EPA&GNJ

2026 Lay Servant Ministry Report

This report is to be completed by the lay servant, Christ Servant Minister, or Certified Lay Minister. This should not be completed by the church, however, it remains accessible to the church in order to bring completed reports to the charge conference.

Welcome to the EPA&GNJ Lay Servant Ministry Report!

This form has been built to capture information and feedback from all persons who have participated in, are actively moving through, or are requesting to maintain a variety of Lay Servant credentials in the Eastern PA and Greater NJ Annual Conferences of the UMC.

Because the 2020/2024 Book of Discipline allows each Annual Conference to contextualize their Lay Servant programs (as per ¶266-269), you will see certain statuses with slightly different language as it applies to GNJ or EPA specifically.

Moving forward with the 2026 charge conference year, significant efforts were made to align all five statuses of our respective conferences in a way that makes sense and builds a single form. Using conditional logic, the form invites you to complete only the information that is relevant to you given your current status or intended future status, which is to be endorsed by your local church charge conference.

As such, this form should be completed annually by anyone who is serving in any of the below listed roles:

- **Basic Lay Servant (GNJ) / Local Lay Servant (EPA):** this is anyone who has completed the Basic Lay Servant (GNJ) or Introduction to Christ Servant Ministry (CSM-EPA) course only
- **Certified Lay Servant (GNJ) / Christ Servant Minister, CSM (EPA):** this is anyone who has completed the Basic Lay Servant/Intro to CSM course and at least one or more approved Certified Lay Servant/Advanced CSM course (*this requires a minimum of an additional 10 hours total*).
- **Certified Lay Speaker (EPA&GNJ):** this is anyone who has completed the required six courses and has been approved to become a Certified Lay Speaker. Note this status has changed significantly over the last 15 years with actions taken in the 2012, 2016, and later UMC General Conferences.
- **Certified Lay Minister, CLM (EPA&GNJ):** this is anyone who has completed the Certified Lay Minister course and has been approved by their local District Committee on Ministry (DCOM) as well as the Conference Committee on Lay Servant Ministry.
- **Lay Missioner (EPA&GNJ):** this is an equivalent status as Certified Lay Servant or Christ Servant Minister extended to the Hispanic/Latino community through a course curriculum and certification process of the local church, district, and annual conferences (to include the Office of Hispanic & Latino Ministries). While we continue to develop a unique form for Lay Missioners, these persons should complete the Certified Lay Servant/Christ Servant Ministry section for now.

If you have questions about this report, please reach out to one of the persons below:

- **EPA Christ Servant Ministry Director:** George Hollich, hollich@comcast.net (mailto:hollich@comcast.net)
- **GNJ Lay Servant Ministry Director:** Terri Pagani, pagani5@comcast.net (mailto:pagani5@comcast.net)
- **Director of Lay Leadership Development (EPA&GNJ):** Rev. Lorelei K. Toombs, ltoombs@epagnj.org (mailto:ltoombs@epagnj.org)

Heads up! Because this form uses conditional logic, some questions will only appear depending on your previous answers, ensuring you only fill out what applies to you. Therefore, please fill out each question in order and do not skip ahead. **Ensure you save your report to record your responses.**

Part 1: Lay Servant Information

***Physical Address:**

***Home phone:**

###-###-####

Cell phone:

###-###-####

***Conference:**

Eastern Pennsylvania

***District (EPA):**

South

***Select your church (South):**

Part 2: Lay Servant's Request

***I want to continue my journey serving as a Lay Servant:**

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

Part 3: Lay Servant Status

***Select one of the below to indicate your current status:**

- ○ Basic Lay Servant (GNJ) / Local Lay Servant (EPA)
- ◉ Christ Servant Minister (EPA)
- ○ Certified Lay Servant (GNJ)
- ○ Certified Lay Speaker
- ○ Certified Lay Minister

***List the dates, title, and instructor of the last course you took:**

Upload your certificates here for all courses entered above. If more than one, combine all certificates into one file upload.

Attach file pdf, doc(x), xls(x), jpg/gif/png, ppt - up to 25 MB

***I request the approval of my pastor and my charge conference to continue as or become a:**

- ○ Basic Lay Servant (GNJ) / Local Lay Servant (EPA)
- ◉ Christ Servant Minister (EPA)
- ○ Certified Lay Servant (GNJ)
- ○ Certified Lay Speaker
- ○ Certified Lay Minister

Church Ministries:

Since my last report, I have participated in or lead the following ministries. Please list each ministry and briefly describe your role.

Personal & Spiritual Growth:

Describe activities in which you have engaged and/or books you have read and used during the past year to help you develop your devotional life, improve your understanding of the Bible, improve your understanding of The United Methodist Church, or to improve your skills in leading, caring, and communicating.

My specific gifts and graces include:

***Do you believe that over the past year you have had adequate opportunities to serve as a Lay Servant?**

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

What additional courses, training, or support do you need?

What recommendations do you have for improving these programs in your district or annual conference?

***I give permission for my name and contact information to be shared in the Conference Journal:**

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

Submit This Form:

Sign by typing the name and email of the individual completing this report:

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***First Name**

***Last Name**

***Email**

Date completed:

mm/dd/yyyy

Save Form