

"We know that God works all things together for good for the ones who love God, for those who are called according to [God's] purpose." (Romans 8:28 – CEB)

Merciful and loving God of Creation, of Abraham, Moses, and David, how excellent is Your way! As a connectional church, help us to be like the Apostle Paul. Help us to remember to be encouragers in our connection. Use us as sowers of Your hope among the hopeless in our connection. Remind us that You are still in control in and beyond our connection!

Remind us that everything we do in connection with You leads us to the greater good of Your kin-dom. Remind us that whatever is connected to You is good. You, O Lord, make All Things Work Together For Good!

"In the beginning when [You] created the heavens and the earth," You spoke and only good happened!

- You saw that the light was good
- You saw that the Earth and the Seas were good
- You saw that the vegetation from the earth was good
- You saw that the sun and moon were good
- You saw that the swarms of living creatures and birds in the sky were good
- · You saw that the living creatures of every kind that roamed the earth were good
- When You created humankind, You saw that we were "very good!"

As we celebrate our United Methodist Connection as a cooperative Christian ministry and mission in the world with all of its diversity, we expect to meet you today and everyday. We seek Your goodness in our lives and each other.

Finally, remind us that our connection begins and ends connected to You, O LORD, through your Son, Jesus Christ. **Amen!** 

Rev. Anthony Everett, pastor of Wesley UMC