

## **WHAT JESUS PREACHED, TAUGHT, MEDDLED IN:**

- How to endure temptation: Mt. 4; Mk 1.9; Luke 4.1
- What makes for true happiness: Matthew 5.3-12; Luke 11.27
- Managing Anger: Mt. 5.21
- Adultery: Mt. 5.25
- Divorce: Mt. 5.27; 19.1; Mk. 10.1
- Vows: Mt. 5.31
- Revenge: Mt. 5.38
- Love enemies: Mt. 5.43
- Charity: Mt. 6.1
- Prayer: Mt. 6.5; Luke 11.1
- Fasting: Mt. 6.16; 9.14; Mk. 2.18; Luke 5.33
- Riches in heaven: Mt. 19
- Possessions: Mt. 6.24
- Judging others: Mt. 7.1; Luke 6.37;
- Narrow gate: Mt. 7.13
- Tree/Life and Its fruit: Mt. 7.15; 12.33
- Good House Building: Mt. 7.24; Luke 6:46;
- Healing untouchables: Mt. 8.1
- What it means to be a followers: Mt. 8.18; Luke 9.1; Luke 12.41
- Relation to women/unclean people/nobodies: Mt. 8.28, 9.1, 18, 27, 32;  
Luke 19.1; John 3.1; 4.1; John 8
- Rewards: Mt. 11.40
- How to rest: Mt. 11.25
- Sabbath: Mt. 12.1
- Who is family: Mt. 12.46
- Purpose of Parables: Mt. 13; Mk. 4
- Rejection: Mt. 13.53; Mk. 6.1; Luke 4.16
- Tribulation, frustration: Mt. 16.21; 23.29; 24.3; Mk. 13.3; Luke 21.7
- What makes one unclean: Mt. 15.10
- What it means to have Faith: Mt. 15.21
- Government/Temple taxes: Mt. 17.24; 22.15; Mk. 12.13
- Who is greatest: Mt. 18.1
- What happens to the lost: Mt. 18.10
- Forgiveness: Mt. 18.21
- Value of children: Mt. 19.13; Mk. 10.13
- Cleans up Temple: Mt. 21.12
- Who gets in: Mt. 22; Luke 13.22;
- Great commandment: Mt. 22.34; Mk. 9.33; 12.28
- Hypocrisy: Mt. 23.13; Luke 12.1
- Things that Make a Person Unclean: Mk. 7.14
- Light shine: Luke 11.33; John 8.12

- Offering: Luke 21.1
- Leadership/servant: John 1.35; John 13.1
- Claims authority more than Rome/religious folk: John 5.19
- Trust in God: Luke 12. 13
- Jesus came to cause division: Luke 12.49
- Turn from sin or die: Luke 13.1
- Humility/hospitality: Luke 14.7
- Go searching for lost: Luke 15
- Witnessing to Jesus: Luke 12.8; John 5.30
- Slavery: John 8.31
- Spiritual blindness: John 9.35
- Jesus weeps – heart for people: Luke 19.41; John 11.28
- World’s hatred: John 15.18

## **CHURCH PREACHES & TEACHES**

(taken from Book of Disciplines of the United Methodist Church)

- Faith and Holy Trinity – sometimes Unitarians
- Word of God = Son
- Resurrection of Christ
- Holy spirit
- Sufficiency of Holy Scriptures for Salvation
- Old Testament
- Original Sin/Birth sin
- Free will
- Justification of humans
- Good works
- Works of supererogation (voluntary works)
- Sin after justification
- Church
- Purgatory
- Speaking in tongues
- Sacraments
- Baptism
- Lord’s Supper
- One Oblation of Christ, Finished upon the Cross.
- Marriage of Ministers
- Rites/Ceremonies of the church
- Rulers of the USA
- Xn People’s Goods
- Christian people and oaths
- Sanctification
- Christian perfection
- Judgment and the future state

- Public worship
- Lord's Day

## **WHAT THE CHURCH MEDDLES IN**

### **(or WHAT WE WISH THE CHURCH WOULDN'T TALK ABOUT)**

(taken from the book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church)

*"The UMC has a long history of concern for social justice....Early Methodists expressed their opposition to the slave trade, to trade smuggling, and to the cruel treatment of prisoners."*

*The Social Principles are a prayerful and thoughtful effort on the part of the General Conference to speak to the human issues in the contemporary world from a sound biblical and theological foundation as demonstrated in UMC traditions.*

#### NATURAL WORLD:

- responsible for the ways we use/abuse it...all of it to be valued and conserved because they are God's creation and not solely because they are useful to human beings.
- Water, air, soil, minerals, plants
- Energy resources utilization
- Animal life
- Space
- Science/technology
- Food safety

#### NURTURING COMMUNITY

- Family: encompasses wide range of options
- Marriage:
- Divorce: concern over high divorce rates
- Single persons: integrity of single persons
- Women/men: equal worth
- Human sexuality: God's good gift; deplore commercialization/exploitation
- Family violence/abuse
- Sexual harassment
- Abortion
- Adoption
- Faithful care of dying persons
- Suicide

#### SOCIAL COMMUNITY

- Rights of racial and ethnic persons
- Rights of religious minorities
- Rights of children/young people/aging/women/disabilities/sexual orientation
- Issues around population

- Alcohol/drugs/tobacco
- Medical experimentation/genetic technology
- Rural life/sustainable agriculture
- Urban-suburban life
- Media violence/Christian values
- Information communication technology
- Persons living with HIV/AIDS
- Right to health care
- Organ transplantation/donation

#### ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

- Property
- Collective bargaining
- Work/leisure
- Consumption
- Poverty
- Migrant workers
- Gambling
- Family farms
- Corporate responsibility
- Trade/investment

#### POLITICAL COMMUNITY

- Basic freedoms and human rights
- Political responsibility
- Church/state relations
- Freedom of information
- Education
- Civil obedience/civil disobedience
- Death penalty
- Criminal/restorative justice
- Military service

#### THE WORLD COMMUNITY

- Nations/cultures
- National power/responsibility
- War/peace
- Justice/law

#### CLOSING PARAGRAPH OF SOCIAL CREED:

*We believe in the present and final triumph of God's Word in human affairs and gladly accept our commission to manifest the life of the gospel in the world. Amen.*

# **WESLEYAN TEACHING AND MEDDLING: EVIDENCE OF SALVATION**

## **1. Do no harm: avoiding evil of every kind**

- Not take name of God in vain
- Profaning day of the Lord
- Drunkenness: buying/selling spirituous liquors, drinking them – extreme necessity
- Slaveholding
- Fighting, quarreling, brawling
- Buying selling goods not having paid duty
- Unlawful interest
- Uncharitable/unprofitable conversation
- Doing to others as we would not they should do unto us
- Putting on of gold/costly apparel
- Taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus
- Singing those songs, reading those books which did not tend to the knowledge or love of God
- Softness and needless self-indulgence
- Laying up treasure upon the earth
- Borrowing without the probability of paying

## **2. Doing Good**

- Give food to hungry
- Clothe the naked
- Visiting sick/prison
- Instructing/reproving/exhorting *all who believe we are not to do good unless our hearts be free to it*
- Good to those especially of household of faith
- Running with patience race set before us

## **3. Attend ordinances of God**

- Public worship
- Ministry of the word: read/expounded
- Supper of the Lord
- Family/private prayer
- Searching the scriptures
- Fasting/abstinence

# **ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH GOOD NEIGHBOR COVENANT**

*"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'*

*--Matt 22:36-39*

**We enter into this covenant to follow Jesus' command:**

## **Our Promises to God**

- We open our hearts to God and to follow Jesus and his commandments
- We pray for one another and offer encouragement and assistance.
- We build an open, inviting and welcoming congregation.
- We create safe environments for worship, sharing, learning, fun, service and fellowship.
- We treat our neighbors with love and respect, that is, how we want to be treated.

## **Our Promises to Each Other**

- We experience God's forgiveness and grace, and we work to extend the same to others.
- We encourage each other in faith and seek guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- We practice acceptance of each other.
- We listen with compassion and curiosity, speak with love and honesty, and act with abundant generosity.
- We build open communication that honors differences and confidentiality.
- We understand that diversity sometimes leads to differences and conflict
- We look for effective solutions that result in caring environments.
- We work quickly to resolve our differences with respect and peace.
- We freely offer our resources, talents, time and witness without expectation of reward.

Adopted by Church Council, June 12, 2012

*Note: The building of this covenant began in Nov. 2011 and included input from twenty-four different classes, small groups, committees, ministry areas, boards, and groups that encompassed St. Paul's members and constituents of all ages.*