



EXECUTIVE CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS FUNDRAISING Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Indiana

Purpose:

The Christian Church in Indiana, in partnership with Lilly Endowment Inc., is intentionally focused on relationship with congregations. It is our desire to use designated funds to resource and support the ministries of our congregations as they develop as mission centers which affirm the local and global character of the church. The purpose of the Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising Program is to form a partnership between the congregation and regional church to build a cadre of leaders within our Region with the capability to educate both our congregations and other clergy on how to effectively maximize religious fundraising. Creating this group of equipped leaders sustains the FLOURISH! Project as we train coaches and instructors from among our clergy and lay leaders for the ongoing financial vitality of our church. Our goal is to enable congregations to grow as dynamic faith communities involved in mission and ministry to their community and the world. Applicants will be invited to serve as discussion leaders at the October Financial Literacy Academy, October 13, 2018. Priority will be given to those clergy who have not been awarded a grant through the FLOURISH! Project or Excellence in Ministry Initiatives.

The Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising (ECRF) is a four-day intensive course with a practical application project. It provides the research, tools, and customized training to meet the growing needs of leaders in religious communities and fundraisers of faith-based organizations. The focus of the ECRF is on the cultural, organizational, and philanthropic practices unique to religious institutions. These practices in turn enable donors motivated by spiritual and religious values to experience the joy of generous giving. To learn more about the ECRF program, visit: <https://philanthropy.iupui.edu/institutes/lake-institute/courses/religious-fundraising.html>.

About the ECRF Program:

The Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising (ECRF) is a program of Lake Institute on Faith & Giving (Indiana University School of Philanthropy) hosted together with leading seminaries and institutions across the country. Each ECRF training is made up of the following four (4) one-day seminars, selected readings, and a final project. Course offerings include:

- Seminar one: Nurturing Generous Congregations & Organizations
- Seminar two: Nurturing Generous Donors
- Seminar three: Fundraising as Ministry
- Seminar four: Shaping a Theology of Money

Course Outline:

- **Seminar one** ~ Nurturing Generous Congregations & Organizations: This foundational seminar surveys the changing landscape of religious giving with a focus on the organizational readiness of an institution to engage in effective fundraising. The seminar gives particular attention to the social dynamics and practices nurturing generosity.

- **Seminar two** ~ Nurturing Generous Donors: An experiential seminar in which participants first explore their own giving story and philosophy. The seminar then focuses on the art of donor care through highlighting research on donor profiles and motivations for giving.
- **Seminar three** ~ Fundraising as Ministry: The spirituality of fundraising lays the foundation for this practical seminar with an emphasis on fundraising principles, practices, tools, and techniques.
- **Seminar four** ~ Shaping a Theology of Money: The capstone seminar will explore how the faith community talks about money, generosity, and the faithful use of possessions. In this seminar, participants are encouraged to develop a theology of money reflective of their faith tradition.

FLOURISH! Project and the ECRF Program:

As a part of the FLOURISH! Project, Disciples clergy and lay leaders in Indiana are encouraged to apply to attend one of the pre-selected ECRF sessions in 2018 with expenses covered by the FLOURISH! Project. The following standards for this grant process apply:

1. Tuition and fees (certificate curriculum) covered by the FLOURISH! Project
2. Required and recommended reading materials will be provided
3. Transportation, lodging and meals are included
4. Application deadline is February 16, 2018

Criteria for selection for the FLOURISH! Project participation in the ECRF Program:

Support is contingent upon:

1. Completing a group project with class cohort to receive ECRF certificate
2. Sharing information with local area congregations and at the Indiana Disciples Regional Assembly
3. Assisting the Region in designing and supporting stewardship education over the next 3 years

2018 Planned Session Dates for FLOURISH! Project sponsored participants:

June 4-7	Berkeley Divinity School at Yale, New Haven, CT
July 23-26	McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL
Aug 13-16	St. Meinrad Seminary, St. Meinrad, IN

To apply, complete the ECRF Program Application and submit it along with a letter of recommendation to Sarah Riester by Friday, February 16, 2018. Applications must be signed and may be sent by email, fax, or mail (postmarked by February 16).

Sarah Riester

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Questions regarding the program or process should be directed to Cynthia Newman, Program Manager, at cynthia@indianadisciples.org or 317.926.6051.