

Being Church
Weekly Online Gathering for ELCA Leaders
Wednesdays, 1PM Central

On August 26, join us as Vicar Michelle Knight shares her stories of addiction, recovery, and community, as well as ways our faith leaders and churches can respond.

From our presenter Vicar Michelle Knight, Final Year CL student at Wartburg Theological Seminary, serving at St. Paul's Lutheran ELCA church in Warren, IL:

I have had plenty of moves over the years, but I call Dixon, IL my home base. Prior to seminary I worked in various fields including investments, human resources, accounting, and farming. I have 4 grown children and 2 grandchildren. I am answering the call to seek ordination in the ELCA in Word and Sacrament with a specialized focus on serving those in addiction and recovery.

I have always been comfortable sharing my story of recovery with other addicts/alcoholics. I started sharing publicly at my seminary in 2019 and continue to hone my gifts of public speaking and coaching in hopes of shedding light on the need for pastoral care and being sensitive to the spiritual needs of addicts/alcoholics.

I am not an expert – I humbly share my own experience.

I have chosen to step from behind the veil of anonymity to share my resurrection story so that others may receive the message of good news – that there is hope, and that you are not alone! God is always with you and so is the fellowship found in recovery if you choose to receive it.

My dream is to serve God and the church so that no one ever has to suffer in addiction alone. To create a recovery community and place of sanctuary for those on their spiritual formation journey seeking to know the God of their understanding, and the Spirit already at work within them to live a life of abundance as grace filled children of God through Christ Jesus. I also aspire to be a dog owner and the best gramma I can be.

Questions from our presenter to consider before, during, and after our time together: How do I nurture my spiritual connection to discern God's invitation in my life today? How much meaningful connection do I have on a regular basis with other people that spiritually feeds me?

You are invited to join this weekly online gathering designed to provide encouragement and support for ELCA leaders across the church. Participants will hear topical presentations related to how we are called to be Church, as well as have an opportunity to be in small group discussions with an ELCA group coach facilitating the conversation. This is where the magic happens. All of this is designed to help us process our emotions and thus create a space where we can each name our next most faithful step forward in our unique context. You are welcome to share this invitation with any other ELCA leader, rostered or lay. #ELCACChurchTogether

We understand a number of folks are unable to make this day and time each week. We record the main session and wrap-up time. We share each recording with supporting documents here by the following week: <https://www.elcacoaching.org/podcasts/media>.

You can also find a list of upcoming topics and presenters on the home page of our website: <https://www.elcacoaching.org/>.

ELCA Coaching is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: BEING CHURCH - Weekly Gathering for ELCA Leaders
Time: **August 12, 2020 1:00 PM Central Time**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/180439412?pwd=WlVwUUxyUE5mY2IxMktHQXFJdGNMdz09>

Meeting ID: 180 439 412

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