

Advanced LSM course 2024 Rev. Diane E. DiLuzio, ret. Elder dianed7246@gmail.com

Opening Ourselves to Grace: The means of grace and discipleship

April 2-May 14, 2024 Hybrid -virtual and in-person
6:30-8:30p @ Cradle & Beyond 778 Brewerton Rd., Cicero

REGISTER by: March 20th

Self-study begins as soon as applicant registers in preparation for April 2nd virtual session

Study resources:

(1) *Opening Ourselves to Grace* link:

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/lay-servant-ministries-advanced-courses> 5.

Registrants will choose a hymn that reflects the UM theology of grace and be prepared to share how this hymn or Christian song speaks to our UM understanding of Grace at the **April 2** virtual session.

(2) TEXTBOOK: *"The Cycle of Grace: Living in Sacred Balance"* by Trevor Hudson and Jerry P. Haas, Upper Room 2012 <https://store.upperroom.org/product/the-cycle-of-grace>

Schedule:

February 26- April 2 – registrants read *"Opening Ourselves to Grace"* and prepare 100-200 word essay on how the hymn reflects UM theology of grace to share on **April 2** in the virtual session.

April 2 – virtual learning session - registrants will review Wesleyan / UM theology of grace and share highlights from their essays. Link to be sent to registrants prior to April 2.

April 9- May 14- IN-PERSON at Cradle and Beyond Ministry Hub **6:30-8:30P**
778 Brewerton Rd., Cicero

Eligible participants: Certified Lay Servants; CLM's; Licensed Local Pastors;

SCOPE of STUDY: The author, Trevor Hudson, offers his insights into the need for this study from his own personal experiences as a ministry leader: *"For a number of years, as a Christ-follower, I lived the wrong way round. For reasons of which I am only partly aware, I struggled to believe that God loved me. While I knew with my head all about the gospel of grace, the gap between my head and heart were vast. Deep down I felt that I needed to earn God's grace.It was a disastrous way to live. I started out trying to be fruitful, so that I could be significant, hoping then to gain sustenance so that I might be accepted. Not surprisingly, very early in my ministry I found myself living on the edges of emotional burnout and spiritual exhaustion."*