

Further Resources for Methodism for *Smarties*

Methodist History:

“Life of John Wesley in 5 Minutes”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gH6Hqu12sDk>

This is a short, helpful animated video that tells the basic outline of Wesley’s life.

“John Wesley: Methodical Pietist”:

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/history/people/denominationalfounders/john-wesley.html>

A short biography of John Wesley from Christianity Today.

“Who We Are: History”

<https://www.umc.org/en/who-we-are/history>

This is a link to the UMC.org website, where there are many different articles about Methodist history.

***Revival* by Adam Hamilton**

<https://www.amazon.com/Revival-Faith-as-Wesley-Lived/dp/1426778848>

A short, very readable book by Adam Hamilton, which helpfully tells the story of the early Methodist movement.

Wesley and the People Called Methodists, by Richard Heitzenrater

<https://www.amazon.com/Wesley-People-Called-Methodists-Second/dp/142674224X>

If you want to take a deeper dive into Methodist history, this is probably the best book for you. Heitzenrater is a great narrator of the history of Wesley and the Methodist movement, and he goes into great detail to help you see how it fits in to the larger story of church history.

Methodist Theology and Belief:

United Methodist Foundational Documents

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/foundational-documents>

Above is a link to a page where you can find the Articles of Religion, the Evangelical United Brethren Confession of Faith, the General Rules of the Methodist Church, and John Wesley’s Notes and Sermons. All of these serve as foundational texts explaining what we believe as United Methodists.

United Methodist Belief by Will Willimon:

<https://www.amazon.com/United-Methodist-Beliefs-Brief-Introduction/dp/0664230407>

A book on basic UM beliefs by Bishop William Willimon.

Why I am United Methodist by Will Willimon:

<https://www.amazon.com/Why-I-Am-United-Methodist/dp/0687453569>

Being United Methodist in the Bible Belt, by F. Belton Joyner Jr.

<https://www.amazon.com/Being-United-Methodist-Bible-Belt/dp/0664231683>

A quick, easy read, designed for youth and parents going through Confirmation.

United Methodist Doctrine: The Extreme Center, By Bishop Scott C. Jones

https://www.amazon.com/United-Methodist-Doctrine-Extreme-Center/dp/068703485X/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=united+methodist+doctrine&qid=1598902164&s=books&sr=1-1

This is a book for anyone looking to have a more comprehensive read on what we believe as United Methodists, and how we think through those kinds of questions. It's not a short read, but he really helpfully breaks down how we think through our theology.

As if the Heart Mattered: A Wesleyan Spirituality, by Gregory Clapper

https://www.amazon.com/As-If-Heart-Mattered-Spirituality/dp/1625646429/ref=sr_1_2?crid=EPHZTOHWY8YC&dchild=1&keywords=as+if+the+heart+mattered+a+wesleyan+spirituality&qid=1598902284&s=books&prefix=as+if+the+hear%2Cstripbooks%2C143&sr=1-2

This is a very short little book about Wesleyan spirituality, and how we live this out in practical ways in our faith life.

Responsible Grace, by Randy Maddox

<https://www.amazon.com/Responsible-Grace-Practical-Theology-Kingswood/dp/0687003342>

If you're looking for a big, meaty work of Wesleyan theology, read this book. Maddox is one of the best Wesleyan scholars alive, and he illuminates the genius of Wesley's way of thinking through the questions of salvation, grace, and sanctification. This is very much not an easy read, but I consider it the best book on understanding Wesleyan theology.

***adapted from a resource list by Rev. Cambron Wright*