

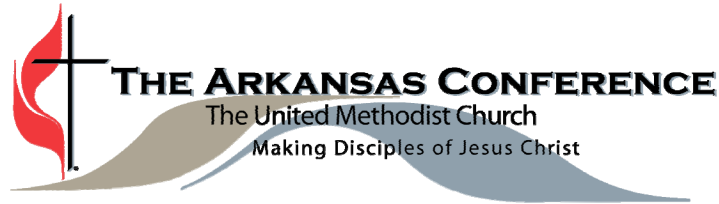
## **AN APOSTOLATE OF PRAYER**

### **“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



## **AN APOSTOLATE OF PRAYER**

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

**Week Seven: September 13 -19, 2009**

Read Ephesians 2:1-9 slowly and prayerfully. What word or phrase stands out for you?

The theology of the United Methodist Way is grounded in the Trinity and the dynamic relationship between faith, love, and obedience. With all Christians we celebrate the biblical truth: “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the results of works, so that no one may boast” (Ephesians 2:8-9).

How is God leading you to teach, interpret, and live out the Christian life?

In the 2007 gathering of the Extended Cabinets Convocation at Lake Junaluska, a District Superintendent from Africa conversed with a DS from the Arkansas Conference. In that short conversation which was friendly and insightful, the DS from Africa said the following. “Thank you for being the mother church to the United Methodist Church in Africa. Your dimes, quarters and dollars collected for missionaries in the 1950 -70’s, trained and equipped the sending forth of those missionaries to help give birth to our church. Soon missionaries from Africa will be sent back to America to assist you in getting back on track with your evangelism efforts.”

Where in our local church are we off track?

Where are we on track and rolling along?

Where are we off track in the districts and annual conference?

Where are we seeing new signs of renewal, growth and hope?

Three leadership questions before us:

Who are we?

What has God called us to do or to be?

Who is our neighbor?