



BeADisciple.com
CHRISTIAN ONLINE EDUCATION

October 2026

It's a New Look at BeADisciple.com

While browsing our **website** recently, you might have noticed our fresh, new look. While still sharing valuable information about our courses, it features a cleaner appearance that aligns well with our IFD sister program's website, ***beadisciplestudyapp.com***.

If you're new to BeADisciple and wonder how to find a course that's right for you, I invite you to check the **About Our Programs** page which outlines the four different types of courses we offer at BeADisciple. It covers the difference between our Lay Servant Ministries courses, Certified Lay Ministry modules, and Wesley Academy courses, in addition to those courses that don't belong to a larger program – these ministry enrichment courses can equip both formal and informal church leaders for a variety of ministry tasks and challenges.



As the arrival of fall points us to a renewed emphasis on learning, growing, and leading, I hope you'll consider in what area of ministry you might need a little update or refresher too. Chances are, we've got a course that offers what you're looking for!

Peace,

Lori Richey
Director of Online Education, Institute for Discipleship

P.S. Have you ever needed to have a conversation with someone about end-of-life decisions but hesitated to bring it up? If so, check out ***Closing Conversations: An End-of-Life Care Guide***, which begins October 5.

Corrected Course Description

*An editing error in the September BeADisciple Newsletter led to the wrong description being included for an important course in our list of Ministry Enrichment Courses. Please check out **Old Testament Through a Different Lens: Ketuvim/Writings**, which will begin Dec. 7.*



Old Testament Through a Different Lens: Ketuvim/Writings **December 7 - 18, 2026**

This course examines the Ketuvim/Writings, sometimes described as “the least holy books of the Hebrew Bible,” by studying familiar Biblical writings through lenses other than what Christians often use. It examines the “historical books” of the Old Testament and connects them to the prophetic voices and Torah when appropriate. You’ll learn about the post-Exilic period when the Jews returned to Israel and began rebuilding, as well as looking at the poetic writings, histories (Ruth), and stories of woe (Job and Lamentations). The Ketuvim/Writings also introduces apocalyptic literature (Daniel) and its puzzling symbols and metaphors. The course will not only challenge you to consider the Writings/Ketuvim through a Jewish perspective but will also offer you ways to think about how you might use this material to develop learning opportunities for your congregations. It is highly recommended that learners read the text prior to the start of the course.

Learners are required to obtain the book *Illuminating Counsel: How the Least Holy Books of the Hebrew Bible Explore Life's Most Important Issues* by Jonathan Teram.

[More Course Information](#)

Here are October and November Opportunities for Ministry Enrichment

Beginning October 5

Closing Conversations: An End-of-Life Care Guide

Beginning October 12

Sacred Tension Reading Group

Beginning October 26

Old Testament Through a Different Lens: The Prophets/Nevi'im

Enroll in Upcoming Lay Servant Ministry Courses

Each of the following courses has been approved by Discipleship Ministries as an advanced Lay Servant Ministries course, but enrollment is not limited to those needing LSM credit. All learners are welcome.

Beginning October 5

Leading Worship (Friday Zoom)

Leading Worship (Saturday AM Zoom)

Leading Worship (Saturday PM Zoom)

Rediscovering Our Spiritual Gifts

God's Mission, Our Journey

Beginning October 12

Life Together in the United Methodist Connection

Creating a Discipleship Growth Plan to See All the People

Justice and Kindness: Social Principles of the United Methodist Church

Opening Ourselves to Grace: Basic Christian Practices

Beginning October 19

Earn. Save. Give.

Lay Pastoral Caregiving

Loving People and Planet in God's Name

Leading Public Prayer

Beginning October 26

Called to Preach (Friday Zoom)

Leading Missional Small Groups

Ministry With People Living With Dementia

Beginning November 2

From Your Heart to Theirs: Delivering an Effective Sermon (Friday Zoom)

Lay Servants as Christian Transformational Leaders

Biblical Storytelling I

Campus Ministry: Empowering Congregations to Support Students

Beginning November 9

Afire With God: Becoming Spirited Stewards

Transforming Evangelism

Leading Bible Study: Biblical Interpretation

Class Leaders: Recovering a Tradition

Beginning November 16

Proclaiming Scripture With a Storytelling Spirit for Advent

Living Our United Methodist Beliefs

Beginning November 23

Teaching Sacred Tension in Local Congregations

Beginning November 30

Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition

Leading Worship (Friday Zoom) (enrollment opens Oct. 5)

Leading Worship (Saturday AM Zoom) (enrollment opens Oct. 5)

Leading Worship (Saturday PM Zoom) (enrollment opens Oct. 5)

Life Together in the UM Connection (enrollment opens Oct. 12)

Certified Lay Ministry Courses Continue

If you are seeking certification as a ***Certified Lay Minister*** in the United Methodist church, check out these upcoming dates. Be sure to read the ***CLM page*** for pre-course requirements, which include passwords for the advanced modules.

These CLM Modules are enrolling now:

CLM Module 1: ***Call and Covenant for Ministry*** (November 9 - 22)

CLM Module 2: ***The Practice of Ministry*** (October 12 - November 1)

CLM Module 3: ***Organization for Ministry*** (November 9 - 22)

CLM Module 4: ***Connection for Ministry*** (October 12 - 25)

Wesley Academy Offers Theologically Rich Courses

The Wesley Academy for Advanced Christian Studies — created in partnership with Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. — has created courses and educational materials that are theologically rich and deep. Anyone — lay or clergy — can enroll in any of the courses available from the Wesley Academy, and if desired, can earn a certification in Advanced Christian Studies. For more information, click ***here***.

These Wesley Academy courses begin soon and are enrolling now:

October 26 - December 11: Serious Answers to Hard Questions

October 26 - December 18: Devotion to Jesus: The Divinity of Christ in Earliest Christianity

November 2 - December 11: Leading Like Nehemiah

See All Courses Enrolling

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