Lay Ministry Education Programs

As Christians we are called to a way of living, a ‘Jesus way’, which affects all of our decision-making and requires prayer and attention to God’s will. This is a promise made at baptism. During childhood, others are responsible for Christian education and the formation of a Christian outlook on the world. As adults the challenges to this early training increase, along with our responsibilities. Living our baptismal promises is often not easy; to do it well, we need companions on the journey.

For those seeking “something more” in education and faith exploration, many Conferences and Associations of the United Church of Christ sponsor in-depth, ongoing programs of education for adults. They offer weekend retreats, evening classes, and other learning opportunities for study of scripture, church history, liturgy, theology, and local church leadership. They also offer an opportunity to develop deep and lasting relationships with others who thirst for a more faithful understanding and commitment. (Some of the programs equip participants for licensed and commissioned ministries as well, at the discretion of the authorizing Association.)

Central Atlantic Conference, Catoctin Association
Catoctin Lay Ministry School
glennp@qis.net

Council for American Indian Ministry
Eagle Butte Learning Center (South Dakota) 605-224-8676 (Winifred Boub)

Hawaii Conference
Henry ‘Opukaha‘ia Center for Pacific Theological Studies (HOC) www.hcucc.org/information/education/ 808-791-5642

Illinois South and Missouri Mid-South Conferences through Eden Seminary Lay Institute for Faith Exploration (LIFE) www.eden.edu/Continuinged/LIFE.html 314-962-7517, aschroer@aol.com

Indiana-Kentucky Conference
Licensed Ministry Training Program ikcucc@ikcucc.org 317-924-1395

Iowa Conference
CENTER/LEARN Program www.ucciaconf.org/layeducation.html 515-277-2679

Kansas-Oklahoma Conference
K-O Conference School of Theology maryliseearly@aol.com 316-686-4331

Michigan Conference
Systematic Training for Effective Ministries (ST.E.M) stem@michucc.org www.michucc.org/stem/index.htm

Minnesota Conference, Western Association
Institute for the Development of Lay Ministry mksauter@rea-alp.com

Missouri Mid-South Conference
See “Illinois South” listing, above

Montana-Northern Wyoming Conference
(with montan Association of Churches) Lay Ministry Institute (MAC-LMI) 406-656-9779 www.montana-churches.org/programs/layministry

Nebraska Conference
Education for Lay Ministry (ELM) 402/474-3207 or 800/580-8851 shieldsctnre@alitnet.net

New York Conference
The New York School of Ministry www.uccny.org/ministries/local/NYSOMindex.htm nysom@uccny.org

Ohio Conference, Eastern Association
Partners in Ministry 330-453-8178 richp@eoauc.org

Ohio Conference, Northwest Association
Lay School of Religion www.nwoa.org/layschtl.htm 419-447-8323, dculp@bpsom.com

Ohio Conference, Southwest Ohio Northern Kentucky Association
Lay School of the Church sonkaucc.ocuucc.org/sonka-layschool.html 937-438-8050, lwolfe@united.edu

Ohio Conference, Western Reserve Association
Lay School of the Church 216-749-3116 epmrev97@ameritech.net


Penn West Conference
Penn West Academy for Ministry 724-834-0344, office@pennwest.org

Puerto Rico Conference
La Escuela Teologica de Laicos 787-745-3340

Rocky Mountain Conference
Theological Education Institute (TEI) www.teinstitute.net, marciameyer@mmode.com

South Dakota Conference
Yankton College Associate of Theology Program www.yanktoncollege.org/ministry.html 605-338-8738

Southeast Conference
Theology Among the People (TAP) www.seucc.org/ (then select “Programs”) kclark@seucc.org

Southern Conference
Pastoral Leadership Development Program www.soc-ucc.org/soc-ucc/PLD.html#anchor435745

Vermont Conference
Vermont Academy of Spiritual Training (VAST) www.vtucc.org/education/vast.html 802-244-1964, willardj@vtucc.org

Wisconsin Conference
Lay Academy 608-846-7880 www.wcucc.org/LayAcademy.htm

Contact your conference for other adult education opportunities