



The United Methodist Church
GREENWOOD DISTRICT
SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE
P. O. BOX 49968
1633 RIVERS STREET
GREENWOOD, SOUTH CAROLINA 29649

TO: All Pastors
All Lay Servants

FROM: Cathy Trevino, Director
Greenwood District Lay Servant Ministries

SUBJECT: 2022 FALL LAY SERVANT MINISTRY SCHOOL

The Greenwood District Fall Lay Servant Ministry School is set for Sept. 18 and Sept. 25, 2022. These sessions will be held at St. Paul UMC in Saluda.

We will be offering five courses:

- **Basic Course:**** This course is required of all those who wish to be certified as a Local Church Lay Servant. If this is your first application to become a Lay Servant, you need to register for this course. This course gives an overview of Lay Servant Ministries. Registration fee is \$25.00. **(Please note that if we have several Basic classes in individual churches prior to this session we will not have the Basic class)**
- **Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts:**** This course helps participants understand spiritual gifts and how the church can use them to fulfill its mission and ministry. Participants will also learn what it means to be a spiritual leader and will be equipped to lead others in exploring and using their spiritual gifts. Prerequisite – Basic. Registration fee is \$25.00.
- **Leading Public Prayer:**** This is an advanced course and the Basic course is a pre-requisite. Praying in public can be daunting, but prayer is something one learns. This course on praying in public will help the participant grow in confidence and skill in public prayer and enrich their personal prayer life. Registration fee is \$25.00.
- **From Your Heart to Theirs:**** Delivering an Effective Sermon: This is an advanced course and the Basic course is a pre-requisite. This is a course that helps participants to prepare sermons by providing plans and worksheets, stressing good oral communication, offering suggestions on incorporating stories, and providing time for prayer, study and revision. Registration fee is \$25.00.
- **Lead in Worship:**** This is an advanced course and the Basic course is a pre-requisite. This course focuses on the ministry of the lay servant who either regularly or occasionally leads a group or congregation in worship. Hoyt Hickman explains the basic pattern of United Methodist worship within the broader context of Christian worship. Registration fee is \$25.00.

** denotes required classes to be considered for Certified Lay Speaker/Minister. (Please note that if a participant does not wish to go on to be a Local Lay Servant or a Certified Lay Servant or Speaker they do not have to have the Basic class first.)

The guidelines in the *2016 Book of Discipline* indicate that individuals seeking recognition as Certified Lay Servants or Lay Speakers should take at least one advanced course every three years. If an advanced course is not taken in that time period, then the individual will be required to re-take the Basic Course for continued certification.

The registration form is included with this letter. Please note that the **registration deadline is September 2, 2022. No registrations will be accepted after this date.** The registration information and form will ALSO be available online: <http://www.umcsc.net/greenwood/home/>. Look for the link for Lay Servant Ministries on the right-hand side of the page. **Please complete the registration form and mail it with your registration fee to the Greenwood District Office, PO Box 49968, Greenwood, SC 29649.** Please order your books in advance so you will have them for the first session on Sept. 18th. Order information for these Course books is included with this letter and will also be available online: <http://www.umcsc.net/greenwood/home/>. (Please note that registration will also be online. Information on how to register will go out some time in August.)

We look forward to seeing you on September 18th and 25th. Both sessions must be attended in order to receive certification. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Cathy Trevino, District Director of Lay Servant Ministries at (864-992-2228 or gwdsmdir@gmail.com) or the district office (gwdist@umcsc.org or 864-223-2650).

Reminder: Once you have taken a Lay Servant course and have become either a Local Lay Servant or a Certified Lay Servant, you are to submit the annual report of the Lay Servant to your 2022 Charge Conference and all subsequent Charge Conferences in order to remain Certified. Anyone seeking to become a Lay Servant must submit his/her application to his/her pastor to be approved by the Charge Conference. All reports and applications must be signed by the pastor and by the District Superintendent. The Lay Servant annual report and application is available online on the Greenwood District web page (<http://www.umcsc.net/greenwood/home/>). A copy of the Report to the Charge Conference is attached to this email. Please use this one. Also attach the signature page to the report when it is turned in.