

## 2015 LAY ACADEMY CLASSES

*Classes offered both Wednesday night and Thursday morning unless otherwise noted.*

### PRESENTING AN EFFECTIVE ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT TO YOUR CONGREGATION

**PRESENTER:** Bill Patrick, WPA Conference Sessions, Floor Manager

**CLASS DESCRIPTION:** An important characteristic of being an effective leader is to share our knowledge and experiences with others. The objective of this class is to assist the LMAC in developing and presenting an interesting and informative report to their congregation after their experience at Annual Conference.

### WHY PLANNED GIVING?

**PRESENTER:** Edward Bailey, Executive Director, WPA United Methodist Foundation

**CLASS DESCRIPTION:** This session will look at today's current giving climate. The presentation will cover what planned giving is, the need for it in the local church and agency, and steps on how to start planned giving. Learn about the importance of this form of stewardship and how planned gifts can financially support one or more of the areas of focus.

### LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES – LET'S TALK AND UNDERSTAND THE CHANGES

**PRESENTERS:** Jodi Cataldo – Director of Laity in Leadership, Discipleship Ministries, Nashville, Tenn.

**CLASS DESCRIPTION:** Jodi Cataldo, the new Director of Lay Ministries for Discipleship Ministries (formerly known as the General Board of Discipleship) will discuss the ministries and requirements of a Local Church Lay Servant, a Certified Lay Servant and a Certified Lay Minister. She will also offer suggestions on how to create a system for keeping track of course completion of participants.

### MARKETING YOUR CHURCH

**PRESENTERS:** Craig Catlett, Training and Development Specialist, UMCommunications

**CLASS DESCRIPTION:** Your church wants to impact lives, help people know Christ and engage them through Christian discipleship and outreach marketing. Developing a Church Marketing Plan can take the unique church God created you to be and connect you to the people He calls you to reach. Learn how to create a plan, improve how you communicate with and impact the people you want to reach, and ensure good stewardship of church resources.

## ONE CONFERENCE, ONE BOOK

**PRESENTER:** Peggy Ward, chairperson, Conference Commission on the Status and Role of Women

**CLASS DESCRIPTION:** This session will discuss the book *Privilege, Power and Difference* by Allan John. This book allow us to hear and understand the issues of privilege, power and difference and how they operate without getting defensive or mired in guilt and despair. Copies may be borrowed by contacting wpacosrow2015@gmail.com. *Those who have not read the book are welcome to attend.*

## GRACEFUL ENGAGEMENT: LOVING CONVERSATIONS WITH AND ABOUT OUR LGBT NEIGHBORS

**PRESENTERS:** Rev. Bob Wilson, Pittsburgh First UMC, and Ammon Ripple, Equality Pennsylvania Faith

**CLASS DESCRIPTION:** Can we reflect the love of Jesus Christ to one another when we talk with or about LGBT people? Learn the art of graceful engagement and intentional conversation with mutual respect and compassion, regardless of any disagreements.

## WE REFUSE TO BE ENEMIES

**PRESENTERS:** Tina Whitehead, WPAUMC Conference Missionary

**CLASS DESCRIPTION:** Our world today is more and more polarized. In order to be leaders in a culture of inclusiveness, we need to learn how to “see” people of different faiths, cultures, etc. This session will explore some of the issues that are problematic, not just in Israel-Palestine, but also in other areas, and how they affect the way we see “the other”.

## MY HOPE WITH BILLY GRAHAM

**PRESENTERS:** Rev. John E. Emigh, Sr. Pastor, Derry First/Hillside Charge

**CLASS DESCRIPTION:** This class is designed to put everything into your hands that you need to host a Billy Graham My Hope Evangelism event in your church, Sunday school or small group. My Hope is a powerful video with moving testimonies and inspiring messages from Billy Graham that closes with an opportunity for people to receive Christ.

## HIGH IMPACT LAY MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT

**PRESENTERS:** Rev. John Zimmerman, Conference Evangelist

**CLASS DESCRIPTION:** Lay Ministry is not about warm bodies filling required positions in the church...It’s about life-changing mission. You will be encouraged to be a champion leader for biblical lay ministry development in your local church by recruiting, equipping and leading laity.

## **MINISTRY WITH THE POOR**

**PRESENTERS:** Glenna Wilson, Chairperson WPA Poverty Team, and panelists

**CLASS DESCRIPTION:** A team will present examples to inspire leaders and show that all churches, regardless of size, have the ability and opportunity to be in ministry with the poor. There will be opportunities to learn about systemic approaches that larger churches, ecumenical groups, communities and advocacy groups can use to make a difference.

## **LEADERSHIP TOOLS FOR WOMEN** *(Wednesday Only)*

**PRESENTER:** Diane Miller, President – Conference United Methodist Women

**CLASS DESCRIPTION:** This class is geared for women involved in local church, district, conference committees and UMW. Information and resources will be provided about setting up meetings, technology to keep you on track, styles for sharing information and generating excitement. Young leaders need mentors in learning to serve; older leaders need to be aware of the best practices and technology to assist them.

## **WPA LEADERS WHO HAPPEN TO BE WOMEN** *(Thursday Only)*

**PRESENTER:** Diane Miller, President – Conference United Methodist Women

### **CLASS DESCRIPTION:**

Effective leaders lead by example, share their stories and involve others. In WPA we have young and other female leaders who are involved in mission and justice advocacy here and globally. There are many opportunities to serve and lead in the United Methodist Church. This session will highlight some of the opportunities and focus on women who lead. Explore how to become a better leader.

## **WHO KNEW?** *(Thursday Only)*

**PRESENTER:** Anti-Racism Team

**CLASS DESCRIPTION:** How do social structures shape us and our preferences? Come and explore the Implicit Association Test and Implicit Bias. Implicit Bias helps us to understand how race continues to matter despite the progress that has been made.

## **DEVELOPING AND SUSTAINING LEADERS FOR A RENEWED CHURCH** *(Thursday Only)*

**PRESENTERS:** Rev. Dr. Scott McDermott, Pastor, Washington Crossing UMC

**CLASS DESCRIPTION:** This presentation will focus how to develop and sustain leadership with the goal of becoming a vital, on-fire church and sustaining that fire over the long term in practical ways with an emphasis on our Wesleyan heritage.