



Cumberland-Hagerstown District
LAY SERVANT ACADEMY

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February 6, 2020

Good Day, Thank you for registering for ***From Your Heart to Theirs – Delivering an Effective Sermon***, an Advanced or Recertification Course as well as part of the Certified Lay Speaker tract. Your instructor is **Dr. Steve Robison**; [H:] 301-791-7148; s.robison@myactv.net Please contact him directly if you have any questions about the class.

Class Schedule: 4/16/2020 through 5/21/2020; Every Thursday from 6 :30—9 pm each day. Course is six weeks.

Class Location: Emmanuel UMC, 802 Summit Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21740

Required Text: ***From Your Heart to Theirs – Delivering an Effective Sermon*** by Tony Franks & David Carroll; ISBN: 978-0-88177-536-5 or Upper Room #DR536 Note: Your Bible—the one you use for sermon preparation – **TO EVERY CLASS.**

Required texts may be purchased from:

- Cokesbury (www.cokesbury.com) or phone 1-800-672-1789;
- The General Board of Discipleship (<http://www.gbod.org/>);
- The Upper Room (<http://bookstore.upperroom.org/>) or phone 1-800-972-0433;
- Some texts are available at Amazon.com or local Christian bookstores.

Reading Assignments: This class will be completed in 6 weeks following the outline below:

April 16: Chapter 1 -- Introductions/Getting Acquainted; Overview of course & “Rules” of our time together

Prep: Read Chapter 1 & be prepared to actively discuss. Scan the rest of the book noting what you think will be helpful and what will be a waste of time – from your viewpoint.

- Be ready to share briefly (4 min max)
- Who you are
- Position(s) in your home church
- What excites you about preaching?
- What do you dread about preaching?
- If not taking this class---what would you be doing?

April 23: Chapter 2

Prep: Read Chapter 2 & be prepared to actively discuss it

- Bring a copy of the UM Hymnal
- If available, bring a copy of the UM Book of Worship
- Be ready to share briefly (6 min max)---
- Exegetical “sermon” on the call of a Bible “hero” of your choice relating how his/her call speaks to YOUR call.

April 30: Chapter 3

Prep: Read Chapter 3 & be prepared to actively discuss it

- Bring a copy of the UM Hymnal
- Bring 12 copies of your church’s bulletin for April 26
- Be prepared to lead the class in worship using the bulletin
- Be prepared to share what/how you would change the order of worship & why
- Bring copies/examples of not more than 3 of the “resources” you commonly use for sermon preparation
- Be ready to “preach” a children’s sermon on a passage/topic of your choice (5 min max)

~ More ~



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Reading Assignment: *From Your Heart to Theirs – Delivering an Effective Sermon (Cont.)*

May 7: Chapter 4

Prep: Read Chapter 4 & be prepared to actively discuss it

- Choose a sermon that you have preached before and prepare a clean copy of it in whatever format you usually use in the pulpit, i.e. full text, outline, notes, etc. DO NOT PUT ON IT ANY IDENTIFYING MARKS, I.E. YOUR NAME, HOME CHURCH NAME, ETC.
- SPECIAL NOTE – At the close of our time together you will be assigned a text on which you will deliver a full sermon along with an order of worship as it would appear in the bulletin, including hymns. We will then draw lots to see who preaches each of the next 2 class sessions.

May 14 - Session 5

Prep - Review the book and all that we have talked about

- We will begin by reviewing questions/concerns/etc. sharing insights, ideas, comments, “wisdom” learned so far. We will then hear and offer feedback on assigned sermons
- Make note of any questions you have about ANYTHING that we have covered---or not covered.

May 21: Session 6

We will continue hearing and offering feedback on sermons

Be certain to file the certificate you receive the last night of class in a safe place. You will need to submit a copy of it with your Annual Report for your local church’s fall charge conference meeting.

~ END ~

NOTE: If you wish to become a **Certified Lay Servant [CLS]** you need to complete both the BASIC and one ADVANCED Lay Servant class. Then fill out the “*Certified Lay Servant and Certified Lay Speaker- Application*” attaching certificates from both classes and send the packet for review and approval by the District Committee on Lay Servant Ministries, or equivalent structure (See ¶668.3). For more details on the CLS and to download the application go to:

<https://www.bwcumc.org/ministries/leadership-development/laity-development/>

Best wishes as you continue with your Lay Servant Ministry.

Miss P [Penny] Gaver

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