Course of Study
Summer 2015
Book List and Pre-Work

Advanced United Methodist Doctrine and Theology
Session 2: July 20-30, 11:00am-1:15pm

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This class is intended as both an introduction to the essentials of doctrine and theology in the United Methodist tradition as well as further preparation for the task of engaging the life of a “pastor-theologian” in the context of the local church.

**Required Texts:**
- *The United Methodist Hymnal*
- *The United Methodist Book of Worship*
- *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* (2008 or 2012)

**In preparation**. please read the entire texts by Long, Jones, and Gunter, et.al. In addition, please read Wesley’s sermon, *Catholic Spirit* (299-309) in the Outler/Heitzenrater anthology and Part II, “Doctrinal Standards and Our Theological Task” in *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*. Our class will begin with conversation about the nature of Doctrine and Theology, and specifically, “How do United Methodists do theology?” As you read, your task will be to prepare notes and questions on this reading, being guided by the following questions: What is the difference between “doctrine” and “theology”? How authentic to Wesley is the “quadrilateral”? What are the strengths and the weaknesses of the “quadrilateral” as it is employed in contemporary Methodist theology? And finally, in your experience as a pastor, how has the “quadrilateral” played a role in your preaching, teaching, and pastoral care? While I will not ask you turn these notes in, **there will be a quiz** early in the class to allow you to show your command over this material and these questions.

I am looking forward to our time together!

Grace and Peace,
Jeff Conklin-Miller