

Sierra Pacific Coaching Ministry: A Brief Introduction to Coaching

The Sierra Pacific Coaching Ministry is off to a great start! But what is coaching in the church all about?

Coaching is a unique accompaniment model that differs from pastoral care, spiritual direction, therapy, mentoring, or consulting. The coach helps the client think through how to create and implement new ministries, name stumbling blocks, and plan next steps to move forward. Coaching is client-led and results-driven – the aim is to help you achieve the goals YOU set as your coach listens attentively, asks powerful and honest questions, and help you discern where God is leading you. Coaching can be focused on concrete tasks and goals, or on personal growth.

Here are some instances when coaching will be helpful: in seeking personal leadership growth as a pastor, council member, stewardship chair, or in other leadership roles; strategic planning; council development; building and empowering ministry teams; empowering evangelism; during conflict; during pastoral transition; and for personal or professional growth. The hope is that our leaders will be empowered to use their God-given gifts, become more resilient, and achieve more effective and meaningful ministry. Coaching can make that happen! For your discernment [here \(document “guide in Identifying...”](#) is a helpful and brief resource.

For a testimonial about coaching by Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZHwJVKrf5o&feature=emb_logo. For further information (including FAQs), check out the ELCA Coaching website (<https://www.elcacoaching.org/>).

If you have questions about exploring coaching or coach training, please contact Pastor Tita Valeriano, Director of Evangelical Mission (titav@spselca.org) and the SPS Coach Steering Committee:

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