

## ISLE OF FAITH'S VISION

To be a place where you can Experience God, Grow In Christ and Share God's Grace.

## ISLE OF FAITH'S MISSION STATEMENT

Matthew 22:37-39: To love the Lord our God with all our hearts and with all our souls and with all our minds and with all our strength....and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

In order to do this, we:

Proclaim the gospel

Welcome people into the family of faith

Lead people to a commitment to God through Jesus Christ

Nurture them in Christian living by various means of grace

Send them into the world as representatives of Jesus Christ

We remember what really matters when we look through our **PeW LeNS**. (Acronym in bold)

## ISLE OF FAITH'S CORE VALUES

*Excerpted from the United Methodist Book of Discipline, Doctrinal Standards and Our Theological Task:*

- United Methodists profess the historic Christian **Faith in God, incarnate in Jesus Christ for our salvation** and ever at work in human history in the Holy Spirit.
- United Methodists share a common heritage with Christians of every age and nation. This heritage is grounded in the apostolic witness to **Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord**, which is the source and measure of all valid Christian teaching.
- With Christians of other communions we confess belief in the triune God—**Father, Son and Holy Spirit**.
- We hold in common with all Christians a faith in the mystery of **salvation in and through Jesus Christ**.
- We share the Christian belief that God's redemptive love is realized in human life by the activity of the **Holy Spirit**, both in personal experience and in the community of believers.
- We understand ourselves to be part of Christ's universal church when by adoration, proclamation, and service we become conformed to Christ.
- With other Christians we recognize that the reign of God is both a present and future reality.
- We share with many Christian communions a recognition of the authority of Scripture in matters of faith, the confession that our justification as sinners is by grace through faith, and the sober realization that the church is in need of continual reformation and renewal.
- We affirm the general ministry of all baptized Christians who share responsibility for

building up the church and reaching out in mission and service to the world. Grace pervades our understanding of Christian faith and life. By grace we mean the **undeserved, unmerited and loving action of God in human existence through the ever-present Holy Spirit.**

- We acknowledge God's prevenient grace, the divine love that surrounds all humanity and precedes any and all of our conscious impulses. This grace prompts our first wish to please God, our first glimmer of understanding concerning God's will and our "first slight transient conviction" of having sinned against God.
- We believe God reaches out to the repentant believer in justifying grace with accepting and pardoning love. In justification we are, through faith, forgiven our sin and restored to God's favor.
- We hold that the wonder of God's acceptance and pardon does not end God's saving work, which continues to nurture our growth in grace. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are enabled to increase in the knowledge and love of God and in love for our neighbor.
- New birth is the first step in this process of sanctification. Sanctifying grace draws us toward the gift of Christian perfection, which John Wesley described as a heart "habitually filled with the love of God and neighbor" and "having the mind of Christ and walking as he walked."
- We see God's grace and human activity working together in the relationship of faith and good works. God's grace calls forth human response and discipline.
- We insist that personal salvation always involves Christian mission and service to the world.
- We emphasize the nurturing and serving function of Christian fellowship of the church. The personal experience of faith is nourished by the worshiping community.