



## 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 10<sup>am</sup> to Noon, commencing with Lunch, then right to work. Work continues through Friday morning, concluding with worship at 11:45<sup>am</sup>. 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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September 29 -  
October 2, 2015  
(Tuesday through Friday)

*New Location!*  
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

served 4 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. For the past 3 years he led a team to Ghana to teach the “LIFT Model of Disciple-making”.

2014 was a year of transition for LIFT and Rev. Johnson, as Bill was appointed to First UMC of Orange, California. He enjoys being back in the pulpit each Sunday, serving a local congregation. He remains connected to LIFT as its Founding Director, while Dr. Robert Denham assumes leadership as Executive Director. The Lectionary 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 29 -October 2, 2015

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### ~ INFORMATION ~

Registration for the Lectionary Reading Week is **\$345 double occupancy**, covers the cost of all program materials, lodging for 3 nights, and all meals. Single Occupancy—additional \$60.

*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 22**

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

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