

The Proclamation

January 2011



News from the Saginaw Bay District Committee on Lay Speaking Ministries

Coming Events

2011	Sundays--Feb 6, 13, 20, 27 and Mar 6	Basic Lay Speaking Growing Spiritually...Daily Discipline Leading Small Groups	Rose City
2011	Sundays--Feb 6, 13, 20, 27 and Mar 6	Basic Lay Speaking Growing Spiritually...Daily Discipline Leading Small Groups	Fairgrove
2011	March 25-27	Youth Lay Speaking Weekend	Frankenmuth
2011	April 2, 16, 30	Spring Classes	TBA
2011	June 3-5	Young Adults Lay Speaking	West Goodland UMC, Imlay City
TBA = To Be Announced			

Youth Lay Speaking Weekend in Frankenmuth This Spring!

We are excited to announce that the Youth Lay Speaking Weekend 2011 will be hosted at Frankenmuth United Methodist Church on March 25th – 27th. The host pastor is Reverend David Eardley. Please watch for more information as it becomes available. We have a [Youth Lay Speaking](#) page on facebook that you can join and receive up to the minute announcements and messages.

If you have any questions you can contact Michelle Aultman at 989-737-7621 or Ralph Czerepinski at 989-832-3604. Or by email: michelleaultman@gmail.com, czere@chartermi.net

Winter and Spring Classes Scheduled for 2011

Gather your friends for Basic Lay Speaking, or either of the advanced courses.

The registration form is enclosed for Winter Lay Speaking classes in Rose City or Fairgrove. The registration deadline is January 2. Course fees are discounted for those who register early. A \$10 late fee applies for applications received after the deadline.

Electronic Proclamation is Coming

Printing and mailing 500 copies of the newsletter 3 times per year is quite costly. Our Lay Speaking Committee is working to offer an electronic edition that can be emailed and posted on the Saginaw Bay District web site. Please join in by volunteering to receive your copy via email. On the other hand, we will continue to send paper copies to those not having email as long as we can afford to do so. Reply to schrott.layspeaker@charter.net if you would elect to receive an electronic version of this news letter. Those of you who responded after our last newsletter do not have to respond a second time. In the long run, we will email the newsletter to every church and their pastor for additional distribution as needed.

Houghton Lake classes were all smaller than we intended, but participants were energetic and committed to learning. Closing turned out to be quite an adventure. Just as we were taking closing pictures of the classes, the power went out, and the sanctuary was VERY dark. The city had lost power, and it was still out when we all drove home.

Houghton Lake Fall Classes



Fall Basic Class, Houghton Lake. Class members included (not in order) Rose Davis, Susan Duford, Jackie Gobrogge, Coleen Mullins, and class facilitator, Rose Fedewa.



Houghton Lake Fall Advanced Course, Lay Speakers Preach: Rev. Lisa Cook, class facilitator; Sue Klenk, Ray McClintic, Lockey Fredlund, and Karen Emery.



Fall Advanced Leading Bible Study class at Houghton Lake: Dennis Duford, Julia Hulka, Barbara Greene, and class facilitator, Sue Lazell.

ERRATA

Getting this edition launched has been fraught with every imaginable delay and difficulty, and in spite of our best efforts, a number of mistakes have still snuck through.

In the front page article about the upcoming Youth Lay Speaking weekend, Ralph Czerepinski's telephone number is incorrect as printed on most copies. The correct number is 989-832-3604.

The Winter class application form has instructions which were written for a weekend retreat class. Nonetheless, you are expected to have completed your homework assignments prior to each class, as the class sessions are based on discussions of what you all have learned along the way.

Please accept our apologies.

Hemlock Fall Classes



Lay Speakers Can Preach --Front Row (L-R): Cassie Cuthbert, Jan Hill, Wendy Orzel (facilitator)
Back Row (L-R): Earl Damron, Dawn Olson, Ross Olson, Robert McCann, Bill Cornish



Lay Speakers Lead Bible Study -- Front, left to right: Jim Birch (facilitator), Joyce Kerr, Dave Kerr, Sandy Karls, April Thornton; **Back:** Sam Smith

Director's Report



The blessed season of Christmas is over and the New Year is upon us and we have a whole new year in which to spread the good news of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The winter classes are ready to go and we pray that you will sign up and be uplifted through the long, cold and dreary month of January. We hope to see many of you there. We will soon have the sites, dates and courses planned for the rest of 2011. You will be able to plan ahead to find the site closest to you, with the dates and courses that best fit your leadership plans.

The Youth Lay Speaking week-end will be coming in the spring. Much planning goes into this event and we hope our Youth will take advantage on learning leadership skills.

The Young Adult week-end is also set. Our first one was a great success and friendships were formed that should last a life time. It is a great way to find your path in leadership and have a great week-end of fun and learning.

Have a blessed and joyous New Year!

Joyce M. Kew

May God bless and keep you,
Director, Lay Speaking Ministries

You are invited to the next meeting of the Saginaw Bay District Committee on Lay Speaking Ministries. The committee meets at **6:30 p.m.** on the first Monday of even-numbered months, at Vantage Plastics, 1415 W. Cedar, Standish. Next meeting will be on February 7, 2011.

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News from the Saginaw Bay District
Committee on Lay Speaking Ministries

Registration forms enclosed!

About these courses

While lay speaking courses are written for the purpose of training Lay Speakers as leaders in the local church, **anyone** is eligible to take them. Many of these are ideal training for those who head up ministry committees in their local church. Those who don't wish to become lay speakers do not require permission signatures from their pastor or their pastor/staff parish committee.

If participants have the support of their congregation and their pastor, applying to the District Committee and completing the basic course can result in recognition as a Local Church Lay Speaker. It does not mean people must preach, nor does it guarantee that they will be given that chance. Such choices would be by mutual agreement with your pastor.

Lay speakers who have completed a basic course can, if affirmed by their congregation and their pastor, become Certified Lay Speakers by applying to the District Committee and completing any of the advanced courses.

Lay Speaking Ministries Basic Course \$35 (\$45 after registration deadline)

I want to grow as a follower of Jesus and better understand how to use my gifts in ministry.

We're all called to proclaim God's wonder and works. Answering the spiritual nudges to put faith in action and represent Christ in our daily lives present unique opportunities to serve God and neighbor. As unique as you and your spiritual gifts.

The basic course for Lay Speaking Ministries guides you to discover your gifts of caring, leading and communicating and put them to use.

Sessions take you through thoughtful reflection on what it takes to make a congregation an outpost for mission and transformation and the role you can play — even if public speaking isn't your gift.

Grow Spiritually Through Daily Discipline Advanced Course \$45 (\$55 after registration deadline)

Participants are guided in discerning God's direction for their lives, practicing daily disciplines, and reaching out in love.

The purposes of this course are:

- to practice disciplines for spiritual growth;
- to develop skills for leading other people to grow spiritually through daily disciplines.

During the course, five disciplines will be practiced; Bible study, prayer, hospitality, solitude, and acts of charity. Each person will be expected to keep a journal to help monitor his or her spiritual life.

The significance of this course will depend on your faith in and commitment to Christ. May you grow in faith as you walk with Christ in a more disciplined way.

• Lay Speakers Lead Small Groups Advanced Course \$45 (\$55 after registration deadline)

By the end of this course, you will know how to:

- expand your network of supporters;
- analyze the small groups in your congregation and the ways they help make disciples of Jesus Christ;
- deepen your practice of the means of grace;
- understand, form, and nurture gospel partnerships;
- create a hospitable climate in small groups;
- foster and sustain shared vision within small groups;
- facilitate group dialogue so members listen more deeply to one another; and
- identify and work through resistance to change in individuals and groups.