



## **Think Greater! Testimonials**

“Thought you would like to know this: one of our young adults was home from college and we used “If Today Was Your Last Day” (from Think Greater Youth materials) in worship and focused on what it meant to do greater works than Jesus and she was so moved by the whole experience that she told me she felt it was a sign from God. She has been wrestling with a call to ministry, and all her reasons and excuses not to take it seriously got challenged in church on Sunday. She wants to explore ministry, and I think she is a good candidate. My thanks to the conference and to the Holy Spirit both at work to help this young woman hear more clearly God’s call. This is certainly a case of Thinking Greater!”

“A note of thanks for the Think Greater Campaign. My congregation really doesn’t like stewardship programs – they don’t like talking about money in church at all. But this more visionary approach was exactly what our church needed. So far, people have pledged more money, more time, more energy – and they have a much more positive and hopeful attitude about the church. Please thank everyone who worked so hard to make this possible.”

“A quick note to let you know that Think Greater works. I preached a launch sermon based on John 14:12 and issued the challenge: what is one thing you could do better by thinking greater? A lifelong member of our church stopped by my office on Monday morning to tell me how much my message meant to her, and that she was taking it very seriously. So seriously that she handed me a check for \$5,000 and told me to use it where it would do the most good. This is from a woman who has given \$5 a week for the past twenty years. I just wanted you to know that miracles still happen.”

### **Other stats:**

- Churches have reported pledge increases of 14%, 21%, 39% and one small church doubled its pledges from 2011!
- One church reports that five families are doubling their giving to the church
- One church got fifteen members to commit to work on projects in the community for the very first time
- A church set a goal the first week of the campaign to invite, welcome, and engage a dozen new members by the end of the year. They have seven so far – in a church that has only taken in three new members in the last five years!
- Seventeen churches have reported that Think Greater! is the first stewardship campaign they have ever done.



## **Think Greater! Dr. Seuss Skit**

Oh, the thinks you can think  
thinking now, thinking later  
whenever you think them,  
you should try to think greater  
Don't think a think  
that's too small or too tiny  
Don't think a think  
that's all cranky and whiny  
When you think a think  
Don't leave a big crater  
Build something beautiful  
As you think greater  
Think while you order food from your waiter  
Think while you're riding the up escalator  
Think as you travel by bus or by freighter  
But whatever you do, make sure you think greater  
Slovenly thoughts won't take you too far  
Ask a starving and thin alligator  
Settling for second or lowering the bar  
Just makes one a think greater traitor  
No, here is our challenge:  
Get our head on much straighter  
For we need a church  
That will help us think greater!



## **An Affirmation to Live, Give, and Love... Beyond All Expectation**

Leader: Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father." He offered this, not as a suggestion or merely a nice idea. He offered it as a statement of fact. As we gather here to commit to be faithful members of this community of faith, I invite anyone and everyone who is willing to declare publicly their intention to Think Greater and to live, give and love... beyond all expectation in the coming year. Please stand together if you are willing and able, and share in our litany of consecration.

**All: In the sight of God and the company of Christian believers, I pledge to think greater; to prayerfully seek God's will for my life and for my church and to do all in my power to support this congregation with my gifts of time, energy, attitude, talents and material resource. I will strive to live enthusiastically, to give wholeheartedly, and to love unconditionally... beyond all expectation, so that the greater works of God might be done in and through me. With God's help, I commit to think greater so that I might do greater works for God, and might become a greater, more faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. Amen.**