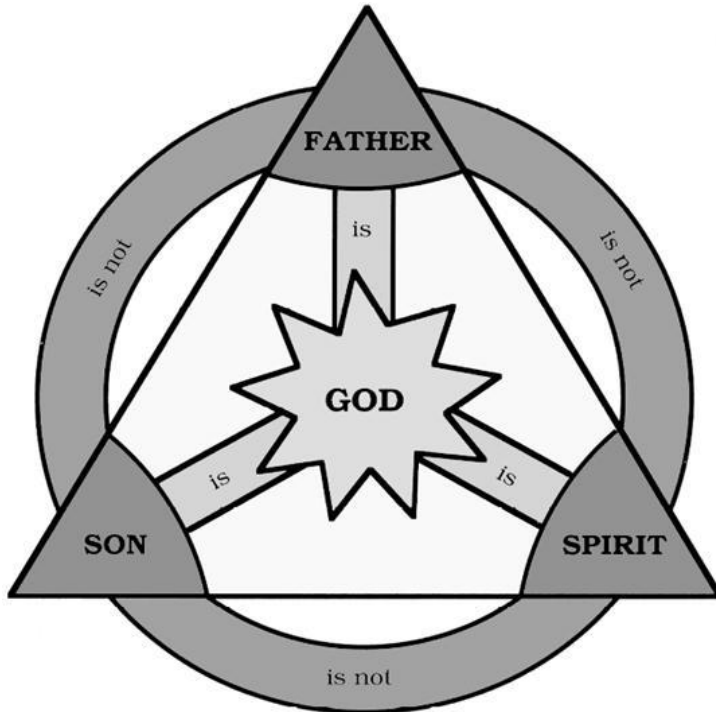
How does it relate to Baptism?

How does it relate to church membership?

UMYF BENEDICTION:

*May the Lord bless you
and keep you;
May the Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious unto you;
May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you
and give you peace.*

Lesson 2: The Trinity



What does God look like to you?

GOD is an AWESOME God!

God is given a lot of names in the Bible to describe different aspects of his character and nature. How many names for God can you think of? Try and Unscramble the following names of God. What does each of them tell us about God? Look up the verse and see how the name is used for God.

AFREHT		Matthew 5:16
BABA		Mark 14:36
THE DORW		John 1:1, 1:14
ULROENWDF UOLCNREOS		Isaiah 9:6
HSREPDEH		Isaiah 40:11, Jeremiah 31:10
OKCR FO EALSIR		Genesis 49:24
GIKN FO GINSK		Revelation 19:16
NICPER FO AEPEC		Isaiah 9:6
GIHH SEIRPT		Hebrews 6:20
HPLAA NAD GOAME		Revelation 22:13

God is...

1. **God is One...**
The power that is behind all, above all, beyond all, and within all is one – not many. The basic creed of the Jewish faith is our creed as well: “Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one.” (Mark 12:29).
2. **God is Three-in-One...**
Christians experience and name God as three “persons” as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. These are not three separate beings, but different expressions of the same one God in perfect relationship with one another. We call this the Trinity.
3. **God is the Source of All There is...**
“In the beginning...God...” (Genesis 1:1). God is the source of all there is. Whatever exists has come from God. God the creative force in and behind it all.
4. **God is the Sustaining Power of the Universe...**
God didn’t just start the universe “in the beginning” and then retire. God is the sustaining presence with in the universe. When you look into the vastness of space or you recognize the wonder of atoms and particles, you behold God’s work.
5. **God is Eternal...**
God has always been and God will always be. There was “no” time before God or when God wasn’t. God is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. In singing, the Gloria Patri, we affirm that God is eternal: “as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be.”
6. **God is Holy...**
God is set apart, perfect and filled with unlimited love and worthy of awe! The Bible speaks of this as God’s holiness, which is a quality that is unique to the nature of God. God’s holiness demands holiness from us as well. God’s sanctifying grace draws us toward holiness. Persons or places that are called holy are in some way “set apart” and marked by God’s nature in a special way.
7. **God is Personal...**
This holy and transcendent God is also personal and approachable. God is a “person,” a being – a being who seeks to be in a relationship with us, a being who invites us to draw even closer. One way Christians experience this personal God is through his Son, Jesus Christ.
8. **God is Present with Us...**
God is holy and other, but God is not distant. God is present in our world and in our daily lives. We can pray to God, talk to God, listen to God, be guided by God and lastly have a relationship with God.
9. **God is Active in History and in Our Lives...**
God is not just PRESENT in the world and in our lives. God is very ACTIVE in the world and in our lives. One of the consistent themes of the Bible is God’s relentless activity on our behalf. God’s laws and demands for justice and care for the weak are for the good for all.

10. God is Redeemer...
God is not neutral. God cares! God wants us to be in the right relationship with Him, and God acts to make it possible to redeem or set right again our relationship. God is proactive, reaching out to us and inviting us back to Him.
11. God is Spirit...
Although God is present with creation, God is not a physical object that can be located in time and space. You can't take a spaceship and go where God is. God is present in all of creation, just as we are present in all parts of our body at the same time. And just as we are more than our bodies, so, too, God transcends the universe. God is spirit – not a thing or an object. We speak of God as the Holy Spirit.
12. God is Love...
More than anything at all, God is love. God cares! God forgives and God seeks us out. God desires to have a relationship of love with each of us. God's vision for creation is loving all.

Jesus is...

Jesus is God the Son. God is greater than we can know or imagine. Despite our limited ability, we try to describe the mystery of God. One way we do that is to think of God as Three-in-One-God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

We believe God comes to us in different ways, ways that help us know and love God more and more, The central way we know God is through Jesus, the second part of our Three-in-one God, God the Son.

Jesus is God in a particular person. That's what the word Incarnation means: God coming to us in the flesh, in the life of the person Jesus. As a historical human being, Jesus reveals God to us. In Jesus (who he is, what he did) we see God more clearly than anywhere else, Jesus is a window to God. We see this in different places in his life:

- In his teaching
- In his ministry, including the miracles and healings
- In his way of being with people of power and especially with those who were without power
- In his way of being with God.

But Jesus is much, much more!

Jesus is Christ, the Messiah, the Savior. Through him we receive salvation. Jews in Jesus' day looked for a messiah, the "anointed one" who would save them. They expected someone who would save them. They expected someone who would come as a warrior or political leader or even a supernatural being to destroy Israel's enemies and establish a heavenly kingdom.

But Jesus came—not as the world expected, but as the world needed, Jesus came—born in a stable, not a palace; riding into Jerusalem on a donkey, not a grand horse; dying on a cross, not killing enemies! Jesus came as a suffering servant, breaking the power of sin and death and bringing in God's kingdom.

Jesus is our example and teacher. In the stories of Jesus' ministry and in what he said and did, we learn how to live. Jesus shows us how to love others and how to be closer to God.

Jesus is our shepherd. A good shepherd cares for the sheep—leading them, protecting them, knowing them by name, providing for them, searching for them when they are not lost. Jesus is the Good Shepherd, who willingly laid down his life that we might live. He came that we might have abundant life, joy, and peace.

The Holy Spirit is...

1. The Holy Spirit is God

God is Three-in-One – the Father, Son and Holy Spirit – in perfect relationship. God, the Trinity, is far beyond our imagination and our ability to comprehend. However, God continues to reveal God’s self to us and invites us into a relationship with God through activity of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

2. The Holy Spirit has been Since the Beginning

The Holy Spirit was active in the Creation. The Holy Spirit has been active in history – in the deliverance of the Hebrews at the Red Sea, among the judges, with David, speaking through the prophets, and in countless other events.

3. The Holy Spirit gave Birth to the Church

Jesus promised his followers that they would receive power to be his witnesses. With the coming of the Holy Spirit, the church was born and empowered. The church has since carried on Jesus’ ministry throughout the world, throughout the ages.

4. The Holy Spirit is at Work in Our Lives

The Holy Spirit is God’s continuing presence in our lives. God’s spirit is like “unseen hands,” comforting us, guiding us, warning us, strengthening us, teaching us and speaking to us. The “speaking” is not usually an actual voice, but countless people have felt led through flashes of insight or inspiration. Could that inspiration be the breath of God?

5. The Holy Spirit Empowers Us to Do God’s Work

As with the first disciples, the Holy Spirit empowers us and gives us gifts for ministry. Sometimes what we feel called to do is beyond our own abilities. We believe that the Holy Spirit gives us the strength we need to be the people that God calls us to be: Maybe I can’t do something by myself. But – with God’s help – there is much I can do.

6. The Holy Spirit Empowers Us to Go on to Perfection

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, talked about “going on to perfection.” By that he meant that becoming more Christlike in the ability to love God and love others. That journey toward perfection is called sanctification. The Holy Spirit gives believers the strength to make choices that move us forward. That help is the gift of God’s sanctifying grace.

Lesson 3: Heritage and History of the United Methodist Church

What is the Church?

THE EARLY CHURCH

Acts 2: 42-47 tells us about the Early Church soon after Jesus ascended into heaven.

42They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. 44All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. 46Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

GROWTH OF THE CHURCH

At the beginning of Acts, the people who made up the church could fit in a single room.

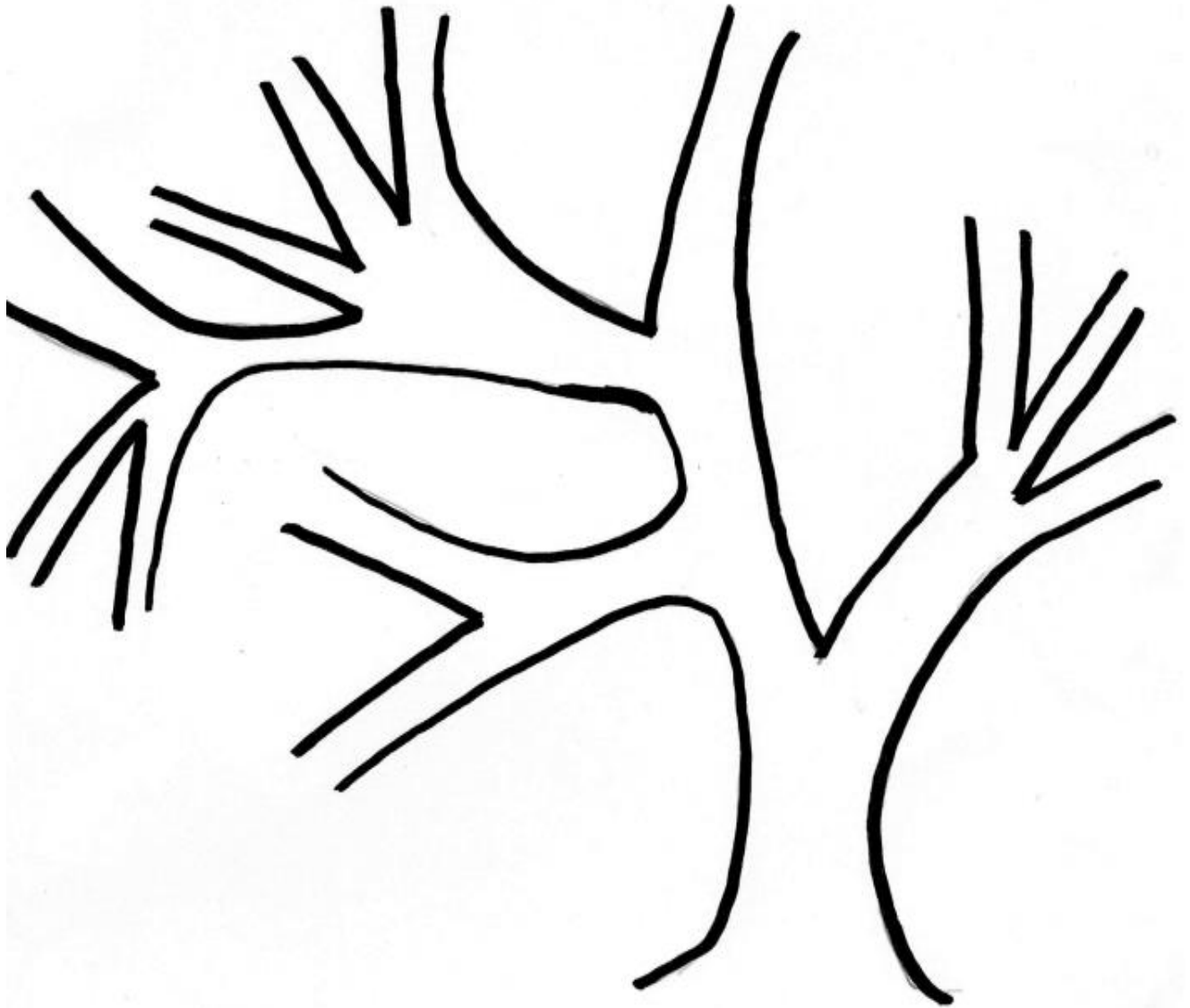
- Turn to Acts 1. Find a reference to the size of the church in Acts 1.

- Now turn to Acts 2 and find a reference to the size of the church.

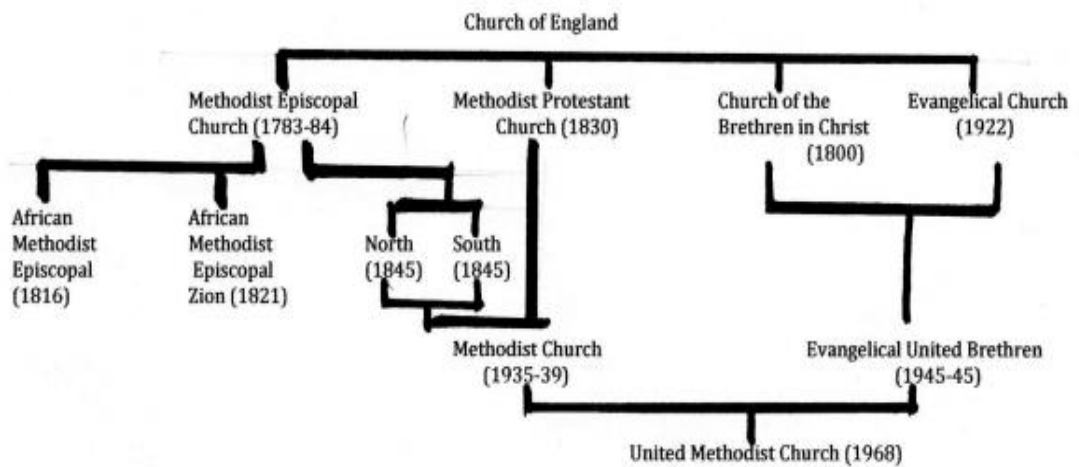
- This time look in Acts 4.

Shortly after Jesus' ascension to heaven, the church had about 120 members. At Pentecost, they added three thousand more; and a little while later, they added another five thousand. So, in a very short time, the church grew from 120 people to several thousand. Within a few decades, the good news of Christ had reached Rome, which was the center of the civilized world. In the fourth century Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire. Today there are more than two billion Christians in the world, and the church has a major presence on every continent.

Christianity's Family Tree



Methodist Family Tree



Who is John Wesley?

John Wesley was a man who lived in England in the 1700s. John Wesley felt he was called by God to tell others about Jesus and help people in need. He started a religious movement called Methodism. The United Methodist Church is founded on John Wesley's ideas.

John and his brother, Charles attended school at Oxford University in England. While Charles was at Oxford, he began the Holy Club. Each member of the Holy Club did these things: got up early; read the Bible; prayed; didn't waste time. Some people nicknamed the club members "Methodists" because the members had a method to everything they did. The name Methodist became the name for people who followed the new religious movement started by John Wesley.

The members of the Holy Club spent time helping others. They visited prisons to read Scripture and pray with the prisoners. The members of the Holy Club also used their own money to buy food, clothing, and medicines for people who were in need.

John Wesley became a clergyman in the Church of England. But John began to question his faith. He felt like he had fallen short of what God wanted him to do.

One night he went to a Bible study at a meeting on Aldersgate Street in London.

John Wesley wrote in his journal, "In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change, which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation; and an assurance was given me that he had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.

John began preaching outside of the churches. Many people came to hear him preach, especially the people who were poor. John started riding his horse from place to place.

He preached two or three times every day, seven days a week. He carried a saddlebag with books and food. He preached in fields, in mines, and near factories. John Wesley felt that the world was his parish.

John and his brother Charles took the good news about Jesus to people who were not welcome inside the churches. They went to hospitals, workhouses, and prisons.

John was the first person to open a place where poor people could come to get free medicines. He hired a doctor and an apothecary to help people who could not pay for medicines or doctor visits.

John also organized Methodist Societies. These were class meetings or small groups that met to share their faith and help each live as Christians. The Societies usually met in people's homes.

John Wesley taught;

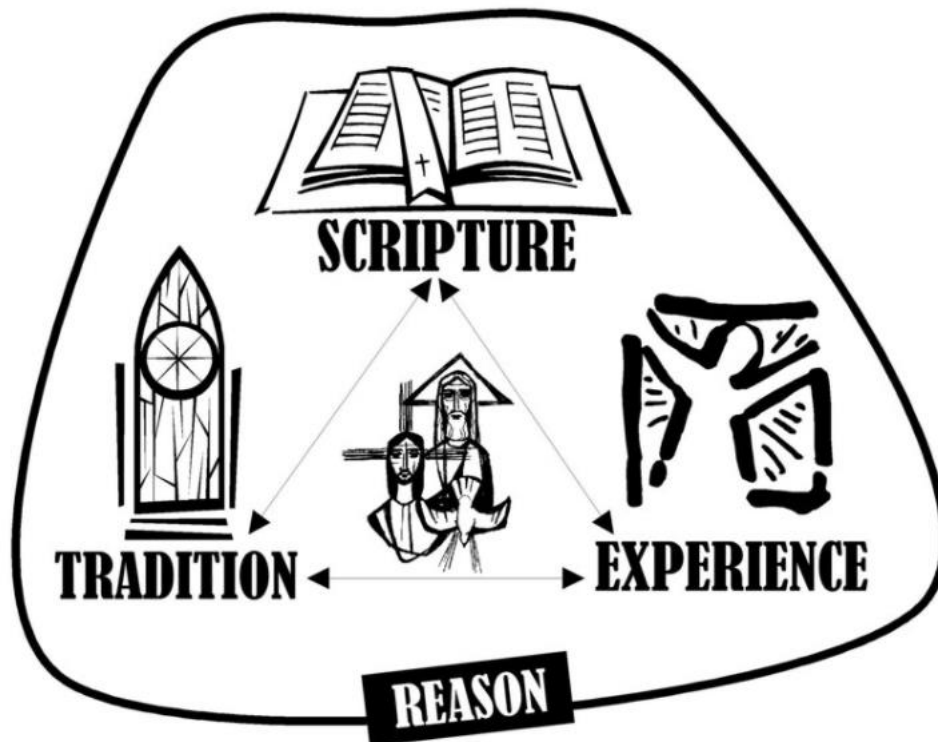
Do all the good you can,
By all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.

The Methodist movement crossed the sea to the American colonies. Circuit riders traveled on horseback from town to town, telling others the good news about Jesus. Thomas Coke was sent to America after the War of Independence. He became the first American bishop. Thomas Coke ordained another man, Francis Asbury. Francis Asbury traveled 275,00 miles, mostly on horseback to tell people the good news about Jesus.

Francis Asbury set up the early American church into circuits. Each circuit was made up of several towns. A preacher traveled the circuit from town to town. It was often more than a month before the preacher returned to the same town. He traveled on his horse carrying everything he owned in his saddlebags. He often slept on the ground, even in rain and snow.

And that is how Methodist came to America. You live in Arkansas and Arkansas is a Conference. Every Methodist church in Arkansas is part of a District, these Districts make up the Conference and the Conference is part of an international body of Christians...Pretty Cool!

Wesleyan Quadrilateral



Wesleyan Grace

Be present at our table, Lord.
Be here and ev'rywhere adored.
Thy people bless, and grant that we
may feast in fellowship with thee. Amen.

Lesson 5: The Vows You Will Take

From: The Heritage Dictionary American

Vow (vou) n.

An earnest promise to perform a specified act or behave in a certain manner, especially a solemn promise to live and act in accordance with the rules of a religious group.

1. A declaration or an assertion. To promise solemnly: pledge. To make a vow; promise.
2. A declaration that one will or won't do something.

Synonyms:	promise	agreement	surety
	commitment	contract	pledge
	covenant	guarantee	oath

From: The Concise Oxford Dictionary

Vow (vou) v. tr.

1. To declare or assert: "Well, I vow it is as fine a boy as ever was seen!" Henry Fielding [short for avow]
2. A solemn promise especially in the form of an oath to God.
3. The promises by which a monk or nun is bound to obedience.
4. A promise of fidelity (i.e. marriage vows)
5. The promises given at baptism by the baptized person or by sponsors.

COMMENTARIES ON "THE VOWS WE WILL TAKE"

The Vow Of Volition (Desire)

Do you DESIRE to be baptized and/or confirmed in the faith?

This is the first question we must answer when we come to be baptized as an adult or confirmed. Do WE desire this? Not 'do our *parents* desire it or 'do our *friends* desire it.' The vow of volition is about you: what do YOU want? *Do you understand what it means to be Christian and what it means to profess faith in Christ? Do you want this?* When we stand at the altar to make our vows, we stand before God and before the community. We are surrounded by those who love us – our families, our friends, and our congregation. But the question is deeply personal: "*do you – PERSONALLY – desire this?*"

The Vow Of Repentance (Turning)

Do you RENOUNCE the spiritual forces of wickedness,

REJECT the evil powers of this world, and REPENT of your sin?

The second vow is one of direction. *Do we really want to be the person God has called us to be? Do we want to live our lives the way God calls us to? If so, then we must give up doing*

things our own way and *turn away* from the things that are the opposite of God. We reject whatever is opposed to God – whether that opposition is from the powers of this world or spiritual powers. Then, we turn to God as the center of our lives. Remember, sin is about relationship. God wants to be in relationship with us. Sin is when we try to go it alone without God or try to make something else into God. Before we can turn to God, we must turn away from that which is opposed to God. In the second vow we “*repent*” (literally, “*turn around*”) from doing things our own way or the way others would have us do things to doing things God’s way and pledge to be God’s person.

The Vow Of Confession (Believe, Accept, Promise)

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your who trust in His grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations and races?

We are reminded in the third vow that we do not just turn *from* something; we turn *to* something. The Christian faith is not just a matter of avoiding the negative. It’s also doing the positive. God calls us to “faith” – to trust, to believe, to commit. We *accept* the *freedom* that God has given us to choose and the *power* God gives us to be people of faith. In this vow we affirm our relationship with God – we “*confess*” (acknowledge) in Jesus as the one who shows us who God really is (our Savior) and we *put our whole trust* in his grace (love), and finally we promise to serve him as Lord (to live the life of discipleship He has called us to live).

NOTE: In the service this vow is divided into two parts

The Vow Of ‘Professing’ Membership

Will you be loyal to the United Methodist Church and to this congregation and uphold it by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness?

We become members of the church through our baptism, whether as babies or in the confirmation service. But when we are confirmed we become ‘*professing members*’. We now pledge our loyalty not only to God but also to the Church that God has created and into which we have been baptized, but also to the denomination and local congregation we choose to be a part of. John Wesley reminds us: “*The New Testament knows no solitary religion.*” To be a Christian means to belong to and be active in the community of faith (the church, the body of Christ). We live this faith out in community. Our last vows ask us whether we are willing to live our faith in the world-wide Church of Jesus Christ, into which we were baptized, as well as *this denomination* (The United Methodist Church) and in this congregation: (church name). Later we may change congregations or denominations. But today we commit to this denomination and local church. We do this in five ways: through our PRAYERS, through our PRESENCE (regular attendance), through our GIFTS (money abilities, talents), through our SERVICE and through our WITNESS.

