



Genesee Valley District Lay Servant  
Ministries Committee  
Presents

## 2020 Spring Training Offerings

Featuring the opportunity to take

**“The Basic Lay Servant Course”**  
Saturdays, April 25 and May 2  
(9:00am - 2:30pm)

at

Faith/Korean United Methodist Church  
174 Pinnacle Road  
Rochester, NY 14623

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**Advanced Course**  
**“Preaching”**  
Saturdays, April 25 and May 2  
(9:00am - 2:30pm)

at

Brockport United Methodist Church  
92 Main Street  
Brockport, NY 14420

(Ten hours are required for course credit.)

## **“Basic Lay Servant Course”** Saturdays, April 25 & May 2 (9:00am-2:30pm)

The Basic Lay Servant Course is an overview study and exploration into the many ways Christians may serve our Lord through Lay Servant Ministries. It is the foundation course for Certified Lay Servant Ministries.

Participants are invited 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 discipleship. It offers guidelines for best practices as a church leader and outlines a number of ministries in which Lay Servants may assume roles.

Whether one decides to proceed in the process to become a Lay Servant or not, this course is excellent for all church laity in leadership positions.

Please bring the “Lay Servant Ministries Participant’s Book” by Sandy Zeigler Jackson and Brian Jackson to class.  
<https://bookstore.upperroom.org/Products/DR6261ay-servant-ministries-basic-course-participants-book.aspx>

**Instructor:** **Rev. Nilla Owen** has been a spiritual leader for the Lay Servant Ministry in the past and has taught several courses to Laity.

She is currently serving Dansville and Sparta Center UMC’s. Her congregations have been working on building a respite care program to give care givers a break. It is lay led. Rev. Owen was ordained, as an Elder, in Kansas East Conference in 1995.

**\*\*\*Please bring a bag lunch – coffee, tea and water will be provided\*\*\***

## REGISTRATION FORM

Check one:

- “Basic Lay Servant Course” (\$25)**  
 **“Preaching” (\$25)**

Your Name

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Your home address

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Your phone number

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Your cell phone number

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Your email address

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Your district (ie. Genesee Valley, Finger Lakes)

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Your home church

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Church's address

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Your pastor

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**Please register by April 15, 2020.**

**Make check payable to UNYAC**

**Mail to: Deb Clyde**

**11 Bowen Road  
Churchville, NY 14428**

**Basic Co-Instructor: Thomas Wulff** is a Certified Lay Servant, member of the Genesee Valley District Lay Servant committee and member of the United Methodist Church of North Chili. Within his church, Tom is on the SPRC committee and coordinates missions work. One of their primary missions is to support Project Chacocente in Nicaragua and he traveled with the mission's team to Chacocente in 2015.

***“Preaching”***  
***Saturdays, April 25 & May 2***  
***(9:00am-2:30pm)***

A down-to-earth, practical introduction to the ins and outs of preaching for lay preachers, bi-vocational pastors, and others newly arrived in the pulpit

Recent years have seen a considerable increase in the amount of financial resources required to support a full-time pastor in the local congregation. In addition, large numbers of full-time, seminary trained clergy are retiring, without commensurate numbers of new clergy able to take their place. As a result of these trends, a large number of lay preachers and bi-vocational pastors have assumed the principal responsibility for filling the pulpit week by week in local churches. Most of these individuals, observes Clifton Guthrie, can draw on a wealth of life experiences, as well as strong intuitive skills in knowing what makes a good sermon, having listened to them much of their lives. What they often don't bring to the pulpit, however, is specific, detailed instruction in the how-to of preaching. That is precisely what this brief, practical guide to preaching has to offer.

Written with the needs of those for whom preaching is not their sole or primary occupation in mind, it begins by emphasizing what every preacher brings to the pulpit: an idea of what makes a sermon particularly moving or memorable to them. From there the book moves into short chapters on choosing an appropriate biblical text or sermon topic, learning how to listen to one's first impressions of what a text means, moving from text or topic to the sermon itself while keeping the listeners needs firmly in mind, making thorough and engaging use of stories in the sermon, and delivering with passion and conviction. The book concludes with helpful suggestions for resources, including Bibles, commentaries, other print resources and websites.

Please read and bring the book “From Pew to Pulpit” by Clifton F. Guthrie to class.

<https://bookstore.upperroom.org/Products/AB6660/from-pew-to-pulpit.aspx>

**Instructor: Pastor Meg Morin**’s history with Lay Servant Ministry goes back close to two decades. Lay Speaking provided her with the motivation to step into Course of Study to become a Licensed Local Pastor. Her passion is speaking and teaching, and recently, ministry to the homeless in Rochester. She is currently teaching Disciple at Asbury First UMC where she attends with her husband Dana Vosburgh.

**\*\*\*Please bring a bag lunch – coffee, tea and water will be provided\*\*\***

**Who Should Take These Advanced Courses?**

Primarily aimed at Lay Servants, these classes are open to anyone (clergy or laity). Lay Servants may use these to fulfill the requirement of one course each three years to maintain status.

**Scholarships?**

There are some funds for scholarships. If you need help financing a course, please check with your church first. If you still need funds, please contact Deb Clyde.

**Questions? Please contact:**

Genesee Valley District  
Lay Servant Ministries Director:

Deborah Clyde 585-889-5200 H  
585-413-6057 C

Email: <[dclyde@rochester.rr.com](mailto:dclyde@rochester.rr.com)>