

# Fundraising and Financial Solicitation Policy

## 5.1. Permitted Fundraising and Solicitation

- 5.1.1. Our Shepherd Lutheran Church is committed to supporting groups and ministries aligned with her COME WORSHIP, GROW SPIRITUALLY, SHARE LIFE ministry philosophy (See Policy 1.2.2). In order to protect sacred space, time, and in the interest of good stewardship, we establish this fundraising and solicitation policy:
  - 5.1.1.1. Except for Special Appeals (see Policy 5.1.1.3), no solicitation is allowed by individuals or groups in the sanctuary and narthex.
  - 5.1.1.2. Except for Special Appeals (see Policy 5.1.1.3), Congregation communication channels shall not be used to solicit funds for outside organizations or ministries.
  - 5.1.1.3. Up to four Special Appeals may be approved per fiscal year by majority vote of the Board of Elders upon request by any member of the Congregation.

## 5.2. Ministry Grant Fund

- 5.2.1. The purpose of the Ministry Grant Fund is to provide financial resources to unbudgeted ministries.
- 5.2.2. Each fiscal year, the Board shall establish a Ministry Grant Fund as a part of the annual congregation budget.
- 5.2.3. Only Ministry Grants applications approved by the majority of the Senior Staff shall be granted.
- 5.2.4. The Senior Staff shall publish Ministry Grant application requirements and form(s) sixty days prior to grant application deadline(s).
- 5.2.5. The Senior Staff shall approve Ministry Grant Funds during each fiscal year accordingly:
  - 5.2.5.1. 1/6 to causes promoting Worship
  - 5.2.5.2. 1/3 to causes promoting Spiritual Growth
  - 5.2.5.3. 1/2 to causes that Share Life with those outside of our congregation.
- 5.2.6. Organizations not affiliated with the LCMS or Our Shepherd may apply for Ministry Grants.
- 5.2.7. The Senior Staff shall ensure that all approved Ministry Grants are aligned with stated ministry goals and priorities (See Policies 1.1-1.3).
- 5.2.8. Except for grandfather status fundraisers (See Policy 5.3), any congregation ministry that fund-raised prior to the establishment of this policy (established August 10, 2017) is eligible for an annual non-competitive Ministry Grant of up to \$250.

- 5.2.9. The senior staff has the right to deny a congregation ministry's non-competitive grant request if the grant is unused for a period of time as defined by the senior staff with that period of time being not less than one full fiscal year.

### **5.3. Grandfathered Fundraising**

- 5.3.1. Certain fundraisers approved by the Board (see 5.3.5 below) at the establishment of this policy are "grandfathered" and permitted under the supervision of the Senior Pastor.
- 5.3.2. Grandfathered fundraisers are allowed to continue so long as they do so uninterrupted. If they are discontinued at any time, for any reason, they may lose "grandfathered" status and must abide by the policies governing other fundraisers.
- 5.3.3. Initial board-specified limits on grandfathered fundraisers must be followed. Otherwise, the fundraiser will lose grandfathered status and must abide by policies governing other fundraisers.
- 5.3.4. Grandfathered status fundraisers are not eligible for Ministry Grants.
- 5.3.5. Grandfathered fundraisers include:
  - 5.3.5.1. Food Pantry: limited to two "drive-up and drop-offs" per year
  - 5.3.5.2. Angel Tree: may continue as in the past.
  - 5.3.5.3. All Saint's Fest: may solicit directly from members, tickets may be sold in the gym or locations other than the sanctuary and narthex, and publicity must be approved by the Media Director or Senior Pastor.
  - 5.3.5.4. Scrips: may be sold in the gym or locations other than the sanctuary and narthex.
  - 5.3.5.5. Restaurant-sponsored fundraisers: must be approved by a member of the Senior Staff.
  - 5.3.5.6. Advent and Lenten meals: supervised by Fellowship Team, sponsored by ministries or groups with freewill donations accepted.