



Educate, Equip, Enact

The 2017-2019 3E Lilly Grant goals are to sustain and enhance quality leadership for Christ's Church by:

- 60-90 congregations participate in financial leadership education
- 60-90 rostered ministers receive grants
- Congregations and Rostered Ministers grow in their financial management skills
- Congregations grow in their generosity
- Systemic issues are named and creative approaches proposed



It is for YOU and It is for US

What is 3E Educate, Equip, Enact?

Through the generosity of The Lilly Endowment Inc., a 3 year \$500,000 grant was given to the Rocky Mountain Synod to develop a series of education and grant programs around money and finance. These programs assist rostered leaders, deacons and pastors, and congregational leaders address the economic challenges of being church in today's environment. It is freely given money to enable and energize us in building healthy, vital Christian communities.

Some of this grant money is set aside for **educating** pastors, deacons, and lay leaders about money and finances. 3E provides education programs to help all leaders and congregations build good financial practices and dial up stewardship from fundraising for an operating budget to generosity that vitalizes our mission.

Equipping our rostered ministers through a variety of grant types almost always guarantees that entering the grant process will provide some sense of financial relief. Relief may come in the form of reduced seminary or undergraduate loan balances. It may be the reduction of a significant debt balance (not mortgage) being carried from month to month. It may provide a route to increasing retirement savings funds in either Portico or other established retirement account.

Enacting a model of generosity around our church is the embodiment of God's unconditional love. Donations to 3E with matching Lilly grants to rostered ministers provide a tremendous sense of relief for those who do not have a path to additional financial resources. 3E is a tool to create positive change.

Why I should care or apply for a grant/program?

Pastor: There is grant money available for you and your colleagues to address very specific economic issues that may be preventing you from living out your best for the sake of the church and the world.

Church Leader: A vibrant, healthy and growing spiritual community doesn't happen with pastoral or lay leaders struggling with issues related to money and finances. Using tried-and-true programs and methods, 3E strives to raise our collective competence and abilities.

Donor: Through this grant from The Lilly Endowment, you are able to make your own generous gifts to the church, double them and stretch your reach throughout the whole Synod.

To find out more, contact us at 3E@rmselca.org.

Pastor Michael Tassler, Director, 575-636-5314

Julie Nelson, Associate Director, 970-454-3426