

WHAT IS LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES?

Lay Servant Ministries is a long-standing program of the United Methodist Church which helps laity to recognize and use their spiritual gifts so that the missions and purpose of the church may be carried out. The program equips and encourages laity to serve in a variety of roles in partnership with their pastors. Within the church, lay servants may provide assistance, leadership, and support in preaching, teaching, and specialized ministry programs. Outside the church, lay servants may minister to community members in need such as the poor, the sick, or the incarcerated. The Methodist Church was built on laity service and 99.2% of the church is currently laity. In the earliest days of the Methodist movement, lay preachers were known as “exhorters” who provided pulpit supply for absent pastors. In 1956, the term “lay speaker” replaced “exhorter.” By 1992, the church recognized that laity did much more than public speaking, and expanded the role to include ministries of leading, caring and communicating. At the 2012 General Conference of the United Methodist Church, the name was changed from “Lay Speaking Ministries” to “Lay Servant Ministries.”

FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION, VISIT US AT:
ntcumc.org/lay-servant-ministries



For more information about courses and opportunities
for service through Lay Servant Ministries
in the North Texas Conference:
northtexasumc.org/lay-servant/lay-servant-ministry-

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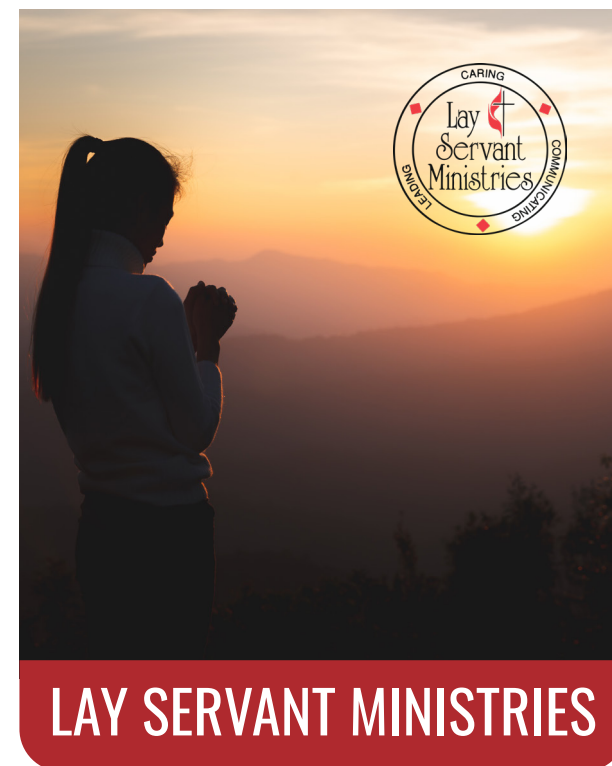
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Empowering LAITY to
discover their unique place
in ministry to the world in
their active roles of *Leading,*
Caring & Communicating
The Gospel of Jesus Christ
in THEIR Local Church

ntcumc.org/lay-servant-ministries

LAY SERVANTS ARE WITNESSING TO COMMUNITIES IN THE NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE

Lay Servants are called, equipped, and effectively deployed in their local church and community in mission. Lay Servants empower others to operate in their spiritual gifts resulting in laity with “hearts on fire” to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES TRAINING

The **Basic Course** and selected **Advanced Courses** are taught in all Districts of the North Texas Conference throughout the year. The **Basic Course** - which is available in English, Spanish & Korean - is appropriate for adults and youth. Both the **Basic course** and **Advanced Courses** strengthen an understanding of the ministry of all believers through roles of **Leading, Caring and Communicating**. Some advanced courses are also offered online through BeADisciple.com. All United Methodist laity and clergy are invited to participate.

ADVANCED COURSES FOR EQUIPPING LAY SERVANTS

Accountable Discipleship ●●	Discipleship Begins with Relationship	Leading Missional Small Groups ●
Afire with God ●	Devotional Life... Wesleyan Tradition ●●	Leading Worship ●●
Aging and Ministry... 21st Century	Discover Your Spiritual Gifts ●●●	Life Together... UM Connection ●
Biblical Storytelling ●	Embracing Personal Prayer	Liturgies for Healing & Transformation ●
Called to Preach	From Your Heart to Theirs... Sermon ●	Living Our United Methodist Beliefs ●●
Campus Ministry: Empowering...	God's Mission... Our Journey	Multimedia in Worship ●
Caring for the End of Life ●	Half-Truths, God Helps Those Who... ●	Opening Ourselves to Grace
Caring for Those Who Grieve	Holy Spirit Here and Now ●	Patterned by Grace: How Liturgy Shapes Us ●
Children of Abraham ●	Justice in Every Day Life	Planning Worship
Class Leaders	Lay Pastoral Care Giving	Prepare to Teach ●
Come to the Table (Holy Communion) ●	Lay Servants... Transformational Leaders	Teach Adults ●●
Come to the Waters (Baptism) ●	Lay Servants... Conflict Resolution	Theology
Connectional Living - Connectional Giving	Leading Bible Study ●	Transforming Evangelism ●
Dancing with Words	Leading Public Prayer ●●●	You Can Preach ●

LEGEND

- Core Advanced Course
- Offered online
- Meets a requirement for Lay SPEAKER designation
- Meets a requirement for course instructor accreditation
- Developed by NTC for “exceptional Credit”

LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES

The church provides a clear path and educational resources for equipping the laity for leadership roles, falling into three categories as described in the 2016 Book of Discipline, each role having increased levels of recommendation, study, and approval:

- Certified Lay Servants
- Certified Lay Speakers
- Certified Lay Ministers

All Lay Servants may serve the local church and beyond by preaching, teaching, leading, supporting specialized ministry programs, and conducting meetings for prayer, study, and discussion.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ROLES,
REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION,
AND REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL, GO TO:
NTCUMC.ORG/LSM-2016-DESIGNATIONS-REQUIREMENTS.PDF

