

# 2024 Sermon Manuscript Contest

The Indiana Conference Board of Laity is pleased to sponsor the 2024 Laity Sermon Manuscript Contest again this year. The contest is open to all laypersons in the Indiana Conference.

In collaboration with the 2024 Indiana Annual Conference Session, the theme for this year's manuscript contest is ***Cultivate Joy!*** based on Romans 15:13: "***May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.***" The author of the winning manuscript will present his or her manuscript during the Laity Session of Annual Conference, which will take place at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Indianapolis June 6-8.

Rules for the contest are as follows:

- Manuscripts must be original and based on the theme stated above.
- Manuscripts should be no more than 10 minutes in length when presented.
- Entries will be judged based on clarity, originality, relationship to the theme and composition.
- Manuscripts must be accompanied by a cover sheet that includes the writer's name, phone number, email address, local church name and district.
- Entrants are asked not to include any personally identifying information in the manuscript itself since the manuscripts will be judged anonymously.
- Previous winners are ineligible for 3 years.
- All entries MUST be received no later than Sunday, April 7.
- The winner will be notified on or before Friday, April 19.

Entries should be submitted to Kim Arnott, Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries, at [kimarnott@mac.com](mailto:kimarnott@mac.com). For additional information about the contest, please contact Kim Arnott at the above email address.