

## Classes Available

### Basic Lay Servant Ministries

The *Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course* is a foundational course designed to equip church leaders and renew current leaders in The United Methodist Church. It explores personal spiritual gifts, servant leadership, each leader's role in developing future leaders, the importance of consistent spiritual practices, the core ministries of Leading, Caring, and Communicating and much more.

The Basic Course can be used for both adults and youth.

### Advanced Class -

#### ***"This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion"***

The time when the Church participates in Holy Communion has been called 'The Church at its best.' With that as our theme, we have the opportunity to study together this Sacrament that is celebrated among God's people at this time when Christ has promised to be present.

The goal of our study is the renewal of worship in United Methodist congregations through enhanced appreciation of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We will explore this 'means of grace' and seek to deepen our experience of encounter with God.

In 2004 the General Conference approved an official comprehensive statement of the practice and theology of the Lord's Supper. This document is known as

"This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion."  
Following the release and approval of that document, Gayle Carlton Felton wrote a commentary and study guide to help us, as United Methodists, explore United Methodist position on Holy Communion. With this book as our guide, we will look at *how* we practice the Lord's Supper and *why* we do what we do.

### **Schedule**

#### **Saturday**

Class - 8:30 a.m.

Lunch Break 11:30 - 12:00

Class- 12:15 - 3:30 p.m.

Snacks and lunch will be provided.

### **Cost and Registration**

The only cost will be for lunch, instruction and materials. All classes are \$50. **You must specify which class you need and pay in advance with the district office.**

Approximately 10 people are needed for a class to make. **Please fill out the last column of this brochure and mail with payment to:**

New Albany District  
P. O. Box 686  
New Albany, MS 38652

The **deadline to register is Sept. 25th.** This deadline is very important. There are no refunds except for a family emergency or for a class not making. Instructors will have been secured and books ordered by this date.

Unlike two day schools in the past, registering the day of the school will not be

possible. Books and homework are mailed to the participants ahead of time and this counts toward the ten hours of instruction necessary to complete a class.

### **Teachers**

**Basic Class** – Gordon Marie Crowe, New Albany District Director of Lay Servant Ministries and member of the Baldwyn UMC will teach this class. Gordon is an avid and knowledgeable promoter of the benefits of lay ministries schools. She has taken many of the classes and speaks readily when called upon. Gordon works for the Magnolia Regional Health Center in Corinth.

**Advanced Class** - This class will be taught by Rev. Mary Hutson, former clergy person of the New Albany District. Mary currently serves the Ruleville/Glendora Charge in the Greenwood District. Mary is a much sought after instructor for lay servant schools and feels passionately about United Methodism and our rich history. Rev. Hutson is a summa cum lauda graduate of Blue Mountain College with a double major and also a summa cum lauda graduate of Memphis Theological Seminary.

**Last Day to Register - Sept. 25**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class Preference (Basic or Advanced)

Be sure to bring your Bible, any materials mailed to you, notebook, pen/pencils.

In the United Methodist Church a lay servant, local church or certified, is a professing member of a local church who is ready and desirous to serve the Church and who is well informed on and committed to the Scriptures and the doctrine, heritage, organization, and life of The United Methodist Church and who has received specific training to develop skills in witnessing to the Christian faith through spoken communication, church and community leadership, and care-giving ministries. (par. 266, 2012 The Book of Discipline).

A certified lay speaker is one who has completed at least one advanced class and continues to serve in the above ways. In addition, the certified lay speaker may serve in the district and conference and in local churches other than the local church in which membership is held. At least one advanced course every three years must be completed for continuance. (pages 210 and 211 in 2012 The Book of Discipline. Please read paragraph 266 in its entirety.



**New Albany District Fall, 2015  
Lay Servant Classes  
Ripley FUMC  
302 South Main St.  
Ripley, MS 38663**

***One Day Format***  
Class will meet all day Saturday,  
**October 10** at Ripley UMC

Please register early so important preparations may be made for your attendance, including pre-assignments and the mailing of books.