

# 2019 COURSE CATALOG

The courses offered at the 2019 Laity Academy are divided into the Christ Servant Ministry categories of the BASIC Course, Speaking, Leading, and Caring. This year you may select from 18 courses, including 7 **NEW** classes.. [Registration closes July 12<sup>th</sup>](#) .

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## BASIC

### BASIC COURSE – The Journey Begins

Ready to explore God’s call in your life? Take the first step in the Christ Servant Ministry program with others who have heard that still, small voice calling in the night or are sure they have been hit across the head with a two-by-four.. The Basic Course provides a firm foundational understanding of God’s presence in our lives, the meaning and mission of the church, and insight into how and where you can apply the gifts you have and will receive from our Lord. You will learn about the need for servant ministries in our world and what it means to be a servant for Christ. The Basic Course is also the first step towards further development as a Certified Lay Speaker or Certified Lay Minister

Participants in this course must request the recommendation and approval from their Local Church and submit it with their registration. Registrants are required to complete assignments from a Basic Course Manual prior to attending the Laity Academy. There is also an additional \$5 fee for a Basic Course Manual as indicated on the registration form.

**Instructor:** Judy Ehninger, Certified Lay Minister

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## SPEAKING

### SPEAKING 1: Preaching to be Heard

Speaking 1 is the basic course for those who wish to preach or to enhance their speaking abilities. This class will look at the focus of our preaching, share ideas on the development of sermons, and create an opportunity for each participant to develop and present a “mini” sermon to the group. An important part of this experience is the sharing of feedback in a supportive and safe setting so that all who wish to preach can benefit from the group. The expectation is that our time together will be one of joy and excitement. For CSM participants, this course is recognized as an advanced course in speaking. Successful completion of Speaking 1 is one of the requirements to receive Certified Lay Speaker credentials.

**Instructor:** Rev Harold Burkett

### HABLANDO 1: Predicando para ser Escuchado

**Hablando 1** es el curso básico para aquellos que desean predicar o mejorar sus habilidades para hablar. Esta clase mirará el foco de nuestra predicación, compartirá ideas en el desarrollo de sermones, y creará una oportunidad para que cada participante desarrolle y presente un "mini" sermón al grupo. Una parte importante de esta experiencia es compartir la retroalimentación en un entorno de apoyo y seguridad para que todos los que deseen predicar puedan beneficiarse del grupo. La expectativa es que nuestro tiempo juntos será uno de alegría y emoción.

**Instructor:** Rev. Cesar A. De Paz

## **SPEAKING 2: Preaching by Number**

"Color by number" books help children become something of an artist. While preaching will always require particular spiritual gifts to be effective, it is an art, and by following a few simple steps most preachers can improve their craft. Designed for those who have already learned how to craft an individual sermon, this class will look at the overall process of preaching, how to coordinate preaching topics with other aspects of ministry, and how to ensure that the preaching program has a purpose. Participants must have taken the prerequisite CSM course in preaching and received a certificate from CSM Director, George Hollich. It is highly recommended that participants have read (or at least purchased) *Sermons Reimagined*, by Rich Chromey, and *Unleashing the Word*, by Adam Hamilton. For CSM participants, this course is recognized as an advanced course in speaking. Successful completion of Speaking 2 is one of the requirements to receive Certified Lay Speaker credentials.

**Instructor:** Rev. Dr. Lloyd F. Speer III, OSL,

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## **LEADING**

### **BIBLICAL STUDIES Bible Study for 21st Century Learners**

**NEW**

Do you know how to read and interpret your Bible, or the difference between Bible Study and Biblical Study?

This course is designed to expose today's Bible reader to some of the basic approaches for interpreting the ancient biblical text in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We will discuss the structure and history of the Bible and its translations. You will learn how to read the books of the Bible based on their authorship and literary style. We will explore the Bible in terms of what it meant then ("biblical studies" question) and what **does** it mean now ("Bible Study" question)? Recognizing the differences helps the reader to be a more informed.

Another important is recognizing that each person's perspective influences their interpreting the Bible. The context of the **YOU** reader/interpreter of the Bible. What are you looking for when you read the Bible? This is based on who we are, our class, our age, the racial and gender composition of our society and even by the ambience of the era in which we live.

This course will also explore the New Testament gospels, the differences between them and how Jesus is presented in each of the four gospels.

**Instructor:** RV. Dr. Frank Moore

### **CONFLICT: Working With Conflict: Making the Most of Diversity**

**NEW**

Is there a storm brewing in your church, or are you in the middle of a thunderstorm? This course will help you identify what is conflict, where does it come from, and what kind of power does conflict have in congregations? You will explore the challenges and the gifts of conflict and learn how to invite people into the conversation.

Solutions are based on embracing the diversity within our congregations. The class will discuss What do we mean by diversity? Is every congregation diverse? What are the challenges and gifts of diversity? Resolutions and healing only occurs through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit - We can't do this by Ourselves. You will learn how to incorporate Scripture, Prayer, Humility, Trust - in God and in our fellows, and letting God work through us.

**Instructor:** Beverly Andrews

## **DISASTERS: What's God Got To Do With It**

**NEW**

You're going about your daily routine and the TV show is interrupted by a beep-beep-beep followed by a "Special Alert", then the sirens start to go off. Do you know what to do? Are you prepared? Is your family prepared? Is your church prepared? ... and then there is the next day.

This course is designed to help participants gain an understanding of what disasters are, the types of disasters, the phases of the disaster cycle and how we as the church can respond to those who have experienced disasters in ways that witness to God's love to all people regardless of their faith.

**Instructor:** Rev. Richard Rimert

## **DOCTRINE: Exploring Methodist Theology and Doctrine**

Have you ever wondered why we do things the way we do on Sundays? Do you want to learn more about our Methodist 'Roots'? What were the Wesley's Thinking? What is this thing we call "Grace"? Then *Exploring Methodist Theology and Doctrine* is where you need to be this year.

Together with Rev. DiPaolo you will explore the theological and doctrinal heritage of Wesleyan Methodism. Our time together will include examining the background of John and Charles Wesley; the distinctive Wesleyan understanding of grace as prevenient, justifying and sanctifying; the meaning and place of our doctrinal standards; and the significance of the sacraments. We will pay special attention to practical tools for teaching and preaching in today's local church, comparisons with the teaching of other denominations, and the power of hymnody and worship to shape our people's understanding and practice of the faith. For CSM participants, this course is recognized as an advanced course in leading.

**Instructor:** Rev. Joseph F. DiPaolo

## **EVANGELISM: Evangelism and Church Growth**

**NEW**

Have you heard the phrase "Same old, same old"? Does that describe your church? Is your congregation stagnant in both attendance and in mission? Then you need to jump start your ministry with Church Growth: Establishing a Presence and Relevance in the Community.

This course will help you determine "Who you are" from the perspective of your church and then from the perspective of the community. Do you like what you see? Learn how to redirect your efforts and how to change the thinking of both your church and the community. This change is not easy or fast, you will learn how to develop a strategic plan, how to get members involved, and how to monitor your progress.

You will also learn that trying to change your church can not be done without the presence of the Lord. Exploring and practicing the 4 Stations of the Holy Spirit will equip every member with the outreach ability of one-on-one prayer, anointing with oil, celebrating Communion whenever needed, and finding a newness of life by reaffirmation of their baptism.

**Instructor:** Rev. Michael Netznik

## **GAMING: Generating Intense Bible Study Games for Adults**

**NEW**

Using game theory, multiple intelligences, interactive teaching methods and scripture participants will explore creative ways to create bible studies. Gaming and playing games is a common connections all people have – games are ways we learn and experience life and share our thoughts and feelings. Playing games isn't for children or "geeks and nerds" – playing games is for everyone at all times. During this highly interactive workshop participants will explore the principles of game theory, instructional design, and interpreting scripture and create games that are bible studies. Each participant will leave with at least one game frame to use in bible studies and one game designed during the workshop. Join us as we take bible studies to the next level.

**Instructor:** Dave Piltz, Certified Lay Minister

## **MINISTRY: Ministry in the Margins**

**SPECIAL OFFERING**

This course will explore the messianic platform of Jesus' ministry and how it is relevant today in our many social justice ministries: prison ministry, immigration reform, disability ministry, race and religion, and the role and status of women, to name a few. The United Methodist Social Principles as well as the history of the Methodist social movements under founder John Wesley and subsequent generations will be included.

**Instructor:** Bishop Peggy Johnson and Rev. Michael Johnson

## **SPIRITUAL GIFTS: Timeless Spiritual Gifts In A 21<sup>st</sup> Century Context**

Have you ever wondered about the Gifts of the Spirit or Spiritual Gifts? Do you know that every believer in Jesus Christ has at least one supernatural gift? A spiritual gift, or charismata in Greek, is an endowment or extraordinary power given by the Holy Spirit. Spiritual Gifts are different than the Fruit of the Spirit given to all Christians as taught in Galatians 5:23. Spiritual Gifts are extraordinary graces given to ordinary folks. In this class, we will explore what the Bible teaches about these ancient, unchanging gifts and how they can be used to better our lives and advance the Kingdom of God in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We will define and explore how to hone and strengthen the gifts given us while practicing deepening our own relationship with God who gives us all gifts. We will also explore how our gifts can be utilized in our local church context and denominational structure.

A Spiritual Gifts Test will be available before our class time together. We will also build relationship within our class because spiritual gifts as well as our faith is practiced in community.

**Instructor:** Rev. Missy Fuller

## **TECHNOLOGY: Using Technology for Worship: What, Why, When and How**

**UPDATED**

This course will show participants the technology available for sharing Christ's message with people in the pews and other venues. With declining church attendance, technology is keeping people's minds focused on the subject, maintaining strong interest in our services, stimulating vital discussions and developing a burning desire to come back next week.

You will learn what technology is, how its use fits our theology, what is available, and how to implement its various elements in our new and older churches. We will explore what skills are necessary to effectively use the technology to advantage, and talk about how congregants will view the use of modern equipment in our centuries-old church venues. We will address persons with seeing, hearing and mobility handicaps and how technology assists them, and we will address reaching out-of-church people on their own turf. You will understand licensing, privacy and security as well as what technology use costs in dollars and people's time.

This course takes us from years-ago equipment and techniques to what can be done today, with minimal expense and maximal benefit. Come learn how Jesus used the technology of His time and how we can become not just followers, but leaders in reaching people today toward discipleship.

**Instructor:** Aubrey Bates

## **LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE: Maximize your Message and Ministry through Media and Marketing**

Use today's online communication tools—websites, social media, e-mail, video, etc.—to put your church's digital lamp on its lampstand (Matthew 5:15-16). Mobilize community awareness and response to your church's message and ministries through media and marketing. We'll explore the development and strategic uses of marketing plans, Web ministry, storytelling, social media, video, and more tools and tactics to shine your light so that others may "see your good works and glorify your God in Heaven." We will also consider where churches can find help—for example, training, coaching, financial assistance and online resources from United Methodist Communications.

### **Lesson Outline:**

1. Improve Communication in Your Church and Beyond
2. Build Your Church Marketing Plan, Using UCom's New Toolkit
3. Grow Your Church Online with Web Ministry
4. Connect Your Church and Community with Social Media
5. Reach and Inform Members with Email
6. Use Storytelling to Share Faith and Wisdom

**Instructor:** Pastor John Coleman and Pastor Kevin Kresge

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## CARING

### Addiction Recovery Ministry: Prayer Powered Addiction Recovery (PPAR)©

Addiction to Alcohol, Opioid and other drugs is a disease, and is rampant in our society today. This course looks at the physical, psychological and spiritual aspects of this disease that destroys people, their relationships, the body, the mind and the spirit including the soul. We will examine how a prayer-centered support system can affect treatments and their successes and failures, then move to the 'Power of Prayer' of dealing with addicts; getting started, ministering to all laity, children, youth, adults, and "Long of Tooth." We will see that clergy as well as laity are subject to this calamity. Recovery treatment may require professional intervention, use of a 12-step program, and/or a "Rehabilitation" facility. We examine co-dependency, dual diagnosis, societal and behavioral aspects of addictions and chemical dependency, and we explore help available from resources outside the local church.

**Instructor:** Jon Kirkbride Sr., Certified Lay Minister

### CREATING STATIONS OF HOPE: Restorative Justice

'Restorative justice,' as Howard Zehr, called the Father of Restorative Justice puts it, 'is not a map, but the principles of restorative justice can be seen as a compass pointing a direction.' Though its implementation looks different depending on the context, RJ is guided by a set of principles that are rooted in several core values. These values include respect, interconnectedness, and particularity. The belief that every human being by birthright has dignity and is to be treated with respect is central to RJ. Also, core is the belief that all people: are interconnected and that what affects one affects all. And while 'we are an interconnected, we are all different. Acknowledging and embracing particularity makes for a more open and diverse process that is more consistent with the human condition. RJ is a values-driven process. RJ is about holding people accountable with our Biblical value based system while still finding resolution agreeable to all parties to repair the harm committed.

**Instructor:** Linda Van Til and Scott Johnson

### FINISHING STRONG: Empowering, engaging and nurturing our aging congregations **NEW**

*"Finishing Strong" - empowering congregations to recognize and minister to the needs of aging members, maximize their engagement and honor their contributions to the Body of Christ.*

This course will encourage you to appreciate the gifts and contributions of older persons, no matter what stage of life they are in. It will help you to recognize the physical, spiritual, and social needs of these members so that your church can be more effective in older adult ministry and continue to benefit from the faith and wisdom of these individuals.

Lessons incorporate large and small group discussion, problem solving with real life scenarios, sharing of scriptures that relate to aging, humor, and use of multimedia. Written and online resources will be provided so that participants can share material with their pastor and church members.

Content includes: Physical, social and spiritual attributes of aging and the impact on congregations, discussion of how our churches can adapt environment and ministry to meet these needs, recognition of normal memory loss vs dementia, the importance of considering views about health issues and the advantages of communicating end of life wishes with family/close support persons. There is also attention to the role of Christian faith in helping us to finish strong, no matter what age we are when God calls us home.

**Instructors:** Margie Krut and Celeste Schiller

## **MAKING PRAYER COUNT: Making Every Prayer Count: Moving from ME to WE**

Have you ever had trouble connecting with God? Praying for Others? This course is designed to be a powerful resource aimed at making your personal prayer life more effective (**ME**) and equipping you to be a person of impact within your church and community (**WE**). We will begin our journey focusing on “me”. Diving into areas of God given identity and the impact that our belief system has on every aspect of our life. We will explore how we grow in intimacy with Jesus, our belief system and the importance of forgiveness. As we look at “WE” we will dive into developing a prayer ministry at the local church, learn some simple but effective prayer models (salvation, blessing, healing etc.), and explore what it means to be a people who call others into a vibrant relationship with Jesus Christ. This course is full of laughter, hand’s-on activation, Q&A, and God surprises!

There is also an additional \$10 fee for a book as indicated on the registration form.

**Instructor:** Pastor Ruth Hendrickson