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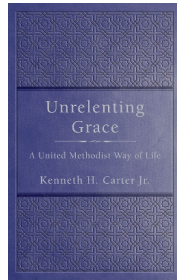


To: United Methodist Bishops

We are sharing a dynamic moment in the life of The United Methodist Church—a time of remembering, reaffirming, and renewing.

The United Methodist Publishing House (Abingdon Press & Cokesbury) is offering a new collection of relevant resources to inform and encourage clergy and laity as we draw from the deep well of our tradition and step forward with confidence and hope.

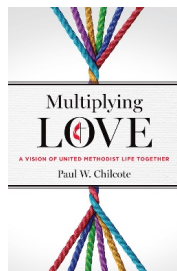
I personally recommend these new resources for your edification and use as leaders, teachers, and spiritual guides.



[Unrelenting Grace: A United Methodist Way of Life](#)
by Kenneth H. Carter Jr., Abingdon Press, 2023

A way of life: embracing grace, seeking holiness, building connections.

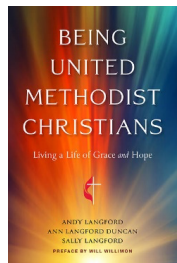
Shows how we come together and embrace grace, seek holiness, and build meaningful connections. *Unrelenting Grace* evokes insights and courage to overcome feelings of isolation, loneliness, and alienation, prompting readers to rediscover, redefine, and reclaim the power of grace, holiness, and connection.



[Multiplying Love: A Vision of United Methodist Life Together](#)
by Paul W. Chilcote, Abingdon Press, 2023

A vision of United Methodist life together.

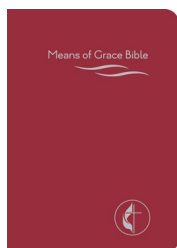
Our faith (including doctrine) is important; Christian hope (including renewal) is important; love of God and neighbor is more important. *Multiplying Love* underscores what matters most and stands in contrast to divisive misreadings of essential Methodist teachings as we embrace anew the Wesleyan vision of love of Jesus as central to what we believe and how we live.



[Being United Methodist Christians: Living a Life of Grace and Hope](#) by
Andy Langford, Ann Langford Duncan, Sally Langford, Abingdon Press, 2023

Living a life of grace and hope.

Guides readers to answer what it means to be a United Methodist Christian. A superb contemporary exploration for newcomers and continuing folks alike that covers UMC origins, distinctives, essential beliefs, and the UM way of life. In addition to the book for individual or group study, a separate downloadable collection of sermon and worship helps and session videos on [AmplifyMedia.com](https://www.amplifymedia.com) are available.



[Means of Grace Bible](#) (Common English Bible), Abingdon Press, 2024

Search Scripture together as a means of grace.

As Wesleyan Christians, we search Scripture together as a means of grace, a divinely given spiritual practice that enhances our encounters with God and transforms us into a holy people. This special edition of the Common English Bible includes a series of reflections from teachers and theologians presenting rich diversity in approaches for reading and discerning the Bible. Readers find encouragement for engaging Scripture as a means of grace, as individuals and members of the community called into being by these holy words.

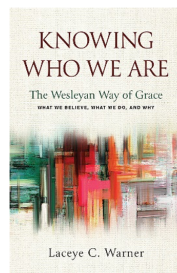


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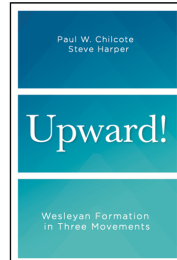


Knowing Who We Are: The Wesleyan Way of Grace

by Lacey C. Warner, Abingdon Press, 2024

The Wesleyan way of grace.

Shares a robust understanding of Wesleyan Christianity helping UMs better express their beliefs and deepen their connection with The United Methodist Church. Emphasizes that God's grace is for all and that sanctification ignites a tangible transformation in our lives, communities, and all creation. Readers gain a sharpened view of how The United Methodist Church is rooted in a legacy of care, compassion, and active response to injustice in the world. Study components include the book, a companion reader, video teaching sessions, and a comprehensive leader guide.



Upward! Wesleyan Formation in Three Movements

by Paul W. Chilcote and Steve Harper, Abingdon Press, 2023

A guided tour of the characteristics of Methodist people.

Invites UM leaders to take a guided tour of the theology, practices, habits, and attitudes that characterize Methodist people. Provides the vocabulary and framework for sharing Wesleyan theology that helps leaders correct misconceptions, clarify, and reclaim a practical Methodist theology that is compelling and relevant.

I recently sent you copies of *Unrelenting Grace* and *Multiplying Love*. Soon you will be receiving a copy of *Being United Methodist Christians*. Copies of the *Means of Grace Bible*, *Knowing Who We Are*, and *Upward!* will be sent to you when they are published.

These titles give congregational leaders fresh ways to explore and teach United Methodist identity and practice. In addition, watch for a *new online Wesleyan/UMC* digital space starting January 2024 with curated recommendations of resources that highlight United Methodist Christian formation.

ORDER FORM

Unrelenting Grace: A United Methodist Way of Life

by Kenneth H. Carter Jr.

9781791030698 – Book. **\$14.99**

50 or more print copies at \$8.99

Multiplying Love: A Vision of United Methodist Life Together

by Paul W. Chilcote

9781791032814 – Book. **\$14.99**

50 or more print copies at \$8.99

Being United Methodist Christians: Living a Life of Grace and Hope

by Andy Langford, Ann Langford Duncan, Sally Langford

9781791032142. – Book. **\$16.99**

50 or more print copies at \$10.19

9781791032166 – Sermon, Worship, and Study Series Download. **\$19.99**

Means of Grace Bible

Common English Bible

9781791032012 – Book. **\$19.99**

50 or more print copies at \$11.99

Knowing Who We Are: The Wesleyan Way of Grace

by Lacey C. Warner

9781791032036 – Book. **\$18.99**

50 or more print copies at \$11.39

9781791032050 – Leader Guide. **\$15.99**

9781791032043 – eLeader Guide. **\$15.99**

9781791032067 – DVD. **\$44.99**

9781791032081 – Companion Reader. **\$12.99**

Upward! Wesleyan Formation in Three Movements

by Paul W. Chilcote and Steve Harper

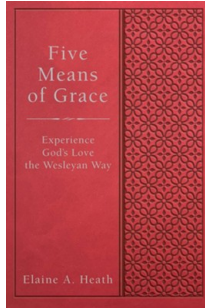
9781791033071 – Book. **\$19.99**

50 or more print copies at \$11.99

NEW ONLINE WESLEYAN RESOURCE PAGE COKESBURY

<https://www.cokesbury.com/Books-RELIGION-Christianity-Methodist?pagenumber=1>

Cokesbury's "Methodist" resources page - <https://www.cokesbury.com/Books-RELIGION-Christianity-Methodist?pagenumber=6>

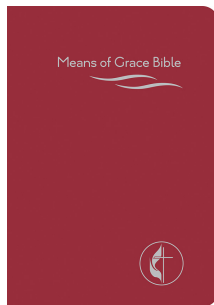


MEANS OF GRACE - Elaine Heath

<https://www.cokesbury.com/Five-Means-of-Grace-2>

MEANS OF GRACE BIBLE

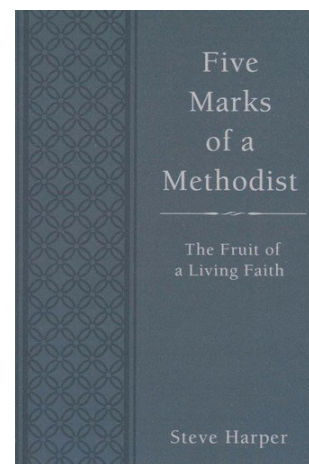
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Steve Harper Books

Steve Harper is a retired United Methodist Elder in the Florida Annual Conference, and a retired seminary Professor who taught for 32 years in the disciplines of Spiritual Formation and Wesley Studies. He is the author of 22 books, the co-author of 19 others, numerous articles, and a frequent speaker in churches, conferences, and retreats. Harper's ministries have included youth minister, evangelist, pastor, professor and seminary administrator. He and his wife Jeannie oversaw A Foundation for Theological Education, and they co-founded Shepherd's Care, a ministry to ministers. Steve also served as Dean of the Chapel and Director of the Pathways Initiative at The Upper Room in Nashville. He lives in Winter Springs, Florida.



STEVE HARPER BOOKS

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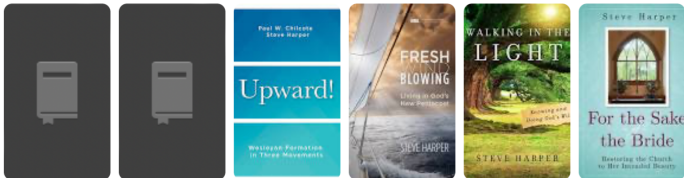


steve harper books



Copy Find Selection

Five Marks of a Methodist: Th... 2015
 Devotional Life in the Wesley... 1983
 Coming Alive: Daily... 2022
 Embrace the Spirit 1987
 Stepping Aside, Moving Ahea... 2016
 Holy Love: A Biblical... 2019



A Fresh Start: A Devotional... 1979
 The HP-IL System: An... 1982
 Upward! Wesleyan... 2023
 Fresh Wind Blowing: Livin... 2013
 Walking in the Light: Knowin... 2014
 For the Sake of the Bride,... 2014



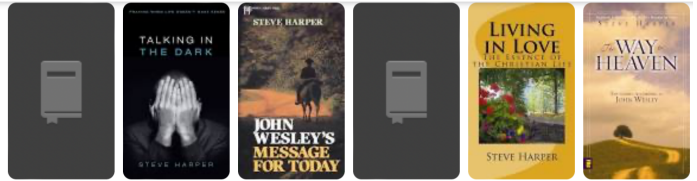
Life in Christ: The Core of...
 When We Were a Couple of...
 A Journey in Humility: The...
 Living Hope: An Inclusive Visi...
 When TV Came To Town
 Prayer and Devotional Lif...

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steve harper books

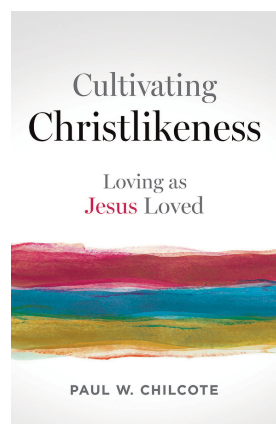
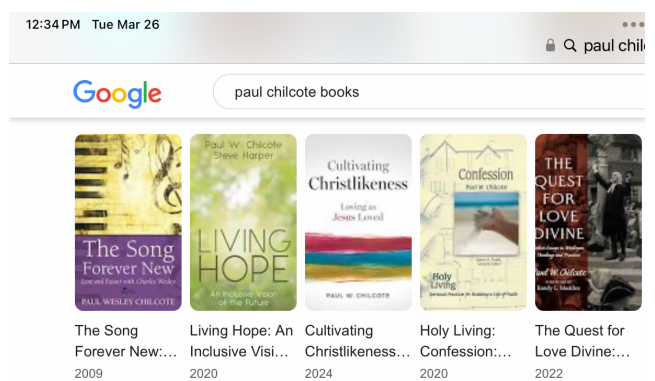
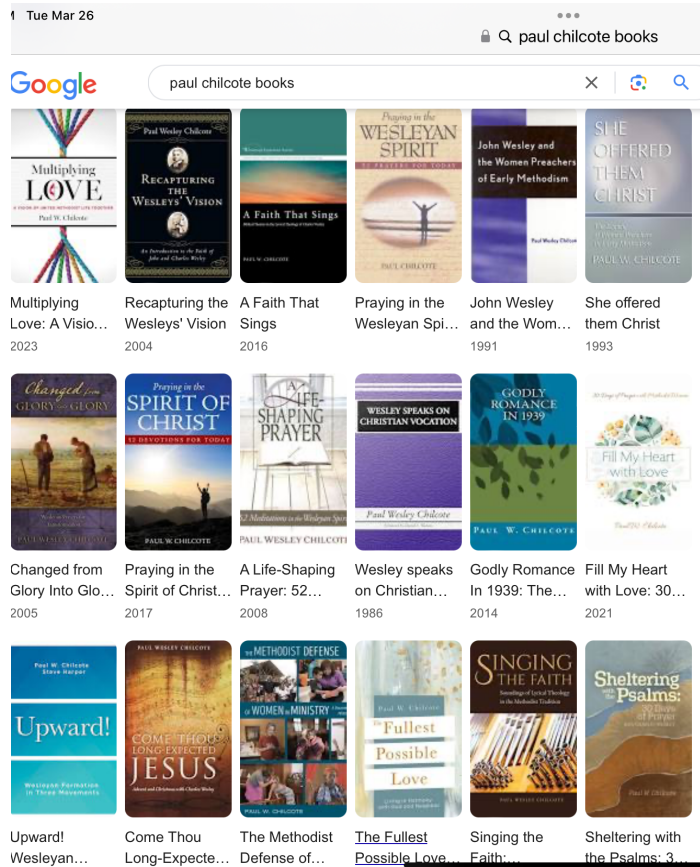


Some Thoughts at Sunset 2018
 Talking in the Dark: Praying... 2007
 John Wesley's Message for... 1983
 Faith and Form: A Unity of... 1988
 Living in Love: The Essence ... 2016
 The Way to Heaven: The... 2003



A Pocket Guide to Prayer 2011

Paul Chilcote books



Cultivating Christlikeness

Loving as Jesus Loved
•By Dr. Paul W. Chilcote

\$16.99

Are you ready to reclaim our inheritance as United Methodist Wesleyans?

Our communities and the world are crying out for empathy, authenticity, and integrity. This book helps us choose ways of living that are grace-filled and redeeming. Cultivating Christlikeness is about the bold adventure of United Methodists celebrating and living into a grand vision that includes everyone in God's extravagant embrace. Jesus invites us to partner in the work of transformation, new birth, and resurrection in every aspect of our lives. Together, we can step into a future showered by God's multiplying love.

Paul Chilcote mines his decades of study, prayer, and devotion to Christian practices to share his vision for how we partner with God to make the world more loving and just. In Cultivating Christlikeness, he weaves the threads of insight and appreciation with special attention to Wesleyan ways of loving God

and neighbor that can change us and change the world. With his gentle direction, we discover with new appreciation how 18th-century John and Charles Wesley illumine our 21st-century quest to befriend Jesus, who frees us to live into and by the grace of God.

Chilcote’s book is a practical guide, leading us through selected excerpts from the Wesleys, adding fresh insights and probing questions as we explore essential teachings about God and the beloved community. He helps us know how to share these understandings with our families and neighbors, and more importantly, he points us to ways to live out our commitments with purpose, courage, and joy.

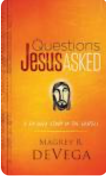
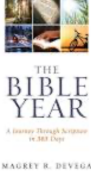
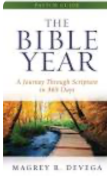






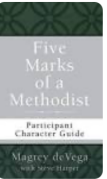



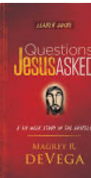

The framework and flow of Cultivating Christlikeness make it easily adaptable for group discussion and individual use. It includes a plan for a two-day retreat for those eager to join in a more intensive experience of mutual engagement to renew their spirits and discover fresh ways to grow in love and grace. The book is a companion to Chilcote’s *Multiplying Love* (Abingdon Press, 2023) that casts the theological vision that animates this practical spiritual guide. And it is an updated and expanded revision of an earlier work entitled *Wesley Speaks on Christian Vocation*, originally published by Discipleship Resources then reissued by Wipf & Stock.

Magrey DeVega Books

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Questions Jesus Asked: A Devotional Study for Lent 2023	The Bible Year Devotional: A 365-Day Journey Through Scripture 2021	The Bible Year Pastor Guide: A 365-Day Journey Through Scripture 2021	Savior Leader Guide: What the Bible Teaches About Following Jesus 2020	Embracing the Uncertain: A Devotional Study for Outdoorsy Times 2017	On Purpose Leader Guide: Finding God's Voice in Your Passions 2023
					
One Faithful Promise: The Hope of the Christian 2016	Hope for Hard Times: Lessons from the Bible 2019	Almost Christmas: A Devotional Study for Advent 2019	Five Marks of a Methodist: A Participant Character Guide 2015	Embracing the Uncertain: 40 Devotions for Outdoorsy Times 2017	Songs for the Waiting: 100 Songs for the Christian 2016
					
Awaiting the Already: A Devotional Study for Lent 2016	Questions Jesus Asked: A Devotional Study for Lent 2023	The Christmas Letters: Celebrating the Birth of Jesus 2016			

UM DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/united-methodist-wesleyan-small-group-resources>

BE UMC WORSHIP RESOURCES

<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/worship-and-preaching-resources-beumc>



“Radicle Methodism: Back to our Roots” is a four-part in-depth history course, complete with videos, discussion questions, and suggested readings. And it is FREE!

You can find all of the resources [here](#). It includes a Leader Guide, Participant's Guide, and Primary Source Guide. This 4 module course would be great to use as a new member resource, adult confirmation, Sunday School, or small group study.

We would like to share a preview of the course here in the [introduction video](#).

We ask that as you plan your annual conference resources for local congregations, that you include this free course as part of those. Helping GCAH get the word out about this resource is all we ask. If we can partner with you in any other ways, please let us know.

Thank you for all you do!

Shalom,
Ashley Boggan D., Ph.D.
General Secretary

AFRICAN AMERICAN METHODIST HISTORY

Geraldine McClellan

Please find attached information on two African American authors who are United Methodist Pastors. I have two of the books, the others can be found in the Bio information on the Website. For whatever the reason I could not attached the information below my computer obviously need servicing. Dr. James Cone has a wealth of books on Black Theology I only have one of his books, he is apart of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Hope this information is helpful!

Still In One Peace

Geraldine

The Rev. William Bobby McClain, the Black theologian and civil rights leader who championed the United Methodist worship book “Songs of Zion,” died after a short illness on Nov. 18. He was 82.

“Bobby, as we called him even in those early years, was articulate, outspoken and radically committed to ridding the world of segregation and discrimination,” said retired United Methodist Bishop Woodie White.

“He went on to become one of Methodism’s greatest preachers and civil rights advocates,” White said.

McClain was born in Gadsden, Alabama, on May 19, 1938. As a teenage pastor, he met the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in Montgomery.

McClain attended then-Clark College (now Clark-Atlanta), a historically Black college in Atlanta. After completing his seminary degree at United Methodist Boston University School of Theology, he returned to Alabama in 1962 to work with King and to serve as pastor of Haven Chapel Methodist Church in Anniston.

From 1968 to 1978, he served as senior pastor of the historic Union United Methodist Church in Boston. During that same period, he taught at Boston College, Harvard University, Northeastern University and Emerson College. From 2001 to 2003, McClain served as the senior pastor of Philadelphia’s Tindley Temple United Methodist Church, where the Rev. Charles Albert Tindley served as pastor and wrote many of his famous and beloved Gospel songs.

He established and served as the executive director of the Multi-Ethnic Center for Ministry at Drew University, Madison, New Jersey, in 1978. There he wrote “Travelling Light: Christian Perspectives on Pluralism.” He is also the author of “Black People in the Methodist Church: Whither Thou Goest” and with the late Grant Shockley and Karen Collier wrote, “Heritage and Hope: African American Presence in United Methodism.”

In 1999, he was named to the Mary Elizabeth McGehee Joyce Chair in Preaching and Worship at Wesley Theological Seminary. He taught preaching and worship for 34 years, then retired in 2013 and served as a professor emeritus.

As a professor of preaching and worship at Wesley Theological Seminary, he laid the groundwork for “Songs of Zion,” which sold more than 2 million copies and brought the sacred music and worship traditions of the African American culture to the pews of predominantly white denominations. It was published by the United Methodist Publishing House and Abingdon Press in 1980.

“Dr. McClain was the guiding force for the widely acclaimed Songs of Zion (1981-1982), and as a consultant to the hymnal revision committee his expertise significantly contributed to the inclusion in The United Methodist Hymnal of 51 spirituals and hymns and songs by African American composers and poets.”

“One of the last of the young leaders of the civil rights movement has passed. What will be the legacy of Dr. William B. McClain? About 2 million biblically grounded, theologically sound, prophetically and pastorally infused sermons have been shaped by the teaching of Dr. McClain,” McAllister-Wilson said.

“The Rev. Dr. William B. McClain was the very first professor I had when I started seminary at Wesley Theological Seminary in 1989,” Hunt said. “That course set the trajectory for my ministry as a pastor, teacher and church executive.”

Hunt also followed in McClain’s footsteps as the fourth executive director of the Multi-Ethnic Center for Ministry at Drew University.

“He was a giant and his immense influence. ... will be felt for generations,” Day said. He said McClain molded the minds of United Methodism’s leading clergy, congregations and members of the academy and was influential as a church historian and homilist.

The Rev. Eric W. Carr Jr., coordinator of the Philadelphia Black Methodists for Church Renewal, extolled McClain as “a founder and giant of BMCR and the progressive movement of people of color particularly within The United Methodist Church. Words cannot express how much he will be missed.” BMCR is the Black caucus of the denomination.

McClain faithfully participated in national meetings of the caucus he helped establish in 1967. He was the keynoter at its 50th anniversary gathering in 2017.

“He was also a sought-after seminary professor and advocate for justice and equality,” Philadelphia Area Bishop Peggy Johnson wrote in a tribute. “The Eastern Pennsylvania Conference was blessed to have Dr. Bobby McClain serve as the senior pastor of Tindley Temple a number of years ago.”

“Just a few weeks ago, he was featured in the Council of Bishops’ webinar on Dismantling Racism, and he called the church to keep pressing forward in the struggle. The United Methodist Church has lost a prophet among us and we grieve his passing. We pray for his wife, Jo Ann, and his family at this time. May we find comfort in the hope of resurrection that Dr. McClain lived and proclaimed.”

Bishop White said the church was already mourning the deaths of other civil rights giants this year.

“Now, we mourn him, much too soon. I lost a lifelong friend and Methodism has lost a greater leader.”

McClain is survived by his wife, Jo Ann McClain, and two sons, William Bobby McClain Jr. and David Wilson McClain. Funeral arrangements are pending.

Rev. Dr. Grant Shockley – President of the ITC (United Methodist – Was in Seminary with my father, Rev. Handy G. Williams and his two brothers – Rev. J.B.F. Williams, and Rev. AL Pierce

Authors Charles R Foster 1937-(Author) Fred Smith 1951-Grant S Shockley 1919-1996. Fred Smith 1951-Grant S Shockley 1919-
Print Book 2003
Nashville, TN : Abingdon Press, [2003].

Summary Black Religious Experience is an examination of the role Christian education has played in the African American community, as seen in the work of one of its greatest interpreters, Grant Shockley. In 1903, W. E. B. DuBois coined the term "double consciousness" to refer to the fact that African Americans always view the world through two lenses. First, they see it from their own perspectives as members of an oppressed community, living out the consequences of a particular history. Second, they perceive life from the point of view of a dominant culture that seeks to impose on African Americans its own false understanding of their status and worth. Christian educators working in the African American community have often drawn on this idea as they seek to apply the gospel to the spiritual formation of members of that community. The heart of the work of Grant Shockley, the preeminent African American religious educator of the twentieth century, was combating the negative attitudes and perspectives that the larger society would dictate to African Americans, while providing positive and powerful images of their self-worth drawn from the Christian story. Charles R. Foster and Fred Smith, friends and colleagues of Shockley, seek in this book to interpret the significance of his work for Christian education, both in the African American community and beyond it, for the twenty-first century. They draw on personal encounters as well as Shockley's written and published materials to indicate how this seminal thinker continues to speak to the need for faith formation in Christian congregations today.

SAMPLE SERIES FROM OTHER PASTORS

See in Wesleyan Rooted BASECAMP sermon series from
Sarah Miller
John Gill
Bailey Schreiner
David Averill

Hyde Park Resources on the Bible for Read Faithfully. See Basecamp folder by this name.

St John's on the Lake and First Miami opening song Do all the good you can for Wesleyan rooted Library.

Celebracao Dominical 8/10/23.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BNDQTKFEaNk>

Clergy Day Apart:

ECD developed this registration page. I don't know if other districts want to do this or not.

<https://florida-reg.brtaapp.com/ECDWesleyanRootedSermonSeriesSmallgroupnotificationform>

BISHOPS INITIAL GOALS FOR WESLEYAN ROOTED SERIES:

- **Clergy time apart to study and reconnect to your Wesleyan theology in small groups or by yourself. 3-5 days this summer**
- **Sermon series in September-November, 2024 for five weeks on essential Wesleyan theology and why it matters.**
- **Small groups led by laity or clergy that will provide a deeper dive into the distinctive United Methodist understanding of the Christian faith.**