

2025

Lay Servant Training Registration

(Please fill out a separate form for each participant.)

Basic ___ Adv. Opt. 1 ___ Opt. 2 ___

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Church _____

Email _____

**Cost: \$30 (includes book and dinner).
Make checks payable to EOCUMC w/
WP Fund 9609 in the memo. Please
register early so that you have time to
read and be prepared. Books will be
sent as soon as payment is received.
Please submit to: West Plains District Office
% Lay Servant Training
410 Park Ave, Suite 2
Mansfield, OH. 44906**

Register Online at:

<https://eastohio-reg.brapp.com/LSMShelbyFeb>

Online payment by debit or credit card only

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS FEB. 7

For more information contact

WP District Lay Servant Director,
Diane Harding at 419-617-5625 or
dianeharding12@gmail.com

**Lay Servant Ministry
Requirements**

Certified Lay Servant

Serve in local church

1. Pastor & Charge Conf. approved
2. Take Advanced Course after Basic
3. File an Annual Report
4. Complete 1 Advanced Course every 3 years.

Certified Lay Speaker

Provide pulpit supply

1. Pastor & Charge Conf. approved
2. Complete required courses (6) for Lay Speaker
3. Interview w/District Committee
4. Annual Conference approved and criminal background check.
5. File an Annual Report
6. Complete 1 Advanced Course and interview w/District Committee every 3 years.

Certified Lay Minister

Mutual Ministry Team (local & beyond)

1. Lay servant certification or equivalent (includes Basic and Each One a Minister or an equivalent Spiritual Gifts assessment.)
2. Written recommendation from the pastor and church council or CC.
3. Letter of support from the DS
4. Appropriate background checks
5. Completion of CLM training (BeADisciple) online & face to face.
6. Development of Mutual Ministry Team & Mutual Ministry Covenant.
7. Approval by DCOM & Conference Committee on LSM.

**West Plains District Office
of The United Methodist Church
410 Park Ave. West, Suite 2
Mansfield, OH. 44906-3121**

**Phone: 330-499-3972 ext. 211
E-mail: westplains@eocumc.com**

**West Plains District
2025**

Lay Servant Training

**February 22, 2025
8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

Shelby Trinity UMC

(209 E. Main St., Shelby, OH 44875)



**The United Methodist Church
West Plains District**

Tel: 330-499-3972 ext. 211

Email: westplains@eocumc.com

Lay Servant Ministries

Laity refers to the Greek word **laos** which means all the people of God. Laity are empowered through Lay Servant Ministries to serve each community and in our conference.

Lay Servant Ministries of The United Methodist Church has its origins in early Methodism. John Wesley used lay persons to preach, conduct worship, lead studies, and visit the sick and imprisoned. These early leaders were called exhorters, forerunners of today's lay servants.

Today, those involved in Lay Ministry are charged to witness, lead, and have their service inspire others to a deeper commitment to Christ and more effective discipleship.

The three tenets of Lay Servant Ministries are **Leading, Caring, and Communicating**.

Basic Course

The Basic Course encourages people to recognize and use their spiritual gifts for work in the Church, helping each congregation to become an outpost for mission and transformation. Individual sessions guide participants through thoughtful reflection on the areas of leading, caring, communicating, and spreading the love of Christ into the world.

Advanced Course(s)

Option 1: (Spiritual Practices for a healthy/hydrated soul - not required to become a Lay Speaker)

'Soul Reset: Breakdown, Breakthrough, and the Journey to Wholeness' by *Junius B. Dotson*
Soul Reset is a call for the church and all of Jesus' disciples to reset and reorder their lives around spiritual practices, to learn to walk through our difficult seasons with our souls connected to the source of Living Water to so that we don't burn out or break down. And if we do burn out or break down, we learn to lift one another up and point one another back to Jesus.

Option 2: (Preaching Course - needed to become a Lay Speaker)

'From Your Heart to Theirs' by *Tony Franks and David Carroll*

'Let me tell you a story.' Since childhood, those introductory words capture our attention like few others. Sharing our faith story can be just as captivating and influential. Yet even the most experienced public speaker may need help preparing a sermon that's both engaging and compelling. Franks and Carroll will help you develop such a sermon.

Caring Leading Communicating



There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but they all come from the same Spirit. There are different ways to serve the same Lord, and we can each do different things. Yet the same God works in all of us and helps us in everything we do.

The Spirit has given each of us a special way of serving others. Some of us can speak with wisdom, while others can speak with knowledge, but these gifts come from the same Spirit. To others the Spirit has given great faith or the power to heal the sick or the power to work mighty miracles. Some of us are prophets, and some of us recognize when God's Spirit is present. Others can speak different kinds of languages, and still others can tell what these languages mean. But it is the Spirit who does all this and decides which gifts to give to each of us.

~ 1 Corinthians 12:4-11