



The logo features a large red number '40' on the left. The '4' contains the text 'EPAUMC' and 'LAITY', and the '0' contains 'ACADEMY' and '2024'. To the right of the '40' is a circular graphic with colorful human figures holding hands, surrounding the text 'Hebrews 10:24,25'.

**SPRING 2024 - In-Person Class  
at Cornwells UMC, April 27, 2024**

**SUMMER 2024 - Laity Academy  
at Eastern Univ., August 2-3, 2024**

**EPAUMC  
LAITY ACADEMY**

“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.”

**The April Laity Academy Returns for 2024 with an In Person Class  
“Creation, Evolution, and Intelligent Design Theory”  
at Cornwells UMC, April 27**

**The Class:**

The subject of “origins” remains an ongoing source of high interest, discussion and inquiry. The topic has far-reaching implications and has led to many questions about the science of evolution, the Genesis creation stories, and the genetic lineage of Homo sapiens. The class will explore a fundamental question: “What do we know today that Charles Darwin, in the mid 1800’s, did not yet understand?” While a number of scientific laws and theories will be addressed, there is no need for an advanced degree to understand the many concepts Myers presents in questioning if the increase in scientific knowledge has strengthened or weakened the data base underlying evolutionary theory. The Biblical record of origins will then be examined. Although references to God’s role as the Author of Creation are found in both the Old and New Testaments, there will be a specific emphasis in the second portion of the class on Jesus’ perspective about Creation.

\*\*\*This class was first offered at the August 2023 Laity Academy, and proved to be one of the most well-regarded, with Steve Myers receiving high marks for his presentation, his thought-provoking questions, and the on-target resources and reference materials that enabled class participants to consider and discuss highly sensitive yet timely topics.

**The Instructor:**

Steve Myers is a retired teacher from the Pennsbury District with 40 years of experience teaching biology and related courses. He has bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Biology Education, with 30 additional credits beyond his graduate degree. Myers has facilitated classes and discussions on these topics for groups ranging from high school teachers to church members in venues ranging from churches to retreat centers to colleges and universities. He is a member of Cornwells UMC, where he serves as Lay Leader, adult Sunday School teacher, prayer coordinator, and liturgist in addition to his involvement in the ministries of music and missions.

### Cost and Other Course Details:

The \$30 fee covers the cost of the class and all instructional materials, as well as a light breakfast, lunch, and coffee, tea and water throughout the day. Register online at [epaumc.org/conference-calendar](http://epaumc.org/conference-calendar) and select: "Upcoming Events." The Registration link will be active by mid-March.

The class will be held in the Chapel at Cornwells UMC, which has the technology necessary for the slides and videos that will be shown. Seating will be on padded pews or chairs. Stiff-backed notebooks or pad folios are recommended for note taking, although there will be clipboards available to borrow for the day. There will be 8 hours of in person instruction on April 27.

The church will be open at 7:30 am for check-in and continental breakfast. Class will be held from 8 am until noon, with a break for lunch, and then from 1 to 5 pm. There will be breaks throughout the day.

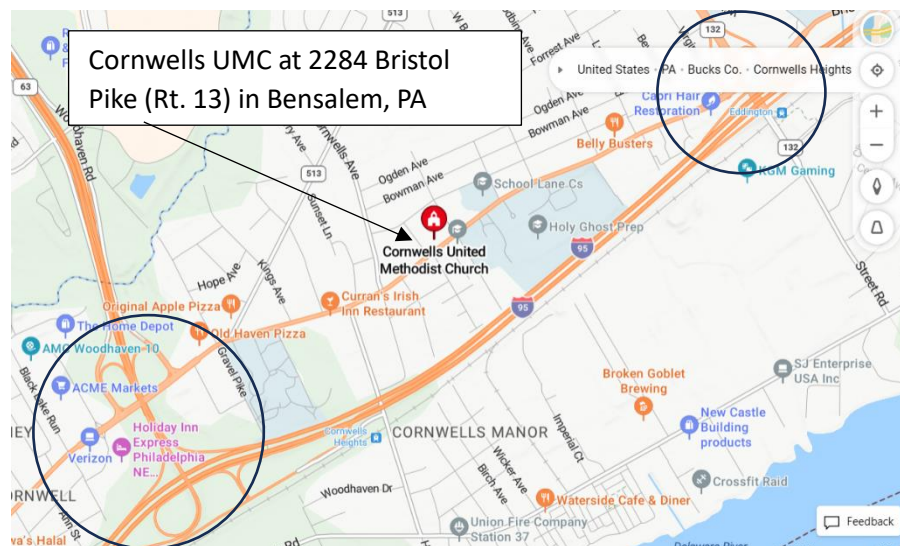
**\*Please note any dietary restrictions or needs at check-in the day of class.\***

There is an hour of work required prior to the class. Materials will be mailed to participants as soon as their paid registrations are received by Conference. There will be an hour of follow-up activities after the class that must be completed and submitted to the instructor before credit will be given for a 10-hour class in Leading.

### Location, Lodging and Transportation:

Cornwells UMC is located at 2284 Bristol Pike, Bensalem, PA, in Lower Bucks County. There is plenty of parking at the church for those who drive.

- Check SEPTA Route and/or SEPTA Regional Rail's Trenton Line and Amtrak's Keystone Service and Northeast Regional service along the Northeast Corridor for public transportation to the church.
- **A recommended (and close-by!) hotel - [Holiday Inn Express Philadelphia NE - Bensalem, an IHG Hotel - Google hotels](#)** Other hotels are available to the north on Street Road.



Map showing the location of Cornwells UMC.

The church is on Bristol Pike (Rt. 13) between the Rt. 63 and 132 Intersections for I 95 and Bristol Pike.

The PA Tpk. Exit for Bensalem is at Rt. 132. From NJ, Rt. 13 can be accessed from the Bristol-Burlington Bridge (north) & and the Tacony-Palmyra Bridge (south of church).

### Questions?

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