



Helping your church to grow

Disciples of Jesus Christ are called to three primary responsibilities: follow Jesus, love God and love neighbor, and to go make disciples of Jesus. Our lack of faithfulness has led to shrinking numbers in worship, a lack of witness to our communities and a world that is not being transformed.

The Memphis Conference wants to help your church grow. There are many challenges facing churches in the next decade, and we believe equipping strong, effective, gifted leadership is the key to growth and vitality. To develop necessary leadership, an Academy was formed in January of 2013.

The Generative Leadership Academy was developed to help deeply committed Christians, eager to serve, find direction and guidance for the changing world in which we live. The academy's goal is to help develop local church leaders who will train and inspire additional leaders who will work together for church vitality.



Generative - (Adjective)
Capable of producing or creating.

Leadership - (Noun)
The position or function of a leader, a person who guides or directs a group.

Academy - (Noun)
A school for training in a particular skill or profession.

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The Connectional Ministries Team
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United Methodist Church

Developing Leaders
to Renew the Church

2019
Generative
Leadership
Academy
for clergy and laity



The 2019 Academy will meet on:

January 25-26
May 3-4
August 16-17
October 11-12

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Discovering, Equipping, Connecting and Sending Generative Leadership



The Generative Leadership Academy was formed first in the Purchase and former Paris Districts and has now trained over 650 laity and clergy in team ministry resulting in fruitful and faithful congregations.

In 2017 the academy began at Natchez Trace State Park for the Memphis Conference and beyond. We invite you to become a part of the 2019 group!

The Mission of the Memphis Conference is to discover, equip, connect and send lay and clergy leaders who shape congregations that offer Jesus Christ to a hurting world one neighborhood at a time.

GLA is designed to work with leaders *discovered* by their local church, *equip* them with the fundamentals of the faith, *connect* them with resources and other disciples (grace filled Christ followers who put faith into action) to live into their call and develop their spiritual gifts, so they can be *sent* back to the local church and community to offer Christ to a hurting world, one neighborhood at a time.

GLA is a year-long commitment with quarterly sessions. Each quarter, participants spend 24 hours at Natchez Trace State Park learning about four elements of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. These are:

- Meeting God—the foundation for disciples
- Piety – the practice of being with God
- Mercy – God’s love in action
- Spiritual Gifts – living into God’s call

Beginning with check-in at 4:30 p.m. on Fridays, participants will explore these elements in a variety of ways:

- Worship
- Presentations
- Small Groups
- Fellowship



GLA graduates will have a better understanding of Wesleyan discipleship. There will be stronger connections between churches in the Memphis Conference, and participants will identify their spiritual gifts and explore God’s call.

GLA is designed to develop leaders who will work to help the local church become vital and fruitful in reaching the world for Jesus Christ. As each church lives into being a missional outpost for the Gospel, generative leaders will be the key to making this change possible. Change is a challenge to everyone. Being confident in sharing our call as followers of Jesus Christ will help the local church make the change possible.

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Who should come to Generative Leadership Academy?

Pastors and lay persons who want to help lead their local church into the future with a mission and a vision. A desire to grow and serve are the only requirements.



Where will the Academy meet?

The Inn and Conference Center at Pin Oak Lodge, Natchez Trace State Park located at 567 Pin Oak Lane, Wildersville TN 38388.

What are the dates in 2019?

Jan. 25-26 | May 3-4 | Aug. 16-17 | Oct. 11-12

What will it cost?

The registration fee is \$175 per charge, which covers resources all four sessions. The participant fees per session are as follows: The room and board costs are \$85.00 per person, based on double occupancy, \$125 for single occupancy, \$45 for commuters. Included in the room and board fee and the commuter fee are three meals. In order to confirm a place for your church, we will adhere to a firm registration/housing deadline of December 17.

GLA Junior: Children are welcome to attend GLA with their parents. During presentations and small groups, children will attend their own programming. Meals and worship will be shared as a family. Children stay free in room with parents and pay \$18 for meals (under 5 no charge).

How will this benefit the local church? After each session, leaders will have tools to take back to the local church to share. Each leader will implement what they are learning for their congregation.