

The Methodist Way of Life

How might it deepen our discipleship and expand our mission?

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Minister in the Tynedale Circuit (until Easter)

Mission Communities Enabler, Yorkshire West District (from Easter)

A Methodist Way of Life

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

As far as we are able, with God's help:

Worship

- We will pray daily.
- We will worship with others regularly.
- We will look and listen for God in Scripture, and the world.

Learning and Caring

- We will care for ourselves and those around us.
- We will learn more about our faith.
- We will practise hospitality and generosity.

Service

- We will help people in our communities and beyond.
- We will care for creation and all God's gifts.
- We will challenge injustice.

Evangelism

- We will speak of the love of God.
- We will live in a way that draws others to Jesus.
- We will share our faith with others.

**May we be a blessing within and beyond God's Church,
for the transformation of the world.**

The Methodist Church 

Discipleship

What comes to mind
when you think about
discipleship?

What does discipleship
mean to you?



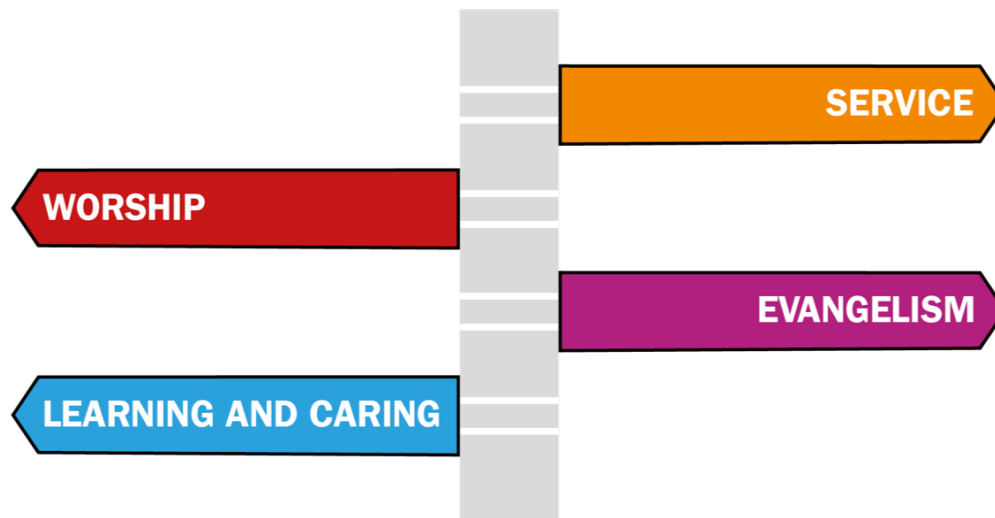
Today

What?

Why?

How?

What is the Methodist Way of Life?



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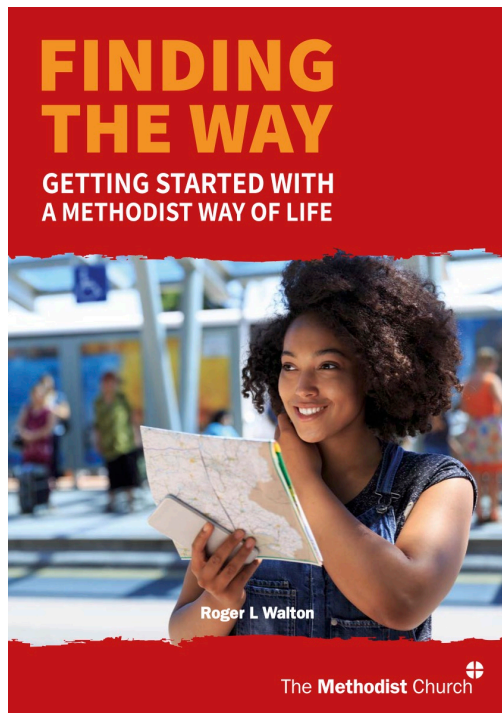
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What is the Methodist Way of Life?



A **Methodist Way of Life** sets out what it means to be a Methodist. It puts into words how we try to live our lives in response to God's love made known to us in Jesus.

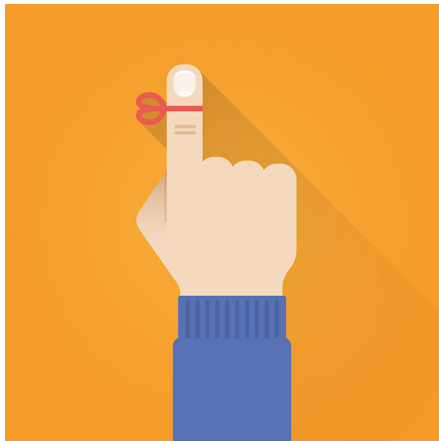
A **Methodist Way of Life** is both new and old. It is new, in that it was first discussed by the Methodist Conference in 2018 and was shared with all Methodists in 2020. But it is based on what Methodists agreed was their calling in the year 2000 and that, in turn, was built on what Methodists have always done, since the days of John Wesley, as they tried to follow Jesus and live out the Christian faith.

It is a way of living.

Roger L Walton, Finding the Way, p. 6.

What is the Methodist Way of Life?

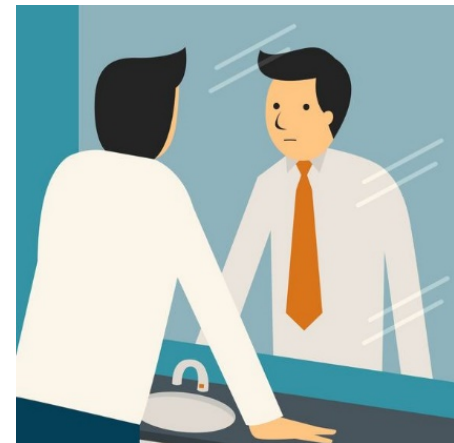
A Reminder



A Compass



A Mirror



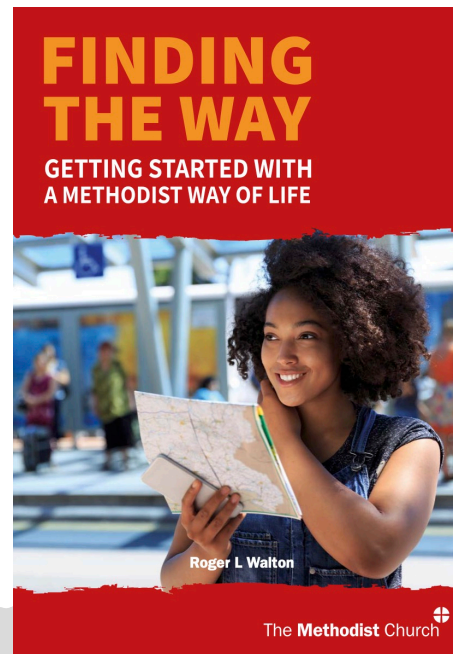
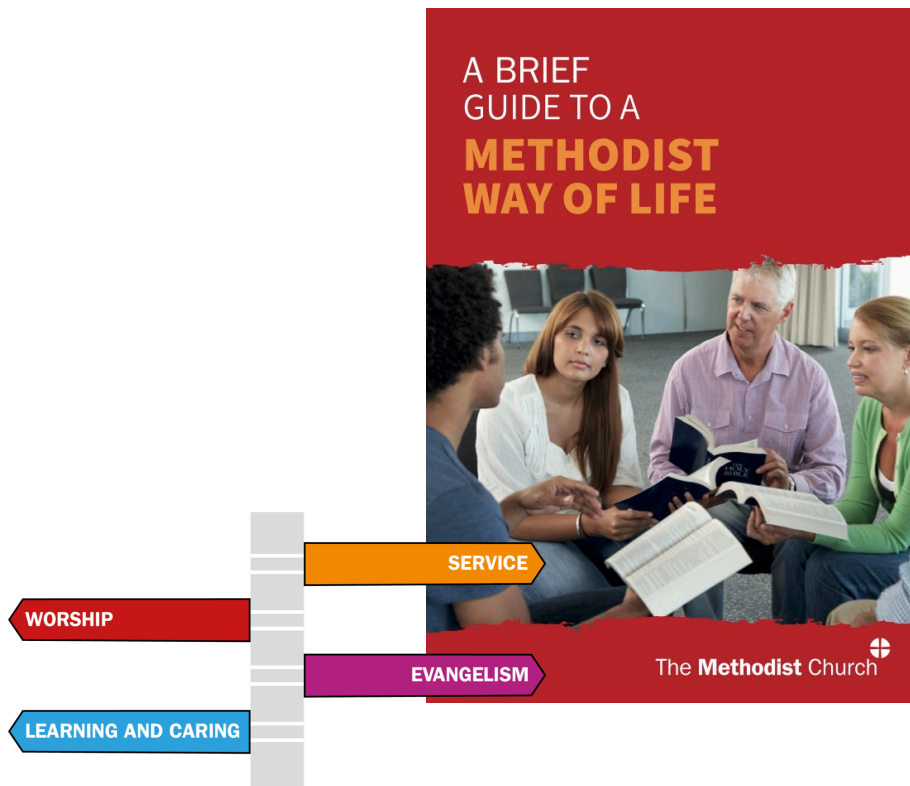
...so we may participate in God's transformation of the world.

What is the Methodist Way of Life?

The **Methodist Way of Life** is an intentional way in which Christians can live out their faith in Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit. Through the **Methodist Way of Life** they will deepen their discipleship and play their part in bringing God's love to the world.

It is rooted in the Methodist tradition but draws on a move of the spirit which is drawing Christians into community with each other in new ways.

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Why?

Why?

‘I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.’

John 10:10, NIV

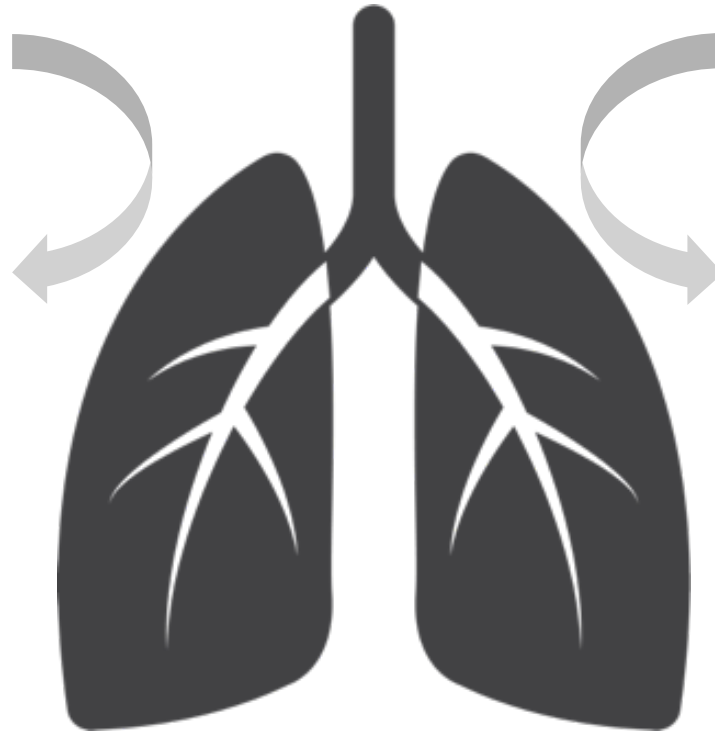
‘I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.’ John 10:10 The Message

·in the providence of God Methodism was raised up to spread **scriptural holiness** through the land’

The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church, Deed of Union Clause 4.

Why?

Breathing In



Breathing Out

Why?

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Discussion Questions

- How do you respond to the **Methodist Way of Life**, do you think it could help you in your discipleship?
- Do the ideas about life in all its fullness and holiness resonate with you?

How?

1. Nurture Vocations
2. Discerning A Way of Life
3. Practicing Accountability
4. Connecting with others

1. Nurturing Vocations

The person who decides to become a monk or nun - to enter the solitude of the desert (a monastery or hermitage) - does it because he or she has heard this call, a call stronger than any other, a call to communion and fullness of life with God, a call that fulfils the deepest desires of the heart.'

Brother Victor-Antoine D'Avila-Latourrette,
A Rhythm of Life: The Monastic Way, p. 2

'We believe that new monasticism is one good answer to the question of how to live a Christian life. Not the only good answer, not the only true way, but one wonderful path that many follow to grow closer to God.'

Missional. Monastic. Mainline, Elaine Heath & Scott Duggins, p. 35

2. Discerning A Way of Life

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- Good framework.
- How questions.
- Three dimensions.
- Engage in mission together.

3. Practising Accountability



4. Connecting with Others



How?

1. Nurture Vocations
2. Discerning A Way of Life
3. Practicing Accountability
4. Connecting with others

Discussion Questions

- How do you respond to the idea that being part of the **Methodist Way of Life** is a vocation?
- What mission opportunities are there in your community for a **Methodist Way of Life** group?
- What thoughts do you have on how we can practice accountability well?