



Fundraising Ideas for Faith Based Groups

Bake Sale:

Have volunteers bring in individually priced baked goods to sell. Choose a time and location for your sale such as in a major hallway after the service lets out. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Bingo Night:

Everyone loves playing Bingo, and putting together a Bingo night is simple. You will need a room with lots of tables and a Bingo caller. You can download and print your own Bingo cards for free. Also make a plastic tumbler for hand painted ping-pong balls for selecting each number and you're good to go. Charge either a general admission fee or a fee per game, and give donated prizes to the winners. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Board Game Night:

Host a board game night and have your team members lend board games. You can either have your guests pay a general participation fee or a fee per game. You can play rounds of games in a tournament style and have a playoff for the winners. Have simple prizes for your winners at the end of the night. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Bowl-a-Thon:

A bowling fundraiser can be a really fun way to raise money for your team. Simply rent a group of lanes or the entire building from a bowling alley, and start soliciting teams. Before purchasing lanes, ask the bowling alley if they will donate some or all of the lanes to you. Charge an entry fee for participants and spectators. You can even set it up tournament style or have donated prizes awarded for most strikes, lowest score, or even most gutter balls! [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Carwash:

Pick a busy location for your carwash such as a gas station or your congregation's parking lot. Make sure your location has exterior water access and that you have permission to use the space and water. Make signs to promote the event, gather your team members and supplies, and then you're ready to go! [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Congregation-Wide Yard Sale:

Request a room from your leader to collect and store items you will be selling. Advertise your sale and request donations for autism in your newsletter or bulletin far in advance. Invite your family and team members to contribute items for the sale to make it more successful and fun. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Coloring Contests:

Ask a local restaurant to host a coloring contest. Use the Autism Speaks puzzle piece as your template. Have children color puzzle pieces at their tables as they wait for their dinners, and parents can donate money to have their child's artwork entered into the contest. The artwork should be displayed throughout the restaurant for a pre-determined amount of time and then a winner should be chosen. Ask the restaurant if they will provide a gift certificate to their establishment as a prize! [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Cookbook Sales:

Recognize all of the talented cooks from your faith based community. Identify where to send recipes as well as a due date in your newsletter or bulletin. Compile all the recipes into a cookbook and sell them for donations to Autism Speaks. To make this fundraiser even more fun, host a potluck before you create the book to taste everyone's recipes. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Donations Table:

Ask your leaders for a table to collect donations before and after services. Make sure you have general information about autism at your table and share your personal connection to the mission and why you participate in the walk.

Letter Writing Party:

Set up tables and supplies in a large meeting room, have everyone bring a list of people to send letters to, and be ready to start writing! For inspiration you can show a video about autism or invite a parent, grandparent, service provider, or sibling to talk about their experiences with autism. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Live or Silent Auction:

Advertise your auction and request for donations in your newsletter or bulletin far in advance. Form a committee and ask them to solicit donations for auction items throughout their communities. Advertise the auction to staff and members of the congregation by hanging fliers in prominent areas and in community centers, and also by placing an ad in your local newspaper. Package your auction items and invite your participants to bid away! [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Pancake Breakfast:

Prepare breakfast before the morning service begins or just after the service ends. Make sure to advertise it in the newsletter or bulletin far in advance and be sure to mention that proceeds will benefit Autism Speaks. Encourage members of the congregation to invite family and friends to attend. Charge each person per meal. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Photo/Artwork Contest:

This is a great way for aspiring photographers and artists to display and show off their work. Ask for submissions from members of your congregation and set up their pictures like an art show. In order to raise money, make it a juried art show, and everyone in your community can participate by voting. Place a jar, can, or box in front of each picture in which people can place coins or bills to vote for their favorites. Make sure to set up your contest in a high traffic location such as in a major hallway or gathering space. Leave the display set up until the contest is over. The winner will be the one with the most money in their jar at the end of the contest. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Puzzle Piece Campaign:

Sell Autism Speaks puzzle pieces for \$1 to staff, visitors, and members of the congregation, and display them in a prominent location to raise awareness. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

Stumper Photo Contest:

Hold a "stumper" photo contest! Ask congregation members and staff to share a baby picture or childhood photo that they believe no one can identify. Those who wish to guess should make a donation, and those who guess correctly will win a prize.

Contact your local Autism Speaks office for step-by-step instructions about how to host each of the fundraisers or if you want materials to display at your event such as brochures and Walk Now for Autism Speaks banners.