

# Christian Academy 2023 Spring Classes

January 23, 2023

The Potomac Highlands District Board of Laity is pleased to announce this Spring's Lay Servant Ministry classes **on Friday April the 14<sup>th</sup> and Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup>** at the First United Methodist Church, 32 North Davis Street, Keyser WV. 26726

This Springs Academy will consist of four ten-hour in person classes all of which are approved in advancing or beginning the journey of Lay Servant Ministries.

**Lay Servant Ministries - Basic Course**  
**Advance Course - Preaching**  
**Advance Course – Living our Beliefs**  
**Advance Course – Ministry for the Forgotten**

The Academy is also providing courses through Zoom for which registration is provided in this brochure with course descriptions times and dates.

## LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES

The ministry of the laity flows from a commitment to Christ's outreaching love. Lay members of The United Methodist Church are, by history and calling, active advocates of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Every layperson is called to carry out the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20); every layperson is called to be missional.

The witness of the laity, their Christ-like examples of everyday living as well as the sharing of their own faith experiences of the gospel, is the primary evangelistic ministry through which all people will come to know Christ and The United Methodist Church will fulfill its mission. (Book of Discipline 2016). *The Ministry of the Laity*

LAY SERVANTS are called to serve the local church in any way in which their witness or leadership and service inspires the laity to deeper commitment to Christ and more effective discipleship. The three categories of servanthood in the local church are:

1. LOCAL CHURCH LAY SERVANT – Requirement: Completion of Basic Course, “Learning and Leading.”
1. CERTIFIED LAY SERVANT – Requirement: Obtain recommendation from your pastor and charge conference. Completion of the Basic Course, and one approved lay ministry course with-in three years of taking Basic.
2. CERTIFIED LAY SPEAKER – Completion of all Certified Lay Servant requirements and completing a track of study including courses on leading worship, leading prayer, discovering spiritual gifts, preaching, and United Methodist heritage and policy.

### MAINTAINING CERTIFICATION STATUS

All certification holders must submit an annual report and renewal application to their charge conferences obtaining recommendation for continuing their certification from their pastor and members of the charge conference.

Please remember Lay Servant Ministries courses are open to everyone whether or not a participant desires recognition in certification. They are not only edifying, but fun to attend.

### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

#### **Basic Lay Servant**

Pastor Barbara Rexroad

This course is necessary for persons wanting to become a local church lay servant and for those who have not had a Basic or Advanced class in over three years. The Basic Course includes a study guide of what it means to be God’s called people and how we may be at work for God in our own communities. There is more to lay servant than speaking. The course provides learning opportunities in three areas of service for lay servant: leading, caring and communicating.

#### **Preaching**

Reverend Scott Ferguson

Dig deeper into the art of preaching. What’s the motivation for preaching? Learn to listen for God in the scripture. How can you avoid a BLOB? Outlines, Illustrations and Applications. Bring a Bible and a notebook.

NOTE: “Three Main Points.” This class will take place on Saturday ONLY. Please plan to be present all day. Before class all participants are asked to produce an Outline that includes the following: (1) Sermon Title (2) Scripture Used (3) Main Points.

Please take time to prayerfully discern what you feel God is leading you to say and include this within the three main points. You will be preaching this sermon before class ends.

### **Living our Beliefs**

Reverend Mark James

We will look at several key United Methodist theological and spiritual points that make us unique. Come prepared to talk about some of our history as Methodists---what has worked in the past, what now, and how we can live into the future full of God's possibilities.

### **Ministry with the Forgotten: Dementia through a Spiritual Lens**

PHD Lay Leader Jane Arnold

There are many, many questions that arise when the diagnosis is of some form of dementia, and there are many different kinds. "This book is based on the conviction that pastoral theology and ministry provide an important lens through which to view people with dementia and much needed resources for living with the diseases." So says Kenneth L Carder in his book "Ministry with the Forgotten; Dementia through a Spiritual Lens". This is his story of the journey he and his wife Linda have taken. It is a book of insights that can be applied in many areas of all our lives, but especially to those living through a similar journey.

Required reading: "Ministry with the Forgotten; Dementia through a Spiritual Lens". This must be read before the class starts. It is available from Cokesbury, Amazon, and on Kindle. You will probably also want to bring a notebook and pen.

### SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

#### FRIDAY, April 14, 2023

Registration	5:00 p.m. - 5:55 p.m.
Opening Worship	6:00 p.m. - 6:50 p.m.
Classes	7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

#### SATURDAY, April 15, 2023

Opening Worship	8:30 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.
Classes	9:00 a.m. - Noon
Lunch	Noon - 12:45 p.m.
Classes	12:50 p.m. - 5:20 p.m.
Consecration	5:30 p.m.
Dismissal	6:00 p.m.

**FEE:            \$20.00 per person**

**Please mail the registration form along with your payment. Or register by email prior to April the 1<sup>st</sup> in order to secure the course of study you have selected. Payment will be received at the check-in table for those emailing their registrations .**

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: POTOMAC HIGHLANDS DISTRICT FUND**

Fee includes snacks, lunch, and registration. \*Certain class courses may require additional resources.

**REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN APRIL 1 IN ORDER TO SECURE A CLASS**

Grace and blessings on your path,  
Potomac Highland District Board of Laity

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**2022 Christian Academy Spring Class Registration**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Charge \_\_\_\_\_

**Course Preference:**

If the course of your choice is unavailable, please list two alternative classes.

Class Choice \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any walking handicaps: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Food Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

Comment /

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# **2022 Christian Academy Spring Zoom Class Registration**

## **Zoom Basic Lay Servant Course Registration**

Pastor Cheryl George

Course dates: April 18, April 25, May 3, May 9 and May 16.  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is foundational for all courses in Lay Servant Ministries. Participants are encouraged to discover and employ personal spiritual gifts as God intended. And 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 their discipleship.

#### **Required Text:**

Lay Speaking Ministries, Basic Course Participant’s Book, Sandy Zeigler Jackson with Brian Jackson, ISBN 978-0881776263 (2013) (Available in paperback or Kindle edition from Amazon, Cokesbury paperback)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Charge \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Zoom - Leading a Congregation in Worship Registration**

Reverend Cindy Skinner

Course dates: April 5, April 12, April 19, and April 26.  
6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The focus of this course will be the importance of exercising servant leadership while developing skills for the lay servant who leads a group or congregation in worship, and the importance of remaining spiritually connected through consistent spiritual practices.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Charge \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_