

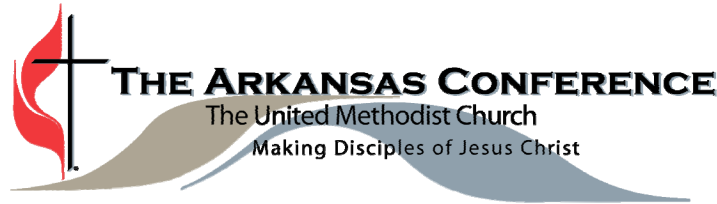
AN APOSTOLATE OF PRAYER

“Imagine Ministry” A Guide for Reading, Meditation, and Prayer August 1, 2009

We ask that pastors, prayer groups, teams in the local church, and individuals use the prayer guide as an intentional daily and weekly study for devotions. This prayer guide is available on the conference web site and will be sent out weekly on the conference email network.

Sources:

- A Guide for Reading, Meditation, and Prayer for all who participate in The United Methodist Way.
- Upper Room Books
- General Board of Discipleship, United Methodist Church
- Scripture quotations are from the NRSV
- Excerpts from “Covenant Renewal Service and Opening Prayer,” copyright 1992 United Methodist Publishing House. Wesley Covenant Service abridged by Ole E. Borgen.
- United Methodist Hymnal



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“Imagine Ministry” A Guide for Reading, Meditation, and Prayer

Week Four: August 23 – August 29, 2009

Read Ephesians 2:8-10 slowly and prayerfully. What word or phrase stands out for you today?

“We are what (God) has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.” (v.10).

Reflect on this truth – you are what God has made you. What does this mean at this moment in your spiritual journey?

How do you express your gifts and talents in your current role as a spiritual leader?

What are the unique “good works” God has given you to do in your personal life, in your family, and in The United Methodist Church?

Wisdom from the Wesleys:

The Wesleyan “means of grace” include worship, singing, prayer, searching the Scripture, Christian conference, fasting or abstinence, small groups for mutual accountability and support, and regular participation in works of mercy and justice. This is a picture of a Christian life shaped by joyful obedience. And these practices are to take place in all three areas of our Christian life; e.g., worship is to include our personal times to worship God, our family time for worship, and our worship together as the church (the body of Christ). In the same manner, prayer is understood to include personal prayer,

family prayer and prayer together as the church (the body of Christ). Searching the scriptures would include personal reading, meditation and immediately putting into practice what has been revealed to us as an individual, to our family, and together as the church (the body of Christ.).