

## Virtual Lay Servant Courses

Participants will complete one course, either the Basic Course or an Advanced Course. **The Basic Course is a pre-requisite** to the Advanced Courses.

**BASIC COURSE**– This basic course is the foundation for other texts in the Learning and Leading series for lay servants/lay speakers. Participants are invited to consider the importance of exercising servant leadership, developing future leaders, remaining rooted in consistent spiritual practices, and being part of a group that holds members accountable in discipleship. Instructor: *Rev. Christine Penner*

### ADVANCED COURSES

#### **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 includes types of sermons-- illustrative to topical to children's sermons as well as how to find a story, use the hymnal, and how to move from communication on paper to beyond the paper. Instructor: *Rev. Steven Lee*

#### **POLITY, PRACTICE, AND THE MISSION OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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 this course. Instructor: *Rev. Ken Wallace*

#### **SHAPING THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: THE ART OF INTERCESSION**

Prayer is something we learn; it is something that can be taught. For many however, the only teaching about prayer they 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. Instructor: *Rev. Diantha McLeod*

## THIS IS A TWO-DAY EVENT.

**March 12, 2021**

**Friday Night**

6:00-6:15 Welcome, Teacher Introductions  
6:15-8:00 Session 1

**March 13, 2021**

**Saturday**

8:00-10:00 Session 2  
**10:00-10:15—Break**  
10:15-12:15 Session 3  
**12:15-12:45—Lunch**  
12:45-2:45 Session 4  
**2:45-3:00-- Break**  
3:00-4:45 Session 5  
**4:00-4:45—Break**  
5:00-6:00 Closing Worship and Sending Forth

### YOU are READY to BECOME a LAY SERVANT IF

- You are willing to share your faith with those around you.
- You are willing to go wherever and whenever God calls.
- You will commit your time and energy to the service of your congregation, community, neighbor, etc.

Lay servants are active, supportive members of the United Methodist Church that are committed to witnessing through church and community leadership, care-giving ministries, listening, written & spoken communications, and are willing to use their gifts and talents and improve their skills for service involved in leadership roles within their church and community.

“Lay Servant Ministries”...**Serving God in many ways**...Lay Servant Ministries trains and equips Disciples to Transform the World.

### Lay Servants

- Must be **recommended** by their **pastor** and **Church Council** or Charge Conference.
- Must **complete** the **Basic Course** for LSM, **serve** and **support** in their **local church**
- Submit an **annual report** of their activities
- **Every 3 years** must **complete** an approved **refresher** course.
  - **Certified Lay Servants**
- **Serve, support, and minister** in their **local church** and **beyond**; through district or conference projects and programs and community;
- Have taken at least one Advanced Course
- Submit an **annual report** of activities
- **Every 3 years** must **complete** an **Advanced Course** to maintain **certification**.
  - **Certified Lay Speaker**
- **Same requirements as a Certified Lay Servant**
- **Plus** additional courses approved in the 2012 Book of Discipline and/or advanced courses approved by the Conference Lay Servant Ministries Committee.