

Central United Methodist Church

Fundraising and Solicitation Policy

PURPOSE:

In recognition that Central United Methodist is a total stewardship church and that all church ministries are financially supported by church members through their generous gifts, this policy has been formulated by the church leadership to define fundraising within the church's own commitment to stewardship as a way of life.

RATIONALE:

The church does not ask members or non-members for additional gifts of support beyond their tithed gift back to God. It is recognized, however, that from time to time it may be appropriate to offer the opportunity to church members to be generous beyond their tithe. Some of these opportunities are in the approved fundraising events. At other times, it may become necessary to have a special collection or donation opportunities. All fundraising groups must be good stewards of the gifts they receive through the generosity of others.

DEFINITION:

Fundraising is defined as the solicitation of goods or money for sale or resale, for the purpose of funding or benefiting an individual, group, or cause. Fundraising is not the selling of certain items at cost. For example, the Church, Sunday School Class, Youth Group, etc. selling items at cost to facilitate its specific function (i.e. study books, T-Shirts, etc.)

POLICY:

The following is the Fundraising Policy of Central United Methodist Church:

Groups/Organizations must be recognized church organizations and part of the mission and ministry of Central United Methodist Church

Any Group/Organization raising funds on Church property must comply with the fundraising policy. The following events are exempt from the fundraising policy:
UMW bake sale and church bulletin inserts.

Every request for a fundraising activity must be made in writing using the church fundraising application form. No fundraising requests will be made from the pulpit. Special invited guests and speakers of the pastor are exempt from this policy.

Unless otherwise stated and approved in the initial approval application, fundraising requests do not carry over from one year to the next.

Groups applying to fundraise must clearly identify on the application form what the funds will be used for in advance of the solicitation and must provide within thirty (30) days a public report/accounting to the church administrator which includes but is not limited to the following:

- Total items sold and/or money collected
- Total expenses, if any, for the fundraiser
- A specific listing of how much and where the collected funds were used
- If the fundraiser is successful enough to fund the specific activity and, the balance will remain in the operating budget of the ministry until year end.