

Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations, by Robert Schnase

Length: 6 sessions that can be used for 6 to 12 weeks (1 hour or less, to 2 hours)

Includes: DVD, participant guides for each of the five practices; book can be purchased if class wants to read as part of study (recommended); Cultivating Fruitfulness can also be purchased to inspire participants through 5 weeks of prayer and devotion (each day includes a Scripture, a short story or concept from book, a personal question and a prayer)

Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations was written by Robert Schnase, bishop of the Missouri Area of the United Methodist Church. Though he first wrote it to describe the five core practices of congregational life for his Missouri congregations, the book is proving useful for congregations across the country and across denominations of the Christian faith. It includes a chapter on each practice plus a chapter on excellence and fruitfulness. The practices include Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-taking Mission and Service, and Extravagant Generosity.