

Leadership Lab Experience for Parish Lay Ministry Academy

Fall 1 | Pastor Paul Mussachio, Facilitator

Required Books for Class Discussion

Summoned to Lead, Leonard Sweet

The Servant, a Simple Story about Leadership, James C. Hunter

Embody, Five Keys to Leading with Integrity, Karoline Lewis

As you read through the assigned readings, please be prepared to offer your answer to these questions in our sessions together.

- What was a new and intriguing concept to me?
- What idea discussed by the author affirmed something I already knew?
- What idea discussed by the author challenged me?
- What did I like best about the reading?

Session Topics

September

Session One | Called Out

****Before class**, please read the Introduction and Chapters 1 through 4 of Len Sweet's book, *Summoned to Lead*. We'll discuss this reading together.

Main points to cover:

- Defining leadership and the task of leading others
- Biblical case studies of being called out for leadership (King David, Esther, Peter)
- Looking at your own leadership roles and how God calls out to you in this point in time.

Homework by October session: Read all of James C. Hunter's book, *The Servant*.

October

Session Two | Servant Leadership

****** Please make sure you have read all of *The Servant* as we will discuss it together.

Main points to cover:

- Styles of leadership
- Assessing Jesus' approach to leadership
- Adaptive v Technical Changes

Homework by November session: Karoline Lewis's book, *Embody, Five Keys to Leading with Integrity*. Take some time to do the exercises at the end of each chapter.

November

Session Three | Leadership in the Church

****** Please make sure you have read as much of Karoline Lewis's book as possible.

Main Points to cover:

- The theology of leadership in the church
- Leadership as accompaniment
- Where is God calling me from here?

Recommended Books (these are good to have on your shelves for future learning):
Revised Fall 2026

Canoeing the Mountains, Todd Bolsinger
Managing Leadership Anxiety, Steve Cuss
The Expectation Gap, Steve Cuss
Leadership and Self-Deception, The Arbinger Institute
Leaders Eat Last, Simon Sinek
Leadership without Easy Answers, Ronald Heifetz
The Missional Leader, Alan Roxburgh and Fred Romanuk
The Wounded Healer, Henri Nouwen
A Failure of Nerve, Ed Friedman