



R-1: Steps in the SAS Discernment Phase

- Church Council votes to explore SAS after assessing the *why*
- Letter from Council Chair and Pastor to DS seeking permission to explore
- Approval from DS to explore and assignment of SAS Coach
- SAS Coach works with leaders to establish a SAS Prayer Team and SAS Discernment Team to lead in learning, organizing, and communicating the SAS discernment process.
- The SAS Discernment Team implements communication and information plan
- Based on congregational feedback and leadership discernment, the leaders submit letter to DS to approve moving to (or not) SAS
- DS reaches out to coach for feedback and makes decision
- DS approval via letter (church conference timing)
- Coach begins to work with Nominations and continues to work with leaders on communication strategies (see Equipping Phase)
- Church Conference to approve SAS model
- Nominations completes their work
- Church/Charge Conference to approve Nominated Leaders

Note: After completing the Discernment Phase, move into Phase Two: Equipping and then onto Phase Three: Implementation. We **highly recommend** partnering with a SAS certified coach through all three phases for the most effective and healthiest outcome!