

Pastor's Conference – October 13, 2009

Resourceful Income Generation

Best Practices (as shared by attendees)

Mexican Night Fundraiser – LATINO Mission Society – hosted by people who love to cook, prepare meal Wed – Fri, go to other churches, serve meal & provide entertainment – results vary from breaking even to making \$3,000 in a single night. Idea: identify a unique offering that your members would enjoy providing; encourage the fellowship aspect along the way.

Foundations / Endowments – Might be surprised at who embraces this type of planned giving. Congregation reports that their two largest gifts came from people who didn't put much in the offering plate.

Publish a wish list – things outside the budget – interestingly, members who didn't normally give much purchased items on the list; this also provides an outlet for members who already own the requested item and don't have a need for it.

Scholarship fund used for church workers – expanded to non-church workers to attend community college. One congregation loaned money which has all been paid back and the members are now giving more due to improved employment.

Chili's – give it back program – brochures available at restaurant – for anyone who eats between certain hours, 10% goes to church/ministry (others participating in similar programs: Applebee's, Steak-n-Shake, Culver's). A perfect fit for the few Lutherans who love to eat 😊

Christmas Caring Tree – to help families in need, write items on ornaments for members to take and purchase items to be given at Christmastime. Beware: ornaments tend to go quickly.

Apply for “gifts-in-kind” (Dick's Sporting Goods, others) – ask for donations of past seasons' items for school, mission work

Frequent flyer miles, hotel points - publicize when there is a staff travel need.
Many business travelers have more points/miles than they will ever use and are happy to donate.

Themed golf outing supports youth program to the tune of \$2,000/year

Trivia night – provide funds for community services, missions

Silent auctions – two hours – people donate items & fellowship during the meal

Wild game dinners – share hunting stories – invite speaker – year after year, 200 tickets sell in 15 minutes. \$5,000 after expenses

One congregation sent people out to buy things for local charities instead of collecting their offering that week – a step of faith that God used mightily

Donation of homes

Group purchasing organizations for non-profits to reduce expenses for commonly used goods

Reverse auction (for purchasing large one-time items or repeat commodities)

Overstock.com & eBay for purchasing, also to sanity check market prices

Ebay.com – have a tech-savvy member create your own account, especially if Project 12 Baskets moves away from servicing local organizations

Structure school to become it's own non-profit corporation to receive grants and funding that it normally wouldn't qualify for as part of a church; hand-pick board of directors for continuity.