



Cultivating Generous Congregations: One Day Intensive Workshop
A Comprehensive Stewardship Training Workshop for Congregational Teams
Saturday, March 7, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Main Street UMC, 212 E Main St, Bedford, VA 24523
Made Possible through the Generosity of the Mountain View District

Presented by Lake Institute on Faith & Giving/Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy
Facilitators: Meredith McNabb and Lana Miller

This in-person course is intended for those who:

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

Cultivating Generous Congregations (CGC) maps the new landscape of religious giving and stewardship and provides you and your team with tools to help you build a culture of generosity unique to your congregation’s needs and challenges.

CGC is designed for congregational teams of 2-5 individuals – the pastor and at least one to several congregational leaders (lay leaders, church council chairs, finance team chairs, stewardship committees, and fundraisers) who are directly involved in congregation-wide decisions.



How do you inspire generosity?

We invite you and your ministry team to participate in a seminar experience that could change the way you and your congregation approach giving and generosity. (CGC) is an interactive seminar demonstrating how pastors and ministry leaders can unearth and energize congregational generosity by exploring the significant and necessary steps to creating lasting cultural change within a congregation.

Interactive segments of CGC explore theology, the role of adaptive leadership, fiscal transparency and the importance of donor care, with action steps to impact the generosity exploration and experience for both laity and clergy.

“Pastors and lay leaders who have participated in CGC training have rated it to be among the most helpful continuing education they have experienced in church circles. The up-to-date research of CGC has direct impact on how leaders can best align their ministry objectives to their overall vision.” Beryl Jantzi, D.Min., Everence Stewardship Education Director

Topics covered

- Generosity in context: What’s the landscape for religiously-motivated generosity today? Learn how congregational giving is changing and consider how your congregation’s members and neighbors approach giving.
- Theology of money: What do “money” and “giving” really mean in our belief structures? Revisit how your congregation teaches and preaches about generosity so that you can approach the topic with confidence and meaning.
- The congregation: What foundation does a congregation need to build in order to invite generosity authentically and effectively? Consider best practices for congregational planning and approach to stewardship.
- Leadership: How can congregational leaders—lay and clergy—equip themselves to cultivate generosity with integrity and skill? Discover your own approach to stewardship leadership, and consider ways to strengthen your whole team’s work in this area.
- Donors and members: Congregations don’t always think of their givers as “donors,” but there’s a lot to be gained in considering what motivates a giver to give and how generosity can be encouraged. Consider best practices in supporting existing donors and engaging new givers.
- Fundraising as ministry: Can raising money ever be “as spiritual as giving a sermon, offering a prayer, feeding the hungry or visiting the sick,” as Henri Nouwen put it? Consider ways to approach financial stewardship from the perspective of ministry.
- Implementation project: What are the immediate next steps for your congregation to take to cultivate generosity? What are mid-range, or even long-term, goals for generosity in your setting?

Cost

The majority of the cost to bring this valuable opportunity to us is covered through the generosity of the Mountain View District. The \$25 registration fee covers the cost of the workshop materials for each participant.

Space is Limited. Save your spot! Gather your team now and register to secure your spot!