Topics to Cover

■ Essential Resources
■ Theology and Doctrine
■ Polity
■ Vocation
■ Searching Best Practices
ESSENTIAL RESOURCES
Methodist Studies: Getting Started

Recommended resources for the study of Methodist history, theology, polity, and church life.

About

The Methodist Movement began in the mid-eighteenth century with John and Charles Wesley, clergy in the Church of England, who preached outside the walls of churches and organized groups for spiritual discipline. Today many denominations claim Methodist heritage and theology; the largest is the United Methodist Church.

The focus of this guide is the United Methodist Church, its predecessor bodies in the United States, and its Wesleyan roots. Topic areas include History, theology, doctrine, polity, and practice of ministry.

Some resources are available to Emory affiliates only, but when possible, freely available on-line resources are recommended. The United Methodist Church’s website, www.umc.org, is also an excellent place to do research, and will be featured on many of the subsequent tabs.

Journals and Magazines

Many scholarly journals feature articles on Methodism. Use the ATLA Religion Database with broad search terms on “Methodists” or “Wesley” (with related topic, if desired) to find articles and essays. The following journals are highly recommended.

- **The Asbury Journal**
  A peer-reviewed journal from Asbury Seminary. (Print only)

- **Circuit Rider**
  ONLINE from Spring 2001 (via MinistryMatters). Professional magazine for pastors.

- **Epworth Review**
  ONLINE Epworth Review is an journal published in England covering contemporary issues, theology and some history. Also available in print at the Pitts Theology Library.

- **Methodist History**
  LIMITED ONLINE From the UMC Commission on Archives and History. Print volumes available from 1962-present at the Pitts Theology Library. Online link provides access to a growing number of issues.

- **Methodist Review: A Journal of Methodist and Wesleyan Studies**
  ONLINE A peer-reviewed journal which is freely available online featuring articles in all areas and eras of Wesleyan and Methodist studies, including biblical, theological, ethical, philosophical, practical, historical, biographical, and social-scientific topics and methodologies.

- **Quarterly Review**
  ONLINE Available online through the Board of Higher Education and Ministry and also in print at Pitts Library. This scholarly journal was published from 1980-2005.

Bibliography

- **United Methodist Studies: Basic Bibliographies**
  The 6th edition of United Methodist Studies: Basic Bibliographies edited by Christopher Anderson, Methodist Librarian at Drew University, lists resources for Methodist Studies through 2014. Must see!

Book Series

- **Kingswood Books**
  This series consistently produces top-notch scholarship in the areas of Methodist and Wesleyan history and theology.

- **United Methodist and American Culture by Russell Rodkey**
  A series with objectives: to provide a careful, fresh estimate of the history of Methodist in America; to attempt a portrait of the denominations in the 21st century; and to explore policy issues regarding the UMC’s future, effective participation in America and the world.
Basic UMC Bibliography

- Searchable
- Organized by area
  (note especially Doctrine and Church)
UMC BOD

• Ready Reference: BX8388 U55 YEAR

• Reserves: BX8388 U55 YEAR
UMC BOD Online

• The Constitution
• General Book of Discipline
• Doctrinal Standards and Our Theological Task
• The Ministry of All Christians
• Social Principles
• Organization and Administration
Book of Resolutions

• Reference: BX8382.2 A58

• Includes all resolutions/pronouncements on issues approved by the General Conference that are still valid in the UMC
Academic Journals: ATLA Database

- Asbury Journal
- Christian Social Action
- Church History
- Journal of Ecclesiastical History
- Methodist History
- Quarterly Review
UMC Website: umc.org

- *What We Believe*: Basics, FAQ, Common Terms (often excerpted from BOD or BOR)
- *News and Media*: UMC Publications
- *Resources*: Essential Publications, Worship Materials
THEOLOGY AND DOCTRINE
The Works of John Wesley

- Full collection: Reference BX8217 .W5 1984
- Sermons, an Introduction: Stacks BX8495 .W5 O77 1991
The Works of John Wesley

- Responsible Grace: John Wesley’s Practical Theology, Reserves (BX8495 .W5 M284 1994)
Bicentennial Online

1. Databases@Emory
2. Ministry Matters
3. Research Library
4. Legacy Library
5. Christian Theology & History of Christian Thought
6. John Wesley
Other Methodist Theology/Doctrine Standards

- Methodist Doctrine, The Essentials: Stacks BX8331.3 .C35 2011
- Anything by Russell Richey
  - Marks of Methodism, Theology in Ecclesial Practice: Stacks BX8331.3 .R53 2005
  - Doctrine in Experience: A Methodist Theology of Church and Ministry: Stacks BX8331.3 .R524 2009
SACRAMENTS
• Stacks BX8338 .A1 S73 2001

• Study Outline for this text is on the umc.org website, along with study guides for both previous resources
OTHER THEOLOGY RESOURCES
Online, Ready Reference: BV2.5 .C36 2011

Faith Seeking Understanding
An Introduction to Christian Theology

Essentials of Christian Theology
Edited by William C. Placher

The Cambridge Dictionary of Christian Theology
EDICTED BY Ian A. McFarland, David A. S. Fergusson, Karen Kilby and Iain R. Torrance
POLITY
RESOURCES
Reference
BX8231 .M388 2007

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2009 - 2012 Edition

JACK M. TUELL

Stacks
BX8388 .T8 2009

Stacks
BX8331.3 .R54 2009
Daily Christian Advocates (including Advance Edition)

- Online, 1996-2016 only: http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/general-conference
- Reference: BX 8201 D3-D35
- Petition Tracker: http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/legislation-tracking
Historical Books of Discipline

• Reference: BX8388 U55

• Good for tracking development of a particular paragraph or theme
Annual Conference Material

- Alphabetical within the Reference Collection
  Conference holdings: BX8382.2 .A1 U57

- Useful for demographic data, financial data for particular churches
Archives for the North Georgia Conference
SENSE OF CALL
The Christian as Minister
An Exploration into the Meaning of God's Call

Have You Faith in Christ?
A Bishop's Insight into the Historic Questions Asked of Those Seeking Admission into Full Connection in the United Methodist Church

Stacks
BX8345 .C45 1997

Stacks
BX8389.5 .L935 2015
SEARCHING
Best Practices for Searching

- Use Methodis* combined with other search terms
- Use subject headings strategically
- Identify prolific and authoritative authors to pursue
- Be aware of the types of resources available
QUESTIONS?