



2023

Lay Servant Ministries

Course Descriptions and Equipping Resources



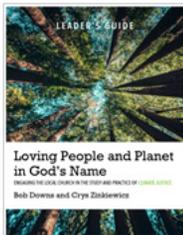
What's Inside?

More than a catalog, the *2023 Lay Servant Ministries Course Descriptions and Equipping Resources* is a resource itself. Check out pages 8-13 for an overview of the lay servant program and valuable information about the three LSM certifications for laity in The United Methodist Church (see this same overview in Spanish, pages 60-66).

The resources are designed to equip laity for their roles in ministry as disciples of Jesus Christ. The "Introduction to Lay Ministry: The BASIC Course" is the foundational course for Lay Servant Ministries. This course can also be used as part of a discipleship plan for other laity in the church to acquaint them with their gifts, calling, and responsibilities as followers of Christ. Consider using the BASIC course as part of your Christian education program. It can easily be divided into five 2-hour, six 90 minute, or ten 1-hour sessions. Or consider hosting a lay academy in your local church, offering both the BASIC and an advanced course.

With the exception of online courses taken through BeADisciple.com, all courses are designed as 10-hour trainings. Courses include a required text for participants and leaders, as well as a leader's guide for the facilitator of the course. Most primary texts and PDF Leader Guides are available through UpperRoom.org/store unless otherwise noted.

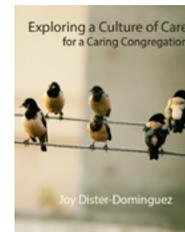
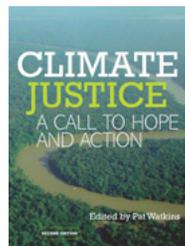
What's New?



In *Loving People and Planet in God's Name*, Global Ministries EarthKeepers Bob Downs and Crys Zinkiewicz equip and empower lay participants to engage people in their local churches in creation care and environmental justice. Lay participants will understand this work as the appropriate response of disciples of Jesus Christ to the realities of climate change. Using the new revised second edition of the United Women In Faith book, *Climate Justice: A Call to Hope and Action*, edited by Pat

Watkins, this course helps local churches grow deeper in their faith through the caring creation of practical and context-specific plans that mitigate the effects of reckless human consumption.

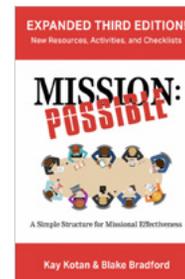
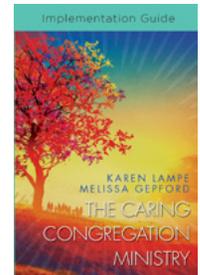
Available **May 2023**. See page 46.



Exploring a Culture of Care for a Caring Congregation is the latest advanced course to feature the work of Karen Lampe's team at *The Caring Congregation*. Care is the heart of the church; it's what Jesus modeled in his time here on earth, and it's what we are called to do as the church. While most people consider themselves caring, examining, and understanding the basic elements of care allow us to be intentional in how we care, modeled after the actions of Jesus. It's not about creating

a "care club" for our members, but rather conscious actions and reactions that allow us to care for one another, deepening our discipleship as we make disciples of Jesus Christ for the world to be transformed. This new advanced course is based on *The Caring Congregation: Implementation Guide* by Karen Lampe with a Leader's Guide by Joy Dister-Dominguez. It offers participants tools for deep listening and grows their capacity to care in difficult situations of loss – all within healthy boundaries and a thoughtful awareness of the varying cultural contexts of caring ministry.

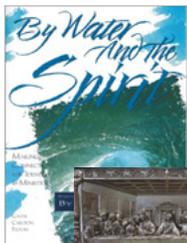
Available **Fall 2023**. See page 47.



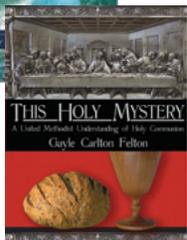
Mission Possible 3: Lay Servants Leading and Governing Congregations with Simplified Accountable Structure - In ¶ 266 of the 2016 *Book of Discipline*, lay and clergy leaders have a powerful flexibility to consolidate the governance functions of the church into a single board that holds the pastor and other teams accountable to the church's mission. In this structure laity are set free to lead with full accountability to Jesus' Great Commission and the Charge Conference of the congregation. Kay Kotan and Blake Bradford, co-authors of *Impact: Reclaiming the Call of Lay*

Ministry, have adapted the rich insights of their latest book, *Mission Possible 3: A Simple Structure for Missional Effectiveness*, into a new 10-hour advanced course that emphasizes lay leadership structured for maximum missional impact.

Available **Fall 2023**. See page 49.



In the new 10-hour advanced course, **Sacraments: Means of Grace**, Rev. Beth Galbreath crystalizes her unique focus in the online Be A Disciple courses on Baptism and Holy Communion (see page 33), combining her unique approach with the key insights of the late Gayle Carlton Felton in her two books on our sacramental life: *By Water and the Spirit* and *This Holy Mystery*. This study has both in-person and online lesson plans and features additional resources, including PowerPoint slides with notes. Available **Summer 2023**. See page 48.



What's Coming?



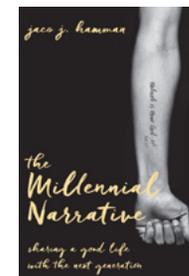
In **Fresh Expressions of Faith**, conference LSM directors Kim Arnott and Linda Flanagan invite participants to discover the power of “third places” and the ministry of presence. Sharing insights from the Kenneth L. Carter and Audrey Warren’s book, *Fresh Expressions: A New Kind of Methodist Church for People Not in Church*, These reliable guides help participants rekindle their hearts to engage people beyond church walls with the love and welcome of Jesus Christ. They remind us that “Fresh Expressions” are new communities or extensions of current ones that become

new forms of life in Jesus Christ through prayer and the movement of the Holy Spirit. Beginning where discipleship always starts (relationships), participants will grasp how genuine, authentic gatherings meet people where they are and can become means of grace for both those disconnected from church and those who long to see others made whole by grace. Available **Fall 2023**.

Whom shall I send? A Comprehensive Field Guide on Certified Lay Ministry in the UMC. This new resource by CLM architect and module author, Julia Kuhn Sharp, is an all-in-one practical Field Guide for church leaders interested in all things CLM. Drawing from the work of on vocational imagination and place by Randy Litchfield and others, this field guide focuses on connecting call and context. It also explains the rationale for and specific steps into Certified Lay Ministry, including practical material for Judicatory,

Conference, District, and local church leaders to support the certification and placement of Lay Ministers. This book is also relevant for Ministry Mentors and Seminary and Course of Study faculty nurturing the next generation of pastoral leaders working in underserved, isolated, transitional, or growing communities. It cultivates a culture of call that meets the ministry challenges of a post-covid/post-separation world. This resource lays the groundwork for understanding, recognizing, and utilizing CLMs in the evolving contexts of faithful life in Jesus in the 21st century. Available **December 2023**.

In **The Millennial Narrative: Sharing a Good Life with the Next Generation**, Dr. Jaco J. Hamman invites those who would care for and bear witness to the lives of young people to actually listen to their stories of struggle, love, and loss – all through the lens of an unlikely story from scripture. The lived experience of many young people and the Book of Joel overlap in significant ways: remembering loss and trauma; desiring community; believing in a gracious God; experiencing spiritual renewal; appreciating accountability; and a longing to help and be a blessing to others. These are the realities that The Book of Joel speaks to powerfully in a world that has come of age. Participants in this new LSM course will: rediscover the book of Joel as a script that resonates with the lives of young people; learn to tell a life-giving story; lead differently in partnership with young people; join with young people who are already making a difference in the world; and help their churches focus on the ‘why’ of Jesus’ love by sharing abundant life with the next generation of witnesses. This course includes presentation slides, music created just for this book/experience, and more. Available **December 2023**.



Questions?

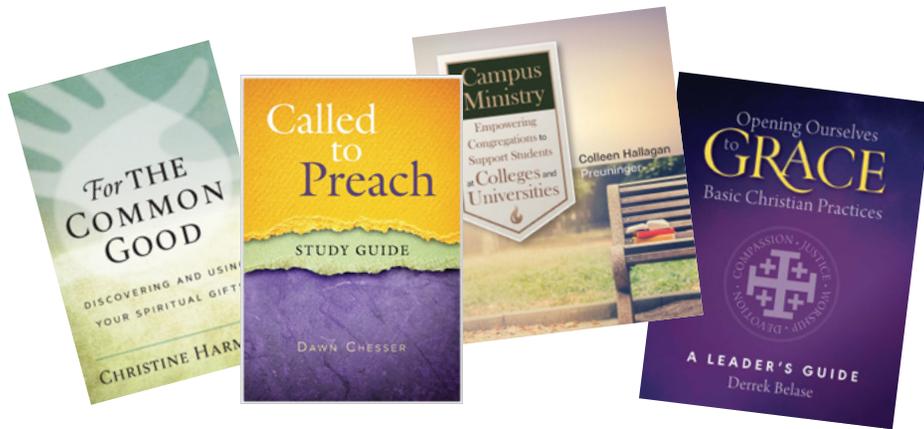
Please feel free to contact us at: laity@umcdiscipleship.org. Unless otherwise noted, Lay Servant Ministries books are available at UpperRoom.org/store and Cokesbury.com.

NOTE: Following special permission granted in May of 2020 by the education committee, all LSM courses may be taught using online tools during and after pandemic, pending permission/approval by the local Conference Committee on Lay Servant Ministries.

Need More Resources?

Visit UMCDiscipleship.org to find:

- Slide presentations for teaching the BASIC course or an advanced course
- Resources and information about Laity Sunday
- Webinars
- Articles on relevant topics



Ordering Tips

Need to download a PDF or order your resources from UpperRoom.org/store?

See page 59 for details.

When ordering resources from UpperRoom.org/store, enter the product number from this catalog rather than searching by title. To ensure that you receive materials on time, please order them **three weeks** before the class.



Lay Servant Ministries

Course Descriptions and Equipping Resources

Laity Sunday*

Laity Sunday is a special Sunday defined by General Conference “to celebrate the ministry of all Christians” (2016 *Book of Discipline*, ¶ 264.2). Traditionally observed on the third Sunday in October, Laity Sunday is one way we express the deep conviction that all are called to participate in God’s mission and live this calling through the ministry of the church. Ministries of the laity include: lay leaders, lay servants, lay speakers, lay ministers, lay missionaries, deaconesses, home missionaries, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, The Walk to Emmaus, Chrysalis, missionary service, and so many other significant forms of ministry.

The **Laity Sunday themes** for this quadrennium come from 2 Timothy 1:1-14. In this passage we hear a call to **Rise Up** and *revive* God’s gift that first lived in those who have loved and passed it on to us. We hear a call to Rise Up and recognize and *reveal* the grace in Christ that destroys death and brings life. As we Rise Up and *remain* committed to Love’s teaching, we also Rise Up and *retain* the good thing placed in our trust by the Holy Spirit.

The 2023 theme is **Rise Up! And Remain Committed to Love’s Teaching** (2 Timothy 1:13). To find resources for Laity Sunday, visit the Discipleship Ministries website at UMCDiscipleship.org/equipping-leaders/lay-ministry and search Laity Sunday.

Lay Servant Ministries

Lay Servant Ministries is one of the most significant lay leadership development programs available within the United Methodist connection. Through this equipping and empowering system, lay servants have the opportunity to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ who then go and make other disciples.

Lay Servant Ministries can be a significant component of any intentional discipleship system, particularly systems based on the core process or cycle of discipleship described in ¶122 of *The Book of Discipline*. Laity are the primary agents of holy love incarnate in the world: “The witness of the laity, their Christ-like examples of everyday living as well as the sharing of their own faith experiences of the gospel, is the primary evangelistic ministry through which all people will come to know Christ and The United Methodist Church will fulfill its mission” (2016 *Book of Discipline*, ¶127, “The Ministry of the Laity,” p. 97).

In this sense, lay discipleship is always leadership and leadership is always evangelism—because all who follow Jesus lead others to him. Laity are called to be disciples—and disciples lead others to Christ.

Discipleship begins with relationship. When we “see all the people” God calls us to love (#SeeAllThePeople), we discover that engaging relationships with others are more than marching orders for outreach and mission: they are the very source of our own spiritual growth and a means of grace. (For resources related to #SeeAllThePeople, visit: SeeAllThePeople.org.)

*Ver el apéndice para esta parte del catálogo en español (see this section in Spanish in the appendix).

Discipleship systems driven by engagement create opportunities for spiritual growth and build new relationships outside our church walls. Through authentic and consistent experiences of God’s grace, new disciples grow deeper in faith and are sent into the world to share Christ’s love in mission and outreach. Disciples extend hospitality to those not yet in the body of Christ; they offer Christ by providing an opportunity for people to commit their lives to God through baptism by water and the Spirit and profession of faith; they nurture people in Christian living to help them find a true sense of purpose in life and what it means to live out their belief through acts of piety, acts of mercy, and other means of grace; and they put their faith into action by helping to transform the surrounding community through engagement in mission and ministry as they offer hospitality in the name of Jesus Christ. Lay Servant Ministries is about equipping and empowering people as disciples who lead others to a vibrant and world-transforming faith in Jesus Christ.

Certified Lay Servants

A certified lay servant is a professing member of a local church or charge or a baptized participant of a recognized United Methodist collegiate ministry or other United Methodist ministry setting who desires to serve the church and who knows and is committed to scripture and the doctrine, heritage, organization, and life of The United Methodist Church. This is a person who has received specific training to witness to the Christian faith through spoken communication, to lead within a church and community, and to provide caring ministry.

The certified lay servant serves the local church or charge (or beyond the local church or charge) through his or her witness, leadership, and service, inspiring others to a deeper commitment to Christ and more effective discipleship. Through continued study and training, the certified lay servant should prepare to undertake one or more of the following functions, giving primary attention to service within the local church or charge, United Methodist collegiate ministry, or other United Methodist ministry setting:

- Provide leadership, assistance, and support to the program emphases of the church or other United Methodist ministry.
- Lead meetings for prayer, training, study, and discussion when requested by the pastor, district superintendent, or committee on Lay Servant Ministries.
- Conduct, or assist in conducting, services of worship, preach the Word, or give addresses when requested by the pastor, district superintendent, or committee on Lay Servant Ministries.
- Work with appropriate committees and teams that provide congregational and community leadership or foster caring ministries.
- Assist in the distribution of the elements of Holy Communion upon request by a pastor.
- Teach the Scriptures, doctrine, organization, and ministries of The United Methodist Church.

To become a **Certified Lay Servant**, you must:

1. Obtain recommendation from the pastor and the church council or charge conference of the local church or other United Methodist ministry in which you hold membership.
2. Complete the "Introduction to Lay Ministries: The BASIC Course."
3. Complete an advanced Lay Servant Ministries course.
4. Apply to and have qualifications reviewed by the district committee on Lay Servant Ministries or equivalent structure (see ¶668.3).

To maintain status as a **Certified Lay Servant**, you must:

1. Submit an annual report and renewal application to the charge conference or church council and to the district committee on Lay Servant Ministries or equivalent structure, giving evidence of satisfactory performance as a certified lay servant.
2. Obtain recommendation for renewal from the pastor and the church council or charge conference of the local church or other United Methodist ministry in which you hold membership.
3. Complete a Lay Servant Ministries advanced course in the last three years.

Certified Lay Speakers

A certified lay speaker is a certified lay servant (or equivalent as defined by his or her central conference) whose call has been affirmed by the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries or equivalent structure to serve the church in pulpit supply in accordance and compliance with ¶341.1.

The certified lay speaker serves by preaching the Word when requested by the pastor, district superintendent, or committee on Lay Servant Ministries, in accordance and compliance with ¶341.1.

To become a **Certified Lay Speaker**, you must:

1. Be certified as a lay servant (or equivalent as defined by your central conference).
2. Obtain recommendation from the pastor and the church council or charge conference of the local church in which you hold membership.
3. Complete a track of study including courses on leading worship, leading prayer, discovering spiritual gifts, preaching, United Methodist heritage and polity, and/or other courses as determined by the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries or equivalent structure.
4. Interview with and obtain recommendation from the district committee on Lay Servant Ministries, or equivalent structure, to be submitted to the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries, or equivalent structure, for approval and certification.

To maintain status as a **Certified Lay Speaker**, you must:

1. Submit an annual report and renewal application to the charge conference or church council and to the district committee on Lay Servant Ministries or equivalent structure, giving evidence of satisfactory performance as a certified lay speaker.
2. Obtain recommendation for continued recognition as a certified lay speaker from the pastor and the church council or charge conference of the local church or other United Methodist ministry in which you hold membership.
3. Complete a Lay Servant Ministries advanced course in the last three years.
4. In the last three years, have interviewed with and obtained recommendation for renewal as a certified lay speaker from the district committee on Lay Servant Ministries, or equivalent structure, and the approval of the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries, or equivalent structure, for recertification.

To become certified as a lay speaker, you must complete a track of study that includes one course from each of the following subject categories:

1. The BASIC Course for Lay Servant Ministries
2. Leading Worship
 - Leading Worship – Taylor Burton-Edwards
 - Your Ministry of Leading Worship 101 (online)
3. Leading Prayer
 - Leading Public Prayer – Debra R. Tyree
 - Leading Public Prayer (online)
4. Discovering Spiritual Gifts
 - Discover Your Spiritual Gifts – William J. Carter OR For the Common Good – Christine Harman
 - Rediscovering Our Spiritual Gifts (online)
5. Preaching
 - Called to Preach – Dawn Chesser
 - From Your Heart to Theirs: Delivering an Effective Sermon – Tony Franks and David Carroll
6. United Methodist Heritage
 - Living Our United Methodist Beliefs – George Hovaness Donigian
 - Living Our United Methodist Beliefs (online)
7. United Methodist Polity
 - Life Together in the United Methodist Connection – Beth Galbreath
 - Life Together in the United Methodist Connection (online)
8. Other courses as may be determined by your annual conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries, or equivalent structure

Certified Lay Ministers

A certified lay minister is a certified lay servant or certified lay missionary (or equivalent as defined by his or her central conference) who is called and equipped to conduct public worship, care for the congregation, assist in program leadership, develop new and existing faith communities, preach the Word, lead small groups, or establish community outreach ministries as part of a ministry team with the supervision and support of a clergy person.

A certified lay minister is assigned by a district superintendent in accordance with ¶419.2.

The certified lay minister serves to enhance the quality of ministry, much like a class leader did in early Methodism, through service in the local church, circuit, or cooperative parish, or by expanding team ministry in other churches and charges. As with lay ministry in early Methodism, the certified lay minister uses his or her spiritual gifts as evidence of God's grace. See also ¶268.

To become a **Certified Lay Minister**, you need to complete the following requirements:

1. Be certified as a lay servant or lay missionary (or equivalent as defined by your central conference).
2. Obtain written recommendation from the pastor and the church council or charge conference of the local church in which you hold membership.
3. Complete a track of study for certified lay ministers relevant to your assignment as defined by Discipleship Ministries or the National Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministry in collaboration with Discipleship Ministries and the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries or equivalent structure.
4. Receive a letter of recommendation from your district superintendent.
5. Have all requirements for certification, including appropriate screening and assessment, as defined by the annual conference, reviewed by the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries, or equivalent structure, for referral to the district committee on ordained ministry for examination of persons who have applied in writing to be certified lay ministers and to make recommendation for certification (see ¶666.10). After the district committee on ordained ministry interviews you, the district committee on ordained ministry will make a recommendation to the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries for final certification by that committee.

To maintain status as a **Certified Lay Minister**, you must:

1. Submit an annual report to the charge conference or church council where membership is held and to the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries or equivalent structure, giving evidence of satisfactory performance as a certified lay minister.

2. Every two years, obtain a ministry review by the committee on pastor-parish relations, church council, or charge conference from the congregation of which you are a member, or when under assignment, from the committee on pastor-parish relations, charge conference, or supervisory board of the ministry setting in which you are assigned.
3. Complete a Lay Servant Ministries advanced course or approved continuing education event, as defined by the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries or equivalent structure in the last two years.
4. Obtain recommendation for recertification from the district superintendent.
5. Have all requirements for recertification reviewed by the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries or equivalent structure for referral to the district committee on ordained ministry (for examination every two years when you have applied in writing to be renewed as a certified lay minister and obtain recommendation for recertification; see ¶666.10). After the district committee on ordained ministry interviews you, the district committee on ordained ministry will make a recommendation to the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries for final recertification by that committee.

Certified Lay Ministers with Specializations

We are excited to announce certified lay minister specializations in the areas of:

- UM Parish Nurse
- Children's Faith Formation
- NPHLM Lay Missioner
- Men's Ministry Specialist
- UMC Path 1 Lay Church Planter
- Congregational Care Minister (CCM)
- Certified UM Church Administrator (CUMCA)
- Simple Accountable Leadership Structure Specialist (SAS Coach)
- The Methodist Story and the Ministry of Memory (MSMM)

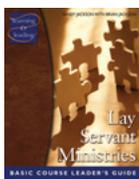
To become a certified lay minister (CLM) with a specialization in a particular area, the CLM would need to complete additional educational/training requirements specific to that area of ministry. Each specialization has its own accreditation body. Specific requirements for **UM Parish Nurse, NPHLM Lay Missioner, UMC Path 1 Lay Church Planter, Children's Faith Formation, Men's Ministry Specialist, Congregational Care Minister, Simple Accountable Structure Coach, and Certified UM Church Administrator**, and the **Methodist Story** can be found at [UMCDiscipleship.org/resources/certified-lay-minister](https://umcdiscipleship.org/resources/certified-lay-minister).

Lay Servant Ministries Course Offerings

Introduction to Lay Ministry *The BASIC Course*

This course is foundational for all courses in Lay Servant Ministries. Participants are encouraged to discover and employ personal spiritual gifts as God intended and 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.

Youth Addendum: A youth addendum for The BASIC Course is available for download at: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/introduction-to-lay-ministry-the-basic-course>. The United Methodist Committee on Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Ministries has developed a version of The BASIC Course for use with American Sign Language. For more information on this resource, please contact the committee through their website: UMDeaf.org.



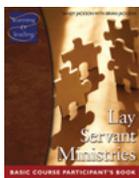
Lay Servant Ministries - Basic Course

Sandy Zeigler Jackson and Brian Jackson

Leader's Guide • DR627 • 978-0-88177-627-0 • \$12.00

(For course resources such as Powerpoint slides, go to:

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/introduction-to-lay-ministry-the-BASIC-course>)



Lay Servant Ministries - Basic Course

Sandy Zeigler Jackson and Brian Jackson

Participant's Book • DR626 • 978-0-88177-626-3 • \$12.00

Leader's Guide and Participant's Book available in ePub and Kindle (\$9.99)

Introduction to Lay Ministry *The BASIC Course (SPANISH)*



Ministerios de servicio laico - Curso básico

Sandy Zeigler Jackson and Brian Jackson

Guía del líder • DR676 • 978-0-88177-676-8 • \$12.00

Leader's Guide and Participant's Book available in ePub and Kindle (\$9.99)



Ministerios de servicio laico - Curso básico

Sandy Zeigler Jackson and Brian Jackson

Libro del participante • DR679 • 978-0-88177-679-9 • \$12.00

Leader's Guide and Participant's Book available in ePub and Kindle (\$9.99)

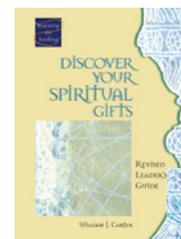
ADVANCED COURSES *Spiritual Gifts*

Discover Your Spiritual Gifts

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.

For more information on providing this course for the deaf and hard of hearing, please contact The United Methodist Committee on Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Ministries at:

UMDeaf.org.



Discover Your Spiritual Gifts (REVISED)

William J. Carter

Leader's Guide • DRPDF441 • \$9.00 (PDF Only)



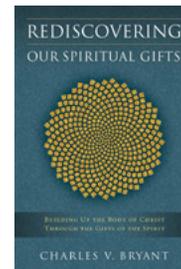
Each One a Minister

William J. Carter

Participant's Book

DR375 • 978-0-88177-375-0 • \$14.00

(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)



Rediscovering Our Spiritual Gifts

Charles V. Bryant

633 • 978-0-8358-0633-6 • \$11.99

Additional Resource for Leaders



Your Spiritual Gifts Inventory

Charles V. Bryant

819 • 978-0-8358-0819-4 • \$21.99

Package of 10

Additional Resource for Leaders

ADVANCED COURSES *Spiritual Gifts*

Rediscovering Our Spiritual Gifts

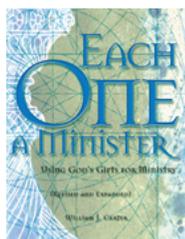
The early church knew what today's church is rediscovering: that Christians depend on God's spiritual gifts to provide the foundation for their ministry. Learn more about how your spiritual gifts support your Lay Servant Ministries in this two-week ONLINE course.



Rediscovering Our Spiritual Gifts (ONLINE COURSE)

\$80.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries



Each One a Minister

William J. Carter

Participant's Book • DR375 • 978-0-88177-375-0 • \$14.00
(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)

Ordering Tips

When ordering resources from UpperRoom.org/store, enter the product number from this catalog rather than searching by title. To ensure that you receive materials on time, please order them **three weeks** before the class.

ADVANCED COURSES *Spiritual Gifts*

For the Common Good: Discovering and Using Your Spiritual Gifts

This course offers a scriptural understanding of spiritual gifts as always given "for the common good." By helping participants identify and link their gifts, abilities, and sense of calling, laity will learn the powerful connection between spiritual gifts and vocational discernment in the context of the mission of their local church. They will also learn how to make spiritual gifts discernment a part of their congregation's culture and commitment to equip mission-focused leaders who make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.



For the Common Good: Discovering and Using Your Spiritual Gifts

Christine Harman

Leader's Guide • DRPDF961 • 978-0-88177-961-5 • \$9.00
(PDF Only)



For the Common Good: Discovering and Using Your Spiritual Gifts

Christine Harman

Participant's Book • DR958 • 978-0-88177-958-5 • \$14.00
(ePub, \$9.99)

For the Common Good: Discovering and Your Spiritual Gifts

By reading, discussing, and engaging in practical exercises, participants will discover that God gives spiritual grace gifts for two purposes: one, to uniquely serve on a personal level, and two, how gifts and the gifts of others work together in their church for the common good. This two-week ONLINE course uses the Christine Harman books above.

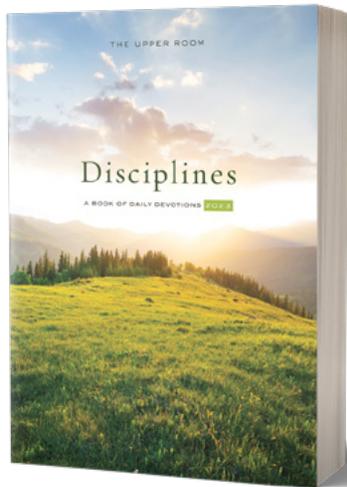


Rediscovering Our Spiritual Gifts (ONLINE COURSE)

\$80.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

Inspiration for Your Daily Walk



The Upper Room Disciplines 2023

A Book of Daily Devotions

Regular Edition • 1985 • 9780835819855 • \$16.99

Enlarged Print • 1986 • 9780835819862 • \$19.99

(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)

Center your heart and mind on God each day with the 2023 *Upper Room Disciplines*. Readings in this year-long devotional will awaken and strengthen your awareness of God's presence in your daily life. Each week a different Christian thought leader offers daily meditations, scripture readings, and prayers that will help you engage God's Word.

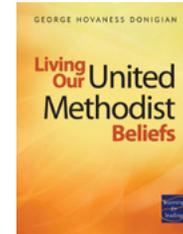
Based on the Revised Common Lectionary, a three-year cycle of Sunday scripture readings, *Disciplines* features: a focal scripture passage for each day, short daily meditations from 53 leaders from diverse Christian traditions, a reflection or prayer to carry with you each day, weekly scripture overviews, an index of scripture readings, and a guide to daily prayer.

Among the writers for the 2023 edition of *Disciplines* are Hannah Adair Bonner, Tex Sample, Barbara Brown Taylor, Elizabeth Corrie, Bishop Karen Oliveto, Richard Morgan, Chanequa Walker-Barnes, and Peter Wallace.

ADVANCED COURSES *Heritage*

Living Our United Methodist Beliefs (*United Methodist Heritage*)

This course will explore the special gifts of theology, witness, and organization that The United Methodist Church brings to the church universal, how we got where we are today, and how our distinctive emphases are still needed in the 21st-century church.

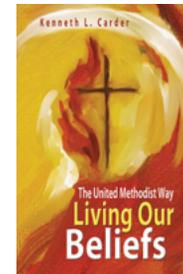


Living Our United Methodist Beliefs

George Hovaness Donigian

Leader's Guide • DR715 • 978-0-88177-715-4 • \$ 7.99

(ePub and Kindle, \$4.99)



Living Our Beliefs: The United Methodist Way

Kenneth L. Carder

Participant's Book • DR571 • 978-0-88177-571-6 • \$13.00

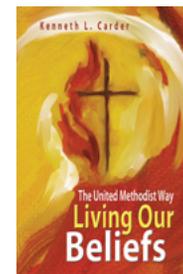
(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)



Living Our United Methodist Beliefs (ONLINE COURSE)

\$80.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries



Living Our Beliefs: The United Methodist Way

Kenneth L. Carder

Participant's Book • DR571 • 978-0-88177-571-6 • \$13.00

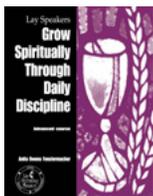
(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)

ADVANCED COURSES

Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition

Structured around Wesley's "means of grace," this study covers, among other topics, prayer, Scripture, the Lord's Supper, and fasting – major features in John Wesley's devotional life.

Participants will learn how they can apply Wesley's ministry to their own life.

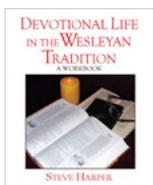


[Grow Spiritually Through Daily Discipline](#)

Anita Owens Fenstermacher

Leader's Guide • DRPDF198 • 978-0-88177-198-5

\$9.00 (PDF Only)



[Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition](#)

Steve Harper

Participant's Book • 740 • 978-0-8358-0740-1 • \$14.99

(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)



[Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition](#)

Steve Harper

Participant's Book • 700 • 978-0-8358-0700-5 • \$6.99

Additional Resource (Korean Translation)

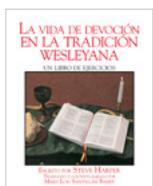
Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition (SPANISH)



[La Formación Espiritual a Través de la Disciplina Diaria](#)

Anita Owens Fenstermacher

Guía del líder • DRPDF431 • \$9.00 (PDF Only)



[La Vida de Devoción en la Tradición Wesleyana](#)

Steve Harper

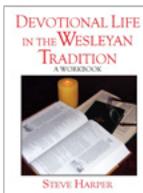
Libro del Participante • 876 • 978-0-8358-0876-7 • \$14.99



Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition (ONLINE COURSE)

\$70.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries



[Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition](#)

Steve Harper

Participant's Book • 740 • 978-0-8358-0740-1 • \$14.99

(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)

Class Leaders

This course will explore the office of class leader in the Wesleyan Methodist tradition. It examines the need for recovering the lay pastoral ministry of the class leader for the 21st-century church. NOTE: Accountable Discipleship is a prerequisite to this course.



[Class Leaders](#)

Steven W. Manskar

Leader's Guide • DR649 • 978-0-88177-649-2 • \$9.00

(ePub and Kindle, \$4.99)



[Class Leaders: Recovering a Tradition](#)

David Lowes Watson

Participant's Book • 978-15791-0954-7 • \$27.00

Available at WipfandStock.com

Class Leaders: Recovering a Tradition

This course examines the need for recovering the lay pastoral ministry of the class leader for the 21st-century church. NOTE: Accountable Discipleship is a prerequisite to this course. NOTE: Accountable Discipleship is a prerequisite to this course and uses the Manskar and Lowes Watson texts above.



Class Leaders: Recovering a Tradition (ONLINE COURSE)

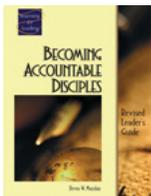
\$70.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

ADVANCED COURSES

Accountable Discipleship

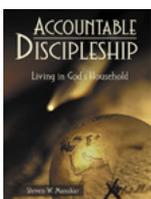
This course focuses on the concept of the household of God, Scripture as divine revelation, Wesleyan understandings of grace, and the importance of the class leader in the development of the Methodist movement.



Becoming Accountable Disciples (REVISED)

Steven W. Manskar

Leader's Guide • DRPDF440 • \$9.00 (PDF Only)



Accountable Discipleship

Steven W. Manskar

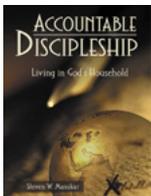
Participant's Book • DR339 • 978-0-88177-339-2 • \$15.00
(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)



Becoming Accountable Disciples (ONLINE COURSE)

\$65.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries



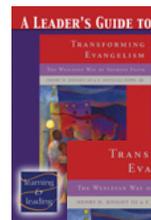
Accountable Discipleship

Steven W. Manskar

Participant's Book • DR339 • 978-0-88177-339-2 • \$15.00
(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)

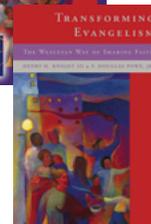
Transforming Evangelism

This course leads participants to learn from John Wesley how to practice relational evangelism. They will discover that evangelism involves not only sharing our faith with others but also welcoming people into a community where they can grow in faith.



Lead in Evangelism

Leader's Guide • DRPDF11 • \$9.00 (PDF Only)



Transforming Evangelism

Henry H. Knight III and F. Douglas Powe, Jr.

Participant's Book
DR485 • 978-0-88177-485-6 • \$14.00
(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)



La Evangelización Transformadora: La manera wesleyana de compartir la fe

Guía para el liderato facilitador del curso • DRPDF969
\$9.00 (PDF Only)



La Evangelización Transformadora: La manera wesleyana de compartir la fe

Henry H. Knight III and F. Douglas Powe, Jr.

Libro del participante
DR967 • 978-0-88177-967-7 • \$10.00
(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)



Transforming Evangelism (ONLINE COURSE)

\$65.00

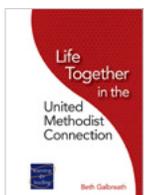
Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

ADVANCED COURSES *Polity*

Life Together in the United Methodist Connection

(*United Methodist Polity*)

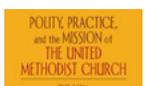
This course gives participants an overview of the structure and organization of The United Methodist Church. *A copy of the 2016 Book of Discipline is recommended for both the online and text version of this course.*



[Life Together in the United Methodist Connection](#)

Beth Galbreath

Leader's Guide • DR701 • 978-0-88177-701-7 • \$10.00



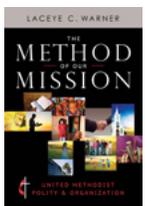
[Polity, Practice, and the Mission of The United Methodist Church](#)

Thomas Edward Frank

Participant's Book • AB531 • 978-0-687-33531-2 • \$18.99



OR



[The Method of Our Mission](#)

Lacey C. Warner

Participant's Book • AB717 • 978-1-4267-6717-3 • \$23.00

Life Together in the United Methodist Connection

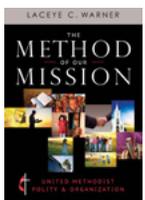


Life Together in the United Methodist Connection

(*ONLINE COURSE*)

\$75.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries



[The Method of Our Mission](#)

Lacey C. Warner

Participant's Book • AB717 • 978-1-4267-6717-3 • \$23.00

ADVANCED COURSES *Leading Worship*

Leading Worship

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



[Leading Worship](#)

Taylor Burton-Edwards

Leader's Guide • DR685 • 978-0-88177-685-0 • \$10.00

(ePub and Kindle, \$7.99)



[Worshipping with United Methodists \(REVISED\)](#)

Hoyt Hickman

Participant's Book • AB526 • 978-0-687-33526-8 • \$11.99

(Kindle, \$9.99)

Planning Worship

This course builds on the course Leading Worship, and it is grounded in the principles and practices of worship planning.

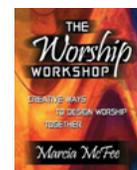


[Planning Worship](#)

Taylor Burton-Edwards

Leader's Guide • DR682 • 978-0-88177-682-9 • \$10.00

(ePub and Kindle, \$7.99)



[The Worship Workshop: Creative Ways to Design Worship Together](#)

Marcia McFee

Participant's Book • AB634 • 978-0-687-04634-8 • \$12.99

Your Ministry of Planning & Leading Worship

This course will focus on basic worship leadership skills for laypersons who assist in leading worship and uses the textbooks above.



Your Ministry of Planning & Leading Worship (*ONLINE COURSE*)

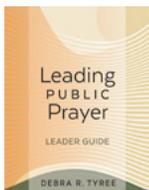
\$95.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

ADVANCED COURSES *Leading Prayer*

Public Prayer

Praying in public can be daunting, but prayer is something one learns. This course on praying in public will help the participant grow in confidence and skill in public prayer and enrich their personal prayer life.



Leading Public Prayer

Debra R. Tyree

Leader's Guide • DRPDF918 • \$9.00 (PDF Only)



Shaping the Prayers of the People: The Art of Intercession

Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher

Participant's Book • 978-0-8028-7097-1 • \$15.99

(ePub, \$15.00)

Available at Cokesbury.com

Leading Public Prayer

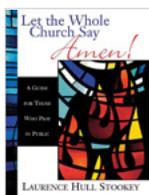
Prayer is something we learn; it is something that can be taught. For many, however, the only teaching about prayer they ever receive is modeled in Sunday worship. This course may challenge some of your assumptions, test some of your preconceived ideas, stretch your thinking, and enrich your prayer life. It will, at the very least, present you with an opportunity to grow in the discipline of leading public prayer.



Leading Public Prayer for Lay Leaders (ONLINE COURSE)

\$75.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries



Let the Whole Church Say Amen!

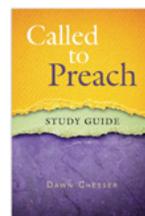
Laurence Hull Stookey

Participant's Book • AB9077 • 978-0-687-09077-8 • \$19.99

ADVANCED COURSES *Preaching*

Called to Preach

Called to Preach is designed for those who have not completed formal preaching training, for pastors seeking a basic refresher course, and for others who are called upon to preach in a pastor's absence. *Called to Preach* is the required preaching course in the lay speaker track of study.

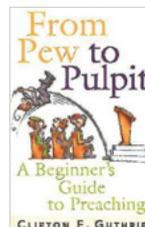


Called to Preach

Dawn Chesser

Leader's Guide • DRPDF876 • 978-0-88177-876-2

\$9.00 (PDF Only)



From Pew to Pulpit

Clifton F. Guthrie

Participant's Book • AB6660 • 978-0-687-06660-5 • \$18.99

(Available in Kindle, \$9.99)



Called to Preach (ONLINE COURSE*)

\$80.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/Lay-Servant-Ministries

From Pew to Pulpit is the Participant's Book for this course. See info above.

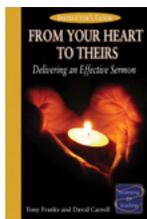
This online version of *Called to Preach** is designed for those who have not had formal preaching training. It provides a learning experience for the online environments that many preachers are navigating these days. It also covers topics like situating your computer, arranging your background, using microphones, and engaging with the camera – and includes actual real-time Zoom preaching experience.

*LSM preaching courses have always required an in-person experience. Following special permission in May of 2020 by the education committee, all LSM courses may be taught using online tools during and after pandemic, pending permission/approval by the local Conference Committee on Lay Servant Ministries.

ADVANCED COURSES *Preaching*

From Your Heart to Theirs: Delivering an Effective Sermon

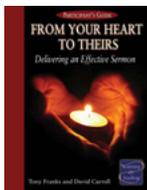
Moving beyond the basics of public speaking and the foundations necessary for preparing an engaging sermon, this course also includes types of sermons—from exegetical to topical to children’s sermons—as well as how to find a story, how to use the hymnal, and how to move from communication on paper to beyond the paper.



[From Your Heart to Theirs: Delivering an Effective Sermon](#)

Tony Franks and David Carroll

Leader’s Guide • DR535 • 978-0-88177-535-8 • \$8.00



[From Your Heart to Theirs: Delivering an Effective Sermon](#)

Tony Franks and David Carroll

Participant’s Book • DR536 • 978-0-88177-536-5 • \$6.00

From Your Heart to Theirs: Delivering an Effective Sermon

This course will guide participants in developing a sermon in advance and give them an opportunity to practice it in a group and uses the textbooks above.



From Your Heart to Theirs: Delivering an Effective Sermon (ONLINE COURSE)

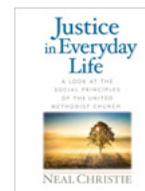
\$80.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

OTHER ADVANCED COURSES

Justice in Everyday Life

This course looks at the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church.

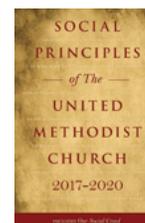


[Justice in Everyday Life: A Look at the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church](#)

Neal Christie

Leader’s Guide • DR652 • 978-0-88177-652-2 • \$10.00

(ePub and Kindle, \$4.99)



[Social Principles of The United Methodist Church 2017-2020](#)

Participant’s Book • 9781501835773 • \$6.99

Available at Cokesbury.com

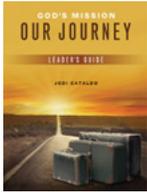
Ordering Tips

When ordering resources from UpperRoom.org/store, enter the product number from this catalog rather than searching by title. To ensure that you receive materials on time, please order them **three weeks** before the class.

ADVANCED COURSES

God's Mission... Our Journey

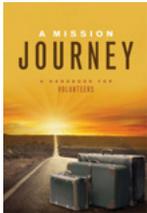
This course will provide participants with a better understanding of a holistic approach to participation in God's mission to the world and equip lay servants for more effective missional engagement in their communities and beyond.



God's Mission... Our Journey

Jodi Cataldo

Leader's Guide • PDF1806 • 978-0-83581-806-3
\$9.00 (PDF Only)



A Mission Journey: A Handbook for Volunteers

Participant's Book • 1786 • 978-0-8358-1786-8 • \$17.00
(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)

God's Mission... Our Journey

This course is designed to help lay servants consider some of the basic requirements of Christian transformational leaders in responding to the mission to make disciples for the transformation of the world. It uses the textbooks above.



God's Mission... Our Journey (ONLINE COURSE)

\$70.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

Lay Servants as Christian Transformational Leaders

This course will guide lay servants seeking to be more empowered to lead their congregations toward vitality.



Lay Servants as Christian Transformational Leaders

Marc Brown, Kathy Merry, John Briggs

Leader's Guide • DRPDF884 • 978-0-88177-884-7
\$9.00 (PDF Only)



Lay Servants as Christian Transformational Leaders

Marc Brown, Kathy Merry, John Briggs

Participant's Book • DR881 • 978-0-88177-881-6 • \$18.00
(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)

Lay Servants as Christian Transformational Leaders

This course is designed to help lay servants consider some of the basic requirements of Christian transformational leaders in responding to the mission to make disciples for the transformation of the world. It uses the Brown, Merry, and Briggs texts above.



Lay Servants as Christian Transformational Leaders (ONLINE COURSE)

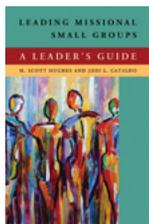
\$70.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

ADVANCED COURSES

Leading Missional Small Groups

This course teaches the Wesleyan way to form missional communities and congregations. It is based on the conviction that just as holiness of heart leads to holiness of life, it is communities of holy love that participate in God's mission in the world.

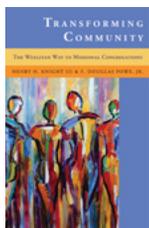


Leading Missional Small Groups

M. Scott Hughes and Jodi L. Cataldo

Leader's Guide • DRPDF875 • 978-0-88177-875-5

\$9.00 (PDF Only)



Transforming Community

Henry H. Knight III and F. Douglas Powe, Jr.

Participant's Book • DR754 • 978-0-88177-754-3 • \$15.00

(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)

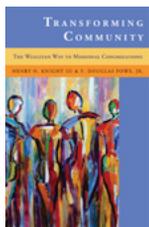
Leading Missional Small Groups



Leading Missional Small Groups (ONLINE COURSE)

\$65.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries



Transforming Community

Henry H. Knight, III and F. Douglas Powe, Jr.

Participant's Book • DR754 • 978-0-88177-754-3 • \$15.00

(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)

Come to the Table

Deepen your experience of Holy Communion through this wide-ranging study of *This Holy Mystery*, Scripture, church history, and United Methodist theology and practice of the sacrament. This course will reference, but go beyond, the official U.M. documents to include art, music, film, and video resources to enrich our understanding and participation in the holy meal.



Come to the Table (ONLINE COURSE)

\$70.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

Come to the Waters

Deepen your experience of baptism, confirmation, and reaffirmation of baptism through this wide-ranging study of *By Water and the Spirit*, Scripture, church history, and United Methodist theology and practice of the sacrament.



Come to the Waters (ONLINE COURSE)

\$70.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

Patterned by Grace: How Liturgy Shapes Us

The course will help those who want to discover the formational and transformational power of the Spirit at work in the historic worship and liturgy of the church.



Patterned by Grace: How Liturgy Shapes Us (ONLINE COURSE)

\$70.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

ADVANCED COURSES

Lay Pastoral Care Giving

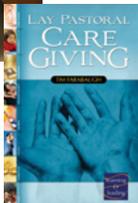
This course offers insights into the life span and the dynamics of contemporary life to help church leaders reach out with God's love and care to others.



[Leading in Lay Pastoral Care](#)

Brian Jackson

Leader's Guide • DRPDF596 • 978-0-88177-596-9 • \$9.00 (PDF Only)



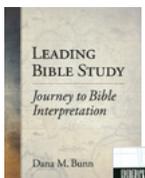
[Lay Pastoral Care Giving](#)

Tim Farabaugh

Participant's Book • DR554 • 978-0-88177-554-9
\$18.00

Leading Bible Study

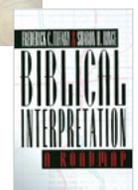
This course opens a new world for many lay servants who have not had professional training in biblical interpretation.



[Leading Bible Study](#)

Dana M. Bunn

Leader's Guide • DRPDF780 • 978-0-88177-780-2 • \$9.00 (PDF Only)



Biblical Interpretation: A Roadmap

Frederick C. Tiffany and Sharon H. Ringe

Participant's Book • 978-0-68701-608-2 • \$28.99

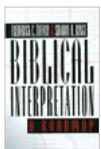
Available at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

Leading Bible Study



Leading Bible Study (ONLINE COURSE)

\$65.00 • Available at [BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries](https://www.BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries)



Biblical Interpretation: A Roadmap

Frederick C. Tiffany and Sharon H. Ringe

Participant's Book • 978-0-68701-608-2 • \$28.99

Available at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

Lay Servants Lead in Conflict Resolution

Every church deals with conflict, both healthy and unhealthy, and lay servants can be equipped and empowered to help lead through those times of conflict as a time of transformation.



[Lay Servants Lead in Conflict Resolution](#)

Regina Allen

Leader's Guide • DRPDF789 • 978-0-88177-789-5 • \$9.00 (PDF Only)



[The Spirit and Art of Conflict Transformation](#)

Thomas Porter

Participant's Book • 1026 • 978-0-8358-1026-5 • \$25.00

Dancing with Words

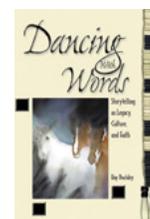
Participants in the course will learn what constitutes a good story, discover storytelling styles, learn the techniques of effective storytelling, and practice creating stories from their experiences.



[Tell Stories](#)

Ray Buckley

Leader's Guide • DR408 • 978-0-88177-408-5 • \$9.00



[Dancing with Words](#)

Ray Buckley

Participant's Book • DR407 • 978-0-88177-407-8 • \$14.00

ADVANCED COURSES

Biblical Storytelling I

This is a two-week introduction to the ancient-future art and spiritual discipline of telling the sacred stories of Scripture. Participants will discover how to tell a story from scripture by heart (not by memory), using the methods of the Network of Biblical Storytellers International.



Biblical Storytelling I (ONLINE COURSE)

\$65.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

Biblical Storytelling II

This workshop expands on the methods taught in Biblical Storytelling I, exploring storytelling genres and telling the biblical text, including midrash, chancel drama, first-person storytelling, puppetry, and more.



Biblical Storytelling II (ONLINE COURSE)

\$90.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

Children of Abraham

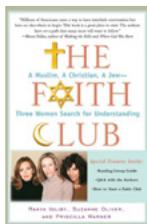
This class is a beginning, an opportunity to explore the mutual roots in story of the three Abrahamic religions. It will focus on what we have in common, how each faith's wisdom can enrich our own, and how to begin having interfaith conversations. Participants must obtain the book *The Faith Club* by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver, and Priscilla Warner, which is not included in the course fee.



Children of Abraham (ONLINE COURSE)

\$65.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries



The Faith Club—A Muslim, a Christian, a Jew: Three Women Search for Understanding

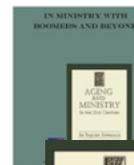
Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver, and Priscilla Warner

Participant's Book • 978-0-74329-048-7 • \$12.99

Available at Cokesbury.com

Aging and Ministry in the 21st Century

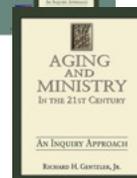
This is a practical guide for building ministry for older adults.



[In Ministry with Boomers and Beyond](#)

Richard H. Gentzler, Jr.

Leader's Guide • DRPDF595 • 978-0-88177-595-2 • \$9.00 (PDF Only)



[Aging and Ministry in the 21st Century](#)

Richard H. Gentzler, Jr.

Participant's Book • DR540 • 978-0-88177-540-2 • \$13.00

Aging and Ministry in the 21st Century

This course offers a rich learning experience that includes knowing more about the aging process and the developmental stages of midlife and older adulthood and how we can best shape our ministry. It uses the Gentzler texts above.



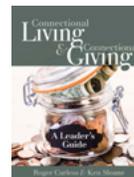
Aging and Ministry in the 21st Century (ONLINE COURSE)

\$70.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

Connectional Living and Connectional Giving

This course helps lay servants understand and share the world-transforming power of connectional giving rooted in the biblical/Wesleyan tradition.



[Connectional Living and Connectional Giving](#)

Roger Curless and Ken Sloane

Leader's Guide • DRPDF933 • 978-0-88177-933-2

\$9.00 (PDF Only)



[Earn. Save. Give. Wesley's Simple Rules for Money](#)

James A. Harnish

Participant's Book • 978-1-630-88392-8 • 13.99

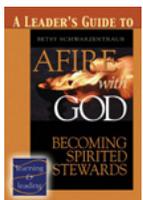
(Large Print, \$16.99 and ePub, \$10.79)

Available at Cokesbury.com

ADVANCED COURSES

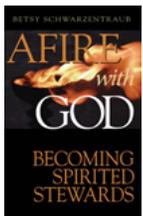
Afire with God

This course helps participants develop a holistic understanding of stewardship.



[Lead in Stewardship](#)

Leader's Guide • DRPDF12 • 978-0-88177-012-4 • \$9.00 (PDF Only)



[Afire with God](#)

Betsy Schwarzentraub

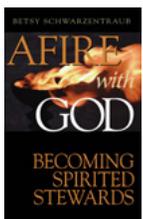
Participant's Book • DR520 • 978-0-88177-520-4
\$15.00



Afire with God (ONLINE COURSE)

\$70.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries



[Afire with God](#)

Betsy Schwarzentraub

Participant's Book • DR520 • 978-0-88177-520-4 • \$15.00

Teach Adults

This course is designed to help provide a basic understanding of the ways in which adults learn and grow.



[Teach Adults](#)

Diana L. Hynson

Leader's Guide • DRPDF10 • 978-0-88177-010-0 • \$9.00 (PDF Only)



[Start Here](#)

Barbara Bruce

Participant's Book • DR303 • 978-0-88177-303-3
\$11.00



Teach Adults (ONLINE COURSE)

\$70.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries



[Start Here](#)

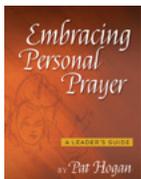
Barbara Bruce

Participant's Book • DR303 • 978-0-88177-303-3 • \$11.00

ADVANCED COURSES

Embracing Personal Prayer

This course helps participants embrace the spiritual power of prayer.



[Embracing Personal Prayer](#)

Pat Hogan

Leader's Guide • DRPDF898 • 978-0-88177-898-4 • \$8.00 (PDF Only)



[Lord, Teach Us to Pray](#)

Margie Burger

Participant's Book • DR570 • 978-0-88177-570-9 • \$10.00

Embracing Personal Prayer

Learners will examine their own prayer lives and discover tools to help in the process of entering personal prayer. Methods such as fasting, listening, using Scripture and hymns, journaling, and intercession prayer will help you grow in practical ways.



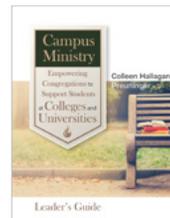
Embracing Personal Prayer (ONLINE COURSE)

\$70.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

Campus Ministry: Empowering Congregations to Support Students at Colleges and Universities

This course helps lay servants understand and communicate the key role played by local churches in nourishing the spiritual lives of college students through campus ministries.



[Campus Ministry: Empowering Congregations to Support Students at Colleges and Universities](#)

Colleen Hallagan Preuninger

Leader's Guide • DRPDF938 • 978-0-88177-938-7
\$9.00 (PDF Only)



[Campus Ministry: Empowering Congregations to Support Students at Colleges and Universities](#)

Colleen Hallagan Preuninger

Participant's Book • DR935 • 978-0-88177-935-6 • \$14.00
(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)

Campus Ministry: Empowering Congregations Support Students

Learners will examine their own prayer lives and discover tools to help in the process of entering personal prayer. Methods such as fasting, listening, using Scripture and hymns, journaling, and intercession prayer will help you grow in practical ways.



Campus Ministry: Empowering Congregations Support Students (ONLINE COURSE)

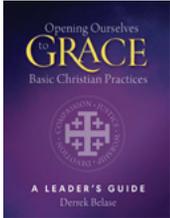
\$70.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

ADVANCED COURSES

Opening Ourselves to Grace: Basic Christian Practices

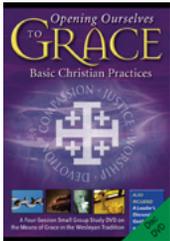
This video-based course helps lay servant leaders embrace and communicate a Wesleyan understanding of basic Christian practices (works of piety and mercy) as means of grace.



[Opening Ourselves to Grace](#)

Derrek Belase

Leader's Guide • DRPDF934 • 978-0-88177-934-9
\$9.00 (PDF Only)

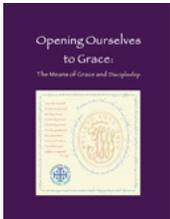


[Opening Ourselves to Grace: Basic Christian Practices \(DVD\)](#)

Mark V. Purushotham (producer)

(includes *Opening Ourselves to Grace: The Means of Grace and Discipleship* PDF)

DVD • DR508 • 978-0-88177-508-2 • \$26.00



Opening Ourselves to Grace: The Means of Grace and Discipleship

Steven W. Manskar

Participant Guide

Available as PDF download at UMCDiscipleship.org/resources/lay-servant-ministries-advanced-courses

Opening Ourselves to Grace: Basic Christian Practices

This course is designed to help participants learn about grace while exploring the practices that help them nurture and watch over one another in love.



Opening Ourselves to Grace: Basic Christian Practices (ONLINE COURSE)

\$70.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

Discipleship Begins with Relationship: Creating a Spiritual Growth Plan to See All The People

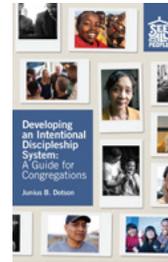
This course helps lay servant leaders understand and adapt an intentional discipleship plan for their church context using resources from the See All The People movement.



Discipleship Begins with Relationship: Creating A Spiritual Growth Plan to See All The People

David C. Teel

Leader's Guide • DR944 • 978-0-88177-944-8 • Free Resource
Available at UMCDiscipleship.org/resources/lay-servant-ministries-advanced-courses



Developing an Intentional Discipleship System: A Guide for Congregations

Junius B. Dotson

Participant's Book • COM944 • \$9.99

Available in paperback and as a free PDF download at Store.UMCDiscipleship.org.



Engaging Your Community: A Guide to Seeing All the People

Junius B. Dotson

Participant's Book • COM962 • \$9.99

Available in paperback and as a free PDF download at Store.UMCDiscipleship.org.

ADVANCED COURSES

Teaching Biblical Faith: Leading Small Group Bible Studies

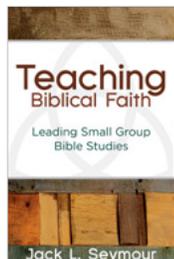
This course is designed to help participants lead small groups through ten thoughtful approaches to scripture study. The goal is scriptural wisdom shaping both personal and congregational decision-making that shapes a more authentic, biblical faith.



[Teaching Biblical Faith: Leading Small Group Bible Studies](#)

Jack L. Seymour

Leader's Guide • DRPDF966 • \$9.00 (PDF Only)



Teaching Biblical Faith: Leading Small Group Bible Studies

Jack L. Seymour

Participant's Book • 978-1-63088-430-7 • \$10.99

(ePub, \$11.99)

Available at Cokesbury.com.

Teaching Biblical Faith: Leading Small Group Bible Studies

This course teaches participants how to shape a study of Scripture for a small group, how to teach so the witnesses of the Bible are respected and honored, and how to help today's readers find meaning and direction. It uses the Jack L. Seymour texts above.



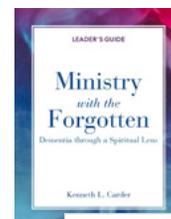
Teaching Biblical Faith: Leading Small Group Bible Studies (ONLINE COURSE)

\$70.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

Ministry with the Forgotten: Dementia Through a Spiritual Lens

This course is designed to help laity and clergy deepen their understanding of persons living with dementia and help all maintain their identity and worth as beloved children of God. Confronting the deep personal and theological questions created by loving people with dementia, Carder calls the church to a deeper discipleship defined by the quality of our caring and receiving relationships. Participants will discover what it means to carry each other's memories, joys, and diminishments together in community. Through loving practices that nurture and incorporate persons with Alzheimer's and dementia into the church's life and ministry, we experience a spiritual wholeness rooted in God's grace beyond our own strengths and capacities.



[Ministry with the Forgotten: Dementia through a Spiritual Lens](#)

Kenneth L. Carder

Leader's Guide • DRPDF965 • \$9.00 (PDF Only)



Ministry with the Forgotten: Dementia through a Spiritual Lens

Kenneth L. Carder

Participant's Book • 978-150188-024-7 • \$15.49

(ePub, \$15.49)

Available at Cokesbury.com.

Ministry with the Forgotten: Dementia Through a Spiritual Lens

This course seeks to equip individuals to serve persons living with dementia and lead ministries that serve those with dementia and Alzheimer's – and the people who care for them. It uses the texts above by Kenneth L. Carder.



Ministry with the Forgotten: Dementia Through a Spiritual Lens (ONLINE COURSE)

\$70.00

Available at BeADisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries

ADVANCED COURSES

Soul Reset: Relearning the Rhythms of Grace Through Daily Life with God

This course helps participants discover the power of rest through practices that create spiritual wholeness. Beyond toxic cultures and “idols” of busyness, distraction, and consumption at the root of so much of our anxiety and dis-ease, Rev. Dotson invites course participants to find their rest in the healing nearness of Jesus Christ. See the revised Leader’s Guide, **Fall 2023**.



Soul Reset: Relearning the Rhythms of Grace Through Daily Life with God

David C. Teel

Leader’s Guide • DRPDF972 • \$9.00 (PDF Only)

Available June 2023 from UpperRoom.org/store



Soul Reset: Breakdown, Breakthrough, and the Journey to Wholeness

Junius B. Dotson

Participant’s Book • 978-083581-896-4 • \$14.99
(ePub and Kindle, \$9.99)

Loving People and Planet in God’s Name

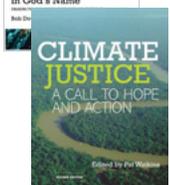
This course empowers lay participants to engage local churches in creation care and environmental justice. Lay participants will see this work as the appropriate response of disciples of Jesus Christ to the realities of climate change. Using the new revised second edition of *Climate Justice: A Call to Hope and Action*, this course helps communities grow deeper in their faith through the caring creation of practical and context-specific spiritual practices that mitigate the effects of reckless human consumption.



Loving People and Planet in God’s Name

Robert Downs & Cris Zinkiewicz

Leader’s Guide • DRPDF977 • \$9.00 (PDF Only)



Climate Justice: A Call to Hope and Action, Second Edition

Edited by Pat Watkins

Participant’s Book • 978-1-952501-23-4 • \$24.99

(Kindle, \$5.95) • Available at UWFaithResources.org

Exploring a Culture of Care for a Caring Congregation

This new advanced course, based on *The Caring Congregation: Implementation Guide*, equips participants with tools for deep listening and grows their capacity to care in difficult situations of loss – all within healthy boundaries and a thoughtful awareness of the varying cultural contexts of caring ministry.



Exploring a Culture of Care for a Caring Congregation

Joy Dister-Dominguez

Leader’s Guide • DRPDF • \$9.00 (PDF Only)



The Caring Congregation Ministry: Implementation Guide

Karen Lampe & Melissa Gepford

Participant’s Book • 978-1-791013-38-7 • \$19.99 (ePub, \$13.49)

Available at Cokesbury.com.



El ministerio del cuidado congregacional: Guía para la implementación*

Karen Lampe & Melissa Gepford

Libro del participante • 978-1-791031-23-7 • \$24.99

(ePub, \$13.49)

(Incluye contenido adicional del Manual del Ministro de Atención.)

Disponible en Cokesbury.com, Diciembre 2023.

Las personas necesitan se les cuide, y en las iglesias de todo el mundo, el liderato lucha por brindar ese cuidado. El modelo del Ministerio del Cuidado Congregacional, claramente centrado en el laicado, proporciona una solución, y ha sido adoptado por comunidades de fe de todos los tipos y tamaños.

*Leader’s Guide by Joy Dister-Dominguez (traducido por Alma W. Perez) available **December 2023**.

ADVANCED COURSES

Sacraments: Means of Grace

This advanced course with a leader's guide by Rev. Beth Galbreath crystallizes her unique focus in the online *Be A Disciple* courses on Baptism and Holy Communion. Here Rev. Galbreath combines her approach with the key insights of two books on our sacramental life: *By Water and the Spirit* and *This Holy Mystery*, by the late Gayle Carlton Felton. This study has both in-person and online lesson plans and features additional resources, including PowerPoint slides with notes. Available **Summer 2023** from UMCDiscipleship.org/resources/lay-servant-ministries-advanced-courses.



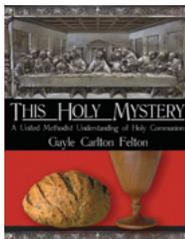
Sacraments: Means of Grace

Beth Galbreath

Leader's Guide • 978-0-88177-976-9 • DRPDF7976

\$9.00 (PDF Only)

Available Summer 2023 from UpperRoom.org/store.

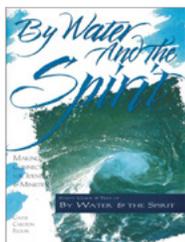


[This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion](#)

Gayle Carlton Felton

Participant's Book • 978-0-88177-457-3 • \$14.00

(ePub, \$9.99)



[By Water and the Spirit](#)

Gayle Carlton Felton

Participant's Book • 978-0-88177-201-2 • \$10.00

(ePub, \$9.99)

Mission Possible 3: Lay Servants Leading and Governing Congregations with Simplified Accountable Structure

Through Simple Accountable Governance, clergy and laity are set free to lead with full accountability to Jesus' Great Commission and the Charge Conference of the congregation. This advanced course with a leader's guide by Kay Kotan and Blake Bradford, co-authors of *Impact: Reclaiming the Call of Lay Ministry*, adapts the rich insights of their books, *Mission Possible 3: A Simple Structure for Missional Effectiveness* and *Mission Possible for the Small Church*, into a new 10-hour advanced course that emphasizes lay leadership structured for maximum missional impact.

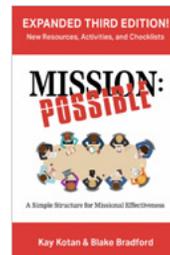


Lay Servants Leading and Governing Congregations with Simplified Accountable Structure

Blake Bradford & Kay Kotan

Leader's Guide • DRPDF • \$9.00 (PDF Only)

Available Fall 2023

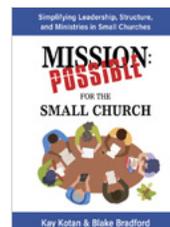


Mission Possible 3+ - A Simple Structure for Missional Effectiveness

Katy Kotan & Blake Bradford

Participant's Book • 978-1950899289 • \$24.99

Available at Amazon.com.



Mission Possible for the Small Church

Katy Kotan & Blake Bradford

Recommended Participant's Book • 978-1-950899-73-9

\$20.95

Available at marketsquarebooks.com.

CERTIFIED LAY MINISTRY TRAINING

Specialization as a UM Parish Nurse

Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Curriculum

This course is designed to introduce and prepare registered nurses for the specialty practice of faith community nursing. The modules are divided into the units of spirituality, professionalism, holistic health, and community. This curriculum is taught by faith community nurses across the United States and worldwide by IPNRC's educational partners. To locate a course in your area or online, go to: [WestbergInstitute.org/faith-community-nursing](https://www.westberginstitute.org/faith-community-nursing).

Specialization as a UMC Path 1 Lay Church Planter

Path 1 Lay Church Planting

This 10-session foundational church-planting course is designed specifically for laypersons. The course will equip people to be able to work in partnership with an annual conference, district, or local church to start new places for new people, including new faith communities and planting new churches. This course is now available online through Path 1 and teachable.com. For more information contact Path 1: [UMCDiscipleship.org/new-church-starts/training-lmpn](https://umcdiscipleship.org/new-church-starts/training-lmpn) or laity@umcdiscipleship.org.

Specialization as a NPHLM Lay Missioner

The National Plan for Hispanic and Latino Ministries (NPHLM) has partnered with the Certified Lay Ministry program and will use the same process as the CLM. The CLM Modules I-IV in the Spanish language cover the same content as the English-language modules but are contextualized. Encuentro I: Organizándonos Para El Servicio Ministerial, and Encuentro II: Conexionalismo Ministerial are now available through an online platform at nphlm.org/curriculum. For more information, contact laity@umcdiscipleship.org or nphlm@umcmmission.org.

Specialization in Children's Faith Formation

The Office of Ministry with Children at Discipleship Ministries provides an online training for the CLM Specialization in Children's Faith Formation.

A portion of this specialization training is offered through the online course, *It takes a Church to Raise a Parent: Helping the Church Community Empower Families* with author, Rachel Turner, and Rev. Dr. Kevin Johnson. For more information on the content of this training and how to register, go to [UMCDiscipleship.org/articles/new-online-teaching-series-it-takes-a-church-to-raise-a-parent](https://umcdiscipleship.org/articles/new-online-teaching-series-it-takes-a-church-to-raise-a-parent) or e-mail childrensministry@umcdiscipleship.org.

Specialization as a Men's Ministry Specialist

The General Commission on United Methodist Men provides a curriculum to train men's ministry specialists who work closely with the Commission and the United Methodist Men leaders in their areas. For more information on training for this specialization, contact the General Commission on United Methodist Men (gcomm.org or 615-340-7145).

Specialization as a Congregational Care Minister (CCM)

The Caring Congregation

Utilizing the training excellence of Rev. Karen Lampe and the ministry experience and partnership of laity and clergy at Church of the Resurrection, CLMs can specialize as congregational care ministers (CCMs). CLMs will need to complete The Caring Congregation's newly revised full Congregational Care Ministry Seminar in addition to their CLM training. This updated training experience utilizes new 2021 congregational care ministry implementation resources. See TheCaringCongregation.com or contact laity@umcdiscipleship.org to find out more about this specialization.

Specialization as a Certified UM Church Administrator (CUMCA)

GCFA and the Academy of Church Business Administration

This specialization is granted through a partnership between the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA) and the office of laity and spiritual leadership at Discipleship Ministries. The course includes two weeks of training and a student project. Training is through The Church Network's Academy of Church Business Administration (ACBA) hosted by GCFA. CLMs completing this course and the required project through GCFA will be credentialed as Certified United Methodist Church Administrators (CUMCA) in addition to certification as Certified Church Administrators. See gcf.org/acba or contact laity@umcdiscipleship.org for more details on this specialization.

Specialization as a Simple Accountable Structure Specialist (SAS Coach)

This specialization is granted through a partnership between the Office of Laity and Spiritual Leadership at Discipleship Ministries and the church consulting/coaching ministry of Kay Kotan and Rev. Blake Bradford. This training equips participants in understanding and leading churches to adopt the simplified, accountable structure (SAS) made permissible by the BOD ¶1247.2 as an alternative to traditional leadership structures (often described as simple/single board governance). This comprehensive equipping opportunity is based on the resources, experience, and training of Kay Kotan and Rev. Blake Bradford who have been working with local church leaders and congregations across the connection for more than a decade.

Specialization in The Methodist Story and the Ministry of Memory (MSMM)

How do we tell our story truthfully? How do we tell it effectively and faithfully as disciples of Jesus Christ? This specialization, granted through a partnership between the Office of Laity and Leadership at Discipleship Ministries and the General Commission on Archives and History (GCAH), is designed to help CLMs dive into the Wesleyan and Methodist tradition from a historical vantage point. Participants will begin with the basics of Methodism from its beginnings in 18th century Britain through its institutionalization in the United States and its reach across the globe. This is followed by revealing work to fill in the gaps of the 'dominant' narrative through histories and perspectives of ignored or excluded others. Participants then develop greater mastery of the practical aspects of remembering the Wesleyan story. At the conclusion, those enrolled will be able to articulate how Methodism in their local context connects with the grand historical trajectory of Methodism around the world.

The first learning experience focuses on **United Methodist History 101**, the second on **Expanding the Narrative: Gender & Ethnic Minority Methodist History**. The final and largest portion adapts GCAH module content from the **Local Church Historians' School** with a focus on the 'grand audit' (how to assess historical value), research (researching regional, communal contexts), and how to present history (the basics of exhibit, timeline, presentation, story-telling). For more information on this specialization's requirements, contact laity@umcdiscipleship.org and gcah@gcah.org.

Available **Fall 2023**.

Information about all CLM Specializations is available at [UMCDiscipleship.org/resources/certified-lay-minister](https://umcdiscipleship.org/resources/certified-lay-minister)

CERTIFIED LAY MINISTRY TRAINING*



[Call and Covenant for Ministry: Module 1](#)

DRPDF3 • \$25.00 (PDF Only) • Minimum Time: 30 hours

The purpose of this module is to provide a basic overview of the call to ministry, theology, and ordering of ministry in The United Methodist Church; explain the role of certified lay minister; support the formation of a mutual ministry team for learning and leading in the congregation; and develop a ministry covenant to guide the mission of the church. Module 1 requires the completion of the "Introduction to Lay Ministry: The BASIC Course" and the Lay Servant Ministries advanced course "Discover Your Spiritual Gifts."



[The Practice of Ministry: Module 2](#)

DRPDF4 • \$25.00 (PDF Only) • Minimum Time: 32 hours

This module covers basic skills for the certified lay minister, including leading worship, preaching and sharing faith, forming discipleship ministries, and providing congregational care. It is intended to be used by the certified lay minister, the mutual ministry team supporting the process in the local church, and the supervising clergy person/mentor assigned.



[Organization for Ministry: Module 3](#)

DRPDF5 • \$25.00 (PDF Only) • Minimum Time: 8 hours

The purpose of this module is to provide a basic understanding of leadership, administration, and congregational development, and to offer tools for maximizing leadership, organization, and resources for faithful and fruitful ministry in various kinds of congregations.



[Connection for Ministry: Module 4](#)

DRPDF6 • \$25.00 (PDF Only) • Minimum Time: 8 hours

The purpose of this module is to provide the certified lay minister with a basic review of United Methodist history, doctrine, and polity; to learn about the connection between the local church, district, conference, and general agencies of the denomination; and to support developing plans for ongoing education. This course concludes with a commitment service.

*With the exception of some conferences using BeADisciple.com for certain CLM modules, most CLM courses have required an in-person learning experience. Following special permission in May of 2020 by the education committee, all CLM courses may be taught using online tools during and after pandemic, pending permission/approval by the local Conference Committee on Lay Servant Ministries.

ALTERNATIVE ADVANCED COURSES

Exception Credit

Each annual conference has the authority to approve additional classes – called exception credit – for its own use. It is important to note that the design of the courses must fit the needs of that local conference and follow the ministry guidelines of Lay Servant Ministries. Courses must be recognized by the annual conference directors of Lay Servant Ministries (LSM) of which the lay servant is a member, and a certificate of completion awarded.

To help individual conferences assess requests for alternative advanced courses for lay servants, the following guidelines are provided.

Materials must fit these guidelines:

- The subject is in line with courses currently in the LSM catalog.
- The content fits the LSM theme of leading, caring, communicating.
- The course will benefit the lay servant for use in the local church.
- The course must provide at least 10 hours of study.
- The course is participatory and led by a facilitator qualified in the subject.

Participant's evaluation needs to address these points:

1. Is the text user-friendly (readable, understandable)?
2. Does the study help develop skills in this specific ministry?
3. Does the material equip laity in becoming stronger witnesses for Christ?
4. An evaluation of the class must be submitted to the district committee on LSM or equivalent.

For suggested alternative advanced courses that might be considered for approval by conference committees on Lay Servant Ministries, contact laity@umcdiscipleship.org.

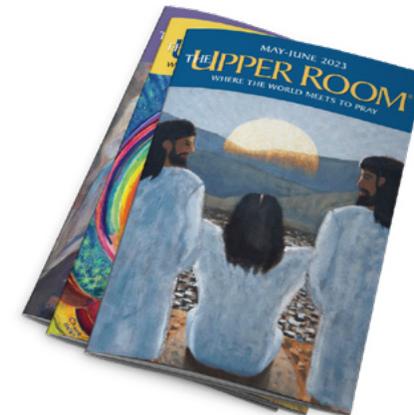


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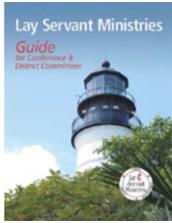
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OTHER RESOURCES FOR LAITY IN LEADERSHIP



Lay Servant Ministries Guide for Conference and District Committees 2017-2020 (valid for 2022)

DR623 • 978-0-88177-623-2 • \$10.00

This guide provides information for conference and district directors and guidance for organizing Lay Servant Ministries.

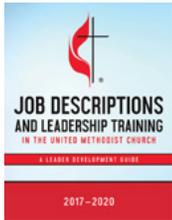


Conference and District Lay Leaders Manual

DR698 • 978-0-88177-698-0 • \$10.00

This manual covers topics such as: our call to ministry, leadership development, leading meetings, leading change, and position descriptions.

Available at UpperRoom.org/store and Cokesbury.com



Job Descriptions and Leadership Training in The United Methodist Church 2017-2020: A Leader Development Guide (valid for 2023)

Discipleship Ministries Staff

DR859 • 978-0-88177-859-5 • \$24.00

This handbook is for congregations to use in identifying and developing leaders as a vital part of their system for transformational discipleship.

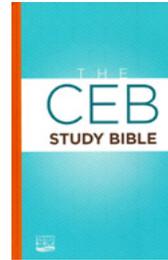


Lay Leader/Lay Member: Connect Your Congregation and Your Annual Conference

978-1-50182-972-7 • \$6.99

The lay leader and lay member to annual conference are key roles in linking the vision and plan of the congregation with the ministry of the annual conference.

Available at Cokesbury.com



The Common English Study Bible (CEB)

78-1-60926-216-7 • \$43.99

Translated by leading scholars, the CEB Study Bible helps readers understand the biblical texts within the larger historical and literary framework of the Bible through book introductions, thousands of notes, more than 300 articles, and full-color images throughout, revealing cultural contexts and exploring relevant background information—while always seeking to inspire fidelity to the witness of faith.

Available at Cokesbury.com.



COVENANT Bible Study

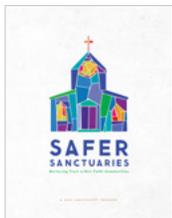
Participant's Book • 978-1-50184-015-9 • \$43.99

This video-based, 24-week Bible study experience engages participants using the biblical concept of covenant to understand God's faithful love and promising call. It promises depth and belonging through conversation and small-group commitment. As a deep biblical symbol and central metaphor for our relationship with God and others, covenant becomes more than a script to be studied – it becomes a performance of faithfulness and a means of grace for those longing to live beyond conflict in the Wesleyan way.

Videos and leader's/participant guides available at Cokesbury.com and AmplifyMedia.com.

Writable certificates are downloadable at: UMCDiscipleship.org/resources/lay-servant-ministries-forms

OTHER RESOURCES FOR LAITY IN LEADERSHIP



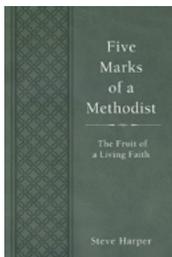
[Safer Sanctuaries: Nurturing Trust within Faith Communities](#)

DR962 • 978-0-88177-962-2 • \$49.99 (eBook \$29.99)

Since 1998, Safe Sanctuaries has been a trusted source of guidance for churches and other affiliated institutions as they work to reduce the risk of abuse in their communities through proven policies and practices. A changing world, however, requires a constant renewal

of these trusted strategies along with new and updated approaches to the work of preventing abuse. *Safer Sanctuaries: Nurturing Trust within Faith Communities* builds on the strong foundation of past resources while also inspiring and preparing churches for the work of the future.

The seven sections of this resource walk through the theological grounding of this work, the psychology of abuse prevention, the basic guidelines for risk reduction, age-level specific guidance, step-by-step instructions on designing and implementing a churchwide policy, how to respond to abuse, and an affirmation and encouragement for the work ahead. Sample forms are also provided for help in screening workers, requesting background checks, checking references, and reporting suspected abuse.



[Five Marks of a Methodist: The Fruit of a Living Faith](#)

Steve Harper

978-1-79102-639-4 • \$10.99 (ePub, \$6.79)

Five clear practices for anyone who identifies as a Wesleyan Christian. This brief book provides a meditation on each of these characteristics. Participants discover the power of spiritual practices to shape our character as Christ followers. Based on John Wesley's treatise, *The*

Character of a Methodist. Each chapter ends with questions for reflection or discussion.

Available at [Cokesbury.com](#).



[Five Means of Grace: Experience God's Love the Wesleyan Way](#)

Elaine A. Heath

978-1-79102-756-8 • \$10.99 (ePub, \$7.49)

Five Means of Grace is a six-week book with reflection/study questions that helps participants reorder life through prayer, searching Scripture, receiving the Lord's Supper, fasting, and

conferencing (gathering together around Jesus).

Available at [Cokesbury.com](#).

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Unless otherwise noted, Lay Servant Ministries books are available at [UpperRoom.org/store](#) and [Cokesbury.com](#).

APPENDIX

Ministerios de Servicio Laico

Domingo del Laicado

El Domingo del Laicado está definido por la Conferencia General como un domingo especial, en el cual «llama a la iglesia a celebrar el ministerio de todos los cristianos laicos, según sus vidas reciben el poder del Espíritu Santo para ministrar» (Disciplina de la Iglesia Metodista Unida, 2006, ¶ 264.2). Tradicionalmente, se observa el tercer domingo de octubre. El Domingo del Laicado es una manera de expresar una convicción profunda de que todas las personas son llamadas a participar en la misión de Dios, y a vivir ese llamado a través de los ministerios de la iglesia. Los ministerios del laicado incluyen a: líderes laicos, siervos laicos/siervas laicas, ministros laicos /ministras laicas, misioneros laicos/misioneras laicas, diaconisas, misioneros nacionales, Mujeres Metodistas Unidas, Hombres Metodistas Unidos, Caminata a Emaús, Crisálida, servicio misionero y muchas otras formas significativas de ministerios.

Los temas del Domingo del Laicado para el cuatrienio actual (2021-2024) provienen de 2a Timoteo 1:1-14. En este pasaje escuchamos un llamado a LEVANTARSE y revivir el don de Dios (que primero vivió en aquellos que amaron y nos lo transmitieron). También estamos llamados a LEVANTARNOS y revelar la gracia de Cristo, que destruye la muerte y da vida (2022). Al LEVANTARNOS y permanecer comprometidos con la sana enseñanza en fe y amor (2023). Y finalmente, hemos de LEVANTARNOS y retener las cosas buenas y bellas que nos han sido confiadas por el Espíritu Santo (2024).

2021: ¡LEVÁNTATE! – y revive el regalo de Dios (2a Timoteo 1:3-7)

2022: ¡LEVÁNTATE! – y revela la gracia de Dios (2a Timoteo 1:8-12)

2023: ¡LEVÁNTATE! – y **permanece** en compromiso con la enseñanza del amor (2a Timoteo 1:13)

2024: ¡LEVÁNTATE! – y retén las cosas buenas y hermosas del Espíritu (2a Timoteo 1:14)

Para acceder los recursos sobre el Domingo del Laicado, visita la página web de Ministerios de Discipulado, UMCDiscipleship.org/equipping-leaders/lay-ministry.

Los Ministerios de Servicio Laico

Los Ministerios de Servicio Laico son unos de los programas más significativos para la formación laica disponibles dentro de la conexión metodista unida. A través de estos sistemas para la capacitación y el empoderamiento, los siervos laicos tienen la oportunidad de crecer como discípulos de Jesucristo, quienes van y hacen otros discípulos.

Los Ministerios de Servicio Laico pueden ser un componente importante de cualquier sistema intencional de discipulado, particularmente, aquellos sistemas con base en el proceso central o ciclo de discipulado descritos en el ¶122 de la Disciplina de la Iglesia Metodista Unida. El liderato laico es el agente primario del amor encarnado en el mundo: «El testimonio del laico, su ejemplo diario como cristiano y el compartimiento de su propia experiencia de fe en el Evangelio, es el ministerio evangelístico principal a través del cual toda persona vendrá al conocimiento de Cristo y la Iglesia Metodista Unida cumplirá su misión» (Disciplina de la Iglesia Metodista Unida, 2016, ¶127, «El ministerio del laico», p.99).

En este sentido, el discipulado del laicado siempre está relacionado con el liderazgo y, el liderazgo, a su vez, con la evangelización –ya que quienes siguen a Jesús guían a otras personas hacia él.

El discipulado comienza con las relaciones. Cuando «vemos a toda la gente» Dios nos llama a amarla (#SeeAllThePeople), y descubrimos que hacer relaciones con otras personas es mucho más que acatar la orden de marcha para el alcance y la misión: ellas son la fuente verdadera de nuestro crecimiento espiritual y unos medios de gracia. (Para acceder recursos relacionados con #SeeAllThePeople (Veamos a todas las personas), visite: SeeAllThePeople.org.)

Los sistemas de discipulado son impulsados por el compromiso de crear oportunidades para el crecimiento espiritual, y hacer nuevas relaciones fuera de las paredes de la iglesia. A través de experiencias auténticas y consecuentes con la gracia de Dios, los nuevos discípulos crecen más profundamente en su fe, y son enviados al mundo a compartir el amor de Cristo por medio de la misión y el alcance.

Los discípulos extienden la hospitalidad a quienes aún no son parte del cuerpo de Cristo al darles la oportunidad de dedicar sus vidas a Dios a través del bautismo por el agua y el Espíritu, y hacer profesión de fe; los nutren en el vivir cristiano, al ayudarles a encontrar un verdadero sentido de propósito en sus vidas y lo que significa vivir sus creencias a través de los actos de piedad, los actos de misericordia y otros medios de gracia; y ponen su fe en acción, al ayudar a transformar sus comunidades por el compromiso con la misión y el ministerio según les ofrecen hospitalidad en el nombre de Jesucristo. Los Ministerios de Servicio Laico tienen que ver con capacitar y empoderar a las personas como discípulas: quienes guían a otras personas a experimentar en Jesucristo una fe vibrante y transformadora del mundo.

Siervos laicos certificados

Un siervo laico certificado/una sierva laica certificada es un miembro de la iglesia local o del cargo, o un/una participante bautizado/a de un ministerio colegiado metodista unido reconocido u otro ambiente ministerial metodista unido, quien desea servir a la iglesia, que conoce y está comprometido con las Escrituras y la doctrina, herencia, organización

y vida de la Iglesia Metodista Unida, y que ha recibido una capacitación específica para testificar de la fe cristiana por medio de la comunicación oral, a liderar dentro de la iglesia y la comunidad, y proporcionar ministerios de cuidado.

Los siervos laicos certificados sirven a la iglesia local o del cargo (o fuera de la iglesia local o cargo) en cualquier manera en que su testimonio de liderazgo y servicio inspire a otros a un compromiso más profundo con Cristo y a un discipulado más efectivo. Por medio del estudio y la capacitación continuos, el siervo laico certificado/la sierva laica certificada deberá prepararse para desempeñar una o más de las siguientes funciones, y dará atención primordial al servicio dentro de la iglesia local o cargo, al ministerio colegiado metodista unido u otro ambiente ministerial metodista unido:

- Proporcionar liderazgo, ayuda y apoyo a los énfasis de programas de la iglesia, u otro ministerio metodista unido.
- Dirigir reuniones de oración, adiestramientos, estudios y diálogos cuando se lo pida el pastor o la pastora, el superintendente de distrito o el Comité de Ministerios de Servicio Laico.
- Dirigir o ayudar en la dirección de servicios de adoración, predicar la Palabra o dar pláticas cuando se lo pida el pastor o la pastora, el superintendente de distrito o el Comité de Ministerios de Servicio Laico.
- Trabajar junto con los comités y equipos apropiados que proporcionan liderazgo a la vida congregacional y comunitaria, o promover los ministerios de cuidado.
- Ayudar en la distribución de los elementos de la Santa Cena dondequiera que se celebre, cuando se lo pida el pastor o la pastora de la iglesia en la cual el siervo laico/la sierva laica tiene membresía.
- Enseñar sobre las Escrituras, doctrina, organización y ministerios de la Iglesia Metodista Unida.

Para llegar a ser un **siervo laico certificado/una sierva laica certificada, debes:**

1. Obtener recomendación de tu pastor o pastora y del concilio de la iglesia o de la conferencia de cargo de la iglesia local u otro ministerio metodista unido donde tienes tu membresía.
2. Completar el Curso básico de Ministerios de Servicio Laico.
3. Completar un curso avanzado de Ministerio de Servicio Laico.
4. Solicitar al Comité Distrital de Ministerios de Servicio Laico, o una estructura equivalente, que revise tus cualificaciones (véase el ¶668.3, sobre las responsabilidades del Comité Distrital de Ministerios de Servicio Laico).

Para mantener tu estatus como **siervo laico certificado/sierva laica certificada debes:**

1. Haber sometido un informe anual y una solicitud de renovación de tu certificación a la conferencia de cargo y al Comité Distrital de Ministerios de Servicio Laico, o una estructura equivalente, y haber provisto prueba de desempeño satisfactorio como siervo laico certificado/sierva laica certificada.
2. Haber obtenido recomendación para la renovación de tu certificación de parte de tu pastor o pastora y el concilio de la iglesia o conferencia de cargo de la iglesia local u otro ministerio metodista unido, en donde mantienes tu membresía.
3. Haber completado un curso avanzado de Ministerios de Servicio Laico durante los últimos tres años.

Oradores laicos certificados

Un orador laico certificado/una oradora laica certificada es una sierva laica certificada/siervo laico certificado (o su equivalente como lo defina tu conferencia anual), cuyo llamado ha sido afirmado por el Comité Conferencial de Ministerios de Servicio Laico, o una estructura equivalente, que sirva a la iglesia en la provisión de predicadores de acuerdo con lo dispuesto y para el cumplimiento del ¶ 341.1.

Un orador laico certificado/una oradora laica certificada sirve al predicar la Palabra cuando se lo solicite su pastor o pastora, superintendente de distrito, o el Comité de Ministerios de Servicio Laico, para el cumplimiento del ¶341.1.

Para llegar a ser un **orador laico/una oradora laica** debes:

1. Haber sido certificado como siervo laico/sierva laica (o su equivalente, conforme lo define tu conferencia anual).
2. Haber obtenido recomendación de tu pastor o pastora y del concilio de la iglesia o la conferencia de cargo de tu iglesia local en donde mantienes tu membresía.
3. Haber completado una vía de estudios que incluya cursos en dirigir la adoración, descubrir los dones espirituales, predicación, política e historia metodista unida, y/u otros cursos que determine el Comité Conferencial de Ministerios de Servicio Laico o estructura equivalente.
4. Tener una entrevista con el Comité Distrital de Ministerios de Servicio Laico, o estructura equivalente, y obtener recomendación para ser sometida al Comité Conferencial de Ministerios de Servicio Laico, o estructura equivalente, para su aprobación y certificación.

Para mantener tu estatus como orador laico certificado/oradora laica certificada debes:

1. Haber sometido un informe anual y solicitud de renovación de tu certificación a la conferencia del cargo o concilio de la iglesia y al comité del distrito de Ministerios de Servicio Laico, o estructura equivalente, y proporcionar prueba de un desempeño satisfactorio como orador laico certificado/oradora laica certificada.
2. Haber obtenido una recomendación para continuar con el reconocimiento como orador laico certificado/oradora laica certificada de tu pastor o pastora y del concilio de la iglesia o la conferencia del cargo de la iglesia local u otro ministerio metodista unido del cual seas miembro.
3. Haber completado por lo menos una vez cada tres años un curso avanzado de Ministerios de Servicio Laico.
4. Haberte entrevistado, en los últimos tres años, con el Comité Distrital de Ministerios de Servicio Laico, o estructura equivalente, y haber obtenido recomendación para la renovación como orador laico certificado/oradora laica certificada, y la aprobación del Comité Conferencial de Ministerios de Servicio Laico, o estructura equivalente, para renovar tu certificación.

Ministros laicos certificados

Un ministro laico certificado/una ministra laica certificada es un siervo laico certificado/una sierva laica certificada, misionero laico certificado/misionera laica certificada, o su equivalente como lo defina su conferencia anual, y quien recibe el llamado y la capacitación para dirigir la adoración pública, cuidar de la congregación, ayudar en el liderazgo de programas, desarrollar nuevas y comunidades de fe ya establecidas, predicar la Palabra, dirigir grupos pequeños o establecer ministerios de alcance comunitarios como parte de un equipo ministerial con la supervisión y apoyo de un clérigo/una clériga.

Un ministro laico certificado/una ministra laica certificada recibe su asignación para ejercer su ministerio del superintendente del distrito, de acuerdo con el ¶419.2.

El ministro laico certificado/la ministra laica certificada sirve para realzar la localidad del ministerio de manera similar a como lo hicieron los líderes de clases en el metodismo primitivo a través de su servicio en la iglesia local, circuito o parroquia cooperativa, o al extender el equipo ministerial a otras iglesias o cargos. Como con los ministerios laicos en el metodismo primitivo, el ministro laico certificado/la ministra laica certificada usa sus dones espirituales como muestra de la gracia divina.

Para llegar a ser un **ministro laico certificado/una ministra laica certificada** debes completar los siguientes requisitos:

1. Haber sido certificado/certificada como un siervo laico/sierva laica, o su equivalente, como lo define tu conferencia anual;
2. Haber recibido la recomendación de tu pastor o pastora y el concilio de la iglesia o la

conferencia del cargo de la iglesia local, en donde tienes tu membresía;

3. Haber completado cursos para ministros laicos certificados referentes a tu asignación, como lo determina la Junta General de Discipulado, o por el Plan Nacional para el Ministerio Hispano/Latino en colaboración con la Junta General de Discipulado, y el Comité Conferencial de Ministerios de Servicio Laico o estructura equivalente;
4. Haber recibido una carta de recomendación de tu superintendente de distrito;
5. Haber cumplido con todos los requisitos para la certificación, el asesoramiento y la evaluación apropiados, como los define la conferencia anual inclusive, y haber sido evaluado/a por el Comité Conferencial de Ministerios de Servicio Laico, o estructura equivalente, para ser referido/a al Comité de Distrital de Ministerio Ordenado, el cual examina a quienes han solicitado por escrito ser ministros laicos certificados, y luego hacer las recomendaciones para la certificación (¶ 666.11). Después de que el Comité Distrital de Ministerio Ordenado entreviste al candidato/a la candidata, hará las recomendaciones al Comité Conferencial de Ministerios de Servicio Laico para la certificación final por el comité.

Para mantener tu estatus como **ministro laico certificado/ministra laica certificada** debes:

1. Haber sometido un informe anual a la conferencia del cargo o concilio de la iglesia en donde mantienes tu membresía y al Comité Conferencial de Ministerios de Servicio Laico, o estructura equivalente, proporcionando evidencia de tu desempeño satisfactorio;
2. Haber obtenido una evaluación de tu ministerio de parte del comité de relaciones pastor-parroquia, concilio de la iglesia o de la conferencia de cargo de la congregación en donde eres miembro, o cuando ejerces bajo una asignación, del comité de relaciones pastor-parroquia, conferencia de cargo o de la junta supervisora del ámbito ministerial en el cual hayas sido asignado/a;
3. Haber completado un curso avanzado de Ministerios de Servicio Laico o evento de educación continua aprobado, como lo define el Comité Conferencial de Ministerios de Servicio Laico o estructura equivalente, en los dos últimos años;
4. Haber obtenido la recomendación para la recertificación por parte del superintendente de distrito,
5. Haber obtenido todos los requisitos para la recertificación evaluados por el Comité Conferencial de Ministerios de Servicio Laico, o estructura equivalente, para ser referido al Comité Distrital del Ministerio Ordenado para la examinación de personas que han solicitado por escrito la renovación como ministros laicos certificados, y para recomendar la recertificación (¶ 666.11). Tras haber sido la persona entrevistada, el Comité Distrital del Ministerio Ordenado presentará tu recomendación al Comité

