

Learn More

Lay Servant Ministries provides training opportunities and experiences to equip disciples of Jesus Christ to realize and respond to their personal calls to ministry. Each disciple has one or more spiritual gifts, skills given by the Holy Spirit for the express purpose of serving the body of believers and thereby God. Lay Servant Ministries aids disciples in recognizing their specific gifts by offering educational events to develop their unique skills. These trainings provide an excellent vehicle in which to develop one's servant ministry; helping church members to become better servants of Jesus Christ, stronger church leaders, and capable of assisting their pastors.

If you are sensing God's call to greater service in the church or would like to learn more about how you might serve, the "Basic" course offers an introduction to understanding your gifts, spiritual leadership, caring ministry, communication skills, and outreach. "Advanced" courses allow one to become a Certified Lay Servant or Lay Speaker in the East Ohio Conference.

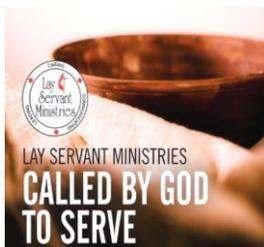
South Forest District Office

PO Box 340

Cambridge, OH 43725

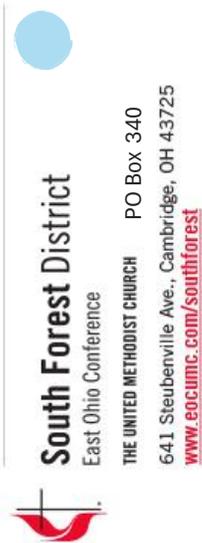
(330) 499-3972 ext 208

southforest@ecumc.com



To register use link or scan QR Code

<https://eastohio-reg.brtaapp.com/SFLSM2026trainingMar21>



LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES TRAINING

**Saturday,
March 21, 2026
8:00a – 4:00p**

**Registration & Hospitality
Begins at 7:30 a.m.**

**Classes to be held at
Old Washington UMC
118 Old National Road
Old Washington, OH 43768**

Lay Servant Descriptions & Requirements:

Certified Lay Servant: *A lay person whom God has called to lay ministry in their local church and beyond.*

1. Has completed the 'Basic' course, **Lay Servant: Ministry: Serving, Learning and Leading**
2. Is a member of a United Methodist church.
3. Has taken one advanced course.
4. Applies to become a Certified Lay Servant after talking with his/her pastor and completes a Certified Lay Servant report, which also serves as a Certified Lay Servant application.
5. Receives the formal approval of his/her pastor and charge conference or /church council.
6. Files an annual Certified Lay Servant report (the year after he/she has applied and completed his/her first advanced LSM course).
7. Completes 1 advanced course every 3 years.

Certified Lay Speaker: *One who can provide pulpit supply, and serve in the local congregation and beyond.*

- Has pastor and charge conference approval.
- Completes six required courses for LS Certification.
- Interviews with the District LSM Committee.
- Is approved by the EOC LSM Committee.
- Files an annual certified lay speaker report.
- Completes one advanced course every 3 years and interviews with the District LSM Committee.

Certified Lay Minister (CLM): *One who serves with a Mutual Ministry Covenant in the local church and beyond under supervision and part of a Ministry Team.*

Completes additional requirements as described in the EOC Certified Lay Ministry Guidelines at <https://www.eocumc.com/laity/lay-servants.html>

Basic Course: \$20

“Lay Servant Ministries: Serving, Learning & Leading”

by Sandy and Brian Jackson

This course explores ways to enrich and expand your understanding of the ways to help and care for your congregation and community. Participants will examine their current callings, spiritual gifts, and a vast range of ways to serve, learn, and lead as followers of Jesus in the Wesleyan tradition.

Instructor: **Pastor John Armstrong**

Pre-requisite: Read the book.

-- BASIC coursebook needs to be ordered by participant separate from registration.

Advanced Course: \$30

“Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition” by Steve Harper

This workbook describes major features in John Wesley's devotional life. Structured around Wesley's "Means of Grace," the workbook covers scripture and prayer, the Lord's Supper, and other topics.

Instructor: **Pastor Karen Elliott**

Pre-requisite: Read the book. Homework assignment will be mailed with the book.

-- ADVANCED book is included as part of registration and will be mailed to the participant.

REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Church: _____

HOME Address: _____

City: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Dietary Needs: _____

Check One Course:

_____ Basic \$20 _____ Advanced \$30

REGISTRATION DUE BY: March 16, 2026 --

Registration includes lunch & snacks.

**Make Check Payable to
East Ohio Conference**

Tear off this registration slip and mail with check to South Forest District, PO Box 340, Cambridge, 43725

If you need help ordering the book contact the SF district office.

For more information contact the South Forest Lay Servant Directors

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somertonward@yahoo.com

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