

GROWING GRATITUDE: OPTIONS FOR OFFERINGS

Creative, Relationship-building Fundraising Ideas.

See [Canada Helps](http://CanadaHelps.org) for many customizable ways to shape, track and collect donations.

www.canadahelps.org

GRATITUDE CALENDAR of DEVOTIONS

A large paper calendar with paper pockets (small envelopes).

These are delivered by hand or picked up.

In each day's pocket is a piece of paper with a devotion and challenge

Each day could have a theme.

For example: WALKING:

Scripture verse: "For we walk by faith, not by sight."

- 2 Corinthians 5:7

Inspiring or humorous quote: "Golf is a good walk spoiled." - Mark Twain.

Brief reflection: What does it mean to you as a person of faith to walk with someone in their time of need?

Donate a quarter for every pair of shoes in your closet.



These could also include a joke or riddle.

Include a tally sheet on the side of the calendar or on the back.

At the end of the month, the giver makes the donation of the total.

This takes a little work to prepare, but it also works as part of spiritual disciplines, reminding the participant of all the things in life to be grateful for.



TAKE-OUT DINNER

This could be a simple homemade dinner of baked beans & brown bread, lasagna or shepherd's pie.

Prepare in advance in separate homes or a couple of people in a church kitchen keeping proper physical distancing. Follow all the appropriate hygiene guidelines – wear a mask, disinfect all surfaces, etc.

Advertise and take pre-orders.

Either deliver to homes, leaving the meals on the front steps or set up appointments for people to drop by the pick-up spot. Place packaged dinners in vehicle trunk. No exchange of money or cheques. Use pay in advance – Canada Helps, E-transfer or secured envelope drop box.

ONLINE SILENT AUCTION

Use an online platform to showcase your silent auction items. Feature a variety of things or services for people to bid on. Be sure to take simple, uncluttered colourful photos.

Honouring, Remembering, Celebrating

Create a Sunday bulletin space, Facebook post, website corner, etc. to help families remember special moments including these (below). Invite people to make dedications and donations. Publish and share these in creative ways. Include these in parish prayer lists.

- Graduations
- Birthdays
- Memorials
- Anniversaries
- Retirements
- Father's Day
- Weddings
- Births

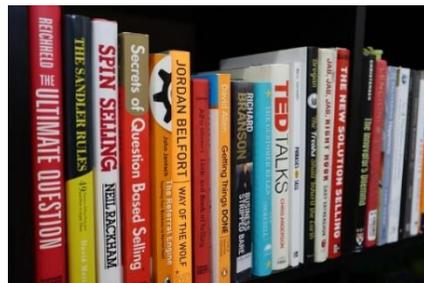
CAMPAIGN IDEAS:

DONATE WHATEVER YOU'RE NOT SPENDING MONEY ON:

Host a fun campaign of several of these (or one at a time per week/month). Ask people to donate the cost of a haircut, a night out at the movies, coffee & donuts from Tim Horton's, doggie day care, etc.

ONLINE SALES: Feature these on Facebook, your webpage or a special platform.

- Bake sales
- Plant sales
- Book sales
- Puzzles & games
- Craft kits (make them up yourself)
- Soup mix in a bag; Cookie mix in a jar, etc.



ZOOM GAMES

Host a Pub Quiz - Trivia contest - Spelling Bee .

Include local questions or words

Have prizes and celebrate!

Make it a series and have a special playoffs session.

CHALLENGES:



This type of fundraiser would be like a traditional one, except you could have a special webpage (platform) to help track and create enthusiasm. Phone options could also be offered for those who are unable to access the internet. Live check-ins or grand finale' could be hosted on Facebook live or Zoom.

- Fit-bit steps (walking)
- Fun runs
- Rock-a-thons
- Men growing their beards ('Isolation beard challenge')
- Push-ups – 1 push-up for every \$1 raised
- Dancing - dance for 1 minute for every \$1 raised
- Jumping Jacks – suitable for a family - 1 jumping jack for every \$1 raised
- Other options: hoola-hoop, jump rope, etc.

VIRTUAL SOIRÉE

Host it via video call/Zoom.

Ship each guest a “party in a box” for a festive atmosphere on screen; party boxes could include favours (hats, leis), tiny decorations (paper lanterns, mini-umbrellas for drinks), or even food and drink (pie-in-a-jar, drink mix).

Play verbal games, or try video charades.

Make the most of your virtual soirée and create a fundraising page. Ask guests to donate the money they would have spent on travel, a new outfit, a bottle of wine, a gift, or whatever is appropriate.

OTHER ONLINE LIVE EVENTS:

- **Costume party / contest**
- **Cooking Classes**
- **Cake Decorating classes (or cupcakes)**
- **Paint Night / Sketch Night / Knit or Crochet Night**
- **Art/Photo show or competition**



IMPORTANT NOTE* Think about including an information sheet or thank-you card with sales items. What could you tell the donor about your congregation’s ministry?

How could you invite them to join you in some event or activity?

Consider how you can build relationships with these people who support your church.

