



Fundraising Policy

To:	Friends and Members of Resurrection
Policy Author:	Congregational Council
Adopted on or Effective Date:	May 3, 2011
Revised	Feb. 29, 2012
Revised	March 5, 2013
Statement of Policy:	To offer a consistent, Biblical response and guidelines for raising funds for activities/ministries not supported by the General Fund

Resurrection supports a lifestyle of generosity and a culture of giving. Regular giving is part of each member's responsibility as a member of the Resurrection family.

While there are times when a financial boost is needed to fund a mission trip or special ministry project, we want to be careful that fundraisers do not replace regular giving. The church's budget is based on regular giving and member pledges. Ministry directors and Pastor Jedidiah plan, prioritize and vision the best way to use the dollars from the General Fund to support the Strategic Ministry Plan. The Strategic Ministry Plan has four focuses that drive our mission of meeting people where they are in their faith walks: Community Outreach; Children, Youth and Family; Small Groups and Worship and Music. The budgets are submitted to Council for evaluation and approval.

Fundraisers can divert attention and dollars away from the goals and ministries that the church leadership has worked hard to establish. Fundraisers can also put the General and Mortgage Funds at risk if members give to fundraisers in place of their regular giving. If fundraisers were launched to meet every member's need, we would dilute our mission, exhaust our membership with endless fundraising requests and blur our focus.

In addition, fundraising can imply that we give to a church event only if we get something in return, probably not what God had in mind. Fundraisers can be labor-intensive to plan, coordinate and promote, and take time and energy away from other ministry activities. Many traditional fundraisers such as car washes, raffles, calendar sales, etc. involve a third-party

vendor who takes a significant amount of the proceeds that could otherwise be given directly to the church. Involving a third-party vendor can also put the focus on the product or service and not on the gift to the church.

All approved fundraisers follow the guiding principles:

Guiding Principles

1. *Fundraisers must support one or more of the SMP four focuses.*
2. *No third-party vendors (pizza sales, calendar sales, Butterbraids, etc.). Engaging a third-party vendor can absorb up to 40 percent of the proceeds! It's better for members to give 100 percent directly to the individual or activity and eliminate the third party.*
3. *People should give because it is a blessing, not to get something in return.* Direct sales of items or services created or hosted by the fund recipient are permitted. This principle focuses on the *giver* of services, not the one purchasing the service or item. It's about the giver who offers something to earn funding for a spirit-building activity. It's not about the donor who is getting something in exchange for giving.
4. *Ideally, children, youth and family activities are partially subsidized through the General Fund.* As Children, Youth & Family ministries is one of the four areas of ministry focus, Resurrection wants to make sure no family is denied participation. The goal is to support up to 25 percent of the costs for children, youth and family activities such as retreats, camps, classes or mission trips through the General Fund. The costs advertised to families will reflect the subsidized rate.
5. *Scholarships may be available for select Children, Youth and Family activities.* Resurrection will work with families to determine how much of the retreat, class or trip they can afford and cover the balance. The balance will not exceed 75 percent of the total cost. A separate Scholarship policy and application exists for requesting funds. See Dan Schlueter or download the form from the Resurrection website.
6. *Proceeds earned through fundraisers are communicated by the fundraising organizer through the weekly Announcements.*
7. *Be clear that donations to fundraisers are in addition to, not in place of, normal giving.*
8. *Council approves an annual list of fundraising activities.* Fundraisers are few as holding multiple fundraisers could quickly turn our church into a bazaar and not what Jesus had in mind for His house of worship.
9. *Approval by appropriate ministry director and Council is required* for all fundraising activities that are not on the annual pre-approved list. The ministry director will submit the request to Council for review if he or she believes the fundraiser is warranted. It's important to note that the ministry director will look to you to coordinate, organize and promote the fundraiser if approved. Fundraisers are not the responsibility of the ministry director.

Ideally, most classes, programs or activities would be funded through the General Fund and there would be no need to fundraise. As we must be good stewards of our resources and ensure that funds support the SMP, all funding requests or fundraiser ideas must be submitted to the appropriate ministry director for evaluation in September to be considered for the following year's budget.

Scholarship Funds for non-Children, Youth and Family activities

Individuals in need of scholarships should contact the appropriate ministry director. There is no line item for scholarship funding in the budget for most ministry areas, so the requests will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Ideally, each ministry area will have dollars available to support scholarship requests, but today, if available, scholarships are funded through private donations or dedicated funds. The retreat, mission or class facilitator/coordinator may elect to have the costs of the event or activity cover a scholarship.

Financially Supporting New Ministries

When launching a new ministry, program or volunteer activity, the appropriate ministry director would work with the program coordinator to determine how it should be funded. The new opportunity may be funded through the ministry's general funds or be self-funded as determined by the ministry director and in consultation with Pastor and Council if needed.

Those who have new ideas for ministry that require financial support need to consult with the appropriate ministry director before September so the ministry director may consider incorporating the opportunity into the next year's budget.

Supporting a Family in Crisis

Resurrection may initiate a special offering to support a Resurrection family in crisis such as a fire, disability or death. The special offering must receive approval from Pastor Jedidiah. Resurrection will not host or sponsor fundraisers but encourages members to provide whatever support they are able. Any community fundraisers for non-Resurrection families in need may post fliers on Resurrection's community care board. Pastor Jedidiah may also elect to distribute funds from the Compassion Fund. The Compassion Fund serves local needs of both members and non-members. Funds for this account are replenished by members, separate from the General Fund. Pastor Jedidiah may also elect to distribute funds from the Compassion Fund. The Compassion Fund serves local needs of both members and non-members. Funds for this account are replenished by members, separate from the General Fund.

Resurrection offers many ways to assist families in crisis including our Meals-to-Members program, crisis prayer chain, pastor visits, prayer shawls, financial faith coaches and monthly healing services.

Non-Resurrection Events and Activities

Sometimes members are involved in mission trips or Christian activities outside of Resurrection. Members may personally solicit support from their friends and acquaintances at Resurrection. Members may not use the church directory as a mailing or email list.

Non-Resurrection activities or events may not set up tables in the church to request funds or submit a notice in the Announcements. Non-Resurrection activities or events that solicit funds may post a flier on the community care board. All fliers should be submitted to the office for review and posting. Examples include fundraisers for area families in need, other church fundraisers or community events.

Engage our Membership not the Community

The church lifts the community by giving of its time, talents and treasures to benefit those in need – physically, emotionally and spiritually. Conversely, the community should not lift the church in a fundraising capacity. If the church is seeking funding to build a new wing or remodel its kitchen, reaching out into the community to raise funds is not appropriate. If it is God’s desire that the church shall have, He will provide.

With that said, use caution when approaching families and friends outside of Resurrection to financially support Resurrection ministries. We don’t take from the community to fund our ministries, we work with God and our members to develop our ministries and bring them to the community.

SAFE Accounts

SAFE Accounts, accounts held at church for specific families raising money for church-sponsored activities, are discontinued. Account holders have been notified to spend their funds or allocate them to a ministry area.

Approved Fundraising Activities for Resurrection

Each year a few and select fundraisers will each raise funds to support Children, Youth & Family summer ministry mission trip or camp (4th-12th grade). These fundraisers will be reviewed by the congregational council at the beginning of each year. Funds raised will go toward activities that exceed \$100 per year (per child) and only one activity per grade. Each fundraiser will raise funds for one pool of money to offset the costs equally for *everyone* attending the designated children, youth and family activity. Funds raised will not be tracked back to a specific child or family for any of the below approved fundraisers. Because fundraisers will benefit anyone attending a summer mission ministry/camp, and not just those who volunteer at the fundraiser, those serving at the fundraiser should consider their involvement as another form of generosity. Their efforts planning and volunteering at the not only benefit themselves, but also others who were unable to volunteer. Thrivent has offered matching funds for one fundraising activity each year up to a certain dollar amount and this may be something the fundraising teams may want to investigate.

Fundraising activities should not take the place of or interfere with scheduling ministry activities. The Children, Youth and Family Director is not responsible for leading, initiating or organizing fundraising activities.

Examples of approved youth fundraising activities

Youth Gala Event – If a coordinator and a desire exist, the youth are approved to host a Gala event that may include dinner, entertainment, music, etc. The Gala must include testimonies/faith stories. The direct beneficiaries (teens/youth) should be expected to drive much of the planning and volunteering. Any Resurrection seed money that may be required to purchase food, decorations, etc. must be replenished from the proceeds raised.

Concert - If a coordinator and a desire exist, the youth are approved to host a Christian concert with ticket sales and pop sales would pay for the band and help fund for summer ministry mission trip/camps. The direct beneficiaries (teens/youth) should be expected to drive much of the planning and volunteering. Any Resurrection seed money that may be required to purchase food, decorations, etc. must be replenished from the proceeds raised.

Fee-for-service Activities – Youth and mission leaders may organize and engage in fee-for-service activities such as those developed by the Mall of America, Dan and Jerry's or the Metrodome. Youth are encouraged to arrange their own means of raising funds outside of Resurrection-sponsored events.

Service-for-Donations Activities – Youth and mission leaders may organize and engage in service-for-donations activities such as those developed by Cub Foods. Youth are encouraged to arrange their own means of raising funds outside of Resurrection-sponsored events.

Garage Sale – A fundraiser typically held in May where members donate items that are sold to benefit Resurrection. Like all fundraisers, the funds from the Garage Sale would support summer ministry mission/camps and not be tracked back to a specific individual. This fundraiser requires

significant work and coordination but has been one of the most successful fundraisers raising \$1,500-\$1,700 in years past. The Garage Sales meets the fundraising criteria as there is no third party involved.

Letter Writing Campaigns – Individuals/youth are being coached and encouraged to write letters to raise funds for their own summer ministry opportunity. Resurrection will not be involved with the gifts/donations that the individual/youth receives. The gifts/donations will go directly to the individual/youth.