

Dear Interested Presbyterian:

The Planning Team for the School for Laity and Commissioned Lay Pastor Training (SL/CLP) is delighted that you are interested in this program. This course of study is in depth and “college-level.” Its purposes are to provide in-depth study opportunities for lay persons to strengthen their faith and understanding of God’s call and to provide training in leadership skills for church leaders and future Commissioned Lay Pastors for the strengthening of our churches. We are excited about your participation and think you will find it a rewarding and valuable endeavor.

Usually, the fall and winter quarters will meet in Morganton. Each quarter includes five alternating Saturdays. Participants are encouraged to sign up for an entire year of study, but may sign up for just one quarter. The cost per quarter is \$35.00. The spring quarter location will be announced at a later date. We have secured excellent teachers. The classes include lecture and interactive study and also homework. As with any course, you get out of it what you put into it. We think you will find the retreat and courses fun, informative, spiritually nourishing and challenging.

Please return the enclosed enrollment and registration forms as soon as you know you will be attending. This helps us plan and guarantees space and books. We are asking for an endorsement of participation from your church as added encouragement in your pursuit of study. Your session endorsement does not have to be returned with your application, get it returned as soon as you can.

I look forward to getting to know you and celebrate your participation in this exciting endeavor. Please contact the Presbytery Office, 828/438-4217, if you have questions or need scholarship assistance.

Grace and peace in Christ,

Rev. Barbara (Bobbi) White
Associate Presbyter

Enclosures

**SCHOOL FOR LAITY AND
COMMISSIONED LAY PASTOR TRAINING PROGRAM
REGISTRATION FORM
School Year 200__ thru 200__**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE #: HOME _____ WORK _____

FAX AND/OR E-MAIL _____

CHURCH: _____

(If First Presbyterian, please list city)

ELDER _____ DEACON _____ OTHER _____

I plan to participate in the: (Please mark the appropriate one)

- _____ School for the Laity (SL)
- _____ Commissioned Lay Pastor Training (CLP)
- _____ UNDECIDED

In September an overnight, kick-off retreat begins each SL/CLP class year. Please contact Robbin at the Presbytery office for date, location and to reserve your space at the retreat. Robbin can be reached at 828/438-4217 or rbuchanan@presbyterywnc.org.

Mail this form, your enrollment form, session endorsement and check for \$35 payable to PWNC to:

SL/CLP Program
Presbytery of Western NC
114 Silver Creek Road
Morganton, NC 28655

7. If the class meets your expectations/hopes, what would most excite you about this educational experience? (Personal or otherwise)

8. Write a few paragraphs highlighting your faith journey.

**PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
SCHOOL FOR LAITY
COMMISSIONED LAY PASTOR TRAINING PROGRAM**

SESSION'S ENDORSEMENT

The Session of _____
at its meeting on _____ endorsed our
member(s) _____
_____ to participate in the School for Laity/Commissioned Lay Pastor
Training Program.

In making this endorsement, we agree to support the applicant during his/her
training through one or more of the following ways:

- Provide encouragement and prayerful support.
- Realize that the person may not have the same amount of time to devote to
specific church activities and allow the person to adjust church responsibilities.
- If necessary, provide financial help with the cost of the training and the
resources required (transportation cost, text books, etc.).
- Invite the participant to share with the pastor and/or session their experience
after the first year.

This program is designed for persons who would like more study in the Biblical,
theological and practical aspects of our faith and ministry. It is hoped that this
person's knowledge can be shared to strengthen the ministry of your church.

The program is also for those interested in becoming Commissioned Lay Pastors.
The Session understands that the entrance into this program is only the first step for
someone who wants to be a Commissioned Lay Pastor. If the person decides to
pursue a commissioning, the Session's recommendation will be very important. To
pursue this choice, the person will have to be an ordained elder. The application for
this position takes place only after the applicant has successfully completed the
training process and has received a call from a church.

Please return this form to the Presbytery office before you start classes.

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Morganton, NC 28655

School Year 200__ thru 200__