

Key Beliefs and Values of UMC
From “A Disciple’s Path” by James Harnish
(Scriptures selected by Rev. Greg Foust)

- We believe that salvation is found in and through Jesus Christ.
(John 3: 16 – 17)
- We believe that the Bible is the word of God and the primary authority for Christian life and faith. Methodist believes in the primacy of Scripture but interpret Scripture through reason, tradition and experience. (2 Timothy. 3: 16 – 17)
- We believe in justification by grace through faith. (Romans 3: 23 – 24)
- We believe in personal holiness and social action. (Ephesians 4: 31 – 5:2)
- We believe in living by grace and striving for holiness - to become like Christ. (Philippians 4: 8)
- We believe in the balance of heart, head and hands.
(James 2: 14 – 18)
- We believe in providence on one hand and human freedom on the other. (Proverbs 3: 5 – 6)
- We value tradition but are willing to embrace change. (2 Corinthians 5: 17 – 18)
- We believe that God’s redemptive love is realized in human life by the activity of the Holy Spirit. (John 16: 7 – 15)
- We believe that we are part of Christ’s universal church as we become confirmed to Christ. (Micah 6 : 8)
- We recognize the kingdom of God as both a present and a future reality. (Romans 8: 35 – 39)
- While affirming the faith we share in common with all other Christians, we also affirm the unique emphasis the Wesleyan tradition places on the love and grace of God. (1 John 4: 7 – 12)
- We believe the sacraments of baptism and Holy Communion are means by which the intangible reality of God’s grace touches our lives in tangible ways. (Matthew 18: 20)

The destination of discipleship is given to us by Jesus in the Great Commandment of Luke 10:27 which is **Love God and Love Others.**