I Believe...HUMANKIND

United Methodists come from a rich tradition of beliefs and practices. Each week you are invited to dig deeper. Use these days to study, to pray, to consider what you believe. As United Methodists, our beliefs are formed and evaluated through a quadrilateral: scripture, history, experience, and reason. Read one scripture each day. Then dig deeper through the quotes and other resources on the page.



Join the online discussion on Facebook.

Readings for this week:

Monday – Gen. 1-3 Tuesday – Psalm 8 Wednesday – Psalm 139 Thursday – Matthew 22:16-22 Friday - Eph. 1:3-23 Saturday – 1 John 3:4-10

<u>Karl Barth</u>

"He created them male and female." This is the interpretation immediately given to the sentence, "God created man." [Man is the only] one to be created in genuine confrontation with God ... it is he first and alone who is created "in the image" and "in the likeness" of God... [God] willed the existence of a being which in all its non-deity and therefore its differentiation can be a real partner; which is capable of action and responsibility to him; to which his own divine form of life is not alien; which in a creaturely repetition, as a copy and imitation, can be a bearer of this form of life. Man was created as this being. But the divine form of life, repeated in the man created by Him, consists in that which is the obvious aim of the "Let us." In God's own being and sphere there is a counterpart: a genuine and harmonious self-encounter and self-discovery; a free existence and cooperation; an open confrontation and reciprocity.

From Christian Believer, "Seeking more understanding":

For the coming week, try consciously to see each person you have contact with as made in the image of God, and try consciously to carry out your role as steward of everything else in creation.

Because I believe...:

As you read the scriptures above, and any scripture-list the names and characteristics of humans that are present. How do we relate to God, to others, to ourselves.

Write out a short statement that expresses your belief.