



## Lay Servant Ministry Updates

2013 promises to be an exciting year for Lay Servant Ministries. We have a record number of Lay Servants from our district. The opportunities for service and for learning continue to increase.

We also are celebrating the appointments of Kris Bergmann and Constance Wilborn as the Co-Directors of Lay Servant Ministries, and Tim Goodwin as Associate Director. Kris, Constance and Tim have served as instructors and many of you have enjoyed their teaching and their passion for Lay Servant Ministries.

The Charleston District Lay Servant Board looks forward to providing training, classes, and support for you and your ministries in your churches during this New Year. Please invite others in your church to become a part of Lay Servant Ministries. We pray that each of you experience the joy of answering the call of God by learning new ways to serve.

If you have taken the Basic Course, we recommend that you take Spiritual Gifts or the United Methodist Heritage course or Worship next to be able to become a Certified Lay Speaker.

Classes will be held at *Cokesbury UMC*, located at *4990 Dorchester Road*. Cokesbury is located near the corner of Dorchester Road and Montague Avenue.

### **Class Schedule:**

**Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** – 6:30pm - 8:45 pm  
(gathering in the Fellowship Hall)

**Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>** – 9:00am -5:00pm  
(gathering in the Fellowship Hall)

**Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>** – 2:30pm (go directly to class)

The classes are as follows:

### **Basic Lay Speaking:**

This course focuses on the many ways Lay

Speakers are called to be in ministry through such things as leading, teaching, serving, proclaiming the Gospel, disciple-making, storytelling, growing through personal spiritual formation and preaching. The book introduces the stated purposes of Lay Servant Ministries as caring, leading, and communicating.

### **United Methodist Heritage:**

Helps participants gain an understanding of the distinctive traditions and emphasis of the United Methodist Church; such as the history, beliefs, mission and church organization. This course helps us to understand where we as Methodist came from and why we do things the way we do.

### **Worship thru Music:**

This course will explore music in worship and personal settings. We will explore Scriptural references to music, our United Methodist heritage of Hymns and their origins, the parts of the United Methodist Hymnal and origin of many of the hymns we sing.

### **Storytelling:**

In this advanced course you will learn what constitutes a good story, discover your storytelling styles, learn the techniques of effective storytelling, and practice creating stories from your own experiences.

### **UM Book of Discipline:**

This advanced course will help you to better understand the Biblical basis of the United Methodist Church's "book of law." You will study the *Book of Discipline* as the means of setting forth the laws, plan, polity, and process by which Methodists govern themselves. The course provides opportunities to examine those social principles and the practical application of church law, which governs our local churches today, and for the future.

### **Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations**

This new course reveals that successful congregations often have certain characteristics in common. These fundamental practices

demonstrate congregational health, vitality, and fruitfulness. These practices also help the church fulfill their mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.