

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are the benefits of raising funds this way?

1. Your family will not be asked to purchase anything above what you would normally spend for groceries, gas or food. You get to use 100% of the money you spend on the cards/certificates (*the percentage that the church receives comes from the store, not from your purchase price*).
2. Cracker Barrel returns 8%, Sorrento's returns 15% and Walmart returns 2.5%. This is "money for nothing"! You can determine how much you make by how much you spend and where you shop. You can also get your friends and family to use the cards/certificates and specify that the money be used for your child.
3. Purchases made at Kroger with Kroger Plus Cards, which returns varying percentages, benefit the General Youth Acct./Fund and at the Minister's discretion goes towards helping students who cannot afford events, trips, etc.

How will we keep track of sales?

At the time of your purchase we will record the amount purchased, who made the purchase and which the purchase should be credited. This credit may be made to an individual/family of your choice or to a youth account which helps students that have tried to raise funds but still has a financial need (need to be determined by church staff). Students or parents may call the church office (217) 732-7618 to check on their individual/family fundraising balance.

What if my bill is not as much as my card's value?

The balance will be left on cards to be used at a later time. Your receipt will show your purchase total and any balance that is left on your card.

Can I use the cards at out-of-town stores?

Cracker Barrel can be used at any Cracker Barrel restaurant/store. Your registered Kroger Plus Card can be used at any Kroger store or any affiliate that is listed on the Kroger Plus Card. Sorrento's certificates must be used at Sorrento's Restaurant in Lincoln, IL. Walmart cards may be used at any Walmart or Sam's Club.

How may I use the funds that I raise?

The funds raised may be used for any event sponsored by Lincoln Christian Church for students high school age or younger. This includes LCC Preschool, choir tours, CIY events, church camp, retreats, and any other event or trip in which the church is participating. The funds are donated to the church and therefore are to be used for church activities only. The funds raised from this program can be used by adults for specific events as set forth in the SuP 4.0.1 Merchandise Certificates Policy issued by the elders of Lincoln Christian Church (see attached).

What happens to our funds when our student graduates from high school?

You have three options:

- a) You may keep your family's account open until your youngest child graduates from high school and use the funds for Lincoln Christian Church events and activities.
- b) You may close the account and transfer the balance to the general youth fund to be used by any student who has a financial need in order to participate in church events (need to be determined by church staff); or
- c) You may close the account and transfer the balance to a person/family of your choosing.

Note of Caution: Do Not get a new card from the store because we do not receive any benefits from store-purchased cards. *We only receive money back on cards purchased from the church.*

There are also NO REFUNDS.

Questions? Please call the church office (217) 732-7618 or email LCChurch@LincolnChristianChurch.org

WE APPRECIATE & THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Policy Type: Supporting

Policy Level/Title: SuP 4.0.1 Merchandise Certificates Policy

We appreciate the generosity of local and national merchants who donate proceeds from designated sales to the church. Lincoln Christian Church has chosen to use these proceeds to supplement the ministry needs of our youth and children's ministries. However, the purpose of the church is not to function as a bank so the following policy has been adopted.

Participation

1. Any family may purchase certificates whose rebate will be sent to the church and allocated to a family account for their child (birth through high school). Also, anyone purchasing certificates may identify a family who will receive credit for the purchase (e.g., non-family member or grandparents buying certificates to benefit their grandchildren.)
2. The money belongs to the family and will be kept by the church in a separate account. The church will also keep records of the accounts.
3. Adults may participate only if they have made a firm commitment to travel as a sponsor on an approved youth event as defined below. If funds accumulated in an adult account are not used within two years of opening the account, the adult must choose to either turn the funds over to the youth program, or cash out the fund and take the money. Adults may not accumulate more funds than the cost of the proposed trip.
4. Families may keep accounts in their children's names until the summer after the youngest child in the family graduates from high school. Families will have until October 1 of that year to designate another family enrolled in the certificate program or the general youth fund, to receive the accumulated funds, or to cash out the account.
5. Church staff members may participate in the program on the same basis as other adults.

Scope and Use of Funds

1. Certain certificates will be sold on the church premises by a volunteer at a designated time and place.

2. Other certificates may be purchased on-line through an elder-approved scrip vendor to access the Center the purchaser must get the code number from the church.
3. The money accumulated may be used for any church-sponsored children's or youth activity (e.g. church camp, choir tour, conferences and mission trips). However, the money cannot be used on activities not sponsored by the church or for any activities not sponsored for children or youth.
4. Participants in the program must agree with these conditions.
5. The church elders reserve the right to cancel or modify this program at any time.

Drafted:

Adopted: September 25, 2014