

Youth Leadership: Reclaim the Flame!

Youth Lay Speaking Weekend Retreat

Sponsored by Saginaw Bay District Committee on Lay Speaking Ministries
Houghton Lake UMC, 7059 W. Houghton Lake Dr., Houghton Lake, Michigan 48629

7:00 p.m. Friday, March 16, through 5:00 p.m., Sunday, March 18, 2012



Please check the course you want to take
(descriptions on back):

- Basic Course in Lay Speaking Ministries**
- Understanding Spiritual Gifts** (advanced course)
 - For credit* within Lay Speaking Ministries program
 - Not for credit* (Pastoral and other approvals are not required to *audit* this course.)

Part I. Registrant Information

- I am an active (or potential future) member of _____ United Methodist Church.
- I understand this will not guarantee a chance to preach, but will prepare me to take on leadership roles in my church.
- I will actively participate in learning sessions.
- I will complete my homework assignments.

Your name (please print) Date

Name you'd like on your name tag T-shirt size (Adult S-M-L-XL-2X)

Home address

City State Zip

Home phone E-mail

Part II. Health Issues

Food allergies or limitations: _____

Medications: _____

Other medical conditions: _____

Part III. Emergency information

Please print name

Parent or guardian

Day phone Night phone

I grant permission for retreat leaders to seek emergency medical aid for my child should it become necessary.

Parent or guardian signature Date

Part IV. Clergy Support

- I have discussed with this member their leadership potential and expectations.
- I understand that completion of this course will be a significant moment for this member, worthy of recognition before the congregation.
- I understand that I am invited to the commissioning service at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 21.
- I support this member's application to become or renew their status as a lay speaker.

Pastor name (please print)

Pastor signature Date

Part V. Congregational Support

- The church council or the pastor/staff parish committee has discussed with this member their leadership potential and expectations.
- We agree to nurture the spiritual growth of this member and to provide growth opportunities appropriate to their abilities and availability.
- We fully support this member's application to become or to continue as a lay speaker.

Chairperson signature Date

- P/SPRC Church Council

Please complete this registration form (or a copy) and send it with your registration fee of \$60 (\$70 after deadline) payable to "Saginaw Bay District" to:

Jim Birch, Registrar
1801 W. Manitou Trail
Midland, MI 48640
Phone: 989-832-7485
Email: james.birch@editech-mi.com

Note: The registration **deadline** is **March 1, 2012**. After the deadline, fees will be \$10 more. Courses with fewer than six registrants by the deadline are likely to be cancelled.

Please: If it is close to the deadline, please notify the registrar by telephone or e-mail that you will be attending or complete the left side of the form, make a copy, and submit the uncompleted copy while you obtain needed signatures on the original.

Important: For registrations arriving after the deadline, we cannot ensure that late registrants will receive course materials in time to complete the advance assignments for the sessions.

Questions? Contact: **Michelle Aultman**, 989-737-7621 or **Ralph Czerepinski**, 989-832-3604, ralph@czere.com

About These Courses

Although Lay Speaking Ministries courses are intended to train lay people to be better leaders in their local church, *anyone* is eligible to take them. Many courses are ideal training for those who are involved on or have the potential to be involved on ministry committees in their local church. Even pastors can benefit from a quick refresher. Those who don't wish to be recognized as lay speakers do not need to obtain 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 opportunity. Such opportunities would be by mutual agreement with your pastor.

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

Basic Course in Lay Speaking Ministries

"I want to grow as a follower of Jesus and better understand how to use my gifts in ministry." Have you ever thought something like that? We are all called to proclaim God's wonder and works in the environments in which we work, learn, socialize, recreate, and serve. Answering the spiritual nudges to put faith in action and represent Christ in our daily lives present unique opportunities to serve both God and neighbor. Your service can be as unique as you and your spiritual gifts.

The basic course for Lay Speaking Ministries guides you in discovering and developing your gifts of caring, leading, and communicating and putting them to use in your unique way. Sessions take you through thoughtful reflection on what it takes to make a congregation an outpost for mission and transformation and the unique role you can play—whether or not you think public speaking is one of your gifts.

Advanced Class: Lay Speakers Discover Spiritual Gifts

Looking for a ministry in which to serve, but not quite sure how you fit in? It's a common feeling, one that this course is designed to help you overcome. In this course you will explore what the Bible says about spiritual gifts, learn how spiritual gifts can become an avenue for ministry, and identify the spiritual gifts you have and can put to use. By the end of the course you will:

- Have a working knowledge of what the Bible says about spiritual gifts
- Grow accustomed to working with others and their spiritual gifts
- Practice developing goals and procedures for obtaining them
- Develop a better understanding of the church and its ministry needs
- Learn what it means to be a minister and to do the work of Christ in the church and the world
- Feel better equipped to lead others toward exploring their spiritual gifts