



Lay Servant Ministry

Welcome to 2025. “We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you.” (2 Chron 20:12) With fires, severe winter weather, and a deadly New Orleans vehicle attack it can seem like the world is ending. But if we keep our eyes on our hope, Jesus Christ. We will get through.

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to *make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world*. The mission of Lay Servant Ministry is to equip the laity to perform that mission. LSM helps us keep our eyes on the mission.

LSM classes are approved and designed by United Methodist Church Discipleship ministry. They require 10 hours of class participation as well as additional out-of-class time to receive a completed certificate. The books are written to inspire class discussion. We understand that people may not have time to read the entire book before class. At a minimum students should review books and be prepared to discuss key topics from the books. Currently, the Charleston District offers classes on Saturdays and Sundays. We will also consider requests for Zoom sessions if there is enough interest.

LSM classes may be taken in any order. To get the most out of our classes we recommend the following order: Basic Lay Servant, then the following advanced classes; For the Common Good (spiritual gifts), UM Heritage, Leading Prayer, Lead Worship, Preach, and then UM Polity. To be a Lay Speaker, you must complete these classes and meet with the district board.

We are not allowed to copy any book without permission from the author. If you are encountering a problem with ordering the book, please contact your pastor or the district director.

You may take classes from another District; however, you are responsible for getting your certificate of completion to the Charleston District LSM director. Classes are also offered online at BeADisciple.com.

We are hoping to add a new class in *Climate Justice* in the fall. And to offer, *See all the People* again. All active Lay Servants and Lay Speakers are required to take a class at least once every **three** years. They must complete an annual report **every year** to stay on the Charleston District active LSM list.

We look forward to sharing your spiritual walk, as together we work to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Charleston District Board of Lay Servant Ministry