

## **Fundraising Philosophy at Mountain View Community Church**

1. We do not see fundraising in the New Testament. The Bible is silent on this matter. It is not encouraged nor is it condemned. We see generous freewill giving (planned, regular, spirit-led, uncoerced—see 1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:6-15) modeled and exhorted.
2. Jesus condemns giving that is done to be seen by men (Matthew 6:1-4).
3. Jesus says that when we give we are to do so as if we ourselves are not aware of how much we are giving (“do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing” Matt. 6:3). Moreover, our giving is to be in secret (Matt. 6:4).
4. Based on these biblical patterns and precepts for giving, at MVCC we will seek to primarily encourage and rely on the faithful, generous, freewill, and secret giving of God’s people to support the general budget and various special ministries or ministry events of Mountain View.
5. On occasion, as needed, we will prayerfully use fundraising type events or practices to support ministries that are not fully covered by the budget (e.g. youth conferences, facilities etc.). Such fundraising practices should not draw attention to the “giver” nor should they be a stumbling block to God’s people. They should be implemented infrequently and prayerfully. Before using fundraising it should be prayerfully determined by the ministry leaders if a secret love offering of some sort (prayer letter, offering after church etc.) should be pursued prior to the consideration of a fundraising event or practice. If a special offering of some sort is recommended, this request should be brought to the elders for consideration.
6. Fundraising practices that are held in the lobby after church should be done in love, not compelling individuals to participate. Those who are promoting a product or event of some kind to raise funds should not approach, pressure or pursue people (as if salesmen). Rather, tables should be set up giving people the freedom to approach the fundraiser, rather than the fundraiser approaching the people.

The Elders of Mountain View Community Church  
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