



Fund-Raising Policy

There are two factors to consider when putting together a fund-raising policy:

The first concern is not putting a stumbling block before anyone who may not yet have trusted in Christ as Savior. Therefore, any fund-raising policy needs to take into consideration a primary function of Main Street Crossroads is to be a place where the pre-Christian can come and feel welcomed and make significant progress towards a relationship with Jesus. Because we know that seekers are quite sensitive to appeals for money, and we would not want to do anything to push them away from our Lord, we have adopted the following policy to help everyone at Crossroads understand and work well together.

The second concern is that a fund-raising policy must enhance and strengthen the Crossroads' mission as stated in our Purpose Statement. Appeals for money which draw away from the primary funding of our church will need to be approached with caution.

Our principle fund-raising method is the weekly offering. This is where we encourage our members and regulars to give their tithes and offerings to the Lord. This offering is both for our General Fund, as well as any special funds, like "Growing Hand in Hand". Any solicitation or appeals which are likely to detract from this primary offering will need to be examined closely for overall merit.

The Global Outreach Team (GO team), through their budget provides the majority of support which we will provide as a church to other worthy outside evangelistic organizations and efforts.

THE DANGER OF TOO MANY FUND-RAISING EVENTS

Too many fund-raising events can harm our church:

First, by siphoning needed funds away from the General Fund which is the foundation of our local church ministry, the missionaries whom we support through our GO Team Fund, and the physical needs of the church family through the Benevolence Fund. If the weekly offering is put in jeopardy by too many appeals for money, then the entire church is hurt.

Second, it can prevent seekers from ever returning if they are turned off by appeals for money. Research has shown that most of the unchurched feel the church 'just wants my money', so we must be careful to avoid that stumbling-block.

Third, too many appeals for funds distract the congregation from focusing on the key mission and purpose which God has called us to as a Body. This causes donor fatigue.



Fund-Raising Policy

FUND-RAISING PRACTICES

As a general rule, the following practices will be enforced to protect the ministry of our church & her missionaries whom we support:

A. No appeals for money will be included in the bulletin or in the announcements.

This would include both flyers and donation envelopes. The reason for this policy is that one of the top three complaints of the non-churched (the people we want to come and feel comfortable on Sunday mornings) is that churches are just after their money. We don't want our bulletin and announcements on Sunday mornings to contribute to that idea for the non-churched.

B. No one is permitted to stuff the Crossroads mail boxes of the congregation without the written consent of the Finance Team

C. There is to be no selling/soliciting in the Welcome Center before/after church worship services, even for approved events. Approved events may make use of the Resource Room.

D. No one is permitted to mail out mass appeal letters or emails to the homes of Crossroads members and families without the written consent of the Finance Team. Letters to friends is OK, but mass mailing of hundreds of letters is not.

E. Short-term trips will need to be financed using 3-way funding.

That is, up to 1/3 of support may come from the Crossroads GO team, if they have the funds; 1/3 may come from personal fund-raising to people Crossroads with whom they have a relationship, as well as the Body of Christ at large; at least 1/3 must come from the individual's personal funds, so that they may count the cost of serving Christ. We encourage individuals to contribute more than 1/3 from their personal funds, if possible.



Fund-Raising Policy

F. “Benefits” for emergency medical needs, which have been approved may be announced and printed in the bulletin.

Such benefits for medical or family emergencies would need to involve someone in our church family or a close relative or friends of someone in our church family. Inserts and announcements for these emergency benefits can be included in the bulletin and mentioned during the worship services. A visitor would probably not find this information offensive, but rather an indication that our church cares for those in need.

G. Fund-raising events out in the community, which use Crossroads’ name will also have to be approved by the Finance Team.

H. Exceptions to these practices may be made at the discretion of the Senior Pastor, and coordinated by the Finance Team.

A special funding request form will need to be filled out and approved before any action is taken toward fund-raising.

HOW TO GET YOUR FUND-RAISING EVENT APPROVED

- First step, if it is a Short-term Missions trip, it must be approved by the GO Team.
- Second, a Fund Request form must be completed and given to the Finance Team & Senior Pastor. This form will help you to think through the details of the request. If you can clearly demonstrate it is in harmony with our church purpose & will have a big impact, it will have a better chance of being approved.
- Third, both the Senior Pastor and Finance Team will consider your request and if both sign the request, then the fund raising project will be approved.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation concerning this new policy.



Fund-Raising Policy

FUND-RAISING APPROVAL FORM

The purpose of this form is to guard the mission of Crossroads Church by protecting the integrity of the General, Missions, and Benevolence funds so that our primary mission is not hampered by excessive fund-raising appeals to the congregation.

Person/Group requesting funding: _____

What is the purpose of the fund-raising: _____

How much money do you need? _____

When would you like this campaign to happen? _____

Start Date: _____ End Date: _____

(The Finance Team needs to make sure it is not over-lapping with other such events.)

Please explain how this event is closely tied to Crossroads' purpose as a church:

Please explain how it would greatly further the work of the Gospel & be a blessing for the intended recipients of the money or project: _____



Fund-Raising Policy

WHEN A FUND-RAISING EVENT IS APPROVED

You may use any of the following methods approved by the Finance Team.

Please indicate which communication methods you would like to use:

Usual Methods	Approved?
<input type="checkbox"/> Lobby video	
<input type="checkbox"/> Information table in the Welcome Center	
<input type="checkbox"/> FYI weekly email	
<input type="checkbox"/> Special email via "Crossroads News" list	
<input type="checkbox"/> Offer Items for sale in the Resource Room	
Special Exceptions	Approved?
<input type="checkbox"/> Bulletin	
<input type="checkbox"/> Verbal Announcement (w/ PPT slide)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mail slots to everyone at Crossroads	
<input type="checkbox"/> A Fund-raising Event at Crossroads. <input type="checkbox"/> Date requested _____ Describe it: _____ _____	

(If approved, it will be your responsibility to make each of these steps happen.)

Finance Team: Approved or Not Approved

Senior Pastor: Approved or Not Approved

If not approved, please explain why here: _____
