

# Lay Academy



Sponsored by  
**Presbytery of Ohio  
Valley**

1701 E. 2nd St., Suite 100  
Bloomington, IN 47401

*The Book of Order provides for lay persons who, with proper training and examination may be commissioned as lay pastors. G-14.0801: The lay Pastor is an Elder of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) who is granted a local commission by the Presbytery to lead worship and preach the gospel, watch over the people, and provide for their nurture and service.*

## Eligibility

The Presbytery of Ohio Valley has established the following criteria for enrollment in the Lay Academy:

- Active membership in a Presbyterian Church
- Mature Christian faith
- Elder in a local church
- Demonstrated leadership skills
- Support of the session of applicant's church

## Contact Information

Interested persons should contact a member of the

**Commissioned Lay Pastor Committee:**

Elder Chris Gwaltney [chrisgwaltney@hotmail.com](mailto:chrisgwaltney@hotmail.com)  
Elder Alan Harder [the.harders@verizon.net](mailto:the.harders@verizon.net)  
Elder Mary McClellan [maryc.mcclellan@gmail.com](mailto:maryc.mcclellan@gmail.com)  
Elder Tom Redmon [tredmon@ariscon.com](mailto:tredmon@ariscon.com)  
The Rev. Nancy Waters [nancywaters@bellsouth.net](mailto:nancywaters@bellsouth.net)  
The Rev. Martha Friz Langer [frizlanger@yahoo.com](mailto:frizlanger@yahoo.com)

Or the **Presbyter for Common Life:**

The Rev. Susan McGhee [scmcghee@povpc.org](mailto:scmcghee@povpc.org)

## Course of Study

Courses are coordinated by Louisville Theological Seminary and are taught by seminary professors and qualified Presbytery of Ohio Valley staff.

The Lay Academy involves a commitment of at least two years. There will be twelve units of study alternating with mentoring meetings. The twelve units will be held at Camp Pyoca, Brownstown, Indiana. Four of the twelve will involve two overnights with each of the other eight sessions lasting approximately 24 hours.

Those who complete the program may become eligible for commissioning to churches in the Presbytery subject to the recommendation of the Commissioned Lay Pastor Committee.

The academy also welcomes those elders interested in continuing education but not interested in being commissioned.

Admission decisions will be made by the Commissioned Lay Pastor Committee. Applications are sought from each cluster, and applicants will be chosen with a view to reflecting the geographic and demographic composition of the presbytery. A limited number will be accepted from other presbyteries that do not offer an academy. The maximum number will be **20**.

## Academy Schedule

Introduction to Scripture	Nov. 14 – 15, 2008
Reformed Theology	January 16 – 17, 2009
Old Testament	March 20 – 22, 2009 *
New Testament	May 15 – 16, 2009
Presbyterian Polity	July 17 – 19, 2009*
Being a Pastor Leader	September 18 – 20, 2009*
Preaching	November 20 – 21, 2009
Worship and Sacraments	January 15 – 17, 2010*
Spiritual Formation	March 19 – 20, 2010
Church History	May 14 – 15, 2010
Christian Education	July 16 – 17, 2010
Pastoral Care	September 17 – 18, 2010

\* indicate two-nights

## Program Costs:

The cost of the program is \$2,700. This fee includes psychological evaluation, books, tuition, room and board for the weekends. Transportation is not included.

*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the spirit for the common good.*

*1 Corinthians 12: 4-7*