

## 2021 UUCWC Spring Auction – Online May 1 – May 8 - Contribution Ideas and Information

Food, events, gift cards, and custom services are popular things to offer for the auction. Given the pandemic and the church facility being currently closed, we are welcoming creative alternatives for in-person gatherings. The Auction includes several categories for “fixed price” items – you set the value and the buyer contributes that precise amount. For active bidding on items, you can set a minimum bid for contributions to be sure the church is getting full value.

**How can you contribute?** An online Contribution form is available on the church website under the Giving tab through the Spring Auction page. Or, you may contact the auction team at [auction@uucwc.org](mailto:auction@uucwc.org).

**Contribution deadline.** Auction contribution forms with descriptions no later than **April 3**, so we can include the descriptions in the auction book available April 17<sup>th</sup>; it is also posted on the church website. You can submit a contribution from using the link on the UUCWC website under Giving/Spring Auction.

**Physical Items:** You may have some good physical items that you feel will be attractive to bidders. Since this is not a yard sale, we ask that physical items be in like-new condition and be worth at least \$25. Please note that we are not able to accept art.

### *Examples of past auction contributions – with pandemic-safe modifications*

**Events and Social Gatherings:** Below are examples of auction contributions that have been popular with modifications to limit in-person gatherings. Feel free to be creative! Some tech assistance is available.

**Food:** We all love to eat. Some of us love to cook too. Always popular are *dinners – either delivered or offered as a culinary event* can be scheduled throughout the year. Outdoor dining is always popular. Not able to host a whole dinner for a group? No problem. *Co-host with others or offer a special dish as a delivered item*, or offer to join the winners for a dinner at a restaurant. *Custom delivered (or picked up) items include: chili, lasagna, soup, special cakes, pie, holiday cookies, or bread* have been offered, to name just a few. This is a way to share with others the things that you love to cook or eat.

**Activities/Events:** Do you have a *favorite place, festival, museum, concert, playhouse, art show* or other attraction that you like to attend yourself? Consider offering *passes or host someone at an activity* that you enjoy. Could you offer a cover the costs of *special get-away to a scenic attraction*, or offer a *week or weekend in your vacation home*? This is a very popular item and a great way to raise funds for the church. Socially distanced alternatives include: *road rally or barn tour concluding with to-go picnic, summer scavenger hunt for families, remote zoom travelogue presentations, pet photo contest (dress ups, owner look-alikes etc.)*

**Games/Sports:** Offer to lead small group outdoor activities that you enjoy such as *biking, tennis, fishing, hiking, golf, canoeing and kayaking*. Or host *online versions of card/board games, trivia, bingo, poker, movies and parties*, which are good for the less athletic.

**Skills or Services to Share or Teach:** Perhaps you learned a new craft or skill during quarantine and would be willing to share online or in a small group. Some examples from recent years are learning about *Medicare Supplement Plans, beginning knitting, Chinese cooking, woodworking, beading/jewelry making, yoga, meditation, bread, pie crust or pierogi making*. The possibilities are endless.

**Service/Help:** People need lots of help around the house. Services like *online technology assistance, yard work, spring cleaning, pet sitting, child care, closet or garage organizing, and house sitting* are all things that help people in their daily lives and may not cost you money out of pocket.

**See any Auction Team member to talk about contributing or call or email auction co-chairs** Connie Schofer, Barbara Drew, Lynda Shapiro, Lori O’Neil or Lynne Quinto at [auction@uucwc.org](mailto:auction@uucwc.org) and they will help you.