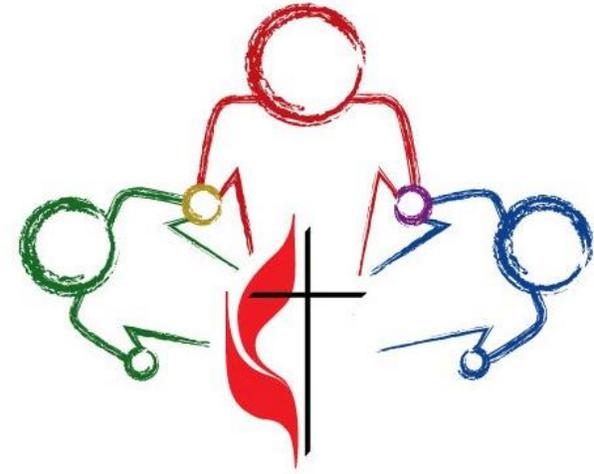


# 2020 Lay Leader Training

North East District

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- Elders (1 Timothy 3:1-7)

- This saying is reliable: if anyone has a goal to be a supervisor<sup>[a]</sup> in the church, they want a good thing. <sup>2</sup> So the church's supervisor must be without fault. They should be faithful to their spouse, sober, modest, and honest. They should show hospitality and be skilled at teaching. <sup>3</sup> They shouldn't be addicted to alcohol or be a bully. Instead, they should be gentle, peaceable, and not greedy. <sup>4</sup> They should manage their own household well—they should see that their children are obedient with complete respect,

- Elders (1 Timothy 3:1-7)
  - <sup>5</sup> because if they don't know how to manage their own household, how can they take care of God's church? <sup>6</sup> They shouldn't be new believers so that they won't become proud and fall under the devil's spell. <sup>7</sup> They should also have a good reputation with those outside the church so that they won't be embarrassed and fall into the devil's trap.

- **Laity (1 Peter 2:5-9)**

- You yourselves are being built like living stones into a spiritual temple. You are being made into a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> Thus it is written in scripture, *Look! I am laying a cornerstone in Zion, chosen, valuable. The person who believes in him will never be shamed.* <sup>[a]</sup> <sup>7</sup> So God honors you who believe. For those who refuse to believe, though, the stone the builders tossed aside has become the capstone.

- Laity (1 Peter 2:5-9)

- <sup>8</sup> This is a stone that makes people stumble and a rock that makes them fall. Because they refuse to believe in the word, they stumble. Indeed, this is the end to which they were appointed. <sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people who are God's own possession. You have become this people so that you may speak of the wonderful acts of the one who called you out of darkness into his amazing light.

## Partnership

- Build relationship of trust
- Meet together to develop spiritual relationship
- Mutual respect
- Should be able to speak the truth in love

## Job Description

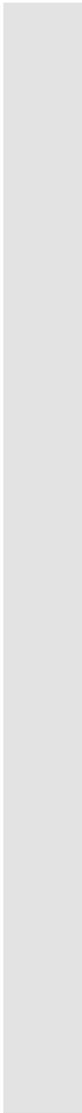
- The Book of Discipline states: “The United Methodist tradition has recognized that laypersons as well as ordained persons are gifted and called by God to lead the church.”
- Functions as the primary representative and role model of Christian discipleship and faith lived out in the church and in daily life
- Lay leader works with pastor to fulfill the mission and vision of congregation

## Ministry Objectives

- Keep the Main Thing the main thing
- Help pastor to ensure every ministry in some way is making disciples of Jesus
- Advocate for laity to develop their spiritual gifts and discipleship



# QUALIFICATIONS



## Growing Christian Disciple

- Understand that everyone has spiritual gifts and experiences that are vital to the Body of Christ
- Emulate the servant ministry of Jesus
- Possible spiritual gifts that would be helpful:
  - Shepherding
  - Leadership
  - Administration
  - Helps
  - Faith

## Be a Living Example

- Strive toward being a living example of one who loves God and loves neighbor – actively working on sanctification
  - Spends time actively growing into likeness of Jesus with active prayer life and reading scripture regularly
  - Being in a small group for accountability
- A good listener
- Good communicator with people of all ages
- Non-anxious presence
- Evidence of working well with both clergy and laity and with various teams

## Model Outward Focus

- Churches naturally look inward
- Help Pastor keep church with outward focus
- Help pastor to connect congregation with community and the world



# RESPONSIBILITIES

## Meet with the Pastor

- Work with pastor to ensure church ministries support church's mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world
- Communicate Regularly
  - Discuss state of the church and opportunities for ministry
  - Serve as confidant and sounding board for how ideas, vision, and plans of clergy might be received by others
  - Provide pastor with public support and private insight
    - Clear, honest, and discreet communication is essential
    - Be a problem solver
    - Use Matthew 18:15-17
- Pray for your Pastor and her/his family

# Advocate

- Encourage teamwork between pastor and lay leadership
- Work to strengthen relationship between pastor and congregation
- Reinforce ideas and messages from pastor to the congregation

## Model Discipleship

- Do not see power as means of control but more of an opportunity to help
- You are in a position to work for Jesus – not enhance yourself

## Inform and Attend Educational Opportunities

- Ensure people receive training and support for their ministries
- Participate in and invite others to district training events
- Stay abreast of District, Conference, and Denominational issues
- Model attitude of continual learning
- Be sensitized to areas in which you need to grow

## Serve on Teams/ Committees

- Voting member of the following:
  - Church Council
  - Finance
  - Staff Parish Relations
  - Nominations
- Consider merging Lay Leader and Church Council Chair
- Serve as interpreter of actions and programs of Annual Conference and General Church
- Consider making Lay Leader as Lay Member to Annual Conference

## Partnership in Building Teams

- Help identify committed lay person who could be developed into leaders
- Help devise lay leadership development system
- Consider those who don't necessarily fit with church stereotypes

## Connect and Support

- Connect with Lay Leaders in other churches
- Support Each Other
- Consider meeting regularly
- Mentor one another



# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS