



**FUNDRAISING IDEAS
for United Methodist Women
to benefit Mission Giving**

Bag and Basket Booth	Featuring for-sale baskets, handbags, gift boxes of many sorts, tote bags, shopping bags, knitting bags, coin purses, cosmetic cases, book covers, hampers – everything used to hold and carry articles.
Bake Sales	Ask members to bring their favorite cakes, cookies, or breads. Sell per item or by the dozen.
Balloon Popping	Each member who is giving or turns in a pledge form gets to choose a balloon with a prize written on a slip of paper inside, and pop the balloon. Prizes can include small UMW giveaways.
Balloon-o-Grams	Members pay to have messages tied to helium balloons delivered to fellow members with compliments or encouraging words. Charge \$1, \$2, or \$5 per balloon.
Book/Media Sale	Ask members to donate gently used or new media, including books, magazines, CDs, DVDs, tapes, and games, to sell. Donate leftover media to a shelter or teen center.
Candy-Grams	Sell candy-grams to members for a small fee and deliver them on the last day of the campaign or throughout. Try to pick treats that tie into your campaign, for example, Halloween candies if there is a Halloween theme.
Carnival Games/Olympics	Set up old-fashioned carnival games such as a ring toss, fish pond, and balloon dart throw. Participants donate to enter. Award certificates to the winners of the “games of skill.” For Olympics, members compete in crazy “athletic” events for silly prizes. Participants donate to enter and observers pick their favorite entrants. Examples of events: three-legged race, tricycle race, egg push (not hard-boiled!) across the finish line with your chin, mini-golf using beach balls and pool cues, etc.
Chili Cook-off Contest	Ask members to cook a favorite chili recipe and enter it into a cook-off contest. Invite others to pay \$5 for a tasting. Have a panel of chili “experts” select the official chili champion.
Cookbook Sales	Have members contribute recipes and put them together in a cookbook. Give away samples of the recipes while selling the cookbooks.
Cutest Pet Contest	Have members contribute a picture of their pets. Place a jar next to each picture for donations. Whichever picture draws the most donations wins!
Decorating Contest	Host a decorating contest and charge participants to enter or charge spectators to vote on a winner. Items to be decorated could include a piggy bank, a toy car, a t-shirt, an apron, or anything else you can think of!
Flamingo Flocking	Make cut-outs of pink flamingos and charge members to “flock” other members’ yards with the cut-outs. Charge \$1 per flamingo. The bigger the flocking, the better. Alternatively, sell “Pink Flamingo Insurance” for \$2 to protect yourself from the invasion of these pink pests.
Flower Power	Ask a local florist to donate flowers. Sell the flowers at church to members. Another great idea is to sell flower bulbs.
Food Sales	Breakfast, coffee, tacos, sandwiches, pizza, hot dogs with chips, etc.
Golf Tournament or Putt-Putt Contest	Work with a nearby golf course to get reduced rates. Charge players the regular price with proceeds going to Mission Giving. Humorous prizes can be handed out later at a potluck dinner (shortest drive, highest score, etc.). Set up a miniature golf course at your church. Charge each player to play and award a prize to the player with the lowest score.
Karaoke Club	Members pay a fee to have a fellow member sing. That person must sing or pay a fee not to sing.

M&M/Jellybean Jar	This is the famous "guess the number of beans in the jar." Buy a guess for 50¢. The person who guesses closest to the number in the jar wins the jar.
Monday Night Football	Have a Monday night tailgate at a member's home during football season. Each person pays \$10 to attend. Serve hot dogs, wings, chips and beverages. Rent a big-screen TV and watch the game as a team while enjoying the fellowship.
Penny Wars	Have a secure bucket at a prominent area in the church where people can drop extra change as they are passing through. Decorate the container so that they are aware it is for Mission Giving. You can challenge groups, classes or circles to see who collects the most.
Photo Booth	Stock a space to use as a photo booth with plenty of props and frames to take fun and creative pictures to display on a bulletin board at church. Charge a small fee for each "session" in the booth.
Pie in the Face	Convince the pastor or the unit president to get a pie in the face if they reach a certain amount of donations to Mission Giving.
Pucker-Up Pig	For a set donation amount, members can cast votes for another member who will "kiss a pig" at the end of the campaign.
Pumpkin Carving Contest	Put together a team of carvers or individuals. Set different categories for judging (most creative, scariest, funniest, etc.). Charge individuals/teams to enter, or charge people to vote for their favorite.
Puppy Love	Have members pay for a chance to try their luck at matching a pet picture to its correct owner. Award a prize to the contestant with the most correct answers, and maybe provide gift certificates to a pet store for the owners who look most like their pets.
Quilt Auction	Auction a donated quilt or decorated dish towels.
Shower With Flowers	Similar to the Flaming Flocking but using brightly-colored flower pinwheels instead of flamingos. Charge a fee per flower.
Silent Auction	Auction off donated items/baskets with proceeds going to Mission Giving. Each basket should have a list of items included.
Sucker Pull	Pull a sucker off a pole that's been drilled with holes for the suckers. If there is a special marking at the bottom of the sucker, then you get a prize. Sell chances to pull a sucker for a certain dollar amount.
Talent Contest	Charge an entry fee to a talent contest for contestants or audience members, and award prizes.
Team Sports Competitions	Form teams among members or circles and get pledges for goals scored, baskets made, etc. Provide concession stands.
The Game Exchange	Ask members to contribute new or gently used toys and games at a designated drop-off site. Price to sell, but whatever doesn't get sold can be donated.
Trivia Contest	Partner with a local restaurant. Identify your teams. Choose trivia categories and set reasonable entry fees.

Other ideas

Baby Picture Guessing Game
Board Game Tournament
Car Wash
Children's Drawing Contest
Craft Bazaar
Dunk Tank
Feet Guessing Game

Fun Run
Halloween Costume Contest
Ice Cream Social
Lunch and a Movie
Lunch Box Auction
Pie Throwing Contest

Ping Pong Tournament
Remote Control Car Races
Root Beer Float Sale
Softball/Volleyball
Tournament
Spelling Bee
Walk-a-Thon

*Mission Giving Promotion Team
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