

# 10 things to do at church

From barn dances to bell-ringing –  
we've got fantastic ideas for church fundraising.



### #3 Host a village fete

Even if you don't live in a village!  
There are lots more ideas inside too...

# Charity begins at church

Where else are you going to find caring, generous, like-minded folk like yourself if not in your local church congregation?

Church is the place to turn a great idea into a great fundraising day for everyone – so let your imagination and your expectations run wild. A bit of organisation and community spirit could lead to anything from an old-fashioned church fete to an Olympic challenge.

## Golden oldies

If the weather forecast looks grim, how about a Whist Drive or a 1950s-style bowling evening in the church hall to raise much-needed money for Action for Children?

## Fundraising should be fun

There's no doubt that with all those willing helpers and such a great cause, you and your congregation can have a lot of fun while raising valuable funds for the most vulnerable and neglected children in your local community.

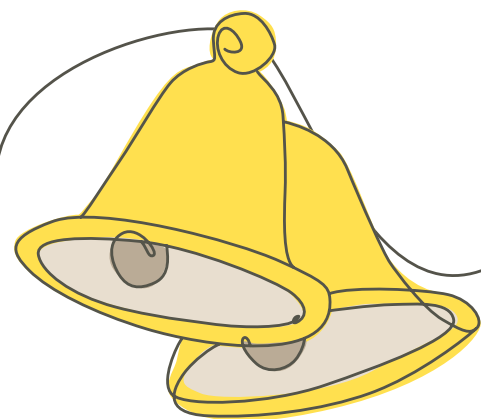


## £500

could keep one of our emergency drop-in centres for homeless young people open for a week.

## Top tip

If your church has a bell tower, why not have a sponsored bell-ring? Or, you could get local people to pay you to stop!





1

**If I knew you were comin'...**

Ask everyone to bring a cake to Sunday service and have a good old-fashioned get-together afterwards. You could even hold a 'Guess the weight of the cake' competition, should you get a particularly dense-looking Victoria sponge on the day. To help us celebrate our 142nd birthday, celebrity chef Levi Roots donated an 'as long as it bakes' recipe for Jamaican Ginger Cake. Download your copy from [www.actionforchildren.org.uk/fundraising](http://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/fundraising)

2

**Barista training**

Coffee mornings have moved up a gear since the high street became swamped with mochaccinos. So step up to the challenge and ask guests to bring along their favourite blends for a coffee-tasting session. Add some Italian biscuits and you've got a truly European coffee morning – with a nice big donation box by the door.



3

**A village fete**

It doesn't matter if your congregation lives in the middle of a city, you can always find a little area of green. With homemade bunting, coconut shies, apple bobbing and pin the tail on the donkey, you can turn any garden or park into a fabulous fundraising fete. Get the local butcher to donate sausages for a barbecue and it will smell perfect too.

# Things to do at church

4

**Going green**

Ask everyone to put their cars in the garage and dig out their walking shoes and bikes for a week of environmentally friendly travel. Not only will it make you all a fitter, healthier bunch, but if everyone donates the money they've saved in petrol bills, it will make a life-changing difference to the most vulnerable and neglected children, too.



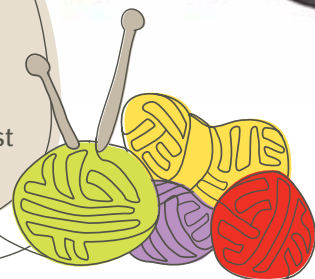
**...the best of the rest!**

- 6 Hold a jumble sale or bring-and-buy.
- 7 Set up a collection box in the church or church hall.
- 8 Guess the weight of the pumpkin.
- 9 Ask local businesses to donate prizes for a raffle.
- 10 Hold a barn dance in the church hall.

5

**A stitch in time**

If you're a creative, crafty lot, why not hold a quilt-making or blanket marathon? Ask everyone to stitch, crochet, sew or knit as many squares as they can in a month and put them all together for a fabulous craft sale. You could auction off the best, and have a small prize for the person who's produced the biggest number of squares. Needles at the ready, ladies!



# All helpers, great and small



**Bigger picture:** Wakefield Circuit Support Group – along with nine other churches – raised £1,600 with a sponsored jigsaw race.

For the Wakefield Circuit Support Group, involving children and young people from their congregation is an essential part of the fundraising challenge.

From toddlers to grandparents, everyone does their bit. And being able to teach the younger members how important it is to give time and money to help children who don't have the advantages they do is central to all their hard work.

And they have some inventive ways of making sure everyone can join in. They recently raised £1,600 in one afternoon with a sponsored jigsaw race – with nine other churches and plenty of tiny hands adding to the challenge!

**‘It’s so important for us that we continue to support Action for Children, even when things are difficult for all of us. It’s at times like this that the needs of vulnerable children become even greater.’**

Jenny Young, Wakefield Circuit Support Group

To protect the identity of the children and young people we work with, some Action for Children photographs are posed by models. Photographs: © Action for Children

Registered charity nos. 1097940/SC038092

# More great fundraising ideas!

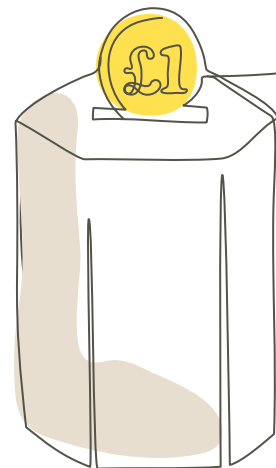
Click on the areas you are interested in below to find even more fundraising ideas!

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*as long as it takes*