

## *Gifts and Gracious Gatherings.'*

### Ladies are You UP for the Challenge?

Our Fall Fundraiser is going to look quite different due to COVID19. Our title and theme is

## *'Gifts and Gracious Gatherings.'*

Our fundraising drive will be held during the months of October & November and will consist of:

- Friends and Family Sale
- Sweet Shoppe (if we can get a Chair)
- Online Auction and Buy It Now items
- Members Only Sale
- Vendor sales

We need your help in a different way this year! Instead of asking you to spend time in workshops, time at the church, time setting up at The Norris, and time helping on the day, we would love you to **make, create, donate, and communicate**. We are asking each Active to contribute 3-5 items, and would appreciate any contributions from Associates and Sustainers. So how can you help?

**\*MAKE** - Lots of you are sooo creative, and can make boutique items, wreaths, home items, holiday items, photography items, pet items and perhaps more. As they say, *'The world is your oyster!'* and we can't wait to see your ideas for this project.

**\*CREATE** - We would like around 10 tables:

#### Tables/Parties

- ❖ just a table setting or a whole party theme, e.g. a baby shower, a holiday party, a themed birthday party. (since it may be a while until parties are ok, it could also be a staged 'Summer Lawn Party' or an outside afternoon tea table setting).
- ❖ with party props or added extras: suggested recipes, games, extra décor. Gift cards for food, décor or party stores can be added
- ❖ You can contribute the whole event or a certain part of the display only.
- ❖ You can work on your own or part of a small group. It will be exciting and fun to design and put this together, recognizing that we can't actually have parties right now.

## Garden

- ❖ We also need some fabulous garden items, so go and find some new or unusual pots, and get planting! Especially fun would be holiday themed pots or plants!
- ❖ Are you great at floral arranging? Find a fabulous vase and create an arrangement that you know you can replicate, perhaps with a list of the flowers and some directions. We will then photograph it and describe it and the winner gets to choose when they would like it remade and delivered!

*"Your imagination is everything. It is the preview of life's coming attractions."*

*Albert Einstein*

**\*DONATE** - We are not all creative, but we all use services or know people that may donate, or which we would like to support and then donate. Examples could be our favorite restaurant (take out, until restrictions are lifted) or hotel or museum. Silent Auction needs items for the auction like gift baskets, items to make up a prize, gift cards, and checks to purchase items. We also need unusual stand-alone items that you may have already that are in good condition or want to buy and donate that fit into our theme of *'Gifts and Gracious Gatherings.'*

We also need some big-ticket items, especially to put together a larger prize; do you have access to a timeshare, or know a chef that would cook for a party (perhaps delivered because of COVID)? Or know someone that could arrange a private tour?

From Holiday (Found) Treasures, Expensive items will go on the auction either as Auction items or Buy It Now. Please indicate if you can source any of these items.

*"Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more"— H. Jackson Brown Jr.*

**COMMUNICATE** - We need to advertise these events far and wide! We rely on YOU to let your friends, family, neighbors, and work colleagues know of our efforts. Please share any of our social media and advertising that we create and send out. Talk up our separate events to everyone you know. As usual, our friends and family sale relies on us getting orders from people within our circle and our vendor sales will rely on us getting the word out.

*"Think like a wise man but communicate in the language of the people" – William Butler Yeats*

*Once we have all the returns a small group will sift through and decide whether items go as Auction items, 'Buy It Now' or Members sale. If you know the approximate or suggested value, please indicate on the form.*

*Remember "Alone we can do so little: together we can do so much" - Helen Keller*

*and*

*"None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love, and together we can do something wonderful" - Mother Teresa*

Please fill in the My Contributions with how you would like to help us and return it to Debbie Sampson [debs744@hotmail.com](mailto:debs744@hotmail.com) by Friday, August 21.

Many thanks for all your commitment and willingness to make this work!

Paula Tuckerman