

**Congregational Meeting to brainstorm ideas to address budget deficit**  
**November 9, 2014**

**Fundraising**

- Do something with Little League and Scouts
- Partner with Elton Tavern to promote church as part of a wedding package (need to understand tax implications)
- Dish-N-Dat, Friendly's, Dubliners event – March may be good time to do
- Solar panels on roof
  - Burlington joined Solarize CT, upcoming town meeting about topic
- Blueberry festival- Goshen and North Canton Church. Do similar things?
- Pre-pay tickets for events and ask others to buy dinner for someone else who can't afford
- Large jar – collect change throughout the year through CE and cash in. Gets kids and adults involved
- Comedy Club
- Car Show with food (hot dogs, burgers) – Lions Club? Need another location than our lot as dirt parking lot not desirable for car collectors. Maybe partner with other location?
- Golf tournament – large event, bigger results
- "Paint the Church" or other project fundraising – market as to what the specific purpose is
- "Pay the XYZ" bake sale
- Postcard mailer – describe projects with event calendar
  - "Make our church as beautiful on the outside as it is on the inside"
- Raise the Roof promo
- Capital campaign
- Big E – church in MA made \$30K doing an event there
- Crowd Funding – historical preservation slant? To appeal to those who want to preserve historical buildings
- Church promotional items – tshirts, hats, etc
- Holiday walk or drive through a light fest and visit with a live nativity or Santa

**Church Growth/Membership**

- Have done letters to new residents, Tavern Day, need to continue those things
- Will take planning by many
- Find ways to bring community into church
- Call Farmington, North Canton, North Canton Methodist churches – talk to and learn how they are making it
- Advertise in other towns – "are you looking for a spiritual home?"
- Potluck, line dancing, karaoke – open house, bring a friend
- "Bring a Friend to Church" Day – like Bring Your Kids to Work Day
- Tout Wendell's skill as pastor and our church fellowship
- Sauerkraut Supper

- Video a few of Wendell's sermons and put on web site, other places? [We have a person who can edit the video, need someone to film]
- Have a contemporary service either on Saturday evenings or one Sunday a month to attract more members. Not a youth run service like before but something with more groovy music & songs with guitar and piano

#### Other

- Send out budget copy to show line item expenses
- Forward thinking strategy with town, business owners, other non profits – partner on fundraising
- Saturday Service
- Research if we can be a national/state/local historical building and any grants or funds that can help us? [www.cttrust.org](http://www.cttrust.org) , talk to **Ted Shafer**? **John Piscopo**?
- Tax implications for making “too much money”?