

**Hockessin United Methodist Church**

**Fall Sermon Series-1 This We Believe- Our History**

**Text: Psalm 78:1-4**

**Watch YouTube Video: Life of John Wesley in 5 Minutes**

<https://youtu.be/gH6Hqu12sDk>

1. Name three things that you know about The United Methodist Denomination and why are they important to you?
2. Why is it impossible to characterize a “typical” UMC congregation?
3. The term “Methodist” was supposed to be a negative term. However, God turned it into something positive. Can you name three narratives in Scripture where this has happened? How has God turned a negative into a positive in your life? Read: Joshua 1:9, Deuteronomy 31:8, Proverbs 3:5-6, Psalm 32:8, Philippians 4:6-8. How can these Scriptures offer hope to anyone dealing with negativity?
4. Why was the “Aldersgate Experience” so important to Wesley’s ministry and work? Why is it important in our day and time as well as our ministry and work as Christians? Read: Matthew 3:11, Luke 24:49, Acts 2:1-4, Titus 3:5. How could the church benefit from a modern day “Aldersgate Experience?”
5. Why is our churches’ history so important? Read: Psalm 78:3-4, Romans 15:4. How can those new to the faith benefit from the history of the church?
6. What have you learned from this week’s sermon and discussion and how will you share it with others?

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**Fall Sermon Series-2 This We Believe- 4 Basic Authorities**

**Text: 2 Timothy 3:16-17**

**Watch YouTube Video: Dieter- John Wesley's Quadrilateral**

<http://youtu.be/NIMPihKnuL0>

1. Each of us carry a belief system. Can you name a belief or practice that was taught to you growing up? Do you still hold that belief or practice in high regards today? Why or why not?

2. How would you define the Wesley Quadrilateral?

3. Wesley believed that Scripture is primary. Why is this so important for modern United Methodists?  
1 Peter 1:25, 1 Thessalonians 2:13, 2 Peter 3:16, 2 Timothy 2:15, Acts 17:11, Colossians 3:16 Ephesians 6:17, Isaiah 55:11

4. Wesley believed the authority of tradition is measured by its faithfulness to the message of the Bible. Why is this so important? Read: Hebrews 10:23, Hebrews 3:5, 2 Thessalonians 3:3

5. What is the significance of reason? Read: Romans 12, Luke 10:27.

6. What did Wesley mean by experience? Read: Romans 8:16,

7. What have you learned from this week's sermon and discussion and how will you share it with others?

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**Fall Sermon Series-3 This We Believe- Who is God the Father?**

**Text: Genesis 1:1**

**Watch YouTube Video: Who is God**

<http://youtu.be/ihnOkBC99RY>

1. Who is God to you? Why is this question so important? Read: Genesis 1:1, Isaiah 45:7, Nehemiah 9:6, John 1:3, Colossians 1:16-17, Revelation 4:11

2. Who are the three persons of the Trinity and their respective functions? What does it mean that God is “Three Persons, of One Substance, Power, and Eternity- the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit?”  
Read: Deuteronomy 6:4, Matthew 28:19

3. Some people find the concept of God as Father valuable and enriching, while others struggle with it. Perhaps their relationship with their own father was difficult. How is God like and unlike your father?  
Read: Psalm 103:13, 1 John 3:1, Proverbs 3:11-12, Matthew 6:6, Matthew 6:26, John 10:28-30, John 14:2. What do we learn about God as our Father from these Scriptures?

4. What does the Lord’s Prayer teach us about God our Father? How is understanding God as **our** Father different from understanding God only as **my** Father? Read: Matthew 6:5-15, Luke 11:2, what is the main point of the Lord’s Prayer? What was Jesus trying to teach?

5. God is our Creator who is everywhere and continues to work on and in our lives today. Read: Psalm 139:7-12. Share a time when you felt close to God. Where were you? Who were you with? Did it change you in any way?

6. What did you learn from this week’s sermon and discussion and how will you share it with others?

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**Fall Sermon Series-4 This We Believe- Who is God the Son?**

**Text: John 1:1-3**

**Watch YouTube Video: Who is God the Son?**

<https://youtu.be/t5zE2EouaW4> (skip ad at beginning and stop at 4:15 (before final ad))

1. Who is God the Son? Read: John 1:1-3, 1 Corinthians 8:6, 2 Corinthians 3:17, Colossians 2:9, Isaiah 9:6.  
What do these Scriptures tell you about God the Son?

2. What is the nature of God revealed in Jesus? Read: 1 John 4:8, 1 John 1:5, Psalm 90:2, Jeremiah 10:10

3. What do we mean when we say that Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and became incarnate from the Virgin Mary? Read: Isaiah 7:14, Luke 1:35-37, Matthew 1:18-25

4. Why did Jesus take our human nature? Read: Galatians 4:4-5, John 1:12, Colossians 1:13-14

5. What is the relationship between Jesus' divinity and his humanity? Read: Philippians 2:6-7, Colossians 1:15, Colossians 2:9

6. What is the great importance of Jesus' suffering, death and bodily resurrection? Read: Isaiah 53:4-5, John 1:29, Romans 4:25, Romans 5:8, 2 Cor.5:21, Galatians 3:13, Ephesians 1:7, 1 John 1:7, Romans 6:9, 1 Cor. 15:20-21, 2 Cor. 5:15

7. How can we share in His victory over sin, suffering, and death? Read: John 11:25-26, John 14:9, Acts 4:12, 2 Cor. 5:19, Philippians 2:10-11, Colossians 1:22, Colossians 2:6

8. What did you learn from this week's sermon and discussion and how will you share it with others?

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**Fall Sermon Series-5 This We Believe- Who is God the Holy Spirit?**

**Text: John 15:26-27**

**Watch YouTube Video: Who is The Holy Spirit?**

<https://youtu.be/AB-tCfHBM4Q>

1. Who is the Holy Spirit? Read: John 15:26, 1 Corinthians 2:10, Luke 12:12, Romans 8:26-27, Acts 1:8
  
2. How does God relate to us through the Holy Spirit? Read: 1 Corinthians 12:3
  
3. How can we come to know Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit? Read: John 3:27, John 16:12-14, 1 Corinthians 2:11, Isaiah 55:8-9, 1 Corinthians 2:14, 1 Corinthians 2:6-9.
  
4. How can we receive the Holy Spirit? Read: Acts 2:38, Acts 2:4
  
5. What will be the effect of the Spirit's work in my life? Read: John 3:5-6, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Titus 3:5-6
  
6. How do we recognize the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives? Read: 1 Corinthians 6:11
  
7. How can we recognize the truths taught by the Holy Spirit? Read: Ezekiel 36:27, John 16:13, 1 Corinthians 2:14
  
8. Can we resist the work of the Spirit? Read: Galatians 6:7-8
  
9. What did you learn from this week's sermon and discussion and how will you share it with others?

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**Fall Sermon Series-6 This We Believe- What is Grace?**

**Text: Ephesians 2:8-9**

**Watch YouTube Videos: Prevenient Grace, Justifying Grace, Sanctifying Grace**

[https://youtu.be/wjuD\\_5Ae6E](https://youtu.be/wjuD_5Ae6E) / <https://youtu.be/MUTRgtlhA-I> / <https://youtu.be/DI6EP-ePy4s>

Prevenient grace link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nG-AUaFgFbM>

Justifying grace link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jwb9LdSctkI>

Sanctifying grace link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwPuqqg74Ds>

1. How do you define grace? Read: Hebrews 4:16, Ephesians 4:7, Titus 3:7.
2. What is Prevenient Grace? Read: Romans 5:8. Why is it so important to the life of the believer?
3. What is Justifying Grace? Read: Ephesians 2:8, Romans 3:28, Romans 5:1, Habakkuk 2:4, Romans 1:17, Romans 3:23-24. Why is it so important to the life of the believer?
4. What is Sanctifying Grace? Read: 2 Thessalonians 2:13, 2 Timothy 2:21, Acts 26:18, Hebrews 10:14. Why is it so important to the life of the believer?
5. Grace is also getting something that we do not even deserve. How have you seen this played out in the Scriptures and in your own life?
6. What have you learned from this week's sermon and discussion and how will you share it with others?