

**Lay Servant Ministries Training
Blue Ridge District**

**United Methodist Polity, Practice and the
Mission of the United Methodist Church**
By Thomas Edward Frank
Advanced Class

This class will help connect you with the United Methodist Church and its polity, constitution, history, and the theology and discipline thereof.

Participants must attend both sessions for class credit.

Introduction to Gracious Accountability Groups

- Why they are important
- How they are different from other small groups
- How to start and lead one

Background

John and Charles Wesley, founders of the Methodist movement in the 18th century, began small groups during their college days at Oxford. In the following decades, these became known as Class Meetings, where groups gathered to keep each other accountable to following Jesus. Today these groups take several formats and are known as Class Meetings, Covenant Discipleship Groups, Emmaus Reunion Groups, and by other names. They have one thing in common: a covenant agreed to by all members, that they use to focus on their discipleship on a daily basis.

What will this class be like?

In this class, we will use *The Class Meeting* by Kevin Watson, as we unpack the details of why these types of groups are important for the revival of individual congregations, the broader Christian church, and the nation. We will practice being a small group ourselves. Attendance is limited to between four and twelve participants. You will be encouraged and given practical support in order to start groups in your congregation or several in your missional network.

Preparation

Please read the first four chapters of *The Class Meeting* before coming to the first session on April 14th. Plan to read the last four chapters before the second session April 21st.

Participants must attend both sessions

Training Sessions

**United Methodist Polity, Practice and the
Mission of the United Methodist Church**
Advanced Class

April 14 & 21
\$35 per person
10:00 – 4:00 pm

Black Mountain United Methodist Church
101 Church Street
Black Mountain, NC 28711

Leader: Rev. Kelly Crissman

***Introduction to
Gracious Accountability Groups**

April 14 & 21
\$35 per person
10:00 – 4:00 pm

Black Mountain United Methodist Church
101 Church Street
Black Mountain, NC 28711

Leader: Ron Ballard

*This is an elective class and **is not** part of the required classes of the Lay Servant Ministries.

Registration fee includes materials, light meal and snacks.
If you need financial assistance please let us know.



**Lay Servant
Ministries Spring
Training
2018**

The Blue Ridge District will host additional training opportunities later in the year.

Mary Cash
Director Lay Servant Ministries
Blue Ridge District
cash_mary@bellsouth.net

828-699-5570 (cell)