



The more I return to the study of Wesley, the more I am convicted of my life by several aspects of his ministry. Specifically, there are three categories: Evangelism, Ministry among the Poor, and Accountability.

Evangelism, broadly defined, is sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. Wesley was driven by a desire to share the love of Christ wherever he went, with whomever he met, whenever he met them. To be clear, Wesley's evangelism was focused on the love of God, and the grace of Jesus Christ. That differed from some preachers and pastors of his day who tended to threaten folks with the fires of hell. Wesley encouraged people to know that they were loved. He did this as his reason for living. Do I live that way? Do you? Does everything you, or I, do or say communicate the love of God?

Wesley's main audience was made up of people who did not go to church. Most of who he preached to, and ministered among, were poor. One of the reasons that Wesley got into conflict with the established church of his day was the church's sheer disdain for the poor, the uneducated, and those whose lives were a little rougher than that of the average church person. What is evident in his writings is that Wesley saw beyond clothing, station, or status, to the person whom God loved. I wonder, have we, in our attempts to be "safe" and "appealing" forgotten that Jesus said, "Blessed are the poor...?"

Finally, one of the fundamental marks of the Methodist movement was the expectation that all of its members were accountable to one another in terms of their spiritual life, and "normal" life. I have benefited greatly from my experience of a small group with whom I meet, but in terms of accountability as an expectation for our entire congregation, well, we aren't there yet. But, perhaps we should be.

I offer you these reflections to demonstrate that one of the gifts of reviewing our history is renewing our present in hopes of reinvigorating our future. As we continue our journey into 2018, with our continued focus on John Wesley, I hope that you will also be challenged and inspired in your faith.

With Hope,
Scott

You can now make a contribution to Central United Methodist Church using our Giving Kiosk!

Our new Giving Kiosk will allow you to make a contribution using your credit card. There is no signing up-all you need to do is select the Ministry you would like to give to, type in the amount and swipe your card. Central's Giving Kiosk is located at the Front Office Counter, and our office volunteer will be happy to assist you.



WORSHIP



NAVIGATE



SERVE



ENGAGE

January 14, 2018

CENTRAL TO LIFE

COME,
LET US
USE THE
GRACE
DIVINE

SERMON SERIES

"COME, LET US USE THE GRACE DIVINE"

"Would you like to experience the history of the Methodist Church and the Wesley Family in a different way?
Please join Pastor Scott and Pastor Kelly on a journey of a lifetime - The Wesley Heritage Tour"

Finally, in May, Central is embarking on a 10-day trip to England to experience the historic birthplace of John Wesley, and what would become the Methodist movement. This trip will be an exciting and faith-growing adventure. Registration for the Tour can be found here <http://centraltolife.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/Events/2018-Wesleyan-Heritage.pdf>

For more information and registration materials, please contact Pastor Kelly at kellyb@centraltolife.org

SALE

THRIFT SHOP JEWELRY SALE

The Jewelry sale is being held **Sunday, February 4th** in the Gathering Area.

- All funds generated by the Thrift Shop Ministry are used for repairs and improvements to the church building and grounds.

The Thrift Shop welcomes your donations of no longer needed items and clothing any time of year.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND ADULT MINISTRIES

Questions? Contact Pastor Kelly at the church office or via email to kellyb@centraltolife.org;

- **Sundays:** Sunday School classes meet at 9:45am. Choose from a variety of classes.
- **Weekdays:** Several small study groups to choose from: Monday night, Wednesday or Friday mornings.

www.centraltolife.org

You can now make a contribution to Central United Methodist Church with a quick text message!

Simply send a text to **505-384-7589** with the amount you would like to contribute. Make sure to include the dollar sign before the amount. *Example:* \$25. Within a few minutes, you'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your cardholder name and credit or debit card information. Once your registration is complete, you will receive a text verification and a receipt via email. For future giving, simply send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically!



IS CHURCH HAPPENING?

Tune in to Channel 7 news or check out the website for weather related updates.
-CUMC follows APS Monday-Friday Schedule-

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Scott Sharp, Senior Pastor

Rev. Kelly Brooks, Executive Pastor

Michele Humes, Office Administrator

Kathy Gough, Office Assistant

Jesus Valdez, Media Coordinator

Dr. Karen Marroli, Director of Music

Dr. Daniel Cummings, Accompanist

Ronselle Harrison, Audio Tech

Alesha Bird, ASL Interpreter



Get connected! Sign up for Central Connections, our weekly electronic newsletter, at www.centraltolife.org or send an email to Jesus Valdez at jesusvaldez@centraltolife.org.
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Services broadcast on KAZQ TV-32—Sunday, 11 am & 7 pm

Growing Christ-Centered Community in a Distracting World