

The School for Lay Ministry of the Iowa Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church is a program to facilitate the growth of Iowa United Methodist Churches and their Christian ministry by providing an alternative, supplemental source of educated leadership to local congregations and communities. The School for Lay Ministry identifies, trains and nurtures lay persons who meet entrance criteria and who have the desire to serve in, through and beyond the church in various ministries.

The goals of the School for Lay Ministry are to provide:

- Trained and motivated laity to contribute to the fulfillment of the mission of the Annual Conference to “prepare leaders of the church for the transformation of the world.”
- Lay persons to serve with ordained clergy in complementary ministries of various kinds.
- Spiritually nurturing experiences for persons wishing to further their faith pilgrimage and explore their Christian vocation.
- Lay leadership to assist with programs and ministries pursuing Christ’s mission.
- Continuing education for laity employed by the local church.
- An affordable, accessible program for persons to discern their calling and prepare for a variety of ministries in their church, district and the Annual Conference.
- Persons seeking to become a Certified Lay Minister in the IA Annual Conference must be a graduate of the School of Lay Ministry.
- A significant, transforming impact on the ministry needs of congregations and communities in the Iowa Annual Conference today and into the future.

Who is eligible to attend?

Men and women who...

- express interest and a willingness to serve
- desire to grow their faith
- are members of The United Methodist Church or other denomination
- are recommended by their Pastor or Staff Parish Relations Committee Chair

Classes will be held at the following locations this year:

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| • Cornell College (Mt. Vernon) | October 13-14, 2018 |
| • Des Moines Site (UM Conference Center) | November 17-18, 2018 |
| • Hispanic Classes (Des Moines Site) | November 17-18, 2018 |

Cost:

Each session starts on Saturday morning and concludes Sunday at noon. Check the SLM website for the General Time Schedules for each location. Tuition is \$140/class weekend and includes two meals on Saturday. Some instructors require one or two books at a cost of around \$12 each and a pre-class assignment will be sent out to you ahead of time. You are responsible for your own transportation and hotel costs. Most students share a room with another class member to keep costs down plus car pooling.

How do I find out more?

- Check the various areas on the School for Lay Ministry web site: [SLM Website](#)
- Contact the Registrar for an Information Packet: barb.mann@iaumc.org / 515-974-8905

We would be happy to visit with you and answer any questions you may have. The three-year experience will be an enlightening and informative experience to grow in your faith and help you on your journey.