



Western Waters District Lay Servant Ministries Presents...

# Fall Retreat

## September 27-28, 2024

Cedar Springs UMC | 140 Main St., Cedar Springs, MI

**Registration:** Friday 4:30 p.m. | **Send-off:** Saturday 4:00 p.m.

**Registration Cost:** \$30 (includes two meals and snacks)

### **Class Descriptions:**

#### **INTRODUCTION TO LAY MINISTRY: THE BASIC COURSE**

***Sarah Zachow, Instructor***

*This class is foundational for all courses in Lay Servant Ministries. Participants are encouraged to discover and employ personal spiritual gifts as God intended and to consider the importance of exercising servant leadership, developing future leaders, remaining rooted in consistent spiritual practices, and being part of a group that holds members accountable in their discipleship. INSTRUCTOR: Sarah Zachow, Certified Lay Speaker, East Nelson UMC*

#### **ADVANCED COURSE: LIFE TOGETHER IN THE UNITED METHODIST CONNECTION (UM POLITY)**

***Pastor Jeff Swainston and Jody Pratt, Instructors***

*This is a required course to become a Certified Lay Speaker and will give participants an overview of the structure and organization of the United Methodist Church. Instructors: Pastor Jeff Swainston, Manton UMC and Jody Pratt, Certified Lay Speaker, Middleville UMC.*

#### **ADVANCED COURSE: AGING AND MINISTRY IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

*This important course offers a rich learning experience that includes knowing more about the aging process and the developmental stages of midlife and older adulthood and how we can best shape our ministry. Instructor to be announced. Instructor to be announced.*

*Lay Servant classes are open to anyone regardless of the district in which your church resides.  
Email District Co-chair Sara Wolfsen at [saraw1104@gmail.com](mailto:saraw1104@gmail.com)  
to be notified when registration opens.*

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**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:**

**Friday:**

- 4:30 p.m. Registration and Opening Worship
- 5-6:30 p.m. Class Session 1
- 6:30-7 p.m. Dinner
- 7-8:30 p.m. Class Session 2

**Saturday:**

- 9 a.m. Opening Worship
- 9:30-12 p.m. Class Session 3
- 12-12:30 p.m. Lunch and Q&A Time
- 12:30-3 p.m. Class Session 4
- 3 p.m. Closing Worship and Send-off

**Overnight Accommodations:**

Lodging is available at  
Holiday Inn Express & Suites,  
Cedar Springs, (616) 696-0450.

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**Western Waters District Lay Servant Ministries  
2024 Fall Retreat Registration Form**

*One form per student, please.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

**Class Choice (choose one):**

- Basic Course (*ideal for new students*)
- Advanced Course: Life Together in the Connection (UM Polity)
- Advanced Course: Aging and Ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

**DEADLINE: September 13, 2024.**

**Class size is limited. Registrations are taken on a first-come-first-serve basis.**

Return this form with payment (check payable to "Western Waters District Treasurer") to:  
Sara Wolfsen, 7476 W. Orchard Circle, Fremont, MI 49412

Or register online at [www.michiganumc.org](http://www.michiganumc.org).

A registration confirmation will be emailed to you with a link to order your book.