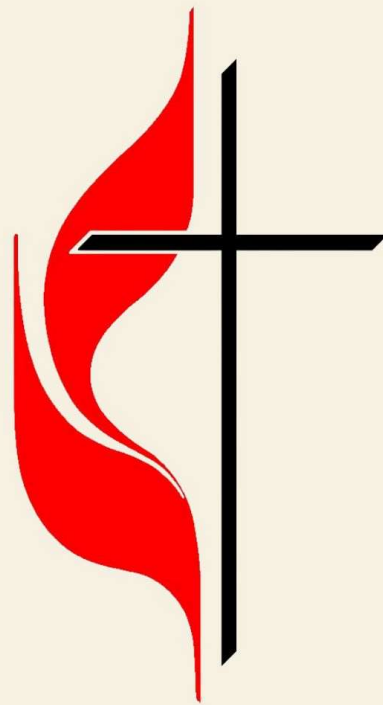


What Does It Mean to Be a United Methodist?

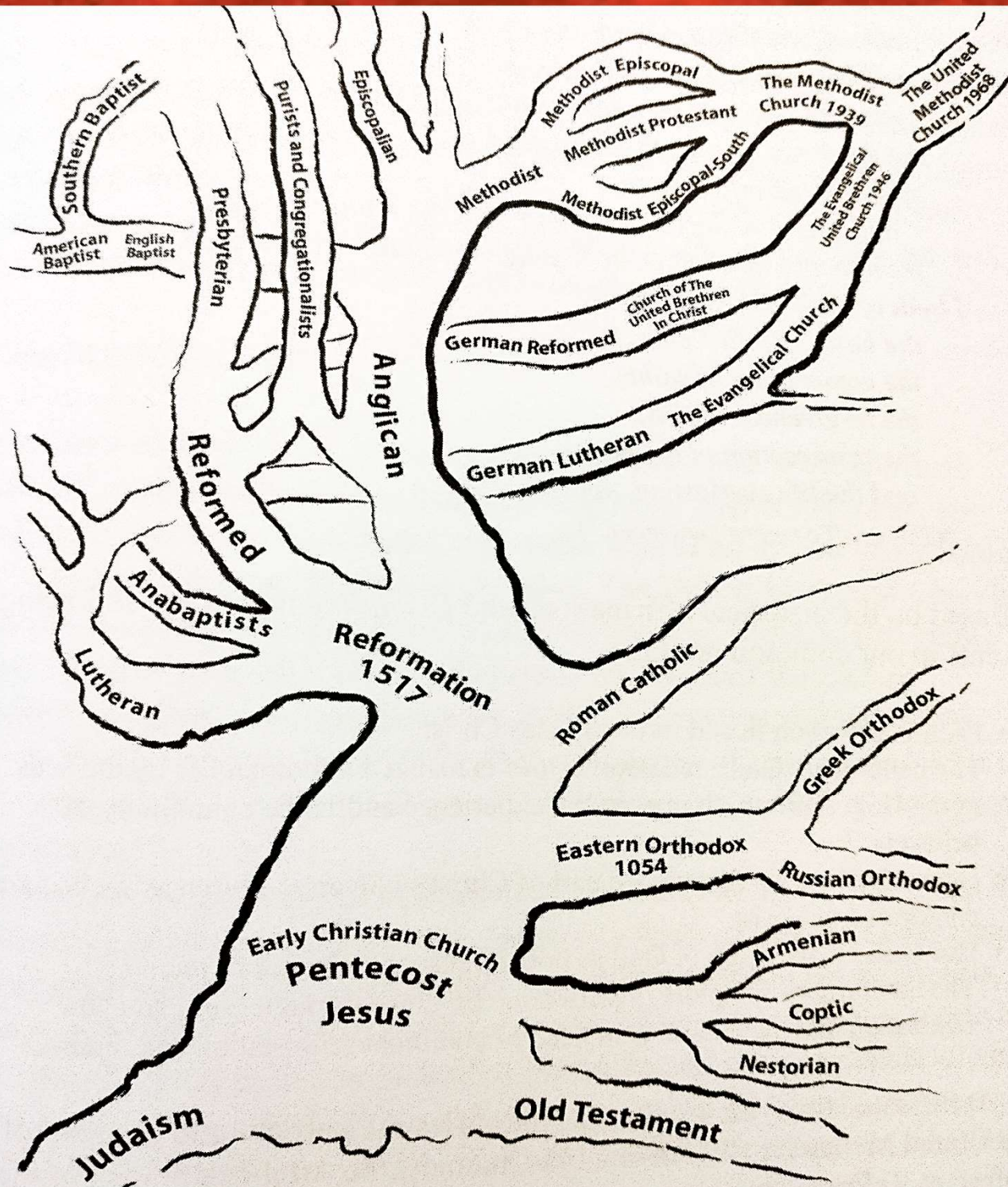


Video!

Clayride: A Gallop Through United Methodist History

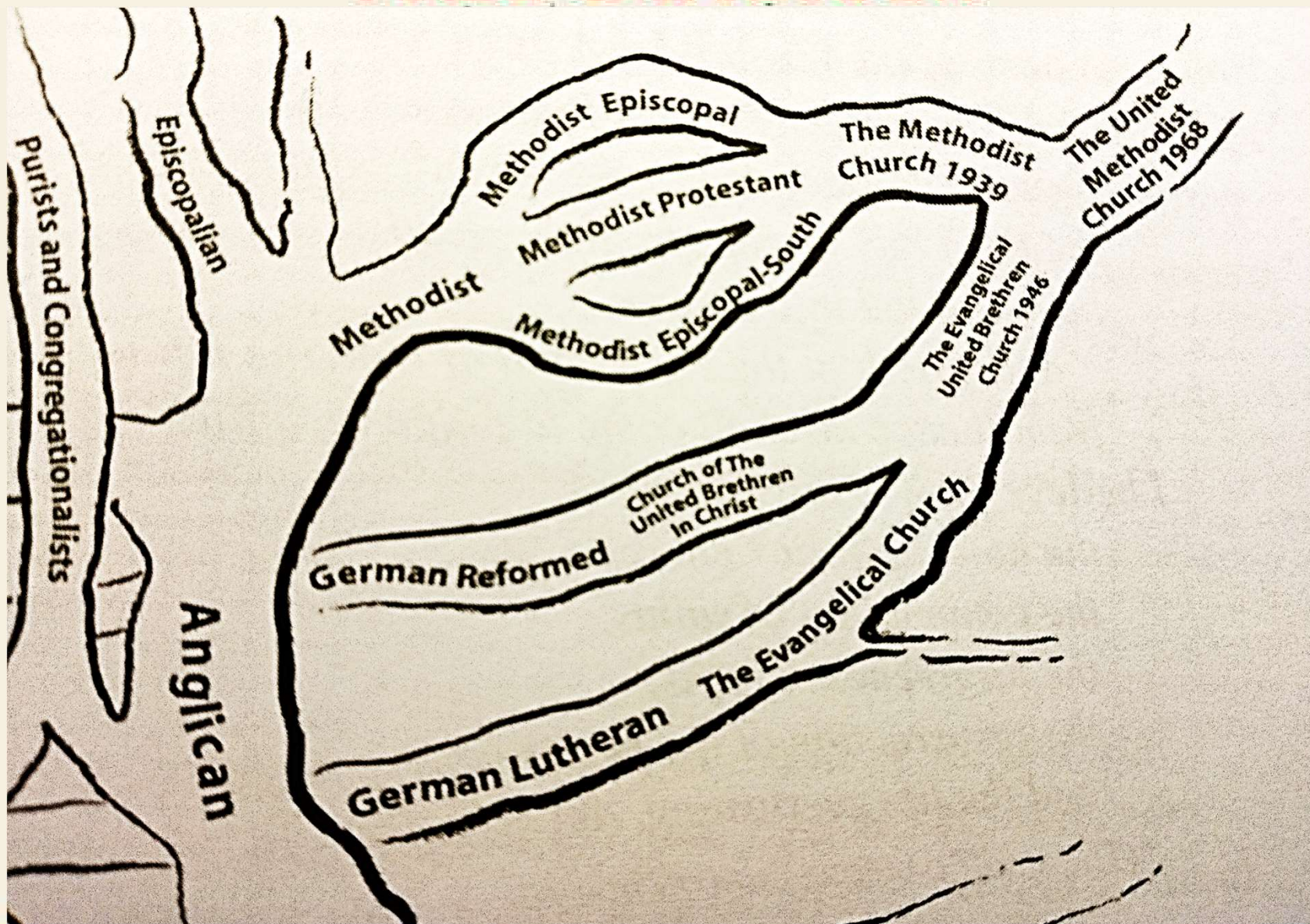
(United Methodist
Communications, 1984)

[Clayride: A Gallop Through United Methodist
History - YouTube](#)



CHURCH HISTORY:

TREE DIAGRAM



THE UMC: HISTORY

- Began as spiritual renewal movement within the Church of England in the 18th century.
- Founders: John and Charles Wesley.
- Followers were branded as “Methodists” for the methodical way they ordered their lives and spiritual practice.
- In colonial America, the movement became The Methodist Episcopal Church in 1784.
- In 1968, The Methodist Church and The Evangelical United Brethren Church became The United Methodist Church.

Video break!

Life of John Wesley in 5 Minutes

(Methodist Church in
Singapore, 2017)

[Life of John Wesley in 5 minutes - YouTube](#)

JOHN WESLEY

- Born June 17, 1703 in Epworth, Lincolnshire, England
- One of 19 children born to Samuel and Susanna Wesley
- Father, Samuel, was rector at Epworth
- Mother, Susanna, is called “Mother of Methodism”
- Brother, Charles, wrote over 4,500 hymns, including “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling,” “Christ the Lord is Risen Today,” and “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing”

JOHN WESLEY



- Attended Oxford University from 1720-1724
- Ordained a priest in the Church of England on September 22, 1728
- Started “Holy Club” at Oxford with brother Charles, Robert Kirkham, and William Morgan in 1729. Lasted until 1735.

JOHN WESLEY



- “Methodists” known for frequent Communion and fasting two days a week.
- Beginning in 1730, visited Oxford prisoners and taught them to read, paid debts, found employment
- Distributed food, clothes, and medicine to poor

JOHN WESLEY



- April 1735 – Mission to colony of Georgia
- Influenced by Moravians whom he met on journey
- Mission to Native Americans was a complete failure
- Failed courtship of Sophia Hopkey, who married someone else
- Fled Georgia and returned to England in December 1737.

JOHN WESLEY

- May 24, 1738 – “In the evening, I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther’s Preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation; and an assurance was given me that he had taken away *my* sins, even *mine*, and saved *me* from the law of sin and death.”

JOHN WESLEY

- Beginning in 1739, organized classes and bands
- Classes:
 - Twelve (or so) people
 - Condition for membership: “a desire to flee from the wrath to come, to be saved from their sins”
 - Rules: Do no harm; Do good; Attend upon all the ordinances of God (public worship, private prayer, Lord’s Supper, searching the Scriptures, fasting)

JOHN WESLEY

- Bands:
 - Small group of same gender and marital status
 - Meet at least weekly
 - Questions for admission
 - Questions for each meeting

JOHN WESLEY

- Because Wesley was not well-received among many Church of England clergy, he sought the help of itinerant lay preachers
- In 1784, Wesley appointed Thomas Coke and Francis Asbury as “Superintendents” in North America and ordained Richard Whatcoat and Thomas Vasey as “Elders”

JOHN WESLEY



- Died March 2, 1791
- Other contributions:
 - “Primitive Physick: An Easy and Natural Method of Curing Most Diseases,” 1740.
 - “The Doctrine of Original Sin: According to Scripture, Reason, and Experience,” 1757
 - Influence on John Newton (former slave trader who wrote “Amazing Grace”)

Video break!

Chuck Knows Church: Grace

(United Methodist General
Board of Discipleship, 2014)

[67 | Grace -- Chuck Knows Church - YouTube](#)

What makes Methodists

“Methodist?” 1.0

- **Salvation:** “the entire work of God, from the first dawning of grace in the soul till it is consummated in glory”
- **Prevenient grace:** “all the drawings of the Father, the desires after God, which, if we yield to them, increase more and more....”

What makes Methodists

“Methodist?” 1.0

- **Justifying grace:** “pardon... the forgiveness of all our sins”
- **Sanctifying grace:** being “inwardly renewed by the power of God;” having our minds changed “into the mind which was in Christ”
- The goal? “Christian perfection!”

What makes Methodists “Methodist?” 1.0

- **Means of grace:** “the ordinary channels whereby [God] might convey to men preventing, justifying, and sanctifying grace”
 - Examples: prayer, searching the Scriptures, receiving the Lord’s Supper
- **Sacrament:** “an outward sign of an inward grace, and a means whereby we receive the same”
 - Examples: Baptism and Communion

Video break!

Chuck Knows Church: Communion and Baptism

(United Methodist General
Board of Discipleship, 2014)

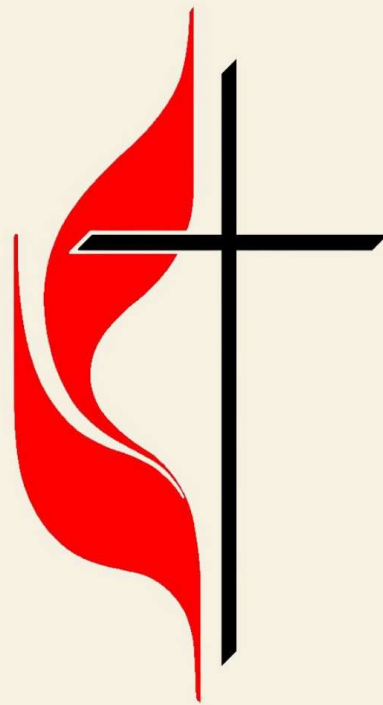
[24 | Communion -- Chuck Knows Church –
YouTube](#)

[47 | Baptism -- Chuck Knows Church - YouTube](#)

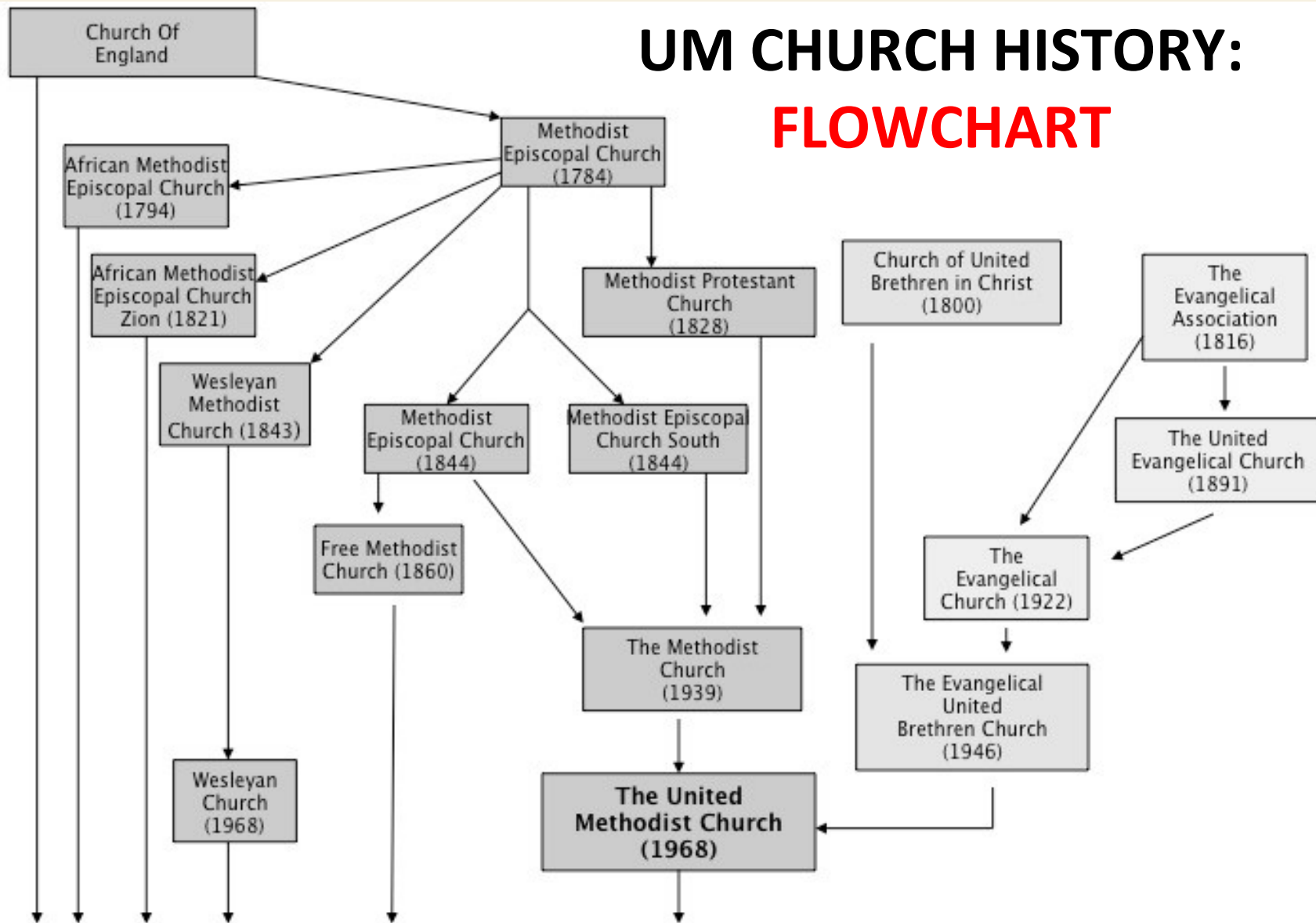
Closing

What is one take-away or question you have from today's small group?

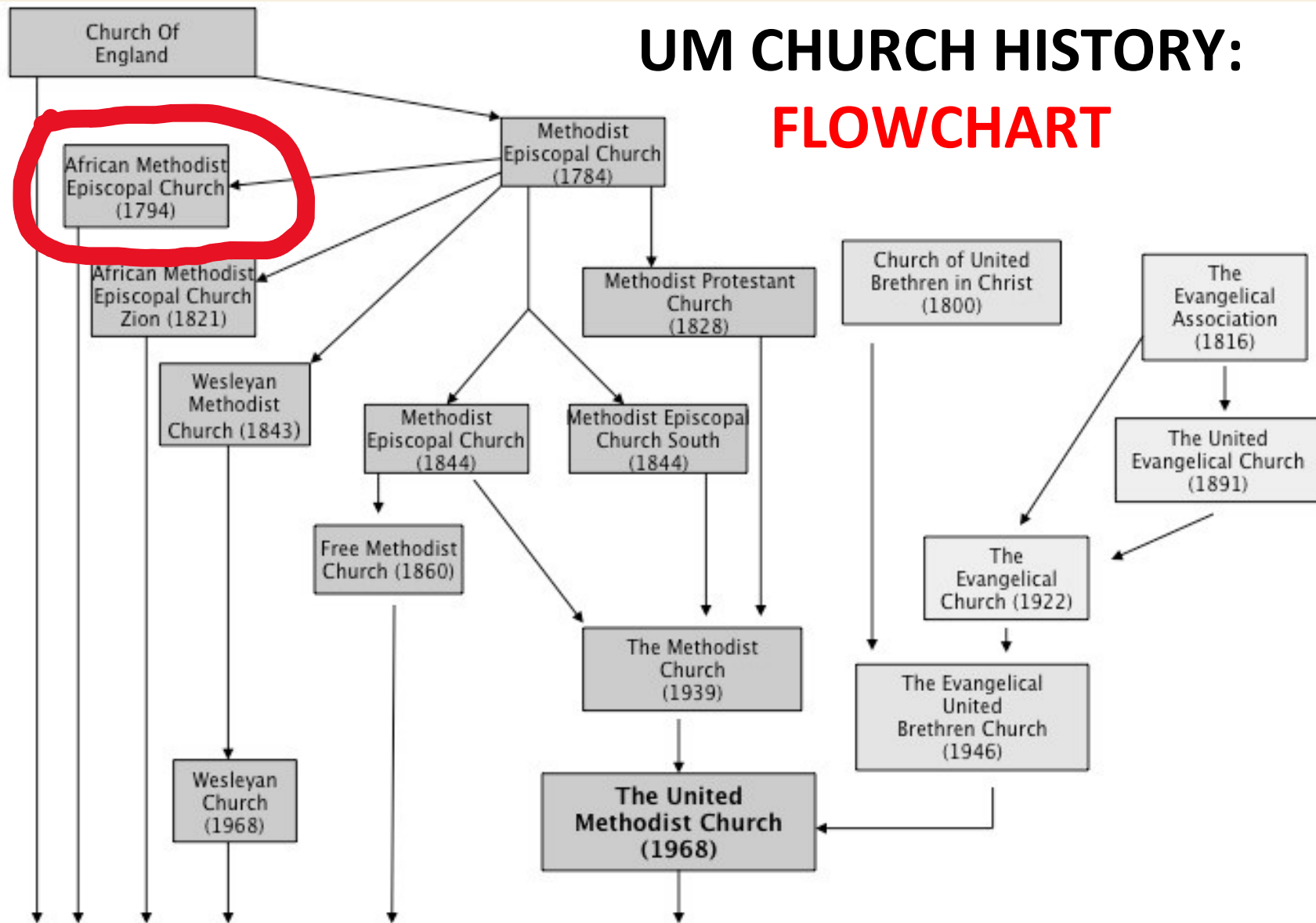
What Does It Mean to Be a United Methodist?



UM CHURCH HISTORY: FLOWCHART



UM CHURCH HISTORY: FLOWCHART



Video break!

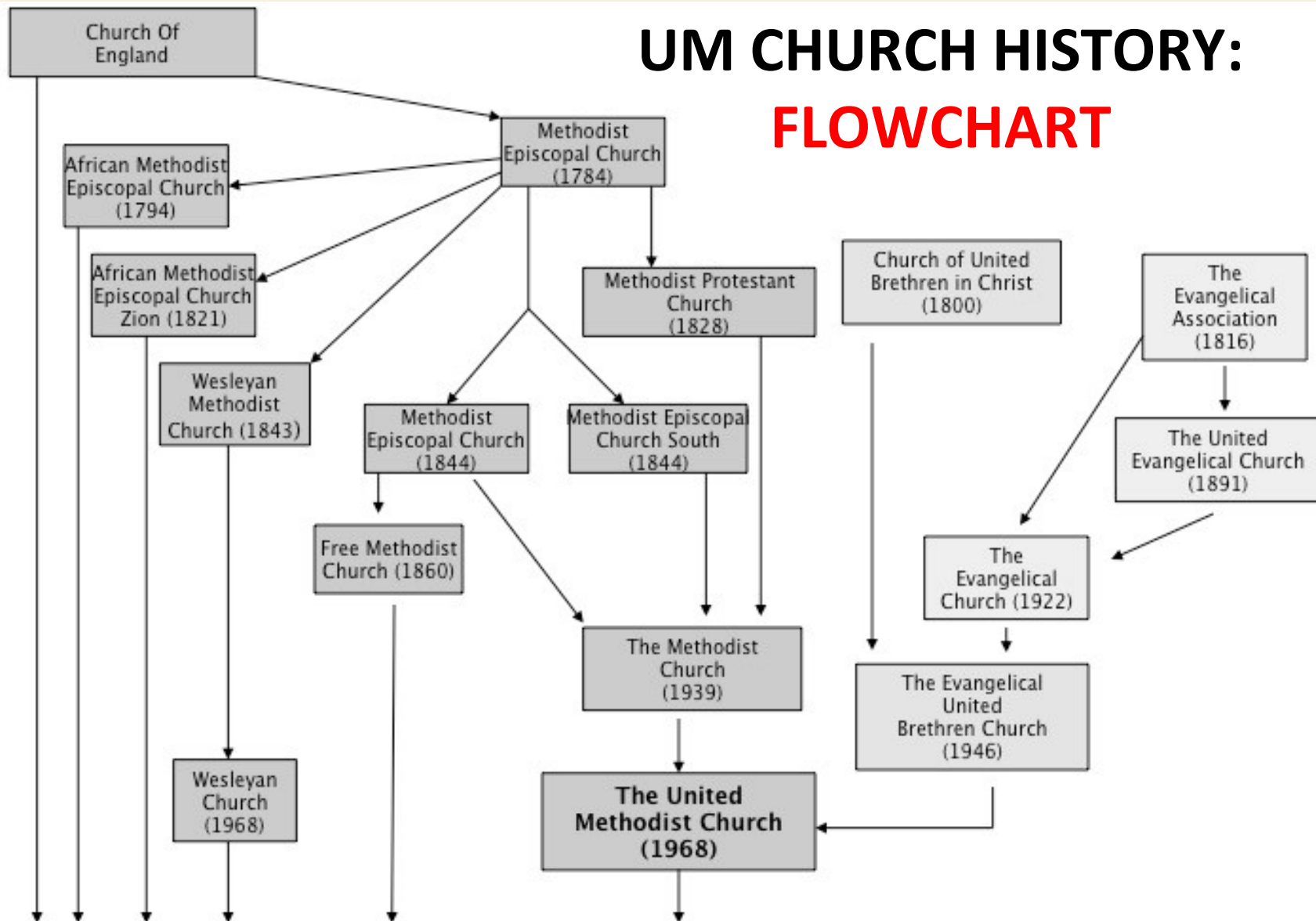
Bishop Richard Allen:

Apostle of Freedom

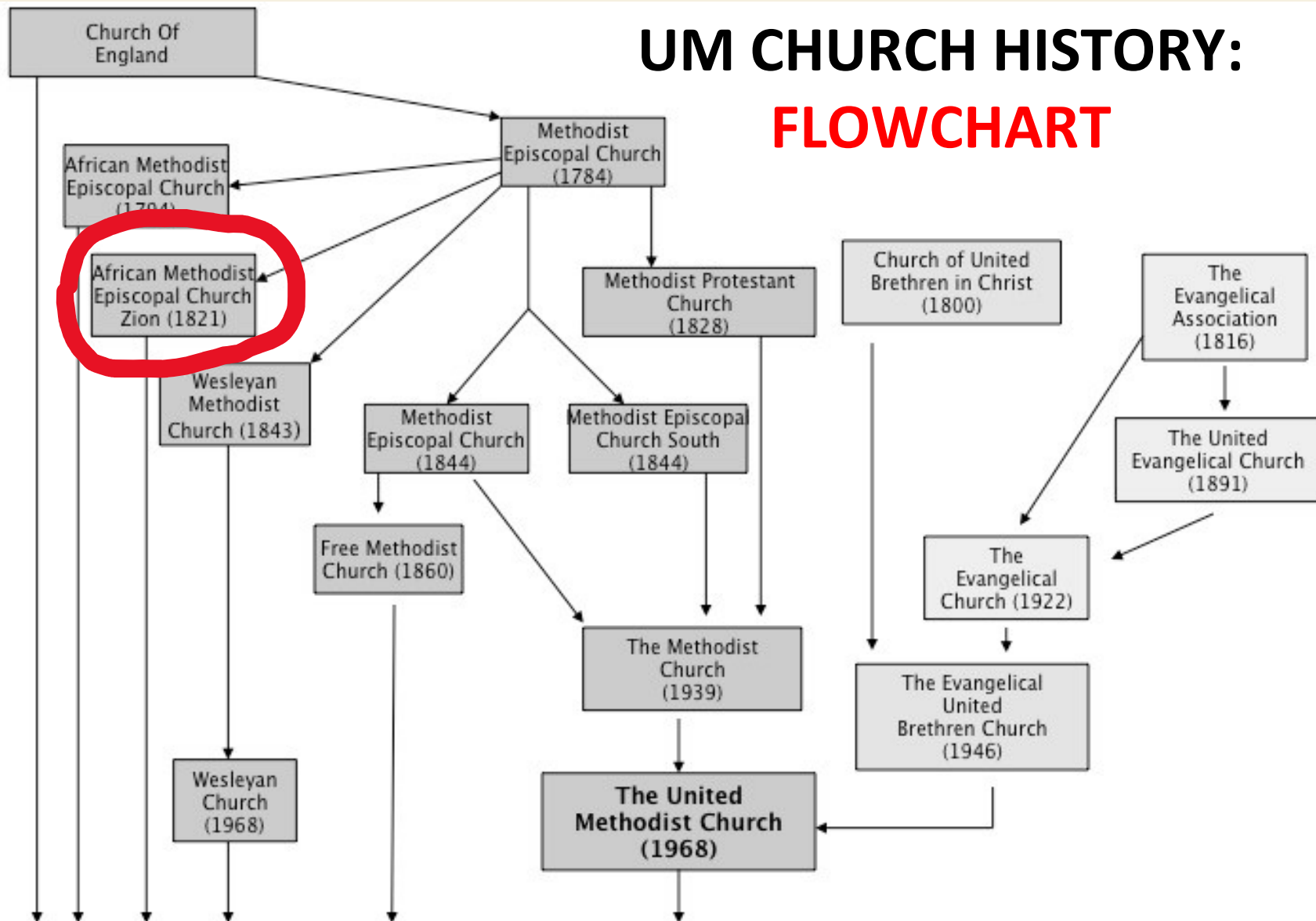
African Methodist Episcopal
Church, 2021

9:18

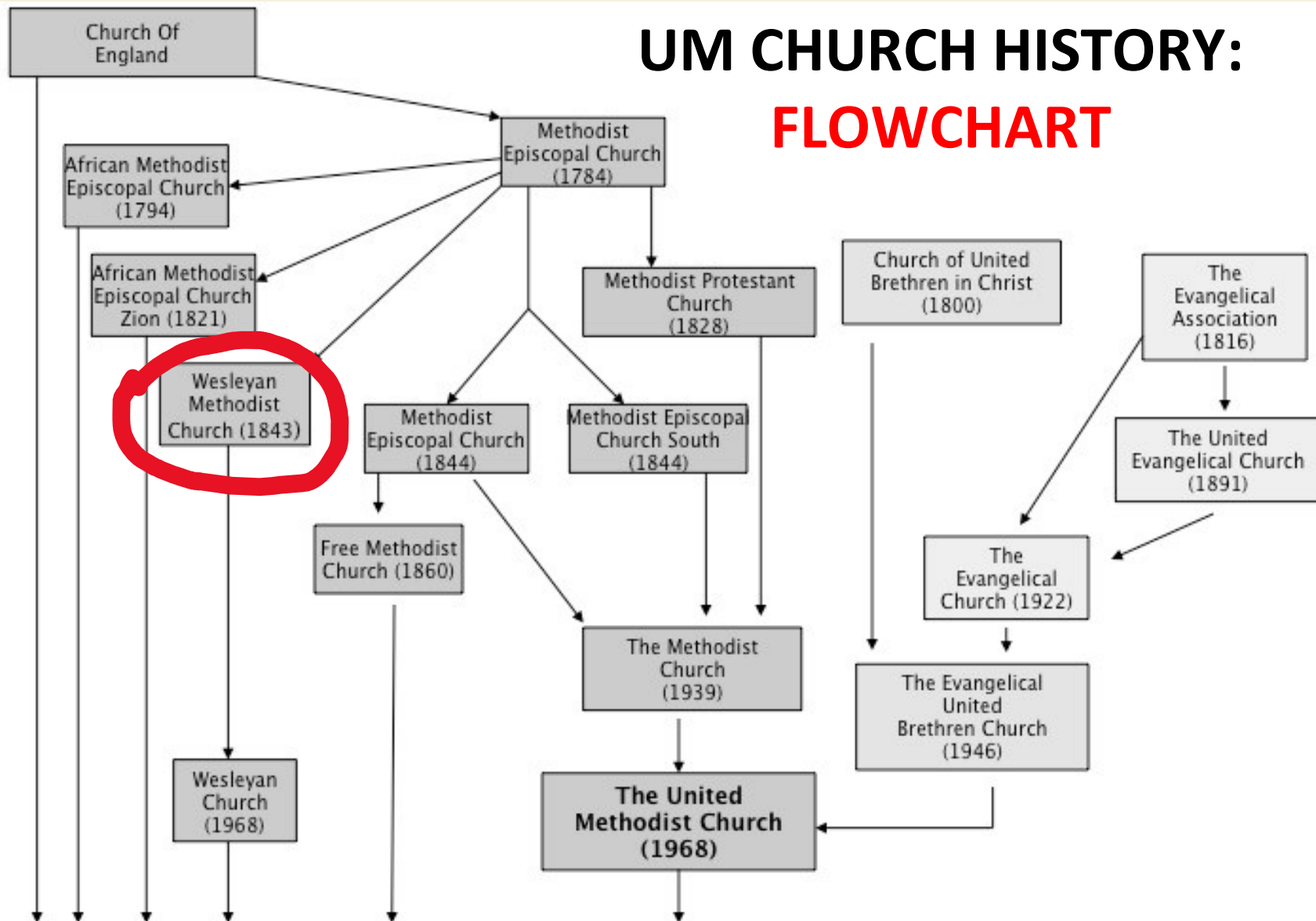
UM CHURCH HISTORY: FLOWCHART



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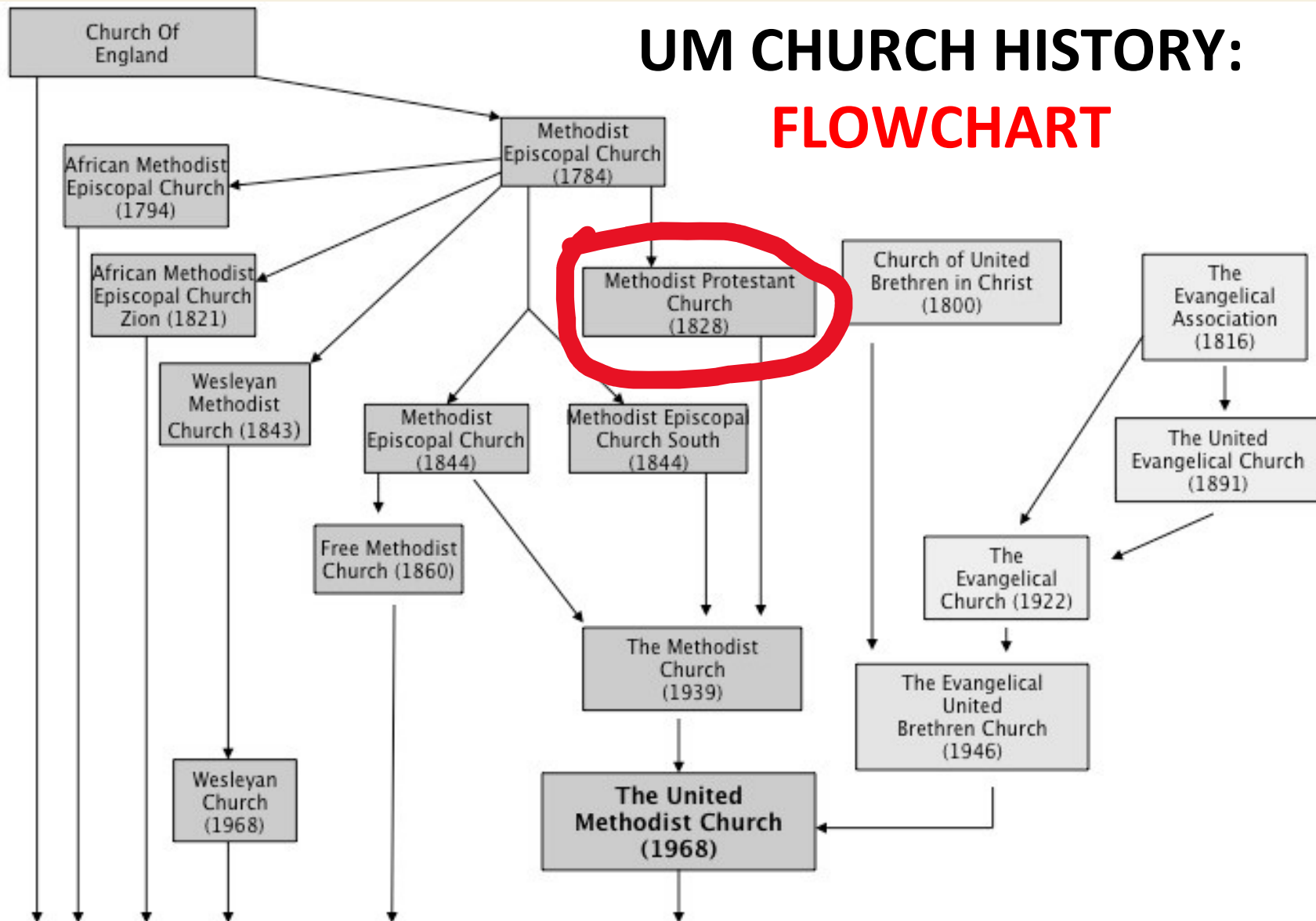


Video break!

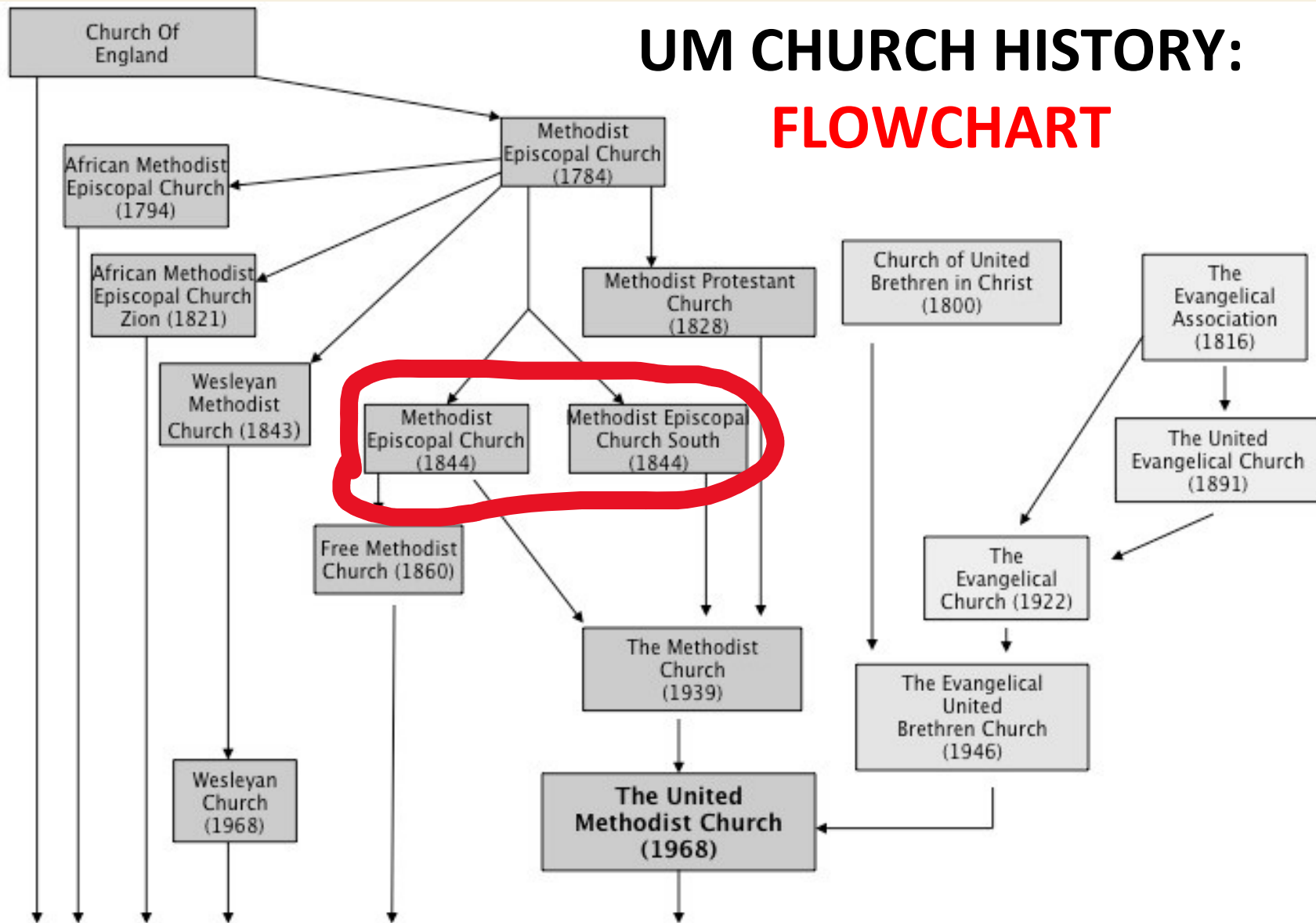
The Story of Freedom's Hill

Southern Wesleyan University

FLOWCHART



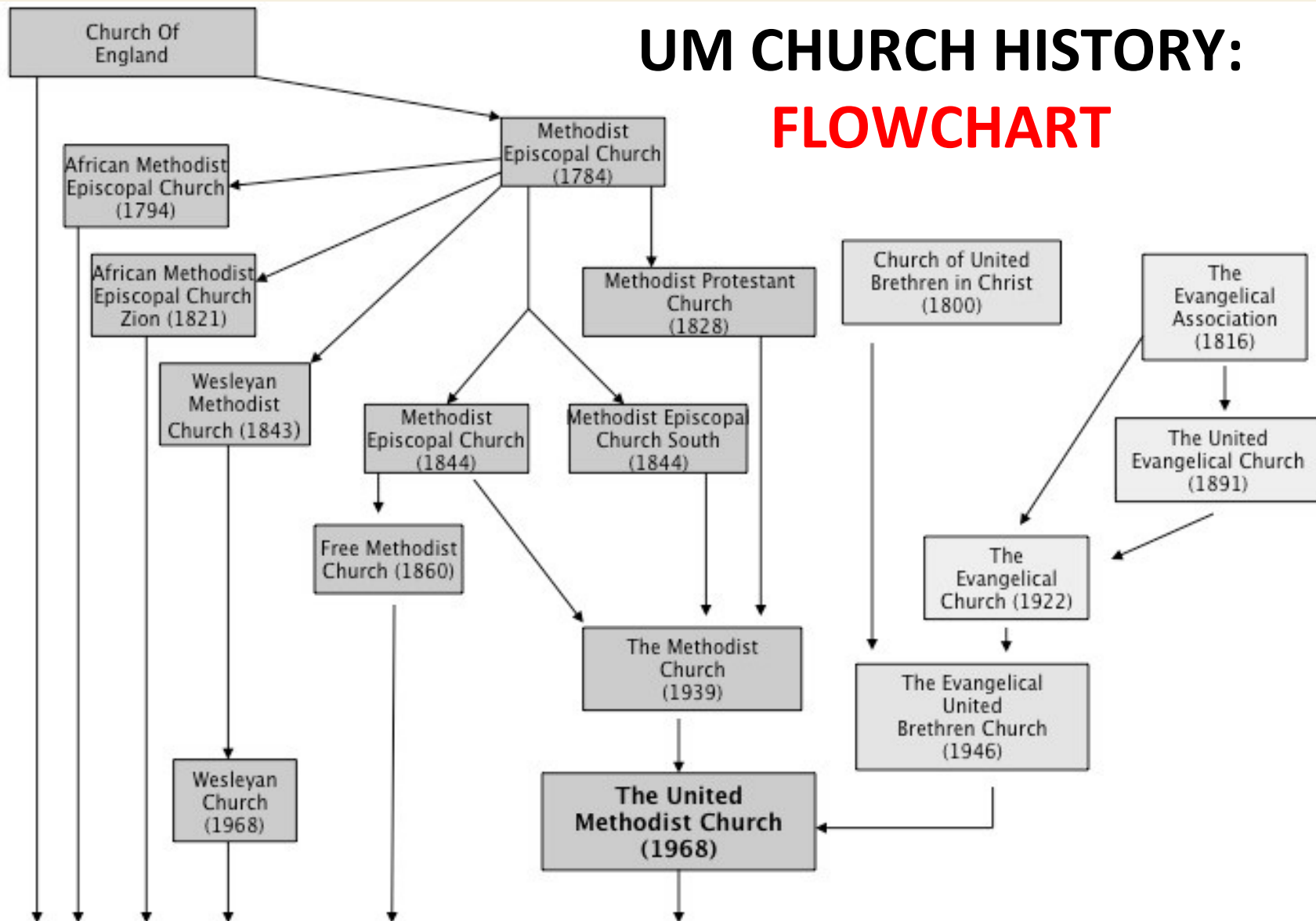
UM CHURCH HISTORY: FLOWCHART



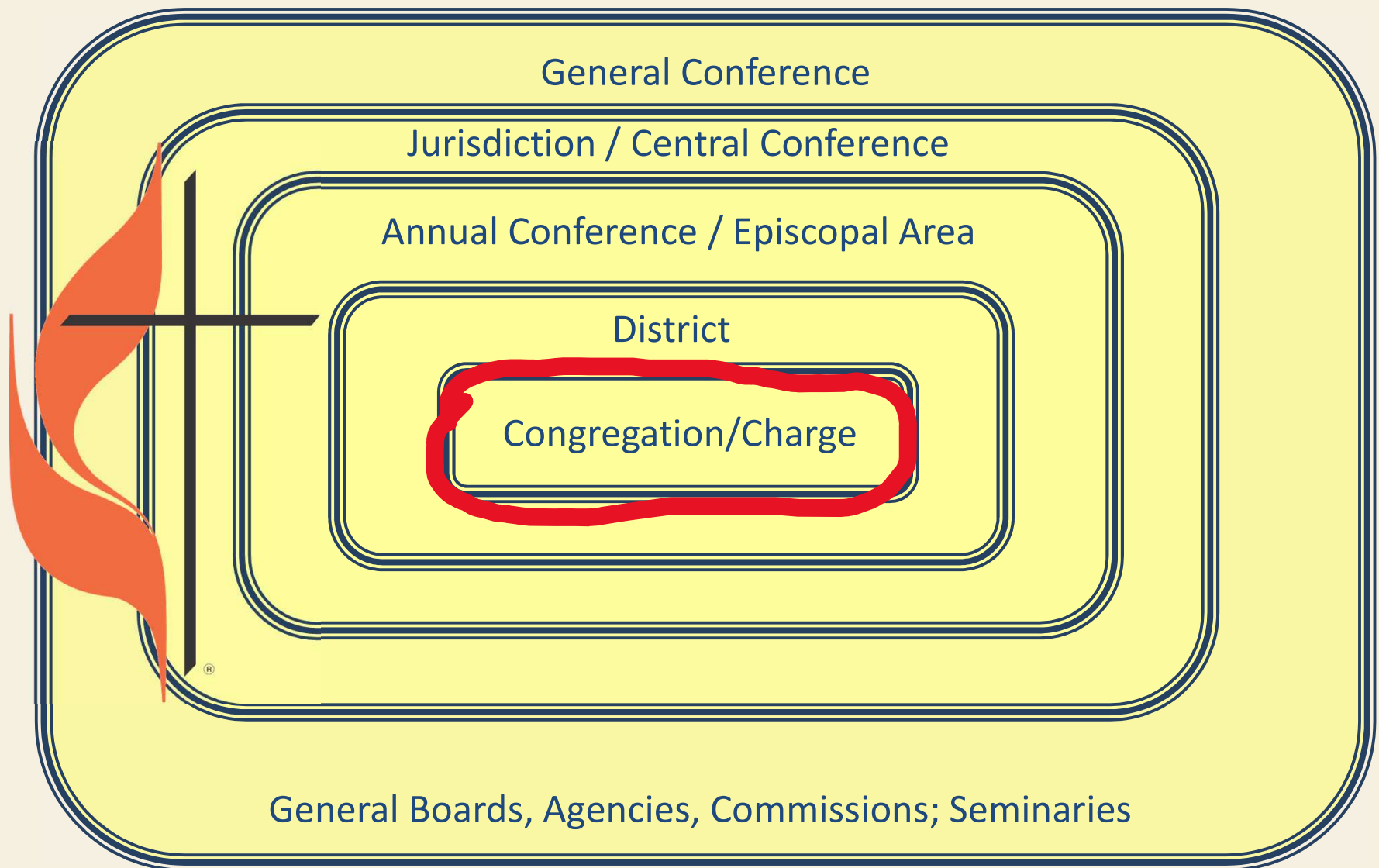
Video break!

***Splits, Separations &
Reconciliations: The Methodist
Episcopal Church, South***
(General Commission on
Archives and History, 2021)

UM CHURCH HISTORY: FLOWCHART



THE UMC: ORGANIZATION & STRUCTURE



Local church

- Congregation: An individual church
- Charge: Two or more churches that share a pastor

Local church

2016 Book of Discipline, Paragraph 201

“The local church provides the most significant arena through which disciple-making occurs. It is a community of true believers under the Lordship of Christ. It is the redemptive fellowship in which the Word of God is preached by persons divinely called and the sacraments are duly administered according to Christ’s own appointment.

Local church

2016 Book of Discipline, Paragraph 201

“Under the discipline of the Holy Spirit, the church exists for the maintenance of worship, the edification of believers, and the redemption of the world.”

Local church



Can you think of any examples of this mission being lived out within the context of a local church?

What makes Methodists “Methodist?” 2.0

Why do pastors come and go every few years?

What makes Methodists “Methodist?” 2.0

Why do pastors come and go every few years?

Itinerancy!

What makes Methodists “Methodist?” 2.0

2016 Book of Discipline, paragraph 338: “The itinerant system is the accepted method of The United Methodist Church by which ordained elders, provisional elders, and associate members are appointed by the bishop to fields of labor. All ordained elders, provisional elders, and associate members shall accept and abide by these appointments.

What makes Methodists “Methodist?” 2.0

Bishops and cabinets shall commit to and support open itinerancy and the protection of the prophetic pulpit and diversity.”

Video break!

The Hard Road of a Methodist Circuit Rider

(United Methodist
Communications, 2018)

What makes Methodists “Methodist?” 2.0

2016 Book of Discipline, paragraph 425: “Clergy shall be appointed by the bishop, who is empowered to make and fix all appointments in the episcopal area of which the annual conference is a part. Appointments are to be made with consideration of the gifts and evidence of God’s grace of those appointed, to the needs, characteristics, and opportunities of congregations....”

What makes Methodists “Methodist?” 2.0

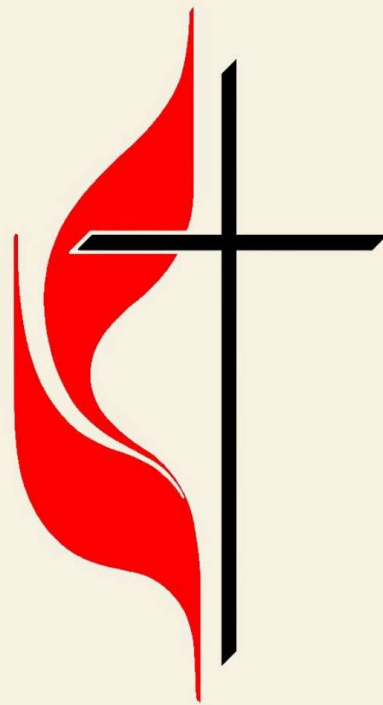
Timeline:

- Fall – Pastor consultation with District Superintendent
- December – Church (Staff-Parish Relations Committee) and Pastor Advisory Response forms submitted; profiles updated
- February-March – Appointment projections made by bishop and cabinet
- June – Appointments are fixed and begin

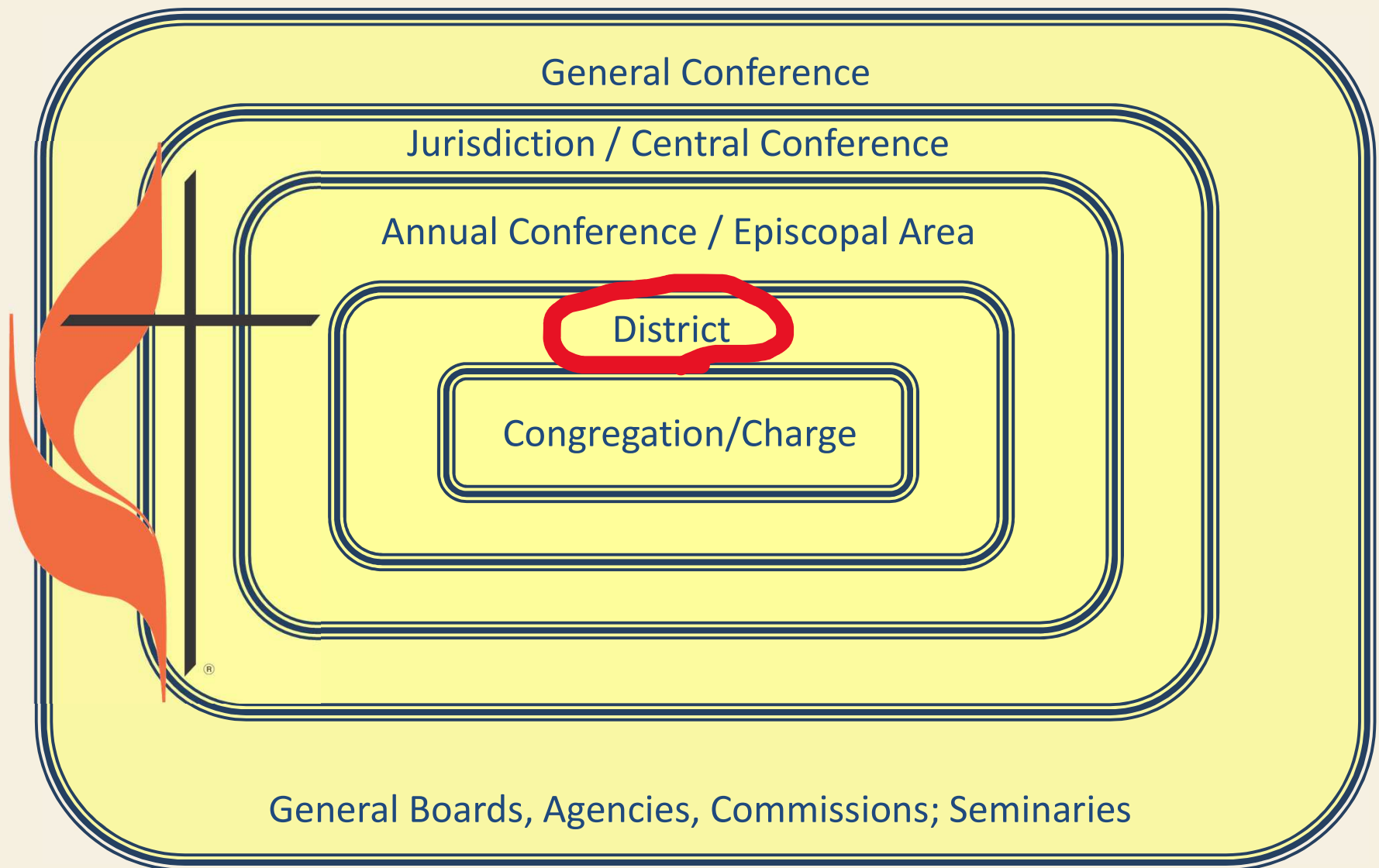
Closing

What is one take-away or question you have from today's small group?

What Does It Mean to Be a United Methodist?



THE UMC: ORGANIZATION & STRUCTURE



Districts

12 districts in South Carolina:

- Anderson
- Charleston
- Columbia
- Florence
- Greenville
- Greenwood
- Hartsville
- Marion
- Orangeburg
- Rock Hill
- Spartanburg
- Walterboro

Districts

- District Superintendent is “chief missional strategist”
- Member of appointive cabinet
- Typically serve in this role up to 8 years
- When you are most likely to see him/her:
 - Charge Conference (Fall)
 - Introductory visit for new pastor (Spring)

Districts (Anderson)

Rev. Steve Patterson

- Appointed to Anderson District in June 2018
- 49 charges (72 churches) in Anderson District



What makes Methodists “Methodist?” 3.0

Apportionments: Money shared by local congregations toward shared United Methodist ministry across the district, conference, jurisdiction, and global church.

Formula: Based on 2-year average of church's expenditures on itself

Video break!

Chuck Knows Church: *Apportionments*

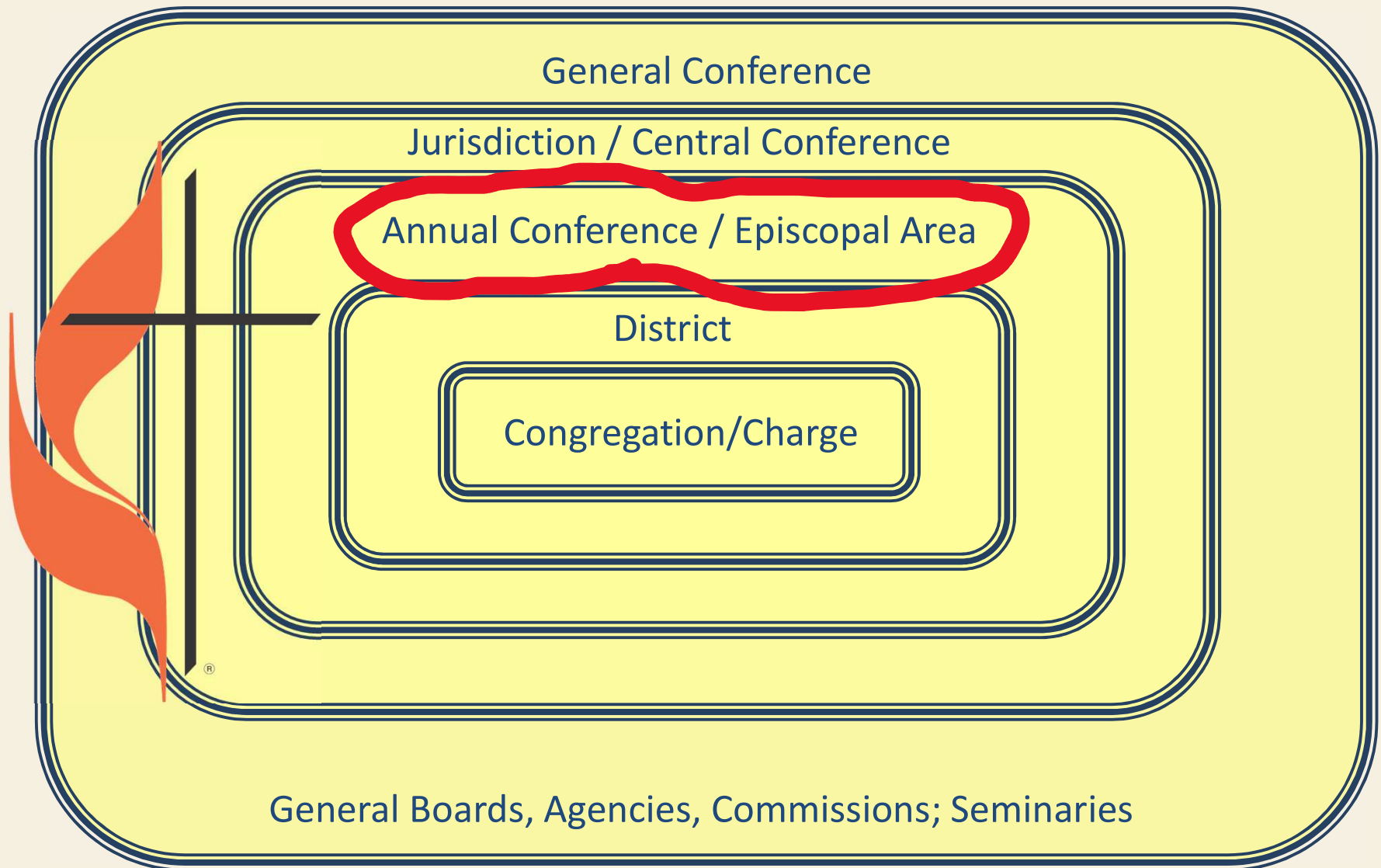
(United Methodist General
Board of Discipleship, 2014)

| <u>Activity</u> | <u>Annual Pledge</u> |
|--|----------------------|
| Apportioned Funds | |
| 1110 Conference Benevolences | \$2,127.00 |
| 1115 Retiree Health Insurance/Grants | \$727.00 |
| 1120 District Superintendent Compensation | \$1,174.00 |
| 1125 Equitable Compensation | \$513.00 |
| 1130 District Administration | \$747.00 |
| 1135 Conference Administration | \$1,497.00 |
| 1140 Congregational Development | \$869.00 |
| 1145 Campus Ministry | \$611.00 |
| 1150 Senior College Scholarships | \$863.00 |
| 1155 Spartanburg Methodist College | \$534.00 |
| 1160 Methodist Homes Residents' Assistance | \$364.00 |
| 1165 Camps & Retreat Ministries | \$291.00 |
| 1310 World Service | \$1,978.00 |
| 1315 Episcopal Fund | \$586.00 |
| 1320 General Conference Administration | \$235.00 |
| 1325 Ministerial Education Fund | \$668.00 |
| 1330 Interdenominational Cooperation | \$52.00 |
| 1335 Black College Fund | \$266.00 |
| 1340 Africa University | \$60.00 |
| 1345 Jurisdiction Mission/Ministry | \$27.00 |
| 1505 District Pars./Ofc - Anderson | \$1,202.00 |
| Totals: | \$15,391.00 |

District ministries

- Congregational Development grants
- Training sessions
- Retreats
- Clergy education and fellowship

THE UMC: ORGANIZATION & STRUCTURE



Annual Conference

- Both an event *and* a geographical region that shares ministry
- The **event** usually takes place over 4-5 days in early June.
- All clergy, along with a lay member from each church, attend and vote.

Annual Conference

- Presided over by a Bishop (L. Jonathan Holston)
- Elected and consecrated as bishop at SEJ in 2012
- Has served the SC Annual Conference since January 1, 2013



Annual Conference

What is the “business” of Annual Conference?

- Commissioning/Ordination of new clergy
- Pass a budget for the coming year
- Hear reports from ministries on accomplishments since last year and goals for next year
- Resolutions
- Fixing of pastoral appointments

Annual Conference

**The Fifty-Second Session of the
SOUTH CAROLINA ANNUAL CONFERENCE of THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
Organized 1972, Continuing the South Carolina Conference (1785) and the South Carolina Conference (1866)

Seeking A More Excellent Way: Breathe and Believe, Hewing Hope

Sunday, June 4 – Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Florence Center, Florence, South Carolina | Bishop L. Jonathan Holston, Presiding

NOTES:

- **All registration will be online. Pastors should make sure any changes to Lay Members reported at Charge Conference are made prior to Annual Conference.**
- **Lay and Clergy members will vote electronically using their personal electronic devices. Members will need to bring a smartphone, tablet or laptop computer capable of connecting to a Wi-Fi network and accessing the internet in order to vote.**

2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE PRELIMINARY AGENDA (All sessions and events in-person unless noted otherwise)

June 4, 2023, Sunday Afternoon – The Second Day

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 2:30 p.m. | Clergy Session (virtual) |
| 4:00 p.m. | Laity Orientation Session (includes voting platform training) |
| 5:00 p.m. | Retiree Dinner |
| 7:00 p.m. | Commissioning, Ordination and Retirement Recognition Service (retiring clergy will participate in-person) |

Annual Conference

June 5, 2023, Monday – The Second Day

- 7:30 a.m. Holy Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Voting Orientation & Testing for both Clergy & Laity
- 9:30 a.m. Opening Worship Service
- 10:45 a.m. Business Session 1
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Recess
- 2:00 p.m. Business Session 2 *(including recognition of those being licensed)*
- 5:00 p.m. Evening Praise and Prayer
- 6:00 p.m. Evening Recess *(unless the president feels the need to reconvene after dinner)*

June 6, 2023, Tuesday – The Third Day

- 7:30 a.m. Holy Communion
- 8:30 a.m. Morning Praise and Prayer
- 9:00 a.m. Business Session 3
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Recess
- 2:00 p.m. Business Session 4
- 5:00 p.m. A Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving
- 6:00 p.m. Evening Recess *(unless the president feels the need to reconvene after dinner)*

June 7, 2023, Wednesday – The Fourth Day

- 7:30 a.m. Holy Communion
- 8:30 a.m. Morning Praise and Prayer
- 9:00 a.m. Business Session 5
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Recess
- 2:00 p.m. Business Session 6 *(concluding with the Sending Forth and Fixing of the Appointments)*

Annual Conference ministries

- Campus ministries

Annual Conference ministries



Annual Conference ministries



Annual Conference ministries



Annual Conference ministries



Annual Conference ministries

- [Campus ministries](#)
- [Congregational Development grants](#)
- [Youth/adult](#) retreats
- [Methodist colleges](#)
- [Methodist homes](#)
- [Camps and Retreats](#)
- [Aldersgate Special Needs](#)
- [Epworth Children's Home](#)

Video break!

Rev. Ken Nelson

(Epworth Children's Home,
2013)

What makes Methodists

“Methodist?” 3.1

Trust clause: *In trust, that said premises shall be used, kept, and maintained as a place of divine worship of the United Methodist ministry and members of The United Methodist Church; subject to the Discipline, usage, and ministerial appointments of said Church as from time to time to authorized and declared by the General Conference and by the annual conference within whose bounds the said premises are*

What makes Methodists

“Methodist?” 3.1

situated. This provision is solely for the benefit of the grantee, and the grantor reserves no right or interest in said premises.

2016 Book of Discipline, paragraph 2503.1

What makes Methodists

“Methodist?” 3.1

Summary: All properties of United Methodist local churches and other United Methodist agencies and institutions are held, in trust, for the benefit of the entire denomination, and ownership and usage of church property is subject to the *Discipline*.” (paragraph 2501.1)

What makes Methodists “Methodist?” 3.1

History:

- Originated with John Wesley

What makes Methodists

“Methodist?” 3.1

From www.umc.org:

“Trust clauses in Methodism go back to John Wesley himself in mid-18th century England. By 1750, John Wesley had accumulated three properties as meeting places and ministry sites for the Methodist societies. He wanted to make sure that local societies could not take control of these properties from the connection he was creating. He was aware of some other religious

What makes Methodists

“Methodist?” 3.1

societies where local society members had refused to accept or sought to remove clergy or other leaders sent to them by the leaders of the larger society of which they were part. Wesley had also seen situations where people in a local society became influenced by teachings contrary to those of the Methodist movement and sought to leave while taking the society's property with them. Wesley wanted to ensure that leaders chosen by him would never be shut

What makes Methodists

“Methodist?” 3.1

out or removed by local societies. He also wanted to make certain that Methodist properties were used only and always to teach established Methodist doctrine and be available to Methodists for their ministries.

With those concerns and purposes in mind, Wesley asked several lawyers to craft deeds for the Methodist preaching houses in England at

What makes Methodists

“Methodist?” 3.1

the time. These deeds served as models for all future deeds for Methodists. In 1796, a form of these deeds, often referred to as “The Model Deed,” was approved by the General Conference for American Methodists. This Model Deed and the mandate for a trust clause in all church property documents first appeared in the Book of Discipline in 1797.”

What makes Methodists “Methodist?” 3.1

History:

- Originated with John Wesley
- Part of the Discipline since 1797

THE DOCTRINES
AND
DISCIPLINE
OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

1864.

WITH AN APPENDIX.

New York:
PUBLISHED BY CARLTON & PORTER,
101 NASSAU-STREET.

1864.

SECTION III.

Form for Conveyance of Church Property.

Quest. What shall be done for the security of our Church property?

Ans. 1. In all conveyances of ground for the erection of houses of worship, or upon which they may have been already erected, let the following clause be inserted at the proper place: "In trust that said premises shall be used, kept, maintained and disposed of as a place of Divine worship for the use of the ministry and membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America; subject to the Discipline, usage, and ministerial appointments of said Church as from time to time authorized and declared by the General Conference of said Church, and the Annual Conference in whose bounds the said premises are situate." *

2. In all conveyances of ground for the erection of dwelling houses for the use of the preachers, or upon which they may have been already erected, let the following clause be inserted at the proper place:

* See pp. 262, 263, paragraph 3.—Eds.

Form of Conveyance for Churches.

Form of Conveyance for Parsonages.

"In trust that said premises shall be held, kept, and maintained as a place of residence for the use and occupancy of the preachers of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America, who may, from time to time, be stationed in said place; subject to the usage and discipline of said Church, as from time to time authorized and declared by the General Conference of said Church, and by the Annual Conference within whose bounds said premises are situate."

3. In all other parts of such conveyances, as well as in their attestation, acknowledgment, and placing them upon the record, let a careful conformity be had to the laws, usages, and forms of the several States and Territories in which the property may be situated, so as to secure the ownership of the premises *in fee simple*.

4. Whenever it shall become necessary for the payment of debts, or with a view to reinvestment, to make a sale of church property that may have been conveyed to trustees for either of the foregoing purposes, said trustees or their successors may, upon application to the Quarterly Conference, obtain an or-

Conformity to State Laws.

Sale of Church Property.

der—a majority of all the members of such Quarterly Conference concurring, and the Annual Conference consenting—for the sale, with such limitations and restrictions as said Quarterly Conference may judge necessary; and said trustees, so authorized, may proceed to sell and convey said property: *provided*, that in all such cases the proceeds of the sale, after the payment of debts, if any, shall be applied to the purchase or improvement of other property for the same uses, and deeded to the Church in the same manner prescribed above.

SECTION IV.

Trusteeship.

Quest. What shall be done for the better security of donations, bequests, grants, etc., made for benevolent purposes to the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America?

Ans. 1. The General Conference shall appoint and perpetuate a Board of Trustees composed of ministers and laymen, consisting of not less than five nor more than nine, who shall be invested with corporate powers, and shall be authorized to receive and

Board of Trustees.

Closing

What is one take-away or question you have from today's small group?