

2009

North Coast District Co-Lay Speaker of the Year (2009): Rubye Johnson

Mrs. Rubye Johnson is a life long Methodist and has been a member of St. Paul UMC in Cleveland, Ohio for over 20 years. She is a long time Certified Lay Speaker and has been a member of the North Coast District Lay Speaking Committee for 12 years.

Rubye's nominating pastor, Rev. Angela D. Lewis, wrote the following: "Ever since I have been here at St. Paul UMC, Mrs. Johnson has been one of the strongest and hardest working members of the church. She volunteers at most of the functions sponsored by the church. She was serving as Lay Leader when I arrived, and I believe she was in that position for almost 7 years. Rubye was the chair of the Council on Ministry until we changed it to a Church Council. She now serves as the co-chair of the Church Council. She is the liaison to our Adopt a School program. Mrs. Johnson does these things and many more in the life of the church. She has a great relationship with the people in the church. To a degree she has become one of the mothers of the church. She loves her church without question. Mrs. Johnson most importantly loves the Lord."

Rubye Johnson was born and raised in Alabama where she learned at a young age how important God is in her life. In addition to raising her adult children, Marquita and Latonya, she continues to raise her daughter Alanna who is in the fourth grade. Rubye has been blessed with 5 grandchildren, one of whom is a senior at Mount Union College. Being raised as one of thirteen children she knows how important family is for her and within the life of the church.

Rubye retired from the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) in 1996 and also Local 47 Service Employee International Union (SEIU). She was active in managing services like those associated with nursing homes, taxi cab drivers, window washers and school secretaries. Rubye was on the executive board of Local 47 for 10 years. Her new vocation revolves around being an advocate for children with HIV/AIDS. She feels like she is being lead by the Lord and would welcome your prayers and support.

Rubye has found Lay Speaking to be a joy filled journey over the years, and she knows how important it is to continue doing the work of the Lord after the training is complete. Making Disciples for Christ is something she holds as a high priority in her life. She is a true Lay Speaker at heart and her heart is always open to the Lord.