



United Methodism 101

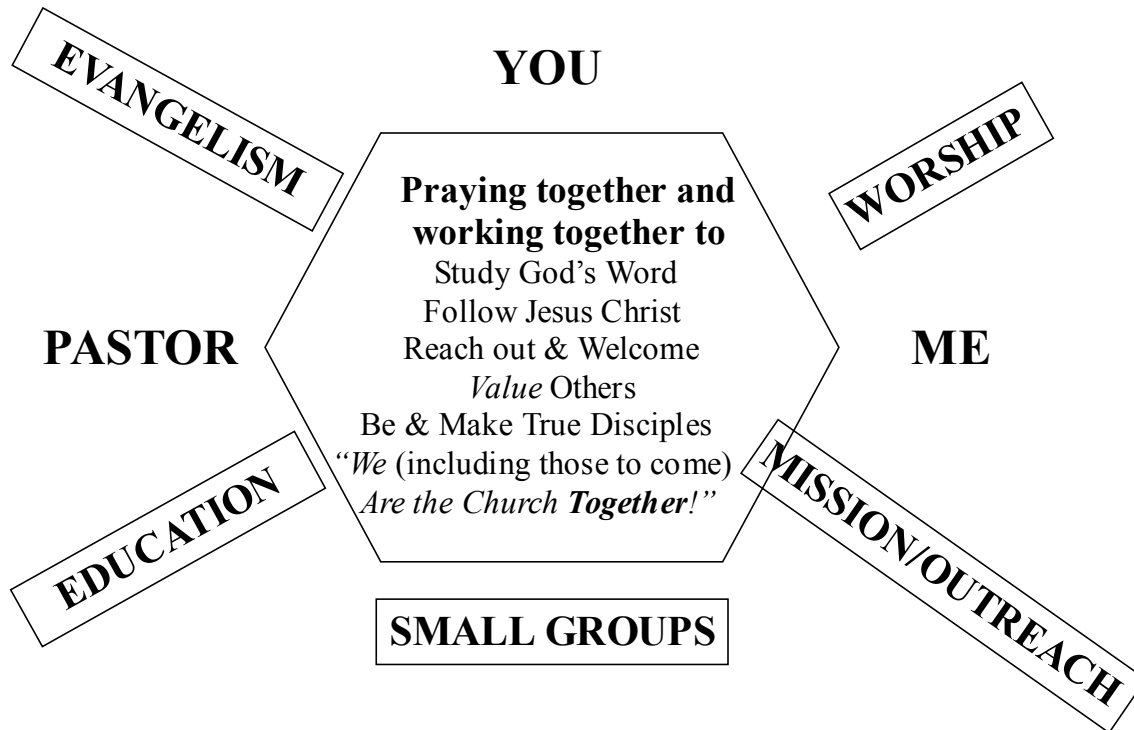
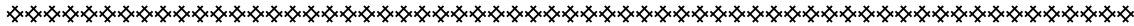
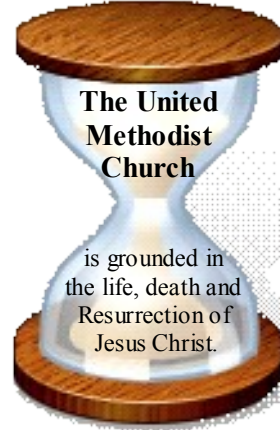
Many of us are United Methodists, but need to know more about what The United Methodist Church as an institution stands for. This year, each newsletter will have some facts we should know about our denomination.

How and When Did We Become United Methodists?

We can trace our history through Roman Catholicism and the Protestant Reformation; however, John Wesley never intended to break from the Church of England. Beginning in 1738, John and his brother Charles formed societies of "Methodists." Our name was given by others because members of the societies followed a **daily** routine of religious observance and social work. (Let's get back to those practices. How happy we would be!)

In America, itinerant lay preachers spread the Gospel and Wesley's teachings. After the break from England, the Methodist Episcopal Church was formed in 1784. (Notice the sign over the Chapel door in the basement.)

We became United Methodists when the Evangelical United Brethren Church, which had similar beliefs as the Methodists, and the Methodist Church joined in 1968. The United Methodist Church is this country's second largest Protestant denomination.



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH