



### ***Lakeside Offers Generosity & Stewardship Conference August 6-9, 2017***

**Lakeside, Ohio** – Cultivating a culture of generosity through stewardship ministry in the church or in a religious organization is vital to bringing God's Kingdom here on earth. On August 6-9, 2017, Lakeside Chautauqua, along with the East Ohio United Methodist Foundation, will present a Generosity & Stewardship Conference and welcome speakers The Rev. Dr. Clayton Smith, The Rev. Clif Christopher and Bishop Ivan Abrahams.

The Conference is designed for clergy, lay members of the stewardship and financial committees, other laity, development directors, endowment officers, foundation leaders, financial or stewardship committees or others wanting to know more about cultivating a sense of generosity. It will include keynote speakers, workshops and opportunity for networking.

The Rev. Smith is the executive pastor of generosity at Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas and will present during the three-day conference. Attendees are encouraged to read two of his insightful books, *Propel: Good Stewardship*, *Greater Generosity* and *At the Crossroads: Leadership Lessons for the Second Half of Life* before arriving at the conference. Smith has spent years researching generosity and has worked in the front lines churches.

The Rev. Christopher, CEO and Founder of Horizon and author of *Not Your Parents' Offering Plate*, will speak. He has led consultations in over 1,000 churches, conferences, synods and dioceses in all phases of building, finance, and church growth and is a leader in growing the culture of generosity.

Bishop Abraham, former Presiding Bishop of The Methodist Church of Southern Africa and now President of the World Methodist Council, will be giving daily messages during the conference as he shares his faith journey.

With an abundance of networking and learning opportunities, Generosity & Stewardship Conference attendees will also experience Lakeside Chautauqua, the beautiful and historic community along Lake Erie. Welcoming more than 150,000 guests each year, Lakeside provides a variety of accommodations to choose from and a quaint business district for shopping and dining. Lakeside is prepared to provide Christian hospitality during your stay.

Creatively inviting Christians to join a ministry vision is an important challenge, given all the other organizations vying for stewardship dollars. Attendees will leave the conference with tools, resources and a network to support persons desiring lives that reflect God's call to give freely.

Workshop breakout sessions will include conducting a generosity and stewardship audit, understanding legacy giving and endowments, planning to build a culture of generosity, creating financial reports and appeals, learning about capital campaigns and educating communities about generosity.

Lakeside and the East Ohio United Methodist Foundation are proud to partner with several regional partners in offering this conference, including the Council on Development of West Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Foundation of Michigan, and the United Methodist Foundation of Western Pennsylvania. In addition, Lakeside offers special thanks for additional support to the Ecumenical Stewardship Center.

For more information about the conference, the keynote speakers, the schedule, suggested reading material and registration information, visit [www.lakesideohio.com/generosity](http://www.lakesideohio.com/generosity).