

## **NEED AUCTION DONATION IDEAS???**

### **Events & Dinners**

Dinners bring in a significant portion of the total proceeds each year. Here are proven winners from UU auctions: Beer, Bocce & BBQ; Backyard Bash (cookout and lawn games); Picnic in the Park; Mexican Fiesta; Pool Party; Chinese Dinner (or substitute your favorite ethnic food); Game Night (snacks, drinks & board games); Hootenanny (jam session with food & drinks); Murder Mystery Dinner (they offer scripts for these on the web). You can replicate one of these winners or come up with your own entirely new idea. Or put a new spin on one of the classics. Events that include a lot of people (at a low price) are very popular!

### **Your Services**

UU churches are often called “Service Auctions” because the donations that bring the greatest benefit—to the donor, high bidder and the church—are donations of **service**. What type of service are we talking about? Dinners & events are great but you can also consider donating these services: painting a room; yard work (raking, trimming bushes or cleaning gutters); planting a flower bed (plants could be supplied or not); cleaning a carpet; ceiling to floor cleaning of your home’s bathrooms; handyman services (by the job or by the hour); hauling to the dump; computer repair; clothing alterations; babysitting, art lessons or Christmas present wrapping.

### **Your Talents**

Are you still racking your brain trying to come up with something to donate to the UUFSD Auction? Do you think you can’t possibly have something that others would want to bid on? Think again; here are some suggestions: weekend’s use of your cabin or lake house; a guided canoe or kayak trip, hiking trip, or scenic drive; a day-trip in the ocean on your boat; a ride to and from the airport; a fishing trip; a poker night; home delivery of a homemade supper, cakes, pies or holiday cookies. Or you might just solicit donations from local businesses that you frequent.

### **Treasures**

This year we are focusing on services, events and outings. You can also offer some special “things,” especially unique ones for the live auction. We will also have baskets of **new and like** items, e.g. family toy/game night; candles, wine, cheese and crackers, dog or cat toys and goodies; spa certificate with lotions, CD, etc. Such baskets can be as creative as you are! What “thing” do you have. . . or basket can you assemble? We are hoping the UU committees and groups, such as the Board, the choir and the social justice committee, will each donate a gift basket with a theme similar to their purpose, or something entirely different.

### **Come and Bid!**

What would an Auction be without bidders? It wouldn’t be a very successful fundraiser and community-building event. Much of the fun of auction night is being with fellow UUs, enjoying drinks and dinner and engaging in friendly bidding wars for items in the live auction. And for some items you can use raffle tickets you earn volunteering at the Fellowship.