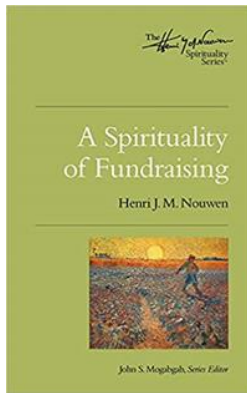


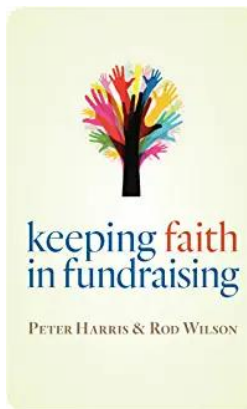
## Recommended Books and Resources

### Stewardship, Fundraising, and Communications



*A Spirituality of Fundraising*, by Henri J. M. Nouwen

How do you view fundraising? Is it a chore or a ministry from God? Drawing on examples from Scripture, Nouwen shows that asking for money goes beyond funding a necessary goal—it also encourages people to use their gifts of engagement, energy, and prayer to accomplish a common mission. A must-read for stewardship committees.



*Keeping Faith in Fundraising*, by Peter Harris and Rod Wilson

Fundraising has always been an essential element of the Christian life: churches, schools, and many other organizations rely on it to function. But it is a risky enterprise, fraught with questions and challenges. How can Christians raise funds with integrity?

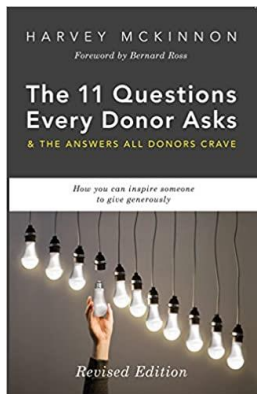
In this book Peter Harris and Rod Wilson, experienced fundraisers themselves, bring fundraising within the scope of normal Christian life and work. They consider fundraising in light of the relationships that lie at its heart—with God, with creation, and with ourselves.

After first laying a biblical foundation by discussing 2 Corinthians 8–9, Harris and Wilson develop seven themes central to the giving and receiving of money: integration, people, work, success, need, method, and money. In a final section, the authors offer their own personal experiences, questions, suggestions, and valuable insights that they have gained from their many years of fundraising as Christians.



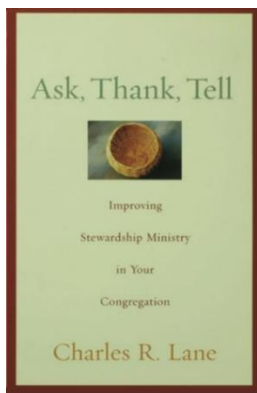
[The Storytelling Non-Profit Blog](#) by, Vanessa Chase Lockshin

Vanessa founded The Storytelling Non-Profit in 2012 to help not-for-profit organizations articulate their impact to donors in a new way, using narrative techniques to generate greater personal interest and accountability, thereby improving their fundraising success. Today, The Storytelling Non-Profit provides consulting, training, and coaching to non-profits around the world. Vanessa's fundraising career started at The University of British Columbia, her alma mater. To date, she has helped many organizations raise over \$10 million.



*11 Questions Every Donor Asks and the Answers All Donors Crave: How you can inspire someone to give generously*, by Harvey McKinnon (either the old or revised edition are good)

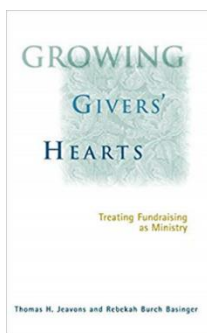
There is one and only one secret to securing a gift. Here's the Holy Grail: Anticipate the questions your prospective donor is sure to ask and have solid answers at the ready. It's that simple, and it's what drives Harvey McKinnon's book, *The 11 Questions Every Donor Asks*. Through research and interviews in the U.S., Canada, and abroad, McKinnon has not only identified the questions, he also details the answers donors find most satisfying. It's almost criminal what McKinnon has done. In essence, he's read the minds of your donors and stacked the deck in your favor. Thankfully, it's all for a good cause.



*Ask, Thank, Tell: Improving stewardship ministry in your congregation* by, Charles R. Lane.

The goal of this book, says author Charles Lane, is to perform a dramatic rescue of stewardship, freeing it from any connection whatsoever to "paying the bills." When the Bible talks about stewardship it almost always talks about the intimate connection between how a person handles financial matters and that person's relationship with God. Stewardship is an intensely spiritual matter that lies close to a disciple's relationship with Jesus.

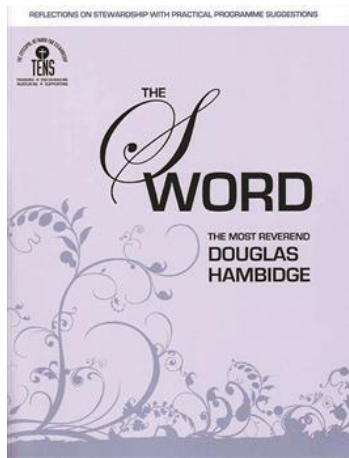
The book is designed especially for use in congregational planning and study. Congregational stewardship leaders will come back to three foundational verbs ask, thank, tell over and over as they help individuals experience the joy of giving generously. The author makes the convincing case that there is little in life today that can help a disciple grow in relationship with Jesus more than a solid intentional biblical stewardship.



*Growing Givers' Hearts: Treating fundraising as ministry* by, Thomas H. Jeavons and Rebekah Burch Basinger

Here for the first time is a truly spiritual way of looking at fundraising as an opportunity to nurture current and prospective donors and facilitate their growth in faith. *Growing Givers' Hearts* explores how development staff, executives, and board members from across the theological spectrum can make faith-building opportunities for donors their first priority; act on their confidence in God's abundance; draw from their theological tradition in their approach to fundraising; involve a vital cross-section of staff in planning; and cultivate spiritually mature leadership.

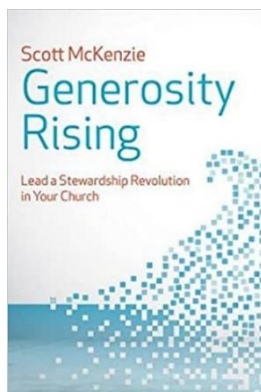
With this innovative approach, Growing Givers' Hearts empowers readers to work in spiritually grounded, deeply creative, and professionally satisfying ways. Fundraisers in any Christian organization will find extraordinary insights in this important guide.



*The S Word: Reflections on stewardship with practical programme suggestions* by The Right Reverend Douglas Hambidge

Drawing on his decades of experience in England, Canada, Tanzania and the U.S., The Most Rev. Douglas Hambidge brings us the stewardship theology he has taught in congregations and at provincial, ecumenical, denominational, and international events. Using familiar scripture as well as heartwarming stories from his own experience, he teaches that the nature of money is sacramental, our own need to give is the basis for our stewardship, and our love for God is shown through our offerings.

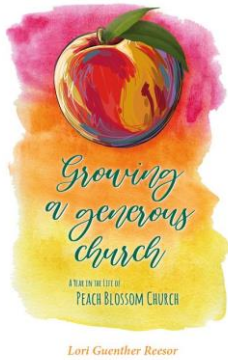
The first half of *The "S" Word* contains thought provoking reflections, follow-up questions and discussion topics. The second half is comprised of workable, detailed outlines for stewardship events developed by the author and used successfully in all types of settings. Understanding that "Stewardship is never easy, and it is always demanding," Archbishop Hambidge has provided the tools you need, including scripture resources, a year-round plan with calendar, program schedules, a training guide for visitors and suggestions for use of these materials. *The "S" Word* can be utilized in stewardship committees, vestries, leadership groups and adult classes, in training and planning sessions, on retreats and even in diocesan gatherings. Its practical workbook format provides plenty of space for note taking.



*Generosity Rising: Lead a stewardship revolution in your church* by Scott McKenzie

With all of the books written on stewardship and all of the workshops offered; why do churches continue to struggle with questions and issues of financial giving? The answer is in the church's leadership.

A revolution of generosity will only occur as pastors, financial chairs, and stewardship chairs live and give witness to the importance of generosity in their personal lives and then intentionally recruit and train others to join the revolution. Leading a revolution in generosity is not about simply using the right program or reading the right book or preaching the right sermon; a revolution of generosity is about embracing, living and leading others on a journey of gratitude, prayer, and faith. *Generosity Rising* instructs pastors on whom to recruit and how to recruit them, offering practical guidelines for training a dedicated team of "generosity revolutionaries."



*Growing a Generous Church: A year in the life of Peach Blossom church* by, Lori Guenther Reesor

Imagine a church where it feels safe to talk about money. You could bring your troubles - debts, job losses - and share your joys such as inheritances and new jobs. You could talk about your giving.

Peace Blossom Church is such a place. While Peace Blossom Church is fictional, it is based on churches and donors the author has met - and stories that are flat-out miraculous.

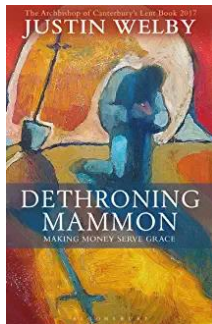
The members of Peach Blossom Church have survived the pandemic but are worried about their future. They take a leap of faith and hire Pastor Kim to lead them with a stewardship focus. During monthly coffee shop gatherings, the church leaders share stories of generosity and learn that giving is a spiritual discipline like prayer. Then they act.

*Growing a Generous Church* is filled with:

- Bible teaching from both the Old and New Testament
- Personal Stories of how people learned to give
- Practical ideas your church can borrow

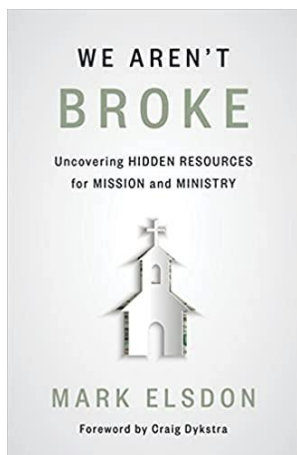
If you are looking for an accessible way to talk about money at your church, written with gentle humour and full of examples you can use, you will enjoy this book. Jesus talks about money; your church can too!

Also check out Lori's blog. It's full of practical advice that you can put to work right away. [Lori Guenther Reesor's Blog: https://www.lgreesor.com/blog-4](https://www.lgreesor.com/blog-4)



*Dethroning Mammon: Making money serve grace*, by Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby

In his first full-length book Justin Welby looks at the subject of money and materialism. Designed for study in the weeks of Lent leading up to Easter, *Dethroning Mammon* reflects on the impact of our own attitudes, and of the pressures that surround us, on how we handle the power of money, called Mammon in this book. Who will be on the throne of our lives? Who will direct our actions and attitudes? Is it Jesus Christ, who brings truth, hope and freedom? Or is it Mammon, so attractive, so clear, but leading us into paths that tangle, trip, and deceive? Archbishop Justin explores the tensions that arise in a society dominated by Mammon's modern aliases, economics, and finance, and by the pressures of our culture to conform to Mammon's expectations. Following the Gospels towards Easter, this book asks the reader what it means to dethrone Mammon in the values and priorities of our civilisation and in our own existence. In *Dethroning Mammon*, Archbishop Justin challenges us to use Lent as a time of learning to trust in the abundance and grace of God.



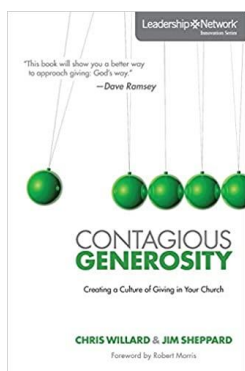
*We Aren't Broke: Uncovering hidden resources for mission and ministry*, by Mark Elsdon

What if everything you need is already there?

Many Christian churches and related institutions in the United States are struggling or, in some cases, facing imminent crisis, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Attendance is down. Funding is harder to come by. People are no longer drawn to traditional church services and programming in the ways that they once were. Often, we feel broke and powerless to do much about it. We settle for doing more with less: Less money. Fewer people. Fewer churches.

But if we reexamine our perceived limits and our assumptions about how resources are supposed to be used, then something remarkable and beautiful comes into view: we aren't broke at all but have enormous resources at our disposal. Church and missional organizations nationwide own billions of dollars of prime property and investment assets, which, when combined with social enterprise and new expressions of mission, can be put to work for innovation and transformation. And these resources are often available to us right now.

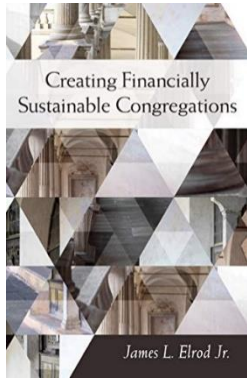
This book is an invitation to envision a different way of putting God's gifts to work in the world. It draws upon a remarkable story of rebirth at a Presbyterian affiliated campus ministry center at the University of Wisconsin, along with profiles of other creative social enterprises, to describe how church property and investment assets can be put to work for innovation, transformation, and financial sustainability. Theologically rooted but practically minded, it provides guidance and tools for church and nonprofit leaders, entrepreneurs, and investors of all kinds who are seeking new ways to fund and participate in God's work in the world.



*Contagious Generosity: Creating a culture of giving in your church* by, Chris Willard and Jim Sheppard

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.

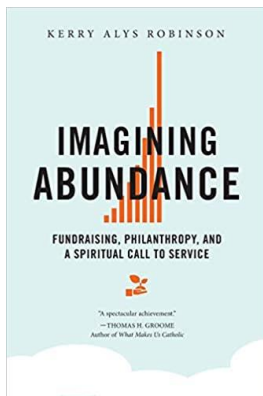


*Creating Financially Sustainable Congregations* by, James L. Elrod Jr.

The declining trends in religious belief and practice in twenty-first-century America are well documented, but they mask the vitality and growth experienced by many individual congregations. Unfortunately, leaders of these growing churches sometimes lack a firm grasp on what's required for their church to maintain financial equilibrium. This is true for newly formed congregations as well as established churches.

This book, which does not assume readers' familiarity with principles of accounting or finance, will help facilitate constructive conversations between clergy and lay leaders on money matters. By describing in everyday language some of the practical issues that promote (or erode) financial sustainability, this book will remove the mystery and frustration faith communities often experience when discussing their financial challenges.

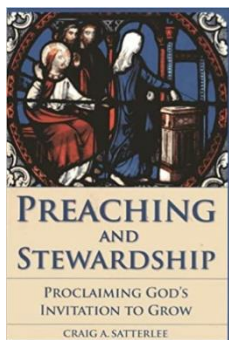
What activities within the organization's control promote long-term financial sustainability? The answers create a framework that is a prerequisite for meeting any church's missional objectives over the long run.



*Imagining Abundance: Fundraising, philanthropy, and a spiritual call to service* by, Kerry Alys Robinson

Fundraising is ministry--a transformative ministry that challenges all people to realize their own gifts and how they can be used for the benefit of the church. In *Imagining Abundance*, Kerry Robinson focuses on reasons why each of us are called to be stewards. We act because we're excited about what it is that we do for the church and where we're called by God to be, we want others to be just as excited about what that is, and we want people to be partners with us in that ministry. In

*Imagining Abundance*, Kerry Robinson offers an inspirational and practical guide to effective fundraising that is ideal for anyone invested in a faith community. Bishops, provincials, pastors, ministers, executive and development directors, and trustees and volunteer leaders of faith-based organizations will benefit from this healthy approach to the activity of fundraising that situates successful development in the context of ministry and mission.



*Preaching and Stewardship: Proclaiming God's invitation to grow* by, Craig A. Satterlee

Both new and veteran preachers alike find the annual stewardship sermon a challenge and are eager for encouraging, practical advice. In *Preaching and Stewardship*, Craig Satterlee offers a nuts-and-bolts handbook on preaching stewardship, raising issues preachers need to consider when preparing stewardship sermons and offering advice on how to address them. Satterlee argues that stewardship preaching must include a bold

and concrete proclamation of God's love, will, and justice, as well as an invitation to grow as stewards in response to this proclamation. He focuses each chapter on a question preachers ought to ask themselves as they prepare the stewardship sermon, beginning with, 'What do you mean by stewardship?' and 'Why should we give to the church?' In chapters 3 through 6, he explores what the Bible says about stewardship. In chapter 7, he names some of the assumptions both preachers and worshipers bring to the stewardship sermon. The final chapter a variety of ways congregations can support the stewardship sermon. Satterlee illustrates the premise of each chapter with anecdotes from congregational life. Preachers who desire examples of stewardship sermons will especially appreciate stewardship sermons he shares from various preachers to illustrate points in the main text.



[Lake Institute on Faith and Giving:](https://philanthropy.iupui.edu/institutes/lake-institute/index.html)

<https://philanthropy.iupui.edu/institutes/lake-institute/index.html>

Lake Institute on Faith & Giving fosters a deeper understanding of the dynamic relationship between faith and giving, through research, education, and public conversation. Sign up for their *Insight* bi-weekly e-newsletter.



[TENS \(The Episcopal Network for Stewardship\)](#)

Our ministry is one of training stewards. We strive to point others to the experience of God's generosity and to raise new stewards to continue this important, transforming ministry. Whether we meet virtually, or in person; through webinars, consultations, or conferences, our work is to engage in the dialogue and teaching. Many tools to support parish stewardship are provided with or without a membership.

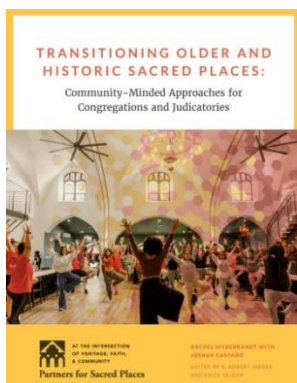


[Faith + Finance](#) – We're reimagining God's economy. (American but applicable to Canada)  
An excellent website with articles, a podcast, and other resources.  
Join their email list.

Faith+Finance is bringing together pastors and impact investors, theologians and social entrepreneurs, and other faith and business leaders to respond with courage and imagination to the most urgent and demanding economic, social, environmental, and spiritual challenges of our day.

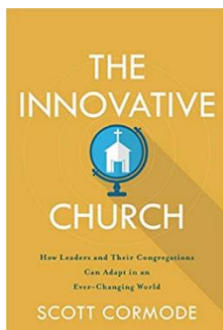
The purpose of Faith+Finance is not just to start a new conversation but to launch new collaborations and platforms for impact. We want to have a lasting influence on people of faith and their relationship to money and resources.

## Mission Planning and Thoughtful Resources:



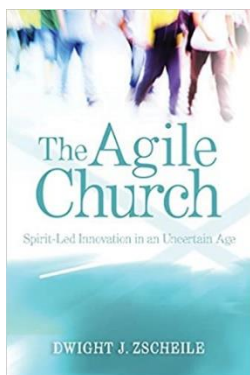
*Transitioning Older and Historic Sacred Places: Community-Minded Approaches for Congregations and Judicatories* by, Rachel Hildebrandt, et al with Partners for Sacred Places

FROM THE INTRODUCTION: This volume is being published as the United States enters the eighth month of a global pandemic. The future is as uncertain as it has ever been. Many religious leaders have closed their buildings to public worship while still continuing to feed, clothe, and tend to the vulnerable in their communities. The ability to care for religious buildings may feel more tenuous now than at any point in my lifetime, and perhaps these structures have never been needed more. God knows how this will all turn out. We often preach that the task of the spiritual life is to take a long, loving look at the real. Meaning that we are called to face life's challenges with care, sensitivity, honesty, and as much wisdom as we can gather, trusting that on the other side of the challenge is new life. For those of us who use and care about the sacred places in our communities, this Guide will help in taking a long, loving look at the reality of religious properties. May we do so in hope, trusting that on the other side of these current challenges is new life for the sacred places we love. Visit their website [here](#).



*The Innovative Church: How leaders and their congregations can adapt in an ever-changing world* by, Scott Cormode

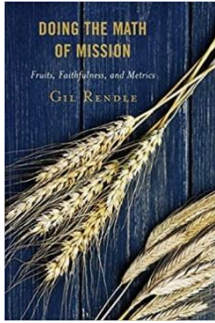
The church as we know it is calibrated for a world that no longer exists. It needs to recalibrate in order to address the questions that animate today's congregants. Leading congregational studies researcher Scott Cormode explores the role of Christian practices in recalibrating the church for the twenty-first century, offering church leaders innovative ways to express the never-changing gospel to their ever-changing congregations. The book has been road-tested with over one hundred churches through the Fuller Youth Institute and includes five questions that guide Christian leaders who wish to innovate.



*The Agile Church: Spirit-Led innovation in an uncertain age* by, Dwight J. Zscheile

Brings theological insights together with cutting-edge thinking on organizational innovation to help churches flourish in a time of profound uncertainty and spiritual opportunity.



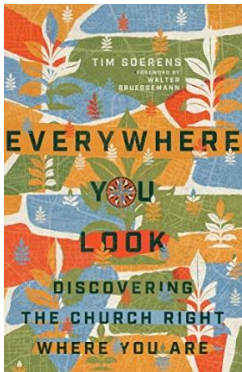


*Doing the Math of Mission: Fruits, faithfulness, and metrics* by Gil Rendle

Over the past ten years, the North American mission field has experienced dramatic changes, which in turn have required congregations, middle judicatories, and denominations to adapt. Among these adaptations is an expectation for clear goals and quantified progress towards those goals. Church leaders who have never needed to measure their goals and progress with metrics may find this change daunting. The use of metrics—denominational and middle judicatory dashboards, and the tracking of congregational trends—has become an uncomfortable and misunderstood practice in this search for accountability.

*Doing the Math of Mission* offers theory, models, and new tools for using metrics in ministry. This book also shows where metrics and accountability fit into the discernment, goal setting, and strategies of ministry.

While there are resources for research on congregations, tools on congregational studies, and books on program evaluation, there is a gap when it comes to actual tools and resources for church leaders. This book is intended to help fill that gap, giving leaders a toolbox, they can use in their own setting to clarify their purpose and guide their steps. Resource materials that leaders can use in their own setting are available. In order to obtain this material, please contact [resourcematerial@rowman.com](mailto:resourcematerial@rowman.com).



*Everywhere You Look: Discovering the church right where you are* by Tim Soerens

What's the point of the church anyway? The emerging generation is opting out of the church in large numbers. They're embarrassed at how the church is portrayed in the media and dismayed at what appears to be their options for participation. Is church really necessary anymore? Is it even possible?

Tim Soerens sees this unsettled state of affairs as an extraordinary opportunity: the church, he says, is on the edge of a new possibility at the very moment so much of it feels like it's falling apart. In his extensive travels in all kinds of neighborhoods, Soerens has seen the beginnings of this movement firsthand. In *Everywhere You Look*, he lays out practical, actionable steps for building collaborative communities in any neighborhood. Here is a vision of the church grounded in a grassroots movement of ordinary people living out what it means to be the church in their everyday lives. Read this book—and join the movement.

## **Parish Programs**

Available through the Anglican Church of Canada (Niagara Diocese has copies of both the workbook and guide). Learn more here about ["Giving our Thanks & Praise"](#).