



St. Luke's Lutheran Church & School

Oakfield, WI

Fund Raising Projects and Activities

We encourage the organizations and groups of our congregation to be active in carrying on activities which promote Christian fellowship and Christian service within the congregation. Financial profits realized through freewill offerings or requested donations express the congregation's gratitude to you for your work and your help in providing a blessing to our church's ministry.

We ask you to be on guard against such fund raising projects which are carried on solely for the purpose of making money. Our Lord Jesus warns us: "You cannot serve both God and Money" (Matthew 6:24). When activities are carried on "for the money," we are no longer serving our Lord, but the gods of this world.

We are also concerned when the name of our congregation is used to carry a fund raising projects outside the congregation. While projects of Christian service to our community are God-pleasing and enhance the mission of our church as we reach out to help others, we also need to be careful not to give the impression that we are reaching but with "Christian love" to help ourselves. Our mission as a church is to serve and help others at our own expense. This is what Christian love is all about. Please be careful that the impression is never given that St. Luke's is reaching out "to take," rather than reaching out "to give."

When there is a special financial need in your organization or group, we invite you to present the matter to our church council. We will do all we can to help you secure financial assistance either through our church treasury or through a special freewill offering of the congregation.

Finally, we realize that opinions may vary among us in regard to these matters. We all have a conscience, but we do not all have the same conscience. Your own conscience serves as your best guide in determining whether you are doing something "for the Money" or "for the Lord." We cannot assume to judge your motives, nor do we wish to sit in judgment of your conscience. We knew what Jesus has to say about such sinful judging (cf. Luke 6:37). We want to respect one another's consciences in Christian love. Let us also respect the conscience of our pastor when it comes to advertising activities and projects in our church bulletin, etc.

Thank you for your cooperation,
St. Luke's Church Council

Committee Responsible: Executive Committee
Adopted by the Church Council: 12/20/1990