



Churches are encouraged to send a team of lay leaders to develop an action plan to implement a new ministry in their church and will be able apply for a seed grant.

Certified Lay Servants who successfully complete the Laity Leadership Academy and implement the action plan will receive recertification recognition.

## REGISTRATION

Registration is \$50 and will be open June 8, 2019 by visiting: [www.gnjumc.org](http://www.gnjumc.org)

**Deadline to register is: Sept 7, 2019**

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

**Saturday, September 28, 2019**

7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.	Registration
8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Worship
9:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	Assigned Laity Track
12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.	Lunch & Networking
1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Assigned Laity Track

## QUESTIONS? CONTACT



GNJ's Lay Leader  
Rosa Williams:  
[rosamw@optonline.net](mailto:rosamw@optonline.net)

## LOCATION

United Methodists of Greater New Jersey  
Mission and Resource Center  
205 Jumping Brook Road  
Neptune, NJ 07753



# LAITY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

*Tools and skills for lay leaders  
facing the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century*



**Innovation in Youth Ministry**  
**Storytelling through Small Groups**  
**Generosity: Moving from Scarcity to Celebration**  
**More From A Closer Walk**

**September 28, 2019**

# LAITY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY TRACKS

## TRACK 1 Innovation in Youth Ministry

Facilitator: [Kerwin Webb and Davidson Sutherland](#) | Next Generation Ministries

The last 5 to 10 years have produced massive changes for youth and their families. The way we used to do youth ministry just doesn't work anymore. So what's next? How do we get there? In this workshop you'll learn what is working in youth ministry and Next Generation Ministries in 2019.

- You will chart a plan for your church to reach the next generation of disciples in new ways.
- Recommended for youth volunteers and staff members.

## TRACK 2: Storytelling through Small Groups

Facilitators: [Rev. Gina Yeske](#) | Director of Small Groups  
[Rev Daeil Min and Communications Team of Succasunna UMC](#)

Great storytellers create powerful narratives that move people's minds and hearts. Participants will reflect on the parables, learn about Jesus as a master storyteller and explore narrative leadership to create shifts in perspectives. Storytelling is key to building relations in small groups. We will share stories of faith and ministry from our local churches.

- You will be equipped with training and a curriculum to lead a small group on storytelling as a means to grow congregational vitality.
- Recommended for those who engage in the ministry of small groups, church newsletters, social media, church school, stewardship team and preaching.

*Please note: The Academy requires reading and preparation in advance. Participants are encouraged to implement this learning through a post conference action plan in the local church.*

## TRACK 3: Generosity: Moving from Scarcity to Celebration

Facilitator: [Rev. Jana Purkis-Brash](#) | Executive Director, The United Methodist Stewardship Foundation of Greater New Jersey

When we tell stories of life changing ministries, generosity grows. Participants will learn the biblical foundation of stewardship and explore their own practice of generosity. New this year, you will learn the importance of developing a 12-month plan that incorporates personal testimony, technology, and storytelling to celebrate and grow stewardship and practice an "ask" for major donor.

- You will be sent out to your church to lead and implement a plan designed in class for acknowledging and thanking donors.
- Recommended for church council chairpersons and those involved in the finance committee or stewardship team.

## TRACK 4: A Closer Walk: A Path to Spiritual Transformation

Facilitators: [Betty Quackenboss](#), [Rev. Erica Munoz](#) and a team from [Aldersgate UMC in East Brunswick](#)

An extension of last year's track, *A Closer Walk* will provide new methods, materials and activities. You will learn to develop a local church's spiritual vitality by centering the community on Jesus Christ and creating an environment that encourages going deeper in the faith. Using the small group model, the workshop will be interactive as we learn ways to infuse prayer, scripture exposure, and faith inspired stories into existing church activities.

- You will reflect on how a Spirit led approach to discipleship will impact the way you think, love and act in your communities. You will leave with materials designed to inspire and initiate programs for faith development.
- Recommended for congregants who are interested in partnering with their pastors to spark spiritual growth in their churches. Pastors are more than welcome to attend!