



Ministry

Tools & Resources

The purpose of men's ministry at GCUMM is:

“To declare the centrality of Christ in every man's life”

The Commission is committed to providing resources to annual conferences, districts and local churches to assist them in fulfilling the mission of helping every man have an on-growing relationship with Jesus Christ. In addition to these resources, our website (www.gcumm.org) has many more resources available.

Resources for Ministry

Men's Ministry

- ***Guidelines for Leading your Congregation—Men's Ministry Guidelines for Leading your Congregation***—call (800) 409-5346 or visit www.cokesbury.com/forms/ProductDetail.aspx?pid=1124045 (Men's Ministry)
- ***Certified Men's Ministry Specialists (MMS)***—MMS are individuals trained to assist your congregation in ministry to men. To find a Men's Ministry Specialist in your area or to inquire about how to become a certified MMS, call (615) 620-7277.
- ***Understanding Men's Ministry***—condensed “No Man Left Behind” training, a conference, district or local learning resource as well as an Advanced Lay Servant Ministry training course. For more information, call Rev. Dr. Rick Vance (615) 620-7277.
- ***Amending Through Faith***—an eight-week primary prevention study that helps men understand and change the systematic and systemic causes of domestic and gender based violence. For information call Rev. Dr. Rick Vance (615) 620-7277 or visit <http://www.gcumm.org/gender-based-violence>.
- ***The Class Meeting***—Making disciples requires a conversation between people who are on the road, journeying life together. To facilitate this deeper “God-Centered” conversation the General Commission on United Methodist Men recommends The Class Meeting, by Dr. Kevin Watson. For more information call (615) 340-7145 or visit <http://www.gcumm.org/files/uploads/WesleyClassMeetingIntroduction2017.pdf>
- ***Lead Like Jesus***—a ministry training program in servant leadership designed to foster effective leadership skills for long-term, transformational change, call Rev. Dr. Rick Vance (615) 620-7277 or Jim Boesch (407) 721-0416 or visit <http://www.gcumm.org/resources/?filters%5Bcategories%5D=Leader+Development>.

Scouting Ministry

- ***Guidelines for Leading your Congregation—Scouting & Civic Youth-Serving Ministries*** call (800) 409-5346 or visit www.cokesbury.com/forms/ProductDetail.aspx?pid=1124314.
- ***Certified Scouting Ministry Specialists***—a listing of people trained to assist your congregation in the ministry of scouting and other youth-serving organizations, call (615) 620-7262.
- ***Annual United Methodist Scouters' Conference***—This is great opportunity to meet others who serve. We have a week of learning and connecting. This time together will help you to learn more about your role, the church and the scouting ministries partners (Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the USA, Camp Fire, and Big Brothers Big Sisters). This annual event is hosted at one of BSA's high adventure bases, most often Philmont Training Center in Cimarron, New Mexico. Families are welcome with activities planned for all age levels while the conference attendees learn. For more information, call (615) 620-7262.

GCUMM Staff

The GCUMM staff is charged with conducting operations to carry out the mission and vision of the Board of Directors concerning ministries with men and scouting as directed by the UM Book of Discipline, and including strategic plans. They are also responsible for training and resourcing affiliates, partners and other leaders to accomplish these goals. www.gcumm.org/about/staff.html.

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Basic Questions Answered

How do I reorganize our men's ministry?

- Enlist the support of the pastor. Ask your pastor what his/her vision for ministry to men is for your church. Ask your pastor how you and the UMM in your church can provide resources for ministry to men throughout the church.
- Find a few men with enthusiasm who understand the importance of men's ministry.
- Start with who you have. Don't wait for every man in the church to get on board.
- Call GCUMM if you need help or additional materials.
- In conversation with your pastor, prayerfully develop a plan for your UMM ministry.
- Invite men to attend a national gathering or a district or conference UMM event.
- Offer a variety of program options to which men of all ages can connect.
- Offer opportunities for small groups that meet at different times (and perhaps in different locations or online).
- Embrace all the men's activities and ministries already in existence in your church. Claim them as part of the ministry of UMM of your church. Invite them to all your meetings, events and fellowships. Let them know you consider them UMM.

We have a small church with few men. What can we do?

- Consider meeting with men from other churches, and/or invite men from your community to your men's ministry activities. We encourage men in your situation to join with other men to form "cluster" units. Benefits include shared costs for the charter and other resources, and the advantage of working together as a team of men in a local community. Members of the cluster can also include men from other denominations, as long as the charter is placed through a United Methodist church.

How do we handle the finances of the local organization?

- Each local organization should follow the policies of their local church regarding the handling of funds collected for UMM. ¶256.6(h) of the *Book of Discipline* speaks to funding. However, the goal is to cooperate with your church leaders in finding the best way to handle financial matters.

What kind of resources are there for my local organization?

- Chartered units regularly get resource information, including program materials, from the GCUMM office. The *UMMen* magazine and website (www.gcumm.org), offer resources for local church men's ministry. In addition, the online store, <https://umm.logoshop.com> offers pins, hats, shirts, and other UMM and scouting apparel.
- The GCUMM staff are available to consult with local leaders about "best practice" ideas for ministry.

How do I start a small group?

- There are several types of small groups. The first step is to determine the purpose of the group. Some questions to ask are: What is this group going to do? (study, mission, fellowship, activities, accountability) What age group is this group going to target? Is this a short-term or long-term group?
- Beginning with these questions will assist in the next steps. When these questions have been answered, in consultation with your pastor, find the resources necessary for the group, advertise, speak "one-on-one" with men and invite them to join your group(s). We have had good success doing small groups by video conferencing.
- Start on time! Finish on time! And be consistent in meeting.