

LAY SERVANTS . . .

Serve the local church in any way in which their witness or leadership and service inspires the laity to deeper commitment to Christ and more effective discipleship.

Through continued study and training, lay servants undertake any of the following functions, giving primary attention to service within the local church.

- 1) take initiative in giving leadership, assistance and support to the program emphases of the church.
- 2) lead meetings for prayer, training, study and discussion.
- 3) conduct, or assist in conducting, services of worship and present sermons and messages when requested.

Local Church Lay Servants have completed the basic course for lay speaking and a refresher course once every three years. They serve the local church in which they are members by witness of the spoken word, vital leadership service, and care-giving ministry.

Certified Lay Servants have completed the basic course and at least once every three years an advanced course for lay speaking. They serve the local church in which they are members by witness of the spoken word, vital leadership service, and care-giving ministry. In addition, they may serve in other churches in their district and annual conference.

All lay servants – local church and certified – apply and report annually to their charge conference.

Certified Lay Speakers and **Certified Lay Ministers** are new specialty areas that require additional training. More information is available online at <http://www.inumc.org/layservantministries2>

North Central District UM Church
PO Box 1447
Marion, IN 46952



Spring 2016

Lay Servant Academy

Saturdays, April 30

and May 7

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Kemp United Methodist Church

228 N Main St.

Tipton, Indiana 46072

Questions

Call Jim Ottjes at (260) 417-2473

COURSES OFFERED

BASIC Lay Servant Ministries Course

This course is the foundation for all the other 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. It offers guidelines for best practices as a church leader and in mission and ministry in the community and daily life.

This BASIC Course includes what was previously offered as Basic A and Basic B. It qualifies a person to become a Local Church Lay Servant.

Course book: *Lay Servant Ministries*
by Sandy Zeigler Jackson and Brian Jackson

Course Leader: Karen Zimmerman

Karen is a lifelong United Methodist, a member of Kokomo Grace UMC and is its Administrative Council Chairperson. She has been a Certified Lay Servant about 13 years. She has led several Lay Servant Advanced courses and is excited about leading this Basic Lay Servant course.

Continuation as a Local Church Lay Servant

For continued approval as a Local Church Lay Servant, a refresher course must be completed once every three years. We believe that this Basic Course is so different from the previous one that this new course should be taken as a refresher.

ADVANCED COURSES

Both of these courses are among those required to become a Certified Lay Speaker.

Leading in Worship

This course focuses on basic worship leadership skills for laypersons who regularly or occasionally lead or assist in leading worship for a group or congregation. Particular attention is paid to reading scripture, leading prayer and understanding the role of the worship leader.

Course book: *Worshiping with United Methodists*
by Hoyt Hickman

Course Leader: Rev. Cindy Osgood

Cindy is the pastor of Van Buren UMC. She has taught the Basic Lay Speaking class, as well as Preaching, and Leading in Worship. "I enjoy working with lay people helping them to understand the importance of planning and preparing for meaningful worship."

Accountable Discipleship

This course focuses on the concept of the household of God, the importance of scripture as divine revelation, Wesleyan understandings of grace, and the importance of the class leader in the development of the Methodist movement. You will be encouraged to look at your own faith community and see how it is (or is not) a reflection of genuine Christian community.

Course book: *Accountable Discipleship*
by Steven W. Manskar

Course Leader: David Johns

David is a Certified Lay Servant, a member of Shiloh UMC near Kokomo and one of the North Central District's Associate Lay Leaders. David, an engineer, is retired from Delphi in Kokomo.

Registration Fee: \$35

Choose either the BASIC course or one advanced course. Participants must attend **both** Saturdays to earn credit. Bring your Bible, notebook, and a pen or pencil. The BASIC course requires a *Book of Discipline* and a *Book of Worship*. (These can be borrowed from your church or pastor or purchased online at Cokesbury.com.) All course books will be distributed at the first class session. Lunch is included in your fee.

Registration Deadline: Friday, April 15

Fill out the form below.

Make a check for \$35 payable to:

Indiana Conference UMC.

Send them to: North Central District Center
P. O. Box 1447
Marion, IN 46952.

Questions

Call Jim Ottjes at (260) 417-2473.

REGISTRATION

Course _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Local Church _____

District _____