

IMPROVE CONGREGATIONAL FINANCIAL WELLNESS

It is common for congregations to wrestle with financial issues (e.g. budgets, resource allocation, sustained growth, etc.). **As a leader in an ELCA congregation, you have access to resources to help your congregation pursue healthy financial behaviors. Visit resourcefulexplorers.org/congregations.**

DID YOU KNOW:

The 2015 Faith Communities Today study (FACT 2015) found ***the financial health of a congregation and its overall vitality are often related.*** The better the financial health of a congregation, the less likely it is to experience conflict in that area and in other areas of congregational life. Congregations that have a shared commitment to healthy finances were less likely to experience declines in worship attendance and were more likely to be sustainable.

Through the Resourceful Servants Initiative, the ELCA seeks to encourage habits that strengthen and sustain individual and congregational financial wellness and growth. So, take advantage of the wide range of financial wellness resources available to you at resourcefulexplorers.org.

Help your congregation deepen its financial knowledge and improve its financial behaviors.

Through the Resourceful Servants Congregational Certificate Program, congregations have the opportunity to follow a road map to greater financial stability, using healthy behaviors that focus on five key areas:

Accounting



Finance



Human Resources



Risk Management



Stewardship



What is the value of the Congregational Certificate in Healthy Financial Behaviors?

- Ease of knowledge transfer when new leaders come into office through clear, consistent expectations around financial management
- Enhanced appeal in call processes. The certificate will become part of your congregational profile
- Synodical recognition for this commitment to your congregation's financial health
- With improved congregational processes, preferred interest rates through lending institutions

Resourceful **SERVANTS**



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.