

COS 422 THEOLOGICAL HERITAGE IV: THE WESLEYAN MOVEMENT

Appalachian Local Pastors School

25 – 29 May 2015

Instructor: Dr. Charles W. Brockwell, Jr.

GOALS

To discover who we -- the Wesleyan movement (1739) and the United Methodist Church (origins to 1784) – are in the one holy catholic and apostolic church. To learn the flow of our story since 1784. To visit (look upon attentively) the state of our Church today, including our major issues and our possibilities.

OBJECTIVES

- 1) See why the Church of England happened in the 1500s and what it had become by the time of the Wesleys of Epworth in the 1700s.
- 2) Meet the Wesleys of Epworth.
- 3) Trace the progress of Wesleyan Methodism in the United Kingdom from 1739 – 1795.
- 4) Set forth the Wesleyan Gospel of the Manifold Grace of God (I Peter 4:10).
- 5) See USA Methodism's rise from ground zero in the 1760s to the close of Francis Asbury's ministry in 1816.
- 6) Follow the movements and issues of our story from President Andrew Jackson to President Woodrow Wilson—the so-called Methodist Century.

7) Comprehend the ecumenical achievements of and institutional challenges to [United] Methodism in the twentieth century.

8) Look toward our “future history.”

CORE TEXTS

“Reading Christians will be knowing Christians” (John Wesley’s challenge and promise to his people).

Richard P. Heitzenrater, *Wesley and the People Called Methodists* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2nd ed., 2013).

Randy Maddox, *Responsible Grace: John Wesley’s Practical Theology* (Nashville: Kingswood Books, 1994).

Russell E. Richey, Kenneth E. Rowe, Jean Miller Schmidt, *The Methodist Experience in America: Vol. I A History* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2010).

Jean Miller Schmidt, *Grace Sufficient: A History of Women in American Methodism 1760-1939* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1999).

REFERENCE WORKS

The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2012 (Nashville: United Methodist Publishing House, 2012), pp. 11 – 22, “Historical Statement.”

Thomas Langford, *Practical Divinity, Volume I: Theology in the Wesleyan Tradition* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, rev. ed. 1983).

John G. McEllhenney (ed.), *United Methodism in America: A Compact History* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1992). Very useful for teaching our Church’s story to your congregation.

Harry V. Richardson, *Dark Salvation: The Story of Methodism as it Developed among Blacks in America* (New York: Doubleday, 1976).

Russell E. Richey, Kenneth E. Rowe, Jean Miller Schmidt, *American Methodism: A Compact History* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2012). The abridged version of our textbook for use with our congregations.

Russell E. Richey, Kenneth E. Rowe, & Jean Miller Schmidt, *The Methodist Experience in America: Vol. II A Sourcebook* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2000). The companion to our textbook.

SUPPLEMENTAL RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Nolan B. Harmon, gen. ed., *The Encyclopedia of World Methodism* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2 vols., 1974). Old now, but the first place to look up anything or anyone historical in world, not just USA, Methodism.

Nathan O. Hatch, "The Puzzle of American Methodism," *Reflections* (Summer-Fall, 1993) pp.13-20. The Bartlett Lecture at Yale Divinity School Convocation 1993.

David Hempton, *Methodism: Empire of the Spirit* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2005). David, an Irish Methodist, is dean (2012) of Harvard Divinity School.

Henry H. Knight, III, *From Aldersgate to Azusa Street: Wesleyan Holiness and Pentecostal Visions of the New Creation* (Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2010).

John H. Wigger, *American Saint: Francis Asbury and the Methodists* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009). Reward yourself by reading this story of the man, and his people, who put Methodism into the DNA of the USA.

_____, *Taking Heaven by Storm: Methodism and the Rise of Popular Christianity in America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1998).

HISTORY'S METHODISMS AND ANGLICANISM BEFORE METHODISM

Heitzenrater (2013), Chap. 1 & 2

THE WESLEYS' METHODISM

Heitzenrater (2013), Chap. 3-Epilogue

Schmidt (1999), Part I

QUESTION 1 OF OUR FIRST (1744) CONFERENCE -- WHAT TO TEACH

Maddox, *Responsible Grace*

AMERICAN METHODISM'S HEROIC ERA: ASBURY, NEWCOMER, ALBRIGHT, ALLEN

Richey, Rowe, Schmidt (2010), chapters I thru V (Snapshot I is not assigned).

THEMES FROM "THE METHODIST CENTURY"

Richey, Rowe, Schmidt (2010), chapters VII thru XII and pp. 129-133, 143-146, 158-161, 299-321 (Snapshot II is not assigned); Schmidt (1999), Part III

Race & Ethnicity; Methodism's Female Majority; Making Disciples of Americans and All Nations; The Social Gospel; The Holiness Movement; USA Methodism and USA Wars

UNITING, MATURING, QUESTIONING

Richey, Rowe, Schmidt (2010), chapters XIII – XV (Snapshot III is not assigned); Schmidt (1999), Epilogue & Conclusion

THE STATE OF OUR CHURCH AND OUR “FUTURE HISTORY”

On <<www.umc.org>> search for the following: Call to Action; Four Areas of Focus; Judicial Council (Decisions 1032 & 1226); State of the Church.

On <<www.worldwideumc.org>> find Worldwide Nature of the United Methodist Church.

On <<methodistthinker.org>> find Bishop Scott J. Jones’ ideas on global United Methodism.

Elaine Heath & Scott Kisker, *Longing for Spring: A New Vision for Wesleyan Community* (Cascade Books, 2010).

ASSIGNMENT FOR GRADE

Write a research paper of 40 pages maximum length; 12 point type, single spaced, one inch side and upper and lower margins, organized as follows:

THE RECTORY FAMILY OF EPWORTH

The Wesleys of Epworth and the careers of John and Charles Wesley.

WESLEYAN METHODISM 1739 – 1791

The development of the Wesleyan movement in Great Britain during John Wesley’s life.

THE WESLEYAN EVANGEL

The theological construct of the Wesleyan gospel of grace, the *ordo, via, iter salutis*.

THE HEROIC ERA OF AMERICAN METHODISM

Francis Asbury’s Methodist Movement and Church.

“THE METHODIST CENTURY” IN AMERICAN CHURCH HISTORY

Be sure to include the major themes of the American Methodist story in the years from President Andrew Jackson through President Woodrow Wilson.

AMERICAN METHODISM IN THE 1900s

Unification. Merger. Ecumenical engagement. Challenges to mainline status.

ISSUES AND POSSIBILITIES FOR THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH TODAY

Consult the resources listed above for our class time on the state of our Church and it's future.

HOW TO DO THIS PAPER

- 1) Within the maximum of 40 content pages you will choose how much to write on a given topic.
- 2) Use 12 point type, single spaced, one inch margins on both sides and top and bottom.
- 3) Put all the resources you used on separate pages at the end of your paper. They are in addition to the content pages.
- 4) Document all quotations or near quotations. Use footnotes or endnotes or parenthetical notes. Parenthetical ones give a brief identification of the appropriate entry from your resources pages. Remember to include pages numbers. Ask, “Using this note can my reader go directly to this source?” Footnotes or endnotes are useful for notes too long to include in the body of your text.
- 5) Use the internet for research. For example, Duke Divinity School <<duke.divinity.edu/Wesley>> and Northwest Nazarene University

<<Wesley.nnu.edu>>. Wikipedia can help you get into a topic, but is not acceptable for scholarly citation as it is not checked for accuracy.

6) Write a section as you are confident with it. Put the sections together in the required order for submission.

GRADING

Grades will be letter grades and will show plus/minus where appropriate. Each section of your paper will be evaluated separately and the final grade will be the average of the seven sections.

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