

Overview

The goal of the Lay Revitalization Ministry (LRM) is to be a successful instrument to meet the needs and concerns of our local churches. This is accomplished by using volunteer laity who are trained and gifted toward certain areas.

Local churches identify their needs and contact designated LRM members for assistance.

The Conference Board of Laity, in consultation with the Bishop's Cabinet, has overall responsibility for the LRM. In compliance with the *Book of Discipline*, the Ministry carries out the approved goals and purpose of this program.

The LRM offers service and assistance in many work areas, including the following:

- *Music - offering suggestions and training to enhance the music program of the church*
- *Local Outreach (Evangelism) - training and encouragement in promoting local church outreach and growth*
- *Developing Church Image - identifying and finding ways to promote the church on the church campus as well as in the community*
- *Finance - training on how to promote the concept of stewardship in the church as well as training on how to organize the local church's budget and reorganize financial priorities*
- *Prayer*
- *History and Organization of the United Methodist Church*

Assistance/Visitations

The LRM program selects qualified Team Leaders and volunteer Team Members. The long-term goal of the LRM is to visit all North Georgia Conference churches and provide requested assistance.

Once contacted by an interested church, the LRM and the Host Church develop a flexible visitation schedule, accommodating the needs and requests of the Host Church.

When a church requests assistance:

1. *LRM assigns Team Leader;*
2. *Team Leader meets with Host Church's Pastor and leadership to develop Needs Assessment;*
3. *Team Leader assembles and trains Team;*
4. *Team Members contact Laity Leadership to facilitate preparation of presentation;*
5. *Qualified Team visits Host Church;*
 - *breakout sessions at Host Church*
 - *presentations of selected work areas*
 - *LRM recommendations and goal-setting*
6. *Team Leader presents goals and recommendations to Host Church's congregation during Sunday Service;*
7. *Host Church evaluates Team Leaders and Members;*
8. *Team Leader coordinates follow-up visit (s).*

Recruiting

Team Leaders/Members

A sub-committee of the LRM Committee is responsible for: 1) recruitment; 2) identification; 3) screening; 4) approval of Team members. Team members are identified through a continuous recruitment effort by the LRM Committee.

The screening and approval process:

1. *Local pastor approval*
2. *District Superintendents' approval*
3. *District Lay Leader approval*
4. *LRM approval*

Prospective Team members have a broad perspective of the goals, objectives, and purposes of The United Methodist Church, as well as the LRM program prior to visiting a Host Church by:

- *Reviewing and studying the structure of The United Methodist, our connectional system, and the Wesleyan tradition*
- *Familiarizing themselves with the organization, purpose, and objectives of the LRM program and the ministry of the laity*
- *Reviewing information provided on sharing ministry with our clergy*

Evaluation

The evaluation of Team leaders and Team members is vital to any program. After each Team visit, an evaluation of the success of the visit is completed. This evaluation is a composite of Team and Host Church input and is used to improve the program. This information is also forwarded to the Conference Board of Laity.

The pastor, the Host Church participants, and the Team develop the LRM visit schedule for each Host Church. The visitation schedule is flexible and can be tailored to individual church needs.

Publicity

The service of the LRM is publicized through:

- Conference Board of Laity
- District Board of Laity
- Lay Leaders
- Certified Lay Speakers
- District Superintendents
- Pastors
- Conference material
- www.ngumc.org



How Does A Church Receive Laity Assistance? Contact:

Leon Jourolmon: 222 Stonecrest Court, Athens, GA, 30605; (wk) 706.213.3835, (hm) 706.353.3139; leonj@sepa.doe.gov

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How Does A Member of the Laity Join or Learn More About the LRM? Contact:

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For More Information Contact:
www.ngumc.org (click on *Board of Laity*, then click on *Lay Revitalization Ministry*)



The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Lay Revitalization Ministry

A Program of the North Georgia Conference Board of Laity



The purpose of the LRM is to provide avenues for local churches to obtain assistance in accomplishing the mission and goals of churches in the North Georgia Conference.

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