

*Special Supplement Report for  
"Stewardship Growth Program"*

# **20 Fundraising Ideas for Your Church Library**

A special bonus report included with the Stewardship Growth Program, week 2.

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## 20 Fundraising Ideas for Your Church Library

1. **A Church Yard Sale/Flea Market:** Have your members pitch in their unwanted items to the church for a yard sale or flea market for an easy way to raise funds.
2. **Craft Sales:** Look at the talent and hobbies of your church members. If there are members who like to make candles, wood working items, painting, and other artistic items, they may be willing to make items for a craft sale day. Perhaps someone who knows a lot about a certain hobby would be willing to do demonstrations at the craft sale to attract more people.
3. **Bake Sales:** Have church members make baked items to sell at a bake sale. No one can pass up attending a good bake sale!
4. **Chili Cook Offs:** Every family seems to have its own special recipe for chili. Inviting the community to participate in a chili cook off is a great attraction, loads of fun, and also provides your church another chance to evangelize.
5. **Cookbooks:** Have personalized cookbooks made for your church and sell them in the community, as well as in the church. The youth group may be able to solicit sales door to door in your town. (Check with your town's policy on solicitation.) Also, a neighborhood store or gas station may put them out in exchange for a commission from each sale. (Or for free, if a church member owns the business.)
6. **Raffles:** Have church members donate items of value to hold a community raffle for. Sell the raffle tickets at a community event.
7. **Pop or Food Stand:** Sell pop or food at a community event.
8. **Ask for Donations:** Ask for donations in your church newsletter and the local newspaper. State the name of your church, that you're building or upgrading your church library, a few short words about what the church will do with the money, and ask for donations to be sent to your church address.
9. **Create an area in your church library for plaques and sell them to businesses.** Ask businesses for a set donation in return for having a plaque hung in your church library with their business name.
10. **Tea and Scones Event:** This is the Christian version of a wine and cheese event. For a free-will donation, host an event at your church library. Church members can make special teas and scones for the event. Plan some type of entertainment. Music, a small play put on by the Youth Group, special speaker, storytelling session, etc.
11. **Quilts:** If your church has a few members who belong to a quilting club, or just enjoy quilting, perhaps they'd donate a few quilts. These quilts could then be raffled off at an event. Or, if you get enough donated, your church could host a quilt sale.

12. **Hobby Classes:** If a church member is experienced in a hobby and willing to teach others, perhaps that person will host a class for the church. All class fees would then go to the church library. Also, ask for members to donate refreshments for the class students and advertise that the class fee includes refreshments.
13. **Coloring Books:** Have theme related coloring books made with your church's information on the cover. Sell these to parents for their kids.
14. **Self-Improvement Workshops:** Who are the business people in your church and what is their area of specialty? Do they know valuable information that can help a person save time, money, or deepen their relationships with family and friends? If they are willing to host a workshop instructing others in their specialty, your church could hold the event. Also, ask other church members to donate the refreshments, and perhaps a door prize or two.
15. **Easter Egg Hunts:** Have your church host an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter weekend or the weekend before Easter to raise funds for your church. Be sure to advertise this as a charity event, so the public understands this is not a free hunt. You can either ask for free-will donation or a set price per child.
16. **Chocolate!:** Everyone loves chocolate. Have your youth group sell chocolate bars to raise money for the library.
17. **Silent Auctions:** People enjoy going to silent auctions. Especially if you can get items that people want donated by your church members. Host this in your library, if you have it already, or your church, if you're raising funds to start the library.
18. **Used Book Sale:** Have your church members bring in used books for a used book sale. You may hold this event at your church if your location gets enough traffic, or you may have a table at a community even or flea market. Be sure used books are an item that the community would be willing to buy, and make sure you have a plan in place for dealing with the left over books.
19. **Book Festival:** Plan far in advance to hold a book festival. Invite in guest speakers, and offer lunches with supplies donated from church members. Ask writers to attend the event and give talks. If you have the funds to invest with, you may also hire a professional storyteller who gives a performance with it. Choose a theme for your book festival to match the storyteller, such as Renaissance.
20. **Ice Cream Social:** Plenty of warm days in the summer. People love ice cream Church members can donate the ice cream and toppings. Also, pies and brownies. Invite a guest speaker or a Christian music group to attend for entertainment.

### **Selling items for fundraising**

When choosing what to sell to church members and the community, choose something that everyone loves. Unique items are great, but they must fit into a category of items that the majority of people are willing to buy. Items useful for the house, baked goods suitable for gatherings or quick buy treats for a one time snack, popular hobbies, items to keep the kids busy and out of trouble, etc.

### **Selling "services" or events for fundraising**

Check out the community and see what matters to them right now. If it's dealing with the economy, events that help them deal with stress or finances will attract them. If it's the holiday time, an event that matches the holiday is sure to get attention. Indoor hobbies during the wintertime. Outdoor fun during the summer.

### **Setting fundraising goals**

Before starting a fundraiser, figure out what exactly you want to do with the money and how much you would need to raise. Think ahead, plan out your fundraisers. If the amount you need is large enough, it may take more than one fundraiser. Set a time goal. For instance, perhaps you need to build and create a church library from nothing. If so, you may need to set the goal of having 4 fundraisers over the period of two years to accomplish your goal. Announce this goal in the church worship folder and newsletter, and announce updates on your progress after each fundraiser.

## **In closing...**

If you know of someone who could use this information, please pass it along. All I ask is that you leave the entire report intact, as is, and give me credit for it.

For those of you reading this report and who are not signed up for my weekly newsletter, "The Successful Church Secretary News", please visit my website at <http://digitalchurchsecretary.dragynspice.com/successfulchurchsecretary.html> and sign up for it. The newsletter is delivered to your email on a weekly basis, and delivers helpful information and resources for church secretaries and church volunteers alike.

Also, feel free to visit my blog, The Digital Church Secretary at <http://www.digitalchurchsecretary.com>

This report is a special bonus included in the second week of my Stewardship Growth Program, available at <http://www.stewardshipgrowthprogram.com> If you would like to learn how to contribute your time and talents, easily and without disrupting your current life schedule, please join us today. These guides are great for churches to have around for volunteers and other church members. They are designed to not only help the person assisting their church in the given area, but also to help save the pastor valuable time in training people. If you've ever worked with a pastor, you can understand how valuable this is!

Read, visit me on the internet, and enjoy. Feel free to send me comments, needs, or requests to [digitalchurchsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:digitalchurchsecretary@gmail.com) or [helpmychurchgrow@gmail.com](mailto:helpmychurchgrow@gmail.com)

And thank you, for helping spread the Word of God and bring more people to Jesus.

***God Bless,***

*Diana Cary Hawkins*

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