



## About the Reading Week

Before you find your frazzled self staring at the moon some Saturday night—sermon unwritten, out of time, and wondering, “What am I going to say tomorrow?” - why not do what wise farmers do, and lay aside some seed corn?

**The Reading Week for Lectionary Preachers** is time set aside to sow seeds of excellence in next years’ preaching ministry.

The Reading Week is an investment in ministry which every effective preacher owes his or her congregation; it is the “seed corn” for time-starved pastors. Before your parishioners’ needs have taken all your ministry time, lay this week aside to listen attentively to scripture and the Holy Spirit, to roll up your sleeves, and plant the seeds for next years’ preaching ministry.



### ~ Schedule & Location ~

The Reading Week begins Tuesday with check-in from 10am to Noon, commencing with Lunch, then right to work. Work continues through Friday morning, concluding with worship at 11:45am. Please plan on being present for the Full Reading Week.

**Luther Glen Retreat Center**  
39136 Harris Road  
Oak Glen, CA

**LIFT Ministries**

562 . 789 . 0880

e-mail: [LiftOffice@Verizon.net](mailto:LiftOffice@Verizon.net)

[www.LiftRenewal.org](http://www.LiftRenewal.org)

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**LIFT Ministries**

*Cultivating Pathways for Discipleship to Jesus Christ*

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*“a time to sow”*  
... a Reading Week for  
**Lectionary Preachers**

**September 24 - 27, 2018**  
*(Monday through Thursday)*

**Luther Glen Retreat Center**  
Oak Glen, CA

*Facilitated and designed by*  
**Rev. William Johnson**

*Presented by*  
**LIFT Ministries**

## About the Facilitator



**Rev. Bill Johnson** is a passionate preacher of the Gospel whose gifts for ministry include leadership, teaching, and prophetic insight.

He has served 5 local

congregations in California, including

2 start-up churches, until God called him to

create **LIFT Renewal Ministries**, a 501c3

non-profit ministry established for the purpose

of helping pastors and congregations deepen

their experience of Jesus Christ. He led teams

to Ghana for 3 consecutive years to teach the

“LIFT Model of Disciple-making”.

Bill is currently appointed to **First UMC of**

**Orange, California**. He enjoys being back in

the pulpit each Sunday, serving a local congrega-

tion. He remains connected to LIFT as its

Spiritual Director, while Dr. Robert Denham

now serves as Executive Director. The Lection-

ary Reading Week is a valuable annual discipline

and one which Bill will continue to facilitate.



## What Will You Do During the Lectionary Reading Week?

- Hear the Gospel lessons for the entire lectionary year read aloud as you take notes and jot down your ideas
- Spend valuable quiet time developing themes, objectives, and images for each individual Sunday
- Identify potential preaching series, topical sequences, and an underlying “theme” for the entire lectionary year
- Engage in interactive discussion, season-by-season, of themes, observations, and insights for the coming lectionary year
- Create strategies for “passenger Sundays”, where external themes are imposed upon your worship and preaching (Scout Sunday, Music Appreciation Sunday, community or world crises, secular holidays, etc.)
- Coordinate your preaching schedule with family vacation plans and other personal calendar issues
- Participate in interactive dialogue with colleagues as we exegete our culture and our congregations
- Share with colleagues about blind spots, hurdles, and impediments to weekly sermon preparation

## What Will You Take Home?

- Confidence in knowing that God is shaping your heart for preaching in *the coming year*
- Individual note sheets for every Sunday in the coming Lectionary year
- Coordinated preaching calendar with themes and texts that can be given to worship leaders and staff
- Reading and resource lists compiled by retreat participants
- A model for Worship Design that can be easily implemented in the local church
- 21 Contact Hours

## REGISTRATION FORM ~

Lectionary Reading Week

September 24 – 27, 2018

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

### ~ INFORMATION ~

Registration for the Lectionary

Reading Week is **\$375, Double Occupancy**,

covers the cost of all program materials,

**lodging for 3 nights, and all meals.**

**\*\*Single Occupancy - additional \$60;**

**\*\*Double Occupancy Rate only applies**

**if you confirm a roommate.**

The Reading Week is considered a “work week”, rather than retreat or “time off”, therefore you are encouraged

to use your Continuing Education budget or seek financial support from your church in order to attend.

See back panel for Reading Week schedule.

**Registration & Full Payment is Due  
by Monday, September 12**

Please make checks payable to  
“LIFT Ministries” & Mail to:

**LIFT Ministries  
P.O. Box 4671  
Whittier, CA 90607**