



2017 Lay Servant Academy

March 31-April 2, 2017

4H Educational Conference Center – 775 Hermitage Rd., Wirtz, VA

<http://retreatatsmithmountainlake.com/>

The Lay Servant Academy is about equipping Laity (those who are not clergy) to carry out the mission of the church. “The mission of the Virginia Annual Conference is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by equipping its local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God.”

All of the courses are open to anyone who would like to take one. Each course is designed to help those serving the local church learn more about leadership, personal faith development, and a deeper understanding of the United Methodist church.

Lay Servant Ministries offers two avenues of recognition and training that go beyond the local church. Many of the courses offered this year will support those who are seeking to become Certified Lay Servants and Lay Speakers.

You may register for the Academy on the VA Conference website at <http://www.vaumc.org/LayServantTraining> or complete the form at the end of this brochure and mail it to:

VAUMC P.O. Box 5606 Glen Allen, VA 23228 Attn: Cindy Ingroff

Registration Contact: Sandy Kelley sandkelle@yahoo.com (540) 292-3755

Other Questions: Beth Christian bethchristian@vaumc.org (804) 347-5999

For more information about Lay Servant Ministries in general please contact your district lay servant director at <http://www.vaumc.org/Page.aspx?pid=807>

Course 1: Leading Prayer

Instructor: Rev. Nathan Decker

Required Participant's Book: Let the Whole Church Say Amen! By Laurence Hull Stookey

* Fills requirement for certified lay servant and recertification of lay servant.

* Fills requirement for lay speaker and recertification of lay speaker.

Prayer is our most powerful tool as Christians and we need to learn to use it well. Leading prayer publicly is uncomfortable for many; but it doesn't have to be. Enrich your own prayer life while learning how to be comfortable in leading others through prayer.

Course 2: Preaching from Your Heart to Theirs

Instructors: Rev. Jennifer Vestal Moore, Rick Kottemann

Required Participant's Book: Go Preach! By John P. Gilbert

* Fills requirement for certified lay servant and recertification of lay servant.

* Fills requirement for lay speaker and recertification of lay speaker.

Practical tools for effective preaching are offered in this class designed for those who fill in for the pastor from time to time. These tools will also help those who teach in the church classroom as well as those who serve in leadership. Topics covered include: types of sermons, using the hymnal for story, children's message, written word resources, beyond the paper, clear communication and presentation.

Course 3: Spirituality and the Arts

Instructor: Betsey Davis

Class Materials \$14.00 due at registration.

* Fills requirement for certified lay servant and recertification of lay servant.

* Fills requirement for recertification of lay speaker.

Did you know that you can use art as a spiritual discipline? Many people are moved by the Holy Spirit through light, color, texture, images, movement, and many other forms of creative energy. Experience getting closer to God through hands on projects led by a very creative instructor. You don't need to be an artist to learn from this workshop but you need a heart for artistic expression. Participants are encouraged to bring a digital camera or cell phone with build in camera.

Course 4: Music in Worship and Ministry

Instructors: Rev. Norman Ramsey and Tianna Durbin

Required Participant's Book: *Worshiping with United Methodists (Revised)* by Hoyt Hickman

* Fills requirement for certified lay servant and recertification of lay servant.

* Fills requirement for lay speaker and recertification of lay speaker.

Music can be used in so many ways: worship, witness, evangelism, healing, celebrating, and as a spiritual discipline. Whether you sing, play an instrument, simply listen, or make a joyful noise; we can all benefit from music. Learn and share with each other how music of any kind can impact church ministry.

Course 5: Basic Course in English

Instructor: Richard Speirs

Required Participant's Book: *Lay Servant Ministries* by Sandy Zeigler and Brian Jackson

* Fills requirement for certified lay servant and recertification of lay servant.

* Fills requirement for lay speaker and recertification of lay speaker.

This course is designed for those who have felt a gentle nudge or strong push to pursue a call to serve the church in a greater capacity. Every person has unique qualities as well as God-given gifts and talents that can be used in ministry. Begin the journey to a deeper faith by exploring how God can use you as you learn about all the opportunities and needs in the local church.

Course 6: Polity of the United Methodist Church

Instructor: Andrew Ware

Required Participant's Books: *Polity, Practices, and the Mission of the UMC* by Thomas Edward Frank

* Fills requirement for certified lay servant and recertification of lay servant.

* Fills requirement for lay speaker and recertification of lay speaker.

Discover the ins-and-outs of the method of Methodism. 1) To enhance familiarity and facility in usage of The Book of Discipline of the UMC; 2) To gain a working knowledge and understanding of the polity of the UMC in its various forms as practiced in the life of congregations, conferences, and the connection; 3) To explore the theology, history, disciplines, and social principles of United Methodism in relation to the ministry and mission of the church in the world.

Course 7: Winning the Second Half: Leading, Caring, and Growing in Faith with Boomers and Beyond

Instructor: Martha Stokes

Required Participant's Book: *Aging and Ministry in the 21st Century: An Inquiry Approach* by Richard H. Gentzler, Jr. ISBN: 978-0-88177-540-2

- * Fills requirement for certified lay servant and recertification of lay servant.
- * Fills requirement for recertification of lay speaker.

A quote attributed to legendary football coach, Bear Bryant, reads: "Don't give up at half time. Concentrate on winning the second half." Latest statistics on The United Methodist Church show that our average member is 59-60 years old and nearly 1/3 of our membership is 65+. Add to this the reality that a huge number of Boomers are what we would call "unchurched" but may actually be very interested in spiritual matters in general. Churches must be intentional in developing ministries which provide a place of welcome, spiritual nurture, and empowerment in ministry with adults who are aging. This advance LSM course is a practical guide for building these ministries with three goals: (1) gain a greater understanding of the issues and concerns of aging, (2) become informed about intentional ministries with midlife (age 50) and older adults, and (3) increase knowledge of resources and opportunities for spiritual formation for the second half of life.

Five Sessions:

- The Realities of Aging
- Finding Meaning: Spirituality and the Second Half of Life
- Congregational Care: Supporting Care Receivers and Care Partners
- Intentional Older Adults Ministry Models
- Intentional Boomer Ministry

Course 8: Discipleship Pathways

Instructor: MaryKaye Cochran

Required Participant's Book: *A Disciple's Path*, by James Harnish

- * Fills requirement for certified lay servant and recertification of lay servant.
- * Fills requirement for recertification of lay speaker.

A big part of discipleship is growing our faith. As lay servants, it is important to be familiar with the discipleship continuum (from exploring to centering) and ways to develop an intentional discipleship path for children and youth and for adults. One way we grow disciples is through small groups. This course will help you plan for intentional faith development in your church.

Course 9: Ministerios de la oratoria laica—Curso básico

Instructor: Lori Valentine de Segovia

Materia: Ministerio de Servicio Laico: Curso Básico, Libro del Participante por Sandy Zieger Jackson y Brain Jackson. Traducido por Alma W. Pérez

- * Completarse el requisito para certificación o re-certificación del Servicio Laico
- * Completarse el requisito para certificación de la Oratoria Laica

Si tú eres líder de la mesa directiva, del comité de administradores, maestro, líder congregacional o en el proceso de discernir pasos para ser un siervo líder, hay este curso de introducción e Información de la Iglesia Metodista Unida. En este curso básico, tú puedes comenzar el proceso de reconocimiento y saber como emplear tus dones espirituales en la iglesia y ser motivado a usarlos como Dios ha planeado. Tú descubrirás la importancia de ser un siervo líder, desarrollando futuros líderes, raíces en prácticas espirituales y siendo parte del grupo responsable del discipulado de los miembros.

Course 10: Understanding Men's Ministry

Instructor: Johnnie Draughon

Required Participant's Book: No Man Left Behind isbn:0802475493

- * Fills requirement for certified lay servant and recertification of lay servant.
- * Fills requirement for recertification of lay speaker.
- * This course is approved for 1 CEU

This course is designed to help you plan and implement a ministry to men in your church that will not fail. This course includes all the tools you'll need to get trained and to train others. The model is an excellent tool for intentional discipleship and for anyone desiring to draw people closer to Jesus Christ. While one individual from a church can benefit from this course, it is most effective with a small group of dedicated men taking the course together. Women welcome too!

Course 11: Reaching the Truly Lost

Instructor: Louise Jennings

No book required

- * Fills requirement for certified lay servant and recertification of lay servant.
- * Fills requirement for recertification of lay speaker.

We can't ignore Christ's words in Matthew 25: *I was in prison and you came to visit me*. We are called to offer hope and we have failed to minister to the most hopeless. Unfortunately most churches are not engaged in any form of prison ministry. Learn how to take the life-changing Gospel to prisoners, ex-prisoners and their families. Be a catalyst of restoration and transformation for someone.

Enter Course Number: 1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____ 3rd Choice _____

Full Academy Registration Fee: \$180 if registered by Feb.1st \$200 after Feb.1st
Commuter Rate (no lodging): \$90 includes 4 meals (no breakfasts)
Private Room Surcharge: \$20
Course 3 – Supply Fee \$14

Full Academy includes lodging for 2 nights and all meals (Dinner Fri. through Lunch Sun.)
Required Text Books must be purchased in advance and brought with student.

Make checks payable to: Virginia Conference UMC

Registration deadline is February 19, 2017

Registrations may be cancelled prior to February 19th without penalty.

Name: _____

Phone Numbers: _____

Address: _____

Church and District: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact Name and Phone: _____

Special dietary or rooming needs: _____

Roommate Preference: _____

Schedule

Friday

4:00 pm	Registration Open	Welcome Center
5:45 pm	Dinner	Dining Hall
6:30	Welcome, Introductions and Announcements	Dining Hall
7:00 pm	Class Gatherings	Classrooms
8:30 pm	Worship	Worship Space

Saturday

7:30 am	Registration Open	Welcome Center
7:45 am	Breakfast	Dining Hall
8:30 am	Session 1	Classrooms
10:30 am	Session 2	Classrooms
12:15 pm	Lunch	Dining Hall

1:30 pm	Worship	Worship Space
2:30	Break	
3:30 pm	Session 3	Classrooms
5:45 pm	Dinner	Dining Hall
7:00 pm	Session 4	Classrooms
9:00 pm	Snack and Chat/District Gatherings	Dining Hall

Sunday

7:45 am	Breakfast and Pack Up Personal Items	Dining Hall
9:00 am	Session 5	Classrooms
11:15 am	Worship and Commissioning	Worship Space
12:15 pm	Lunch	Dining Hall
1:00 pm	Good Bye	