

Cultivating Generous Congregations

A seminar to awaken a spirit of generosity within churches



“Participating in the program gave our church leadership the confidence to ask questions and the resources for creating answers. CGC offers a proactive approach.”

– Scott Peterson, Trinity Mennonite Church, Arizona

You may see the challenges of the economic climate, be concerned about the financial stability of your church, and desire to foster generosity among your attendees.

Consider Lake Institute on Faith & Giving’s interactive, practical seminar, *Cultivating Generous Congregations (CGC)*, which specifically helps pastors and their leadership teams:

- Rethink their role in church finances,
- Become better stewards of their donors’ gifts, and
- Awaken an ongoing spirit of generosity within their communities.

Solid research base. Everence® and Lake Institute have had a close partnership since 2012 to offer this seminar to churches at an affordable cost.

Lake Institute developed *Cultivating Generous Congregations* based on extensive research that is updated annually. Part of the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, the institute is committed to having a practical impact with this seminar, which has touched churches throughout the nation.



What you will learn

Most contemporary resources that deal with church finances focus on fundraising techniques. *Cultivating Generous Congregations* demonstrates how to “bake the cake” of church generosity by exploring the significant and necessary steps to creating lasting cultural change within a church.

It synthesizes the School of Philanthropy’s research and practical experience with religious organizations. Through presentation, small group and individual exercises, participants imagine and design their own plans for creating cultures of generosity. The seminar offers a high degree of interaction.

This seminar is ideal for:

- Leadership of churches and religious organizations.
- Clergy, senior church leadership.
- Lay people.
- Administrators.
- Stewardship committees.
- Fundraisers directly involved in churchwide decisions.

People who take this seminar will:

- Understand the landscape of religious giving based on the latest research.
- Appreciate the theological significance of generosity.
- Understand the relationship between organizational accountability and generosity.
- Understand and process the idea that church finances are an arena for pastoral care.
- Analyze their current church culture.
- Design a working plan to implement cultural change to move toward greater generosity.

Are you ready?

Step 1 – Check-in checklist

Before you take this course, you should:

- Believe in your church’s capacity for greater generosity.
- Have a desire to become more comfortable with money.
- Be willing to redefine giving in your church.
- Understand giving to include service, social networks and the sharing of ideas and professional expertise.

Step 2 – Build your team

Leadership of your church must have buy-in. Gather at least three:

- Senior clergy (required).
- Treasurer.
- Board member.
- Entrepreneurial lay leader.

Step 3 – Take the seminar, Cultivating Generous Congregations

We invite you to join Lake Institute and Everence for an interactive training experience that offers fresh ways to engage the call to generosity, both from a spiritual and practical perspective.

Make this the year where generosity is the signature of your members who are informed, inspired and ready to impact their communities.

Respond today. See information below on contacting us to learn about the seminar.

Getting started

You may contact either:

- Your Everence Stewardship Consultant. (You can find your representative at everence.com or call (800) 348-7468.)
- Beryl Jantzi, Everence Director of Stewardship Education, (800) 442-7930, beryl.jantzi@everence.com.

The partners

Lake Institute serves the public good by exploring the multiple connections between philanthropy and faith within the major religious traditions. Its mission is to foster greater understanding of the ways in which faith inspires and informs giving – bridging academic research and practical tools for the benefit of churches. It is a leader in faith-based training and teaching. Learn more at philanthropy.iupui.edu/lake-institute.

Everence helps individuals, organizations and churches integrate finances with faith through a national team of advisors and representatives. Everence offers banking, insurance and financial services with community benefits and stewardship education. To learn more, visit everence.com or call (800) 348-7468.