



Emergency Savings/Congregational Financial Assessment Program

To address individual financial wellness among rostered ministers and their preparedness to manage the finances of a congregation or organization, Resourceful Servants has launched the Emergency Savings/Congregational Financial Assessment Program.

Rostered ministers selected for the program will build up their own savings reserves and improve their skills in managing finances in a congregation or organization by participating in both aspects of this combined program.

Emergency Savings

Participating rostered ministers contribute to a dedicated savings account with the ELCA Federal Credit Union. These contributions are matched dollar for dollar up to \$50 per month, for a period of up to two years. Matching funding is provided through generous donations from the ELCA Mission Investment Fund and the Lilly Endowment, Inc.

Congregational Financial Assessment (CFA)

Rostered ministers and their congregations or organizations proactively engage in a [review of their financial systems](#) relative to 21 healthy financial practices. Each practice includes an invitation to assess the congregation or organization's current proficiency in the practice and resources intended to help with implementation. Ultimately, the congregations or organizations involved develop a plan to address one specific financial practice.

The program launched on August 11, 2023 with an email to rostered ministers currently under call. The due date to qualify and apply for the program by completing the [Financial Wellness Assessment](#) is September 20, 2023. There is enough available funding for approximately 300 rostered ministers.

Please encourage rostered ministers to [learn more](#) about the Resourceful Servants Emergency Savings/Congregational Financial Assessment program.



Key Actions and Dates

Key Dates

- ✓ Beginning **Aug. 11, 2023** - Qualify and Apply for the [Emergency Savings/Congregational Financial Assessment Program](#) through the [Financial Wellness Assessment](#)
- ✓ **Sept. 20, 2023** – Due date to **complete** the application process
- ✓ **Oct. 6, 2023** - Applicants will be **notified** if they have been selected.

- ✓ To be eligible for matching funding from Jan. – Jun. 2024, participants need to:
 - Open an account with the ELCA Federal Credit Union by **Nov. 17, 2023**
 - Contribute to the account using an automatic transfer by **Dec. 29, 2023**
 - Participate in a financial counseling session by **Jan. 24, 2024**
 - Sign up for a Congregational Financial Assessment account by **Jan. 24, 2024**

- ✓ To maintain eligibility for matching funding from Jul. 2024 – Dec. 2025, participants need to:
 - Complete the CFA by **Jun. 30, 2024**
 - Develop and submit a plan to address one financial practice by **Jun. 30, 2024**

Educational Opportunities

- ✓ Program Overview Webinar – **August 24, 2023 at 1:00pm Central**. [Register here](#).
- ✓ Logistical webinars for participants – **Oct. 12 and Nov. 14**, times to be **determined**.