

**REGISTRATION:**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ H or C

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCAL CHURCH:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pastor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dietary Restrictions:** \_\_\_\_\_

**COURSE OFFERINGS:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Leadership 101 (Basic)

**Advanced Courses:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Rediscovering Your Spiritual Gifts

\_\_\_\_\_ Dancing With Words

\_\_\_\_\_ Ministry with the Forgotten: Dementia through a Spiritual Lens

\_\_\_\_\_ Responding to the Opioid Epidemic

Coursework due to the instructor by April 28th  
unless otherwise noted on the syllabus.

**Fee per course: None - order your own book**  
**(see course offerings for titles and ISBN's).**

**Return by April 14<sup>th</sup> to:**  
MonValley District Office  
3000 Technology Drive  
Fairmont, WV 26554

Fax: 304-333-0224

Email: sestep@wvumc.org



**MONVALLEY DISTRICT  
LAY SERVANT ACADEMY**

**May 6, 2023  
8:00 to 4:30 p.m.**

**First Elkins UMC  
315 Kerens Avenue, Elkins**

*(Lunch will be provided)*

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER April 14, 2023**

**Classes will follow the host church's guidelines for  
COVID-19 safety protocols.**

**Rev. Amy Shanholtzer  
District Superintendent**

MonValley District Office  
Phone: 304-366-6811  
monvalleydistrict@wvumc.org

**Mary Bane  
Lay Servant Ministries Director**

Phone: 304-692-0003;  
crazymcb1@gmail.com

## Course Offerings — Spring 2023

- 1. LEADERSHIP 101 (BASIC)** - Focuses on the primary aspects of lay servant ministry: leading, caring, communicating, and resources available.  
Taught by Rev. Amy Shanholtzer, MonValley District Superintendent  
Text: [Lay Servant Ministries, Participant's Book](#) by Sandy Ziegler Jackson and Brian Jackson. ISBN #: 978-0881776263
- 2. REDISCOVERING OUR 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.  
Taught by Pamela Todd, Certified Lay Minister  
Text: [Rediscovering Our Spiritual Gifts](#) by Charles V. Bryant. ISBN #: 9780835806336
- 3. DANCING WITH WORDS (Advanced "other" course)** – Acquaints lay speakers with the history, art, selection, preparation, and presentation of stories in a variety of settings with the goal of preparing lay speakers for ministry through storytelling.  
Taught by Mary Bane, MonValley District Lay Servant Ministries Director  
Text: [Dancing with Words – Storytelling as Legacy, Culture, and Faith](#) by Ray Buckley. ISBN #: 9780881774078
- 4. MINISTRY WITH THE FORGOTTEN: Dementia through a Spiritual Lens (Advanced "other" course).**  
Taught by Lou Blake, Certified Lay Servant  
Text: [Ministry with the Forgotten: Dementia through a Spiritual Lens](#) by Kenneth L. Carder. ISBN #: 9781501880247
- 5. RESPONDING TO THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC (Advanced "other" course)**  
- Discusses the long history of opioids in our culture, how and why the brain responds to opioids like it does, our Wesleyan heritage of caring for those affected by substance use disorder, and ways our churches can truly become the Body of Christ in our communities.  
Taught by Rev. Dr. Barry Ball  
[There is no text for this class, but there will be hands-on assignments to complete.](#)

**Deadline - Registration forms due Friday, April 14, 2023**

A course syllabus will be emailed or mailed upon registration.  
Coursework is due to your instructor by April 28th unless otherwise noted on the syllabus.

Questions should be directed to:  
Mary Bane 304-692-0003; [crazymcb1@gmail.com](mailto:crazymcb1@gmail.com)

**Classes will follow the host church's guidelines for COVID-19 safety protocols.**

**There is no charge for the class but you will need to order your book** from Amazon, Cokesbury, or the Upper Room – many are available in kindle or e-book format.  
**PLEASE ALLOW PLENTY OF TIME FOR DELIVERY.** See class description for book title and ISBN.

### Requirements

- 1. Anyone can take any course for self-improvement/enrichment without any prerequisites or expectations of certification.*
- 2. Class attendance is required.*
- 3. Any person, a junior in high school or older, is eligible to attend. With a specific recommendation by their pastor, a younger person may be permitted to attend.*

### ALL LAITY ARE WELCOME

**Anyone can attend Lay Academy.** The courses presented will enrich your spiritual life and help you better serve your church. The MonValley District Lay Servant Academy provides opportunities for all lay persons to nurture and enlarge their religious knowledge within a fellowship of Christian friends.

Courses are also provided for those seeking to be Certified Lay Servants. The courses help the laity to complement the clergy, not replace them. The school provides only the foundation for Lay Servants and it is recognized that additional training is needed.

### TYPES OF LAY SERVANTS

The United Methodist Church recognizes two types of Lay Servants—*Certified Lay Servants* and *Certified Lay Speakers*. Laity must make application and have approval of their Pastor and/or the Administrative Council of their church. Certified Lay Servants must complete the Basic Course and one advanced course. To become a Certified Lay Speaker, participants must complete the course of study outlined in the Book of Discipline, complete the interview process, be recommended by the LSM interview team and approved at District Annual Conference. Both types of lay servants must submit annual reports to their charge conference and take a refresher course every three years to maintain their status.

For further information see Discipleship Ministries website [www.umcdiscipleship.org](http://www.umcdiscipleship.org).  
For additional course offerings, see the website [www.BeADisciple.com](http://www.BeADisciple.com).

MonValley District Lay Servant Ministries is developing a plan to meet the needs of our laity. We plan several enrichment/educational opportunities throughout the year. Watch for opportunities through mailings (snail and email) as well as through your local church and the district website <http://www.monvalleyumc.org/> and newsletter. Check the conference calendar at <https://www.wvumc.org/calendar/> for courses being offered by other districts, often available online.