

Virtual Lay Servant Courses

Participants will complete one course, either the Basic Course or an Advanced Course.
The Basic Course is a pre-requisite to the Advanced Courses.

BASIC COURSE— This basic course is the foundation for other texts in the Learning and Leading series for lay servants/lay speakers. Participants are invited to consider the importance of exercising servant leadership, developing future leaders, remaining rooted in consistent spiritual practices, and being part of a group that holds members accountable in discipleship. Instructor: *Rev. Josh Newberry*

ADVANCED COURSES

Aging and Ministry in the 21st Century

While the perception that the aged are needy and infirm, the majority of older adults have plenty to give and the church needs to tap into their wisdom, energy, experience and talents. Ministries by older adults include mentoring, leadership, offering spiritual legacies to younger church members. In addition to issues of programming, this class also addresses the more difficult topics including chronic conditions, depression, and death.

Instructor: *Dr. Richard H. Gentzler, Jr.*
Executive Director, ENCORE Ministry
Golden Cross Foundation

Living Our United Methodist Beliefs

Faithful Christian discipleship requires a foundation in the core belief and practices of the Christian tradition. Wesley's sermons and writing provide this stepping off point. *Living Our Beliefs* offers a basic explanation of the beliefs and practices of The United Methodist Church as defined in Part II of The Book of Discipline. Instructor: *David Hill, CLM*

Discovering your Spiritual Gifts

The Holy Spirit gives each Christian one or more spiritual gifts to be used for the common good. This course guides participants to discover their own particular gifts and learn to use their gifts to serve others by examining key passages in

Paul's writings. Distinct spiritual gifts will be explored with scripture references on each one. After identifying their particular gifts, participants will learn how to apply them for the good of their church, community, and the world. Instructor: *Holly Neal, CLM, TN Conf. Lay Leader*

THIS IS A TWO-DAY EVENT.

Saturday, April 23, 2022

8:00-8:15am Welcome, Teacher Introductions
8:15-10:00am Session 1
10:15-10:30—Break
10:30-12:30 Session 2
12:30-1:00 pm-----Lunch
1:00-3:00pm Session 3

Saturday, April 30, 2022

8:00-10:00am Session 4
10:00-10:15am-----Break
10:15-12:00 pm Session 5
12:00-12:45—Lunch, paperwork
12:45-1:45pm Closing Worship and Sending Forth

YOU are READY to BECOME a LAY SERVANT IF

- You are willing to share your faith with those around you.
- You are willing to go wherever and whenever God calls.
- You will commit your time and energy to the service of your congregation, community, neighbor, etc.

Lay servants are active, supportive members of the United Methodist Church that are committed to witnessing through church and community leadership, care-giving ministries, listening, written & spoken communications, and are willing to use their gifts and talents and improve their skills for service involved in leadership roles within their church and community.

“Lay Servant Ministries”...**Serving God in many ways**...Lay Servant Ministries trains and equips Disciples to Transform the World.

Lay Servants

- Must be **recommended** by their **pastor** and **Church Council** or Charge Conference.
- Must **complete** the **Basic Course** for LSM, **serve** and **support** in their **local church**
- Submit an **annual report** of their activities
- **Every 3 years** must complete an approved **refresher** course.
 - **Certified Lay Servants**
- **Serve, support, and minister** in their **local church** and **beyond**; through district or conference projects and programs and community;
- Have taken at least one Advanced Course
- Submit an **annual report** of activities
- **Every 3 years** must complete an **Advanced Course** to maintain **certification**.
 - **Certified Lay Speaker**
- **Same requirements as a Certified Lay Servant**
- **Plus** additional courses approved in the 2012 Book of Discipline and/or advanced courses approved by the Conference Lay Servant Ministries Committee.