

- **Class Size Is Limited – Register Online (see instructions inside)**
- **Basic Course – English, Spanish**
- **Advanced Course - requires previous completion of Basic.**
- **Select one class only. You will attend the same class both days**
- **10 hours required for Certification.**
- **Youth Lay Speaker opportunities will be presented for all three districts will be presented at another time in a separate venue.**

**The Basic Course** ~ You are encouraged to recognize and employ personal spiritual gifts for church in order to use them as God fully intended. This is a brand new publication with a fresh outlook on lay ministry.

#### **Advanced Courses**

**Lead in Evangelism** ~ A course about our relationship to God and to those we engage daily. This course connects witness with spiritual formation, leading participants to a greater understanding of the importance of evangelism. You will need to purchase *Transforming Evangelism* at a cost of \$14.00. see insert

**From Your Heart to Theirs** ~ A new study that moves beyond the basics of public speaking and addresses the foundation of preparing an engaging sermon. It addresses communication beyond the paper preparation and guides the individual to discover how to find the right sermon to tell and how to deliver it. No additional textbook required for this course.

**Lay Speakers Create Disciple-Making Faith Communities** ~ This advanced course provides key tools and principles that can be used to create disciple-making faith communities. It presents new insights to opportunities in ministry. You will need to purchase *Next Church Now* at a cost of \$22.00. see insert

**Lay Speakers Tell Stories** ~ Learn what makes a good story, discover your own style as a storyteller and practice creating stories from your own life experiences. You will need to purchase *Dancing With Words* at a cost of \$14.00. see insert

**Lead In Stewardship** ~ This course connects witness with spiritual formation, leading participants to understand how to become spirited stewards. You will need to purchase *Afire With God* at a cost of \$15.00. see insert

**Pastoral Care Giving** ~ Learn to reach out with God's love and care for others as outlined in this practical book. Expressing care to someone in need may come natural to some, but everyone can learn how to minister in this field. Others may discover ways to improve a natural calling. There is an additional \$10.00 registration fee for materials for this class.

**Leading in Prayer** ~ To many people, prayer remains a mystery, and praying in public can be a test of faith some of us avoid. Prayer is an intimate connection to God. The author teaches us to discover deeper, more vital prayer and how to gain confidence on praying in public. You will need to purchase *Let The Whole Church Say Amen* at a cost of \$20.00. see insert

**Discover Spiritual Gifts** ~ Acquire a better understanding of the church and its ministry needs. Learn what it means to be a minister doing the work of Christ in the church and in the world. You will need to purchase *Each One A Minister* at a cost of \$14.00. see insert

Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church  
Houston Area Districts

## Adult Lay Academy Preparing Laity for Ministry



**Saturday, September 11, 2010**  
**Saturday, September 18, 2010**

**Bellaire United Methodist Church**  
**4417 Bellaire Blvd. ~ Bellaire, TX 77401**  
(Bellaire UMC is conveniently located just inside the 610 Loop West)

#### **Sponsored By**

**Central South District 713-222-0117**

**South District 281-998-8993**

**Southwest District 281-499-3700**

<http://regonline.com/layspeakeracademy>

**Youth Lay Speaker Academy will be offered for all three districts on a later date. Watch for future details.**

## ¶266. Lay Speaking

Taken from the 2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church

1. A lay speaker (local church or certified) is a professing member of a local church or charge who is ready and desirous to serve the Church and who is well informed on and committed to the Scriptures and the doctrine, heritage, organization, and life of the United Methodist Church and who has received specific training to develop skills in witnessing to the Christian faith through spoken communication, church and community leadership, and care-giving ministries. An applicant must be active in the support of the local church or charge.
2. Lay speakers are to serve the local church or charge (or beyond the local church or charge) in any way in which their witness or leadership and service inspires the laity to deeper commitment to Christ and more effective discipleship, including the interpretation of the Scriptures, doctrine, organization, and ministries of the church.
3. Through continued study and training a lay speaker should prepare to undertake one or more of the following functions, giving primary attention to service within the local church or charge.
  - a) To take initiative in giving leadership, assistance, and support to the program emphases of the church.
  - b) To lead meetings for prayer, training, study, and discussion when requested by the pastor, district superintendent, or committee on lay speaking.
  - c) To conduct, or assist in conducting, services of worship, and present sermons and addresses when requested by the pastor, district superintendent, or committee on lay speaking.
  - d) To relate to appropriate committees and ministry areas in providing leadership for congregational and community life and fostering care-giving ministries.

### What is required to become a lay speaker?

A local church lay speaker must be recommended by the pastor and the church council or the charge conference of the local church in which membership is held. To maintain status, a report and reapplication with recommendations must be submitted annually.

A certified lay speaker must be recommended by the pastor and the church council or the charge conference of the local church in which he or she holds membership and have completed both basic and one advanced training course for lay speaking. All certified lay speakers must reapply annually at their charge conference, and complete at least one advanced course every three (3) years.

### Who Should Come?

Everyone who wants to become a better disciple. The Lay Speaking School is designed to enhance and complement the Christian on his/her spiritual journey. Its purpose is to promote growth through study and prayer. It does NOT entitle the participant to an appointment or speaking opportunities in his/her local church.

### Why Should I attend?

This training will enable and empower you through:

- Personal Spiritual Growth,
- Equipping you to become a more effective Lay Speaker,
- Becoming a better Teacher
- Becoming a better Leader in your Church & Community
- Becoming an effective Worship Leader
- Becoming a Certified United Methodist Lay Speaker.

### What Materials Do I Need?

1. Bible
2. Extra money for textbooks
3. Pencil & Paper

### Schedule September 11

9:30 a.m. Check in & material pick up for registrations received online after August 25<sup>th</sup> deadline  
10:00 a.m. Open with worship, devotion time and instructions  
10:30 a.m. Classes begin  
3:30 p.m. Classes end

### Schedule September 18

10:00 a.m. Classes begin  
3:00 p.m. Classes end

A light lunch will be provided both days and is included in your registration fee. Lunch will be staggered in three time slots and two 15 minutes breaks will be allowed during course time.

Early registration is **\$30.00**. Cost includes lunch and course materials. **It does not include the cost of supplemental books.**

- Dead-line for early registration is August 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Registration after August 25<sup>th</sup> will cost **\$40.00**.
- If your registration is not received by August 25<sup>th</sup> your materials will not be mailed to you. You can pick them up at the check-in desk.
- Classes have limited space. Register early to insure that the class you choose is not filled

Register online by clicking on the website link on the front page of this brochure. If you do not have the ability to register online, use the paper registration form. Complete it and mail it to the Central South District office address on the registration form.