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**Union Presbyterian Seminary**

**Church-Serve Initiative:**

*Theological School Initiative to Address Economic Challenges Facing Future Ministers*

**Key Objectives**

The initiative’s primary objectives are to help relieve some of the financial burdens seminary graduates face and to provide additional training – without additional costs to them – so they are better prepared to accept calls to small churches. Plans include:

(1) growing the fiscal management skills of seminary students;

(2) increasing the leadership abilities of seminary graduates; and

(3) filling small church pulpits with more highly trained new pastors who are connected with experienced ministers to guide them.

As the Church-Serve Initiative helps address the economic challenges facing future ministers, it also will enable more small churches to call pastors who are being equipped to revitalize those churches.

**Most Significant Activities, to Date**

1. Financial support for students participating in a *Financial Peace University* series on our campus
2. An extracurricular evening program for students, a 70x7 Series on *The Relation of Faith and Money*, led primarily by members of our faculty
3. A consultation with key partners in which we began to identify possibilities for new collaborative initiatives among ourselves in seeking to address issues of the costs of theological education and financial debt among our students and graduates

**Resources We Have Discovered or Produced**

No books, articles, or other resources for public use have been produced or are anticipated in the future.

**Contact Information for the Project Director**

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