

Are you ever called upon to preach a sermon and are not quite sure how to begin? If you've been preaching for a long time, would you like to develop your skill? If you've never preached before, but feel you're being called to take this step, would you like to understand the basics? A preaching course for our Synod Deacons will be offered this spring.

LAY PREACHING GROUP

Tuesday evenings on Zoom, 7-10 pm: April 29 – June 10.
Limited to six class members.

Goal: Class members will develop their preaching ability through prayer, study, and practice.

Objectives:

To study and discuss the basics of preparing, crafting, and preaching a faithful sermon.

To pray for the Spirit's guidance.

To prepare a Bible study with the goal of preaching on the text.

To write a sermon, practice presentation, and preach it to the group.

To practice preaching with an openness toward improvement through group feedback.

To support one another in the process.

The group will study and discuss the basics of preaching using the book, *A Lay Preacher's Guide: How to Craft a Faithful Sermon* by Karoline M. Lewis. **Please read this before the first class session.**

Each class session will include:

- listening to a sermon preached by a class member and offering feedback (beginning week 2)
- studying the text with the following week's preacher and offering suggestions for preaching
- praying for one another as class members work through the process

Ideally, outside the zoom class, each sermon will be preached in a congregational setting and coordinated with a congregational pastor.

Be mindful that for two consecutive weeks, when each class member leads Bible study and writes a sermon, they will need to devote a lot of time to this; they are advised to plan their calendar accordingly.

Instructor: The Rev. Dr. Nancy Kraft nancykraft52@gmail.com

Pastor Nancy, recently retired, has led lay preaching groups for 25 years in a variety of settings.

To register, contact Deacon Laurie Palastro palastro@mail.com