



Three Lay Study Options

OPTION 1 – TAKE COURSES FOR PERSONAL ENRICHMENT.

OPTION 2 – TAKE A SET OF COURSES FOR LAY CHURCH LEADER DEVELOPMENT.

OPTION 3 – TAKE ALL 14 COURSES ON THE PATH TO BECOME A CERTIFIED LAY PASTOR.



**AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES
OF NEW YORK STATE**

2024 LAY STUDY PROGRAM COURSES

Registration info is available at:

abc-nys.org/lay-study-program

The tuition is \$110. For family members living in the same house the course fee is \$110 for the first person and \$60 for each subsequent person. Students may audit a course, without credit, for \$60. The cost of the textbooks for each course is in addition to the tuition.



Contact

Rev. Leon Oaks-Lee

leon.oakslee@gmail.com

Get All the Details at:
abc-nys.org/lay-study-program

**PERSONAL ENRICHMENT
CHURCH LEADERSHIP
LAY PASTOR CERTIFICATION**

This ministry is made possible by your church's gifts to the ABCNYS Region Offering, United Mission, America for Christ Offering, and direct gifts to the Region.

Winter 2024

- **Introduction to New Testament (Rev. Howie Maxson, Instructor)** – This course is designed to help the student develop an understanding of the New Testament including the purposes, major themes, and authorship of each book. The student will also learn about how to interpret each book according to its literary genre as well as considering the historical and cultural context of the New Testament. In addition, this course will review the concepts of Scriptural inspiration and how the various New Testament books became a part of the Canon.
- **Spiritual Development (Ms. Joan Dewing, Instructor)** - Spiritual Development is the process of growing in our faith and practice and is fundamental to Christian leadership. Through journals, sharing of experiences, and the writing of a paper, the student will learn of many factors involved in the development of his/her spiritual life.

Spring 2024

- **Ministry Through the Small Church (Rev. Steve Reynolds, Instructor)** - This course is designed to familiarize students about the unique opportunities and challenges of ministry in the small church. The course will guide the student through the theological, relational, and organizational aspects of small church ministry as well as provide the tools necessary to carry out the tasks unique to the small church.
- **Worship (Ms. Lou Bleiler)** – This course is designed to serve as an introduction to corporate Christian worship. In it the student will be exposed to a variety of worship styles both within and outside the American Baptist Tradition. The student will also become acquainted with a variety of theological approaches to worship and worship design.

Fall 2024

- **Church History (Rev. Larry Bell)** – The course is designed to provide an overview of church history, focusing on issues and incidents that have had the greatest impact on the Church and its relationship to the world. It will provide an historical context for the issues, personalities, and events studied. Students will be provided the tools and techniques to do competent research in church history.
- **Preaching (Rev. Ken McKenzie)** – This course is designed for lay people who are beginning to preach or considering preaching in a church setting. The course will cover the basic elements of hearing God's word, communicating that word to listeners in an authentic manner and in a way that is faithful to the text while connecting to human experience.

Baptist Heritage (offered in Spring or Fall) - The course is designed to introduce the student to:

- Baptist History: Beginnings, development, and key leaders
- Traditional Baptist practices of local church life, organization and structure
- American Baptist Characteristics: the principles that identify us in the context of the larger Church
- The origins and development of American Baptist denominational life and structure