

Welcome to the Introduction to Lay Ministry: The BASIC Course - designed just for Youth!



When: Friday, March 27 (8pm) - Saturday, March 28 (5:15pm) (In-person)
Tuesday, March 31 (7pm on Zoom)

Where: First UMC, 227 E. Lincoln Avenue, Mt. Vernon, NY 10552

Who: UM youth ages 15-18 who are still in high school and intend to exhibit leadership through the church

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: March 16, 2026

You are about to enter into a commitment to principled Christian leadership!

Lay Servant Ministries presents a broad range of mission and ministry opportunities, and this course lays the foundation and framework for servant leadership in the local church and beyond.

In this course, topics such as servant and spiritual leadership, caring ministries, basic communication skills, and sharing your faith will enhance your knowledge and skill as a leader.

As this course is not focused on the area of preaching, if you wish to serve in pulpit supply, you will want to take an advanced course on preaching to help prepare you for that area of ministry.

You must complete the *entire* course in order to earn your certificate.

This course consists of five, two-hour sessions. Participants will arrive at 7pm on Friday and can expect to leave at 5:15 on Saturday. The last module will be taught via Zoom on that Tuesday. Please plan to attend all the sessions; missing any will leave a hole in the group and lessen the experience for you and others. There will be no Zoom option for the in-person sessions.

This is an overnight experience. Youth will be sleeping over, and will be asked to bring sleeping bags, air mattresses, or whatever will help them be comfortable for the night. There are no shower facilities. Meals will be provided by YPM. (Please note any dietary restrictions in the registration.) Youth are asked to bring a change of clothing, toiletries, a Bible, a pen, and a notebook with them.

There is a \$20 cost per youth, which is to be paid online while registering. While adults MUST also register, there is no registration fee for adults. [LINK HERE to register.](#)

Youth should only register with the knowledge and support of their congregation and pastor. If you're not sure - please ask your pastor before registering. IF a church cannot send adult chaperones, they should let us know. We'll help you to connect with another church's group.

Preparation:

-A summary of the basic course book will be emailed to participants ahead of time, and MUST be read BEFORE coming to the event. Here is the SUMMARY: [Lay Servant Ministry Summary for Youth](#)

-Youth will also be asked to have taken the online Spiritual Gifts quiz and bring their results to the overnighter.

-Participants will receive a copy of the Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course Participant Book upon their arrival at the event as well.

A certificate for completion of the course will be given to you by your district superintendent at your next District Conference in the spring.

If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Janet Cox (janetleliethcox@yahoo.com) or Pastor David Czeisel (david.czeisel@nyac-umc.com)

Lay Servant Ministries Youth Basic Class
SCHEDULE March 27-28, 2026

Friday (In-person):

8pm - Arrival, Check-In

Group Activities & Pizza & Snacks

Introduction to the Weekend and Devotion

10pm - Free Time & Reading Time

11pm - Lights Out

Saturday (In-Person):

7am - Wake Up

7:30am - Breakfast

7:50am - Devotion

8:00am - Session One: "Ministry Of The Baptized"

10:00am - Break

10:15am - Session Two: "Leading"

12:15pm - Lunch

1:00pm - Session Three: "Caring"

3:00pm - Break

3:15pm - Session Four: "Communicating"

5:15pm - Closing Ceremony

5:30pm - Departure

Tuesday (Zoom):

7pm – Session Five: "Into The World"

9pm – Review & Sending Forth