

These are the factual outcomes of what happens when the Holy Spirit is at the center of ministry. Outcomes like these have been experienced by small church who were in sever decline or approaching death. Also, these churches are in our district, and they thrive today because the Body of Christ opened it hearts to the work of the community and allowed themselves to be guided where they did not want to go.



These empty spokes are where your church wants to grow. Meet with your leadership and fill the in and begin asking the Holy Spirit to guide and lead your direction. Keep praying until your prayer is given direction. Sometimes it takes a while, but the answer will come. Then follow!

How do you know it is the Holy Spirit speaking?

The fruits of the Spirit will be seen and felt.

(Galatians 5:22-23)



Jesus goggles

The work of Jesus is about re-construction what once was, not about the de-construction of **what is**. This is what I mean by that...

The mission left to us, by Christ, is to:

- **Leave the scarcity mindset – and live with the abundant mindset**
- **Our churches are not fortresses to be protected, but are the place where we encounter God, and then we are sent OUT to share that encounter**
- **Continually re-construct the church for its present culture and time.**
- **Using its traditions, experiences, and reason, all undergirded by scripture and guided by the Holy Spirit to find the new wine skins which are relevant for today.**
- **The work of Jesus is not about deconstructing the church to a specific culture and time.**

The church should always be in the mission of fresh expressions. Always looking forward to what is next, not trying to relive the past. **In other words, the church brings what was in the past, present and prepares it for the future.**

*Continually evaluate what we are doing.

*Who is authoring the missions of the church and our actions?

* What needs to be changed or done differently?



LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES

Called by God to Serve

The United Methodist Church has established three categories for laypersons in the area of lay servant ministries to develop, prepare, and engage principled Christian leaders for the mission of making disciples for the transformation of the world:

- Certified Lay Servant
- Certified Lay Speaker
- Certified Lay Minister

Certified lay servants who wish to develop their skills further may choose a track to become certified as lay speakers (those who are called specifically to pulpit supply) or as lay ministers (those who are called to long-term, intentional ministry as part of a ministry team).

Certified Lay Servant

A **certified lay servant** serves the local church or charge (and/or beyond) and:

- provides program leadership, assistance, and support.
- leads meetings for prayer, training, study, and discussion.
- conducts, or assists in conducting, services of worship, preaches the Word, or gives addresses.
- provides congregational and community leadership and fosters caring ministries.
- assists in the distribution of the elements of Holy Communion.
- teaches the Scriptures, doctrine, organization, and ministries of The United Methodist Church.

Certified Lay Speaker

A **certified lay speaker** serves by preaching the Word when requested by the pastor, district superintendent, or committee on lay servant ministries in accordance and compliance with ¶341.1 of *The Book of Discipline*.

The role of a certified lay speaker is a specific calling for the ministry of pulpit supply.

Certified Lay Minister

A **certified lay minister** serves as part of a ministry team with the supervision and support of a clergy person and:

- conducts public worship.
- cares for the congregation.
- develops new faith communities.
- preaches the Word.
- leads small groups.
- establishes outreach ministries.
- serves as a class leader.
- assists in program leadership.
- engages in specialized ministries after appropriate training such as in parish nursing, church planting, men's ministry, children's faith formation, congregational care, and more.

Available LSM Course Resources: <https://www.flumc.org/northeast>;
<https://www.flumc.org/layservantministries>;
<https://beadisciple.com/lay-servant-ministries/>

CERTIFIED LAY SERVANT

Serves the local church or charge (and/or beyond) and:

- Provides program leadership, assistance, and support
- Leads meetings for prayer, training, study, and discussion
- Conducts, or assists in conducting, services of worship, preaches the Word, or gives addresses
- Provides congregational and community leadership and fosters caring ministries
- Assists in the distribution of the elements of Holy Communion
- Teaches the Scriptures, doctrine, organization, and ministries of The United Methodist Church.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION:

- Pastor and church council or charge conference recommendation
- Lay Servant Ministries BASIC course
- Lay Servant Ministries advanced course
- District committee on Lay Servant Ministries, or equivalent structure (See ¶1668.3) approval

REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL:

- Annual report & renewal application
- Pastor and church council or charge conference recommendation
- Lay Servant Ministries advanced course in the last three years
- District committee on Lay Servant Ministries, or equivalent structure (See ¶1668.3) approval

CERTIFIED LAY SPEAKER

Serves by preaching the Word when requested by the pastor, district superintendent, or committee on Lay Servant Ministries, in accordance and compliance with ¶1341.1.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION:

- Certified as a lay servant (*or equivalent as defined by his or her central conference*)
- Pastor and church council or charge conference recommendation
- Completion of a track of study as defined in ¶1267.3.c.
- Conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries approval after interview with and recommendation from the district committee on Lay Servant Ministries

REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL:

- Annual report & renewal application
- Pastor and church council or charge conference recommendation
- Lay Servant Ministries advanced course in the last three years
- Conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries approval every three years after interview with and recommendation from the district committee on Lay Servant Ministries

CERTIFIED LAY MINISTER

As part of a ministry team with supervision and support of a clergyperson:

- Conducts public worship
- Cares for the congregation
- Develops new faith communities
- Preaches the Word
- Leads small groups
- Establishes outreach ministries
- Serves as a class leader
- Engages in specialized ministries after appropriate training such as in parish nursing and church planting
- Assists in program leadership

REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION:

- Certified as a lay servant, lay missionary (*or equivalent as defined by his or her central conference*)
- Pastor and church council or charge conference recommendation
- Completion of a track of study as defined in ¶1268
- District Superintendent recommendation
- Appropriate screening & assessment
- Conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries approval after interview with and recommendation from district committee on Ordained Ministry

REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL:

- Annual report
- Pastor and church council or charge conference recommendation
- Ministry review
- Lay Servant Ministries advanced course or approved continuing education event annually
- District Superintendent recommendation
- Conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries approval every two years after interview with and recommendation from district committee on Ordained Ministry



ADOPTED LEGISLATION AT 2016 GENERAL CONFERENCE

For more information visit: www.UMCdiscipleship.org



DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

The United Methodist Church

Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course

Where to begin: Introduction to Lay Ministry - The BASIC Course

This course is foundational for all 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. The course focuses on **Caring, Communicating and Leading** effectively. There is a **Youth Addendum available** for The BASIC Course.

Also available in Spanish:

Introduction to Lay Ministry -The BASIC Course (SPANISH) Ministerios de servicio laico – Curso básico



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Lay Servant Ministries Advanced Courses

There are more than 45 approved Advanced LSM Courses with facilitator and participant books and resources in the LSM curriculum.

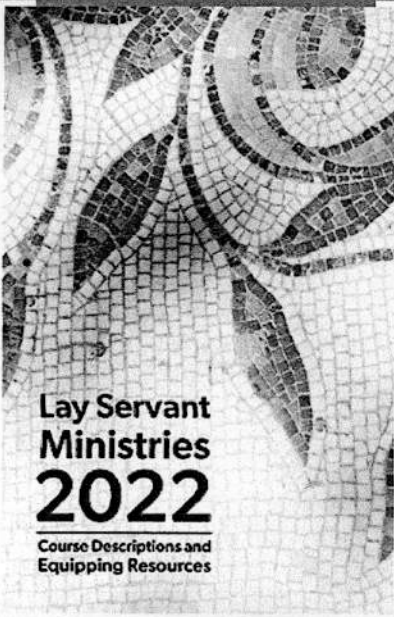
- Becoming Accountable Disciples
- Biblical Storytelling I
- Biblical Storytelling II
- Lay Servants Lead in Conflict Resolution
- Leading Public Prayer (Leading Prayer course)
- Life Together in the United Methodist Connection (UMC Polity course)
- Living Our United Methodist Beliefs (UMC Heritage course)
- Your Ministry of Planning and Leading Worship (Leading Worship course)
- Called to Preach, From Your Heart to Theirs: Delivering an Effective Sermon (Preaching courses)
- Rediscovering Our Spiritual Gifts, For the Common Good: Discovering and Using Your Spiritual Gifts (Spiritual Gifts courses)

The **LSM Basic Course** & certain advanced courses are available in the Districts. Many approved advanced LSM courses and the four (4) CLM Training modules are available at BeADisciple.com as on-line, guided-study courses. All approved LSM courses meet the ten (10) contact-hour requirement.



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Lay Servant Ministries 2022
Course Descriptions and Equipping Resources

- [Afire With God: Becoming Spirited Stewards](#)
- [Aging and Ministry in the 21st Century](#)
- [Becoming Accountable Disciples](#)
- [Biblical Storytelling I](#)
- [Biblical Storytelling II](#)
- [Campus Ministry: Empowering Congregations to Support Students](#)
- [Children of Abraham](#)
- [Class Leaders: Recovering A Tradition](#)
- [Come to the Table](#)
- [Come to the Waters](#)
- [Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition](#)
- [Embracing Personal Prayer](#)
- [God's Mission, Our Journey](#)
- [Lay Servants as Christian Transformational Leaders](#)
- [Leading Bible Study: Biblical Interpretation](#)
- [Leading Missional Small Groups](#)
- [Loving People and Planet in the Name of God](#)
- [Ministry for Dementia Patients: Serving the Forgotten through a Spiritual Lens](#)
- [Opening Ourselves to Grace: Basic Christian Practices](#)
- [Patterned by Grace: How Liturgy Shapes Us](#)
- [Teach Adults](#)
- [Transforming Evangelism](#)

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Discipleship Ministries | 2022 Lay Servant Ministries Catalog
umcdiscipleship.org

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Certified Lay Servant / Lay Speaker Process

LAY SERVANT

Certification: participation supported by pastor, complete Basic and 1 Advanced course. Submit **Lay Servant Annual Report/Initial Certification request** for approval at Charge Conference

Renewal/Recertification: take at least one (1) Advanced class every 3 years
Each year, submit **Lay Servant Annual Report** at Charge Conference

LAY SPEAKER

Certification: participation supported by pastor and church council, complete the LSM Basic and *specific* Advanced LSM courses in 6 subjects: discovering spiritual gifts, leading worship, leading prayer, preaching, UM heritage and polity. Submit **Lay Speaker Initial Certification Request** to Charge/Church Conference, **final approval from the LSM Conference Board (composed of all the District LSM Directors)**

Renewal/ Recertification: take at least one (1) Advanced class every 3 years. Each year submit **Lay Speaker Annual Report** at Charge Conference.

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Certified Lay Minister Process

Certification: is a Certified Lay Servant (Certified Lay Missioner) with written recommendation of the local pastor, who completes the Spiritual Gifts Advanced class, along with the 4 CLM Training Modules with an approved instructor or pastor.

Module 1: ***Call and Covenant for Ministry***, Module 2: ***Practice of Ministry***, Module 3: ***Organization for Ministry***, Module 4: ***Connection for Ministry***.

In addition to the **Certified Lay Minister Annual Report/Initial Certification Request form**, an application package must be submitted followed by an interview with the DCOM. CLMs receive final credential approval from the LSM Conference Board (made up of all the District Directors) following the District DCOM's approval recommendation.

Renewal/ Recertification: CLMs must submit a CLM Annual Report for the yearly Charge Conference in their church; **Must complete at least** one (1) Advanced LSM course approved for CLM renewal continuing education every 2 years. Submit a Bi-annual report to the district DCOM including a written assessment by the District Superintendent showing satisfactory CLM performance.



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***Certified Lay Servants, Lay Speakers,
and Lay Ministers must retain the
copies of their earned training
certificates.***



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