**Exciting Opportunity: Certified Lay Minister Course**

📢**Heartland Conference Launches Certified Lay Ministry School!** We're thrilled to announce the launch of the CLM School, kicking off with our inaugural course: **"Lay Ministry Foundations."**

🗓️ **Course Start Date:** Monday, September 29, 2025

🕖 **Required Live Sessions:** Thursdays at 7:00 pm Central time

📅 **Session Dates:** October 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30

🌐 **Registration:** [[Click here to complete registration](https://form.jotform.com/250356347610049).](https://form.jotform.com/250356347610049)

📅 **Registration Deadline**: Sunday, September 21 (or when full to 30 registrations)

**Entirely Online!** This first course will be conducted online via software provided by Oklahoma Wesleyan University (OKWU) from Bartlesville, Oklahoma. This starting course in the Certified Lay Ministers curriculum is required to become a CLM. By the end of this course, you will have a firm foundation and understand the essentials of the Bible (scripture), how the Global Methodist Church came to be (our history), what we believe (our theology), and how we are organized (our polity).

**Empowering Laity!** The oversight committee is dedicated to creating a robust program of courses to empower the Heartland conference laity. The new GMC Book of Doctrines and Discipline (BoDD) outlines the requirements for lay ministry, including a course covering theology, history, polity, and basic Bible knowledge. This course fulfills that requirement.

**Future Advanced Courses:** An additional advanced course is required for full certification, with more advanced course options becoming available later this year. The BoDD encourages all GMC congregational lay leaders to become Certified Lay Ministers.

**Course Cost:** $30 plus books (books not included in the course fee). **Fee is non-refundable** since space is limited, so be sure you can participate before you enroll.

📚 **Required Books:** Both required books can be ordered through [Seedbed Publishing](http://www.seedbed.com).

* Long Story Short: The Bible in Six Simple Movements. Joshua McNall, Seedbed Publishing.
* The Absolute Basics of the Wesleyan Way by Tallon & Hunter. Seedbed Publishing

These next two resources are available at no cost for download from [www.globalmethodist.org](http://www.globalmethodist.org)

* Book of Doctrine and Discipline of the Global Methodist Church
* Catechism of Christian Faith and Doctrine for the Global Methodist Church

Supporting Texts (not required, but recommended): Methodism: A Very Short Introduction. William Abraham. Oxford University Press and Christian Faith and Doctrine: An Annotated Catechism for the GMC. David A. DeSilva, PhD. Seedbed Publishing.

🌐 **System Requirements**: [Click here to view System Requirements for the online class.](https://bongolearn.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360035692233-How-to-Check-Your-System-Before-Entering-Virtual-Classroom)

For any questions, reach out to the committee at clm@heartlandgmc.org. Join us in this transformative journey and become a beacon of service and leadership in your community!