

Lay Servant Academy 2024

Lay Servant Academy **VIRTUAL** Summer Training

August 16th & 17th—Responding to Our Call

Virtual Only

Registration Fee: \$30.00/\$15.00



- **Basic Course**

Basic Course (10-hour course)

Instructor: *Details coming soon!*

Course Description: This course is the foundation for all other Learning and Leading courses. In this course you are encouraged to discover and employ personal spiritual gifts as God intended. 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 their discipleship. This course offers guidelines for best practices as a church leader and in mission and ministry in the community and in daily life. Required Reading: Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course--

<https://upperroombooks.com/book/lay-servant-ministries-basic-courseparticipants-book/>

**This course provides Certification credit and renewal credit for Certified Lay Servants and Certified Lay Speakers.*

Note: 2 hours of class time prior to class should be spent on reading the **required** materials for the class! **This applies only to those who are working towards Lay Servant Certifications or CEU's.*

- **Children's Faith Formation**—Ministry with Parents/Guardians –*10-hour course*

Instructors: Rev. Renee Delgado and Rhonda Tucker

Course Description: This course aims to help ministry leaders shape the culture of their children and youth ministry towards a ministry that encompasses the whole family unit. We will spend time exploring how to be in ministry with parents and guardians, seeking to empower and equip them for raising young disciples because parents and guardians have the most influence over their children's faith formation.

Required Reading: "It Takes a Church to Raise a Parent" by Rachel Turner—<https://a.co/d/7pJEWbK>

This course provides Certification credit and renewal credit for Certified Lay Servants and Certified Lay Speakers. In addition, **this course qualifies for CLM specialization.*

Note: 2 hours of class time prior to class should be spent on reading the **required** materials for the class! **This applies only to those who are working towards Lay Servant Certifications or CEU's.*

- **Spiritual Gifts** *10-hour course*

Course Instructor: *Details coming soon!*

Course Description: This course helps participants understand spiritual gifts and how the church can use them to fulfill its mission and ministry. Participants will also learn what it means to be a spiritual leader and will be equipped to lead others in exploring and using their spiritual gifts.

Required Reading: For the Common Good - Christine Harman
Participant's Book:

<https://store.upperroom.org/product/for-the-common-good>

**This course provides Certification credit and renewal credit for Certified Lay Servants and Certified Lay Speakers.*

Note: 2 hours of class time prior to class should be spent on reading the **required** materials for the class! **This applies only to those who are working towards Lay Servant Certifications or CEU's.*

- **Social Principles** (10-hour course)

Instructor: *Details coming soon!*

Course Description: This course looks at the social principles of the United Methodist Church. With so much change recently, this course will assist participants in understanding what has been changed and how!

Required Reading: Justice in Everyday Life: A Look at the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church by Neal Christie

<https://a.co/d/55C458d>

Updated Social Principles: <https://www.umcjustice.org/documents/124>

**This course provides Certification credit and renewal credit for Certified Lay Servants and Certified Lay Speakers.*

Note: 2 hours of class time prior to class should be spent on reading the **required** materials for the class! **This applies only to those who are working towards Lay Servant Certifications or CEU's*

- **Certified Lay Minister (CLM) Orientation**

(2-hour course) Friday 7:00-9:00PM

Course Instructors: Joanna Dietz and Jenn O' Brien

Course Description: This 2-hour orientation is designed to provide the support structure required during CLM training for those who have begun the training as well as for those who are considering the training. We will spend time learning expectations of becoming a CLM while creating a network of peers who are also moving toward certification. This cohort will continue to support one another throughout the educational process (1-4 years) while learning how CLMs are functioning in the Virginia Conference.

Suggested Reading: Roots and Routes by Randy Litchfield & Part Time is Plenty by G. Jeffrey MacDonald.

This course qualifies as one of the courses toward CLM specialization in Children's Faith Formation.

- **Leading Worship** (10-hour course)

Instructor: Rev Nathan Decker and Richard Speirs

Course Description: This course focuses on the ministry of the lay servant who regularly or occasionally leads a group or congregation in worship.

Required Reading: *Worshiping with United Methodists (REVISED)* by *Hoyt Hickman*—Participant's Book • AB526 • 978-0-687-33526-8 • \$11.99 (Kindle, \$9.99) & *Think Like a Filmmaker: Sensory-Rich Worship Design for Unforgettable Messages*. <https://a.co/d/eRUA377>

**This course provides Certification credit and renewal credit for Certified Lay Servants and Certified Lay Speakers.*

Note: 2 hours of class time prior to class should be spent on reading the **required** materials for the class! **This applies only to those who are working towards Lay Servant Certifications or CEU's*

- **Life Together in the United Methodist Connection**

(United Methodist Polity) (10 Hour Course)

Course Instructor: Martha Stokes, Virginia Conference Lay Leader

Course Description: Why does The United Methodist Church do things the way it does? And what does any of this have to do with trying to be a movement and a people that embody the Kingdom of God? Polity is defined as the way the church orders itself to carry out its mission in the world. This course will help participants understand our UMC polity and organization as the interrelationship of our beliefs, mission and practice as we face the challenges of the future.

Required Reading: *The Method of our Mission* by Lacey Warner.

<https://bookstore.upperroom.org/Products/AB717/the-method-of-our-mission.aspx>

*NOTE: Participants will also need access to a Book of Discipline, hard copy or online version. *This course provides Certification credit and renewal credit for Certified Lay Servants and Certified Lay Speakers.*

Note: A minimum of 2 hours of class time prior to class should be spent on reading the **required** materials for the class! *Ideally, the entire text will be read prior to the course.*This applies only to those who are working towards Lay Servant Certifications or CEU's*