The Basic Lay Servant Course is an overview study and exploration into the many ways Christians may serve our Lord through Lay Servant Ministries. It is the foundation course for Lay Servant Ministries. Participants are invited 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 discipleship. It offers guidelines for best practices as a church leader and outlines a number of ministries in which Lay Servants may assume roles. Whether one decides to proceed in the process to become a Lay Servant or not, this course is excellent for all church laity in leadership positions. Please bring the Lay Servant Ministries Participant’s Book by Sandy Zeigler Jackson and Brian Jackson to class. https://bookstore.upperroom.org/Products/DR626/lay-servant-ministries-basic-course-participants-book.aspx

Instructor: Carmen FS Vianese is a lady disciple, a wife, mom & grandma. She is a Licensed Massage Therapist for Hospice and a Certified Occupational Therapist for OPWDD of NYS, working with adults with special needs and abilities for the past 37 years. Carmen is humbled to have the opportunity to serve the members of the UMC through the positions she has held on district, conference, jurisdictional and national boards. She is the current Head of the UNY Delegation to General & Jurisdictional Conference and states that, “It is my lay servant ministry training that has grounded me and provided me with the tools that I have needed to serve as successfully as I have. I can clearly state that some of my favorite work has been through Lay Servant Ministries and teaching Lay servant courses over the years, as it allows me an opportunity to connect with and work with laity & clergy around the UMC as we build up & equip servant leaders.”

Accountable Discipleship: Living in God’s Household

Accountable Discipleship: Living in God’s Household is a book about pastoral leadership in the Wesleyan tradition. Pastoral leadership is the ministry of caring for the household of God. Both laity and clergy are called to this ministry. Those who read and study this book will be invited to discover their own ministry as pastoral leaders. All who follow Jesus Christ and seek to obey his teachings to “love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself,” have the potential to be pastoral leaders for their congregation. They are pastoral leaders because others see and experience the grace of Jesus Christ through their lives. They are spiritual, servant leaders who follow the example of Jesus. These are ordinary people. They are laity and clergy. They are people like you. A foundational piece for anyone involved in Accountable Discipleship ministries, this resource explores a systematic approach for undertaking and accepting the challenge of personal discipleship for life. Please purchase the text on Amazon or at https://store.upperroom.org/product/accountable-discipleship.

Instructor: Rev. Jennifer Schaus Green is a graduate of Candler School of Theology at EMORY University in Atlanta, GA. She has served her entire 25+ year pastoral career in UNY, including her current appointment at Hilton UMC. (Continued)
Accommodations

Your Name ________________________

Check one:

☐ stay 2 nights in a 2-4 person room, 4 meals (3 on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday), semi-private bath, cost: $160.00.

☐ stay 2 nights in a 1-person room, 4 meals (3 on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday), semi-private bath, course cost: $205.00. (Limited availability - you will be contacted if your request cannot be honored.)

☐ commuter includes 4 meals (3 on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday), course cost: $90.00.

Total enclosed: ________________________

Please make your check payable to:

UNY UMC Conference

(On the memo line – GVD LSM Retreat)

Mail to: Deborah Clyde

11 Bowen Rd.

Churchville, NY 14428

Special Accommodations

Please list roommate request(s) (You may be in a room with 2, 3, or 4 beds) and/or any special requests or needs:

__________________________________________________________

☐ Please check here if you would be willing to stay in a winterized cabin ($20 rebate) if there is a need for extra space.

Be sure to fill out the other side.

Who Should Take The Advanced Courses?

Primarily aimed at Lay Servants, these classes are open to anyone (clergy or laity). Lay Servants may use these courses to fulfill the requirement of at least one advanced/refresher course, each three years, to maintain status.

Things to Bring

Sleeping bag or bed linens (pillows and blankets are provided) [If you will need linens, contact Deb Clyde prior to Oct. 15, for cost & arrangements] Course materials. Text needed for the course, a Bible, pens/pencils, paper, highlighter, etc. Please “Lug a Mug” for beverage breaks. Musical instruments and games (as desired), towels, washcloths, personal care items, comfortable, warm clothing, walking shoes, a flashlight, and a snack to share for breaks [No meal will be provided Friday evening.]

When You Get There

Plan to arrive at camp between 5 and 5:45 PM for registration at The Manor on Friday. [Do not bring your bags in as you might be staying in another location.] If you are unable to make the registration time, please let Deb Clyde know prior to that Friday, November 3, 2023.

Departure will be after the 9:00 AM worship service on Sunday morning.

Problems with this schedule? Please contact Deb Clyde at dclyde@rochester.rr.com or 585-413-6057 prior to Thursday, November 2, 2023.

Scholarships

There are funds for scholarships. If you need help financing the weekend, please check with your church first. If you still need funds, please contact Deb Clyde (see below).

Questions? Please contact:

Genesee Valley District

Lay Servant Ministries Director: Deborah Clyde

585-413-6057

Email: dclyde@rochester.rr.com

"Lay Servants as Christian Transformational Leaders"

The mission of The United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. This course is designed to help lay servants, as well as other church leaders, consider some of the basic requirements of Christian transformational leaders in responding to this mission. Each chapter is based on scriptural foundations that undergird disciplines of Christian transformational leadership as well as best practice models of leadership with a specific emphasis on congregational vitality. This course is a ten-hour offering for people who are seeking advanced certification as part of their lay servant training. Learners will engage in study of Scripture, self-evaluation of current leadership skills and disciplines, and discernment of new practices for leadership development. The course is intended to help participants engage in personal and group reflection and assessment. Please purchase the text at https://store.upperroom.org/product/lay-servants-as-christian-transformational-leaders or on Amazon.

Instructor: Rev. Ruth R. Warner is the youngest of six siblings, born to Carlos and Rosa in San Juan, Puerto Rico. After moving to Rochester, NY in 1987, she completed her B. S. (SUNY Potsdam) and her M. S. (Nazareth College) in Music Education and worked as a General Music Teacher in the Rochester City School District for 21 years. Having been called to ministry since age 16, Ruth finally decided to respond to God’s call and completed her M.Div. (United Theological Seminary) while teaching music. In 2020, she was received as Elder in the United Methodist Church and is now serving as Pastor at the Fulton First Methodist Church, where she and her husband Dan enjoy ministering through music, drama, and service in the community.

"Prayer"

Prayer is something we learn; it is something that can be taught. For many, however, the only teaching about prayer they ever receive is modeled in Sunday worship. This course may challenge some of your assumptions, test some of your preconceived ideas, stretch your thinking, and enrich your prayer life. It will, at the very least, present you with an opportunity to grow in the discipline of leading public prayer. Please bring “Let the Whole Church Say Amen!” by Laurence Hull Stookey to class. https://store.upperroom.org/product/let-the-whole-church-say-amen

Instructor: Retired Pastor Meg Vosburgh’s history with Lay Servant Ministry goes back close to two decades. Lay Speaking provided her with the motivation to step into Course of Study to become a Licensed Local Pastor. Her passion is speaking and teaching, and recently, ministry to the homeless in Rochester. She is currently a counselor at the Open Door Mission, in Rochester.