

Announcing the
Final Examination/Dissertation Defense of

Michael E. Cafferky

For the Degree of
Doctor of Business Administration

Friday, March 28, 2008 at 1:30 PM
Hardacre Hall Room 112

Dissertation: CHURCH GROWTH FUNDS RESOURCE DEPENDENCE IN A
RELIGIOUS NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

Outline of Studies

Major: Management

Educational Career

B.A. Atlantic Union College, 1973
M. Div. Andrews University, 1978
M.P.H. Loma Linda Univ., 1979

Dissertation Committee

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(Any member of the Falls School of Business faculty may attend. As a courtesy, please notify the Dissertation Committee Chairperson in advance.)

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CHURCH GROWTH FUNDS RESOURCE DEPENDENCE IN A RELIGIOUS NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

ABSTRACT

The hypothesis that a specific strategy-relevant financial resource would have a positive influence on organizational performance was tested with local congregations ($N = 147$) of a religious nonprofit organization. The disbursement of special-use funds from the regional headquarters ear-marked for a narrowly focused set of church growth activities was the independent variable tested in a partial regression analysis against the organizational performance measured by baptisms and by donations to tithe and world missions. Four control variables were included in the empirical model: congregation size (number of members), the presence of a full-time pastor, the presence of a Bible worker, and the use of a visiting evangelist when conducting harvest-style public evangelism programs. There was no statistically significant correlation between the dollar amount of funds *requested* and annual funds donated for tithe and missions. There was no statistically significant correlation between the dollar amount of funds *received* and annual funds donated for tithe and missions. Likewise there was no statistically significant correlation between the dollar amount of funds *requested* and the annual number of baptisms. For 2005 there was a statistically significant correlation between the dollar amount of funds *received* and the annual number of baptisms ($r^2 = .09$; $p = .000$). The same was not true for 2004 data ($r^2 = .019$; $p = .019$). There was no statistically significant mean difference among congregations *receiving the full amount* of funds requested and congregations that receive less than the full amount requested and annual funds donated for tithe and missions. In 2005 there was a statistically significant difference between the group of congregations that received *less* than they requested and the group of congregations that received *equal to or greater than* they requested. This was not true for 2004 data.

