

LAY LEADER

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1) Out of the professing membership of each local church , there shall be elected by the charge conference a lay leader who shall function as the primary lay representative of the laity in that local church and shall have the following responsibilities:
 - a) fostering awareness of the role of laity both within the congregation and through their ministries in the home, workplace, community, and world, and finding ways within the community of faith to recognize all these ministries;
 - b) meeting regularly with the pastor to discuss the state of the church and the needs for ministry;
 - c) to serve on the church council, the committee on finance, the committee on nominations and leadership development, and the committee on pastor-parish relations or staff-parish relations, where, along with the pastor, the lay leader shall serve as an interpreter of the actions and programs of the district, annual conference and the general Church (to be better equipped to comply with this responsibility, it is recommended that a lay leader also serve as a lay member of annual conference);
 - d) continuing involvement in study and training opportunities to develop a growing understanding of the Church's reason for existence and the types of ministry that will most effectively fulfill the Church's mission;
 - e) assisting in advising the church council of opportunities available and the needs expressed for a more effective ministry of the church through its laity in the community;
 - f) informing the laity of training opportunities provided by the annual conference and district. Where possible, the lay leader shall attend training opportunities in order to strengthen his or her work.
- 2) In instances where more than one church is on a charge, the charge conference shall elect additional lay leaders so that there will be one lay leader in each church. Associate lay leaders may be elected to work with the lay leader in any local church.
- 3) They are also urged to become a certified lay speaker.

Training for Your Job:

From time to time the district offers workshops that can help you in your task. Check with your pastor, the committee on lay leadership, district lay leader(s), and/or your district superintendent to find opportunities that match your training needs.