



## “I’m Getting a Call...”

*A five-week worship series to Raise The Question: How is God Calling?*

There is power in a well-timed question. The Great Plains Board of Ordained Ministry and the Office of Clergy Excellence are introducing a collaboration that invites pastors, ministry leaders and church members to *Raise the Question: How is God Calling You?*

The following 5-week sermon series can be used to introduce aspects of calling to your congregation or small group. A pastor could use one, two, three, four, or all five sermons in the year ahead in a variety of different ways (suggestions listed below). “I’m Getting a Call...” will include sermon helps, music selections, children’s messages, interview questions for church members, and a video for each week. For questions, reach out to Emily Spearman Cannon, [ecannon@greatplainsumc.org](mailto:ecannon@greatplainsumc.org) or Ashlee Alley Crawford, [aalleycrawford@greatplainsumc.org](mailto:aalleycrawford@greatplainsumc.org).

The following resources have been developed for the “I’m Getting a Call...” worship series:

- Sermon Outlines/“Helps” for planning 5 sermons to include the following:
  - Exodus 3:1-14, 1 Kings 10:1-18, Luke 24:13-25, or any text selected by the preacher
  - 1 Samuel 3:1-10
  - Genesis 12:1-9
  - Luke 5:1-11
  - Esther 4:1-14
- Music Selections to accompany the sermon outlines
- Four 3-5 minute videos featuring Great Plains UMC clergy to be used in the worship service to illustrate the theme of the week, plus a promotional/general video
- 5 Children’s Message Guides
- A guide for crafting a panel of congregation members or individual testimony topics to incorporate reflection upon one’s call into the weekly worship service
- PowerPoint Slides
- Logos and images

While this is designed for a five-week worship series, there are some easy adaptations that could be made:

- Preach a sermon on God’s Call at multiple times throughout the year. Choose a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Confirmation Sunday, First Sunday of the New Year, or some other Sunday where the theme of God’s Call is appropriate. In other words, these five sermons do not have to be preached on consecutive weeks.
- Instead of using this in a worship context, adapt this for a teaching time in youth group, Sunday School, or as a short-term study or even a special Advent or Lenten course.
- Preach one or two of these sermons leading up to your Stewardship Campaign as a way of preparing your people to hear God’s Call to serve the Church.

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*This sermon series is a collaboration of the Great Plains Board of Ordained Ministry Call Team and the Office of Clergy Excellence. The creators of this material are Emily Spearman Cannon (primary author of sermon series), Ashlee Alley Crawford (project manager, secondary author, and editor), Jeanne Koontz (music selection), Amanda Baker (children’s messages), plus other members of the Raise the Question Task Force: Christie Kipp, Stephanie Seth, Stefanie Hayes. Other aspects of the Raise the Question Initiative were developed in conjunction with the [Desert Southwest Board of Ordained Ministry](#). Special Thanks to Todd Seifert (videos) and Communication Staff for distribution and promotion.*

Learn More about the Raise the Question Campaign [here](#). Invite others to ask, “How is God Calling?” [here](#).