

Gather Your Team and Come for Your Church System Tune-up!

GEAR UP...



AT THE WESTERN REGION'S LEADERSHIP DAYS 2018

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS — Session 1 — 12:30 - 1:45 pm

Gear Up! — CLERGY Open Discussion Session — *Kay Kotan* — Opportunity for CLERGY to discuss how to implement the things learned in the morning session, when they return to their local church setting.

SPRC Basics — *Rev. Steve Larsen, Calvary UMC, Frederick* — This workshop will present basic tasks and resources for the local church Staff-Parish Relations Committees (SPRC). For those new to the SPRC we will present a detailed exploration of the guiding principles and values of the work. For those continuing to serve on the SPRC, we will explore common challenges and roadblocks in the work of the committee and local church. When you take this class you will receive a copy of the Guidelines booklet designed to help implement and guide the work of the ministry area. (*Rev. Steve Larsen is currently pastor at Calvary UMC, Frederick.*)

"What Can I Do?" Helping Others on their Grief Journey — *Rev. Linda Warehime* — Is it hard for you to know what to say and do for people who are grieving? How can you be with them through their difficult journey? This class will share some practical and loving ideas on how to help those who have experienced loss – helping them find hope in the midst of their suffering. (*Rev. Linda Warehime is a retired UMC pastor who is passionate about sharing her healing ministry.*)

Finance in the Church — *Paul Eichelberger* — The goal of the ministry of finance is to fund ministries that nurture persons in their faith. The finance system in the congregation will raise, manage, and disperse the funds of the congregation that help realize the mission and vision of the church. This workshop is for anyone who serves on a finance team or interfaces with the offerings of the church. Are you counting money correctly? Do you know how long to keep your records? We will also cover some of the intricacies regarding the new tax laws and some other important issues that might impact our ministries. We aim to answer all those questions and more. (*Paul Eichelberger is the Conference Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer.*)

Board of Trustees — *Rev. Bob Snyder* — Your role as trustee is governed by The Book of Discipline. Being a trustee of your local church is an important role and one in which you can take great pleasure. When you take this class you will receive a copy of the new Guidelines booklet which is intended to be a guide as you begin fulfilling your responsibilities, and a reference throughout your tenure as trustee. (*Rev. Bob Snyder is currently pastor at Salem UMC, Myersville.*)

Transformational Discipleship — *Pastor Blango Ross* — (*Pastor Blango Ross is currently pastor at Strawbridge UMC, New Windsor.*)

New Wine Skins: Creative Strategies For Igniting Your Worship Experience — *Rev Kyle Durbin* — Are you looking for new, relevant ways to cultivate a vital and vibrant worship experience for your congregation? Join us as we take a multi-sensory approach towards engaging prayer, liturgy, and scripture, in both private devotion and corporate worship environments. Participants will experience and cultivate a variety of alternative worship possibilities, including improvisation, play, bibliodrama, composite poetry, and other artistic expressions. (*Rev. Kyle Durbin is currently pastor at Frostburg UMC, Frostburg*)

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CLASS DESCRIPTIONS — Session 2 - 2:00 -- 3:30 pm

Gear Up! – LAITY Open Discussion Session — *Kay Kotan* — Opportunity for LAITY to discuss how to implement the things learned in the morning session, when they return to their local church setting.

SPRC Advanced including Evaluations and Pastoral Transition — *Rev. Steve Larsen* — Learn the key role the SPRC Chair plays in both the Annual Church and Clergy Evaluations and in the pastoral transition process.

Lay Servant Ministries — *Julie Flinchum / Linda Flanagan* — The Lay Servant Ministries is a primary leadership development program for laity in the United Methodist church. It trains and equips church members to serve God through serving others in their local church and community. This class will discuss the three categories, Certified Lay Servant, Lay Speaker, and Certified Lay Ministers and the training required for each category. (*Julie Flinchum, Conference Director, Lay Servant Ministries and Linda Flanagan, CLM Registrar for the Conference Committee on Lay Servant Ministries and Washington East District Director of Lay Servant Ministries.*)

Civilian Response to Active Shooter Event in the Church — Lieutenant Brian Smith, Maryland State Police — Awareness, preparation and response is the overview of this session. In the event that we are faced with any safety issue it is important for us to have a plan in place. To help prepare for such an incident, we are taking a proactive stance by inviting the MD State Police to lead this training. (*Lieutenant Brian Smith, Commander Of Maryland State Police, Western Region Criminal Enforcement Division*)

Safe Sanctuaries — *Pam Bowen* — God calls us to make our churches safe places. This class will provide samples and a list of resources to assist in updating your current or create a new Safe Sanctuaries Policy for those working with children, youth, or those with special needs. Resources to be discussed:

- The step-by-step guide to developing or updating a Safe Sanctuaries policy.
- Sample policies for large and small congregations.
- Background check procedures, and information on vendors
- A media safety policy and public notices.

A list of additional resources, including where to obtain the BWC Clergy & Lay Sexual Misconduct Policy, 2016 UMC Resolutions for Church Participation by a Registered Child Sex Offender and how to access the 3-hour online training course. (*Pam Bowen, BWC Safe Sanctuaries Coordinator and Trainer*)

ONE SONG: THE SCIENCE OF UNITY — *JD Stillwater* — This talk, sponsored by WesleyNexus, focuses on what scientific knowledge has to say about unity, connection, faith, oneness. A common nature-based “story” from science, a shared language that informs all religious traditions and threatens none of them, allows for a more integrated approach to faith, science & reason. In the last 150 years, lines of division between traditional fields of scientific study have dissolved into a single overlapping worldview some call The Great Story. That big-picture knowledge-base offers vast landscapes ripe with profound religious and spiritual meaning, equaling or surpassing traditional sources of wonder, mystery, connection, and grace. It also tempts us to conclude, wrongly, that we are hopelessly outdated within our tradition. The search for a coherent approach to challenges is greatly impeded by culture wars, themselves exacerbated by theological divisions that appear to pit science and reason against the human experience of the sacred, profound, and mysterious. (JD Stillwater is a science educator, writer and musician. He brings to the global conversation a gift for making difficult science concepts graspable for non-scientists. *For more information on Science for a Deeper Spirituality go to his website www.SevenCandles.org .*)

How to Make a Difference in Your Tomorrow — *Rev. Rudy Bropleh* — (*Rev. Rudy Bropleh is currently pastor at Asbury UMC, Shepherdstown, WV*)