

Interim Ministry Resources

Chapter 8 Stewardship

Contents 1

Reflections and Resources (2)

#	Page	Topic
1)	1	What about the prosperity gospel?
2)	13	What about moralistic therapeutic deism?
3)	15	Moving away from dichotomy of scarce/abundance and to dialectic of sustainability <i>and</i> generosity
4)	50	Examining personal finances and living more simply
5)	60	Returning the tithe
6)	64	10-10-80
7)	65	Stewardship practices during a pandemic

Reflections and Resources

1) What about the prosperity gospel?

Prosperity theology purports that the blessings of financial wealth and physical well-being depend on the extent of human faith.

Sometimes there is a way that seems to be right,
but, in the end, it is the way to death.

[Proverbs 16:25 NRSV - Bible Gateway](#)

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Proverbs+16%3A25&version=NRSV>

¹⁰ Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits:

[Isaiah 30:10 - Bible Gateway](#)

<https://www.biblegateway.com/verse/en/Isaiah%2030:10>

²⁴ "No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.^[a]

[Matthew 6:24 NRSV - Bible Gateway](#)

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+6%3A24&version=NRSV>

"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

[oremus Bible Browser: Matthew 7:13-14](#)

<http://bible.oremus.org/?ql=173037496>

²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

[oremus Bible Browser: Mark 10:25](#)

<http://bible.oremus.org/?passage=Mark%2010%3A25&version=nrsv>

²³ But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

²⁴ But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

²⁵ Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

[1 Corinthians 1:23-25 - Bible Gateway](#)

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+1%3A23-25&version=KJV>

⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. ⁷But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.

⁸We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. ¹¹For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. ¹²So death is at work in us, but life in you.

[oremus Bible Browser: 2 Corinthians 4:5-12](#)

<http://bible.oremus.org/?passage=2+Corinthians+4:5-12&vnum=yes&version=nrsv>

⁶Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; ⁷for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; ⁸but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

oremus Bible Browser: 1 Timothy 6:6-10

<http://bible.oremus.org/?passage=1%20Timothy+6:6-10>

²For people will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, arrogant,...

oremus Bible Browser: 2 Timothy 3:2a

<http://bible.oremus.org/?passage=2%20Timothy+3>

But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive opinions. They will even deny the Master who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves. Even so, many will follow their licentious ways, and because of these teachers the way of truth will be maligned.

And in their greed they will exploit you with deceptive words. Their condemnation, pronounced against them long ago, has not been idle, and their destruction is not asleep.

oremus Bible Browser: 2 Peter 2:1-3

<http://bible.oremus.org/?ql=91674010>

⁹Everyone who does not abide in the teaching of Christ, but goes beyond it, does not have God; whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son.

oremus Bible Browser: 2 John 1:9

<http://bible.oremus.org/?passage=2+John+1-9>

¹⁷For you say, 'I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing.' You do not realize that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.

oremus Bible Browser: Revelation 3:17

<http://bible.oremus.org/?passage=Revelation+3%3A17-18&vnum=yes&version=nrsv>

Resources

A Criticism of Joel Osteen - A Spiritual Journey - WordPress

Well, Joel Osteen is almost like a rock star in the realm of television evangelism. He's the Pastor of Lakewood Church in Houston, Texas boasting a congregation of around 30,000 people. He's sold millions of copies of his book, "Your Best Life Now: 7 Steps to Living at Your Full Potential." Churchreport.com has him number 1 on their list of the 50 most influential Christians in America. Of course, there's nothing wrong with a large church. Andy Stanley's church has a 15,000 member congregation. Max Lucado has sold millions of books, and Billy Graham is number two on that same list. But there is something missing from Joel Osteen's ministry that you'll find in the ministry of Stanley, Lucado, and Graham. That is conviction.

<http://faithfulwalk.wordpress.com/2008/08/04/a-criticism-of-joel-osteen/>

[Images for A Criticism of Joel Osteen - A Spiritual Journey](#)

A Different Gospel: A Historical and Biblical Analysis of the Modern Faith Movement by Dan R. McConnell, Hank Hanegraaff (Foreword)

A Different Gospel, a book for the heart and the mind, is must reading for those who seek reliable information about the "Word of Faith" movement.

Every Christian should read this book in order to be aware of the dangerous implications of the widespread and cultic "Word of Faith" movement preaching what is popularly known as "Name It and Claim It" theology. *A Different Gospel* is a bold and revealing examination of the biblical and historical basis of this movement. This new and revised edition is complete with a foreword by Hank Hanegraaff, author of *Christianity in Crisis*, and a new afterward by D. R. McConnell.

The author knows the movement first hand and has a heart for those snared by it. He is also an academically trained observer who has based his work on careful historical and biblical analysis. McConnell warns of the movement's cultic nature in its doctrine of healing and its understanding of the atonement and demonstrates how far the movement's doctrine of prosperity is from Scripture's true teaching.

<http://www.amazon.com/A-Different-Gospel-Updated-Edition/dp/1565631323>

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1812404.A_Different_Gospel

<https://www.scribd.com/book/247182516/A-Different-Gospel>

https://www.thriftbooks.com/w/a-different-gospel-biblical-and-historical-insights-into-the-word-of-faith-movement_dan-r-mcconnell/330770/#isbn=0913573787&idq=2329079

<http://www.hendrickson.com/html/product/31323.trade.html>

<http://www.truthortradition.com/modules.php?file=article&name=News&sid=693>

<http://thegranpooba.blogspot.com/2010/01/different-gospel-by-d-r-mcconnell.html>

<http://www.equip.org/PDF/DF150.pdf>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3908298.Dan_R_McConnell

[Images for Dan R. McConnell, author](#)

[Images for A Different Gospel: A Historical and Biblical Analysis of the Modern Faith Movement by Dan R. McConnell, Hank Hanegraaff \(Foreword\)](#)

A Statement on the Prosperity Gospel - Lausanne Movement

In such dimensions, it can be soberly described as a false gospel.

[Images for Statement on the Prosperity Gospel - Lausanne Movement](http://www.lausanne.org/content/a-statement-on-the-prosperity-gospel)
[http://www.lausanne.org/content/a-statement-on-the-prosperity-gospel](http://www.lausanne.org/content/lga/2014-07/the-prosperity-gospel-and-its-challenge-to-mission-in-our-time)
<http://www.lausanne.org/content/lga/2014-07/the-prosperity-gospel-and-its-challenge-to-mission-in-our-time>
[Images for lausanne prosperity-gospel-and-its-challenge-to-mission-in-our-time](#)

Apostasy!: The Word-Faith Doctrinal Deception [Jeff Kluttz]

Apostasy is creeping into the church from televisions, books and star-personality tours of rich and blasphemous self-proclaimed prophets of God.; many of whom are the most famous pastors and teachers in the U.S. These counterfeit shepherds teach that faith is a material substance more powerful than God, accessible to all men, and capable of creating anything man's heart can desire by the mere utterance of faith-filled-words. This doctrine has leached into all areas of the theological systems of what are known as "Word of Faith" churches. Virtually every major area of systematic theology in this movement has been taken captive by the repercussions of this primordial error. In this heresy, God is limited. Man is unlimited. Satan fills a necessary role in atonement for sin. Health, wealth, power and all means of temptation are heralded as virtues of the faith while millions empty their bank accounts for the promise of such ambition. Preying on the poor and desperate, this movement is systematically fulfilling biblical prophecies concerning a latter-day apostasy within Christendom.

http://www.amazon.com/Apostasy-The-Word-Faith-Doctrinal-Deception/dp/1468152947/ref=pd_sim_b_6
<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/19058737-apostasy-the-word-faith-doctrinal-deception>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/apostasy-the-word-faith-doctrinal-deception-jeff-kluttz/1113045855>
<http://books.google.com/books/about/Apostasy.html?id=F1ypTfshkC>
<https://www.amazon.com/Jeff-Kluttz/e/B002BLWMZM>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/2886750.Jeff_Kluttz
[Images for Jeff Kluttz, author apostasy](#)
[Images for Apostasy!: The Word-Faith Doctrinal Deception \[Jeff Kluttz\]](#)

Are You Equipped to Respond to the Prosperity Gospel?

It would be easy for young, theologically minded pastors to think of prosperity teaching as so obviously misguided that we don't consider it worthy of attention. This would be a terrible mistake. As pastors and church leaders, we have an obligation to preach the biblical gospel in a way that takes into consideration our current context, a setting that unfortunately is heavily influenced by the idea that God's blessing is financial and deserved.

<http://thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/trevinwax/2012/03/27/are-you-equipped-to-respond-to-the-prosperity-gospel/>
[Images for Are You Equipped to Respond to the Prosperity Gospel?](#)
<https://www.facebook.com/StopPlayingChurch/photos/a.584573361599706.1073741825.119153851474995/960344900689215/>
[Images for Respond to the Prosperity Gospel](#)
<https://eugenecho.com/2009/08/17/how-do-we-respond-to-the-prosperity-gospel/>
<https://www.9marks.org/journal/prosperity-gospel/>
<https://www.gty.org/library/topical-series-library/33/unmasking-the-prosperity-gospel>
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/what-you-should-know-about-the-prosperity-gospel/>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DuQloZV2KRY> The Prosperity Gospel Ruined My Life - YouTube
[Images for Prosperity Gospel Ruined My Life](#)
<http://apologeticsandagape.wordpress.com/2013/04/12/by-their-own-words-the-word-faith-teachers-condemn-themselves/> By Their own words, the Word-Faith Teachers condemn themselves
[Images for Word-Faith Teachers condemn themselves](#)
http://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id=44284&forum=34 How to tell a 'prosperity' preacher
[Images for how to tell a prosperity preacher](#)

Blessed: A History of the American Prosperity Gospel: Kate Bowler

How have millions of American Christians come to measure spiritual progress in terms of their financial status and physical well-being? How has the movement variously called Word of Faith, Health and Wealth, Name It and Claim It, or simply prosperity gospel come to dominate much of our contemporary religious landscape? Kate Bowler's *Blessed* is the first book to fully explore the origins, unifying themes, and major figures of a burgeoning movement that now claims millions of followers in America. Bowler traces the roots of the prosperity gospel: from the touring mesmerists, metaphysical sages, pentecostal healers, business oracles, and princely prophets of the early 20th century; through mid-century positive thinkers like Norman Vincent Peale and revivalists like Oral Roberts and Kenneth Hagin; to today's hugely successful prosperity preachers. Bowler focuses on such contemporary figures as Creflo Dollar, pastor of Atlanta's 30,000-member World Changers Church International; Joel Osteen, known as "the smiling preacher," with a weekly audience of seven million; T. D. Jakes, named by *Time* magazine one of America's most influential new religious leaders; Joyce Meyer, evangelist and women's empowerment guru; and many others. At almost any moment, day or night, the American public can tune in to these preachers—on TV, radio, podcasts, and in their megachurches—to hear the message that God desires to bless them with wealth and health. Bowler offers an interpretive framework for scholars and general listeners alike to understand the diverse expressions of Christian abundance as a cohesive movement bound by shared understandings and common goals.

<https://www.amazon.com/Blessed-History-American-Prosperity-Gospel/dp/1522665587>
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/16248505-blessed>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/blessed-kate-bowler/1113515690#/>
<https://katebowler.com/research/>
<https://katebowler.com/blog/>
<https://divinity.duke.edu/faculty/kate-bowler>

<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/blessed-9780199827695?cc=us&lang=en&>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/14/opinion/sunday/death-the-prosperity-gospel-and-me.html>
<https://newrepublic.com/article/132314/many-americans-think-theyre-blessed>
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2016/february-web-only/kate-bowler-on-dying-and-sure-hope.html>
<https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2018/january-february/kate-bowler-i-reject-prosperity-gospel-but-i-still-crave-wh.html>
<http://wunc.org/post/life-death-and-faith-collide-prosperity-gospel-scholar-kate-bowler-faces-stage-4-cancer#stream/0>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6dndra9CKtE> Book TV at Duke University: Kate Bowler, "Blessed: A History of the American Prosperity Gospel" – YouTube
<https://www.c-span.org/video/?318386-3/blessed> Blessed, Mar 18 2014 | Video | C-SPAN.org
<https://www.westernsem.edu/kate-bowler-prosperity-gospel-church-today/>
<https://www.9marks.org/review/blessed-history-american-prosperity-gospel/>
<https://byfaithweunderstand.com/2016/02/29/review-blessed-a-history-of-the-american-prosperity-gospel/>
<https://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-19-982769-5> Nonfiction Book Review: Blessed: A History of the American Prosperity Gospel
<http://www.oxfordscholarship.com/view/10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199827695.001.0001/acprof-9780199827695>
<http://englewoodreview.org/kate-bowler-blessed-history-of-the-american-prosperity-gospel-review/>
https://swbts.edu/sites/default/files/images/content/docs/journal/57_2/57.2%20Book%20Reviews.pdf Page 311
https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1086/679212?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents
<www.homiletic.net/index.php/homiletic/article/view/3880/1907>
<https://www.amazon.com/Kate-Bowler/e/B00D5U55YM>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/6623905.Kate_Bowler
[Images for kate bowler](#)
[Images for Blessed: A History of the American Prosperity Gospel: Kate Bowler](#)

Christianity in Crisis with Study Guide [Hank Hanegraaff]

Church leaders are spreading distorted doctrines that undermine biblical Christianity. Hanegraaff documents the blasphemies and false teachings of the Faith movement.

<http://www.amazon.com/Christianity-Crisis-Study-Guide-Hanegraaff/dp/1565076966>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Christianity_in_Crisis_Study_Guide.html?id=8ZzXZIkESYEC
<http://www.equip.org/hank-hanegraaff/>
<http://www.equip.org/article/christianity-still-in-crisis/>
<http://www.equip.org/article/christianity-crisis-21st-century-wealth-want1/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hank_Hanegraaff
<https://www.amazon.com/Hank-Hanegraaff/e/B001HORVTG>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/642.Hank_Hanegraaff
[Images for Hank Hanegraaff, author](#)
[Images for Christianity in Crisis with Study Guide \[Hank Hanegraaff\]](#)

Exploring Prosperity Preaching: Biblical Health, Wealth, & Wisdom [Debra J. Mumford]

"Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health." The words from 3 John 1:2 are a familiar refrain in many black churches today. What are the seeds of truth in prosperity preaching? Why is it so popular, especially in today's African American church? Homiletics professor Debra Mumford begins by tracing the roots of prosperity preaching to its Word of Faith origins. Then she examines its common teachings, carefully weighing biblical proof texts against the larger scriptural testimony concerning our health, wealth, and spiritual wisdom.

<http://www.amazon.com/Exploring-Prosperity-Preaching-Biblical-Health/dp/0817017089>
<http://astore.amazon.com/interimini06-20/detail/0817017089>
<https://www.christianbook.com/exploring-prosperity-preaching-biblical-wealth-wisdom/debra-mumford/9780817017088/pd/017088>
<https://www.judsonpress.com/Products/511E/exploring-prosperity-preaching-eb.aspx>
<http://www.bu.edu/cpt/files/2015/08/Exploring-Prosperity-Preaching.pdf>
<http://scholars.wlu.ca/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1035&context=consensus>
<www.homiletic.net/index.php/homiletic/article/download/3953/1974>
http://www.blacknews.com/news/debra_mumford_exploring_prosperity_preaching101.shtml#.WSyglWjyuUk
<https://www.forewordreviews.com/reviews/exploring-prosperity-preaching/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJkRLO37t0g> Rev Dr Debra Mumford - 3-11-2012 – Sermon – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCgkIH02yNA> Teach Act Discuss Rev. Dr. Debra J. Mumford - YouTube
https://www.workingpreacher.org/profile/default.aspx?uid=2_mumford_debra_j
<http://www.lpts.edu/about/our-faculty/full-time-faculty/debra-j-mumford>
<https://imnedu.org/imn-library/exploring-prosperity-preaching-biblical-health-wealth-wisdom/>
<https://www.ats.edu/debra-j-mumford>
http://www.judsonpress.com/author.cfm?author_id=840
<https://www.amazon.com/Debra-J.-Mumford/e/B006WFSEHS>
[Images for Debra J. Mumford, author](#)
[Images for Exploring Prosperity Preaching: Biblical Health, Wealth, & Wisdom \[Debra J. Mumford\]](#)

15 best Prosperity Gospel Heresy images on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/stevegarufi/prosperity-gospel-heresy/>
[Images for prosperity gospel on pinterest](https://www.pinterest.com/falsepeople/the-prosperity-gospel/)
<https://www.pinterest.com/falsepeople/the-prosperity-gospel/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/kristinturrenti/word-of-faithprosperity-gospel/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/lerrinc/not-so-funnyprosperity-gospel/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/kristinturrenti/word-of-faithprosperity-gospel/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/falsepeople/the-prosperity-gospel/>

Grand Theft Jesus: The Hijacking of Religion in America by Robert S. McElvaine (Author)

"We're mad as Heaven, and we're not going to take it anymore!" declares historian Robert McElvaine in this passionate and often hilarious rallying cry for sincere Jesus Followers. He lets the rest of society know that the extreme right wing won't be allowed to speak for all Christians any longer. His whip-smart, take-no-prisoners polemic lays bare the Christian Right's "Easy Jesus" creed, in which people who claim to accept Jesus get a free pass to lie in his name. *Grand Theft Jesus* exposes the televangelists and the leaders of megachurches as the people Jesus warned us about—the wolves in sheep's clothing of our day.

<https://www.amazon.com/Grand-Theft-Jesus-Hijacking-Religion/dp/0307395804>
<https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/1826431-grand-theft-jesus-the-hijacking-of-religion-in-america>
<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/grand-theft-jesus-robert-s-mcelvaine/1100266130?ean=9780307409706>
<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.ca/books/111338/grand-theft-jesus-by-robert-s-mcelvaine/9780307409706>
https://www.thriftbooks.com/w/grand-theft-jesus-the-hijacking-of-religion-in-america_robert-s-mcelvaine/1055104/#isbn=0307395804&idq=7214167
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0307395804>
[Grand Theft Jesus: The Hijacking of Religion in America](https://www.c-span.org/video/?282621-11/grand-theft-jesus)
<https://www.c-span.org/video/?282621-11/grand-theft-jesus>
<https://www.onfaith.co/onfaith/2008/06/26/right-guilty-of-grand-theft-je/3102>
<http://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-307-39578-8> Nonfiction Book Review
<https://peacetheology.net/2009/01/26/robert-s-mcelvaine-grand-theft-jesus/>
https://www.huffingtonpost.com/robert-s-mcelvaine/grand-theft-jesus-ij-rele_b_100294.html
<http://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/4367409>
<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/bbm%3A978-1-137-51276-5%2F1.pdf> Page 420
<http://nailtothedoar.com/book-review-grand-theft-jesus-part-1/>
<https://peacetheology.net/2009/01/26/robert-s-mcelvaine-grand-theft-jesus/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_Theft_Jesus
<http://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/111338/grand-theft-jesus-by-robert-s-mcelvaine/>
<http://www.mswritersandmusicians.com/mississippi-writers/robert-mcelvaine>
<https://www.amazon.com/Robert-S.-McElvaine/e/B001HMTRYA>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/114345.Robert_S_McElvaine
[Images for Robert S. McElvaine \(Author\)](https://www.pinterest.com/stevegarufi/prosperity-gospel-heresy/)
[Images for The Hijacking of Religion in America by Robert S. McElvaine \(Author\)](https://www.pinterest.com/falsepeople/the-prosperity-gospel/)

Health, Wealth & Happiness: Has the Prosperity Gospel Overshadowed the Gospel of Christ? [David W. Jones, Russell S. Woodbridge]

The desire for a thriving, healthy, and productive life is as strong as ever, especially in tough economic times. As people become more disillusioned at the state of the economy, they also become more susceptible to the lure of the prosperity gospel and its teachings of health, wealth, and happiness for the faithful. But what happens when the promise of prosperity overshadows the promise of the real gospel - the gospel of Christ?

Believing that the prosperity gospel is constructed upon faulty theology, authors David W. Jones and Russell S. Woodbridge take a closer look at five crucial areas of error relating to the prosperity gospel. In a fair but firm tone, the authors discuss the history and theology of the prosperity gospel movement to reveal its fraudulent core biblical teachings that have been historically and popularly misinterpreted, even by some of today's most well-known pastors. After an introduction and assessment of the movement, readers are invited to take a look at Scripture to understand what the Bible really says about wealth, poverty, suffering, and giving.

Theologically sound but accessible to all readers, *Health, Wealth & Happiness* is sure to become a trusted resource for laypersons, pastors, and Christian leaders.

<http://www.amazon.com/Health-Wealth-Happiness-Prosperity-Overshadowed/dp/0825429307>
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/10109844-health-wealth-happiness>
<http://www.kregel.com/books/pdfs/excerpts/9780825429309.pdf>
<https://www.christianbook.com/health-wealth-happiness-david-jones/9780825429309/pd/429309>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/health-wealth-and-happiness-david-jones/1125623337?type=eBook>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0825489695>
http://books.google.com/books/about/Health_Wealth_Happiness.html?id=bgHBMj_oQoC
<http://intersectproject.org/faith-and-economics/david-jones-the-prosperity-gospel-is-no-gospel-at-all/>
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/5-errors-of-the-prosperity-gospel/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prosperity_theology
<http://midwestoutreach.org/2012/03/23/health-wealth-and-happiness-a-review/>

<https://sharperiron.org/article/book-review-health-wealth-happiness-has-prosperity-gospel-overshadowed-gospel-of-christ>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prosperity_theology#Criticism
<https://www.amazon.com/David-W.-Jones/e/B0042KM7AK>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/416283.David_W_Jones
https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/416283.David_W_Jones
Images for David W. Jones, author health, wealth and happiness
<https://www.amazon.com/Russell-S.-Woodbridge/e/B004FLW8O6>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4554872.Russell_Woodbridge
Images for Russell S. Woodbridge, author
Images for Health, Wealth & Happiness: Has the Prosperity Gospel Overshadowed the Gospel of Christ? [David W. Jones, Russell S. Woodbridge]

Joel Osteen and the Prosperity Gospel, by Gary Gilley

It really should not surprise us that men like Osteen have caught the public's eye since they are merely telling it what it wants to hear ([2 Tim 4:3](#)) which is: we need to make the best of this life, enjoy every minute we can, because this is the best it is ever going to be. This philosophy is the world's, not God's who consistently calls us to live for higher values than this world and self ([1 John 2:15-17](#)). As Paul wrote to the church at Colossae, "Set your mind on things above, not on the things that are on the earth" ([Col 3:2](#)). Paul did not mean by this, as conservative Christians are often accused, that we are to ignore life on this planet and go hide somewhere until the Lord returns. It means that we live for a higher purpose than personal pleasure and success "for you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God" ([Col 3:3](#)). Osteen makes no attempt to draw his readers to this higher purpose, to a life lived for God. Instead God is to be manipulated for our own pleasure. I think Osteen would appreciate Eliphaz's advice to Job (later condemned by God), "Yield now and be at peace with Him; thereby good will come to you" ([Job 22:21](#)).

As we have demonstrated Osteen's message is exactly what unbelievers and undiscerning Christians want to believe and they are thrilled to have someone who claims to be a reliable spokesperson for God agree with them. This would account for Osteen's incredible success, but it does not account for, or excuse, the inconceivable gullibility and immaturity of professing Christians.

<http://www.svchapel.org/resources/articles/22-contemporary-issues/620-joel-osteen-and-the-prosperity-gospel>
<http://tottministries.org/joel-osteen-and-the-prosperity-gospel/>
http://www.indianapolisrecorder.com/religion/article_1310d1c2-f5b6-11e0-9bd2-001cc4c002e0.html Televangelist Joel Osteen takes on his critics
www.renewamerica.com/columns/mwest/120308 A fast-growing movement with disastrous implications - RenewAmerica
<http://www.theopedia.com/gary-gilley>
Images for Gary Gilley, author
Images for Joel Osteen and the Prosperity Gospel, by Gary Gilley

Joel Osteen: Apprising His Word Faith Teachings - Apprising Ministries

If these "teachers" would just leave it at self-esteem, perhaps it wouldn't be as much of a concern. But, unfortunately, they don't, and Osteen and Meyer, et al, then attempt to convey the idea to the unsuspecting masses that what they "preach" is in line with the historic orthodox faith which was once for all handed down to the saints (Jude 3, NASB). However, these false prophets of "Christian" self-esteem, such as Joel Osteen and Joyce Meyer have been shown clearly to be a part of the cult of the Word Faith Movement. And as such, they do not represent the Christian Church and are definitely not worthy of the support of true Christians.

<http://apprising.org/2008/08/30/joel-osteen-apprising-his-word-faith-teachings/>
Images for Joel Osteen: Apprising His Word Faith Teachings - Apprising Ministries
<http://apprising.org/2008/09/06/joel-osteen-with-word-faith-movement/>
Images for apprising/joel-osteen-with-word-faith-movement
http://web.archive.org/web/20080707022538/http://www.apprising.org/archives/2005/10/joel_osteen_smi.html JOEL OSTEEEN: SMILE WHEN YOU LIE: Apprising Ministries

Joel Osteen Fun Facts - Newsmax.com

1. He lives in a \$10.5 million home, which boasts six bedrooms, six bathrooms, three elevators, five fireplaces, a guest house, and pool house, and he also owns his former home, valued at \$2.9 million, [according to CultureMap Houston](#). Some critics of Osteen take issue with this fact.
2. His estimated net worth is over \$40 million. "Joel Osteen, whose book sales and related stuff generates a reported \$55 million, claims an individual should not feel guilt for possessing lots of material wealth. Instead, one needs to thank and praise God for the acquired wealth," [Celebrity Net Worth reported](#).

<http://www.newsmax.com/FastFeatures/joel-osteen-fun-facts/2015/05/08/id/643575/>
<http://houston.culturemap.com/news/real-estate/07-04-10-after-move-to-river-oaks-joel-osteen-wants-to-sell-tanglewood-land-for-11-million/#slide=0>
<http://houston.culturemap.com/guide/entertainment/lakewood-church/>
Images for joel osteen homes
Images for joel osteen net worth

Joel Osteen Ministries

<https://www.joelosteen.com/Pages/Home.aspx>

[Images for Joel Osteen Ministries](#)

<https://www.joelosteen.com/Pages/WatchOnline.aspx>

<https://www.lakewoodchurch.com/pages/new-here/joel-osteen.aspx>

<https://www.lakewoodchurch.com/Pages/new-here/Our-History.aspx>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lakewood_Church

<https://www.facebook.com/JoelOsteen/>

<https://www.gettyimages.com/photos/joel-osteen?family=editorial&sort=mostpopular&phrase=joel%20osteen>

Joel Osteen-Preaching a False-Positive, with a Smile - Let Us Reason Ministries

Most have not listened carefully or long enough to hear Osteen's heresy by Osteen. But give him time and those word faith statements will become apparent. In my opinion, if you have listened often enough you have heard nearly all the subject matter he conveys. He says the same type of message in different ways, or maybe it's his voice and delivery that makes it all sound the same. At best, one gets milk from him; at worst, they get positive thinking and word faith heresies.

<http://www.letusreason.org/Popteac29.htm>

<https://thewordonthewordoffaithinfoblog.com/2013/03/17/video-joel-osteen-the-smile-of-deception-by-letusreason-org/>

<http://www.mbird.com/2009/04/osteen-great-smile-crushing-theology/>

[Images for Joel Osteen-Preaching a False-Positive, with a Smile](#)

[Images for Joel Osteen-Preaching a False-Positive, with a Smile - Let Us Reason Ministries](#)

Joel Osteen Unsure if Jesus Was Poor | thebereancall.org

Lakewood Church leader Joel Osteen, one of the most popular mega-church pastors in the world, has spoken in an interview about the prosperity gospel some say he teaches and offered his thoughts on whether Jesus was poor.

"I never really thought about that," Osteen said when asked by NorthJersey.com about Jesus' finances in preparation for a signing for his new book, *I Declare: 31 Promises to Speak Over Your Life*, to be held on Wednesday at Northvale, N.J.

"I've heard that when he was arrested and crucified, they sold his robe, and it was 'seamless.' And I've heard people say that was a fine robe that they sold," Osteen says. "But I never really thought about whether he was poor or not. I think his needs were supplied."

Osteen's comments were largely in response to the ongoing criticism he receives that he preaches a "prosperity gospel," which claims that material blessings should be expected when one donates money to a church or ministry.

<http://www.thebereancall.org/content/joel-osteen-unsure-if-jesus-was-poor>

[Images for Joel Osteen Unsure if Jesus Was Poor | thebereancall.org Lakewood Church leader Joel Osteen](#)

Joel Osteen versus Martin Luther | The World Wide Wolfmueller

<http://issuesetc.org/2013/01/23/3-a-review-of-joel-osteens-book-everyday-a-friday-part-1-with-pr-bryan-wolfmueller-12313/>

[Images for Joel Osteen versus Martin Luther | The World Wide Wolfmueller](#)

<http://wolfmueller.wordpress.com/2011/10/29/joel-osteen-versus-martin-luther/>

<http://issuesetc.org/2013/01/25/2-a-review-of-joel-osteens-book-everyday-a-friday-part-3-with-pr-bryan-wolfmueller-12513/>

<http://issuesetc.org/2012/11/07/1-joel-osteens-recent-appearance-on-oprah-winfreys-lifeclass-chris-rosebrough-11712/>

<http://issuesetc.org/2012/10/19/2-a-review-of-joel-osteens-new-book-i-declare-pr-jeremy-rhode-101912/>

<http://issuesetc.org/2012/02/20/1-issues-etc-encore-a-review-of-joel-osteens-everyday-a-friday-pr-bryan-wolfmueller-2202012/>

<http://issuesetc.org/2011/11/14/a-review-of-joel-osteens-book-everyday-a-friday-part-1-with-pr-bryan-wolfmueller-11142011/>

<http://issuesetc.org/2011/11/21/a-review-of-joel-osteens-book-everyday-a-friday-part-2-with-pr-bryan-wolfmueller-11212011/>

<http://issuesetc.org/2011/11/28/a-review-of-joel-osteens-book-everyday-a-friday-part-3-with-pr-bryan-wolfmueller-11282011/>

<http://issuesetc.org/2011/03/16/wednesday-march-16-2011/> The Prosperity Gospel

<http://issuesetc.org/tag/joel-osteen/feed/>

Joel Osteen vs. Rick Warren on Prosperity Gospel

1. Is this the Prosperity Gospel's hour? Or the hour of its critics?

Time's cover story, "Does God Want You to Be Rich?" makes no reference to the National Baptist Convention, but it's worth noting that the black denomination spent much of its annual convention last week attacking the prosperity gospel. "Black communities are suffering, while this prosperity-pimping gospel is emotionally charging people who are watching their communities just literally dissolve," Friendship West Baptist Church pastor Frederick Haynes told Dallas's WFAA.

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2006/septemberweb-only/137-41.0.html>

<https://pitibayan.wordpress.com/2006/09/20/does-god-want-us-to-be-prosperous-joel-osteen-vs-rick-warren/>

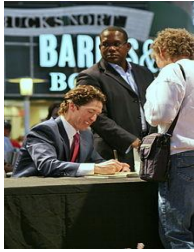
[Images for joel osteen vs. rick warren on prosperity gospel](#)

Joel Osteen - Wikipedia

Joel Scott Osteen (born March 5, 1963)^[2] is an American preacher, [televangelist](#), author, and the Senior Pastor of [Lakewood Church](#), the [largest Protestant church in the United States](#), in Houston, Texas. His televised sermons are seen by over 7 million viewers weekly and over 20 million monthly in over 100 countries.^{[3][4]} Osteen has written five *New York*

Times Bestselling books. He has been widely nicknamed "The Smiling Preacher".^[5]

In 2004, his first book, *Your Best Life Now*, was released by [Time Warner](#) and debuted at the top of the [The New York Times Best Seller list](#). The book remained a *The New York Times* Best Seller for more than 200 weeks.^[6]



Osteen at a Nashville book signing, 18 May 2007

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joel_Osteen

[Images for joel osteen](#)

Joel Osteen's Prosperity Gospel | False Prophets Exposed - YouTube

Matthew 7:15-16 (KJV) Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jXKpG2YN7Dk>

[Images for Joel Osteen's Prosperity Gospel - YouTube](#)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xKN4EqMPY_g Joel Osteen: Christless "Christianity" | Full Version (White Horse Inn)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHqIKISyaKs> Joel Osteen: Christless "Christianity" (WHI) [1of4] – YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ReJr_Z1GQY Christless Christianity - Dr. Michael Horton – YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=weEWI52wevI> JOEL OSTEEN DENIES JESUS CHRIST & OPRAH WINFREY EXPOSED

[Images for JOEL OSTEEN DENIES JESUS CHRIST](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zkPfkq1r4i4> Heresy of Joel Osteen, Prosperity Gospel & Word of Faith - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BpNBhJvWpoQ> Mark Driscoll on Prosperity Gospel and Joel Osteen - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3PZwGeK1Rg> Joel Osteen is a False Teacher | Joel Osteen is a Heretic - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7QAwPoPtDRo> Joel Osteen is a False Teacher | Joel Osteen is a Heretic – YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21YYN2E7xkY> Exposing Word of Faith Prosperity Gospel: Justin Peters/SO4J-TV - YouTube

[Images for Exposing Word of Faith Prosperity Gospel](#)

John Piper and the Prosperity Gospel - YouTube

John Piper discusses the heresy involved in the health and wealth or prosperity gospel... which is no gospel at all (Gal 1)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PTc_FoELt8s

[Images for John Piper and the Prosperity Gospel - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s24NKhqZ98> John Piper responds to the prosperity gospel – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wO0FGTPzZjE> Why John Piper Abominates The Prosperity Gospel - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jLRue4nwJaA> Why I Abominate the Prosperity 'Gospel' - YouTube

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/story-behind-john-pipers-most-famous-attack-on-the-prosperity-gospel/>

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/why-john-piper-abominates-the-prosperity-gospel/>

[Images for things-prosperity-gospel-gets-wrong-pastor-john-piper](#)

<https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/are-we-overdoing-the-anti-prosperity-gospel-theme>

<https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/how-to-help-friends-escape-the-prosperity-gospel>

<https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/five-ways-the-prosperity-gospel-makes-you-poor>

<https://www.christiantoday.com/article/what-are-the-3-things-prosperity-gospel-gets-wrong-pastor-john-piper-answers/102574.htm>

<https://sonomachristianhome.com/2018/05/john-piper-short-message-false-prosperity-gospel/>

[Images for john-piper-false-prosperity-gospel images](#)

Lutheran Leader Condemns Prosperity Gospel

LUND, Sweden (AP) - The president of the Lutheran World Federation urged members to resist U.S. evangelists who preach that following Christianity can bring wealth and success.

The Rev. Mark Hanson, who is also presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, said Lutherans must challenge what he called a heresy being spread in their countries.

"We are now exporting not only products," Hanson said about the United States, "we are exporting prosperity-gospel preaching evangelists to your countries who are beckoning Lutherans away from their Lutheran churches."

He said the federation must teach true Christianity "rather than some other distortion of the Gospel that we so now export and is pure heresy."

http://www.onenewsnow.com/church/2008/01/18/lutheran-leader-condemns-prosperity-gospel#.VUgsN_IvBc

[Images for Lutheran Leader Condemns Prosperity Gospel](#)

<https://markmeynell.wordpress.com/2007/11/29/the-cruelties-of-the-prosperity-gospel-a-very-modern-heresy/>

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/prosperity-teaching-has-replaced-true-gospel-in-africa/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/stevegarufi/prosperity-gospel-heresy/>

Name It and Claim It?: Prosperity Preaching in the Black Church by Stephanie Y. Mitchem (Author)

Mitchem uses history and sociology in her latest resource to ground her arguments regarding the appeal of prosperity preaching in the black church. She carefully explores the shape of black communities and those things that make prosperity

churches attractive to black members, describes three types of prosperity churches, and considers the impact of these churches and their ideologies on black communities and the black church.

http://www.amazon.com/Name-It-Claim-Prosperity-Preaching/dp/0829817093/ref=pd_sim_b_7

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/327848.Stephanie_Y_Mitchem

<https://www.amazon.com/Stephanie-Y.-Mitchem/e/B001JCG5PC>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/327848.Stephanie_Y_Mitchem

[Images for Stephanie Y. Mitchem \(Author\) prosperity preaching](#)

[Images for Name It and Claim It?: Prosperity Preaching in the Black Church by Stephanie Y. Mitchem \(Author\)](#)

Pastoral Meanderings: The Random Thoughts of a Lutheran Parish Pastor: The Prosperity Gospel and Its Derivations

I am comforted most of all by these words (whom a few suggest just might have been of the same St. Paul), who speaks of Jesus. "Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross and scorned its shame..." and it is my prayer in success and defeat, in abundance and want, that God will help me fix my eyes upon Jesus. The **gospel of prosperity**, no matter from whence it came or who preaches it best, turns the eye away from Jesus and therefore from the good that God is working and the joy His presence and His purpose brings. The prosperity gospel is, sad to say, so commonly held that folks in mainline, Roman, Lutheran, and even Orthodox churches have come to assume that it is the genuine teaching of our Lord. For this reason, none of us can afford to ignore its effect or proclaim the truth with greater fervor.

<http://pastoralmeanderings.blogspot.com/2011/09/prosperity-gospel-and-its-derivations.html>

[Images for Prosperity Gospel and Its Derivations](#)

Prosperity Gospel | HuffPost

<https://www.huffingtonpost.com/topic/prosperity-gospel>

[Images for Prosperity Gospel | HuffPost](#)

Prosperity or Greed?: Exposing the Errors and Dangers of the Prosperity Gospel [Ewin James]

God's Word on Greed and Contentment for the Christian

You are told that it is God's will for you to be rich? But what does God really say? What does the Bible teach about prosperity as it is preached today? *Prosperity or Greed?* examines the Scriptures, from Genesis to Revelation, to show the dangers of greed and how to avoid them.

<http://www.amazon.com/Prosperity-Greed-Exposing-Errors-Dangers/dp/1432747479>

[Images for Ewin James, author prosperity gospel](#)

[Images for Exposing the Errors and Dangers of the Prosperity Gospel](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/lerrinc/not-so-funnyprosperity-gospel/>

<https://www.vox.com/identities/2017/9/1/15951874/prosperity-gospel-explained-why-joel-steen-believes-prayer-can-make-you-rich-trump>

Prosperity theology - Wikipedia

Prosperity theology (sometimes referred to as the prosperity gospel, the health and wealth gospel, or the gospel of success)^[A] is a religious **belief** among some Christians, who hold that financial blessing and physical well-being are always the will of **God** for them, and that **faith**, positive speech, and donations to religious causes will increase one's material wealth. Prosperity theology views the Bible as a contract between God and humans: if humans have faith in God, he will deliver security and prosperity.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prosperity_theology

[Images for prosperity theology](#)

Review: Prosperity Gospel in Norway Flower Pentecostal Heritage Center

Kjell Olav Sannes, a professor at the Norwegian Lutheran School of Theology in Oslo, Norway, presents and discusses the views of Kenneth E. Hagin in his book, *Det guddommeliggjorte menneske og den menneskeligjorte Gud*. Sannes offers a critical theological analysis of the interrelationship between humanity and God in the writings of Kenneth E. Hagin. The title, which in English translates as "The Deification of Humanity and the Humanization of Deity," reflects the theological issue at hand. The volume's central thesis is that Hagin "deifies" humanity and "humanizes" God. This confusion of identities, the author avers, leads to two errors: (1) humanity, in particular the "born again believer," is given status, authority and possibilities which, according to scripture, are reserved for God; and (2) God is viewed as limited in His power and authority in a way that reflects humanity's own limitations.

<http://ifphc.wordpress.com/2007/05/30/prosperity-gospel-in-norway/>

[Images for Prosperity Gospel in Norway](#)

Righteous Riches: The Word of Faith Movement in Contemporary African American Religion [Milmon F. Harrison]

Does God want us to be wealthy? Many people believe that God offers not only eternal joy in the hereafter but also material blessings in the here and now. Other Christians see this "prosperity theology," as nothing more than vulgar materialism, incompatible with orthodox Christianity. In *Righteous Riches*, Milmon F. Harrison examines the Word of Faith movement, an independent, non-denominational Christian movement that preaches the so-called "health and wealth gospel."

The Word of Faith movement is an international network loosely bound by a basic doctrine called the "Faith Message," which teaches that it is God's will for Christians to be prosperous, successful, and healthy in the present life. Drawing on his personal experiences as a former insider and in-depth interviews with members, Harrison takes us inside the movement, revealing what it is like to belong, and how people accept, reject, and reshape Word of Faith doctrines to fit their own lives. Although the

movement is not exclusively African American, many of its most prominent and recognized leaders are African American ministers with large congregations and national television audiences. Analyzing the movement's appeal to African Americans, Harrison argues that, because of their history of oppression and discrimination, African American religious institutions have always had to address the material--as well as spiritual--concerns of their members. The Word of Faith Movement, he says, is one of several prosperity movements that resonate strongly with African Americans. Situating the movement in the contexts of both contemporary American religion and the history of the Black Church, *Righteous Riches* offers a fascinating look at a quintessentially American phenomenon.

<https://www.amazon.com/Righteous-Riches-Movement-Contemporary-American/dp/019515388X>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/131330.Righteous_Riches

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/righteous-riches-milmon-f-harrison/1101395679>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0198035012>

[Righteous Riches: The Word of Faith Movement in Contemporary African American Religion](#)

http://aalbc.com/reviews/righteous_riches.htm

<https://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-19-515388-0> Nonfiction Book Review

<https://www.oxfordscholarship.com/view/10.1093/0195153138.001.0001/acprof-9780195153132>

<http://www.drmilmon.com/writing/>

<https://aas.ucdavis.edu/faculty-and-staff/milmon-f-harrison>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/milmon-f-harrison-phd-82820942>

<https://www.amazon.com/Milmon-F.-Harrison/e/B001HMKD6Q>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/75628.Milmon_F_Harrison

[Images for Milmon F. Harrison, author](#)

[Images for Righteous Riches](#)

[Images for Righteous Riches: The Word of Faith Movement in Contemporary African American Religion \[Milmon F. Harrison\]](#)

Some Thoughts on the Prosperity Gospel - The Simple Dollar

First of all, if the prosperity gospel were true, every single person of faith would be showered in material wealth. I know some well-off people of faith. I also know some very poor people of faith. At the same time, I know some very financially poor atheists and some very well-off atheists.

Second of all, it implies a nonsensical quid pro quo. The entire idea of a prosperity gospel is based on an idea of direct reciprocity – if you believe in God, you will directly be given material wealth. This implies that God is some kind of spiritual ATM – deposit some faith and you can withdraw some cash.

<http://www.thesimpledollar.com/some-thoughts-on-the-prosperity-gospel/>

[Images for Some Thoughts on the Prosperity Gospel - The Simple Dollar](#)

<http://www.thesimpledollar.com/revisiting-the-prosperity-gospel/>

[Images for thesimpledollar/revisiting-the-prosperity-gospel](#)

The Disease of the Health and Wealth Gospels [Gordon D. Fee]

Does God will that the true believer in Christ be in good physical health? Is a Christian promised good financial health by virtue of his or her faith in Christ? If the Christian does not experience these blessings, must we assume that he or she is outside the will of God? Gordon Fee provides a provocative discussion and a direct challenge to all who struggle with these issues.

Perhaps no other issues more directly affect the lives of professing Christians as do the issues of health and wealth and their relationship to the will of God. In *Disease of the Health & Wealth Gospels*, Dr. Gordon Fee looks at the treatment of these two themes as frequently found in popular Christian teaching. Based on solid exegesis of the Scriptures, looking at each theme separately, this books suggests that there may be yet a "more excellent way" in viewing these emotionally charged issues.

http://www.amazon.com/The-Disease-Health-Wealth-Gospels/dp/1573830666/ref=pd_sim_b_2

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/127406.The_Disease_of_the_Health_Wealth_Gospels

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-disease-of-the-health-wealth-gospels-gordon-d-fee/1017870266>

<https://www.waterstones.com/book/the-disease-of-the-health-and-wealth-gospels/gordon-d-fee/9781573830669>

https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Disease_of_the_Health_Wealth_Gospels.html?id=zFAAAAAACAAJ

<http://thewordonthewordoffaithinfoblog.com/2013/04/14/audios-the-disease-of-the-health-and-wealth-gospels-by-gordan-d-fee/>

<https://generositymonk.com/2018/09/26/gordon-d-fee-whats-wrong-with-prosperity-theology/>

<http://www.charismamag.com/spirit/bible-study/11740-a-professor-with-spirit>

<https://www.cokesbury.com/gordon-d-fee?pagenumber=1>

<https://www.amazon.com/Gordon-D.-Fee/e/B001H6PWAY>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/13573.Gordon_D_Fee

[Images for Gordon D. Fee, author health and wealth](#)

[Images for The Disease of the Health and Wealth Gospels \[Gordon D. Fee\]](#)

The Health and Wealth Gospel: What's Going on Today in a Movement That Has Shaped the Faith of Millions [Bruce Barron]

"Name it and claim it!" "God wants you rich!" "God wants you well!" these are the voices of a movement that is shaping the faith of millions of people today. Where did the faith teachers come from? What are they saying? Is it biblical? Is it dangerous? Bruce Barron probes the teachings of prominent preachers like Charles Capps, Kenneth Hagin and Kenneth Copeland. Can we have whatever we ask from God? Can we see a hundredfold return on our kingdom investments? Is sickness a sign of lack of faith? These and other claims are examined fully and fairly. The story Barron tells is one of both triumph and tragedy, insight and error - a movement that has ignited the faith of some and provoked the ire of others.

http://www.amazon.com/The-Health-Wealth-Gospel-Movement/dp/0877843279/ref=pd_sim_b_7

<http://www.abebooks.com/9780877843276/Health-Wealth-Gospel-Going-Today-0877843279/plp>
[The Health and Wealth Gospel: What's Going on Today in a Movement That Has Shaped the Faith of Millions - Pinterest](https://www.amazon.com/Bruce-Barron/e/B001HOP3V4)
<https://www.amazon.com/Bruce-Barron/e/B001HOP3V4>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/316425.Bruce_Barron
[Images for Bruce Barron, author](#)
[Images for The Health and Wealth Gospel: What's Going on Today in a Movement That Has Shaped the Faith of Millions \[Bruce Barron\]](#)

The Poverty of the Prosperity Gospel | The Lausanne Global Conversation

The prosperity gospel is poor, and when taken in full dosage it has a devastating side effect; it impoverishes the Christian faith. The promises of health and wealth for all Christians are exciting and appealing as they often are presented by rhetorically gifted speakers who seem larger than life. Yet behind the golden façade lies at least three weaknesses, each of which I will briefly discuss.

<http://conversation.lausanne.org/en/conversations/detail/10293>
[Images for The Poverty of the Prosperity Gospel | The Lausanne Global Conversation](#)
<https://www.lausanne.org/content/the-prosperity-gospel-all-that-glitters-is-not-gold>
<https://www.lausanne.org/news-releases/prosperity-theology-poverty-and-the-gospel>
<https://www.lausanne.org/gatherings/consultation/global-consultation-on-prosperity-theology-poverty-and-the-gospel>
<https://www.lausanne.org/content/redeeming-prosperity>
<https://www.lausanne.org/content/a-statement-on-the-prosperity-gospel>
<https://www.lausanne.org/content/prosperity-theology-and-the-gospel>
<https://www.lausanne.org/about/blog/new-book-prosperity-theology-gospel>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AhuIK7yQgMQ> Multiplex: Wealth, Poverty and Power - The Hole in our Gospel - Richard Stearns - Cape Town 2010. From the Lausanne Movement's Cape Town 2010 Congress.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TAHTUfCwa_Q The New Apostolic Reformation and Prosperity Theology – Matin Ocana. This presentation was given at the Lausanne Global Consultation on Prosperity Theology, Poverty, and the Gospel in São Paulo, Brazil, from 30 March - 2 April 2014.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LSYEGgxm8SU> What is Prosperity Theology: A Sociological Review – Paul Freston - YouTube. This presentation was given at the Lausanne Global Consultation on Prosperity Theology, Poverty, and the Gospel in São Paulo, Brazil, from 30 March - 2 April 2014.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gk7sINftZuc> The Search for Balance: Prosperity and Poverty in the Bible – Kwabena Asamoah-Gyadu - YouTube. This presentation was given at the Lausanne Global Consultation on Prosperity Theology, Poverty, and the Gospel in São Paulo, Brazil, from 30 March - 2 April 2014.

The Preachers of a Different Gospel: A Pilgrim's Reflections on Contemporary Trends in Christianity by Femi B. Adeleye (Author).

Name it and claim it! 'Just have faith.' 'Give and you will get!' Catchphrases like this have convinced many Christians that trusting in God will bring health and wealth. But the gospel does not promise prosperity without pain or salvation without sanctification. Femi Adeleye draws on his wide-ranging experience as he examines the appeal and peril of this new gospel of prosperity that has made deep inroads in Africa, as well as in the West.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Preachers-Different-Gospel-Contemporary/dp/9966003150>
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/12887638-the-preachers-of-a-different-gospel>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/preachers-of-a-different-gospel-femi-b-adeleye/1102107208>
<http://zondervanacademic.com/products/the-preachers-of-a-different-gospel>
<https://www.christianbook.com/preachers-of-a-different-gospel/femi-adeleye/9789966003157/pd/003157>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0310429706>
<https://books.google.com/books?id=TMTPDQAAQBAJ>
[The Preachers of a Different Gospel: A Pilgrim's Reflections on Contemporary Trends in Christianity](#)
<https://www.9marks.org/review/preachers-different-gospel/>
<http://www.christianbookpreviews.com/christian-book-author.php?isbn=9966003150>
[Images for prosperity gospel in africa](#)
https://world.wng.org/2014/11/the_prosperity_gospel_in_africa
<https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/ed15/086d2484489364bf37a6781c4c85bc0d6a6c.pdf> A Theological Evaluation of the Utopian Image of Prosperity Gospel and the African Dilemma
[Images for Prosperity Gospel and the African Dilemma](#)
<https://www.leadershipresources.org/fighting-the-prosperity-gospel-in-africa>
<http://radical.net/articles/africa-animism-and-the-dangers-of-the-prosperity-gospel/>
https://www.huffingtonpost.com/samuel-okocha/prosperity-gospel-attracts-african-christians_b_1837812.html
<https://www.lausanne.org/about/leaders/board/femi-adeleye>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/5277162.Femi_B_Adeleye
[Images for Femi B. Adeleye \(Author\)](#)
[Images for The Preachers of a Different Gospel: A Pilgrim's Reflections on Contemporary Trends in Christianity by Femi B. Adeleye \(Author\)](#)

The Prosperity Gospel Exposed: And Other False Doctrines [Michael D. Fortner]

"Michael Fortner makes an invaluable contribution by showing that such commonly heard claims as that believing in Jesus will make you rich are totally mistaken." (Robert S. McElvaine, author of *Grand Theft Jesus: The Hijacking of Religion in America*)

Unlike other writers on this subject, the author once believed the Prosperity Gospel, but after twenty years of financial struggle and frequent unemployment God called him to research the Prosperity Gospel. What he found proves the Prosperity Gospel is totally false, and a horrible sin, and calls for a Reformation of the Charismatic Movement.

Other books on this subject take a theological point of view, but the prosperity teachers' failure is in not properly interpreting the Scriptures; so, he analyzes every verse they use to teach the Prosperity Gospel and gives the correct interpretation. As a result of properly interpreting the Scriptures, this book totally destroys the Prosperity Gospel.

Fortner says all Christians have been deceived by wealth, not just Charismatics, the result is spiritual lukewarmness. The Scriptures show that Biblical prosperity is having all your needs met, or not being in want, but the American definition is having lots of stuff. He also says that many pastors, especially the mega-church pastors, earn too much money, while Jesus taught that his future ministers should live without high incomes or material wealth.

This book says most preachers on Christian TV today the Bible refers to as almost true yet false prophets because they are leading people away from the truth. But he is not against all Pentecostal / Charismatic doctrines but takes a balanced approach because he grew up attending an old-fashioned Pentecostal church.

He believes Christianity in America today is the church of Laodicea, and so God has already started to refine us as gold; which means suffering the fire of judgment. He details the economic and natural disasters that have come upon America in the last few years and calls it is the judgment of God upon us and calls for Christians to repent of materialism and the Prosperity Gospel. He says that the judgment will likely get worse until we repent, resulting in another Great Awakening in America.

http://www.amazon.com/The-Prosperity-Gospel-Exposed-Doctrines/dp/146373798X/ref=pd_sim_b_5

<https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/17898014-the-prosperity-gospel-exposed-and-other-false-doctrines>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/12756423-the-prosperity-gospel-exposed-and-other-false-doctrines>

<https://www.bookdepository.com/Prosperity-Gospel-Exposed-Michael-D-Fortner/9781463737986>

https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Prosperity_Gospel_Exposed.html?id=DyLKDAAAQBAJ

[The Prosperity Gospel Exposed: and Other False Doctrines](#)

[The Prosperity Gospel Exposed: And Other False Doctrines - Pinterest](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFBi2kVVLLM> THE PROSPERITY GOSPEL EXPOSED and other false doctrines

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kWGbfgPbZqE> Prosperity Gospel Exposed! - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IK39XTB16Eg> Prosperity Gospel Preachers Exposed! - YouTube

<http://www.breadoflifebiblestudy.com/Lessons/08GodsFinancialPrinciples/Articles/ProsperityGospel01.pdf>

<http://lifeinchristministries.com/daily-teachings/archives/teachings.php?id=218>

<http://michaelfortner.com/wp/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Michael-D.-Fortner/e/B005EO79M4>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/584042.Michael_D_Fortner

[Images for Michael D. Fortner, author](#)

The Word-Faith Controversy: Understanding the Health and Wealth Gospel by Robert M. Bowman (Author)

Is it God's will that believers be healthy, wealthy, and wise? Wise, definitely, but Robert M. Bowman questions those who teach a message of bodily health and financial prosperity through faith. In this balanced book, Bowman examines the word of faith movement by revealing the origins, teachers, and errors of this distortion of Christian doctrine. The faith healing and prosperity gospel aspects of the movement are what appeal to some and turn off others, causing a confusing and sometimes heated controversy.

But the word of faith movement is, Bowman insists, "neither soundly orthodox nor thoroughly heretical." Using the Bible as his touchstone, Bowman helps readers sort through the controversy and distinguish acceptable Pentecostal teachings from distorted offshoots. He guides believers curious about the role of faith in healing and prosperity, and encourages charismatics to pursue a rich, mature, biblically sound Pentecostalism.

<http://www.amazon.com/Word-Faith-Controversy-Understanding-Health-Wealth/dp/0801063442>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/212561.The_Word_Faith_Controversy

https://www.thriftbooks.com/w/the-word-faith-controversy-understanding-the-health-and-wealth-gospel_robert-m-bowman-jr/1102028/#isbn=0801063442&idig=36554824

http://books.google.com/books/about/The_word_faith_controversy.html?id=YjkQAQAAIAAJ

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_M._Bowman_Jr

<https://irr.org/author/robert-m-bowman-jr>

<https://www.ivpress.com/robert-m-bowman-jr>

<https://www.facebook.com/Robert-M-Bowman-Jr-52149618636/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Robert-M.-Bowman/e/B001IQZJNS>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/159777.Robert_M_Bowman_Jr

[Images for Robert M. Bowman \(Author\)](#)

[Images for The Word-Faith Controversy: Understanding the Health and Wealth Gospel by Robert M. Bowman \(Author\)](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Prosperity Gospel? - OpenBible.info

https://www.openbible.info/topics/prosperity_gospel

[Images for Bible and Prosperity Gospel](#)

<https://biblereasons.com/prosperity-gospel/>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/prosperity-gospel.html>

<https://tifwe.org/disprove-the-prosperity-gospel/>

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/bible-verses-prosperity-preachers-wish-didnt-exist/>

<https://www.onfaith.co/discussion/ten-bible-verses-prosperity-gospel-preachers-need-to-stop-misusing>

<https://tifwe.org/is-the-prosperity-gospel-biblically-sound/>
<https://tifwe.org/reasons-to-avoid-the-prosperity-gospel/>
http://www.greatbiblestudy.com/prosperity_gospel_biblical.php
<https://ebible.com/questions/3059-what-does-the-bible-say-about-the-prosperity-gospel>

Why Pastor Joel Osteen Makes No Apologies for His Wealth

Outside the church, Pastor Joel Osteen has also found success as the author of best-selling books like *Your Best Life Now* and *Every Day a Friday*. Now, he says he lives off book royalties and no longer takes a salary from his church. Watch as he explains why he makes no apologies for his wealth and how he chooses to celebrate God's blessings.

<http://www.oprah.com/own-oprahs-next-chapter/why-pastor-joel-osteen-makes-no-apologies-for-his-wealth>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dyWYLrahPHI> Why Pastor Joel Osteen Makes No Apologies for His Wealth
<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/333970128600569329/> Why Pastor Joel Osteen Makes No Apologies for His Wealth
<http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/joel-osteen-opens-doors-houston-megachurch-harvey-victims-article-1.3452261>
<https://www.inc.com/gene-marks/the-real-reason-why-people-hate-joel-osteen.html>
<http://mcimaps.com/joel-osteen-makes-millions-off-prosperity-gospel-does-little-for-the-poor/>
<https://heavy.com/entertainment/2017/08/joel-osteen-net-worth-salary-books-church-books-how-much-money/>
<http://piersmorgan.blogs.cnn.com/2011/01/26/joel-osteen-apologizing-for-wealth-is-almost-an-insult-to-our-god/>
<http://blog.christianmoney.com/2015/01/joel-osteen-financial-scandal.html>

Word of Faith Preachers: How Misinterpretation of Scripture Might Lead You Astray [Joeseph T. Bachota Jr.]

Have you ever wondered about the correctness of the messages and teachings of preachers behind the pulpits and on TV today? Who holds them accountable for explanations and outlines of the truth? Who questions them or anything they say? With sound biblical exegesis, this book challenges you to keep an open mind and determine for yourself what is true or false. As an ordained Word of Faith preacher, Joe Bachota has firsthand knowledge of the doctrines being preached.

Word of Faith Preachers isn't meant to be an exhaustive discussion of every doctrinal position taken by the movement. Instead, it explores a few of the major heresies the Word of Faith churches are teaching, with the goal of preventing you from being led astray if you are exposed to them. Even though Bachota once believed, preached, and taught most of these doctrines, the Lord has led him in another direction, opening his eyes to the heresies contained in some of the Word of Faith doctrine. Hopefully, this book will lead you in the same way and enable you to come to the same conclusion he did: the teachings of many churches today, particularly Word of Faith churches, are completely out of touch with sound biblical doctrine.

<http://www.amazon.com/Word-Faith-Preachers-Misinterpretation-Scripture/dp/1450231454>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1450231462>
<http://www.iuniverse.com/bookstore/bookdetail.aspx?bookid=SKU-000177397>
https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=217459235075206&id=217005021787294
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1450231462>
<https://josephbachota.wordpress.com/>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4572430.Joseph_Bachota_Jr

[Images for Joeseph T. Bachota Jr., author](#)

[Images for Word of Faith Preachers: How Misinterpretation of Scripture Might Lead You Astray \[Joeseph T. Bachota Jr.\]](#)

2) What about moralistic therapeutic deism?

Moralistic therapeutic deism is a term used to characterize a belief that the goal of life is to be happy and feel good. God is viewed as a combination Divine Butler and Cosmic Therapist who only gets involved when needed.

Resources

Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers is Telling the American Church by Kenda Creasy Dean (Author)

Based on the National Study of Youth and Religion--the same invaluable data as its predecessor, *Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers*--Kenda Creasy Dean's compelling new book, *Almost Christian*, investigates why American teenagers are at once so positive about Christianity and at the same time so apathetic about genuine religious practice.

In *Soul Searching*, Christian Smith and Melinda Lundquist Denton found that American teenagers have embraced a "Moralistic Therapeutic Deism"--a hodgepodge of banal, self-serving, feel-good beliefs that bears little resemblance to traditional Christianity. But far from faulting teens, Dean places the blame for this theological watering down squarely on the churches themselves. Instead of proclaiming a God who calls believers to lives of love, service and sacrifice, churches offer instead a bargain religion, easy to use, easy to forget, offering little and demanding less. But what is to be done? In order to produce ardent young Christians, Dean argues, churches must rediscover their sense of mission and model an understanding of being Christian as not something you do for yourself, but something that calls you to share God's love, in word and deed, with others. Dean found that the most committed young Christians shared four important traits: they could tell a personal and powerful story about God; they belonged to a significant faith community; they exhibited a sense of vocation; and they possessed a profound sense of hope. Based on these findings, Dean proposes an approach to Christian education that places the idea of mission at its core and offers a wealth of concrete suggestions for inspiring teens to live more authentically.

engaged Christian lives. Persuasively and accessibly written, *Almost Christian* is a wake-up call no one concerned about the future of Christianity in America can afford to ignore.

<https://www.amazon.com/Almost-Christian-Teenagers-Telling-American/dp/0195314840>
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/7592534-almost-christian>
<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/almost-christian-kenda-creasy-dean/1102261471>
<https://books.google.com/books?id=qlpnwK5S7FqC>
<http://www.cnn.com/2010/LIVING/08/27/almost.christian/>
<http://nwmnsynod.org/resources/almost-christian/>
<http://www.churchleaders.com/youth/youth-leaders-articles/145646-almost-christian-q-a-with-kenda-creasy-dean.html>
<http://www.thedivineconspiracy.org/Z5247A.pdf>
<http://www.dts.edu/reviews/kendra-creasy-dean-almost-christian>
<http://www.christianbook.com/almost-christian-teenagers-telling-american-church/kenda-dean/9780195314847/pd/314847>
<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/jul/29/how-to-reach-children-with-faith/>
<https://www.buffalolib.org/vufind/Record/1801987/Reviews>
<http://www.patheos.com/Resources/Additional-Resources/Almost-Christian-Kenda-Creasy-Dean>
<http://assets.ngin.com/attachments/document/0042/5174/AlmostChristianinaNutshell.pdf>
<http://kendadean.com/almost-christian/>
<http://youthandreligion.nd.edu/research-findings/books/almost-christian-what-the-faith-of-our-teenagers-is-telling-the-american-church/>
http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Seeds_For_The_Parish_Summer_2014.pdf
<https://www.elca.org/Resources/Seeds-for-the-Parish#2014> Seeds for the Parish - Summer – 2014 [Download](#) Developing leaders among young people By Catherine Anderson
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moralistic_therapeutic_deism
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLC_A9FhQq The Future of Youth Ministry- Rev. Dr. Kenda Creasy Dean - YouTube
<https://www.ivpress.com/kenda-creasy-dean>
<http://aftesite.org/kenda-creasy-dean/>
http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/author/kenda_creasy_dean
<http://books.upperroom.org/book-author/kenda-creasy-dean/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Kenda-Creasy-Dean/e/B001IOF5BG>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/48993.Kenda_Creasy_Dean
https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/48993.Kenda_Creasy_Dean
[Images for Kenda Creasy Dean \(Author\)](#)
<https://www.facebook.com/Kenda-Creasy-Dean-146023605423872/>
<https://ministryincubators.com/about/who-are-we/kenda-dean/>
<http://www.ptsem.edu/people/kenda-creasy-dean>
<https://www.pinterest.com/episcoforma/youth-ministry-books-forma/>
[Images for Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers is Telling the American Church by Kenda Creasy Dean \(Author\)](#)

Page 2

Moralistic therapeutic deism - Wikipedia

Definition

The authors find that many young people believed in several moral statutes not exclusive to any of the major world religions. It is this combination of beliefs that they label Moralistic Therapeutic Deism:

1. A god exists who created and ordered the world and watches over human life on earth.
2. God wants people to be good, nice, and fair to each other, as taught in the Bible and by most world religions.
3. The central goal of life is to be happy and to feel good about oneself.
4. God does not need to be particularly involved in one's life except when God is needed to resolve a problem.
5. Good people go to [heaven](#) when they die.

Author's analysis

The authors say the system is “moralistic” because it “is about inculcating a moralistic approach to life. It teaches that central to living a good and happy life is being a good, [moral](#) person.”^[5] The authors describe the system as being “about providing therapeutic benefits to its adherent” as opposed to being about things like “[repentance](#) from [sin](#), of keeping the [Sabbath](#), of living as a [servant](#) of a sovereign divine, of steadfastly saying one's [prayers](#), of faithfully observing high holy days, of building character through [suffering](#)...”^[6] and further as “belief in a particular kind of God: one who exists, created the world, and defines our general moral order, but not one who is particularly personally involved in one's affairs—especially affairs in which one would prefer not to have God involved.”^[7]

The remoteness of God in this kind of theism explains the choice of the term “[Deism](#)”, even though “the Deism here is revised from its classical eighteenth-century version by the therapeutic qualifier, making the distant God selectively available for taking care of needs.” It views God as “something like a combination Divine Butler and Cosmic Therapist: he's always on call, takes care of any problems that arise, professionally helps his people to feel better about themselves, and does not become too personally involved in the process.”^[8]

The authors believe that “a significant part of [Christianity in the United States](#) is actually only tenuously Christian in any sense that is seriously connected to the actual historical Christian tradition, but has rather substantially morphed into Christianity's misbegotten step-cousin, Christian Moralistic Therapeutic Deism.”^[9]

CNN online featured an article, “More Teens Becoming Fake Christians” on Kenda Creasy Dean's 2010 book *Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers is Telling the American Church*. (Oxford University Press, 2010). She writes, “The problem does not seem to be that churches are teaching young people badly, but that we are doing an exceedingly good job

of teaching youth what we really believe, namely, that Christianity is not a big deal, that God requires little, and the church is a helpful social institution filled with nice people..." She goes on to say that "if churches practice MTD in the name of Christianity, then getting teenagers to church more often is not the solution (conceivably it could make things worse). A more faithful church is the solution.... Maybe the issue is simply that the emperor has no clothes."^[10]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moralistic_therapeutic_deism
[Images for Moralistic therapeutic deism](#)

3) Moving away from the dichotomy of scarce/abundance and to the dialectic of sustainable and generous

A speaker from the Baby Boomer generation told how his parents practiced scarcity thinking, while he discovered abundance thinking. While I admit John 10:10 and 2 Corinthians 9:8 commend abundance, I get the uneasy feeling that there is a generational reactivity involved in espousing the scarce/abundance dichotomy. My parents lived through the Great Depression and World War II. While they practiced thrift, they also practiced the tithe.

Resources

Scarcity and God's Abundance by Dan Hotchkiss

The notion of abundant resources has embedded itself into our theologies of stewardship. "God has blessed me with abundance, so with gratitude I bless God back." Many preachers believe that this idea has stood as the cornerstone of church finance since the Apostles. In reality, the "abundance" formula, while based on a reading of 2 Corinthians, is uniquely American. It was first articulated late in the 1800s, just as the nation's wealth was starting to take off. As the temper of the times shifts from the old emphasis on abundant possibilities to the new consciousness of limits, we need to find a new sales pitch, perhaps even a new theology, for fund-drive time.



<https://alban.org/archive/scarcity-and-gods-abundance/>
<http://danhotchkiss.com/publications/> 2009. "The End of Abundance?" *Giving: Growing Joyful Stewards in Your Congregation*, a publication of the Ecumenical Stewardship Center, Indianapolis. <http://danhotchkiss.com/contact-dan/>
<https://alban.org/archive/stewardship-and-simple-thinking/>
<http://danhotchkiss.com/making-do-with-less/>
<http://www.churchcentral.com/news/getting-by-when-churches-have-to-make-do-with-less/>
<http://danhotchkiss.com/ministry-in-hard-times/>
<https://alban.org/archive/putting-your-money-where-your-mission-is/>
<http://www.amazon.com/Ministry-Money-Guide-Clergy-Friends/dp/1566992613>
<http://danhotchkiss.com/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Dan-Hotchkiss/e/B001K8HINI>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/2507149.Dan_Hotchkiss
[Images for Dan Hotchkiss](#)
[Images for Scarcity and God's Abundance by Dan Hotchkiss](#)

[PDF] Traditionalists, Baby Boomers, Generation X, Generation Y (and Generation Z) Working Together

The Traditionalists (Veteran Generation)

The Veteran Generation, born between 1925 and 1945, were brought up in a more **challenging** time with life experiences that included WW II. The economic and political uncertainty that they experienced led them to be hard working, financially conservative, and cautious.

The Baby Boomers

The Boomers, born between 1946 and 1964, were brought up in an **abundant**, healthy post-war economy, becoming an egocentric generation. They saw the world revolving around them.

<http://www.un.org/staffdevelopment/pdf/Designing%20Recruitment,%20Selection%20Talent%20Management%20Model%20tailored%20to%20meet%20UNJSPF's%20Business%20Development%20Needs.pdf>
[Images for veteran generation values](#)
[Images for Baby Boomers and abundance](#)

I propose a dialectic of sustainable *and* generous. Sustainability means living within limits. Generosity means giving freely.

Resources

Generosity - Wikipedia

Generosity (also called largess) is the virtue of being unattached to material possessions, often symbolized by the giving of gifts. Generosity is regarded as a virtue by various world religions and is often celebrated in cultural and religious ceremonies.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Generosity>
[Images for generosity](#)

Sustainability - Simple English Wikipedia

One of the most often-cited definitions of sustainability is the one created by the Brundtland Commission, led by the former Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland. The Commission defined sustainable development as development that "meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future to meet their own needs."^[1]

<https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainability>
[Images for sustainability](#)

Put in a colloquial manner, being generous means to make their day, and being sustainable means to live to see another day.

Resources

Another Day Quotes - BrainyQuote

There are people out there dying every day, so when you wake up, you just have to **thank the Man Upstairs for another day** on this planet. There's not much else we can ask for. Dikembe Mutombo

https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/another_day
https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/dikembe_mutombo
[Images for Dikembe Mutombo](#)
[Images for live to see another day quotes](#)

Make Their Day - Creators Of FISH! Philosophy Training

Everyone wants to be appreciated and acknowledged. Simple gestures make a bigger impact when they come from your heart. When you **brighten someone's day**, you receive a gift that gives meaning and purpose to your life.

www.fishphilosophy.com/make-their-day/
[Images for make their day fish](#)

The caricatures on the far ends of the spectrum are bleeding heart and cheapskate.

Resources

Urban Dictionary: bleeding heart

Feeling sorry for everything and everyone and giving in to emotions quickly.

<https://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=bleeding%20heart>
<https://www.pinterest.com/jmiesbach/bleeding-heart-liberal-and-proud/>

Urban Dictionary: cheapskate

Somebody who buys cheap in favour of higher quality or better stuff. Even though they might be able to afford the better.

Perhaps ungenerously trying not to spend much on their friends.

<https://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=cheapskate>
[Images for cheapskates](#)

The creative tension between generous and sustainable can be seen in the marriage of Martin Luther and Katherina von Bora.



Hospitality and Generosity in the Luther Home | TGC

As Martin lectured and wrote and debated and preached and traveled, Katie drove the wagon, took care of the field, bought cattle and put them out to pasture, brewed beer, prepared food for the graduation banquets, rented horses, sold linen, served as Martin's publishing agent, and often nursed him back to health during his frequent illnesses.

Luther was very **generous** to the poor and refused to charge for lecturing or to accept honoraria for his writing. The dynamic soon proved **unsustainable**, and the Luthers struggled with debt. But God always provided.

<https://blogs.thegospelcoalition.org/justintaylor/2012/02/16/hospitality-and-generosity-in-the-luther-home/>
[Images for Hospitality and Generosity in the Luther Home](#)

Katharina von Bora - Wikipedia

Marriage to Luther

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Katharina_von_Bora
[Images for katharina von bora](#)

Martin Luther - Wikipedia

Marriage

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_Luther

[Images for Martin Luther](#)

Matthew Skinner spells out how in the New Testament followers of Jesus are called to “give **generously**”, while at the same time “it tells those leaders **not to be financial burdens**.”

On Why People Give Money to Their Church by Matthew L. Skinner - Huffington Post

Repeatedly the New Testament praises those who give **generously** to the needy and to support the people who provide leadership to Christian communities. Almost just as often, it tells those **leaders not to be financial burdens** to others or to create circumstances in which they appear to be unduly profiting from their preaching.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/matthew-l-skinner/on-why-people-give-money- b_8012068.html

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/matthew-l-skinner/on-why-some-people-dont-g_b_8038674.html

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/on-why-people-give-money-to-their-church/>

<https://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship> On Why (Some) People Don't Give Money to Their Church by Center for Stewardship Leaders – Luther Seminary

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1587433753/> Intrusive God, Disruptive Gospel: Encountering the Divine in the Book of Acts by Matthew L. Skinner (Author)

[Images for On Why People Give Money to Their Church by Matthew L. Skinner](#)

I wrote about sustainability in the booklets included in Rural Ministry Resources on this website:

Strengthening Our Rural Communities

Part IV	Developing Ways to Live in Community	
Chapter 16	Practicing an Agriculture for Sustainable Communities	Page 76

Family Farm or Factory Farm? A Time to Choose

Part IV	People of Faith Join the Fight to Preserve the Family Farm	
Chapter 13	Farmers Demonstrate a Sustainable Agriculture	Page 59

The Earth Is Our Home

Part IV	Keepers of the Earth	
Chapter 11	Challenges of Sustainable Agriculture	Page 39
Chapter 12	Western Wisconsin Farmers Form Sustainable Agriculture Network	Page 41

In Chapter 12. Governance. Reflections and Resources (1), I offer a reflection on 10-40-50: A suggested formula for sustainability.

10% – mission support

40% – operating expenses

50% – personnel compensation

100%

Resources for Sustainable

A Resource for the Closing of Congregations

A Resource for the Closing of Congregations

Prepared by the Congregational Asset Management Task Force of the Lower Susquehanna Synod

Table of Contents:

Preface: Do Not Be Afraid p. 2

Chapter 1: The End of an Era is not the End of the Story. God is Faithful. p. 3

Chapter 2: The Life Cycle of a Congregation.

Thoughts on Life, Death and Dying, and Leaving a Legacy for the Future p. 6

Chapter 3: The Discernment Process: What is God Calling our Congregation to Do? p. 9

Chapter 4: Steps in Closing a Congregation p. 11

Chapter 5: Making Closure, Ending in Hope p. 14

Appendix A: Worksheet on Congregational **Sustainability** p. 15

Appendix B: A Checklist for Steps in Closing a Congregation p. 17

Appendix C: Service of Leave-Taking p. 20

Appendix D: Relevant Portions of Model Congregational Constitution p. 27

Appendix E: Ministry Team for Synodical Oversight Committee for Dissolution of Congregations p. 29

http://www.lss-elca.org/Congregations/Resources/Closing_Congregations.pdf

[Images for Congregational Sustainability](#)

A seminary's calculated risk: CBTS president Molly T. Marshall Feb 09, 2016 an interview by David Heim - The Christian Century

Freestanding seminaries are under huge financial pressures these days. Do you think your experience at Central offers any broader lessons for seminary leaders?

A key ingredient at Central was the willingness to seek a clear-eyed assessment of our financial situation and to risk our old identity for the sake of a renewed mission. Although this effort was personally and communally painful, I was intent on thinking about a **sustainable** future.

Truth telling is critical for seminary leaders, and we must resist the temptation to spiritualize financial realities. Neither a president nor a board can afford to be surprised about the actual costs of their institution's mission. And we cannot shrink from taking a calculated risk. Creativity is also crucial in responding to the current challenges for theological education, just as it is necessary for ministers.



Photo courtesy of Central
Baptist Theological Seminary

<http://www.christiancentury.org/article/2016-01/seminary-s-calculated-risk>

<http://www.christiancentury.org/category/keywords/molly-marshall>

[Images for CBTS president Molly T. Marshall](#)

<http://cbts.edu/staff/molly-t-marshall-ph-d/>

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Molly-T-Marshall/1305022764>

Best 25+ Sustainability ideas on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/sustainability/>

[Images for sustainability pinterest](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/garbagegoneglam/green-living-sustainability/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/mteneva/sustainability-for-kids/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/taigacompany/sustainability-concepts-and-infographics/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/alumisnerak/sustainability/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/sustainable-living/>

[Images for pinterest/explore/sustainable-living](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/oakmeadowschool/teaching-sustainability/>

[Images for pinterest/teaching-sustainability](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/intchildcarecol/nature-recycling-sustainability/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/shirleyowl/sustainability-school-project/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/sustainability-kids/>

Blessed Connections: Relationships that Sustain Vital Ministry by Judith Schwanz (Author)

No pastor sets out to fail, but statistics say 15 to 20 percent of pastors leave pastoral ministry within the first five years. One seminary administrator said that every person he had heard of leaving the ministry had done so because of a relationship failure. We cannot escape relationships in ministry, yet few seminaries offer courses in how to build healthy relationships. The assumption is that the type of person who is called to ministry will have all the "people skills" they need, which sadly is not always true. In *Blessed Connections*, seminary professor Judith Schwanz focuses on the person of the minister and the relational system of the minister's life. She spotlights three areas of connection--relationship with self, relationships with other people, and relationship with God. Attending to these three primary connections will strengthen the pastor and cushion her or him against the pressures and stresses of daily ministry. *Blessed Connections* is ideal for seminary students and new pastors and includes "Assessment Journal" questions at the end of each chapter for personal application.

<https://www.amazon.com/Blessed-Connections-Relationships-Sustain-Ministry/dp/1566993563>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/4800246-blessed-connections>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566994772>

<https://alban.org/archive/pastoral-sabbath-keeping/>

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/schwanz-blessed-connections.html>

<http://sites.baylor.edu/preachersbookshelf/2015/04/26/blessed-connections-relationships-that-sustain-vital-ministry/>

<https://palconmidamerica2016.sched.org/speaker/judischwanz>

<http://www.nts.edu/faculty/dr-judith-schwanz.html>

[Images for Judith Schwanz \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Blessed Connections: Relationships that Sustain Vital Ministry by Judith Schwanz \(Author\)](#)

Creating Sustainable Change through Incarnational Leadership

2. From a place of delight the next step is to join.

All sustainable change is an inside job. If you don't join the congregation you will be doing TO the people not doing WITH the people. Change agents who bring change TO people will be perceived as arrogant and the change will be resisted.

Rob Voyle's Appreciative Way Blog - Clergy Leadership Institute

<http://clergyleadership.com/blog/blog.cfm?page=2011> All Sustainable Change is an Inside Job *Posted: February 4, 2011 by*

Rob Voyle Practicing Incarnational Leadership

<http://clergyleadership.com/blog/blog.cfm?page=2012> Creating Sustainable Change through Incarnational Leadership

Posted: May 4, 2012 by Rob Voyle

<http://www.clergyleadership.com/blog/leadershipblog.cfm> Incarnational Leadership Posted: December 12, 2013 by Rob Voyle
All sustainable change is an inside job
<http://www.clergyleadership.com/appreciative-inquiry/appreciative-way-tips.cfm> All Sustainable Change is an Inside Job:
Practicing Incarnational Leadership
[Images for Creating Sustainable Change through Incarnational Leadership](#)

Finding a sustainable financial model for Christian institutions

Rather than fretting about growing revenue streams or cutting costs, it's time to create new models for Christian congregations and related organizations.

<https://www.faithandleadership.com/finding-sustainable-financial-model-christian-institutions>
[Images for sustainable financial model for Christian institutions](#)
<https://elca.org/future> Future Directions - ELCA Goal 5: A well-governed, connected and **sustainable** church
[Images for sustainable church](#)
<https://sedosmission.org/article/financial-sustainability-in-ministry/>
[Images for financial sustainability in ministry](#)
<http://www.diocese-oregon.org/equipping-the-saints-building-healthy-faithful-sustainable-congregations/>
[Images for Building Healthy, Faithful, Sustainable Congregations](#)
<https://www.faithandleadership.com/topics/sustainability>
http://www.kcdisciples.org/uploads/8/6/7/1/86717752/congregational_vitality-sustainability_quick_check.pdf
<http://congregationalvitalitysurvey.com/Resources/Congregational%20Vitality-Sustainability%20Quick%20Check.pdf>
[Images for Congregational Vitality & Sustainability](#)

Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread: Food, land, and sustainability

January 30-31, 2019 Luther Seminary

"The heavens tell of the glory of God," but so many of us have lost the motivation and capacity to see God's glory in all of creation. Ecological challenges infest every corner of society, and questions of how to care for creation – how to tend and steward all that God has created – often provoke sharp disagreements. Join us as we consider what it means to ask for our "daily bread" from the land and those who tend it. Along the way, we'll explore food, **sustainability**, and how to engage each other across deep differences for the sake of all people and all places.

- **Melanie Harris**, Founder and Director, African American and Africana Studies and Professor of Religion and Ethics at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas
- **Barbara Rossing**, Professor of New Testament at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
- **Kathryn Schifferdecker**, Associate Professor of Old Testament and Chair of the Bible Division at Luther Seminary
- **Norman Wirzba**, Gilbert T. Rowe Distinguished Professor of Christian Theology; Senior Fellow at the Kenan Institute for Ethics at Duke University; Associate Dean for Faculty Development at Duke University Divinity School

Mid-Winter Convocation - Luther Seminary

<https://www.luthersem.edu/convo/>
<http://faithlead.luthersem.edu/events/mid-winter-convocation-2019/>

Melanie Harris - Convo 2019 - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2-TneUMcpzQ>
https://www.luthersem.edu/lifelong_learning/video.aspx?m=6323
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2-TneUMcpzQ&list=PL9A9B3D64A34FB053&t=0s&index=4>
<https://www.sksm.edu/academics/symposium/symposium2019/>

Barbara Rossing - 2019 Mid-Winter Convocation - YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZE_doja_2M&app=desktop
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZE_doja_2M&list=PL9A9B3D64A34FB053&index=4
[Images for Barbara Rossing – 2019 Mid-Winter Convocation](#)
<https://lutheransrestoringcreation.org/tag/event/>
<https://www.lstc.edu/academics/faculty/barbara-rossing>
<https://www.livinglutheran.org/author/barbara-rossing/>

Kathryn Schifferdecker - 2019 Mid-Winter Convocation - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nNgNHqVccQI>
Kathryn Schifferdecker – 2019 Mid-Winter Convocation
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nNgNHqVccQI&list=PL9A9B3D64A34FB053&t=0s&index=3>
[Images for Kathryn Schifferdecker – 2019 Mid-Winter Convocation - YouTube](#)
https://www.luthersem.edu/faculty/fac_home.aspx?contact_id=kschiffer
<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/kathryn-schifferdecker/2791729/>

Norman Wirzba - 2019 Mid-Winter Convocation - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bpbolf92Ono&list=PL9A9B3D64A34FB053&t=0s&index=2Ethics>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HtZWIVLWkVs> Norman Wirzba | Why Theological Education Needs Ecology
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nr3Dov6z8xc> Professor Norman Wirzba examines food as gift, rather than commodity

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YEyRnYrIBPY> Norman Wirzba on the intersection of food and faith - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lz3PcaVlJtA> Food, Farming, and Faith – Norman Wirzba - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4VCYSRrQsSM> Food and Faith: A Theology of Eating - YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gol_wGuJoBg Dr. Norman Wirzba – Food, Eating and the Life of Faith - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nvLpqfCidLU> Office Hours with Norman Wirzba on a Theology of Eating - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sn1OPv7hsFU> Food and Faith with Dr. Norman Wirzba - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZKVP63jFJvE> Dr. Norman Wirzba – Food, Eating and the Life of Faith – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUKOgYmjSAGpMMSfsm92lj95FLnEFehC4> Food & Faith - YouTube
<https://www.pbs.org/video/religion-ethics-newsweekly-norman-wirzba-extended-interview/>
<http://englewoodreview.org/norman-wirzba-on-food-and-faith-our-2011-book-of-the-year-video/>
[Images for Norman Wirzba – 2019 Mid-Winter Convocation](https://divinity.duke.edu/faculty/norman-wirzba)
[https://divinity.duke.edu/faculty/norman-wirzba](https://divinity.duke.edu/news/food-and-faith-theology-eating-second-edition)
[https://divinity.duke.edu/news/food-and-faith-theology-eating-second-edition](https://www.amazon.com/Food-Faith-Theology-Norman-Wirzba/dp/0521146240)
[https://www.amazon.com/Food-Faith-Theology-Norman-Wirzba/dp/0521146240](https://www.amazon.com/Norman-Wirzba/e/B001J3L9Y8)
<https://www.amazon.com/Norman-Wirzba/e/B001J3L9Y8>

Mid-Winter Convocation offers theology enrichment for lay and ordained ministry leaders and the Christian community at large. A national conference, Convocation features scholars and teachers from Luther Seminary and around the world.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9A9B3D64A34FB053> Mid-Winter Convocation Last updated on Feb 6, 2019
[Images for Mid-Winter Convocation videos - Luther Seminary](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9A9B3D64A34FB053)

HOLY CONVERSATIONS: Options for congregations considering a vital and sustainable future

Discerning the season of your congregation's life is a crucial step both in regard to vitality and to sustainability. It is important to look at a wide range of options and to prayerfully discern what direction God is calling the congregation.

Because "synod" means walking together, no congregation goes on this discernment journey alone. We will be walking with you as you discern and live into the option that is most faithful for your congregation. There is no right or wrong answer but rather the goal is to be faithful to the situation facing your congregation and the unique setting of your ministry.

Holy Conversations - Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

<http://nswsi.org/congregational-vitality/holy-conversations>

Holy Currencies: Six Blessings for Sustainable Missional Ministries [Rev. Eric Law]

Called a "must read for Christians paralyzed in survival mode," *Holy Currencies* teaches you how your ministry can become sustainable, grow, and thrive.

Money is not the only currency your ministry needs.

Author Eric H. F. Law shows us how the six blessings of time and place, gracious leadership, relationship, truth, wellness, and money flow through successful missional ministries. And they can flow through your ministry too! Learn how to use these gifts to rejuvenate, recirculate, regenerate, and expand your ministry through Law's insightful stories, instruction, processes, exercises, and activities. Tools in the book help evaluate how your church uses each gift and enables church members to measure and value the six blessings. *Holy Currencies* will push you to think beyond your church's current boundaries and create rich, sustainable missional ministries.



<http://www.amazon.com/Holy-Currencies-Blessings-Sustainable-Ministries/dp/0827214928>
<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/17395158-holy-currencies>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/holy-currencies-eric-law/1114841094>
<https://chalicepress.com/products/holy-currencies>
<https://www.christianbook.com/currencies-blessings-sustainable-missional-ministries-ebook/eric-law/9780827214934/pd/39288EB>
<https://www.kscopeinstitute.org/holy-currencies-books>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0827214936>
<http://ehflaw.typepad.com/blog/2013/02/holy-currencies-the-book.html>
<http://ehflaw.typepad.com/> The Sustainist
<https://centerforcongregations.org/workshop/holy-currencies-six-blessings-sustainable-missional-ministries>
http://www.endowedparishes.org/download_file/view/1612/
<http://www.chalicepress.com/Author.aspx?AuthorID=22> Eric H. F. Law
<http://imnedu.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/2013-IMN-Conference-program.pdf>
<https://centerforcongregations.org/workshop/cultivating-sustainable-missional-ministries>
<https://imnedu.org/imn-library/holy-currencies-six-blessings-for-sustainable-missional-ministries/>
<http://imnedu.org/currency-of-relationship/>
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/review-%C2%93holy-currencies-6-blessings-for-sustainable-missional-ministries%C2%94/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13IADNde9I0> Rev. Dr. Eric Law Holy Currencies [KI] – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13IADNde9I0> Rev. Dr. Eric Law Holy Currencies [KI] - YouTube
<http://www.chalicepress.com/Author.aspx?AuthorID=22>
<http://www.epicenter.org/the-rev-eric-h-f-law/>
<http://www.kscopeinstitute.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/eric.law.165>
<https://www.facebook.com/235361122583/photos/rev-dr-eric-hf-law-author-of-holy-currencies-6-blessings-for-sustainable-mission/10155247343187584/>
http://www.pts.edu/Being_Church_Eric_Law
<https://profile.typepad.com/ehflaw>
https://www.amazon.com/s?ie=UTF8&page=1&rh=n%3A283155%2Cp_27%3ARev.%20Eric%20Law
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/18820.Eric_H_F_Law
[Images for Rev. Eric Law, author](#)
[Images for Holy Currencies: Six Blessings for Sustainable Missional Ministries \[Rev. Eric Law\]](#)

Important Updates from Luther Seminary: September 2014

Dear Pastor Bolstad,

It is with thankfulness that I write this letter to you. I have been at Luther Seminary for several months and I have such an appreciation for the ways you partner with us. Your prayers, financial gifts, prospective student referrals and encouraging words all make a difference. Thank you.

I want to continue the practice of providing updates about what's going on at Luther Seminary. Because this is my first letter to you, I will also share some initial observations.

Our focus on our mission is clear

As we welcome new and returning students to campus and online, there is a lot of excitement about preparing these leaders for ministry. They are eager to learn, and we are eager to engage them in rich and challenging discussions about theological matters. We are implementing a new curriculum this fall that will continue to equip our leaders to meet the changing needs of the church and world. This new curriculum has been a labor of love. Faculty members and staff have worked diligently to create a curriculum that provides greater flexibility and more options yet is true to the Lutheran foundations of our faith. If you want to learn more about our new curriculum, [watch this video](#).

We are committed to a **sustainable** future

We are building on the work done in the last two years to identify the kind of nimble, innovative teaching and learning institution we need to become to achieve long-term sustainability. Several faculty members are synthesizing this work. Once completed, we will bring together multiple constituents to review, discuss and explore pathways for enhancing our **sustainability** as an educational institution. Our goal is to have an integrated plan in place by March 2015 when the representatives from the Association of Theological Schools and the Higher Learning Commission visit campus for our 10-year accreditation review. I am praying that the power of the Holy Spirit will stir in us an openness to new ways of serving our mission. We are blessed with many talented, faithful and wise people. I'm confident we will discover a sustainable way forward.

We need others to help us

Given the fast-paced changes and complexity of our world, it is clear that we need to do some things differently. One way is to collaborate with more people and organizations to fulfill our mission. We have begun to explore a host of possibilities for partnering with others in creative and exciting ways. As an example, we have a beautiful campus in the heart of the Twin Cities. At times, such as evenings and weekends, we have excess capacity. So, I have been meeting with presidents of colleges and nonprofit organizations around the region to start discussing potential ways they might utilize our campus during our off-peak times.

We are looking forward with hope and imagination

In the last year and a half, we've made significant progress in getting our financial situation in order. In fact, I'm pleased to announce the addition of Michael Morrow, our new vice president of finance and administration. Michael is a seasoned financial executive with experience in both large and small organizations, including Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota and Children's Home Society and Family Services. He is a proven leader with expertise in financial management, turnaround operations, contract negotiations and staff administration. We are excited to have him continue the good work of our former interim VP, Bill Frame. Michael will start on Oct. 1.

As we have addressed our financial situation, we have experienced an anticipated decline in enrollment, which mirrors an overall national decline in students attending seminaries. This comes at a time when there is a growing need for more church leaders. So, we are imagining new ways to educate more leaders while continuing to manage our finances carefully. We are discussing new offerings which will attract more students—both for our academic and our Lifelong Learning programs. We are also exploring new partnerships that will leverage our expertise, our property and our resources in ways that will continue to help us share the good news of God's saving grace.

The church and the world are going through dramatic changes. And the message of God's love is desperately needed. We remain committed to educating leaders for Christian communities and are excited about doing so in creative and meaningful ways.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Peace,
Robin Steinke
President



This email was sent to pstrbolstad@gmail.com from:
Luther Seminary | 2481 Como Ave. | St. Paul, MN 55108
<https://www.luthersem.edu/president/>

Important Updates from Luther Seminary: January 2016

Dear Pastor Bolstad,

Greetings in the name of the newborn Christ!

Though the Christmas decorations are tucked away, we Christians can celebrate the gift of the nativity well after the candles and carols have faded. Days are short in Minnesota at this time of year, but we are guided by the light of Christ. May it be also with you.

January in Minnesota

January on Luther Seminary's campus was a snapshot of the evolving, flexing mission in which we, and you, are engaged. Just over one hundred (106) distributed learning students came from all over the country to spend two weeks in residence here, having rare and precious time together face-to-face, deepening the relationships they have developed on-line during the rest of the year. An additional 320 students took short and intensive J-term courses on campus, including this J-term's most popular course, *Genesis to Revelation*, taught by our Academic Dean and Revelation scholar, Dr. Craig Koester. More than seventy students participated in this class, including students from other ELCA seminaries.

Each of our students has been blessed by your support of this mission, not just as they make their way through their degree, but beyond. Your support takes root and grows as they enter their first ministry settings. Thirty-five of our seniors (18% of the anticipated graduating class) were able to graduate in December/January and head out into congregations and other ministry settings all over the country and across the globe. What a powerful difference you have made in the vitality of the church's future!

Imagining future, making plans

Meanwhile, we are at work imagining the future of theological education and the campus we need to facilitate it. While things are bustling now, we still have significant unused spaces in our buildings and property. For the last few years, we've been divesting from ongoing costs of upkeep and converting unused space into mission critical assets for ourselves, other worthy organizations and the neighborhood.

The two latest efforts include the sale of a small parcel of land on the upper campus and another piece of land on the lower campus. In December, we signed a purchase agreement with Ecumen for a 1.6-acre parcel off Luther Place, along the southeast edge of campus. On this parcel, Ecumen will build a 49-unit senior cooperative, hoping to open in late 2017. Ecumen has been doing ministry for 150+ years, sprung from Lutheran roots. Its mission is to create home for older adults wherever they choose to live. St. Anthony Park, the community the Seminary calls home, expressed a need for more senior housing. This is a win-win.

We have just signed a purchase agreement for the second parcel along the southwest corner of our property, the field at the bottom of the hill at the corner of Como and Eustis. Health Partners, whose oldest clinic in the Twin Cities stands across the street, plans to build a new clinic on the land, with groundbreaking expected in three to four years. For more information, visit www.luthersem.edu/news.

If all goes as planned, we expect to close on both agreements in the summer of 2016. Now our attention can shift to our core campus as we envision the future of our students and educational mission. Our buildings, built with pride and hope, are aging and demanding our stewardship. I look forward to sharing additional plans with you in the months ahead.

The path toward financial **sustainability**

Our year-end financials are on target, and our recovery continues to move faster than we projected. Our Boards, administration, faculty and staff are committed to closing our operating deficit, on a path to being consistent with the Board's October 2013 definition of financial **sustainability**: a balanced budget with a 2.5% operating reserve. We are grateful for this goal. It's an important commitment to you as we steward your gifts.

This is a time of great promise, whether we steward a seminary, a congregation, a community, a business or a family. I know you are faithfully discerning God's calling in your life, or you would not be supporters of this mission. The importance of the gospel as a response to the pain and complexity of life is no less crucial than it's been in the past. Communities of faith, at their best, are arbiters of hope and peace, justice and mercy. Leaders of those communities are shaped here, inspired by your generosity and commitment to the gospel's impact in the world.

I am grateful for your faithful support of Luther Seminary and its mission. I cannot say how important it is that you ask us to do this work on your behalf. I invite your prayers for me, as president of this institution, and for our boards, and for all of us who serve this mission on a daily basis.

I rejoice in the community of saints that surrounds us, the legacy of those who have gone before, and your witness through your financial support and prayer. I thank my God every time I think of you!

In the light of Christ,

The Rev. Dr. Robin J. Steinke

President

This email was sent to pstrbolstad@gmail.com from:
Luther Seminary | 2481 Como Ave. | St. Paul, MN 55108
<https://www.luthersem.edu/>

Important Updates from Luther Seminary: May 2016

Dear Pastor Bolstad,

Just days from now, we will gather for Commencement ceremonies at Central Lutheran Church in downtown Minneapolis. More than 150 new leaders will walk across the stage to receive their diplomas. In so many ways, these lives are an embodiment of our newly adopted vision:

Luther Seminary will be a catalyst
of God's transforming work for church and world.

You are receiving this letter because you are a part of this remarkable process of forming leaders for service in Christian community. So, first, my thanks for being our partner in mission. We cannot prepare these leaders without you, your financial support, your prayers, encouragement and trust. You are the church, and through your support of this mission, you are laying a foundation for decades to come.

Strategic planning

We have just completed our spring board meeting, where we enacted a new vision for the future flourishing of Luther Seminary's mission. Our strategic planning process emerged with three pillars to guide our work going forward.

Leadership

The singular focus of our mission is to raise up pastors and other leaders for Christian communities. We continue to demonstrate expanding use of new technologies through our free online resource, Working Preacher. In the last year, the site received 3.3 million visits from people in 230 countries and territories. A new feature, Reflect and Connect, offers thoughtful questions for any who prepare for worship by reviewing the lectionary (RCL) texts assigned for the week.

Our staff, faculty and boards are all engaged in raising up leaders who will be prepared for and responsive to the needs of today's church and world—and resourceful enough to engage tomorrow's challenges. Innovative use of podcasts, webinars and digitally mediated classroom instruction all contribute to bringing our mission to life in this age of technology.

Community

We are imagining community in new ways. The mix of residential and online learning is creating opportunities that are blessing many. Students and faculty are on campus to learn and teach in more intensive times of formation that are spread over a year rather than weekly sessions within a semester. This flexibility is our new normal, but place really matters. What does this mean for our future campus needs? What does "coming together" look like in the digital age? Clearly, our campus has to be flexible and adaptive to better respond to the need for intensive periods of formation.

Our property footprint is evolving. Our calling to be good stewards of our physical resources is the foundation for our conversations. We are exploring consolidating offices in Bockman Hall and making classroom and handicapped-accessibility (ADA) improvements in Gullixson Hall, both vibrant places of formation for our mission and ministry.

Collaboration

We've been collaborating with other expressions of the church for a long time in contextual education and clinical pastoral education, moving our students out into congregations and hospitals to grow their practical skills. Given what we are learning about developing leaders, we imagine new ways of working with other seminaries and the church to better leverage collaboration, avoid unnecessary duplication and strengthen the public witness of the gospel.

We want to strengthen our financial sustainability through collaborative work. An example of this is already in action. Augsburg College's Physician Assistant program is now located on the seminary campus. Space that was underused on our campus is now alive with learning. This partnership, and others like it, will continue to evolve to benefit our mission, theirs and that of the greater church.

Financial sustainability

Much of the conversation at the May board meeting was about long-term financial sustainability. We are far enough along in this journey to be able to think proactively now. We see a right-sized future as a \$17- to \$18-million learning community, smaller than the \$21-million budget that we imagined in the past. Of course, this kind of financial reset demands innovative thinking.

In early April, I had lunch with Society of Stewards donors, people who have supported Luther Seminary's mission with an annual gift of at least \$1,000. I was so moved by the faithfulness I saw in those faces, some of whom have been giving generously for decades. Their commitment to this mission is both humbling and inspiring. In them, in you and in our students, I see the promises of God at work.

The decisions before us are challenging, but they simultaneously offer a powerful opportunity to impact the future of the church and its gospel work. What might you do?

- Look around you. Do you see future pastors? Church leaders? Encourage them and tell them about Luther Seminary.
- Come to campus or visit us online. Our continuing education offerings are rich, whether you are professionally or personally curious.
- Pray for me, and our faculty, staff, students and boards.

Your support, both financially and in prayer, makes an impact. We commit to pray for you, and the ministry happening in your congregations and institutions across the globe. Paul's words for the congregation in Rome are for all of us:

*Be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern
what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. —Romans 12:2b*

In Christ's service,

The Rev. Dr. Robin J. Steinke

President

This email was sent to pstrbolstad@gmail.com from:

Luther Seminary | 2481 Como Ave. | St. Paul, MN 55108

<https://www.luthersem.edu/>

Luther Seminary – Office of the President: May 2017

Dear Pastor Bolstad,

Campus was buzzing in January. Distributed learning students streamed in from all over the country to take courses compressed into "intensives" that last a week or two. We are delighted that they bring along the energy they have built over months of online interaction. Students who are officially registered as residential also take advantage of the courses available during these intensive weeks. Then the Doctor of Ministry students make their way here from their ministry settings to support each other as they nurture their ministry skills together, engaged and enthused by how they are growing.

We have the privilege of watching this amazing mix of learners create holy energy together, being formed as the leaders they are called to be. Walk into any building on campus and you can see small groups of people huddled in rich conversation, asking questions, wondering about theology and life and the nature of ministry in the 21st century. This is exactly what Luther Seminary exists for.

For those of us who studied and lived on seminary campuses even as recently as a decade ago, the pace of life on campus between January and June would seem strangely quiet with only about eleven percent of our students in residence. January and June are powerful, tangible reminders that tendrils of theological energy spread from here all over the country as these learners return to the geographies and ministry settings they call home.

I remain deeply grateful for your support: your prayer, your good will and your financial giving. Your generosity at calendar year end means we can meet budget for the first half of our fiscal year.

Changing demographics

Our boards met in early February and began putting together budget building blocks for the next fiscal year (FY18) that begins on July 1. Our commitment to financial **sustainability** means we will become leaner in FY18. As many of you know, becoming leaner can be painful, but it also invites us to imagine new ways to do the important work of preparing leaders for Christian communities.

In the ELCA, demographic changes are demanding that we do our best. At the same time, our enrollment numbers are getting smaller, retirement numbers are growing. This means congregations, especially those in rural areas, are finding it more difficult to call new leaders. This is a challenge for the whole church.

I am drawn to Paul's idea of the body of Christ. To raise up leaders, we all have a part to play, not just those of us formally called. For example, I can hear the voice of the Sunday School teacher who once saw in me some potential for a vocation in church leadership. We can each make formative contributions by just observing and speaking to young people in our congregations. "I see gifts in you. Listen for your call. Might it be to church leadership?" Imagine the impact!

And what about encouraging the leaders you have? Students at Luther Seminary may be preparing for their first call to serve, or they may be well seasoned, here to grow their insight and capacity to lead. Think of the impact you could have if you lobbied for continuing education resources for the leaders who serve you. They will be blessed, and so will you.

The mission continues

Meanwhile, we continue to imagine and reimagine a model of theological education that will be financially healthy and **sustainable** for learners, for the seminary and for the church.

- Our collaborative work with Augsburg College is moving forward. Our information systems teams have integrated, and our library teams are planning an integrated organizational structure. Our business offices, communications teams and campus ministries are all in discovery phases. We are looking for efficiencies, not merger.
- In mid-May, the Festival of Homiletics will be in San Antonio, Texas under the theme "Preaching at the Borders." We estimate that nearly 2,000 ecumenical preachers will gather to hear great preaching and grow their skills. A recent Pew study indicates that 83% of Americans say the quality of preaching played an important role in their choice of congregation*. Supporting preachers is crucial.
- We are estimating a graduating class of around 130. They will head out into ministry before we know it. This year's clergy tax seminar, offered each spring to seniors, was just announced, a sure sign that commencement is around the corner. This is why we do what we do. This is what you support. Just as our distributed students create a web of theological energy across the country, so do our graduates. Perhaps one of them will be your new leader.

Living in the light

In this Epiphany season, I hear Scripture calling us to look to the light of Christ and to be the light of Christ in the world. We are all a part of that light, our students, we who are called to daily work here, and you. We are both blessed by it and called to serve it. This is our community of saints, each doing our part to bring the grace and mercy of the gospel to the world.

Every time I think of you I thank my God. Please remember us in your prayers as well.

With gratitude,

The Rev. Dr. Robin J. Steinke

President

*Pew Research Center, "Choosing a New Church or House of Worship", August 23, 2016

This email was sent to pstrbolstad@gmail.com from:

Luther Seminary | 2481 Como Ave. | St. Paul, MN 55108

<https://www.luthersem.edu/>

Luther Seminary – Office of the President: August 24, 2017

Dear Pastor Bolstad,

You have no doubt heard that 2017 is a special year, the 500th anniversary of the year Martin Luther made his 95 Theses public. From the hindsight of 500 years, it's pretty clear the Holy Spirit was at work, shaping faith and the church for its future. But I can imagine that in the middle of things, it wasn't that clear. Martin Luther's capacity to stay curious and focused on the gospel has proved to be a powerful gift to all of us who follow in his footsteps.

Our time is not so different from his. In this time of tremendous change, in our world and in the church, we are called to stay curious about what God is up to and focused on the gospel. This is not just true for those of us in faith communities, but also for all of us who care about the mission of Luther Seminary. Luther Seminary is positioned to be a pivotal influence on the future of the church as a steward of the next generation of leaders and supporter of those who lead now.

Though Martin Luther never imagined that there would be Lutherans or Protestants of all kinds, he clearly addressed the future of the church and faith. He translated into common German the bible and the liturgy to reduce the barriers between regular folks and the gospel. At Luther Seminary, we are seeking to reduce barriers to service in the gospel, asking important questions about the nature of ministry, the requirements to lead, and what theological education should look like for the future.

- Just last month, over 270 experienced leaders gathered on campus for Rethinking Church. There were so many good questions and so much good thinking! Check out the Twitter feed: [#LSRethinking2017](#). You can also dive into the thinking of the first presenter, Tod Bolsinger, by reading his recent book, *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory*.

- More and more, we are seeing our work not just focused on the four years needed to earn a degree, but as support for a career of service for leaders of all kinds, clergy and lay. Check out our [KAIROS courses](#), whether you are rostered or... curious.

- And Working Preacher continues to provide weekly support to all who are interested in exploring the texts for Sundays, whenever and wherever they want access. I've talked to many non-preachers who use Working Preacher to deepen their own understanding of the texts. Try it yourself: [WorkingPreacher.org](#).

We have watched the whole seminary community step up this summer as we managed staff changes in student services. While our new Director for Admissions, Elizabeth Schoenkecht, took much needed weeks off to be with her newborn, students, faculty and staff pooled energy and enthusiasm to contact potential students to answer questions and encourage. We expect our enrollment will be flat compared to last year's incoming class. This is good for Luther Seminary, but it is especially good for the congregations they will someday serve. We are also welcoming a new Dean of Students, The Rev. Angela Shannon.

Our preliminary financial results from the fiscal year that ended in June are looking promising. We spent nearly 10% less on personnel than the year before. This requires serious rethinking about how we do our work, but it goes a long way toward reducing the cost of a theological education, since our greatest asset and our greatest expense is people. We did better than budget on the revenue side and on the expense side. Including depreciation, our operating loss will be \$711,000, which is \$1 million better than budget. Excluding depreciation, we had a gain of \$650,000. We continue to make progress toward financial [sustainability](#). Audited results will be available in November when we publish the Annual Report.

It is an exciting time to be the church — though the future is not clear, the gospel has not lost any of its promise. You are our partners as stewards of the future church. You support Luther Seminary through prayer and financial generosity. You can also notice and encourage young people (or not so young!) who have gifts to be the leaders the church needs to navigate these times. Following in Luther's footsteps, you can learn more about your faith and the stories that are its foundation, both biblical and historical. Read the bible, and, like Luther, ask hard questions with others who also wonder about who God is and how God is at work in our world. We would be happy to welcome you and your questions here!

Gratefully,

The Rev. Dr. Robin J. Steinke

President

This email was sent to pstrbolstad@gmail.com from:

Luther Seminary | 2481 Como Ave. | St. Paul, MN 55108

<https://www.luthersem.edu/>

Important Updates from Luther Seminary: June 2018

Dear Pastor Bolstad,

Spring is always an exciting time at Luther Seminary. On May 20, 111 students received their diplomas and are now embarking on the next stage of their journeys as Christian public leaders. Many more are gearing up for internships, summer intensives, or clinical pastoral education. Still others are preparing to join the Luther community in just a few months; in fact, as of this writing, we have more commitments from new students for the fall than we did this time last year.

But what makes this spring especially exciting is that we are beginning to catch a glimpse of the vibrant, inspiring, innovative future that God has in store for Luther Seminary.

Let me take you inside some of the most significant recent developments—all of which are rooted in the vision statement the Board adopted in October: *"The Holy Spirit calls Luther Seminary to lead faithful innovation for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a rapidly changing world."*

Starting this fall, all incoming M.A. and M.Div. students will receive 100% tuition scholarships. In perhaps our boldest experiment yet, the Board approved an initiative to provide full-tuition scholarships for all admitted students receiving their Master of Arts and Master of Divinity degrees. We're calling it the Jubilee Scholarship, a reference to the biblical season of forgiveness of debts.

Student debt is a growing crisis in the United States, and in a rapidly changing church and world, leaders need to be free to take risks, innovate, and make decisions based on the Holy Spirit's movement—not financial constraints. This initiative is crucial to our goal to reduce the average indebtedness of Luther Seminary graduates by one-third by 2023.

Of course, tuition only goes so far; most student loans are used to cover living expenses. It will take all of us—donors, pastors, congregations, judicatories, and denominations—to lift up the next generation of leaders and provide the financial support they need. I invite you to join us in our goal to reduce student indebtedness by one-third, and I look forward to keeping you apprised of our progress.

We're leaning into a new vision of an inclusive, counter-cultural, Christ-centered community. This semester, a representative group of students, faculty, and staff—including international community members, students and staff of color, individuals who identify as LGBTQ+, representatives from a cross-section of ecclesial traditions, and political and theological progressives and conservatives—collaborated on an intentional welcome statement that gets to the heart of who we are as a learning community.

The statement, which was endorsed by the faculty, student council, and board, is more than a boilerplate item on an institutional checklist. It reflects our deepest hopes and dreams for what Luther Seminary can be: a vibrant community where people with profound differences can engage in passionate dialogue, form deep relationships and embody unity in Christ. In a world that is increasingly fractured and polarized, we feel called to model another way forward. Imagine a conservative Pentecostal student from the global south, a Midwestern Lutheran from America's heartland, and an LGBTQ+ student from a progressive urban center meeting together in scripture, breaking bread, and offering mutual welcome to one another. Remarkably, this happens every day at Luther Seminary—one of a shrinking number of places where such encounters remain possible.

We know our students will be sent into communities to minister to people whose backgrounds and perspectives differ from theirs. For the sake of our students and the churches they will serve, it is vital to prepare them for the pluralistic world that awaits them. That's what this welcome statement is all about. Here it is in full:

Luther Seminary is a learning community rooted in the unconditional promise of God's love for all people. In Christ, all are neighbors one to another. In a dynamic of mutual welcome, we seek to learn from one another's particularities, including but not limited to differences of race, ethnicity, nationality, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic circumstance, disability, political perspective, ecclesial tradition, and theological commitments. Intentional learning happens through critical discourse that challenges previously held assumptions. Faculty, staff, students, and board members commit to engaging deeply in Christ-centered relationships across differences through honest, courageous, and respectful dialogue. This is possible only by the grace of God. We pray that through the power of the Holy Spirit, we will be a community of reconciliation, and one that educates Christian public leaders who can be conduits of God's healing and mercy in the world.

We are re-imagining the campus of the future. Students engage with theological education differently now than they did in the past. Nearly half of our students are distance learners who come to campus for weeklong, face-to-face intensives twice a year, and experience the rest of their learning through digital technology. Developments in pedagogy have changed the way our professors teach.

Now, instead of fully lecture-based methods, students engage in small group collaboration, technology-assisted learning, and robust discussion both in class and online. This requires flexible learning and collaboration spaces, assisted by leading-edge technology.

To adapt to the changing realities of theological education, be good stewards of our physical resources, and to create the nimble, forward-looking, innovative campus that will serve our students for generations to come, the board recently passed a resolution to reset our campus on a smaller and **sustainable** footprint, with the Olson Campus Center and Gullixson Hall at its core.

This means that we are planning to put the lower campus, including Northwestern and Stub Halls, on the market this summer. In addition, we have also begun exploring opportunities to partner with a third-party developer to repurpose Bockman Hall for student housing while not retaining ownership of the building.

I know this will be bittersweet news for those who have deep ties to these spaces, and great care will be taken to preserve the most cherished aspects of both Northwestern and Luther Theological Seminaries' history, artwork, and legacies.

This decision has been prayerfully and deliberately considered by our students, faculty, administration, and board. With grateful hearts, we bring the gifts of the past into the future and look forward to serving our mission of educating leaders for Christian communities in the 21st century and beyond.

It's an exhilarating time to be living into God's future, but none of this is possible without your help. We need your prayers, your involvement, and your investment. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Seminary. Likewise, I offer up prayers for your ministries and callings—wherever and however you find yourself serving in God's world.

Grace and peace to you,

The Rev. Dr. Robin J. Steinke

President

This email was sent to pstrbolstad@gmail.com from:

Luther Seminary | 2481 Como Ave. | St. Paul, MN 55108

<https://www.luthersem.edu/>

Landmark philanthropic gift to pilot innovative two-year MDiv program: July 10, 2018

Dear Pastor Bolstad,

I am thrilled to share some incredible news. Through the generosity of Dean Buntrock, Luther Seminary has received the largest single donation in its history: a **\$21.4 million commitment to pilot a two-year Master of Divinity program**. Our new vision of leading faithful innovation for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ calls us to undertake exactly this kind of leadership formation.

This transformative investment promotes game-changing innovation in educating church leaders, ultimately serving the ELCA and other church bodies across the nation. You can read our news announcement about the program here: <http://luthersem.edu/news>.

The gift funds an initial year of planning and development, in 2018-19, and then financially supports three cohorts of up to 30 students beginning in the fall of 2019, 2020, and 2021. We will intentionally recruit exceptional candidates from across the nation who show potential to be spiritually strong, theologically faithful, and entrepreneurially innovative. Cohorts will work

through the curriculum year-round for two consecutive years, while completing concurrent part-time congregational internships. Because the program design involves an adjusted academic calendar but no change to the curriculum, the pilot program does not require accreditation review.

A key goal of this generous funding is to ensure students incur no additional personal debt to earn their degree. Students will receive full-tuition scholarships, books and other learning materials, computer software, and travel expenses for immersion experiences. They also will receive living expense stipends and be paid for their internships in accordance with ELCA standards. By reducing the time spent in seminary to two years, students will realize significant savings in living expenditures, estimated at more than \$100,000 per learner.

To operationalize the program, the Buntrock gift will fund the addition of several faculty and staff positions--for instruction, learning technology support, student recruitment, coordination of candidacy processes, and internship management. Additionally, the budget includes investments in technology, outside expertise for program design and assessment, and marketing. Rolf Jacobson, professor of Old Testament and The Alvin N. Rogness Chair of Scripture, Theology and Ministry, will serve as project director for the five-year pilot.

Finally, it is important to note that the proposed program will include rigorous assessment of student learning, program efficiency, program **sustainability**, and graduate success. Luther Seminary has committed to ongoing assessment throughout the pilot in order to make necessary adjustments in real time and deliver the highest quality education possible. Findings from the pilot project will be shared periodically across the ELCA and the entire system of theological education, impacting the ways in which theological education is delivered across the church.

This is an extremely exciting moment for Luther and the church as we faithfully innovate new ways of preparing spiritually strong, theologically faithful, and adaptive Christian leaders for the sake of God's world.

Heartfelt thanks to the entire community for your engagement in Luther Seminary's mission, and for your willingness to lean into the work to which God has called us. This would not be possible without you.

In gratitude and joy,

The Rev. Dr. Robin J. Steinke

President

This email was sent to pstrbolstad@gmail.com from:

Luther Seminary | 2481 Como Ave. | St. Paul, MN 55108

<https://www.luthersem.edu/>

Luther Seminary Receives \$21.4 Million for Master of Divinity Program

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Luther Seminary has received the largest single donation in its history: a \$21.4 million commitment to pilot an accelerated Master of Divinity program.

The program, which covers tuition and some living expenses for students, will launch in fall 2019. It enables students to complete their degrees more quickly while ensuring that they take on new personal debt.

Dean Buntrock, the founder and former chairman and CEO of Waste Management, Inc., and long-time benefactor of Lutheran higher education, made the donation covering the five-year pilot program. The donation includes a year of planning and resources to add faculty and staff.

"This pilot project is designed to inspire and support innovative leadership development churchwide," Buntrock said. "It will attract exceptional candidates from across the nation who show potential to be spiritually strong, theologically faithful, and entrepreneurially innovative. The outcome will lead to further church leadership innovation for years to come. It is also my hope that others in the church will step up and ensure the long term and broad **sustainability** of education for our church."

Buntrock's gift builds on Luther's new vision, new curriculum and, starting in fall 2018, the new Jubilee full tuition scholarship for all Master of Divinity and Master of Arts students admitted to Luther Seminary.

"This transformative investment by Dean Buntrock promotes game-changing innovation in education church leaders, ultimately serving the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and church bodies across the nation," said Rev. Dr. Robin J. Steinke, president of Luther Seminary. "Luther Seminary's new vision calls us to undertake exactly this kind of leadership formation, embedded within some of the most adaptive congregations we serve."

Students enrolled in this newly designed Master of Divinity will work through the curriculum year-round while completing concurrent part-time congregational internships that provide high-impact learning experiences through real-world application. They will receive full-tuition scholarships, living expense stipends, books and other learning materials, computer software, and travel expenses for immersion experiences. They also will be paid for their internships in accordance with ELCA standards. In addition, by reducing the time spent in seminary, students will realize a significant savings in living expenses, estimated at more than \$100,000 per learner.

"Identifying, inviting, equipping, and supporting leaders is one of the highest priorities for our work in the ELCA," said Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton, who launched the ELCA Leadership Initiative in November 2016. "We are thankful for Dean Buntrock's generous investment in Lutheran theological education and the benefits this innovative pilot program will have across the church."

Founded in 1869 by Norwegian Lutheran immigrants, Luther Seminary currently educates nearly 40 percent of the ELCA's pastors and church leaders, provides continuing education to more than 3,000 pastors each year, and supports more than 50,000 pastors every week through our Working Preacher digital resource.

Our vision is this: the Holy Spirit calls Luther Seminary to lead faithful innovation for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a rapidly changing world.

https://www.luthersem.edu/news/press_room.aspx?news_item_id=383

<http://philanthropynewsdigest.org/news/luther-seminary-receives-21.4-million-for-master-of-divinity-program>

<https://www.parkbugle.org/luther-seminary-receives-21-4-million-grant/>

Luther Seminary – Office of the President: January 14, 2019

The new year is always a wonderful time to reflect on the past and lean into what God is stirring for the future. This time around there's much to be excited about! Allow me to share just some of what has us grateful for the year that's gone and energized by the year that's dawning.

We entering a historic period of strength, **sustainability**, and vibrancy – and it's begun with listening deeply to the church. In 2018 we embarked on an adventure: We sent teams of faculty and staff, two by two, across the country to list to synods and congregations about their challenges, successes, hopes, and fears.

Since September, we've visited twelve synod and more than 50 congregations to see first-hand what they're doing and ask them about the Holy Spirit's movement in their midst. We've discovered the core challenge facing the church in this moment is the need for deep formation of Christian faith and identity among youth, church members, lay leaders, and even pastors. So, we're asking ourselves: How is Luther Seminary uniquely equipped to respond to this core challenge?

One step is to make spiritual and community formation a hallmark of a Luther Seminary education. Our new accelerated Master of Divinity program, MDivX, integrates formation in every aspect of seminary journey through real-world ministry experiences, prayer and dwelling in Scripture. More broadly, we're in our second year of Spirit Lab, an experimental program operating out of the office of the seminary pastor, which seeks to identify meaningful spiritual practices our students, faculty, and staff can participate in together.

What about outside the walls of the seminary? We've convened several learning communities of pastors, synod leaders, and lay leaders to gather with Luther Seminary coaches to explore breakthrough practices for ministry in the 21st century. Just this month, we're launching a new website called Faith+Lead that puts leaders in touch with the resources, experiments, and communities adapting to the challenges of forming Christian faith in a pluralistic age.

We're designing the campus of the future to allow us to be nimble, flexible, and connected. We continue to make progress on our plan to focus the seminary's footprint on the upper campus, and, ultimately, vacate the lower campus.

For the past several months, our architects have been hard at work helping us conceptualize the campus of the future. So far, the schematic design includes flexible classrooms, learning laboratories, spaces for faculty and staff collaboration, community spaces for gathering, and spaces for worship and reflection. A contemplative walking path will surround campus, and outdoor water features that recall God's baptismal promises will accent newly designed **sustainable** landscaping. You can see conceptual images in the latest issue of Story magazine; find it at luthersem.edu/story.

Additionally, in December we began nonbinding negotiations with a team of developers about the sale of Northwester, Stub, and Bockman Halls. Our hope is to come to terms on a purchase agreement that we can present to the board in February.

Our financial position is stronger than ever. In Fiscal Year 2108, our endowment topped \$100 million for the first time. We're projecting budget surpluses for the next five years. More importantly, we have made the adjustments to our stewardship practices to ensure our **sustainability** long-term. After several years of financial setbacks, the future looks bright.

Of course, none of this would be possible without your faithful support – in good times and in challenging times. Your continued prayers, engagement, and generous financial gifts have carried us to this moment. As we live into the vision to which the Holy Spirit has called us, we need your support as much as ever. Thank you for being part of what makes our work possible.

With 2019 dawning, let's keep the momentum going. This is promising to be yet another exciting year of growth and transformation for Luther Seminary and all who are invested in our community. We look forward to the journey ahead!

Joyous blessings in the new year,

Robin J. Steinke

President

This letter was sent by postal mail to The Rev. Lowell Bolstad from:

Luther Seminary | 2481 Como Ave. | St. Paul, MN 55108

[The following internet address is the article to which President Steinke referred.]

Spacious innovation - Story Magazine - Luther Seminary

https://www.luthersem.edu/story/default.aspx?article_id=550&issue_id=58

Luther Seminary – Office of the President: November 1, 2019

Dear Lowell,

With each passing year, the changes in the church grow ever more pronounced. Recently, our Vice President for Innovation Dwight Zscheile wrote a provocative piece on our new digital hub for church leaders, Faith+Lead (check it out at faithlead.luthersem.edu) titled "Will the ELCA Be Gone in 30 Years?" A copy of his article is enclosed for your review.

In it, he cites internal statistics from the ELCA that project steadily declining membership and attendance at weekly worship services. Other statistics show that the gap between the number of congregations with sufficient resources to hire a pastor and the number of pastors available for hire is increasing, while the number of new candidates for rostered leadership is falling.

And the decline is not just in the ELCA. A similar picture could be painted of nearly every religious group in America. Especially among younger generations, fewer and fewer people find meaning and community in traditional church structures. Additional research from Pew Research makes clear that they're seeking meaning and community elsewhere-in family, career, money, and friends.

Here at Luther Seminary, we've done considerable research into this trend by listening deeply to the church, and the core challenge that's emerged is this: too many of our congregations struggle to help members form deep Christian identity, practice, and faith.

This challenge isn't something that can be solved by technical fixes-changing the style of worship or adding or subtracting programs. Our churches can be transformed only by the power of the Holy Spirit, as leaders and everyday disciples make faithful changes through discernment, experiment, and prayer.

When we say that Luther Seminary is called by the Holy Spirit to lead faithful innovation for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ in a rapidly changing world, this call to holy experimentation is precisely what we mean.

Luther Seminary is uniquely positioned to do this work. As other seminaries struggle in the wake of the social and religious shifts I've described, we are entering a period of increasing strength and sustainability by the grace of God and the impact of your generous gifts.

I'm thrilled to announce that in 2019, we balanced the budget and ended the fiscal year with a surplus. Together with our plans to create a campus footprint that will allow us to be more nimble and responsive to the ways in which God is calling us, we are making decisions now that will allow us to be sustainable for generations to come.

We're in the second year of our Jubilee Scholarship, a program that provides all incoming Master of Divinity and Master of Arts students a full-tuition scholarship. Since then, the average graduate indebtedness has fallen 19%, putting us well on track to meet our goal of reducing the student indebtedness of Luther Seminary graduates by one-third by 2023.

The momentum is growing in our admission efforts as well: over the past academic year, applications increased 400% and we made the maximum number of fully-funded offers to incoming students. Of course, this means there are some students who were put on a waiting list-which is why it's so urgent that we continue to raise funds for scholarships!

In June, we welcomed the first cohort of our MDivX pilot, who will be able to complete their MDiv programs in just twenty-four consecutive months. This will enable MDivX graduates to enter parish ministry sooner-and because their theological education is paid for, they'll graduate without taking on additional debt.

Most importantly, we're deep in the process of discerning the innovative adjustment needed to train leaders for Christian communities in our contemporary context. We are committed to ensuring that a Luther Seminary education prepares leaders to respond to the challenges facing the church and equips them to discover and co-create the new expressions of Christian community that God is raising up.

Of course, there is more work yet to do. As the church and culture continue to change, we'll need to steward our resources in such a way that we can keep ourselves in a position to adapt and respond faithfully to the Holy Spirit's movement. Thank you so much for your ongoing support and prayers-it is what makes all this possible.

Together, we can ensure that Luther Seminary is poised to educate leaders for Christian communities well into the future!

Faithfully yours,

The Rev. Robin J. Steinke, PhD

President

This letter was sent by postal mail to The Rev. Lowell Bolstad from:
Luther Seminary | 2481 Como Ave. | St. Paul, MN 55108

Leaders Who Last: Sustaining Yourself and Your Ministry [Margaret J. Marcuson]

Is helping others overrated? Is ministry a recipe for burnout? How can pastors last the course? Author and pastor Margaret Marcuson introduces the notion of "sustainable ministry," which trains and empowers pastors to focus on their inner resources for proactive leadership, instead of trying harder to help, fix or change others.

Leaders Who Last draws upon the author's own pastoral experience and leadership, plus a significant analysis of leadership in both families and churches over generations. Interviews with current church leaders punctuate chapters on stress, spiritual practice, church triangles, relationships, self-awareness, money, and creating a climate where true change can take place.



<http://www.amazon.com/Leaders-Who-Last-Sustaining-Yourself/dp/1596270950>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/6075711-leaders-who-last>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/leaders-who-last-margaret-j-marcuson/1014604205>

<https://www.christianbook.com/leaders-last-sustaining-yourself-your-ministry/margaret-marcuson/9781596270954/pd/270954>

<https://www.churchpublishing.org/products/leaderswholast>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Leaders_Who_Last.html?id=0RtXimqrN_IC

Leaders Who Last: Sustaining Yourself and Your Ministry

Leaders Who Last: Sustaining Yourself and Your Ministry by Margaret J. Marcuson - Pinterest

<http://abc.djstechnologies.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/minmag100315marcuson.pdf>

<https://www.facebook.com/margaret.marcuson/posts/10153489031687763>

<http://www.margaretmarcuson.com/leaderswholast/>

<https://www.facebook.com/margaret.marcuson>

<https://www.amazon.com/Margaret-J.-Marcuson/e/B002G1PKAG>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/2774134.Margaret_J_Marcuson

[Images for margaret j. marcuson \(author\)](#)

[Images for Leaders Who Last: Sustaining Yourself and Your Ministry \[Margaret J. Marcuson\]](#)

Midwest Renewable Energy Association | Solar Training, The Energy Fair

Now in its 28th year, The Energy Fair is the nation's longest-running renewable energy and sustainability event.

<https://www.midwestrenew.org/>

[Images for Midwest Renewable Energy Association](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/themrea/> The Midwest Renewable Energy Association - Home | Facebook

<https://www.youtube.com/user/midwestrenew> Midwest Renewable Energy Association - YouTube

[PDF] Report of the Memorials Committee - ELCA Resource Repository

Category D10: Merging or Consolidating Synods

RESOLVED, that the ELCA Church Council encourage the Conference of Bishops to take actions in their respective synods to implement changes that will strengthen the ELCA in its **sustainability** for mission and service to God's Kingdom and to the world.

[https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Section VII-Report of Memorials Committee.pdf](https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Section%20VII-Report%20of%20Memorials%20Committee.pdf) Page 89
[Images for sustainability for mission and service to God's Kingdom](#)

125 best Sustainable Living images on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/mobotgarden/sustainable-living/>
[Images for sustainable living on pinterest](#)
<https://www.pinterest.com/VestCoastEscrow/sustainable-living/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/wildplanetfoods/sustainable-living/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/jimhickey/simple-sustainable-living/>
[Images for pinterest/simple-sustainable-living](#)
<https://www.pinterest.com/inventiveideas/frugal-sustainable-living/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/theparksgirl/green-homes-and-sustainable-living/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/taigacompany/sustainable-lifestyle/>
[Images for pinterest/sustainable-lifestyle](#)

Strategic and Sustainable Ministry Policy

We share a collective obligation of stewardship that requires us to work together to ensure that our ministry is as healthy and vibrant as possible. This obligation arises not only from our shared collective mission but also from scripture and from our vision of extending the kingdom and building communities of hope. It is core to our collective organizational purpose.

http://www.churchwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/sustainable_and_strategic_ministry_policy.pdf
[Images for Strategic and Sustainable Ministry Policy – Church Works](#)

[PDF] Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All - ELCA Resource Repository

Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All conveys ELCA teaching that economic activity is a means through which God's will is served for the thriving and well-being of humankind and the care of the earth. It recognizes that even though sin distorts human activity, we are called to practice economic activity justly and with special concern for those who live in poverty. In this work, the church is guided by the biblically grounded imperative to seek sufficient, sustainable livelihood for all. This means recognizing the loving scope of God's concern (for all), the means by which life is sustained (livelihood), what is needed (sufficiency) and entails a long-term perspective (sustainability). The statement recognizes that these criteria may be in tension with one another, but together they provide a sound framework for discernment and action. Toward that purpose, the statement discusses commerce, law, vocation, public policy, work, human dignity, agriculture, business and efforts to empower those who live in poverty. This statement was adopted by the 1999 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Economic_LifeSS.pdf
[Images for Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All - ELCA Resource Repository](#)
<https://www.elca.org/en/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements/Economic-Life>
[https://resources.elca.org/Social_Issues-Sufficient Sustainable Livelihood for All.html](https://resources.elca.org/Social_Issues-Sufficient_Sustainable_Livelihood_for_All.html)
[http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Sufficient Sustainable Livelihood BriefSummary.pdf](http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Sufficient_Sustainable_Livelihood_BriefSummary.pdf)
[http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Domestic Access To Capital Issue Paper.pdf](http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Domestic_Access_To_Capital_Issue_Paper.pdf)
[http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Codes of Conduct Issue Paper.pdf](http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Codes_of_Conduct_Issue_Paper.pdf)
[http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Economic LifeSS Introduction.pdf](http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Economic_LifeSS_Introduction.pdf)
[http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Economic LifeSS Study Guide.pdf](http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Economic_LifeSS_Study_Guide.pdf)
<https://www.elca.org/JLE/Articles/1231> Distilling Dignity: Our (ELCA) Emerging Definition – ELCA “Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All” (1999)
<http://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/3064> ELCA Social Statement to Address Economic Life - ELCA
<http://www.pubtheo.com/page.asp?pid=1042> Public Theology: Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All
<http://www.loga.org/resources/Jan00LUBullinsert.htm>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1451417489> Page 89
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=3643907729> Page 280
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1451452284> Bibliography
https://emmitsburg.net/archive_list/articles/thoughtful/jcfs/ssl_jonsresponse.htm
<http://nelutherans.org/a72lf3-92/green-team/13-resolutions-to-2015-assembly/file>
http://www.westwoodlutheran.org/files/pdf/a_common_foundation.pdf

Survivors Edge Magazine Subscription - Subscribe or Renew

Survivors Edge is unexpected-new quarterly publication, helping readers prepare as today's world has changed & every day presents new survival challenges. Covers a wide range of survival topics, such as Home and Self Defense tactics and products, wilderness and outdoor survival skills, disaster planning, firearms and ammunition testing, and survival stories.

<https://www.subscribe-renew.com/survivors-edge-magazine>

[Images for survivor's edge](#)

Sustainability | Faith and Leadership

<https://faithandleadership.com/topics/sustainability>

[Images for Sustainability | Faith and Leadership](#)

Sustainability - Simple English Wikipedia

One of the most often-cited definitions of sustainability is the one created by the Brundtland Commission, led by the former Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland. The Commission defined sustainable development as development that "meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."^[1] Sustainability relates to the connection of [economic](#), [social](#), [institutional](#) and [environmental](#) aspects of human [society](#), as well as the non-[human](#) environment.^[2] Sustainability is one of the four Core Concepts behind the [2007 Universal Forum of Cultures](#).

<https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainability>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainability>

[Images for Sustainability](#)

Sustainability - Topic - YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3u_2rWBv7E0I0j1UWpqJJA

[Images for Sustainability - Topic - YouTube](#)

<https://www.ted.com/topics/sustainability> Ideas about Sustainability - TED Talks

<https://www.youtube.com/user/learnsustainability> Sustainability Illustrated - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTamnlXbgqc> What is Sustainability? | Mocomi Kids - YouTube

[PDF] Sustainable Church - LeaderResources

I believe there are many things we can do to "grow the church" but first we need to learn to [live within our means](#). Like many people in the American culture, the church has come to expect that we can have everything we want and that we don't have to pay much for it or that we can borrow to get it. When funds fall short, we focus on stewardship drives – which often does increase giving. But even that does not address the fundamental problem: Our churches are built on a foundation of privilege.

http://leaderresources.org/sites/default/files/Sustainable_Church_0.pdf

[Images for Sustainable Church - Leader Resources](#)

[Images for live within our means](#)

Sustainable expectations: CHURCH IN THE MAKING Jan 29, 2015 by Carol Howard Merritt | The Christian Century

The Center for Progressive Renewal reports that it takes eight to ten years for a new congregation to become sustainable – longer than in previous decades, when the norm was three to five years. In light of shifting societal attitudes regarding church, this seems about right. As denominations think about how to plant sustainable communities, expectations will need to change.

<http://www.christiancentury.org/article/2015-01/sustainable-expectations>

[Images for Images for Sustainable expectations: CHURCH IN THE MAKING by Carol Howard Merritt | The Christian Century](#)

<https://www.faithandleadership.com/carol-howard-merritt-supporting-startup-congregations>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/carol-howard-merritt-4226197>

[Images for carol howard merritt \(author\)](#)

Sustainable living - Wikipedia

Sustainable living is a [lifestyle](#) that attempts to reduce an [individual's](#) or [society's](#) use of the [Earth's natural resources](#) and personal resources.^[1] Practitioners of sustainable living often attempt to reduce their [carbon footprint](#) by altering methods of [transportation](#), [energy consumption](#), and [diet](#).^[2] Proponents of sustainable living aim to conduct their lives in ways that are consistent with [sustainability](#), in natural balance and respectful of humanity's [symbiotic](#) relationship with the Earth's natural [ecology](#) and cycles.^[3] The practice and general philosophy of ecological living is highly interrelated with the overall principles of [sustainable development](#).^[citation needed]

Lester R. Brown, a prominent [environmentalist](#) and founder of the [Worldwatch Institute](#) and [Earth Policy Institute](#), describes sustainable living in the twenty-first century as "shifting to a renewable energy-based, reuse/recycle economy with a diversified transport system."^[4] In addition to this philosophy, practical [eco-village](#) builders like [Living Villages](#) maintain that the shift to renewable technologies will only be successful if the resultant built environment is attractive to a local culture and can be maintained and adapted as necessary over the generations.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable_living

[Images for sustainable living](#)

Sustainable Youth Ministry: Why Most Youth Ministry Doesn't Last and What Your Church Can Do About It by Mark DeVries

You're looking for a youth pastor. Again. What goes wrong? Why do youth ministries crumble? And what is the cost to students, parents, volunteers and church staff? Is a sustainable youth ministry possible, even after a youth pastor leaves? Youth ministry expert Mark DeVries knows the answer is yes, because he helps build sustainable youth ministries through his coaching service called Youth Ministry Architects. So, take heart: No matter what state the youth ministry at your church is in--in need of a leader and volunteers, full of battles and stress, large or small in number--it can be built to survive and to last for the long haul. Based on his own experience and on his many conversations and interviews with churches in crisis, DeVries pinpoints problems that cause division and burnout and dispels strongly held myths. He then provides the practical tools and

structures pastors and church leaders need to lay a strong foundation for your ministry so that it isn't built on a person or the latest, greatest student ministry trend. His accessible guidance helps senior pastors and search committees create a realistic job description for a youth pastor, provides tips for making wise hiring decisions, equips youth pastors to build a strong volunteer team, offers creative solutions to help youth pastors set and keep boundaries, gives a road map for navigating church politics, and more.

Building a sustainable youth ministry is not easy, and it's not quick. But with commitment to the process, hard work and DeVries's guidance, you can put together a healthy youth ministry--one that fits your church and lasts for the long haul. Youth ministry *can* last. Here's how.

Is sustainable youth ministry possible---even after a leader leaves? With DeVries's guidance, you'll pinpoint the causes of division; then use his practical tools to lay a strong foundation that's *not* built on one person or the latest trend. Discover a healthy student program that fits your church and lasts for the long haul.

<https://www.amazon.com/Sustainable-Youth-Ministry-Doesnt-Church/dp/0830833617>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/5535186-sustainable-youth-ministry>

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/sustainable-youth-ministry-mark-devries/1122993214>

<http://www.christianbook.com/sustainable-youth-ministry-doesnt-church-about/mark-devries/9780830833610/pd/833610?event=CBCER1>

<https://www.ivpress.com/sustainable-youth-ministry>

<https://ministryarchitects.com/product/sustainable-youth-ministry/>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0830879056>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Sustainable_Youth_Ministry.html?id=mKmNRI04TcsC

https://books.google.com/books/about/Sustainable_Youth_Ministry.html?id=B3ZHippg7Z2YC

[Sustainable Youth Ministry: Why Most Youth Ministry Doesn't Last and What Your Church Can Do About It](#)

[Sustainable Youth Ministry: Why Most Youth Ministry Doesn't Last and What Your Church Can Do About It - Pinterest](#)

http://www.faithinformationlearningexchange.net/uploads/5/2/4/6/5246709/sustainable_ym_-_devries.pdf

<http://practicalmattersjournal.org/2009/10/01/sustainable-youth-ministry/>

<http://www.breakpoint.org/features-columns/articles/entry/12/9724>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/archive/2009/07/sustainable-youth-ministry>

<http://cultureandfaith.org/youth-ministry/books-youth-ministry/sustainable-youth-ministry/>

<http://christianaudio.com/sustainable-youth-ministry-mark-devries-audiobook-download>

<http://www.breakpoint.org/features-columns/articles/entry/12/9724>

<https://stuffyoucanuse.org/sustainable-youth-ministry-youth-ministry-doesnt-last-church-can-mark-devries/>

[Images for lasts for the long haul](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-5zMykSOxiU> Structurally Sound Youth Ministry - Rev. Mark DeVries – YouTube

[Images for Structurally Sound Youth Ministry - Rev. Mark DeVries – YouTube](#)

[Images for Youth Ministry - Rev. Mark DeVries - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sO0i4B7982E> It's Not About the Numbers - Rev. Mark DeVries – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YRS0m-sXJmK> The Economics of Ministry - Rev. Mark DeVries – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lwYD3gGv7y4> When Quality Counts - Rev. Mark DeVries – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=autJeykEZv4> Church Politics - Rev. Mark DeVries – YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2y-YOhrjX_o Integrating Youth into the Full Body of Christ - Rev. Mark DeVries – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cHks6QRizCI> The Hundred Dollar Bet - Rev. Mark DeVries – YouTube

<https://www.amazon.com/Mark-DeVries/e/B0011GJMD6>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/99351.Mark_DeVries

[Images for Mark DeVries, author](#)

[Images for Sustainable Youth Ministry: Why Most Youth Ministry Doesn't Last and What Your Church Can Do About It by Mark DeVries](#)

Sustaining Each Other: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America - YouTube

Breath of God Lutheran Church members discuss how Mission Support dollars from the ELCA have contributed to its renewal in Highlandtown in east Baltimore. Throughout the process, they have continued their financial commitment to Mission Support.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uw2NQT97bRk&feature=youtu.be>

[Images for Sustaining Each Other: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rNkBhGqYZn0> What does the ELCA mean to you? - YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R2u5U-MR_J0 The faces of Christ Lutheran - One Body, Many Members – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/user/ELCAVideo>

Theological Education as a Partner in the Mission / Ed Stetzer

Establish partnerships for **sustainability**

Theological education is done best when it is done with others. One thing to remember is that theological education is not the goal. It is a tool. The goal is the advance of the gospel. The goal is the Church. In fact, seminaries are to be servants to the churches, not leaders of the churches.

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2016/march/theological-education-as-mission-partner.html>

[Images for Theological Education as a Partner in the Mission | Ed Stetzer Establish partnerships for sustainability](#)

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2015/april/church-plant-funding-how-does-it-work.html>

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2011/january/7-top-issues-church-planters-face-issue-2-financial-self.html>

<https://www.amazon.com/Viral-Churches-Helping-Planters-Movement/dp/0470550457>
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/about/books.html>
<https://edstetzer.com/books/>
<http://www.lifeway.com/n/Popular-Authors/Ed-Stetzer>
<https://www.amazon.com/Ed-Stetzer/e/B001JP8EUI>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/25148.Ed_Stetzer

Thom Rainer on Megachurch Trends | internetmonk.com

I have special interest in the question of **sustainability**. What do you see megachurches doing to ensure their survival and continued relevance over the long haul?

<http://www.internetmonk.com/archive/thom-rainer-on-megachurch-trends>
http://thomrainer.com/2012/09/seven_updated_trends_on_megachurches_in_america/ Trend #3
<http://thomrainer.com/2017/04/church-facility-stewardship-featuring-tim-cool-rainer-leadership-317/>
<http://www.lifeway.com/pastors/2016/01/06/7-steps-to-a-sustainable-schedule/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Thom-S.-Rainer/e/B001IGLMVG>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/27470.Thom_S_Rainer
[Images for thom rainer \(author\)](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Sustainable? - OpenBible.info

<https://www.openbible.info/topics/sustainable>
[Images for Bible and Sustainability](#)
<https://study.com/academy/answer/what-does-the-bible-say-about-sustainability.html>
<https://www.universeoffaith.org/term/90/404/bible-verses-about-sustainability/>
<https://www.theologyofwork.org/resources/handle-with-care-what-the-bible-says-about-sustainability>
[Images for what-the-bible-says-about-sustainability](#)
<http://www.jubilee-centre.org/sustainability-fruitfulness-nick-spencer/>
<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/bible-studies/choose-life> A Bible Study on Sustainability
<https://sk.sagepub.com/reference/greenculture/n15.xml> SAGE Reference - Biblical Basis for Sustainable Living
[Images for Biblical Basis for Sustainable Living](#)
<https://urbanfabrick.com/a-biblical-case-for-sustainability/>
[Images for biblical-case-for-sustainability](#)
<https://www.patheos.com/blogs/theologyofworkproject/2015/04/handle-with-care-what-the-bible-says-about-sustainability/>
[Images for what-the-bible-says-about-sustainability](#)
<https://www.crosswalk.com/devotionals/bible-study-minute/walking-in-sustainable-faith-bible-study-minute-november-12-2018.html>
<https://maninthemirror.org/2006/07/03/how-to-build-a-sustainable-bible-study/>

Resources for Generous

A Christian View of Money, Third Edition: Celebrating God's Generosity [Mark Vincent]

We live in a consumer-minded culture. Our culture insists that we think about money - how we earn it, how we spend it, and whether we have enough of it. Since money is such a dominant force in our lives, as disciples of Jesus our faithfulness includes the actions we take with money.

This book by Mark Vincent combines Bible study, real life scenarios, and practical suggestions to help Christians clarify their beliefs about the earning and use of money.

Money touches everything in our lives. It communicates our values whether we want it to or not, often simultaneously resulting in what we prefer and what we regret. Those who wish to be thoughtful about how they reflect God's image in all things, do well to think through what they believe about earning and using money. This volume walks through a logical progression of how to think and act in regards to money and provides scores of scenarios for discussion and application.

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2017589.A_Christian_View_of_Money
<http://www.amazon.com/Christian-View-Money-Third-Edition/dp/1556351313>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/a-christian-view-of-money-mark-vincent/1002534342?ean=9781498293181>
<http://wipfandstock.com/a-christian-view-of-money.html>
http://books.google.com/books/about/A_Christian_View_of_Money.html?id=I0Qs85ByPfAC
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1498293190>

A Christian View of Money: Celebrating God's Generosity (4th edition)

<http://stewardshipresources.org/resources/item/191>
http://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/resource_detail.aspx?resource_id=1301
<https://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/default.aspx?m=6667&post=4095>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566995418>
<http://www.ministrywatch.com/generosity-resources-list.pdf>
<https://barnabasfoundation.com/churches/resources/christian-view-of-money/#.WSyvgGjyuUk>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/228438.Mark_Vincent
[Images for Mark Vincent, author christian view of money](#)
[Images for A Christian View of Money, Third Edition: Celebrating God's Generosity \[Mark Vincent\]](#)

Page 192

A Revolution in Generosity: Transforming Stewards to Be Rich Toward God [Wesley K. Willmer, Charles Colson]

"Give over \$100 today and get this personalized state-of-the-art fountain pen free!" "Become a gold sponsor and your name will be featured on our exclusive Wall of Fame!" "Send in your donation by December 31 and enjoy the benefits of giving on your next tax return!" Who hasn't heard fundraising gimmicks like these? Or, who hasn't used these gimmicks on others? As Wes Willmer writes, generosity is the natural outcome of God's transforming work in individuals when they are conformed to the image of Christ. Fundraising and giving are not simply drops in the bucket. Capital campaigns and raising funds go deeper than the money. They are spiritual activities in becoming more like Christ.

A Revolution in Generosity is a work by some of the best scholars and practitioners on the subject of funding Christian organizations. As Willmer writes, "The foundation for realizing a revolution in generosity is understanding the biblical view of possessions, generosity, and asking for resources." With over twenty expert contributors, this book is a must-read for organizations striving to rid themselves of secular, asking practices and gain an eternal approach.

<http://www.amazon.com/Revolution-Generosity-Transforming-Stewards-Toward/dp/0802467539>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2884520-a-revolution-in-generosity>

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/revolution-in-generosity-willmer/1111260818?ean=9780802467539>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1575673894>

http://books.google.com/books/about/A_Revolution_in_Generosity.html?id=0l_YOZeg_JAC

<http://www.entrust4.org/filerequest/18802.pdf>

<http://www.revolutioningenerosity.com/contributors.html>

<http://www.ecfa.ws/cgi-bin/category.cgi?item=ARIG>

<http://www.christiannewswire.com/news/9313519015.html>

<http://www.epm.org/resources/2008/Mar/2/biblical-principles-stewardship-and-fundraising/>

http://www.ministryfundraisingnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Faith-and-Finances-Course.Hoag_.pdf

<https://www.moodypublishers.com/authors/w/wesley-k-willmer/>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/387646.Wesley_K_Willmer

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.amazon.com/Charles-W.-Colson/e/B001H6W7KM>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/27694.Charles_W_Colson

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/authors/w/willmer-wesley-k>

American Generosity: Who Gives and Why by Patricia Snell Herzog and Heather E. Price

- Offers analysis of unprecedented scope, informed by sociology, social psychology, philanthropy studies, nonprofit and voluntary studies, and religious giving
- Provides nationally representative statistics on a range of American generosity outcomes
- Draws on new data from the groundbreaking Science of Generosity Initiative

American charitable giving veers from the hyperbolically generous to the hyperbolically stingy. On some days, no one has a quarter to spare; in times of disaster, Americans will put their lives on hold to build houses for those displaced by hurricanes. The crucial question of who gives and why they do it lies at the heart of *American Generosity*.

Patricia Snell Herzog and Heather E. Price, sociologists who focus on philanthropy, draw on findings from the groundbreaking Science of Generosity initiative, which combines a nationally representative survey of adult Americans with in-depth interviews and case studies. For most Americans, they find, the important forms of giving are: donating money, volunteering time, and taking political action. Focusing on these three types of activity, the authors go on to examine and analyze multiple dimensions of resources, social status, regional cultural norms, different approaches to giving, social-psychological orientation, and the relational contexts of generosity. Herzog and Price conclude that giving is supported by "circles of generosity," which ripple outward in their reach to targets of giving. The book offers not just analysis, but practical tips for readers who want to increase their own giving, for parents modeling giving to their children, spouses desiring alignment in their giving, and friends and community members seeking to support giving by others. The authors also provide explicit fundraising ideas for nonprofits, foundations, and religious leaders.

Thought-provoking and accessibly written, *American Generosity* lays out a broad yet nuanced explanation of giving that sheds important new light on a topic that touches all of us in one way or another.

<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/american-generosity-9780190456498?cc=us&lang=en&>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/26514242-american-generosity>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/american-generosity-patricia-snell-herzog/1122535006>

https://books.google.com/books/about/American_Generosity.html?id=cCfnCwAAQBAJ

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/david-briggs/why-most-americans-give-l_b_9355088.html

<http://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1343&context=tfr>

<http://philanthropynewsdigest.org/off-the-shelf/american-generosity-who-gives-and-why>

<http://csrs.nd.edu/news/american-generosity-who-gives-and-why/>

https://medium.com/@michael_hendrix/the-surprising-truth-about-american-generosity-a69d5b583f02

<http://pndblog.typepad.com/pndblog/2016/05/review-american-generosity-who-gives-and-why.html>

<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/american-generosity-9780190456498?cc=us&lang=en&>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/03/opinion/giving-tuesday-motivation-generosity.html>

<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/abs/10.1086/691342>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/patricia-snell-herzog-51806775>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0190456507>
<https://tifwe.org/generosity/>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/5073765.Patricia_Snell_Herzog
[Images for Patricia Snell Herzog, author](#)
<http://freshfiction.com/author.php?id=28272>
<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=fcXv6m8AAAAJ&hl=en>
<http://www.psherzog.org/>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/patricia-snell-herzog-51806775>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/1364973.Heather_Price
[Images for Heather E. Price, author american generosity](#)
[Images for American Generosity: Who Gives and Why by Patricia Snell Herzog and Heather E. Price](#)

Becoming a Generous Church - Pastors.com

What would happen if your church was known to be a giving church? What would it look like if you were known first and foremost for your generosity?

<http://pastors.com/becoming-generous-church/>
[Images for Becoming a Generous Church](#)

Best 25+ Generosity quotes ideas on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/generosity-quotes/>
[Images for generosity pinterest](#)
<https://www.pinterest.com/dynamiccatholic/generosity/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/gatewaywomen/generosity/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/onzmom/generosity/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/janis1127/generosity/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/aleciastanley/generosity/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/sootheath/kindnesscompassiongenerosity/>
[Images for pinterest/kindness compassion generosity](#)

Contagious Generosity: Creating a Culture of Giving in Your Church (Leadership Network Innovation Series) by Chris Willard (Author), Jim Sheppard (Author)

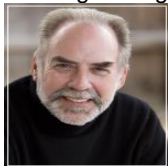
What does it look like when pastors cultivate a culture of generosity in the church by actively teaching and mentoring people in the spiritual act of giving? It's generosity that's contagious. A growing number of leaders are beginning to discover that there are key factors that make some churches thrive with abundant resources while others struggle with shrinking budgets. Jim Sheppard and Chris Willard have spent years consulting with church leaders across a broad spectrum of church settings and have gathered their observations into this resource, part of the Leadership Network Innovations Series. *Contagious Generosity* highlights the best practices gleaned from real-life church leadership situations and shows how church leaders can effectively cultivate a culture of generous giving in the local church. It explains why some churches are experiencing unexplainable ministry growth and unprecedented church funding... even in the midst of tough economic times.

<http://www.amazon.com/Contagious-Generosity-Creating-Leadership-Innovation/dp/0310893135>
<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/13700814-contagious-generosity>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/contagious-generosity-chris-willard/1111091416>
<http://www.zondervan.com/contagious-generosity>
<https://www.harpercollins.com.au/9780310893141/contagious-generosity/>
http://books.google.com/books/about/Contagious_Generosity.html?id=OaLBn8E1QroC
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_Gpc-YiqCw Contagious Generosity – Jim Sheppard & Chris Willard - YouTube
<http://chriswillard.me/2012/07/02/contagious-generosity-creating-a-culture-of-giving-in-your-church/>
<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/willard-and-shepherd-contagious-generosity-culture-of-giving.html>
<https://www.barnabasfoundation.com/tools-resources/contagious-generosity-by-chris-willard-and-jim-sheppard>
<http://www.worldchristians.info/2012/12/07/friday-book-review-contagious-generosity-creating-a-culture-of-giving-in-your-church-by-chris-willard-and-jim-sheppard-4-stars/>
<https://vimeo.com/7575521> Contagious Generosity: Week 1
www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLD8A36B5906464D98 Leadership Network Innovation Series - YouTube
http://books.google.com/books/about/Contagious_Generosity.html?id=d8Fs8DvxTdkC
<https://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/default.aspx?m=6667&post=4689>
<https://www.amazon.com/Chris-Willard/e/B0071D6Z42>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/5840948.Chris_Willard
[Images for Chris Willard, author contagious generosity](#)
<https://www.amazon.com/Jim-Sheppard/e/B007ZSV072>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/5840949.James_E_Sheppard
[Images for Jim Sheppard, author contagious generosity](#)
[Images for Contagious Generosity: Creating a Culture of Giving in Your Church \(Leadership Network Innovation Series\) by Chris Willard \(Author\), Jim Sheppard \(Author\)](#)
<https://www.librarything.com/series/Leadership+Network+Innovation+Series>
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLD8A36B5906464D98> Leadership Network Innovation Series - YouTube

<http://www.zondervan.com/leadership-network-innovation-series-pack>
<http://leadnet.org/books/>
<http://www.churchsource.com/church-and-small-group/pastor-resources/leadership-network-innovation-series>
[Images for Leadership Network Innovation Series](#)

Creating Congregations of Generous People (Money, Faith, and Lifestyle Series): Michael Durall.

Asking parishioners for money is very different from creating congregations of generous people. In this provocative book, stewardship consultant Michael Durall argues convincingly that annual pledge drives inadvertently perpetuate low-level and same-level giving in congregations. Written with the voice of experience, this book will help clergy and lay leaders initiate and sustain effective stewardship programs. Durall believes that asking for money eventually becomes routine, even tedious-but creating a congregation of generous people becomes ever more meaningful with passing time.



<http://www.amazon.com/Creating-Congregations-Generous-People-Michael/dp/1566992206>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/985307.Creating_Congregations_of_Generous_People
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/creating-congregations-of-generous-people-michael-durall/1004400534>
<http://www.vitalcongregations.com/>
<http://www.uua.org/directory/people/michael-durall>
<http://centerforfaithandgiving.org/Reviews/CreatingCongregationsofGenerousPeopleDural/tabid/936/Default.aspx>
<https://network.crcna.org/blog/stewardship-series-what-kind-people-do-we-want-become>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/michael-durall-7645114>
<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/michael-durall/313447/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Michael-Durall/e/B001K8KBTQ>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/488383.Michael_Durall
[Images for Michael Durall, author](#)
[Images for Creating Congregations of Generous People \(Money, Faith, and Lifestyle Series\): Michael Durall.](#)
[Images for Money, Faith, and Lifestyle Series](#)

David Lose - Practicing Generosity - Day1.org

What would it be like for a congregation to take time each week to reflect back on the acts of generosity its members had performed, witnessed, or experienced themselves? What if we returned some of our offerings to our youth group and gave them the assignment of finding a worthy charity to give it to and then report back the impact of our collective giving? What if we sought volunteers willing to try to buy less and give away more and surrounded them with prayer and listened to what they learned? What if we made space in our newsletter and Sunday service for people to share stories of generosity? What if...

http://day1.org/6089-david_lose_practicing_generosity
[Images for David Lose - Practicing Generosity](#)
<http://www.davidlose.net/2014/07/practicing-generosity/>
<http://www.davidlose.net/2013/01/generosity-and-happiness/>

[PDF] Encouraging Generosity in Difficult Times in the Presbyterian Church

What follows is the adapted transcript of an oral presentation given by Karl Travis at a Regional Benefits Consultation sponsored by the Board of Pensions. Written to be heard, not read, we hope that it will nonetheless provoke thought and further conversation on the subject of Christian stewardship.

<https://www.pensions.org/AvailableResources/BookletsandPublications/Documents/pub-506.pdf>
[Images for Encouraging Generosity in Difficult Times](#)

Five-Minute Film Festival: 10 Videos About Generosity and Giving Back | Edutopia

Thanksgiving is traditionally a time for reflecting on the things you're grateful for, and it's a known fact that practicing gratitude is a valuable tool for building character. Some say the other key to the pursuit of happiness is gratitude's counterpart, generosity. So, I thought I'd kick off the season of giving by shining a little spotlight on simple acts of kindness that can have a huge impact: I've gathered ten videos about people giving back, paying it forward, and helping others -- to inspire us all to do the same this holiday season and all year long.

<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/film-festival-generosity-lesson-ideas>
[Images for Videos About Generosity and Giving Back](#)
<https://www.edutopia.org/videos>

Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations [Robert Schnase]

People are searching for a church shaped and sustained by Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-Taking Mission and Service, and Extravagant **Generosity**. These fundamental practices are critical to the success of congregations. Their presence and strength demonstrate congregational health, vitality, and fruitfulness. By repeating and improving these practices, churches fulfill their mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Imagine a congregation-wide focus on these practices that includes a five-week sermon series, five weeks with every household reading daily devotions and sharing prayers on these practices, five weeks of leadership teams and small groups stimulated to take new initiatives, five weeks of conversation and commitment focused on the mission of the church. These are the practices that lead to excellence and fruitfulness, and they can change your church. Imagine!



<http://www.amazon.com/Practices-Fruitful-Congregations-Robert-Schnase/dp/0687645409>
<http://www.amazon.com/Five-Practices-Hospitality-Congregations-Resources/dp/B00F6F5WHK>
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/19298394-five-practices-of-fruitful-congregations>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/five-practices-of-fruitful-congregations-robert-schnase/1126933071>
<https://www.abingdonpress.com/product/9781501858871/>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Five_Practices_of_Fruitful_Congregations.html?id=7xoxwStWm5kC
https://books.google.com/books/about/Five_Practices_of_Fruitful_Congregations.html?id=VFi1OAAACAAJ
<http://fivepractices.org/books/five-practices-of-fruitful-congregations/>
<https://www.sermoncentral.com/content/robert-schnase-five-practices-fruitful-congregations>
<https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/5-practices-for-fruitful-congregations-in-a-post-attractional-era/>
<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/schnase-five-practices-of-fruitful-congregations.html>
<https://www.missionvalleyumc.org/five-practices.html>
<http://fivepractices.org/robert-schnase/>
<http://www.umc.org/bishops/robert-c-schnase>
<http://robertschnase.com/>
http://www.abingdonpress.com/robert_schnase
http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/author/robert_schnase
<https://www.amazon.com/Robert-Schnase/e/B001H6PXGC>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/6759139.Robert_Schnase
[Images for Robert Schnase, author](#)
[Images for Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations \[Robert Schnase\]](#)

Forming Generous Hearts: Stewardship Planning for Lifelong Faith Formation [Leisa Anslinger and Victoria Shepp]

Conversion, discipleship, stewardship. Leisa Anslinger and Victoria Shepp believe that these three giants of parish life are essential components of a vibrant parish. They provide indispensable principles to guide pastoral leaders as they seek to transform their parishes into places where people embrace and live Christian discipleship. An excellent resource for all pastors, parish teams, Stewardship teams, and parish ministers.

<http://www.amazon.com/Forming-Generous-Hearts-Stewardship-Lifelong/dp/1585956422>
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/3273375-forming-generous-hearts>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/forming-generous-hearts-leisa-anslinger/1111443430>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Forming_Generous_Hearts.html?id=G2wjWclKP9gC
<http://store.pastoralplanning.com/fogehe.html>
<http://www.thegenerousheart.com/>
<https://www.bridge2faith.net/meet-leisa-anslinger/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Leisa-Anslinger/e/B001K8D8FA>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/956912.Leisa_Anslinger
[Images for Leisa Anslinger, author generous](#)
<https://www.bridge2faith.net/meet-leisa-anslinger/>
<http://www.4lpi.com/author/lanslinger/>
<https://www.catholiclifeandfaith.net/about-clf/>
<https://twitter.com/vashepp>
<https://www.amazon.com/Victoria-Shepp/e/B001JS5BPG>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/953902.Victoria_Shepp
[Images for Victoria Shepp, author generous hearts](#)
[Images for Forming Generous Hearts: Stewardship Planning for Lifelong Faith Formation \[Leisa Anslinger and Victoria Shepp\]](#)

Generosity Declaration: Generosity Movement

The *Global Generosity Network* is a movement of individuals, networks, organizations, ministries, initiatives, businesses and churches that seek to grow in Biblical stewardship, generous living and Kingdom-focused giving. Sign the Individual and/or Corporate Generosity Declaration as your commitment to a life-style of generosity:

<http://generositymovement.org/declaration/>
[Images for Generosity Declaration: Generosity Movement](#)

Generosity - Faith+Lead - Luther Seminary

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/tag/generosity/>
[Images for Generosity - Faith+Lead - Luther Seminary](#)
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/what-is-generosity/>

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/generous-person-in-the-bible-david-part-1/>
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/cultivating-generosity-in-small-town-and-rural-settings-part-2/>
<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/seeds-of-generosity/>
<https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/cultivate-generosity-through-thankful-living/>
<http://generousmatters.com/blog/2014/06/13/generosity-in-quotes-sharon-blezard/>
https://digitalcommons.luthersem.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1018&context=dmin_theses Generous Leaders, Generous Congregations: A Study of the Relationship between the Financial Generosity of Congregational Leaders and the Financial Generosity of Their Congregations Ryan D. Brodin Luther Seminary
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1a02DhNvxz6tG4qAcNI7Lkr0BJvVzEFSm/view> Rethinking Stewardship: To Adopt, Adapt, or Antagonize: Current Cultural Passions in Generosity by Center for Stewardship Leaders – Luther Seminary

Generosity: It has nothing to do with means and everything to do with desire | The Lutheran

A lexicon of faith:

STORY BY **PETER W. MARTY**

The most startling dimension of generosity may be the irrelevance of extensive means. Generosity has nothing to do with means, and everything to do with desire. The poorest of the poor can be as generous in spirit as the richest of the rich. The widow in the temple who gave her last two coins is emblematic of one whose desire runs deep. So are the men whom Holocaust survivor Viktor Frankl remembers walking through the barracks comforting others and giving away their last piece of bread.



Generosity - Living Lutheran

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2015/05/generosity/>
http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=12588
 Images for Generosity - Living Lutheran
<https://www.livinglutheran.org/contact-us/>
<https://www.livinglutheran.org/issues/>
<http://peterwmarty.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/peterwmarty/>
<http://www.gracematters.org/host.html>
<https://www.amazon.com/Peter-W.-Marty/e/B001JS6ISU>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4449454.Peter_W_Marty
 Images for PETER W. MARTY, author

Generosity: Moving Toward a Life that is Truly Life [Gordon MacDonald]

How would you like to raise the tide of generosity in your life and in your church while discovering greater spiritual maturity through giving? Generosity was designed to help you do just this. Churches are using Generosity in powerful, creative ways to change the money conversation. People give generously when they reflect on God's generosity, and this book will help you and your church do just that.

<http://www.amazon.com/Generosity-Moving-Toward-Life-Truly/dp/0977117413>
<https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/13743452-generosity-moving-toward-a-life-that-is-truly-life>
http://www.generouschurch.com/uploads/files/generosity_chp_1-072513.pdf
<http://www.generousyou.com/devotional>
<http://www.bethany-umc.org/filerequest/8134>
<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/macdonald-secrets-of-the-generous-life.html>
<http://www.churchleaders.com/pastors/free-resources-pastors/149342-free-book-generosity-devotional.html>
http://s3.amazonaws.com/Website_UMCGiving/resource-files/POG_Generosity_Kit_eBook_1.pdf
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/contributors/gordon-macdonald.html>
<https://metrodcclca.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/embracegenerosity.pdf>
<http://rustylewis.net/2018/01/04/generosity-small-group-resources/>
<https://www.ministrywatch.com/generosity-resources-list.pdf>
<http://www.wow4u.com/ggod10/> Quotes about God Page 10 - Inspirational Words of Wisdom. Generosity
<http://metrodcclca.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/120427recommendedstewardshipbooks.pdf>
<https://www.amazon.com/Gordon-MacDonald/e/B001IR1KBM>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/57352.Gordon_MacDonald
 Images for Gordon MacDonald, author
 Images for Generosity: Moving Toward a Life that is Truly Life [Gordon MacDonald]

Generosity Quotes - BrainyQuote

<https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/generosity-quotes>
 Images for generosity quotes
<https://www.christianquotes.info/top-quotes/17-beautiful-quotes-about-generosity/>

<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/generosity>
<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/turning-straw-gold/201408/20-quotations-generosity-profound-act-kindness>
<https://medium.com/the-beta-mode/10-of-the-most-powerful-generosity-quotes-and-why-you-need-them-37759c9373b>
<https://www.awakenthegreatnesswithin.com/35-inspirational-quotes-on-generosity/>
<http://www.wiseoldsayings.com/generosity-quotes/>
<https://www.nextavenue.org/22-inspiring-quotes-generosity/>
<https://www.wow4u.com/ggenerosity/> Generosity Quotes - Inspirational Words of Wisdom
<https://quotabulary.com/quotes-sayings-about-generosity>
<https://reachingself.com/kindness-generosity-quotes/>

GENEROSITY RESOURCES

[Life, Money, and Legacy Video Series - Dave Ramsey](#)
[ELCA Website for Stewardship](#)
[4G Growing Grateful Generous Givers - Videos](#)
[Why Give ELCA Mission Support?](#)
[Your Offering at Work](#)
[Synod Endowment Fund](#)
[Endowment Fund Brochure 2019](#)
[2019 Bold Generosity Technology Grant Application](#)

Northwest Synod of Wisconsin | Home

<http://www.nwswi.org/> GENEROSITY generosity resources
<http://www.nwswi.org/generosity/generosity-resources>
enelson@nwswi.org
info@nwswi.org

GENEROSITY TEAM

<http://nwswi.org/> Home E.P.I.C.
<http://nwswi.org/epic> GENEROSITY TEAM Handout
[EPIC \(Effective Practices for Innovative Congregation Councils\)](#)
<https://www.facebook.com/events/152141672104440/>
info@nwswi.org

Generosity - Wikipedia

Generosity (also called largess or largesse) is the [habit](#) of [giving](#) without expecting anything in return. It can involve offering time, assets or talents to aid someone in need. Often equated with [charity](#) as a [virtue](#), generosity is widely accepted in society as a desirable trait.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Generosity>
[Images for generosity](#)

Generous Givers: A Product of Motivation and Methods – The Parish Paper

Churches can recover from poor motivation and methods and make new memories.

<http://www.wcucc.org/ace-files/ParishPaper/2010-05-generous-givers.pdf>
<http://www.wcucc.org/resource-center/church-management/parish-paper/> Generous Givers: A Product of Motivation and Methods – May 2010
[Images for Generous Givers: A Product of Motivation and Methods – The Parish Paper](#)
<http://www.hcucc.org/the-parish-paper>
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources>
<http://www.wisconsinumc.org/connections/conference-news/the-parish-paper>
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/back-issue-index> Back Issue Index | The Parish Paper

Generous Giving: Homepage

Generosity is central to our Christian faith: “For God so loved the world that he gave.” By exploring generosity together, we find joy and pursue lives of purpose. We never tell you how to be generous. We simply celebrate generosity together through stories, teachings, and conversation.

<http://www.generousgiving.org/>
[Images for Generosity is central to our Christian faith](#)

Generous Living: Faithfully Stewarding What God Has Given You for the Advancement of the Kingdom by Robert E. Logan, Charles R. Ridley, David J. DeVries

Generous Living is one of eight discipleship guides for the Dimensions of Discipleship series. Generous living means investing well what God has given you—whether that be your spiritual gifts, your home, your time, your money, or anything else God has entrusted to you. This study will lead you through five essential expressions of generous living: - Managing your time and resources for kingdom purposes - Using your spiritual gifts to bless others - Giving your money generously and wisely - Showing hospitality without favoritism - Living out your God-given calling.

<https://www.amazon.com/Generous-Living-Faithfully-advancement-Discipleship/dp/1939921082>
<https://www.amazon.com/Robert-E.-Logan/e/B001KHGUPQ>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/list/15546013.Robert_E_Logan
[Images for Robert E. Logan, author](#)
<https://www.amazon.com/Charles-R.-Ridley/e/B001IQZPO6>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/list/316054.Charles_R_Ridley
[Images for Charles R. Ridley, author generous living](#)
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/14021986.David_J_DeVries
[Images for David J. DeVries, author generous living](#)
[Images for Generous Living: Faithfully Stewarding What God Has Given You for the Advancement of the Kingdom by Robert E. Logan, Charles R. Ridley, David J. DeVries](#)

Generous Living: Finding Contentment through Giving by Ron Blue (Author), Jodie Berndt (Contributor)

What do generous people know that makes them give gladly and liberally of their time, talents, wealth, and other resources? Why should you become such a person—and how can you? Financial advisor Ron Blue explains why an openhanded spirit is the key to freedom, contentment, and joy. In *Generous Living*, he shows what happens when you become a giver, and helps you start right where you are cultivating a generous lifestyle. Pointing you beyond guilt-induced giving, Blue shows you the true, Bible-based way to give effectively, joyfully, and wisely. You'll gain important insights into making a will, setting up a trust and foundation, and teaching your children to give. But better still, you'll find out - why to give - how you can give - where it is best to give - when and how often to give.

<http://www.amazon.com/Generous-Living-Finding-Contentment-Through/dp/0310210909>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2451058.Generous_Living
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=031087730X>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Generous_Living.html?id=d-AV0VJo-rkC
https://books.google.com/books/about/Generous_Living.html?id=j_g-lgNSbJAC
<http://familylifetoday.com/series/generous-living/>
<https://jodieberndt.com/book/generous-living-finding-contentment-giving/>
<http://www.ronblue.com/Library/Article/5-steps-to-living-a-lifestyle-of-generosity-103>
<https://www.amazon.com/Ron-Blue/e/B001IU0O5M>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/59179.Ron_Blue
[Images for Ron Blue \(Author\)](#)
<https://www.ronblue.com/>
<http://www.jodieberndt.com/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Jodie-Berndt/e/B001IGOIX0>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/27288.Jodie_Berndt
[Images for Jodie Berndt, author generous living](#)
[Images for Generous Living: Finding Contentment through Giving by Ron Blue \(Author\), Jodie Berndt \(Contributor\)](#)

Generous People: How to Encourage Vital Stewardship (Effective Church Series) [Eugene Grimm]

Provides down-to-earth prescriptions for the effective execution of stewardship programs; for churches of any size or denomination. Topics include pledges, addressing the needs of the giver, and addressing up-front the illusions of stewardship.



<http://www.amazon.com/Generous-People-Encourage-Stewardship-Effective/dp/0687140455>
https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/668689.Generous_People
https://books.google.com/books/about/Generous_People.html?id=fS8A7Qr095IC
www.thenalc.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/NALCYearRoundStewardshipFaithRaising2017B.pptx [PPT] Generosity As Lifestyle
<https://www.barnabasfoundation.com/firstfruits>
<https://www.realepiscopal.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Conf-Ask-Thnk-Resources-20100313.pdf>
<http://www.tens.org/resources/free-resources/free-resources-blog/bibliography-theology-and-practice-of-stewardship>
<https://dioceseofnewark.org/sites/default/files/resources/Booklet%20Handout.pdf> Planned Giving Workshop
https://www.selectlearning.org/sites/default/files/study/biblical%20stewardship%20our%20duty%20and%20delight%20study%20guide_0.pdf
https://stewardsheart.weebly.com/uploads/4/1/3/6/41363933/a_manual_for_year_round_stewardship.pdf
<https://generosityresearch.nd.edu/other-resources/publications-2/book-reviews/generosity-in-print/religious-and-spiritual-generosity/>
<https://mumf.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Stewardship-Committee-Packet-2018.pdf> Page 25
<https://dioceseofnewark.org/sites/default/files/resources/Booklet%20Handout.pdf> Page 9
<https://www.realepiscopal.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Year-Round-Stewardship-and-Annual-Commitment-Program-TENS.pdf>
 Page 6
http://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/resource_detail.aspx?resource_id=294
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/eugene-grimm-4b27638>
<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/eugene-grimm/387338/>
<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Eugene-Grimm/e/B001IR3N30>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/358750.Eugene_Grimm

[Images for Eugene Grimm, author](#)

[Images for Generous People: How to Encourage Vital Stewardship \(Effective Church Series\) \[Eugene Grimm\]](#)

[Images for Effective Church Series](#)

Generous Saints: Congregations Rethinking Ethics and Money (Money, Faith and Lifestyle): James Hudnut-Beumler

A constructive theology and ethics of money in the Christian life, this series addition is by James Hudnut-Beumler, dean and associate professor of religion and culture at Columbia Theological Seminary and deals with vital questions. "What does the Lord require? What is the true meaning of the term 'commonwealth?' and how does the church build a stable base for its members to live ethical lives?"

<http://www.amazon.com/Generous-Saints-James-Hudnut-Beumler/dp/1566992109>

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1734026.Generous_Saints

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/generous-saints-james-hudnut-beumler/1123957845>

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566995320/Generous-Saints-Congregations-Rethinking-Ethics-and-Money>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566995329>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Generous_Saints.html?id=uoKXAwwAAQBAJ

[Generous Saints: Congregations Rethinking Ethics and Money](#)

<http://philanthropynewsdigest.org/off-the-shelf/generous-saints>

<http://www.materialreligion.org/publications/saints.html>

<https://alban.org/archive/spiritual-formation-and-money-mission-ministries-and-generosity/>

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/hudnut-beumler-generous-saints.html>

<http://divinity.vanderbilt.edu/people/cvs/Hudnut-BeumlerCVMay08.pdf>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/james-hudnut-beumler-63b99079>

<https://www.amazon.com/James-David-Hudnut-Beumler/e/B001JS7Y0G>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/463501.James_Hudnut_Beumler

[Images for James Hudnut-Beumler, author generous saints](#)

[Images for Generous Saints: Congregations Rethinking Ethics and Money \(Money, Faith and Lifestyle\): James Hudnut-Beumler](#)

[Images for money, faith, and lifestyle series](#)

Growing Generosity: Six Best Stewardship Practices – Generous Stewards

What best practices in the local church correlate with increased financial giving? A six-year study of the congregations in the United Church of Canada revealed six essential behaviors:

<https://generousstewards.wordpress.com/2011/04/06/growing-generosity-six-best-stewardship-practices/>

[Images for Growing Generosity: Six Best Stewardship Practices – Generous Stewards](#)

[PDF]growing joyful stewards in your congregation - ELCA Resource Repository

In the front half of this magazine, you'll find essays that provide thoughtful reflections about courageous **generosity**. The back half contains articles with practical applications for various types of giving and across generations.

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ESC_Giving_Magazine_ELCA_2018.pdf

[Images for courageous generosity](#)

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ESC_Giving_Magazine_ELCA_16.pdf **Generosity** in Community: An Interview with Shane Clairborne Page 14

[Images for Generosity in Community](#)

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ESC_Giving_Magazine_ELCA_2017.pdf Center Insert - Live

Generously

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ESC_Giving_Magazine_ELCA_15.pdf joyous, abundant generosity in your congregation

[Images for joyous, abundant generosity](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBF25F6882E5801B5> Generous Love, Generous Lives - YouTube

[Images for Generous Love: Generous Lives](#)

http://www.wisynod.org/uploads/2/3/0/3/23032342/tgp_5g_planning_guide.pdf The Generosity Project

Growing Up Generous: Engaging Youth in Living and Serving (Money, Faith, and Lifestyle) [Eugene C. Roehlkepartain, Elanah Dalyah Naftali, Laura Musegades]

This groundbreaking addition to Alban's acclaimed Money, Faith, and Lifestyle Series creates a mosaic of what is happening - and could happen - in American Jewish and Christian congregations to cultivate in young people a deep and lasting commitment to giving and serving.

<https://www.amazon.ca/-/fr/Eugene-C-Roehlkepartain-ebook/dp/B078FQ4VVV>

<http://www.amazon.com/Growing-Up-Generous-Engaging-Lifestyle/dp/1566992389>

<https://www.bookdepository.com/Growing-Up-Generous-Eugene-C-Roehlkepartain/9781566992381>

<http://www.brethrenpress.com/ProductDetails.asp?ProductCode=0493>

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566992381>

<https://rowman.com/Action/Search/RL/alban%20books>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Growing_Up_Generous.html?id=bFr1AwAAQBAJ

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566995418>

[Growing Up Generous: Engaging Youth in Living and Serving](#)

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/roehlkepartain-growing-up-generous-engaging-youth-in-giving.html>

<https://us.sagepub.com/en-us/nam/author/eugene-c-roehlkepartain>
http://sk.sagepub.com/reference/hdbk_childspiritdev
<http://congregationalstewardship.blogs.uua.org/resources/growing-up-generous-a-book-review/>
<http://congregationalstewardship.blogs.uua.org/author/jesseholm/>
<http://generositymonk.com/w/2015/08/15/eugene-c-roehlkepartain-elanah-dalyah-naftali-and-laura-musegades-influence/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Eugene-C.-Roehlkepartain/e/B001IXRV50>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/655500.Eugene_C_Roehlkepartain
[Images for Eugene C. Roehlkepartain, AUTHOR growing up generous](#)
[Images for Elanah Dalyah Naftali, author growing up generous](#)
[Images for Laura Musegades, author growing up generous](#)
[Images for Growing Up Generous: Engaging Youth in Living and Serving \(Money, Faith, and Lifestyle\) \[Eugene C. Roehlkepartain, Elanah Dalyah Naftali, Laura Musegades\]](#)
[Images for money, faith, and lifestyle series](#)

Healthy Congregations Develop Generous People

Stewardship in this workshop is expanded as recognition of the Creator's interdependent design of life. The workshop focuses on developing gratitude and generosity through the ability of the community to make decisions.

<http://www.healthycongregations.com/8-workshop-5-healthy-congregations-develop-generous-people>

[Images for Healthy Congregations Develop Generous People](#)

[Images for developing gratitude and generosity](#)

How to Increase Financial Stewardship – The Parish Paper

What motivates People to Give **Generously**?

Page 5

Generous Giving Has Strong Biblical Roots

Page 6

[PDF] Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 5--How to Increase Financial Stewardship - The Parish Paper

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%205.pdf>

<http://www.theparishpaper.com/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%205.pdf>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> Church Effective Nugget, Volume 5: How to Increase Financial Stewardship

[Images for How to Increase Financial Stewardship – The Parish Paper What motivates People to Give Generously?](#)

[Images for Generous Giving Biblical Roots](#)

<http://www.wisconsinumc.org/connections/conference-news/the-parish-paper>

<http://www.wcucc.org/resource-center/church-management/parish-paper/>

<http://www.hcucc.org/the-parish-paper>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/back-issue-index> Back Issue Index | The Parish Paper

How to increase generosity in your church: ask! – Margaret Marcuson

Do you want people in your church to show more generosity? Do you want them to give more to the church and beyond? I recently wrote about starting with yourself. But it takes more than being generous to cultivate generous givers. Take another step: ask them to give.

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/generosity-in-your-church/#.VYlaBvIVhBc>

[Images for How to increase generosity in your church: ask! – Margaret Marcuson](#)

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/increase-generosity-at-church/#.VYlbG IVhBc>

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/increase-generosity-at-church/>

[Images for increase generosity in your church](#)

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/how-to-increase-generosity/#.VYlbNvIVhBc>

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/cultivate-generosity-church-sharing-story/#.VYTAk IVhBc>

[Images for cultivate generosity church](#)

[Images for Margaret Marcuson on generosity](#)

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/how-generous-are-you/>

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/generous-church/>

<https://margaretmarcuson.com/increase-generosity-at-church/>

<https://stewardshipresources.org/generosity-now-workshops> Creating a Generous Congregation

<https://www.biblicalleadership.com/blogs/2-ways-to-encourage-generosity/>

<https://www.christiancentury.org/blogs/archive/2015-06/are-you-too-generous-church>

<https://stewardshipresources.org/generosity-now-workshops>

<http://www.abc-usa.org/2018/01/05/pastors-and-church-finance-a-reflection-by-rev-margaret-marcuson/>

<http://www.abc-usa.org/generosityproject/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Money-Your-Ministry-Balance-Keeping/dp/0976436647>

[Images for Money-Your-Ministry-Balance-Keeping](#)

Live Generously: 50 Small Acts That Make a Big Difference [Live Generously Project, Julie Van Pelt]

This compact and thoughtful guide will inspire you to live more generously in the world. Based on the idea that there are simple, even downright easy, ways to give back to the world around us, Live Generously contains 50 ways to connect to your community. Ideas range from the effortless to the more ambitious: become an organ donor, give thanks before a meal, buy gifts that make a difference, plant a vegetable garden, make your own greeting cards, commit random acts of generosity, give something away (and declutter your life in the process). The book was inspired by the U.K. project "A Year of Living

<http://www.amazon.com/Live-Generously-Small-Acts-Difference/dp/1594850909>
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/3279122-live-generously>
http://books.google.com/books/about/Live_Generously.html?id=eOhljYcKQPwC
<http://www.treehugger.com/culture/book-review-live-generously.html>
<https://julievannelpet.com/bio/>

[Images for Live Generously: 50 Small Acts That Make a Big Difference \[Live Generously Project, Julie Van Pelt\]](#)

Many companies give back. At Thrivent Financial, we help people live generously. Our members offer hope, reach out to those in despair and show God's love in amazing ways.



<https://www.thrivent.com/posts/generosity/>

<https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-choice/>

This workshop will identify the many ways a Thrivent Action Team can be used in your churches, schools and communities to make a difference. Over 68,000 Action Teams raised \$53.5 million dollars that impacted thousands of churches, communities and organizations across the country in 2015. Thrivent members and non-members can participate. This workshop will explain the simple process and help you on your path to living generously by utilizing Thrivent Action Teams.

<https://www.thrivent.com/offers/thrivent-action-team-member.html>

Maybe no other financial stewardship model anchors the individual in a life filled with generosity than the intentional “first-fruits,” the idea of moving toward a balance of sharing 10 percent of income, saving 10 percent and spending 80 percent (10-10-80). The first-fruits practice calls us to adjust our financial behaviors by 1 percent of our income each year until reaching the overall goal of 10-10-80.

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2012/10/generous-response/>

Money and generosity - The Lutheran Magazine

There is more to stewardship and generosity than money. We know this. But it's easier to talk about time and talents (though we don't do those as well as we ought either). So, we have asked this column's writers over the next few months to focus on a theology of giving money to the mission of Christ's church from a Lutheran theological and biblical perspective.

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=12089

[Images for Money and generosity - The Lutheran Magazine](#)

9 Ways Generous People See the World Differently

Generosity makes our world a better place. It improves the life of the receiver. And it improves the life of the giver.

<https://www.becomingminimalist.com/more-generosity/>

<https://www.marcandangel.com/2015/11/15/9-ways-generous-people-view-the-world-differently/>

<https://theworsleycentre.com/9-ways-generous-people-view-the-world-differently/>

[Images for Generous People See the World Differently](#)

Northwest Synod of Wisconsin | Home

Generosity

<http://nwswi.org/generosity/capital-campaign>

<http://nwswi.org/generosity/mission-support>

<http://nwswi.org/generosity/mission-tellers>

<http://nwswi.org/generosity/charitable-giving>

<http://nwswi.org/generosity/generosity-resources>

<http://nwswi.org/>

info@nwswi.org

http://brfelc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/December_151.pdf Christmas Message from Bishop Hoyme

Page 4

<http://vimeo.com/96910269> 4 G Stewardship: Part 1 - Generosity on Vimeo

[Images for Bishop Hoyme and generosity](#)

Nurturing Generous Living - Discipleship Ministries | Equipping World – Changing Disciples. The United Methodist Church

Generosity is a matter of action, intentions, and heart. One way to describe it is the grateful outpouring of gifts to others, out of our love for God.

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/nurturing-generous-living>

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/becoming-generous>

[Images for Nurturing Generous Living - Discipleship Ministries](#)

Rambam's Ladder: A Meditation on Generosity and Why It Is Necessary to Give [Julie Salamon]

Nearly a thousand years ago, the great philosopher and physician Maimonides, known to Hebrew scholars as Rambam, pondered the question of righteousness. Out of it came the Ladder of Charity.

Rambam's Ladder, written by Julie Salamon, the bestselling author and *New York Times* culture writer, is a book that will inspire every reader to get a toehold on the ladder and start climbing. In eight chapters, one for each rung, the book helps us navigate the world of giving. How much to give? How do we know if our gifts are being used wisely? Is it better to give anonymously? Along the way, *Rambam's Ladder* will help all of us make our lives, and the lives of those around us, better.



<http://www.amazon.com/Rambams-Ladder-Meditation-Generosity-Necessary/dp/0761128093>

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/845657.Rambam_s_Ladder

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/rambams-ladder-julie-salamon/1111611825>

http://books.google.com/books/about/Rambam_s_Ladder.html?id=qdbHFmMzzLcC

<http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/newsmakers/nwsmkr.jhtml?id=59300008>

<https://www.workman.com/products/rambams-ladder>

<http://mimi-cyberlibrarian.blogspot.com/2012/01/rambams-ladder-meditation-on-generosity.html>

<http://philanthropynewsdigest.org/newsmakers/julie-salamon-author-rambam-s-ladder-a-meditation-on-generosity-and-why-it-is-necessary-to-give>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2003/12/03/books/books-of-the-times-charity-begins-at-home-and-you-live-in-the-world.html>

<http://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/books/books.php?id=6722>

<http://aeispeakers.com/speakerbio.php?SpeakerID=1173>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julie_Salamon

<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/authors/26718/julie-salamon>

<https://www.amazon.com/Julie-Salamon/e/B000AQ2U8Y>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/70561.Julie_Salamon

[Images for julie salamon author Rambam's Ladder](#)

[Images for Rambam's Ladder: A Meditation on Generosity and Why It Is Necessary to Give \[Julie Salamon\]](#)

[PDF]Reflections and Resources for the Journey - Kairos and Associates

Whether your stewardship team's work primarily consists of the annual response campaign or you are veterans of year-round stewardship, here are some creative ideas to help you keep the **generosity** conversation going in a holistic way throughout the year.

<http://www.kairosandassociates.com/sites/default/files/files/pdf/8-8-keeping-conversation-going.pdf>
[Images for generosity conversation](#)

Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger: Moving from Affluence to Generosity [Ronald Sider]

Do you want to make a true difference in the world? Dr. Ron Sider does. He has, since before he first published *Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger* in 1978. Despite a dramatic reduction in world hunger since then, 34,000 children still die daily of starvation and preventable disease, and 1.3 billion people, worldwide, remain in abject poverty. So, the professor of theology went back to re-examine the issues by twenty-first century standards. Finding that Conservatives blame morally reprehensible individual choices, and Liberals blame constrictive social and economic policy, Dr. Sider finds himself agreeing with both sides. In this new look at an age-old problem, he offers not only a detailed explanation of the causes, but also a comprehensive series of practical solutions, in the hopes that Christians like him will choose to make a difference.

<http://www.amazon.com/Rich-Christians-Age-Hunger-Generosity/dp/0849945305>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/152401.Rich_Christians_in_an_Age_of_Hunger
<http://www.harpercollins.com.au/9780718037048/>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/rich-christians-in-an-age-of-hunger-ronald-j-sider/1101807895>
<https://www.christianbook.com/christians-hunger-moving-affluence-generosity-ebook/ronald-sider/9781418575694/pd/5606EB>
<https://www.scribd.com/book/170467927/Rich-Christians-in-an-Age-of-Hunger-Moving-from-Affluence-to-Generosity>
http://books.google.com/books/about/Rich_Christians_in_an_Age_of_Hunger.html?id=cdcPI0SROoEC
https://books.google.com/books/about/Rich_Christians_in_an_Age_of_Hunger.html?id=tkSFFcbnwj4C
https://books.google.com/books/about/Rich_Christians_in_an_Age_of_Hunger.html?id=4c19KypEfb0C

Rich Christians In An Age Of Hunger: Moving From Affluence to Generosity - Pinterest

<http://www.ngoleader.org/articles/rich-christians-and-hunger.html>
<http://makewealthistory.org/2007/12/10/rich-christians-in-an-age-of-hunger/>
<https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/147092-rich-christians-in-an-age-of-hunger-moving-from-affluence-to-generosity>
<http://reformed-theology.org/ice/newslet/bet/bet97.10.htm>
<http://vocabmalone.blogspot.com/2009/09/book-summary-of-rich-christians-in-age.html>
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/topics/s/ron-sider/>
<http://www.palmerseminary.edu/about/faculty/ron-sider>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJpJw3HuAow> Ron Sider - Letters to a Future Church - YouTube
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ron_Sider
<https://www.amazon.com/Ronald-J.-Sider/e/B001IXNT10>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/43979.Ronald_J_Sider
[Images for Ronald Sider, author affluence to generosity](#)
[Images for Moving from Affluence to Generosity \[Ronald Sider\]](#)

Secrets of the Generous Life: Reflections to awaken the spirit and enrich/soul (Generous Giving) [Gordon MacDonald]

Best-selling author Gordon MacDonald offers fresh insights on an underappreciated and often overlooked aspect of the Christian life, explaining why we are called to generous living, how to live that way, and why it brings such joy. Generosity isn't about money; it's about an attitude of the heart. In *Secrets of the Generous Life*, best-selling author Gordon MacDonald reflects on generosity as an oft-neglected spiritual discipline, and as a measure of the heart. Whether you're financially comfortable or have only modest means, the choices you make about what to do with gifts God has given you --- talent, energy, influence, time, resources -- provide a remarkably accurate picture of the shape of your soul. Those who hoard their gifts, living with clenched fists, suffer the sadness of a pinched soul and miserly existence, never experiencing the extravagant blessings that come to those who live with open hands and a giving heart. The daily meditations in *Secrets of the Generous Life* will feed your soul and inspire you to experience a joyous life of generosity. If you seek the promised rewards of a generous heart, look within.

<http://www.amazon.com/Secrets-Generous-Life-Reflections-Awaken/dp/0842373853>
<http://tremendouslifebooks.org/product/secrets-generous-life-reflections-awaken-spirit-and-enrich-soul>
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/contributors/gordon-macdonald.html>
<https://generousgiving.org/media/literature>
<https://www.amazon.com/Gordon-MacDonald/e/B001IR1KBM>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/57352.Gordon_MacDonald
[Images for gordon macdonald, author](#)
[Images for Secrets of the Generous Life: Reflections to awaken the spirit and enrich/soul \(Generous Giving\) \[Gordon MacDonald\]](#)
[Images for Generous Giving](#)

Spiritual Formation and Money: Mission, Ministries, and Generosity - Alban Institute

Churches that demonstrate generosity in their commitment to sustained mission will grow generous giving. Generosity is a spiritual issue. The church that aligns spiritual formation and money will never lack. Yet, it is hard to give generously without understanding and believing in the connection between faith and finances.

[Alban at Duke Divinity School » Spiritual Formation and Money: Mission, Ministries, and Generosity](#)
<https://alban.org/archive/spiritual-formation-and-money-mission-ministries-and-generosity/>

[Images for Spiritual Formation and Money: Mission, Ministries, and Generosity - Alban Institute](https://alban.org/archive/practicing-generosity/)

[https://alban.org/archive/practicing-generosity/](https://alban.org/category/money-finance/)

<https://alban.org/category/money-finance/> POSTED ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2009 BY ALBAN

<https://rowman.com/Action/Search/RL/alban%20books>

<https://www.amazon.com/Generous-Presence-Spiritual-Leadership-Coaching/dp/1566993253>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/466867.A_Generous_Presence

<https://generosityresearch.nd.edu/other-resources/publications-2/book-reviews/generosity-in-print/religious-and-spiritual-generosity/>

https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/documents/stew-dev/apf/stew_generosity.pdf

https://philanthropy.iupui.edu/files/file/lakeinstituteonfaithgiving-insightsnovember2012-1_2.pdf

The Generosity Factor: Discover the Joy of Giving Your Time, Talent, and Treasure [Ken Blanchard, S. Truett Cathy]

In the tradition of the bestselling book *The One Minute Manager*, authors Ken Blanchard and S. Truett Cathy, entrepreneur and founder of Chic-fil-A restaurants, present *The Generosity Factor* - a parable that demonstrates the virtues of generosity. It's the story of a meeting between the Broker - a young man on his way up the corporate ladder who has the illusion of success, yet deep inside feels insignificant and the Executive - the CEO of a very large and successful company who claims the greatest joy in his life is his ability to give to others. Thinking he might get a competitive edge by meeting with the Executive, the Broker's worldview is turned upside down as he talks to the Executive and hears the principles that form his life. He calls it *The Generosity Factor* - a way to give time, talent, treasure, and touch to those in need. Providing a unique twist on what it means to thrive in business, at home, and in life, this story will forever change your definition of success.

<http://www.amazon.com/Generosity-Factor-Discover-Giving-Treasure/dp/0310324998>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/19793455-the-generosity-factor>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-generosity-factor-ken-blanchard/1111074568?type=Audiobook>

http://books.google.com/books/about/The_Generosity_Factor.html?id=jTtJyeRfUAQC

http://www.kenblanchard.com/Store/Books_Audios/Servant_Leadership/Generosity_Factor_The/

http://www.bcwinstitute.com/learningcenter/press/br_generosity.pdf

<http://henrydirksen.blogspot.com/2009/06/generosity-factor-discover-joy-of.html>

<http://www.truettcathy.com/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/S._Truett_Cathy

https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/s_truett_cathy

<http://smartandrelentless.com/22-essential-truett-cathy-quotes/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/burgess1802/s-truett-cathy/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/rhemarie/truett-cathy/>

[Images for S. Truett Cathy on Pinterest](#)

[Images for s. truett cathy the generosity factor](#)

<https://www.forbes.com/profile/s-truett-cathy/>

<http://www.giantsforgod.com/s-truett-cathy/>

<https://www.thebalance.com/s-truett-cathy-bio-chick-fil-a-story-1350972>

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2014/09/08/the-world-according-to-chick-fil-a-founder-truett-cathy/?utm_term=.eb636d8f1dbb

<https://www.daveramsey.com/blog/7-life-lessons-from-truett-cathy>

<https://www.amazon.com/Ken-Blanchard/e/B000APV1I0>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4112157.Kenneth_H_Blanchard

[Images for ken blanchard author the generosity factor](#)

[Images for The Generosity Factor: Discover the Joy of Giving Your Time, Talent, and Treasure \[Ken Blanchard, S. Truett Cathy\]](#)

The Generosity Ladder: Your Next Step to Financial Peace [Nelson Searcy, Jennifer Dykes Henson]

The Generosity Ladder is the quintessential guidebook for anyone who desires to handle money with excellence. Written as an answer to all of the questions and misunderstandings that surround the intersection of God and money, *The Generosity Ladder* clarifies, once and for all, what the Bible really says about honoring God with our finances and details a step-by-step plan for attaining financial excellence.

Published alongside *Maximize*, Nelson Searcy's much-anticipated stewardship guidebook for church leaders, *The Generosity Ladder* will allow laypeople to fully grasp God's plan for their finances, acknowledge their current level of stewardship, and chart out the steps they need to take in order to handle money in a way that honors God.

<http://www.amazon.com/Generosity-Ladder-Your-Financial-Peace/dp/080107276X>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/9300567-the-generosity-ladder>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/generosity-ladder-nelson-searcy/1100377749>

<https://www.christianbook.com/generosity-ladder-next-step-financial-peace/nelson-searcy/9780801072765/pd/072765>

<http://bakerpublishinggroup.com/books/the-generosity-ladder/322190>

http://books.google.com/books/about/Generosity_Ladder_The.html?id=WXq0fo_4dkcC

[The Generosity Ladder: Your Next Step to Financial Peace](#)

http://assets.bakerpublishinggroup.com/processed/book-resources/files/Excerpt_9780801072765.pdf?1362583737

<http://www.churchleaderinsights.com/generosityladderbook/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Nelson-Searcy/e/B001JSDFVS>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/431022.Nelson_Searcy

<https://www.amazon.com/Jennifer-Dykes-Henson/e/B004RHP0XY>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4257282.Jennifer_Henson
[Images for Nelson Searcy, Jennifer Dykes Henson](#)
[Images for The Generosity Ladder: Your Next Step to Financial Peace \[Nelson Searcy, Jennifer Dykes Henson\]](#)

The Generosity Project - Rocky Mountain Synod, ELCA

Rocky Mountain Synod congregations are partnering with sister congregations and leaders to make this a vibrant and effective ministry. Of the 18 ELCA grants, the unique approach of the Rocky Mountain Synod focuses on giving and generosity as a faith practice of households.

We have great hope that the Generosity Project will:

Grow a spirit of joyful generosity that strengthens giving from households to local congregations, to the Rocky Mountain Synod and the broader ministries of the ELCA.

Grow faithful stewards in our homes and congregations through Bible study, prayer, cross-generational conversation and effective household faith practices.

http://www.rmselca.org/ministries/stewardship/generosity_project/generosity.htm
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yAruc8IlpTM&feature=youtu.be> Linda Staats - stewardCast 2017 – YouTube
[Images for Generosity Project - Rocky Mountain Synod, ELCA](#)

The Generous Soul: An Introduction to Missional Giving [Marty Duren]

Christians are inundated with books and larger-than-life personalities all positioned as experts on God's will regarding finances. Countering the health-and-wealth attitude are those who abhor any suggestion of financial well-being for a life of poverty, and the middle ground is dominated by financially passive churchgoers with little motivation toward radical giving. *The Generous Soul* takes a look at money and possessions from the position that the missionary mandate given to all believers extends to the financial blessings at hand, however meager they may be. Explaining that each child of God is a "missionary manager," author Marty Duren provides a solid biblical foundation for a life of generosity based on the faithfulness of God. Periodically I read a book and it hurts to read it. Hurts, that is, in the sense of conviction. Marty Duren has helped us to recapture a much needed focus in our lives: the biblical notion that missional living means missional giving. Buy it, read it, prepare to be convicted, then live it!

Dr. David L. Allen, Dean, School of Theology, Director of the Center for Expository Preaching

<http://www.amazon.com/Generous-Soul-Introduction-Missional-Giving/dp/0982571941>
<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/9557247-the-generous-soul>
https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Generous_Soul.html?id=ArZYcQAACAAJ
<http://www.martyduren.com/>
https://twitter.com/martyduren?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor
<https://www.facebook.com/martyduren>
<http://www.twelvewitnesses.com/category/book-review/>
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/trevin-wax/missional-giving-a-conversation-with-marty-duren-and-free-book/>
<http://www.toddlittleton.net/generosity-and-the-kingdom-of-god-a-generous-soul>
<http://www.christianpost.com/author/marty-duren/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Marty-Duren/e/B004FRN5VA>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/2839973.Marty_Duren
[Images for Marty Duren, author](#)
[Images for The Generous Soul: An Introduction to Missional Giving \[Marty Duren\]](#)

The Giving Heart: Unlocking the Transformative Power of Generosity in Your Life by M. J. Ryan (Author), Sylvia Boorstein (Foreword)

In her latest examination of the virtues people need to cultivate for the 21st century, *The Works* magazine columnist M. J. Ryan shows how giving time, energy, kind words, loving gestures, and forgiveness will, in the end, matter more than any amount of money. Through heartfelt essays, Ryan encourages everyone to give from the joyous overflow of a loving heart, to consider how they are stingy, and to think about types of generosity. In a down-to-earth way, she gets to the heart of giving and what it does for the giver and the recipient.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Giving-Heart-Transformative-Generosity/dp/1573245216>
http://books.google.com/books/about/The_Giving_Heart.html?id=VbOZ8fMj1coC
<https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/book-reviews/view/2482/the-giving-heart>
<https://www.amazon.com/M.-J.-Ryan/e/B001H6KL9G>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/282538.M_J_Ryan
[Images for M. J. Ryan \(Author\)](#)
[Images for Giving Heart by M. J. Ryan](#)
<http://www.mj-ryan.com/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Sylvia-Boorstein/e/B000APLAPE>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/92361.Sylvia_Boorstein
[Images for Sylvia Boorstein, author](#)
[Images for The Giving Heart: Unlocking the Transformative Power of Generosity in Your Life by M. J. Ryan \(Author\), Sylvia Boorstein \(Foreword\)](#)

The Paradox of Generosity: Giving We Receive, Grasping We Lose [Christian Smith, Hilary Davidson]

Determining why, when, and to whom people feel compelled to be generous affords invaluable insight into positive and problematic ways of life. Organ donation, volunteering, and the funding of charities can all be illuminated by sociological and psychological perspectives on how American adults conceive of and demonstrate generosity. Focusing not only on financial giving but on the many diverse forms generosity can take, Christian Smith and Hilary Davidson show the deep impact—usually good, sometimes destructive—that giving has on individuals.

The Paradox of Generosity is the first study to make use of the cutting-edge empirical data collected in Smith's groundbreaking, multidisciplinary, five-year Science of Generosity Initiative. It draws on an extensive survey of 2,000 Americans, more than sixty in-depth interviews with individuals across twelve states, and analysis of over 1,000 photographs and other visual materials. This wealth of evidence reveals a consistent link between demonstrating generosity and leading a better life: more generous people are happier, suffer fewer illnesses and injuries, live with a greater sense of purpose, and experience less depression. Smith and Davidson also show, however, that to achieve a better life a person must practice generosity regularly—random acts of kindness are not enough.

Offering a wide range of vividly illustrative case studies, this volume will be a crucial resource for anyone seeking to understand the true impact and meaning of generosity.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Paradox-Generosity-Receive-Grasping/dp/0199394903>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/21548181-the-paradox-of-generosity>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-paradox-of-generosity-christian-smith/1119435013>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=019939492X>

https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Paradox_of_Generosity.html?id=QGvrAwAAQBAJ

<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/the-paradox-of-generosity-9780199394906?cc=us&lang=en&>

http://www.ssireview.org/book_reviews/entry/how_giving_keeps_on_giving

<http://www.oxfordscholarship.com/view/10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199394906.001.0001/acprof-9780199394906>

<http://www.christiancentury.org/reviews/2015-03/paradox-generosity-christian-smith-and-hilary-davidson>

<http://www.fastcoexist.com/1681158/the-generosity-paradox-by-giving-we-receive-but-by-taking-we-lose>

<http://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/paradox-of-generosity>

<http://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-19-939490-6>

<http://news.nd.edu/news/52987-notre-dame-sociologists-explore-the-paradox-of-generosity/>

<http://www.breakpoint.org/bpcommentaries/entry/12/26465>

<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs13644-015-0216-3#page-1>

www.universitypressscholarship.com/.../search:downloadsearchresultaspd

<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/abs/10.1086/682159>

<https://fulleryouthinstitute.org/blog/paradox-of-generosity2>

<http://www.christiancentury.org/reviews/2015-03/paradox-generosity-christian-smith-and-hilary-davidson>

<https://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/default.aspx?m=6667&post=4318> What is Generosity by Center for Stewardship Leaders

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/349943833529360493/> The Paradox of Generosity

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/312155817896937911/> The Paradox of Generosity

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/446700856763714864/> Discover ideas about Paradox - The Paradox of Generosity: Giving We Receive, Grasping We Lose by Christian Smith & Hilary Davidson

[Images for Paradox of Generosity on Pinterest](#)

<https://www.amazon.com/Christian-Smith/e/B001IGUW62>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/57799.Christian_Smith

<https://www.amazon.com/Hilary-Davidson/e/B00HCQ82Q4>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/124015.Hilary_Davidson

[Images for Christian Smith, Hilary Davidson](#)

[Images for The Paradox of Generosity: Giving We Receive, Grasping We Lose \[Christian Smith, Hilary Davidson\]](#)

365 Ways to Live Generously: Simple Habits for a Life That's Good for You and for Others by Sharon Lipinski (Author)

Transform your physical, emotional, and spiritual health with the power of generosity. 365 Ways to Live Generously features an easy, inspiring lesson for every day that focuses on one of the seven generosity habits: Physical Health, Mindfulness, Relationships, Connecting with Yourself, Gratitude, Simplicity, and Philanthropy. Each habit appears once a week, giving readers a whole year to practice and make it a part of their daily life.



<https://www.amazon.com/365-Ways-Live-Generously-Simple/dp/0738749605>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/30268347-365-ways-to-live-generously>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/365-ways-to-live-generously-sharon-lipinski/1123810835>

<https://www.scribd.com/book/333533440/365-Ways-to-Live-Generously-Simple-Habits-for-a-Life-That-s-Good-for-You-and-for-Others>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0738751316>

https://books.google.com/books/about/365_Ways_to_Live_Generously.html?id=59-qDQAAQBAJ

https://books.google.com/books/about/365_Ways_to_Live_Generously.html?id=yLmsDAEACAAJ

http://www.llewellyn.com/product_browse_inside.php?ean=9780738749600

https://www.llewellyn.com/author_interview.php?author_id=5906&interview_id=141
<http://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/book-reviews/view/28308/365-ways-to-live-generously>
<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/365-ways-live-generously-simple-habits-life-thats-good-lipinski>
<http://sharonlipinski.com/book>
<http://learntruehealth.com/willpower/>
<https://issuu.com/llewellyn/docs/9780738749600>
<http://onewhodoes.com/002-sharon-lipinski-and-the-7-generosity-habits/>
<https://www.uuabookstore.org/General-C1364.aspx>
<https://www.espeakers.com/marketplace/v3/profile/27954/sharon-lipinski>
<https://www.newspiritjournalonline.com/365-ways-to-live-generously/>
<https://www.iheart.com/podcast/139-The-Woody-and-Wilcox-Show-26917713/episode/the-woody-and-wilcox-show-for-28404942/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Sharon-Lipinski/e/B01MSTZ58L>
[Images for Sharon Lipinski \(Author\)](#)
[Images for 365 Ways to Live Generously: Simple Habits for a Life That's Good for You and for Others by Sharon Lipinski \(Author\)](#)

2015 Synod Assembly - May 30-31

Synod staff has been busy planning the 2015 Synod Assembly! This year's theme is, "The **Generosity** Project," and our featured speaker will be Nathan Dungan, founder and president of Share Save Spend. He is an industry thought-leader on helping youth and adults link their money decisions to their values.

This week in the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin – ELCA Week of March 1, 2015

<http://nswsi.org/home/calendar-of-events>
info@nswsi.org
www.sharesavespend.com/about-us
<http://nswsi.org/generosity/generosity-resources>
<http://nswsi.org/generosity/capital-campaign>
https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.984817254978203.1073741889.363855647074370&type=3&comment_id=984829234977005&comment_tracking=%7B%22tn%22%3A%22R%22%7D The Generosity Project - NWWI Synod | Facebook

What Defines a Generous Church – Rainer on Leadership #238 – ThomRainer.com

Discuss the characteristics of generous churches and how to tell if your church is a generous one or not.

Some highlights from today's episode include:

<http://thomrainer.com/2016/07/defines-generous-church-rainer-leadership-238/>
[Images for What Defines a Generous Church – Rainer on Leadership #238 – ThomRainer.com](#)
<http://visionroom.com/7-traits-of-increasingly-generous-churches/>
<http://www.artrainer.com/8-practices-of-generous-churches/>
<http://pastors.com/becoming-generous-church/>
<http://thomrainer.com/2016/01/seven-traits-of-churches-with-increasing-per-member-giving/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Thom-S.-Rainer/e/B001IGLMVG>
<https://www.amazon.com/Will-Traits-Outwardly-Focused-Christian/dp/1433687291>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/27470.Thom_S_Rainer
[Images for thom rainer \(author\)](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Generosity? - OpenBible.info

<http://www.openbible.info/topics/generosity>
[Images for bible and generosity](#)
<https://dailyverses.net/generosity>
<https://www.worldvision.org/christian-faith-news-stories/what-the-bible-says-about-generosity>
<https://drecicz.com/top-25-bible-verses-about-generosity/>
<https://echurch.com/20-bible-verses-on-generosity/>
<https://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-study/explore-the-bible/4-ways-generosity-benefits-us.html>
[Images for bible/4-ways-generosity-benefits-us](#)
<https://www.cdfcapital.org/generous-people-bible/>
[Images for generous-people-bible](#)
<https://www.crosswalk.com/church/giving/10-examples-of-generosity-in-the-bible-and-how-to-follow-them.html>
<https://stewardshipresources.org/resources-theme>
<http://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/bible-verses-about-generosity-10-awesome-scriptures/>
<https://www.crosswalk.com/church/giving/10-examples-of-generosity-in-the-bible-and-how-to-follow-them.html>
<https://dailyverses.net/generosity>
<https://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/onlinebiblestudies-godmoneyandfinances/beagenerousperson/>
<https://pushpay.com/blog/20-bible-verses-on-generosity/>
<https://generousgiving.org/who-we-are> We Are Committed to Spreading the Biblical Message of Generosity
[Images for Biblical Message of Generosity](#)

I revisited this post on 4/9/2020 during the **Wisconsin's Coronavirus 'Stay-At-Home' Order March 25 through April 24** and became even more convinced now during this gritty period that it is time to move away from the dichotomy of scarce/abundance and to the dialectic of sustainable and generous.

4) Examining personal finances and living more simply

My father worked as a non-union carpenter and, together with my mother, raised 4 sons who all pursued a post-secondary education. My homemaker mother made white cloth handbags with the Quaker saying on the side: "Tis a gift to be simple." Following the economic downturn of 2008 and then the COVID19 lockdown of 2020, I think more people are open to examining personal finances and living more simply.

Resources for examining personal finances

Best 20+ Personal finance ideas on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/personal-finance/>
[Images for personal finance pinterest](#)
<https://www.pinterest.com/kapital/personal-finance-infographics/>
<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/Tracica77/personal-finance/>
<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/thousandaire/personal-finance-101/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/teachertrap/personal-financial-literacy/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/what-is-personal-finance/>
<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/centsai/personal-finance/>

Choose to Save®

A site completely devoted to **financial education**. Articles and calculators for thinking about many money-related situations.
<http://www.choosetosave.org/>
[Images for Choose to Save®](#)
[Images for financial education](#)

Choosing Resilience – Luther Seminary

Let's challenge the cultural perspective that it's enough to say "to make money." Instead, we can respond more expansively, rooted in values that spring from faith's well. From there, we can **make economic choices with more intention**, which won't yet make life easy, but can make it healthier... and faith-full.
<http://www.luthersem.edu/rethinking/stewardship/conversations.aspx>
[Images for Choosing Resilience](#)
[Images for make economic choices with more intention](#)

Good Sense Budget Course Participant's Guide: Biblical Financial Principles for Transforming Your Finances and Life [Dick Towner, John Tofilon, Bill Hybels]

Grace. Joy. Freedom. Are those the first words that come to mind when you think of finances? They could be! Grace, joy, and freedom are words people most often use to describe their experience of Good \$ense—a proven, biblical resource for changing hearts and lives in the area of finances. In the Good \$ense Budget Course you'll discover tools and develop skills to help you control your finances, so your finances don't end up controlling you. You'll get training in biblical financial principles as well as help and guidance to: Prioritize financial goals Develop a personalized spending plan Identify action steps to reduce expenses Reduce debt, and much more! More than just a learning experience about budgets and finances, the course also enables you to reflect on your relationship to money and how it impacts your relationship to God. No matter what your circumstances—financial crisis or abundance—Good \$ense can help you: Discover how to become a diligent earner, generous giver, wise saver, cautious debtor, and prudent consumer Learn how to resist the pull of the culture and draw closer to the mind and heart of God Experience the joy of becoming financially faithful as well as financially free The result is a God-honoring financial lifestyle.

<http://www.amazon.com/Sense-Budget-Course-Participants-Guide/dp/0744137284>
<https://www.christianbook.com/good-sense-budget-course-participants-guide/dick-towner/9780744137286/pd/37287>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/good-sense-budget-course-leaders-guide-dick-towner/1006107252>
<https://www.zondervan.com/good-sense-budget-course-participant-s-guide>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0744137284>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Good_Sense_Budget_Course.html?id=E5lUI-2ulhgC
https://books.google.com/books/about/Good_Sense_Budget_Course.html?id=4TQloAEACAAJ
https://books.google.com/books/about/Good_Sense_Budget_Course_Part_Gde.html?id=vusoiXqCVVAC
<http://goodsensemovement.org/>
<https://goodsensemovement.org/resources/freed-up-financial-living/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Dick-Towner/e/B003YICE36>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/134316.Dick_Towner
[Images for Dick Towner, author](#)
<https://www.amazon.com/John-Tofilon/e/B003YIE6AA>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/134315.John_Tofilon
[Images for John Tofilon, author](#)
<https://www.amazon.com/Bill-Hybels/e/B000AQ4QPO>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/24922.Bill_Hybels

[Images for Bill Hybels, author](#)

[Images for Good Sense Budget Course Participant's Guide: Biblical Financial Principles for Transforming Your Finances and Life \[Dick Towner, John Tofilon, Bill Hybels\]](#)

Heart in Focus: Personal Financial Course

Do you control your money, or does it control you?

Imagine feeling confident in using money and living a life that is free from the trappings it brings -- free from financial worry, free from debt, and free from all the demands and pressures. Imagine feeling in control of your finances with a plan for the future ... a plan more in tune with God's will.

It's time to rethink the common perspective and approach to money and possessions. *Heart in Focus* is a step-by-step process that helps people get at the root of most money issues -- the human heart -- and then walk through the maze of financial choices.

Davis and Kehl present a Biblical perspective of money, including the following: Aiming hearts toward lasting treasures, Overcoming the worry of daily living, Taking control of debt, Spending responsibly, Clarifying life's meaning, Implementing a plan for the future.

This practical and encouraging workbook contains forms for money management, ideas on how to save money, and how to eliminate debt. Best of all, it uses God's Word as the definitive guide for money management! It challenges people at every financial level with a fresh new perspective on money.

<http://www.churchsmart.com/ProductDetails.asp?ProductCode=HIF>

<http://www.churchsmart.com/ProductDetails.asp?ProductCode=HIFK>

<http://www.heartinfocus.com/files/trainer-qualifications.pdf>

[Images for Heart in Focus: Personal Financial Course](#)

'How much will you keep?' My pastor's question still challenges my giving - The Lutheran Magazine

I was converted to "10-percenting" by the preaching of God's word. More than 20 years ago, single and in my 20s, I listened to my pastor, Don Hesterman, talk about money from the pulpit. He said, or I heard: "If everything you are and everything you hold is the Lord's, then the question is not how much you give but: 'How much do you keep?'"

I can't remember how long that challenge needed to percolate in my mind. But keeping more than 90 percent never seemed a viable option.

Sure, I tried to find wiggle room. At first, I gave 10 percent of my net after-tax income. It took a couple of years for the Spirit to lovingly nag me into discomfort. I began to tithe my gross income. Still, I tried another ploy — not keeping close track of my income, treating the 90 percent as a range to avoid writing an offering check.

But eventually, giving became more fun than burden.

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=2438

[Images for 'How much will you keep?' My pastor's question still challenges my giving - The Lutheran Magazine](#)

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/contact-us/>

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/issues/>

If you're like me: It really is "your money or your life?" - The Lutheran Magazine

These are perilous times, and only shortsighted folks still think they can buy or borrow their way out of any kind of continuing repression. If you're like me, you're not shortsighted or dim-witted. You're a *Lutheran*, for God's sake, and for God's sake you're trying to do what God requires, what Christ invites and what the Spirit makes possible with your life.

Simplifying your mission

In one of his ageless sketches, comedian Jack Benny (right) is confronted by a robber's insistence, "Your money or your life." Benny defers for several moments. When pushed by the robber for his decision, the characteristically frugal Benny replies, "I'm thinking about it!"

What he was thinking may have seemed simple, but at a deeper level his choices were incredibly complex.

In these times difficult and complicated questions face both you and your congregation, perhaps intensifying the necessity to make choices about your part of God's mission.

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=9387

[Images for If you're like me: It really is "your money or your life?" - The Lutheran Magazine](#)

Jack Benny - Your Money or Your Life - YouTube

The classic bit from the Jack Benny Program.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-tVzdUczMT0>

[Images for Jack Benny - Your Money or Your Life - YouTube](#)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N7BJ_vfGrbs Jack Benny - I'm Thinking It Over - YouTube

[Images for Jack Benny - I'm Thinking It Over - YouTube](#)

It's Not About the Money: A Financial Game Plan for Staying Safe, Sane, and Calm in Any Economy [Brent Kessel]

Your one-stop financial guide

Includes ten new tips to survive any economy

Overhaul your investment portfolio to thrive in good times and bad

Uncover the roots of your bad financial decisions

Discover how much is "enough" for you

Find peace of mind in any financial situation

<http://www.amazon.com/Its-Not-About-Money-Financial/dp/0061234052>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2345660.It_s_Not_About_the_Money
<https://www.harpercollins.com/9780061734632/its-not-about-the-money>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/its-not-about-the-money-brent-kessel/1128004807?type=eBook>
<https://www.scribd.com/book/163639494/It-s-Not-About-the-Money-A-Financial-Game-Plan-for-Staying-Safe-Sane-and-Calm-in-Any-Economy>
<https://www.waterstones.com/book/its-not-about-the-money/brent-kessel/9780061234057>
https://books.google.com/books/about/It_s_Not_About_the_Money.html?id=sIZZXawq-cQC
https://archive.org/details/isbn_9780061234057
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Its-Not-about-the-Money-A-Financial-Game-Plan-for-Staying-Safe-Sane-and-Calm-in-Any-Economy/466027213457587>
<https://abacuswealth.com/team/brent-kessel/>
<https://kripalu.org/presenters-programs/presenters/brent-kessel>
<http://www.first30days.com/experts/brent-kessel>
<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/author/brent-kessel>
https://www.forbes.com/2008/06/17/archetype-kessel-guardian-pf-ii-in_fs_0616lander_inl.html
<https://www.amazon.com/Brent-Kessel/e/B001JRTJFU>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/1052687.Brent_Kessel
[Images for Brent Kessel, author](#)
[Images for It's Not About the Money: A Financial Game Plan for Staying Safe, Sane, and Calm in Any Economy \[Brent Kessel\]](#)

Jesus and Money: A Guide for Times of Financial Crisis [Ben III Witherington]

In the wake of a sobering global recession, many Christians realize they need to rethink their approach to money. Here respected New Testament scholar Ben Witherington III explores what the Bible does - and *doesn't* - say about money. Now in paperback, this book clearly and concisely examines what Jesus and his earliest followers taught about wealth and poverty, money and debt, and tithing and sacrificial giving to help readers understand the proper role of money in modern Christian life. Along the way, he critiques the faith-promise and health-and-wealth approaches to these issues, showing what good stewardship of God's possessions really looks like.

<http://www.amazon.com/Jesus-Money-Guide-Financial-Crisis/dp/1587433192>
<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/7452957-jesus-and-money>
<https://www.christianbook.com/money-guide-times-financial-crisis-ebook/ben-witherington/9781441207821/pd/4310EB>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/jesus-and-money-ben-iii-witherington/1116961816>
http://books.google.com/books/about/Jesus_and_Money.html?id=WePxiFemSWkC
<http://catholicanarchy.org/?p=1558>
<http://int.sagepub.com/content/65/2/205.2.extract>
www.marketsandmorality.com/index.php/mandm/article/download/94/88 [PDF] Jesus and Money: A Guide for Times of Financial Crisis
<https://www.publishersweekly.com/978-1-58743-274-3> Nonfiction Book Review
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ben_Witherington_III
<http://www.benwitherington.com/>
<http://asburyseminary.edu/person/dr-ben-witherington-iii/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Ben-Witherington/e/B000AP60HW>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/159001.Ben_Witherington_III
[Images for ben iii witherington, author](#)
[Images for Jesus and Money: A Guide for Times of Financial Crisis \[Ben III Witherington\]](#)

Managing God's Money: A Biblical Guide [Randy Alcorn]

God cares a great deal more about our money than most of us imagine. The sheer enormity of Scripture's teaching on this subject screams for our attention. In fact, Jesus says more about how we are to view and handle money and possessions than about any other topic—including both heaven and hell. In *Managing God's Money*, Randy Alcorn breaks down exactly what the Bible has to say about how we are to handle our money and possessions in a simple, easy-to-follow format. Filled with Scripture references, *Managing God's Money* is the perfect reference tool for anyone who is interested in gaining a solid biblical understanding of money, possessions, and eternity.

<http://www.amazon.com/Managing-Gods-Money-Biblical-Guide/dp/1414345534>
<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/10825725-managing-god-s-money>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/managing-gods-money-randy-c-alcorn/1101570235/>
<https://www.christianbook.com/managing-gods-money-a-biblical-guide/randy-alcorn/9781414345536/pd/345536>
<https://www.lifeway.com/en/product/managing-god-s-money-P005417461>
<https://www.tyndale.com/p/managing-gods-money/9781414345536>
http://books.google.com/books/about/Managing_God_s_Money.html?id=ogXM55pWRUwC
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8mGTD_nerlc "Managing God's Money" by Randy Alcorn - YouTube
<https://vimeo.com/135690887> Randy Alcorn - Managing God's Money, Biola University Chapel
<https://www.rainbowresource.com/viewpict.php?pid=025736> Managing God's Money - A Biblical Guide (025736) Images
<http://store.epm.org/managing-gods-money/>
<https://store.focusonthefamily.com/managing-god-s-money-a-biblical-guide>
<https://www.challies.com/book-reviews/managing-gods-money/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/3166662216722470/> Managing God's Money Randy Alcorn A Biblical Guide Book
<http://www.talbot.edu/financial-stewardship/>
<http://managinggodsmoney.com/mgm/moneybibleverses.php>
<https://www.ncfgiving.com/935> Book Review: Managing God's Money | National Christian Foundation
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8mGTD_nerlc "Managing God's Money" by Randy Alcorn - YouTube
<https://www.challies.com/book-reviews/managing-gods-money>
<https://www.amazon.com/Randy-Alcorn/e/B000APPQ0E>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4862.Randy_Alcorn
[Images for randy alcorn author managing god's money](#)
[Images for Managing God's Money \[Randy Alcorn\]](#)

Money Matters: Teach your children about Christian spending, saving, and sharing - The Lutheran Magazine

With the new year beginning, it's time for parents to resolve to sit down with their children and talk about *that* subject. You know ... the one parents don't openly discuss, the one hopelessly distorted by the media, the one we feel ill-prepared to address.

More

Fla. youth proves age no issue when it counts

Giving money away

Small change for ingenuity

Teaching teens about money

Compassionate kids

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=271

[Images for Money Matters: Teach your children about Christian spending, saving, and sharing - The Lutheran Magazine](#)

Money Sanity Solutions: Linking Money + Meaning by Nathan Dungan (Author)

Money Sanity Solutions: Linking Money + Meaning is designed to get families talking about money by leveraging everyday life experiences. The goal: help everyone in the family develop healthy money habits that are linked to their values. The book is designed to bring families together to help them counteract hyper-consumerism and equip the next generation for a lifetime of financial success. Topics include: budgeting basics, spending with a conscience, learning to earn, savings revolution, gift giving/receiving, etc. Personal finance expert, Nathan Dungan introduces all 15 chapters with lively and engaging DVD video segments that provide insights, stories and wisdom from his 20-plus years of working with families and organizations. Each chapter includes thought-provoking conversation starters, relevant case studies, as well as, activities and exercises (20 downloadable PDFs) that help all family members put their learning into action.

<http://www.amazon.com/Money-Sanity-Solutions-Linking-Meaning/dp/0578069989>

http://www.naspp.com/ChapterEventFiles/e3183_Nathan_Dungan_bio_10-2010.pdf

<http://sharesavespend.com/products/money-sanity-solutions>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Blxzi6dBM0E> Money Sanity Solutions.mov – YouTube

<https://vimeo.com/84865310> Faith Forum January 19, 2014: Nathan Dungan

<https://vimeo.com/143738574> Faith Forum 10-25-15, Nathan Dungan

<https://stewardshipresources.files.wordpress.com/2012/02/money-sanity-solutions-excerpt.pdf>

<http://nwmnsynod.org/resources/money-meaning-and-faith/>

<http://www.wealthmanagement.com/financial-planning/money-n-sanity>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/sharesavespend/sets/72157625012119720/>

https://www.workingpreacher.org/profile/default.aspx?uid=2-dungan_nathan

<https://www.amazon.com/Nathan-Dungan/e/B001HCWWAG>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4849.Nathan_Dungan

[Images for Nathan Dungan \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Money Sanity Solutions: Linking Money + Meaning by Nathan Dungan \(Author\)](#)

Personal Finance: A Lifetime Responsibility (Annotated Teacher's Edition) [Grady Kimbrell, Nathan Dungan]

Do your students have trouble staying awake during discussions of checkbook balancing and loan amortization? Do they complain that personal finance is boring and doesn't relate to them? Then EMC Publishing has the program for you! Personal Finance: A Lifetime Responsibility covers the most current and relevant topics, including identity theft, buying a car, and using debit cards. It presents hundreds of real-life examples, documents, and forms to capture the interest and imagination of today's consumer-oriented teens. Wise advice and opportunities to apply it are mixed in with case studies and stories that will inspire your students. Throughout, Nathan Dungan's unique Share Save Spend program offers practical suggestions for making balanced, thoughtful financial decisions. The goal of Share Save Spend is to help youth and adults think about, talk about and do money in ways that honor their values. A variety of special features connect key principles and concepts to the constantly changing world in which your students live! You Decide. Case studies and stories that engage teens in a dialogue about real-life financial situations and challenge them to make a personal choice Look Before You Leap. Descriptions of financial decisions that teens or young adults are likely to encounter and the steps they can take to make informed decisions You Can Succeed Financially. Discussions and examples of the exciting possibilities open to those who set personal financial goals and work to accomplish them Going Global. Stories that use popular examples (like the production of Trek bikes and sales of snowboard clothing) to show how key personal finance topics are treated in other countries Do Your Research. Suggestions for using the Internet, libraries, and other sources to

research personal finance topics of particular interest to teens Get Good Advice. Examples of how money mentors can help young people learn about specific topics, including suggestions for identifying mentors, sample interview and research questions, and ideas for using and sharing the results Did You Know? Fascinating facts and figures that dispel myths, warn, inform, spark ideas, and encourage exploration.

<https://www.amazon.com/Personal-Finance-Lifetime-Responsibility-Annotated/dp/B006F3TAPM>

<https://www.alliedbookcompany.com/product/86629/Personal-Finance-A-Lifetime-Responsibility-Teachers-Edition-Grady-Kimbrell-Nathan-Dungan>

http://www.emcp.com/product_catalog/resourcefile.php?ID=2358

http://www.naspp.com/ChapterEventFiles/e3183_Nathan_Dungan_bio_10-2010.pdf

<https://www.pinterest.com/verveacu/personal-finance-quotes/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Grady-Kimbrell/e/B001HQ0U10>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/573060.Grady_Kimbrell

[Images for Grady Kimbrell, author personal finance](#)

[Images for nathan dungan personal finance](#)

[Images for Personal Finance: A Lifetime Responsibility \(Annotated Teacher's Edition\) \[Grady Kimbrell, Nathan Dungan\]](#)

Prodigal Sons and Material Girls: How Not to Be Your Child's ATM [Nathan Dungan]

In today's society, many young people have lost sight of the value of money and seem to believe that money really does "grow on trees." Part expose and part survival guide, *Prodigal Sons and Material Girls* addresses the nagging issue faced by many parents today – why do their children have such unrealistic expectations about money? The book is divided into two comprehensive parts.

Part I outlines the disturbing facts about America's possession-crazed youth and the society that has distorted their views. You'll be introduced to everything from the "three-headed monster"—a high-powered triumvirate of consumer products companies, media conglomerates, and advertising agencies that has tremendous influence over your children—to the distorted view of the American Dream as shaped by principles known as "The *Teen* Commandments." In learning what you're up against, you can teach financial responsibility from a position of strength.

In Part II, Dungan offers creative and convincing examples on how to leverage his highly successful "Share-Save-Spend" approach to money – critical elements for you to help your children break free from the materialism that has become ingrained in our society. Through insightful anecdotes and simple exercises, you will learn how to: Talk to your children about money, Understand the difference between financial wants and needs, Increase the probability of your children having a prosperous life, Raise your children's marketing IQ, Maintain healthy financial boundaries, Set a healthy example for your children to follow.

The "Share-Save-Spend" methodology will help your children establish healthy financial habits and will undoubtedly become their foundation for making a lifetime of responsible financial decisions.

<https://www.amazon.com/Prodigal-Sons-Material-Girls-Childs/dp/0471250694>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/7241.Prodigal_Sons_and_Material_Girls

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/prodigal-sons-and-material-girls-nathan-dungan/1102875888>

<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0471250694.html>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0471469971>

[Prodigal Sons and Material Girls: How Not to Be Your Child's ATM](#)

<https://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-471-25069-2> Nonfiction Book Review

<https://www.luthersem.edu/news/2014/08/13/nathan-dungan-to-give-stewardship-lectures/>

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/a-fresh-vision-in-stewarding/>

<https://www.luthersem.edu/news/2013/03/22/explore-stewardship-with-adults-under-40-4/>

<https://www.fool.com/personal-finance/2003/11/19/dont-be-your-kids-atm.aspx>

<http://tcbmag.com/honors/articles/2016/2016-minnesota-family-business-awards/having-the-talk>

<http://www.westminsterforum.org/forum/prodigal-sons-and-material-girls-how-not-to-be-your-childs-atm/>

<https://onbeing.org/programs/nathan-dungan-money-and-moral-balance/>

<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/nathan-dungan/521965/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Nathan-Dungan/e/B001HCWWAG>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4849.Nathan_Dungan

[Images for Nathan Dungan, author prodigal sons material daughters](#)

[Images for Prodigal Sons and Material Girls: How Not to Be Your Child's ATM \[Nathan Dungan\]](#)

Share Save Spend

Learn how Nathan & Share Save Spend are changing the world's perception of money.

Share. It's not just about "your" money – it's about how sharing impacts your family, your community, and the world.

Save. For a rainy day, for retirement or something more. How would your life change with a comfortable cushion?

Spend. Money makes the world go round, but how and where you spend your money is a powerful statement.

The choices we make with our money can *change the world*

<http://www.sharesavespend.com/>

[Images for Share Save Spend](#)

Personal Finance - Dave Ramsey

Bestsellers · EntreLeadership · Audiobooks & eBooks · Books by Radio Show Guests · Dave's Library · Business/Leadership · Marital/Relationship · Personal Growth · Personal Finance

<http://www.daveramsey.com/store/Personal-Finance/cPersonalFinance.html>
[https://www.daveramsey.com/school/foundations/
Images for Personal Finance - Dave Ramsey](https://www.daveramsey.com/school/foundations/Images for Personal Finance - Dave Ramsey)
[Images for personal finance quotes dave ramsey](#)

Practicing Our Faith: Household Economics

Good economic practice – positive ways of exchanging goods and services – is about the well-being, the livelihood, of the whole household. In the face of great economic and environmental challenges, the Christian practice of household economics calls on us to manage our private homes for the well-being and livelihood of the small planet home we all share.

http://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/resource_detail.aspx?resource_id=1388
[Images for Practicing Our Faith: Household Economics](#)
[Images for small planet home we all share](#)
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Household_economics

The Last Lecture Quotes by Randy Pausch - Goodreads

"Years ago, I dated a lovely young woman who was a few thousand dollars in debt. She was completely stressed out about this. Every month, more interest would be added to her debts.

To deal with her stress, she would go every Tuesday night to a meditation and yoga class. This was her one free night, and she said it seemed to be helping her. She would breathe in, imagining that she was finding ways to deal with her debts. She would breathe out, telling herself that her money problems would one day be behind her.

It went on like this, Tuesday after Tuesday.

Finally, one day I **looked through her finances with her**. I figured out that if she spent four or five months working a part-time job on Tuesday nights, she could actually pay off all the money she owed.

I told her I had nothing against yoga or meditation. But I did think it's always best to try to treat the disease first. Her symptoms were stress and anxiety. Her disease was the money she owed.

"Why don't you get a job on Tuesday nights and skip yoga for a while?" I suggested.

This was something of a revelation to her. And she took my advice. She became a Tuesday-night waitress and soon enough paid off her debts. After that, she could go back to yoga and really breathe easier."

— Randy Pausch, *The Last Lecture*

<https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/3364076-the-last-lecture?page=4>
[Images for Last Lecture Quotes by Randy Pausch](#)

The Soul of Money: Reclaiming the Wealth of Our Inner Resources by Lynne Twist (Author), Teresa Barker (Contributor)

This unique and fundamentally liberating book shows us that examining our attitudes toward money—earning it, spending it, and giving it away—can offer surprising insight into our lives, our values, and the essence of prosperity.

Lynne Twist, a global activist and fundraiser, has raised more than \$150 million for charitable causes. Through personal stories and practical advice, she demonstrates how we can replace feelings of scarcity, guilt, and burden with experiences of sufficiency, freedom, and purpose. In this Nautilus Award-winning book, Twist shares from her own life, a journey illuminated by remarkable encounters with the richest and poorest, from the famous (Mother Teresa and the Dalai Lama) to the anonymous but unforgettable heroes of everyday life.

<http://www.amazon.com/Soul-Money-Reclaiming-Wealth-Resources/dp/039332950X>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/185526.The_Soul_of_Money
[https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/soul-of-money-lynne-twist/1100622678#/
http://books.google.com/books/about/The_Soul_of_Money.html?id=psWvaHa8UkAC](https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/soul-of-money-lynne-twist/1100622678#/)
[The Soul of Money: Reclaiming the Wealth of Our Inner Resources - Pinterest](#)
<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.ca/books/553371/the-soul-of-money-by-lynne-twist-and-teresa-barker/9780393353976>
<http://pdfdownloads6i.blogspot.com/2013/03/download-soul-of-money-reclaiming.html>
[http://www.youwillrich.net/store/detail/the-soul-of-money-reclaiming-the-wealth-of-our-inner-resources-2009/
http://sterlingmarketinggroup.com/2016/09/the-soul-of-money-with-lynne-twist/
http://soulmoney.org/about/lynne-twist/
http://www.soulmoney.org/resources/
https://everipedia.org/wiki/lynne-twist/
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t5xIJg9VxJg Lynne Twist - The Soul of Money - YouTube
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9AvQJOHtVAA Business Book Review: The Soul of Money: Reclaiming the Wealth of Our Inner
Resources by Lynne Twist – YouTube
https://twitter.com/lynne_twist?lang=en
http://consciouslifeneeds.com/lynne-twist-soul-money-brilliant-interview-lilou-mace/1147400/
https://www.amazon.com/Lynne-Twist/e/B001IGFIY8
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/108116.Lynne_Twist](http://www.youwillrich.net/store/detail/the-soul-of-money-reclaiming-the-wealth-of-our-inner-resources-2009/)
[Images for Lynne Twist \(Author\)](#)
<https://www.amazon.com/Teresa-Barker/e/B001H6U4UC>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/125502.Teresa_Barker
[Images for Teresa Barker, author soul of money](#)
[Images for The Soul of Money: Reclaiming the Wealth of Our Inner Resources by Lynne Twist \(Author\), Teresa Barker \(Contributor\)](#)

What Do I Own and What Owns Me? Spirituality of Stewardship [Daniel Conway]

Stewardship is one of the chief characteristics of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. It is the practical means of acknowledging that life is a gift to be cherished, shared, and given back to God with increase. To clarify and exemplify his message, Conway offers insightful reflections, moving stories, and practical reflection questions for individual and group use. *What Do I Own and What Owns Me?* is invaluable for parish stewardship committees, parish counselors, pastoral ministers, and all who have a profound desire to live as disciples of Christ.

<http://www.amazon.com/What-Own-Owns-Spirituality-Stewardship/dp/1585953938>

http://books.google.com/books/about/What_Do_I_Own_and_What_Owns_Me.html?id=Kw0l4QgOqsEC

<http://saintvincents.org/stewardship/spirituality-of-stewardship/>

<https://www.stewardshipcentral.org/posts/ron-blues-simple-message-of-stewardship>

<http://danielconwayauthor.com/dd-product/stewards-of-joy/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Daniel-Conway/e/B001JSD64O>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/234236.Daniel_W_Conway

[Images for Daniel Conway, author spirituality of stewardship](#)

[Images for What Do I Own and What Owns Me? Spirituality of Stewardship \[Daniel Conway\]](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Money Management? - OpenBible.info

https://www.openbible.info/topics/money_management

[Images for bible and money management](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/anabelafrd7/the-bible-and-money/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/biblelovenotes/money-things/>

<http://www.moneyhelpforchristians.com/what-does-the-bible-say-about-debt-and-credit/>

<http://www.gotquestions.org/managing-finances.html>

[Images for Bible Say About Managing Your Finances](#)

Writing a Personal Money Autobiography

Writing a personal money autobiography is an important step in expressing one's stewardship journey. The process reveals one's attitudes, behaviors and feelings about money.

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Personal_Money_Autobiography.pdf

[Images for Writing a Personal Money Autobiography](#)

Your Money Counts: The Biblical Guide to Earning, Spending, Saving, Investing, Giving, and Getting Out of Debt [Howard L., Jr. Dayton]

With the economy reeling in the wake of the recent recession, many people are experiencing such financial challenges as credit card debt, downsizing, dead-end jobs, and inadequate or depleted savings. With these challenges come others as well. Recent studies confirm that more than half of all divorces are the result of financial pressures at home. And spiritually, many people are struggling to maintain a biblical perspective amidst the constant tug of materialism. But there is hope. The Bible has a lot to say about money. In fact, the Bible is a veritable blueprint for managing your finances. In *Your Money Counts*, trusted financial expert Howard Dayton shows you how to manage your personal finances in a highly practical, biblically-based way.

<http://www.amazon.com/Your-Money-Counts-Biblical-Investing/dp/1414359497>

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/183596.Your_Money_Counts

<https://www.christianbook.com/biblical-earning-spending-investing-giving-getting/howard-dayton/9781414359496/pd/359496>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1414360762>

<https://books.google.com/books?id=9k8usomSZEIC>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Your_Money_Counts.html?id=pcGMGJgT1dUC

<http://roseannbym.blog.fc2.com/blog-entry-13.html>

<https://www.tyndale.com/search?q=howard-l-dayton-jr&f=AU>

<http://www.lifeway.com/Product/your-money-counts-P005575019>

<https://www.tyndale.com/authors/howard-l-dayton-jr/159>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Howard_Dayton

<https://compass1.org/about/leadership-team/>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4049847.Howard_Dayton

https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/4049847.Howard_Dayton

[Images for howard l. dayton jr author](#)

[Images for Your Money Counts: The Biblical Guide to Earning, Spending, Saving, Investing, Giving, and Getting Out of Debt \[Howard L., Jr. Dayton\]](#)

Resources for living more simply

[PDF] Giving: Growing Joyful Stewards in Your Congregation - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Center Insert: [Live Simply](#)

Simple Living and Christian Stewardship by M. Douglas Meeks	3
Not So Simple: Living in Christ by Adam J. Copeland	6
Cultivating Contentment: Five Steps for Simplifying Your Life by Adam Hamilton	8
Simple Living by Lynn Miller	10
Keeping It Simple in a High Tech Culture by Nathan Dungan	12
Making it Simple for Persons to Give by David S. Bell	16

[PDF] Giving - ELCA Resource Repository

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ESC_Giving_Magazine_ELCA_16.pdf

[Images for Live Simply](#)

[Images for Simple Living and Christian Stewardship](#)

[Images for Steps for Simplifying Your Life](#)

[Images for Simple Living](#)

[Images for Keeping It Simple in a High Tech Culture](#)

[Images for Making it Simple for Persons to Give](#)

[Images for Helping Kids Live Simply](#)

Gratitude and the Simplicity Movement - Faith+Lead – Luther Seminary

One of the interesting outcomes of living simply is appreciating stuff more.

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/gratitude-and-the-simplicity-movement/>

[Images for Gratitude and the Simplicity Movement - Faith+Lead – Luther Seminary](#)

Learning to Live Simply - YouTube

Living simply is a way of life that can be challenging to achieve whether you choose it or are forced into it. I've learned a lot the last few months about what it means to live with less and how to make it work.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tFzDETFv_Zc

[Images for Live Simply - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzhkme4iBT13sK42rd5iotA> Live Simply - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XQH8LdB8Ipw> Living Simply in a Complex World. Part 1 of 4. - YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I-PFMWa1_BY Why You Should Live Simply - YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UoGxY_56A-o Live simply so other people can simply live - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LCqpNNuewYw> Living Simply - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Few8pcuWRk> Year of Living Simply: Declutter Your Life - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A3Oc11kUeuI> Living Simply - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T0OJ-Se8S8U> Simplify Your Life This Year | Simple Living & Minimalism - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xHg9j-d-QsA> 10 EASY WAYS TO LIVE SIMPLY I COLLAB - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQKpt0bUpeo> How Living Simply Keeps You Debt Free - YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wsl_UmrWs24 Ways to Live A More Simple Life - YouTube

Living a simpler life and loving it | The Lutheran

In September (page 20) we asked readers to share some of their strategies for simplifying their lifestyles. Here's a gleaming from the generous response:

My biggest tip that enables families to realize the dream of living a more fulfilling life by slowing down and spending less is: downsize your house so it's affordable on one income. We bought a "starter" home 12 years ago, using only my husband's salary. Three years later, when our son was born, I didn't have to go back to work to support a huge house. When our daughter was born almost three years later, we had saved enough to add a playroom that increased our living space to an adequate size.

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=2660

[Images for Living a simpler life and loving it | The Lutheran](#)

Simple Life: Time, Relationships, Money, God [Thom S. Rainer, Art Rainer]

The research and change methods that made *Simple Church* a multi-awarded, #1 ministry best seller are now applied to everyday matters in *Simple Life*. Authors Thom S. Rainer and Art Rainer interviewed a cross-section of 1,077 individuals to confirm that most people feel their lives are overly stressful and misguided, not allowing enough time for what really counts. As they share these highly relatable stories, the Rainers chart a simple path from joyless to joyful.

Breaking life down into four key sections (Time, Relationships, God, Money), the authors show how four key goals (Clarity, Movement, Alignment, Focus) can begin to foster a life that is more spiritual and less busy, a life rich in experiences with family and friends rather than double-booked to-do lists and late nights at the office. The book even lays out an easy-to-follow action plan that will move readers assuredly toward the simple life in just thirty days.

<http://www.amazon.com/Simple-Life-Time-Relationships-Money/dp/0805448861>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/6715485-simple-life>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/simple-life-thom-s-rainer/1112398607>

http://books.google.com/books/about/Simple_Life.html?id=oPZ07iggbhoC

<http://www.lifeway.com/Product/simple-life-p005183572>

<http://www.bhpublishinggroup.com/bhauthor/art-rainer>

<http://www.artrainer.com/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Thom-S.-Rainer/e/B001IGLMVG>

https://www.amazon.com/s?ie=UTF8&page=1&rh=n%3A283155%2Cp_27%3AArt%20Rainer

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/27470.Thom_S_Rainer

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/603145.Art_Rainer

[Images for Thom S. Rainer, Art Rainer](#)

[Images for Simple Life: Time, Relationships, Money, God \[Thom S. Rainer, Art Rainer\]](#)

Simplify: Ten Practices to Unclutter your Soul by Bill Hybels (Author)

Exhausted. Overwhelmed. Overscheduled. Sound familiar? Today's velocity of life can consume and control us, until our breakneck pace begins to feel normal and expected. That's where the danger lies: When we spend our lives doing things that keep us busy but don't really matter, we sacrifice the things that do. What if your life could be different? What if you could be certain you were living the life God called you to live and building a legacy for those you love? If you crave a simpler life anchored by the priorities that matter most, roll up your sleeves. Simplified living requires more than just cleaning out your closets or reorganizing your desk drawer. It requires uncluttering your soul. By eradicating the stuff that leaves your spirit drained, you can stop doing what doesn't matter and start doing what does. In *Simplify*, bestselling author Bill Hybels identifies the core issues that lure us into frenetic living and offers practical steps for sweeping the clutter from our souls.

<http://www.amazon.com/Simplify-Practices-Unclutter-Your-Soul/dp/1414391234>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/19150944-simplify>

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/simplify-bill-hybels/1117596140>

<http://www.christianbook.com/simplify-ten-practices-unclutter-your-soul/bill-hybels/9781414391229/pd/391229?kw=29064775092&mt=b&dv=c&>

<http://tyndalemomentum.com/books/simplify-ten-practices-unclutter-soul/>

<https://books.google.com/books/about/Simplify.html?id=Hi-VAwAAQBAJ>

<https://www.audiobooks.com/audiobook/simplify-ten-practices-to-unclutter-your-soul/217967>

<https://www.icmbooksdirect.co.uk/product/22386/simplify-ten-practices-to-unclutter-your-soul>

<https://www.willowcreek.com/prodInfo.asp?invId=PR35694>

https://www.willowcreek.com/free/download/simplify_first_chapter.pdf

www.simplifybook.com/

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rHZQ8LscNtk> 'Simplify: Ten Practices to Unclutter Your Soul' by Bill Hybels - YouTube

<http://www.publishersweekly.com/978-1-4143-9122-9> Nonfiction Book Review

<https://dorough.wordpress.com/2014/08/25/book-review-simplify-ten-practices-to-unclutter-your-soul-by-bill-hybels/>

<http://headhearthand.org/blog/2014/10/06/simplify-ten-practices-to-unclutter-your-soul/>

<http://religionnews.com/2014/08/14/sweeping-away-clutter-qa-bill-hybels-simplify/>

<https://georgepwood.com/2014/09/05/review-of-simplify-ten-practices-to-unclutter-your-soul-by-bill-hybels/>

http://urgentink.typepad.com/my_weblog/2014/08/simplify-ten-practices-to-unclutter-your-soul.html

<https://leadwithyourlife.com/simplify-ten-practices-unclutter-soul/>

http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x2ewtaf_simplify-ten-practices-to-unclutter-your-soul-by-bill-hybels-ebook-pdf-free-download_school

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Hybels

<http://www.billhybels.org/>

http://premierespeakers.com/christian/bill_hybels/bio

<http://www.faithgateway.com/author/bill-hybels/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Bill-Hybels/e/B000AQ4QPO>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/24922.Bill_Hybels

[Images for Bill Hybels \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Simplify: Ten Practices to Unclutter your Soul by Bill Hybels \(Author\)](#)

Starting Simple: Conversations about the Way We Live by Bob Sitze

In today's complex and busy world, people yearn for simpler lives. Bob Sitze offers *Starting Simple* to help readers live joyfully and justly. Because Sitze believes conversations change us as individuals and that most important social changes take place through conversation, he invites us into heart-to-heart conversations about simple living.

Sitze helps readers and others in their congregations to learn what the Scriptures have to say about living a godly life in these times; find ways to repent of unsustainable lifestyle choices; gather courage to change the ways we think and live; and speak and listen to the struggles of others, with honesty and respect.

This practical book includes side trips filled with thoughtful quotes, short stories, and activities. Readers may use it to spark conversations, invite sharing, make decisions, ask for forgiveness, or encourage other who are ready to change.

Congregations will find it a good guide for small group discussions, family negotiations, or educational programming.

<http://www.amazon.com/Starting-Simple-Conversations-about-Live/dp/1566993547>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2897127-starting-simple>

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566996389/Starting-Simple-Conversations-about-the-Way-We-Live>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996384>

<http://connection.ebscohost.com/c/book-reviews/34780721/starting-simple-conversations-about-way-we-live>

<https://alban.org/archive/the-heart-of-simple-living/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Bob-Sitze/e/B001JS0ZYI>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/65728.Bob_Sitze

[Images for Bob Sitze, author](#)

[Images for Starting Simple: Conversations about the Way We Live by Bob Sitze](#)

Sustaining Simplicity: A Journal [Anne Basye]

The book invites readers to share a year in the frugal but oh-so-rich life of Anne Basye. Her down-to-earth journal entries give lots of practical ideas. Anne takes us along on her weird ride of faith and shopping, home-making and a barter economy.

<http://www.amazon.com/Sustaining-Simplicity-Journal-Anne-Basye/dp/B003F63QKC>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/3381915-sustaining-simplicity>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m5RAzHo1HoI> FaithStreams: Simplicity – YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uOzyohSt_B0 Anne Basye - Spiritual Journey - PG# 5204 - YouTube

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/author/anne-basye/>

<http://wordsandspirit.tumblr.com/post/69094052692/sustaining-simplicity>

<http://blogs.elca.org/hungerrumbles/post/carless-and-driving-01102010/>

https://sojo.net/magazine/june-2007/new-and-noteworthy?quicktabs_web_extras=0

<http://audio.holdenvillage.org/node/424> Basye, Anne | Holden Village Audio Archive

<http://www.lutheranwriters.org/Authors.html>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/annebasye>

<https://simpleliving.startlogic.com/SLW-PODCAST/?tag=intentional-community>

<https://www.amazon.com/Anne-Basye/e/B001HPUR28>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/86350.Anne_Basye

[Images for Anne Basye, author sustaining simplicity](#)

[Images for Sustaining Simplicity: A Journal \[Anne Basye\]](#)

Top 25+ best Simple living ideas on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/simple-living/>

[Images for Simple Living on Pinterest](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/oursimple/all-about-simple-living/>

https://www.pinterest.com/meredith_krugel/simple-living/

<https://www.pinterest.com/brightpeakspeak/simple-living/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/brightpeakspeak/simple-living/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/brightpeakspeak/simple-living/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/alohakaren/living-simply/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/alohakaren/living-simply/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/englishlee/living-more-simply/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/fireflygh35/simple-living-inspiration/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/libbywithnall/minimalist-simple-living-inspiration/>

[Images for pinterest/minimalist-simple-living-inspiration](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/poppytoo2/simple-life/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/the-simple-life/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/hipeacefulmind/simple-life/>

[Images for pinterest/simple-life](#)

3 Ways to Live a Simple and Peaceful Life - wikiHow

Life on the fast track will eventually take its toll on your health and your relationships with others. The pressure to perform and live up to unrealistic expectations leaves you yearning for a simpler more peaceful life. By adjusting your schedule, reprioritizing your life, and changing your physical environment you will attain the life you desire.

<http://www.wikihow.com/Live-a-Simple-and-Peaceful-Life>

[Images for Live a Simple and Peaceful Life](#)

<https://www.wikihow.com/Have-Peace-of-Mind>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Live-in-Peace>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Be-Peaceful>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Live-a-Calm-Life>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Live-a-Good-Life>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Enjoy-Each-Day>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Live-Life-to-the-Fullest>

I bought an old log cabin on 40 acres in 1990 and rehabbed it. I wrote about this project in The Earth Is Our Home Part I Homemaking. Chapter 2 A Home on the Hay River as one of the booklets included in Rural Ministry Resources on this website.

I purchased a 1½ story house in 2010 as a bank foreclosure with a sheriff's eviction order attached to the front door. I discovered newspaper sheets under the floor tile, the dates of which led me to believe it was built right after WWII.



I spent the next 6 years rehabbing it.

Image capture: Oct 2016 © 2018 Google. Go to: google maps 916 lakeshore drive, rice lake, wi Street View – Oct 2016
<https://www.google.com/maps/place/916+Lakeshore+Dr.+Rice+Lake,+WI+54868/@45.5114848,-91.7323547,3a,75y,251.19h,88.22t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1seoWDk98Q7ZLjbNKDhqxkuw!2e0!7i13312!8i6656!4m5!3m4!1s0x52acfa2744c7d72d:0xe165b63e4f3ff5b!8m2!3d45.511474!4d-91.732588>

I purchased *The Simple Home: The Luxury of Enough* and placed it on an end table in the living room.

***The Simple Home: The Luxury of Enough* (American Institute Architects) by Sarah Nettleton (Author)**

For everyone who craves a simpler lifestyle, not only in how they live but also where they live, *The Simple Home* features 21 houses and presents six different approaches to creating a home that realizes its full potential both simply and elegantly.

We are living in complex times, in a commodified, virtual, and overstimulated culture. One response to high levels of complexity and overstimulation is to look for yet another gadget or closet organizer to simplify our lives. But the answer lies somewhere else. The road to a simpler more satisfying life begins with a clear-eyed examination of the choices we are making for our time - and that includes choices about where we want to live.

The Simple Home presents six paths to simplicity, each illustrated by human-scaled, unadorned homes with straightforward floor plans and forms. These are open, light-filled homes (with rooms or spaces that are often multipurpose) that express their beauty in their utility and practicality. Simple homes are low maintenance and often green, designed for homeowners who wish to embody a different set of values in their housing choices than the run-of-the-mill starter castles littering the landscape.

The 6 Paths to Simplicity:

1. Simple is Enough
2. Simple is Thrifty
3. Simple is Flexible
4. Simple is Timeless
5. Simple is Sustainable
6. Simple is Refined

<https://www.amazon.com/Simple-Home-American-Institute-Architects/dp/1561588318>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/353365.The_Simple_Home

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1561588318>

https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Simple_Home.html?id=MobCB-1L2yYC

<http://buildipedia.com/at-home/design-remodeling/talking-with-sarah-nettleton-about-building-a-simple-home>

<http://www.northwesteddy.com/dev/home-by-design/book-review-the-simple-home.htm>

<http://www.newenergywatch.com/2007/10/the-simple-home.html>

<https://www.aia.org/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Institute_of_Architects

<https://www.facebook.com/AIANational/>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/202664.Sarah_Nettleton

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3980294.Frank_Edgeron_Martin

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3072034.Randy_O_Rourke

[Images for *The Simple Home: The Luxury of Enough* \(American Institute Architects\) by Sarah Nettleton \(Author\)](#)

5) Returning the tithe

I delivered *The Des Moines Register* in grades 6-12. If I earned \$5 a week, it was simply understood that I give away \$.50. If I earned \$10 a week, it was simply understood that I give away \$1.00, and so on. My parents introduced me to the tithe at a young age.

Throughout life, it is simply understood that I return a tithe.

Resources

Best 25+ Paying tithes ideas on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/paying-tithes/>
[Images for tithe pinterest](#)
<https://www.pinterest.com/aitken1/church-tithing/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/sandyfsw/tithing/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/emmuk74/stewardship-tithing/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/prncsspolarbear/tithing/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/christineparks4/tithes-offering/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/jimenezfamilia/tithing/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/ncmamasue/activity-days-money-and-tithing/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/daverado/tithes-fast-offerings/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/tithes-and-offerings-quotes/>

Beyond Maintenance to Mission: A Theology of the Congregation by Craig L. Nesson (Author)

8. Stewardship: God Owns Everything

Ownership

Tithing: A Check on Idolatry

Caring

<http://store.fortresspress.com/store/productgroup/463/Beyond-Maintenance-to-Mission-A-Theology-of-the-Congregation>
http://www.amazon.com/Beyond-Maintenance-Mission-Theology-Congregation/dp/0800663268#reader_0800663268
[Images for Tithing: A Check on Idolatry](#)

Bishop Andy Taylor - stewardCast 2017 – YouTube

Bishop Andy Taylor speaks at the 2nd annual ELCA stewardCast. He talks about the importance of regular **tithing** and encourages us to be good stewards with our money.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VJ2RFZKFjsE&feature=youtu.be>

[Images for Bishop Andy Taylor - stewardCast 2017 – YouTube regular tithing](#)

Coming Soon: A New Position with the Center for Stewardship Leaders – Adam Copeland

When we arrived back from the conference, my dad and I worked in the garage to make a box out of wood with my grandfather's old tools. Eventually, we constructed a sturdy wooden box with three slots about the size of a dollar bill. With a black sharpie marker my dad wrote "SPENDING" on one slot, "CHURCH," on another, and "SAVING" on the third. He explained to me that whenever I got my allowance—which my parents would be continuing, after George's initiation—**10%** should go to each church and saving.

<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/2015/03/24/coming-soon-a-new-position-with-the-center-for-stewardship-leaders/>

"The Folly of Tithing" by Adam Copeland, Director of the Center for Lifelong Stewardship Leaders at Luther Seminary; delivered Wed., July 25, at the 2018 Rethinking Stewardship conference at Luther Seminary, Saint Paul, Minn.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SCfNLk88hvc> Adam J. Copeland – Rethinking 2018

[Images for "The Folly of Tithing" by Adam Copeland, Director of the Center for Lifelong Stewardship Leaders at Luther Seminary](#)

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/tithed-tired-vs-storied-inspired/>

<https://m.stafabandra.net/mp3/adam-j-copeland-rethinking-2018-LS1TQ2ZOTGs4OGh2Yw>

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/tag/tithing/>

Holy Smoke!: Whatever Happened to Tithing? by J. Clif Christopher (Author) & Herbert Mather (Author)

Christopher and Mather offer a renewed look at a subject discussed very little in congregations today: tithing. They propose the discipline of tithing as a way for Christians to symbolize and renew their relationship with God. The key to achieving this is to present the tithe, not as a legal obligation, but as a benchmark in a spiritual relationship that is generous and giving. In six provocative chapters, the authors present: (1) a comprehensive survey of the current literature on tithing and giving, followed by a close look at the practice of tithing in Scripture and church history; (2) Questions and answers related to tithing; (3) A step-by-step process to help congregations develop a long-term plan for nurturing individuals in the spiritual discipline of tithing. Key issues addressed in the appendices: the relationship between tithing and planned giving and between tithing and the capital campaign.

<http://www.harrisonchristianbookstore.com/item/j-clif-christopher/holy-smoke-whatever-happened-to-tithing/129385.html>

<http://ee.umc.org/what-we-believe/what-does-the-church-say-about-tithing>

<http://www.amazon.in/Holy-Smoke-Whatever-Happened-Tithing/dp/0881772844>

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/632599.Holy_Smoke

https://books.google.com/books/about/Holy_Smoke.html?id=7KSQPQAACAAJ

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/341546.J_Clif_Christopher

<https://www.cheapesttextbooks.com/IM/?keyval=J.%20Clif%20Christopher;submit=1;key=Author;psBind=paperback>

[Images for J. Clif Christopher \(Author\) tithing](#)

[Images for Holy Smoke!: Whatever Happened to Tithing? by J. Clif Christopher \(Author\) & Herbert Mather \(Author\)](#)

Howard Anderson on How to Ask People to Give More Money to Church – Margaret Marcuson

He also talked about the importance of clergy tithing, or moving toward a **tithe**, and telling the congregation you are doing this.

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/howard-anderson-on-how-to-ask-people-to-give-more-money-to-church/>

<https://margaretmarcuson.com/how-do-church-leaders-get-clear-about-stewardship/>

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/good-for-you-relationships/>

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/7-bad-reasons-give-church/>

#1

<http://day1.org/5493-giving-thanks-a-spiritual-experiment>

#4

<https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/being-a-stewardship-leader-requires-clarity/>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1596270950>

Page 87

[#7](https://www.sermoncentral.com/pastors-preaching-articles/margaret-marcuson-10-easier-ways-to-preach-about-money-1151)

<https://www.amazon.com/Margaret-J.-Marcuson/e/B002G1PKAG>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/2774134.Margaret_J_Marcuson

[Images for Margaret Marcuson on tithing](#)

[Images for moving toward a tithe](#)

Now what? Giving a share of that first paycheck: How can I get my teen to start tithing? - The Lutheran

Q: My teen just started getting paychecks from his first part-time job. How can I get him to start tithing?

A: An important part of growing in faith is developing the discipline of generosity. But rather than focusing solely on the money your teen now earns, you might begin a wider conversation about gratitude.

Explore ideas with your son about how he might view his life as a daily response to God's grace and blessings. This type of gratitude goes beyond dollars and cents. It also includes sharing your skills in ways that extend God's love to others.

Help him grow in the realization that sharing his time and talent—in addition to his treasure — is a vital way of celebrating the goodness we experience through Christ.

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=8832

[Images for How can I get my teen to start tithing? - The Lutheran](#)

Perspectives on Tithing: Four Views [David A. Croteau, Scott Preissler, Ken Hemphill, Bobby Eklund, Reggie Kidd, Gary North]

Was the tithe just for Israel, or is it also applicable to Christians? Must a tithe go only to your local church, or can it be received by any Christian organization? Do we tithe on the net or the gross amount?

Perspectives on Tithing presents in point-counterpoint format the most common views about how Christians are to give of their financial resources, addressing the myriad of questions that surround the complex issue. Ken Hemphill (Empowering Kingdom Growth) and Bobby Eklund (Eklund Stewardship Ministries) contribute "The Foundations of Giving" while the book's editor, David A. Croteau (Liberty University), writes "The Post-Tithing View: Giving in the New Covenant." A chapter by Reggie Kidd (Reformed Theological Seminary) is called "Tithing in the New Covenant? 'Yes' as Principle, 'No' as Casuistry." Finally, Gary North (Institute for Christian Economics) looks directly at "The Covenantal Tithe," and Scott Preissler (Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary) provides the epilogue.

<http://www.amazon.com/Perspectives-Tithing-Views-David-Croteau/dp/0805449779>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/10302799-perspectives-on-tithing>

<https://www.christianbook.com/perspectives-on-tithing-4-views/david-croteau/9780805449778/pd/449778>

http://books.google.com/books/about/Perspectives_on_Tithing.html?id=2CvscPkwolAC

<http://andynaselli.com/post-tithing>

<http://www.helwysocietyforum.com/?p=1673>

<http://www.baptistbanner.org/Banner/AA%20JuneJuly%202012/Perspectives%20on%20Tithing%20%20174.htm>

<http://connection.ebscohost.com/c/book-reviews/62824917/perspectives-tithing>

<https://www.amazon.com/David-A.-Croteau/e/B003LGTRHC>

<http://www.ciu.edu/person/dr-david-croteau>

https://works.bepress.com/david_croteau/

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9DFF67A462DC152D> New Testament Scholar Dr. David A. Croteau On Tithing

<http://university.acton.org/faculty/dr-scott-preissler>

<https://www.jofchurch.org/sermon-speaker/scott-preissler/>

<https://vimeo.com/15114581> Kingdom Business Forum with Scott Preissler on Stewardship

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3221712.Scott_Preissler

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/654012.Kenneth_S_Hemphill

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/167726.Gary_North

[Images for \[David A. Croteau, Scott Preissler, Ken Hemphill, Bobby Eklund, Reggie Kidd, Gary North\]](#)

[Images for Perspectives on Tithing: Four Views \[David A. Croteau, Scott Preissler, Ken Hemphill, Bobby Eklund, Reggie Kidd, Gary North\]](#)

Quotes About Tithing (30 quotes) - Goodreads

<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/tithing>

[Images for tithes quotes](#)

<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/tithing>

<https://www.crossroadschristian.org/blogs/blog/12691797-thirty-one-days-of-quotes-on-tithing-giving>

www.azquotes.com/quotes/topics/tithe.html

<http://www.tonycooke.org/articles-by-tony-cooke/quotes-thoughts-stewardship-tithing-giving/>

[Images for stewardship tithing giving](#)

<https://www.generouschurch.com/quotes-on-tithing>

<https://www.adventistarchives.org/quotations-on-the-principles-and-practice-of-tithing.pdf>

[Images for principles and practice of tithing](#)

<http://jaime-inspirationalquotes.blogspot.com/2012/07/quotes-on-tithing-i-like-this-quote.html>

Sample Cartoons - patrish.com

Cal055sm – **Tithing**

<http://www.patrish.com/tuck/Cartoons.html>

Testimony of a Tither | Stewardship of Life

Some people think of a tithe as legalistic. For me, a tithe is only the beginning of giving. A tithe is not an amount, but rather a dedication and a commitment to give of our first fruits.

<http://www.stewardshipoflife.org/2010/11/testimony-of-a-tither/>

[Images for Testimony of a Tither | Stewardship of Life](#)

<https://www.tithing.com/blog/my-tithing-testimony/>

<http://lifey.org/inspirational-tithing-stories/>

<https://blogs.universal.org/renatocardoso/en/2011/09/03/rockefellers-testimony/>

<https://www.patheos.com/blogs/evangelicalpulpit/2015/01/how-i-changed-my-life-with-a-one-year-tithing-experiment/>

<https://nextgenerationstewardship.wordpress.com/2008/08/18/soap-and-toothpaste-a-testimony-about-giving/>

<http://www.northcountryalliance.com/blog/2018/4/21/tithing-a-testimony>

http://www.shilohbaptist.org/pages/page.asp?page_id=427487 C. Smith Testimony (Stewardship Ministry) - Shiloh Baptist Church

http://www.shilohbaptist.org/pages/page.asp?page_id=417256 Barker-Odom Testimony (Stewardship Ministry) - Shiloh Baptist

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/learnvest/2014/04/21/why-i-tithe-and-so-should-you/#7938d30177a5>

<https://www.amazon.com/Tithe-Testimony-Andrew-S-McNair/dp/1469910276>

<https://christianpf.com/my-tithing-experience/>

<http://www.angelfire.com/tx3/1stpentecostalchurch/tithe.html>

Tithe | almsgiving | Britannica

Tithe, (from Old English *teogothian*, “tenth”), a custom dating back to [Old Testament](#) times and adopted by the Christian church whereby lay people contributed a 10th of their income for religious purposes, often under [ecclesiastical](#) or legal obligation. The [money](#) (or its equivalent in crops, farm [stock](#), etc.) was used to support the [clergy](#), maintain churches, and assist the poor. Tithing was also a prime source of subsidy for the construction of many magnificent cathedrals in Europe.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/tithe>

[Images for Tithe | almsgiving | Britannica](#)

Tithe - Wikipedia

A tithe (*/ˈtaɪð/*; from [Old English](#): *teogopa* “tenth”) is a one-tenth part of something, paid as a contribution to a religious organization or compulsory [tax](#) to government.^[1] Today, tithes are normally voluntary and paid in [cash](#) or [cheques](#), whereas historically tithes were required and paid in kind, such as agricultural produce. Several European countries impose a [church tax](#) linked to the tax system to financially support their national church.

Traditional [Jewish law](#) and practice has included various forms of tithing since ancient times. [Orthodox Jews](#) commonly practice *ma'aser kesafim* (tithing 10% of their income to [charity](#)). In modern Israel, some religious Jews continue to follow the laws of agricultural tithing, e.g., *ma'aser rishon*, *terumat ma'aser*, and *ma'aser sheni*.

With respect to Christianity, many denominations hold [Jesus](#) taught that tithing must be done in conjunction with a deep concern for “justice, mercy and faithfulness” (cf. Matthew 23:23).^{[2][3][4]} Tithing was taught at early Christian [church councils](#), including the [Council of Tours in 567](#), as well as the [Third Council of Mâcon](#) in 585. Tithing remains an important doctrine in many [Christian denominations](#), such as the [Congregationalist Churches](#), [Methodist Churches](#) and [Seventh-day Adventist Church](#).^[2]

Some Christian Churches, such as those in the Methodist tradition, teach the concept of *Storehouse Tithing*, which emphasizes that tithes must be prioritized and given to the [local church](#), before offerings can be made to apostolates or charities.^{[5][6]}

Donations to the Church beyond what is owed in the tithe are known as [offerings](#).

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tithe>

[Images for tithe](#)

Tithes and Offerings | DaveRamsey.com

Whether you grew up putting dollar bills into the collection plate at church every Sunday or the word *tithing* has got you scratching your head, it's always a good idea to check your attitude toward giving. And that's basically what tithing is—giving!

<https://www.daveramsey.com/blog/daves-advice-on-tithing-and-giving>

[Images for Tithes and Offerings | DaveRamsey.com](#)

<https://www.daveramsey.com/blog/daves-advice-on-tithing-and-giving>

[Images for dave ramsey on tithe](#)

<https://www.daveramsey.com/askdave/stewardship/tithing-isnt-your-problem>

<https://www.daveramsey.com/askdave/stewardship/cant-meet-the-four-walls-but-tithing>

<https://www.daveramsey.com/askdave/stewardship/should-i-reduce-my-tithe>

http://www.djournal.com/news/business/dave-ramsey-tithing-and-giving-while-getting-out-of-debt/article_31fd2a0c-3ff8-5913-bcec-fa4edb78c78d.html
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2h6O9cl8hP8> Dave Ramsey's Thoughts on Tithing – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HO-3CkHH3FQ> Offering VS. Tithe - Dave Ramsey Rant - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ln-tpF7VL0> Dave Ramsey on tithing, bankruptcy and generosity. (with Tim Harlow at Parkview Church) - YouTube

Tithing is More Than Giving - Saddleback Church

Thank You for Giving. Your Generosity is Changing Lives. The Bible Says that Tithing is a Reminder that God is the Supplier of Everything.

<https://saddleback.com/give>

[Images for Tithing is More Than Giving - Saddleback Church](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ln-tpF7VL0)

Top 10 Reasons People Don't Tithe • ChurchLeaders.com

Tithing is a spiritual discipline many Christians practice. In its simplest form, it means giving back to God 10 percent of what you make. I've practiced it for years as a regular part of my giving. I tithe 'plus' to my local church and I give to other causes on top of that. However, throughout my 35 years of ministry I've seen 10 common reasons that church people give for not tithing. I list them below with a counterpoint below each.

<http://churchleaders.com/pastors/pastor-articles/253164-top-10-reasons-people-dont-tithe.html>

[Images for Top 10 Reasons People Don't Tithe • ChurchLeaders.com](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ln-tpF7VL0)

What Does the Bible Say About Tithes And Offering? - OpenBible.info

https://www.openbible.info/topics/tithes_and_offering

[Images for bible and tithes](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ln-tpF7VL0)

http://www.christianbiblereference.org/faq_tithe.htm

<https://www.gotquestions.org/tithing-Christian.html>

<http://www.tithing.com/blog/bible-verses-about-tithes/>

www.tithing.com/blog/bible-verses-about-tithing/

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/topical-verses/tithing-in-the-bible/>

<https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Bible-Verses-About-Tithes-And-Offering/>

<https://www.crosswalk.com/family/finances/is-tithing-for-the-new-testament-believer-11579309.html>

<https://pushpay.com/blog/20-bible-verses-about-tithing/>

<https://www.christianity.com/wiki/christian-life/what-is-a-tithe-meaning-and-importance-of-tithing-in-the-bible.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2qOTnTWRDfw> What the Bible Says About Tithing - YouTube

[Images for What the Bible Says About Tithing - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8siY3ou7eNl)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8siY3ou7eNl> The Biblical Truth About Tithing - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yFDUDpkmb3A> What does the Bible say about Christian tithing? - YouTube

Now that I am on Medicare but not Social Security, I am continuing to serve and trying to save as much money as possible to pass on to Lutheran World Relief after my death. There is added incentive to stay healthy so that my life savings does not go to medical costs.

6) 10-10-80

The 10-10-80 formula, known as Share Save Spend®, emphasizes share and save, when the tendency is to spend.

Resources

Living an 80-10-10 Lifestyle - Crossroads Fellowship Church

We LIVE on 80% of our income | We SAVE 10% | We GIVE 10%

<http://www.crossroads.org/80-10-10>

[Images for We GIVE 10%](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ln-tpF7VL0)

Moonjar Classic Moneybox: Save, Spend, Share

Children learn to save, spend and share their allowance and money

- Multiple award winner measuring 5 x 5 x 5 inches
- Acrylic lids can be removed from tin box
- Compartments for save, spend, and share

<https://www.amazon.com/Moonjar-Classic-Moneybox-Spend-Share/dp/0972428216>

[Images for Moonjar Classic Moneybox: Save, Spend, Share](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ln-tpF7VL0)

Pastor Rick Warren Is Well Prepared For A Purpose Driven Retirement

"At age 17," he said, "long before *Purpose Driven Life* came out, I began living on the 10/10/80 principle. Give the first 10% to God, save the second 10% for your future and then learn to live on the rest. So, as a 17-year-old, every week I started putting fifty cents away toward my retirement; and when you do that you learn to live on a margin and you can save an enormous amount of money. Therefore, I was already financially secure before the book even came out."

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/robertlaura/2013/03/21/pastor-rick-warren-is-practicing-what-he-preaches-and-getting-ready-for-retirement/#14fa57bc4dbf>

[Images for Pastor Rick Warren Is Well Prepared For A Purpose Driven Retirement](#)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dTTi_phcLMU How to Build a Strong Financial Foundation with Rick Warren - YouTube

<https://store.pastors.com/collections/books-by-rick-warren>

<http://purposedriven.com/books/pdlbook/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rick_Warren

[Images for Pastor Rick Warren 10/10/80 principle](#)

Share Save Spend

The choices you make with your money have a significant impact on your financial wellbeing. At Share Save Spend® we design tools and resources to help you proactively address issues related to money and the role it plays in your life.

[Learn more](#)

<http://www.sharesavespend.com/>

[Images for share save spend](#)

10-10-80 by Center for Stewardship Leaders - Stewardship – Luther Seminary

A formula for giving, saving, and spending. 10-10-80. That could sound like some kind of phone number or perhaps a combination to a lock. Actually, it is a very effective formula for the financial part of our lives.

<https://www.luthersem.edu/stewardship/default.aspx?m=6667&post=3861>

[Images for formula for giving, saving, and spending](#)

7) Stewardship practices during a pandemic

The Director of Evangelical Mission (DEM) for the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin offered a Zoom meeting 5/12/2020 on Congregational Stewardship During a Pandemic.

Building a Culture of Generosity A Stewardship Program for Congregations

Hello Rostered Leaders & SAM's

This morning, Rev. Peter Reuss of GSB joined us via Zoom for another Tuesdays Together conversation about congregation stewardship during a pandemic. In addition to the information he provided during our time together (see resources below) GSC and The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin are partnering to provide congregations with additional support for fall stewardship appeals. See the flyer for more details!

BEGINNING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY

Guiding you through our fall stewardship appeal

A SERVICE OF GSB AND THE NORTHWEST SYNOD OF WISCONSIN

<https://files.constantcontact.com/0deff306001/8751e7af-4af0-418d-8070-ae826b710eb7.pdf>

Below you will find resources from our conversation with Peter this morning. If you have additional questions or need more information, you can contact DEM Rev. Erin Nelson.

Fundraising in a Pandemic and Economic Downturn

<https://files.constantcontact.com/0deff306001/b29c35b4-7f11-4213-9b37-b7d591846704.pdf>

Stewardship in Unprecedented Times

<https://files.constantcontact.com/0deff306001/df3f5134-91c1-40a1-bbce-3feac3c90f5f.pdf>

Resources

Another coronavirus victim: Nearly 40% of churches may not have cash to last 3 months

As some 350,000 American churches and other houses of worship scramble to meet the spiritual and — increasingly — material needs of their members remotely, they are doing so on a tighter budget than usual.

<https://www.marketwatch.com/story/another-coronavirus-victim-nearly-40-of-churches-may-not-have-cash-to-last-3-months-2020-04-29>

[Images for Nearly 40% of churches may not have cash to last 3 months](#)

COVID-19: Resources and Guidance for Churches, Charities and Mission Workers

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/information/covid-response>

[Images for COVID-19: Resources and Guidance for Churches, Charities and Mission Workers](#)

Encouraging Faithful Church Stewardship During the COVID-19 Pandemic

While COVID-19 has many of us feeling overwhelmed and disconnected, using online giving and clearly communicating its value to your church family will keep them connected to ministry and ease their worries when it comes to answering God's call to be His Church during this time.

<https://ministry.acst.com/encouraging-faithful-church-stewardship/>

[Images for Encouraging Faithful Church Stewardship During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

Stewardship and the Bottom Line in the Time of a Pandemic

This is a good time to teach parishioners young and old about stewardship – the true meaning of stewardship. This is particularly true when some parishioners find themselves without income, or reduced wages, or an unpredictable future due to the pandemic. It is not the time for panic and anxious thoughts of where resources will come from to not only sustain the ministries of a parish but to simply keep the church building open. Truly, this is all in God's hands. God's got this. This is the message needed by parishioners now.

<https://niagaraanglican.ca/uploads/documents/2020/03/Stewardship%20and%20the%20Bottom%20Line%20in%20the%20Time%20of%20a%20Pandemic.pdf>

[Images for Stewardship and the Bottom Line in the Time of a Pandemic](#)

Stewardship in a Pandemic | Presbyterian Foundation

KEEP BEING THE CHURCH: Again, the most important thing a church can do right now is to glorify God and love its neighbors. Keep doing this, be in communication with your flock, offer online giving, and ask people to give and people will respond!

<https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/stewardship-in-a-pandemic/>

[Images for Stewardship in a Pandemic | Presbyterian Foundation](#)

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/weekly-offerings/2020/04/02/10-stewardship-dos-during-the-pandemic-and-one-do-not/>

<https://www.pcusa.org/covid19/> Stewardship & Financial Resources

Stewardship in a Time of Pandemic | LeaderLab | UUA.org

To help you in your fundraising efforts, I thought I'd share some concrete guidance:

<https://www.uua.org/leadership/library/stewardship-distance>

[Images for Stewardship in a Time of Pandemic | LeaderLab | UUA.org](#)

Stewardship in COVID-19 pandemic challenges rural churches

As the COVID-19 pandemic forces the church to restructure worship and establish online giving, pastor Michael Cooper told Baptist Press most of his members are not accustomed to tithing and giving online.

<http://www.bpnews.net/54479/stewardship-in-covid19-pandemic-challenges-rural-churches>

[Images for COVID-19 pandemic forces the church to establish online giving](#)

Stewardship in the Pandemic - Sierra Pacific Synod

And yet, we cannot remind ourselves enough that to be church today is far more important than we could imagine, for we, the church, are in this together. The synod Stewardship Discipling Team continues to pray for and find ways to support our congregations, who lead pastorally and practically, during this time.

<http://spselca.org/index.php/2020/04/21/stewardship-in-pandemic/>

[Images for Stewardship and the Bottom Line in the Time of a Pandemic](#)

Stewardship in the Time of Coronavirus - Faith+Lead

<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/stewardship-in-the-time-of-coronavirus/>

[Images for Stewardship in the Time of Coronavirus - Faith+Lead](#)

Stewardship in the time of COVID-19 - Constant Contact

Our stewardship is the only way that our faithful witness can continue.

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Stewardship-in-the-time-of-COVID-19.html?soid=1102570574034&aid=oP5KQLgBeL8>

[Images for Stewardship in the time of COVID-19](#)

Stewardship – Upper Susquehanna Synod

<https://www.uss-elca.org/stewardship/> Stewardship in a time of pandemic

[Images for Stewardship – Upper Susquehanna Synod - Stewardship in a time of pandemic](#)

Supporting your parish during a pandemic – The Catholic Week

So, what does stewardship look like when we all are supposed to stay at home?

<http://thecatholicweek.com/2020/04/23/supporting-your-parish-during-a-pandemic/>

[Images for Supporting your parish during a pandemic – The Catholic Week](#)

Will the church financially survive the COVID-19 pandemic?

MONEY, FINANCIAL CRISIS, SUSTAINABILITY, CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP, CONGREGATIONS

Twelve Christian leaders share their thoughts on how the coronavirus pandemic might affect the financial health and sustainability of American churches.

<https://faithandleadership.com/will-church-financially-survive-covid-19-pandemic>

[Images for Will the church financially survive the COVID-19 pandemic?](#)