

What is Lay Speaking Ministries?

Lay Speaking Ministries is a program developed to provide training opportunities and experiences to equip disciples of Jesus Christ to realize and respond to their personal call to ministry. Since each disciple is 'gifted' with 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 Speaking Ministries strives to help disciples become aware of their particular gift or gifts by offering educational events to enhance and develop the skill level necessary for the full fruition of these gifts. It is an excellent vehicle for servant ministry skill development and has aided thousands of church members to be better servants of Jesus Christ, to become stronger church family leaders, and to more capably assist their pastors.

These words characterize what lay speakers do in ministry as The United Methodist Church engages the world of the twenty-first century:

LEADING: Lay speakers combine words and actions in leadership roles within their churches and communities.

CARING: As lay speakers combine words with deeds, they find ways to care for others. Some are involved in crisis ministries, such as visiting grieving families. Lay speakers share a ministry of caring one-on-one with people in times of need and in times of joy, and show their faith by responding to others with care-giving love and service.

COMMUNICATING: Both the Bible and Christian experience point to the importance of proclaiming God's transforming love for a broken world. Lay speakers often fill pulpits, lead Bible studies, or speak in youth and children's groups, healthcare centers, retirement centers, prison ministries and more.

- Refresher Course is offered to "Local Church Lay Speakers" who have not taken a course in 3 years or more and want to continue status as "Local Church Lay Speaker". (see ¶268, Discipline).

- Advanced Courses are offered to those who have already taken Basic Course and want to become or continue status as "Certified Lay Speaker". Advanced Course needs to be completed at least once every three years. (see ¶269, Discipline).

Please note all courses will need to be taken in their entirety in order to receive certification.

All courses are: 7-9 pm on Fri., Sept. 26 and 8:30 am – 4 pm on Sat., Sept. 27. Lunch provided on Sat.

For more information contact:

Rev. Brenda L. Laws, *Director of E.S. District Lay Speaking Ministries*
Eastern Shore District
The United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 317, Parksley, VA 23421
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Email: esdsumc@verizon.net
On-line registration, go to www.easternshoredistrictumc.org



Eastern Shore District's **Fall School of Lay Speaking Ministries**



Market Street UMC Onancock, VA

**One Refresher Course:
September 26, 27, 2008**

**Four Advanced Courses:
September 26, 27, 2008**

Refresher Course for the Local Church Lay Speaker –NEW!

You've taken the Basic Course and now you need a refresher! Learn more about (1) using the lectionary (2) understanding the seasons of the Christian Year (3) developing prayers, devotions or sermons (4) more discussion on discerning your gifts (5) your questions about lay speakingjust to name a few topics!

Instructor: Mr. Dale Kanten, District Certified Lay Speaker

Advanced Course: Nursing Home Ministry

The needs of the elderly are growing yearly. Although they have limitations, they need to be welcomed in the community, helped toward a relationship with God and nurtured in faith.

Instructor: Mrs. Pat Krukowski, District Certified Lay Speaker.

Advanced Course: Lay Speakers Preach

This course provides useful information to the lay speaker about the art of writing sermons. The lay speaker will receive information about resources available to research topics, interpret scripture, and writing interesting and inspiring sermons.

Instructor: Mr. George Fulk, District Certified Lay Speaker

Advanced Course: Lay Speakers Lead Bible Study

Participants will gain an understanding of the process by which the Old and New Testaments came to be the Bible. Find out how to study the Bible in order to gain the greatest understanding of the written word and to discover new insights that will enable you to be a more effective leader of Bible study.

Instructors: Iris Gunter-Smith and Barbara Justice, District Certified Lay Speakers

Advanced Course: You Can Lead Worship

(1)Gain an understanding of corporate worship as an encounter of the gathered community with God and with one another. (2) Learn how to plan worship that is both authentically Christian and relevant to Christians and seekers today. (3) Develop the practical skills needed for leading worship.

Instructors: Mr. Greg Duncan and Mr. Carl Bundick, District Certified Lay Speakers



Directions to Market Street United Methodist Church: From Rt. 13, turn on to West 179 at the Onley traffic light and proceed into the town of Onancock (approx. 2 miles). The church is on the right.

REGISTRATION

- Refresher Course (\$12)
- AC: Nursing Home Ministry (\$16)
- AC: Lay Speakers Preach (\$11)
- AC: Lead Bible Study (\$11)
- AC: Lead Worship (\$11)

(Fees subject to change. Other resource books may be recommended. You will be notified upon registration.)

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Church _____

(Mail before SEPT. 5 with your payment to: Eastern Shore District UMC, P.O. Box 317, Parksley, VA 23421; or register on-line ---see front of this brochure)

Your life may be the only Bible some people may ever read. As lay speakers care, lead, and communicate, they encourage, equip, and support others for deeper commitment to Christ and to faithful discipleship.