

**2010 MICHIGAN AREA
SCHOOL FOR LICENSE AS A
LOCAL PASTOR**

July 18-23, 2010

Lake Huron Retreat Center

8794 Lakeshore Drive
Lakeport MI 48059
810-327-6272

Plus 4 Weekends:

August 20-21 September 17-18

October 22-24 November 12-13

(Weekends begin on Friday at 7:00 p.m.)

Information and Registration

Sponsored by
Boards of Ordained Ministry
Michigan Area – The United Methodist Church

Approved by the Division of Ordained Ministry

Admission

Persons who desire to enroll in the School for License as a Local Pastor need the following:

First – evidence of **Certified Candidate for Candidacy** issued by her/his District Committee on Ordained Ministry.

Second - an application for enrollment signed by you and by your **District Superintendent**, and sent to the Director/Registrar, Rev. Bob Stark, with an accompanying registration fee of \$150. Make your check payable to **West Michigan Conference Treasurer**, and note “License to Preach School.”

Third – the completed TABE (Test of Adult Basic Education). This test is mailed to each student by the Director/Registrar, Rev. Bob Stark upon receiving the application. The completed test must be mailed back to the director/registrar no later than two weeks before the beginning of the school.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend **all** sessions, including the four weekend sessions. Absence of one day may disqualify a candidate from the opportunity to complete this school. Absence from any one weekend will prevent a candidate from completing the required 80 hours of instructional contact.

Note: Students with Sunday obligations to a local church will need to arrange for a substitute on October 25th.

Overview

The purpose of the School for License as a Local Pastor is to foster the spiritual growth and skill development of persons newly called into ministry. Students share in collegial fellowship, worship, study and practical experience which enable them to qualify for the License as a Local Pastor and service in a congregation.

The school emphasizes practical preparation for ministry, and the development of attitudes that will lead to future growth by each participant. The focus will be on understanding the local congregation and leading the congregation – worship and preaching, sacraments, weddings, funerals, pastoral leadership of education and pastoral care.

Courses are taught by qualified persons from the two conferences of the Michigan Area. Each faculty member is selected on the basis of their skills of leadership and their familiarity with the character, style, resources and life of various sizes of congregations.

The required eighty (80) contact hours of instruction are achieved in two settings – a five day (42 hour) experience in an academically oriented setting, and four weekends in parish settings (9 hours) each, except (12 hours) on the preaching and worship weekend. Weekends are Friday night, 7 p.m. (supper not included) through Saturday afternoon, 4 p.m. The October weekend includes Sunday morning worship and will conclude by 3 p.m. Sunday afternoon. The November weekend concludes with a “Service of Celebration” beginning at 3:00 p.m. for those completing the requirements of the school.

Students are required to attend all 80 hours of instruction and complete all course requirements.

In addition, students are expected to demonstrate openness to new learning and a growing faith. Those who show evidence that they are called by God and capable of leadership within The United Methodist Church will be given a Certificate of Completion.

Attendance at this school is a requisite for a license. However, your participation does not guarantee that you will be granted a "License as a Local Pastor." Your license is voted on by the Clergy Session of your Annual Conference after you have completed all courses of this school, received the recommendation of the faculty and Director of the school, and the recommendation of your District and Conference Committees on Ordained Ministry. (Your Annual Conference may vote that a license be granted after the sessions of the Annual conference contingent on your successful completion of this school. You may ask your District Superintendent about this matter.)

Registration, Books and Study

Upon receipt of the application and all required materials, the Director/Registrar will mail an acceptance notification, book list, assignments, class schedule, map, etc. to you.

A significant amount of time will be needed for study and preparation before you arrive at the school. Be sure to acquire the books listed for each of the courses in time to complete the advance assignments you are to bring with you to the school.

What to bring to Lake Huron

Casual dress appropriate for the season will be in order. The schedule allows for rest breaks, but there will not be enough time to go off campus. This week-long experience will be focused on study and preparing for pastoral ministry.

Important Information

Note – some local churches and/or districts help with the costs of study materials, books and travel, but not all. You may ask your District Committee on Ordained Ministry or your local pastor for information. **In all cases the student is expected to pay the cost of advance registration which is One Hundred and fifty Dollars. (\$150.00)**

CURRICULUM AND FACULTY

Director/Registrar of the School, Rev. Bob Stark (61serenity@att.net), retired Pastor, who began his journey into ministry as a Licensed Local Pastor Candidate, completing the School for License; serving as a Local Pastor; and then moving over into the ordained ministry track while completing his M.Div. Degree.

Organization of the Local Church for Nurture and Mission is led by Rev. Ray McGee (prmcgee@sbcglobal.net). Ray attended the first Michigan Area License to Preach School, completed the Basic Course of Study as well as the Advanced Course of Study and is now serving as an Ordained Elder in the Detroit Annual conference. Through his different appointments, Ray has been part of a New

Congregational Development, a major building project and is now serving a church reaching out to the urban area of Flint, Michigan.

Educational Ministries in the Local Church will be led by Rev. Pamela Buchholz (pbuchholz@fumcmid.org) who is a deacon, currently serving as Minister of Christian Education at Midland First United Methodist. Pam is a 2006 graduate of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and is certified in Christian Education. Besides her work in local church ministries, Pam has written children's curriculum for the United Methodist Publishing House.

Worship and Preaching is led by Rev. Rick Blunt (rickblunt@hotmail.com), Pastor at First UMC, Lowell. Rick is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, where his senior concentration was in the area of Preaching and Worship. He is the past president of the West Michigan Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts. Prior to attending seminary, Rick was an elementary school teacher and principal.

Pastoral Care for Spiritual Formation is led by Rev. Dr. Wes Brun (bwbrun@yahoo.com) who served 11 years in parish ministry (In Missouri) before specializing his ministry in Pastoral Counseling, which he did for 32 years until his retirement July 1, 2006. For twenty years he was the (founding) Executive Director of the Samaritan Counseling Center of Southeastern Michigan. Wes has always seen his pastoral counseling ministry as an extension of the ministries of the local church in his area. He is now a member of the Detroit Annual Conference.

The Bible is led by Rev. Diana Goudie (goudierevs@sbcglobal.net). Diana retired in 2009 after twenty –six years in pastoral ministry. She has taught Worship, Preaching and Bible in this school for 14 years and now teaches only the Bible Classes. Her skills in Biblical Storytelling help the scriptures come alive. Diana is a second career clergy person who has taken the Jurisdictional Course of Study and also earned her M. Div. degree.

Location and Facilities

The first five days of the school are held at the Lake Huron Retreat Center located on M 25 12 miles north of port Huron and 8 miles south of Lexington, on the east side of the road. There are classrooms, dining area, and spacious grounds with a view of the lake. Rooms are usually double or triple occupancy and air conditioned. If you desire a single room you may inquire whether any are available and what the additional cost will be, by contacting the director/registrar. Bedding, towels and soap are provided. The facility is handicapped accessible. Bring personal items, notebook, Bible and assigned study materials.

The four weekend sessions are held at local churches. The location and curriculum focus of the weekends will be announced at Lake Huron in July.

Cost

Michigan Area Students receive a tuition scholarship which covers instruction, facilities and most meals; but not transportation, books, weekend meals/lodging or study materials (Recent estimates of this cost are around \$300.-500.).

Retreat Center – room with double or triple occupancy and all meals are covered.

Four weekends – Friday night lodging may be requested in the private home of a church member where the class meets. Note: the October Weekend includes two nights (Friday evening through Sunday 3 p.m.)

Those who prefer to room in a motel at their own expense on the weekends will be provided a list of nearby motels, if requested. Motel reservations, payment and meals are the Student's responsibility.

Each faculty member will be present at Lake Huron on the days when they are scheduled to teach. In addition each weekend session will be led by one faculty member focusing on their course. All members of the faculty are available for consultation, sharing and friendship.

Director/Registrar Contact Information

Rev. Bob Stark, Director Registrar
11649 E 14 ½ Road
Manton, MI 49663
(231) 824-3294
61serenity@att.net

Contact persons for matters relating to Local Pastors who serve on the Conference Boards of Ordained Ministry:

Detroit Conference

Pastor Billie Lou Gillespie
West Vienna UMC
5485 W. Wilson Rd.
Clio, MI 48420
Spiritdancer1216@gmail.com

West Michigan Conference

Pastor Marty Culver
Kalamazoo Milwood United Methodist Church
3919 Portage Road
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
(269) 381-6720
pastormarty@sbcglobal.net

Questions

If you still have questions, you may call Rev. Bob Stark, Director/Registrar (see above for contact information).

RESOURCES

The following Books are now required as resources for The School For License as a Local Pastor:

Basic Resources:

The New Interpreters Study Bible
The United Methodist Hymnal
The Book of Worship
The Book of Discipline

Required Texts:

Pastoral Care in the Small Membership Church – James L. Killen, Jr.
From Pew to Pulpit – Clifton F. Guthrie
Worshipping with United Methodists (Revised Edition) – Hoyt Hickman
Administration in the Small Membership Church – John Tyson
Christian Education in the Small Membership Church – Royal Speidel

The five “Required Texts” will be bundled by Cokesbury and made available to students in the licensing school programs at a significant discount (Cokesbury ISBN number 9780687654826).

Most students will already have a Bible, Hymnal and Discipline. The other “Basic Resources” will need to be purchased separately.

Supplemental Texts (not required):

Methodist Doctrine – Ted Campbell
Evangelism in the Small Membership Church – Royal Speidel

The “Supplemental Texts” will be helpful in your ministry but are not yet required by the School For License as a Local Pastor.

Charge Conference recommending you for license _____

Date Recommended _____

Enclose a photo copy of your candidacy certificate, or indicate when it will be sent _____

Describe your leadership experience in a local congregation, district and/or annual conference

Do you have any special needs/diet requirements, etc. as you attend this school? _____

Deposit required with application: \$ 150.00 Amount enclosed \$ _____

Make check payable to: West Michigan Conference Treasurer, note: "Licensing School"

Mail check and this completed application to: Rev. Bob Stark, Director/Registrar
11649 E. 14 1/2 Road
Manton, MI 49663

Your signature _____

District Superintendent's signature _____

Date _____, 2009

Send with your application: \$ 150.00 Deposit and Evidence of Certified Candidate for Ministry

DEADLINE JUNE 1

Registrar's Use Only \$_____ Registration Fee

_____ Copy of Candidacy Certificate \$_____ Balance Due from Conference Board

_____ TABE sent to applicant _____ TABE completed

Date received ____/____/____ Date acceptance Letter mailed ____/____/____
