



THE VIRGINIA CONFERENCE LAY MINISTRIES ACADEMY

The Annual LM Training Guide

February 26, 27 and 28, 2010



Service To God And The Community

WELCOME

The Laity E-News dated October 2009 published this article:

Lay 'Speaking' Changes to Lay 'Ministries'

For many years there has been a debate concerning the title "Lay Speakers" and the word "speakers" has caused many to form the wrong impression of what we do to respond to God's call.

The impression they have is that they will be forced to lead worship or preach and, if this is not their gift, they stay away from the program and the training. *We are all members of the body of Christ and we are all called to "go therefore and make Disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always even to the end of the age."* (NAS)

Towards that end we are all given different gifts to use in response to this call. We each have different ways that we "speak" God's message; some will preach, some will teach, some will feed the hungry, and some will care for the sick, etc. Lay Speaking presents opportunities to serve in many different areas of ministry. We must not limit the people who want to serve by telling that they have to "preach" or lead worship if they want to be a Lay Speaker. We need to empower them to "speak" with the gifts God has given them.

–Rick Dawson

Note: Because of the confusion we have changed the name of the conference-wide training weekend to "Lay Ministries Academy" of which lay speaking is a part. The Academy will be held Feb. 26-28, 2010, at the Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center in Blackstone, VA.

Welcome to the 2010 Lay Ministries Academy, a place where all Lay Speakers of the Virginia Conference come to fellowship, learn and prepare to "GO FORTH AND RESPOND TO THE CALL."

Dave Talley, CLS

Director of Lay Speaking Ministries, Virginia Conference

Our Direction

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes. The ordinances of the Lord are sure, and altogether righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb.
(Psalm 19: 7-10)

Members of the Lay Speaking Ministries of the Virginia United Methodist Church must believe in the Lord's Law. They must ensure that their teaching is in strict accord with the training of Jesus Christ. They must ensure that the example they show reflects Jesus and His teachings.

May God bless you as you endeavor to follow Christ and be the shining star that draws attention to the glory of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

BASIC TRAINING for Adults

BASIC Course (10-Hour)* This is the first training step to becoming a Lay Speaker. It focuses on three primary areas of Lay Speaking ministry: *Caring, Leading and Communicating*. TEXT: *Lay Ministry: Basic Course* by Gilbert & Zollner (DR454); The 2008 Book of Discipline; The Book of Worship; The 2008 Book of Resolutions; and both UMC Hymnals (you may be able to borrow these books from your local church library). **Your first class will be on Friday night at which time your instructor will make assignments for you and your classes.**

Course Number 1:

- a. **Vicki Poindexter**, CLS (LSM Director, Arlington District)

Course Number 2:

- b. **Johnnie Draughon**, CLS (LSM Director, Norfolk District)

Course Number 3:

- c. **Bill Walker**, CLS (LSM Director, Peninsula District)

Advanced Lay Speaking Courses

These classes are designed to allow you to prepare to advance to the Certified Lay Speaking Ministries level. Persons who take these advanced classes are not always wishing to enter the Certified Lay Speaking level. Some of the persons taking advanced courses may remain as Local Church Lay Speakers for years.

Course Number 4: Authentic Outreach

Authentic Outreach teaches how to share your faith in a way that is comfortable, with no confrontation in a listening style format, with a long term process versus a quick close approach, with a concentration on building previous relationships and complimentary to other faith sharing efforts going on in the church.

TEXT: **Student workbooks will be provided by the instructor, Stuart Holt, at a cost of \$10.00 each. Bring a check payable to him for the purchase the Workbook.**

Stuart Holt, Author and Publisher and Founder of The Evangelism Institute

Course Number 5: Lay Speakers Are Servant Leaders

This course will develop an understanding of servant leadership and the types of power that occur between leaders and followers; allowing them to acquire the tools and skills necessary for servant leadership; and increase one's capacity to deal with the inevitable differences and conflicts that occur when people collaborate.

Rev. Tim Craig

Course Number 6: The Bible for Lay Ministers

The heart of this course will be an overview of each book in the Bible with an eye toward what it means for lay speaking. Too often we reuse familiar parts of the scriptures and we overlook the rich materials that are found in the less familiar places. You will learn how to consider verses within the context of a book and each book within the context of the Bible as a whole.

TEXT: Bring your Bible. Additional material provided.

Rev. Dr. Mike Browder, Ph.D. (Farmville)

Rick Smith, CLS (Norfolk)

Course Number 7: Lay Speakers Discover God's Call

A place where Lay Speakers explore their spiritual gifts and talents, while they working on God's call within their lives.

TEXT: *Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts - A Personal Inventory Method*, by Kenneth Cain Kinghorn and *Called to be a Layman -How God Can Use You Where You Are*, by Gus Gustafson (both available through Cokesbury).

Doris Hedrick, CLS (Staunton)

Course Number 8: The Joy of Journaling Your Prayers

Learn to weave Bible verses, favorite hymns, prayer concerns and personal insights into a resource for your faith walk.

(If you do not have a journal a small notebook may be provided by the Instructor)

Jane Joyner, CLS (Portsmouth)

Course Number 9: Lay Speakers Speak Publicly

This class emphasizes skills that Lay Speakers require in order to speak publicly and to effectively communicate God's message.

TEXT: To be provided

Nancy Haga, CLS (Farmville)

Course Number 10: Lay Speakers Teach Adults

This course will concentrate on training instructors to teach Basic & Advanced classes. The class will include an overview of LSM advance classes.

TEXT: *Lay Speakers Teach Adults (DR481)* by Dana Hynson and *Start Here (DR303)* by Barbara Bruce (both available through Cokesbury).

Chris White, CLS

Course Number 11: Storytelling - I Love to Tell the Story

In this class participants will learn different approaches to telling Bible stories. They will study techniques for learning and "fleshing out" stories from Scripture and contemporary events. The participants will tell short stories and have lots of feedback to enhance their storytelling experience. The class includes a resource list for further exploration.

TEXT: *Lay Speakers Tell Stories (DR408)* by Ray Buckley

David Bailey, CLS (Petersburg)

Ruby Sotelo (Alexandria)

Course Number 12: Advanced Storytelling – Great Bible Stories Paralleled In Modern Times

God's wondrous works did not end with Biblical times. His spirit is just as active in the world today. This course will focus on creating our own stories by using Bible stories as a template. The results will yield not only good stories to share, but of strong witness to faith, hope and love. **(All participants should have taken the Basic Storytelling class (above) prior to coming to this class)**

TEXT: Provided

TEXT: Provided

Linda Goodman, CLS (Richmond) **Professional Storyteller**

Course Number 13: Clown Ministry

Come and experience the exciting ministry of clowns! If you've ever wanted to paint your face, put on oversized shoes or outrageous outfits and share your love of Christ, come and join Carol for a fun filled weekend!

TEXT: No text required. Bring your imagination. **(Make up kits will be available \$15.00 each and may be purchased from the instructor).**

Carol Sanger, CLS (Farmville)

Course Number 14: Lay Speaking Ministers Interpret to Others Our United Methodist Heritage

The class will explore the fascinating United Methodist story from Wesley's time to today. Students will learn about John and Charles Wesley, the United Methodist movement in America and how to share our faith heritage with others.

TEXT: *The United Methodist Primer*, by Chester E. Custer is available through Cokesbury.

Hal Costley, CLS (Ashland)

Course Number 15: Development of Our Christian Beliefs from 50 to 325 A.D.

This class will examine the period between primitive Christianity (the group of changed individuals who went out into the world and started Christian communities) and the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD where Christian beliefs were documented.

TEXT: Book of Luke and The Acts of the Apostles. (Bring your Bible.) Additional material provided.

Dr. Allen Barnes

Course Number 16: Older Adult Ministry

This is a 10-hour workshop designed to assist you in the design of a comprehensive ministry for the older adults in your local church. Did you know that about one in every 8 Americans is an older adult (or 12.3% of the population)?

TEXT: *Designing an Older Adult Ministry*, by Richard H. Gentzler, Jr. Additional materials provided.

Martha Stokes, CLS, VA Conference Director of Leadership and Inclusivity

Members of the Conference Older Adult Council**Course Number 17: Prison Ministry-What to Expect**

One out every 100 adults in our country is behind bars but God still loves them. Are you willing to bring His love to them or to help them experience Christian love as they re-enter society when they are released? This workshop will help you identify ways that you can fulfill Matthew 25.

TEXT: Provided

Louise Jennings, CLS, Director Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach (Harrisonburg)

Jim Templeton, Kairos International Board Representative

Course Number 18: Virginia Conference Demographics Workshop-A Look at the Community Around Your Church

Growing churches know their neighbors! It is essential that lay leaders understand the communities around their churches in order to plan ministries to reach these folks. This class will expose you to tools available for identifying your neighbors and their needs.

John Nelson, CLS (Ashland)

Course Number 19: Ministry To Persons With Disabilities-Radical Hospitality And Worship

As the conference moves forward with the strategic action plan of "All Things New" under our vision statement: "We envision churches where all God's people are welcomed at table, nurtured and transformed to be Christ to others in the world." This is a perfect time to train Lay Speaking Ministers to work in our churches to enhance this goal.

Rev. Tizzy von Trapp Walker (Farnham)

Course Number 20: Evangelism

By definition Evangelism is a zealous effort to spread the good news of Jesus Christ and His love for the world. This workshop will cover equipping the Laity to boldly spread the gospel.

Anna Workman, Virginia Conference, Director of Congregational Development and Evangelism

REMEMBER: ONCE YOUR CLASS SELECTION HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY CYNDI SCHNELL, YOU WILL BE SENT A CONFIRMATION NOTICE. PLEASE BE SURE YOUR ADDRESS IS ACCURATE AND PROVIDE AN E-MAIL ADDRESS IF YOU HAVE ONE TO SPEED UP THE CONFIRMATION PROCESS. OTHERWISE A POST CARD WILL BE MAILED. ONCE YOU RECEIVE A NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION (AND THE CLASS REQUIRES COKESBURY MATERIAL), ORDER THE MATERIALS LISTED NEEDED.

All books can be ordered through Cokesbury online using the DR references or the titles listed. Additional copies MAY be provided at the Blackstone Cokesbury store. Once your class has been confirmed, you can order the listed texts yourself directly from www.cokesbury.com. Sufficient copies should be available. If you ordered the wrong text, it can be returned to the Cokesbury Book Store at Blackstone for the correct text (especially if you changed to a different class).

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Friday, February 26, 2010 – An Evening of Fellowship

- 4:00 – 5:45 p.m. Registration, Check-in and Distribution of Packets
- 6:00 – 6:45 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. Welcome and Introductions (Auditorium)
- 7:30 – 9:15 p.m. Basic Class participants dismissed to meet with their Instructors for assignments (1:30 Hours)
- 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. Music, Devotion, Prayer and Dismissal -- **a restful night after your busy day and travel**
- 9:15 p.m. District Directors Meet for Orientation of Weekend Schedule (Board Room)

Saturday, February 27, 2010

- 7:00 – 7:45 a.m. Breakfast
- 8:00 – 8:30 a.m. Morning Devotion and Prayer, Announcements, Daily Schedule (Auditorium)
- 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. First Class Session (2:30 hours)
- 11:45 – 12:30 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Second Class Session (4:00 hours)
- 5:30 – 6:15 p.m. Dinner
- 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Third Class Session (2:00 hours)
- 8:45 – 9:30 p.m. Fellowship Time – Refreshments in the Dining Room (Meet with your District Director)

Sunday, February 28, 2010

- 7:00 – 7:45 a.m. Breakfast (A lunch count will be taken)
- 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. Fourth Class Session (2:30 hours)
- 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. Check Out of room and load equipment
- 10:30 – 12:00 a.m. Worship With Communion and a Lay Ministry Covenant Service
With Rev. Dr. Steven R. Jones, Richmond District Superintendent
- 12:15 -- 1:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:15 – 2:00 p.m. Instructors & District Directors Meeting (Board Room)

MAKE YOUR CLASS SELECTIONS

ENTER NUMBER >>>>> FIRST CHOICE _____

SECOND CHOICE _____

THIRD CHOICE _____

MAKE YOUR ROOM & BOARD SELECTIONS

- FULL REGISTRATION - Friday and Saturday Lodging and all meals +P&A **PRICE \$ 155.34**
- WEEKEND REGISTRATION - Saturday Lodging and Saturday & Sunday meals +P&A **\$105.52**
- LOCAL RESIDENT – Meals Saturday and Sunday Only +P&A..... **\$ 64.25**
- LOCAL RESIDENT - No meals planned at Blackstone +P&A **30.00**

These prices include all costs pertaining to the Academy except the cost of any books or Cokesbury materials needed for the classes. No additional program fees will be charged. (Full payment must accompany registration)

Room Rates -- \$41.27 per night - Meal Rates – B: 5.85 L: \$7.00 D: \$8.55 Program & Administrative Cost -- \$30.00

METHOD OF PAYMENT - MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO VIRGINIA CONFERENCE UMC

SEND THE COMPLETED FORM AND FULL COSTS IN A CHECK TO:

VUMAC, 707 Fourth Street, Blackstone, VA 23824

PLEASE IDENTIFY ANY SPECIAL NEEDS (Please Print or Type)

ROOMMATE PREFERENCE (by name): _____

SPECIAL HOUSING NEEDS: _____

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: _____

ANY ALLERGIES: _____

REGISTRATION DEADLINE - FEBRUARY 15, 2010

Registrations may be cancelled prior to February 15, 2010. After February 15, 2010 a refund may be made less program fees. Contact VUMAC by mail, e-mail, telephone or by FAX for further information.

(See contact information below)

Consult with your local church about full or partial scholarships to cover the costs of this weekend. (Please print this information)

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CHURCH & DISTRICT _____

TELEPHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

Cell Phone _____ CHURCH POSITION _____

Status - New Lay Speaker Local Church Lay Speaker Certified Lay Speaker

Instructor of Class Number _____

Lay Speaking Ministries Director of _____ District

TO CONTACT Cyndi Schnell:

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