

Thea E. Becton is a Certified Lay Speaker and the Lay Leader at Clarks United Methodist Church under the leadership of Pastor James C. Hamilton. She has served in that roles since June 2012. As Lay Leader, she has supported the transition of three (3) pastors – providing spirit-led guidance and support to her new pastor and the members of the congregation. Thea, is committed to a life of service beyond her leadership at the local church. Professionally, she is a grants officer for the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency with the mission to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering. Personally, she has supported and served as county lead for ServeFest, an ecumenical day of service held in Harford County, and organized Hope for a Home, a 5K race to support the outreach ministry of New Hope Christian Fellowship United Methodist Church in Edgewood, MD.

In her role as the District Lay Leader, Thea will work closely with the District Superintendent to help reduce the distance felt between the congregations on the district and the Conference Office. The goal is to strengthen communication and to develop relationships as One Body in Christ. Additionally, Thea will continue the work started by Barbara Dixon by serving with Darlynn McCrae, Director of Lay Servant Ministry for the Baltimore Suburban District and their counterpart in the Baltimore Metropolitan District – Ophelia Brown. This partnership includes the planning of Laity Gatherings, courses for the School of Discipleship, and other opportunities to encourage individuals to know God for themselves.

Thea's favorite scripture that encourages her in challenging times can be found in Habakkuk 2:3: For the vision *is* yet for an appointed time; but at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. (NKJV)

Please welcome Thea by calling (443) 866-7481 or by email thea.becton@gmail.com.