



SUMMER LAY SERVANT ACADEMY—AUG. 9-10, 2025

REGISTER

<https://arenaweb.bwcumc.org/default.aspx?page=3452&event=6692>

General Information (In-person classes only)

- ~ 10-hour Course: Sat., Aug. 9, 9am–5pm | Sun., Aug. 10, 2-5pm
- ~ Location: First UMC of Hyattsville (6201 Belcrest Rd., Hyattsville, MD)
- ~ Cost: \$40 per class. *This does not include the required text*
- ~ Deadline: **Aug. 4, 2025**
- ~ Questions: Carol Travis (301-908-6501/carol6303@aol.com)

Basic Lay Servant Course — Instructor: Rev. Gerald Elston

This course helps laity discover their unique call to serve God, others, and the church. It is the required foundation for all lay servant ministry certifications. **Required pre-reading text:** [Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course](#) • 10 slots per class.

Called to Preach (Advanced Course) — Instructor: Rev. Michael Parker, II

This course is for those without formal preaching training, pastors needing a refresher, and others who preach in a pastor's absence. It is the required preaching course for the lay speaker track. **Required pre-reading text:** [From Pew to Pulpit](#) and [also watch these videos](#) • 10 slots per class.

Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts (Advanced Course) — Instructor: Irene Prabhu Das

This course helps participants understand spiritual gifts and how they support the church's mission. It also equips leaders to guide others in discovering and using their gifts. For information on offering this course for the deaf and hard of hearing, please contact The United Methodist Committee on Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Ministries at: UMDeaf.org. **Required pre-reading text:** [Each One a Minister](#) • 10 slots per class.

Transforming Evangelism (Advanced Course) — Instructor: Rev. Brian Jackson

This course teaches participants how to practice relational evangelism through the example of John Wesley. It emphasizes sharing faith and welcoming others into a supportive faith community. **Required pre-reading text:** [Transforming Evangelism](#) • 10 slots per class.