

L.A.C.E. Core Courses Materials List

Session 1 Spiritual Gifts

Spiritual Gift Inventory: Available on the District Website

Spiritual Gifts Biblical References

1. Romans 12:1-8
2. I Corinthians 12:1-31; 14:1-25
3. Ephesians 4: 11-16

Discussion / Reflection Questions:

1. What comes to mind when you hear the words “Spiritual Gifts?”
2. What experiences have you had with Spiritual Gifts?
3. What do you believe the purpose(s) of Spiritual Gifts are?

Spiritual Gifts by Category

1. Miraculous Gifts

- a. Apostle _____
- b. Tongues _____
- c. Miracles _____
- d. Healing _____

2. Enabling Gifts

- a. Faith _____
- b. Discernment _____
- c. Wisdom _____
- d. Knowledge _____

3. Proclamation Gifts

- a. Evangelism _____
- b. Prophecy _____
- c. Teaching _____
- d. Exhortation _____

4. Ministering Gifts

- a. Shepherding _____

- b. Mercy _____
- c. Serving _____
- d. Giving _____
- e. Administration _____

Assignment:

1. Take the Spiritual Gifts Inventory
2. Identify someone in Scripture that you believe has the dominant Spiritual Gifts as you.
3. Identify someone that you know that has the same dominant Spiritual Gifts as you.
4. Identify how you can use your Spiritual Gifts to minister in the church.

Session 2: United Methodist History

1. The early years – Epworth Rectory 1703 – 1713

a. Family

- i. Father _____
- ii. Mother _____
- iii. Siblings

b. Childhood Education _____

c. February 9, 1709 _____

- i. Zechariah 3:2 _____

d. 1714 _____

2. Oxford 1720-1729

a. June 1720 _____

b. 1724 _____

c. September 25, 1725 _____

d. March 1726 _____

e. 1727 _____

f. September 22, 1728 _____

g. November 1729 _____

3. The Holy Club 1729-1734

a. Originally Founded by _____

b. Daily Meetings _____

c. Fasted _____

d. Community Service

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

iv. _____

v. _____

e. They were so methodical in their daily life practices they became known as _____.

4. Georgia 1736-1738

a. October 14, 1735 _____

b. Storm at sea _____

c. 1736 _____

d. Sophia Hopkey _____

e. William Williamson _____

f. Departure & Return _____

5. Aldersgate

a. May 24, 1738 _____

6. Field Preaching April 2, 1739

a. Moravians _____

b. George Whitefield _____

- c. Father's Headstone _____
 - d. The next 50 years _____
7. Discipleship Groups November 1738
- a. Class _____
 - b. Band _____
 - c. Tickets _____
8. The Methodist "Connexion" 1741
- a. Connexion _____
 - b. Thomas Maxfield _____
 - c. The Foundry Society _____
 - d. Suzannah's Request _____
 - e. Maxfield Division
 - i. George Bell prediction _____
 - ii. April 28, 1763 _____
9. Christmas Conference December 24, 1784 – January 2, 1785
- a. Held at _____
 - b. Pre-Revolutionary War _____
 - c. The Revolutionary War caused many to return to England. Two stayed:
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - d. July 1784 John Wesley ordained:
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____
 - iv. Instruction to ordain _____

- e. Asbury's Ordination _____
- f. The First general Conference of the American Methodist Episcopal Church
 - i. Anglican 39 Articles of Religion _____
 - ii. Book of Discipline _____
 - iii. Named the new Denomination _____
 - iv. Ordained _____

10. The Methodist Book of Concern

- a. 1789 _____
- b. Published _____
- c. John Dickens _____
- d. August 17, 1789 _____
- e. The Methodist Episcopal Church split over slavery.
 - i. Methodist Episcopal Church _____
 - ii. Methodist Episcopal South _____
- f. 1939 the two united to form the Methodist Church.

11. The Union April 23, 1968

- a. The Methodist Church united with the Evangelical United Brethren Church to form the United Methodist Church. _____
- b. Membership _____
- c. Women ordained _____

12. John Wesley

- a. Rode by horseback over _____
- b. Preached over _____
- c. March 2, 1791 _____
- d. Final words _____
- e. City Rode, London Chapel _____

Session 3: United Methodist Theology

1. Wesleyan Theology of Grace

a. Prevenient Grace (John 1:9) _____

i. Benefits of Prevenient Grace

1. Basic Knowledge of God _____

2. After the Fall _____

3. The Conscience _____

4. Free Will _____

5. Evil _____

b. Convincing Grace _____

i. The role of the Holy Spirit

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

c. Justifying Grace _____

i. What God does for us. _____

ii. Fruit of Justifying Grace

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

iii. “It is the act of God the Father, whereby, for the sake of the propitiation made by the blood of the Son, he showed forth his righteousness (mercy) by the remission of the sins that are past.” – John Wesley

- d. Sanctifying Grace _____
 - i. What God does in us. _____
 - ii. The transformative process whereby one becomes more like Jesus and less like the old natural self.
2. The Means of Grace _____
- a. The Sacraments _____
 - b. Study of Scripture _____
 - c. Prayer _____
 - d. Fasting _____
 - e. Worship _____
 - f. Faith Sharing _____
 - g. Good Works _____
 - h. Social Justice _____
3. Wesleyan Quadrilateral _____
- a. Scripture _____
 - b. Tradition _____
 - c. Reason _____
 - d. Experience _____

Session 4: Sacraments

The sacraments are outward and visible signs of an inward and spiritual grace ordained by Jesus Christ himself used to strengthen and confirm our faith.

1. Holy Communion
 - a. The New Testament sign of the New Covenant instituted by Jesus Christ as a continual remembrance of the death of Christ by the eating of the bread and the drinking of the wine, which are the outward signs of the inward grace, the body and blood of Jesus Christ.
 - b. The bread and wine are the conduits of the grace of God through Jesus Christ.

- c. The presence, “The Holy Spirit brings Christ to us, expressing the grace and the love of God toward us through the means of the bread and wine.”
- d. The Service of Word and Table in the United Methodist Hymnal.
- e. The elements must be blessed by an Ordained Elder or a Licensed Local Pastor within the bounds of his or her appointment.
- f. The United Methodist Church has an “Open Table.”

2. Baptism

- a. Known as the sacrament of initiation.
- b. Baptism is a response to the command of Jesus in Matthew 28:18-20 and a means of initiation into the family of faith and not to be seen as a source of salvation.
- c. In baptism God is the primary actor, and as such, the power rests on God and not on the individual being baptized. As such, the United Methodist Church does not perform rebaptisms.
- d. Infant Baptism
 - i. In the 1800’s the Anabaptists introduced the concept of “Believers Baptism.” Prior to that infant baptism was common practice.
 - ii. Acts 16:15; 18:8 _____
 - iii. 1 Corinthians 1:16 _____
 - iv. The command of Jesus to baptize does not specify age or gender.
 - v. John Wesley’s defense of Infant Baptism:
 - 1. Infants are under the sin of Adam and infant baptism addresses that sin.
 - 2. Baptism is the Christian equivalent of circumcision.
 - 3. Matthew 19:13-14 Jesus calls the children to come to him.
 - 4. It was the practice of the Apostles.
 - 5. Augustine, Origin, Cyprian, and Chrysostom all supported Infant Baptism.
- e. Modes of Baptism

- i. There is no direct translation for the Greek word “baptismo.”
- ii. Scripture does not give a specific instruction as to the mode baptism is to be done.
- iii. The earliest depictions of the baptism depict John pouring water over the head of Jesus as they stood in the river.
- iv. None of the accounts of the baptism of Jesus indicate that Jesus was immersed.
- v. Modes accepted by the United Methodist Church include:
 - 1. Immersion
 - 2. Pouring
 - 3. Sprinkling

Session 5: United Methodist Structures and Offices

1. The Connectional Church – available on the District Website.

2. Local Church Offices – Available on the District Website.

- a. SPRC / PPRC _____

- b. Committee on Lay Leadership _____

- c. Trustees _____

- d. Finance _____

- e. Membership Secretary _____

- f. Lay Leader _____

- g. Administrative Board / Council _____

h. Lay Member to Annual Conference _____

Session 6 Congregational Care

1. Scripture References

a. Matthew 25:31-40

b. John 4:7-12

2. Types of Congregational Care

a. Community Involvement

b. Home Visits

c. Hospital Visits

d. Nursing Home Visits

e. Funeral Care – Funeral Care Etiquette Handout available on District Website

3. Service

a. Within the Church _____

b. Within the Community _____

c. Beyond the Community _____

d. Global _____