

Asbury United Methodist Church Policy on Fundraising

Current July 28, 2008

PURPOSE:

Asbury is striving to be a tithing church and fund all activities through the church budget. Until such time as Asbury is a fully tithing church, there may be times when fundraising activities are appropriate and necessary. This policy defines fundraising and the approval process for conducting fundraising activities at Asbury.

RATIONALE:

Tithes and offerings are the Biblical model and traditional method for funding church operations and activities. We recognize, however, that from time to time, it may be appropriate to offer the opportunity for the Asbury family to be generous beyond what they had 'planned' to give to the church. Some of these opportunities are in approved fundraising events. At other times, it may become necessary, especially for natural disasters or other such events, to have a special collection or donation opportunities. These events, outside of the realm of this fundraising policy, can only be granted by the Senior Pastor.

DEFINITION:

Fundraising is any activity conducted by an Asbury entity to raise funds for a specific purpose.

POLICY:

1. Fundraising activities must be approved by the Finance Committee using AUMC Form 4-6 (Fundraising Application). Fundraising approvals do not carry over from one year to the next. Each fundraising event must be approved individually.
2. Since fundraising is for a specific purpose, no activity will be approved whose purpose is to raise funds for the church's operations in general.
3. Only Asbury entities (recognized groups such as a youth small group, Boy Scouts, Sunday School Class, a mission team, a UMW circle, etc...) may conduct fundraising activities.
4. Asbury resources (rooms, fields, etc.) will not be confirmed without an approved AUMC Form 4-6.
5. Within 30 days after the event, the group must provide to the Church Administrator a report/accounting which includes:
 - Total items sold and/or money collected
 - Total expenses, if any, for the fundraiser
 - A specific listing of how much and where the profits were used

6. The sale of tickets for ministry or other events (e.g., luncheons, retreats, etc...) that are designed to pay the expenses for an event are not considered fundraisers and are not governed by this policy.

7. It is the duty of the Finance Committee to use its discretion to approve fundraisers that are in the best interest of Asbury. There may be more value in the teamwork, fellowship, and sense of accomplishment for the Kingdom of God than the actual money made through fundraising activities. The committee must also consider the number of fundraising events in total and the impact that may have on the congregation.

8. Fundraising activities for missions warrants special consideration. Asbury missions activities are funded in the Asbury budget through a growing tithe of the prior year's general budget receipts. In 2009, the missions budget will be 13% of the 2008 general budget receipts. In 2010, it will be 14% of the 2009 general budget receipts, ect... Given this, fundraising activities for missions in general will not be approved. All fundraising activities for specific mission projects or trips must be approved by the Missions Director as well as the Ministry Director over that Asbury entity (if other than Missions). Fundraising activities for a specific mission project or trip should be the rare exception as opposed to the norm.

9. Asbury entities that have a future fundraising activity already scheduled at the time this policy is approved must submit an AUMC Form 4-6 to the Finance Committee within 30 days. Fundraising activities for which no request is submitted within 30 days will be cancelled.

**Asbury United Methodist Church
Fundraising Application**

Name of Asbury Entity: _____

Contact Person: _____ Email: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work/Cell Phone: _____

For what specific purpose are the funds being raised?

Date(s) desired for fundraiser: _____ Time: _____

Note: Your fundraiser, if approved, will still need to be scheduled through the Asbury scheduling system. This form does not constitute a request nor confirmation for rooms or space at Asbury. Rooms and dates are subject to availability. For information on scheduling Asbury resources, see the website or email scheduler@asburyumc.ws.

What is your goal? (the amount you wish to raise): _____

What is the cost (before profit) that you expect to expend in order to fundraise?

How does this activity you are sponsoring relate to the mission of Asbury?

I have read and understand Asbury's Policy on Fundraising. I commit to submitting a summary report to the Church Administrator within 30 days. I further understand that this application is subject to review by the Ministry Director, Missions Director (if required), Finance Committee, and Senior Pastor.

Signature of Person Responsible for the Fundraiser

Date

APPROVALS:

Ministry Director/Chairperson

Missions Director (if required)

Senior Pastor

Chairperson, Finance Committee