

HAYMOUNT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FUNDRAISING POLICY
APPROVED BY CHURCH COUNCIL, SEPTEMBER 25, 2013

Fundraising Definition

The solicitation of funds from church members for any purpose other than the operating budget with the exclusion of denomination-wide special offerings and directives from the Bishop/Conference.

1. All proposed fundraising must be approved by the Finance Committee to avoid conflict with the church-wide stewardship campaign or with other fundraising events. Finance Committee can also ensure that any proposed fundraising events are appropriate for a church-wide campaign, and that all ministry areas have equal opportunities to schedule fundraising events. Any proposed deviations from approved fundraising methods will require additional Finance Committee approval. Denomination-wide special offerings and directives from the Bishop/Conference do not require Finance Committee approval.
2. Unrestricted/loose contributions will not be diverted from the operating budget for specific purposes without prior approval from the Finance Committee and Church Council.
3. Fundraising requests should be submitted by mid-August each year on appropriate forms as part of the budget-building process. If fundraising events are for a ministry area that also requests budgeted funds, forms should be submitted together. In the event that a fundraising need arises after these forms are submitted, the requests must be made directly to the Finance Committee. A Finance Committee representative will schedule the fundraising event on the church calendar after Finance Committee approval. No events can be scheduled and no advertising can be published prior to Finance approval.
4. There will be no fundraising during the church-wide stewardship campaign so that the campaign is not compromised.
5. There are no permanently approved fundraising events. This ensures that programs for which funds are being raised are still viable.
6. There will be no solicitations during worship services without prior approval of the Finance Committee or Senior Pastor. There will no sales during worship services.
7. Special offering envelopes for fundraising events will be permitted only in the narthex and church office as approved by the Finance Committee. Denomination-wide special offering envelopes and envelopes for directives from the Bishop/Conference do not require Finance Committee approval and may be placed in pew racks or used as bulletin inserts.
8. Fundraising expenses must be deducted from fundraising income to ensure that the operating budget is not compromised, and that the bulk of funds raised both for the budget and fundraising projects are credited appropriately. We recommend that zero-based budgeting does not include underwriting of fundraising events.

TO BE REVIEWED ANNUALLY