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Dear Lay Servant:

The Three Rivers District lay servant training event for fall 2018 **will be held at Gray United Methodist Church** on Saturday, November 3, 2018 from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. If this is your first formal training, please enroll in the basic course. **Current requirements for lay servants/ certified lay speakers are on back.**

- **Mail Registration Fee of \$25.00 (not including cost of textbooks, if any) to address above by Monday, October 22 (if later, please call me before mailing)**
- **Make check to Three Rivers District UMC (NOTE “Lay Servant Training”);**
- **Lunch will NOT be provided; several off-site restaurants nearby**
- **Textbooks may be ordered online directly from Cokesbury.com Tel. (800) 409-5346 – 9a.m. – 6p.m. for an additional \$3.95 shipping charge – some, not all, may ship free. For e-book availability, i.e. Nook, Kindle – check Amazon.com or Nook.com**

YOU are responsible for securing needed text – be sure to order early!!

Lay Servant Ministries – The Basic Course: Teacher: Kim Isley Text: *Lay Servant Ministries: Basic Course Participants Guide* ISBN 978-08817 7626-3 Cokesbury \$7.48

United Methodist Polity: Teacher: Randall Wright Text: *Polity, Practice and the Mission of the United Methodist Church* by Thomas Edward Frank ISBN 978-06873 3531 2 Cokesbury \$19.42

Lay Servants Pray: Teacher: Jane Taylor Text: *Let the Whole Church Say Amen!* By Laurence Hull Stookey ISBN 978-06870-9077-8 Cokesbury \$15.40

Lay Servants Preach: Teacher: Lloyd Jones Text: John Gilbert, *Go, Preach!* ISBN-13: 9780881773842 Cokesbury \$9.99

Lay Servants Lead in Worship: Teacher: Adam Love Text: *Worshiping with United Methodists (REVISED)* by Hoyt Hickman ISBN 978-06873-3526-8 Cokesbury \$12.05

----- Detach Here -----

Name _____ Church _____ District _____

Address _____

Home Tel. _____ Mobile/Work Tel. (if ok to call) _____ E-Mail _____

Course desired _____

Lay Servant Requirements

Revised 2016

ALL Lay Servants MUST:

- Be approved as lay servant by their pastor and charge conference/administrative council
- File an annual report to the charge conference (provided by the pastor)
- Complete the Basic Course in Lay Servant Ministries
- Take a refresher course every three years* (same as previous requirements). Lay servants not desiring certification as lay speaker **may take either the basic or an advanced course** of their choosing

Certified Lay Servants take at least one advanced course every three years.

CERTIFIED Lay SPEAKERS (who provide pulpit supply in churches other than their own): must meet requirements above PLUS:

1. Complete the **six required courses** -- Preaching, Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts, Leading Prayer, Living Our United Methodist Faith (United Methodist Heritage); United Methodist Polity, and Leading in Worship;
2. Then interview with the District Committee on Lay Servant Ministries;
3. Be approved by Holston Annual Conference Committee on Lay Servant Ministries;
4. Complete one additional **advanced** course every three subsequent years (same as our previous requirements).

As of now, sixteen persons in our district have completed all required courses and the interview for Annual Conference certification as lay speakers; two persons have completed all course work and will be interviewed at a later time. The conference director affirmed that certificates are being prepared for the district superintendent's signature and will be presented by the pastors in a public worship setting. Until we have sufficient speakers certified under the new rules, we will also rely on those who are actively pursuing current requirements -- taking at least one required course per year. We will rotate through the required courses to allow everyone to earn certification as quickly as possible. Additionally, we will e-mail our lay servants of other training opportunities for training in nearby districts as they arise.