



Get Involved: 75 Ideas, 75 Years

The 75th Anniversary Celebration is a great time to engage your congregation and community in the work of Episcopal Relief & Development. Here are 75 fun and creative ideas to help you join in the celebration!

1. **Bake Sale:** Brush up your cooking skills for a bake sale during coffee hour. Hand out information on Episcopal Relief & Development's work with each purchase to give your customers both knowledge and nourishment.
2. **Stories:** Read one of our 75 stories during our 75 weeks. Pass onto your friends.
3. **Coffee House and Open Mic Night:** Hot chocolate, lattes, and cappuccinos... This fundraiser works great for a school or church group and is appropriate for all ages. Have a microphone and invite people to share a favorite poem or sing a song.
4. **Pancake Breakfast:** This is one of the most common fundraisers because it's fun, easy and inexpensive to plan. This kind of fundraiser is great for Sundays. If you can hold it at your church, everyone can come by.
5. **Sunday School Activity:** Memorize our mandate verse – Matthew 25:37-40. Use it to discuss the relevance to our work.
6. **Youth Activity:** Ask your church's young people to come up with 75 ways to heal a hurting world. Post them and share them with the congregation.
7. **Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday:** Plan a special event in your parish or group. Resources are available to help you to make this a deeply moving and impactful experience.
8. **Just-for-Fun Game:** Sports like football, basketball and hockey are exciting, and also a great way to raise funds. Organize fun games like parents vs. kids, girls vs. boys, etc., and charge a small fee to join a team, or allow people to join in with a donation amount of their choice.
9. **Silent Auction:** Seek donations from church members and local businesses. Make a donation in honor of the 75th Anniversary to celebrate your congregation's partnership with us.
10. **Pray:** Pray for our important work and local partners. Prayers are available on our website.
11. **Popcorn and Movie Night:** Invite friends and family for a popcorn and movie night. Find a movie that relates to the work we do around the world, and donate the proceeds to support the 75th campaign.
12. **Find us on Facebook:** Like our Episcopal Relief & Development Facebook page.
13. **Car Wash:** This tried-and-true fundraiser is a natural choice for summer since groups of any size can run a profitable car wash.
14. **Children's Christian Education:** Participate in an Abundant Life Garden Project for children to learn about the work of Episcopal Relief & Development.
15. **Service Board:** Have church members post odd jobs on the bulletin board. Youth members (or anyone for that matter) can sign up to do the task for a donation.
16. **Youth Engagement:** Utilize our "Act Out" Program to host an event for your youth to focus on water and sanitation or malaria prevention.
17. **Monthly Giving:** Become a monthly donor and sustainer to Episcopal Relief & Development and support our work.
18. **Lemonade Stand:** For an activity with young children, host a lemonade stand on a warm summer day. Nobody can refuse a glass of refreshing lemonade.

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19. **Talent Show:** Organize a talent night at your church. Invite all members, young and old, to showcase their skills.
20. **Facebook:** Invite 75 of your friends to like our Facebook Page!
21. **Conserve Water Use:** Many people around the world live on very little clean water a day. See if you can minimize water use including showers, baths, drinking, and laundry. Share your learnings.
22. **Rita Mosquito Curriculum:** Use our Rita Mosquito malaria curriculum for bible study with youth or children to learn about how our innovative program fights malaria.
23. **Alternative Giving:** Instead of birthday, anniversary or holiday gifts, ask your friends and family to make a donation to Episcopal Relief & Development.
24. **Yard Sale:** Host one with everybody in your community. You'd be surprised with how many things you actually don't need.
25. **Eat Cake:** Organize a party during coffee hour at your congregation. Make or buy a special cake for the 75th Anniversary. Add 75 candles. Ask people to make a donation of \$7.50 or \$75 per candle.
26. **Skip Lunch:** Challenge your congregation to skip a lunch, to stand in solidarity with those struggling with hunger and to learn more about our agriculture program during that lunch hour.
27. **Access Our Blog:** Subscribe to our blog to learn about our work and share it with your friends.
28. **Art Night:** Have an art night for children and ask them to draw or create anything that they think represents the number 75. Then hold an art auction for the beautiful pieces of art.
29. **Wedding Gifts:** If you are getting married, think about donating to Episcopal Relief & Development in lieu of wedding gifts.
30. **Mother's Day:** Encourage friends and family to give the gift of life through our Gifts for Life catalogue.
31. **Carnival:** Organize a carnival. This can be simple or grand. Set up games and activities, and ask friends and family to help. Charge a basic entry fee to support our work.
32. **75 for 75 days:** Save a certain amount of money that has the number 75 whether it is \$0.75 or \$7.50 for 75 days. Donate your savings.
33. **Tweet @Episcopalrelief:** Tweet to us what you appreciate about Episcopal Relief & Development. We'd love to hear from you.
34. **Diocesan Party:** Host a special event in your diocese to celebrate the good work we've done as a church for the past 75 years. Include information and a program on our work today and have a big cake for refreshments.
35. **Matching Gifts:** Many companies match the fundraising of their employees, be sure to check!
36. **Display Board:** Create a display for your church or community event. Use the resources in the toolkit to create an engaging display and provide information about our programs between services and during coffee hour.
37. **Book Club:** Start a book club that focuses on social justice related issues and download resources from our site.
38. **Seminar:** Host a public seminar webinar with public health officials, doctors and professors who can help your audience understand the issues our partners face daily. This is an excellent way to reach out to your community.
39. **World Malaria Day (April 25):** Organize an educational event to promote the important work being done to prevent malaria, including the work of *NetsforLife*. Put a up a net in your church or community space. Host an educational forum. Encourage children and youth to discuss in Sunday school using our curriculum.
40. **Invite Friends to Give Monthly:** Becoming a monthly sustainer for Episcopal Relief & Development is a meaningful and important way to support our work.
41. **Share News:** Talk to 75 people about the organization and our life saving work throughout our yearlong celebration.

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42. **Service Auction:** Invite the congregation to auction off a service. It can be something as silly as writing a love poem or something as useful as doing laundry.
43. **Drink Water:** Drink only water for a week. Too often we take for granted our easy access to safe and clean water. Contribute or donate the money you would have spent for coffee or other drinks for our clean water and sanitation work.
44. **Walk-a-Thon or Fun Run:** Host a walk-a-thon or a fun run. Go the distance for 7.5 miles to celebrate 75 years.
45. **BBQ Showdown:** Use the proceeds to benefit our work to alleviate hunger.
46. **Father's Day:** Encourage friends and family to give the gift of life through our Gifts for Life catalogue.
47. **Acts of Kindness:** Do 75 acts of random kindness in honor of the work that we do!
48. Use our hashtag on social media, **#AllHands75**
49. **World Water Day (March 22):** Host a special event in your church or community on this day or any other time to discuss the importance of water worldwide. Post statistics and include prayers during service for those without clean water globally.
50. **Twitter:** Follow us on twitter and share our tweets with others.
51. **Join us on Instagram:** Take pictures of what you or your church is doing for our 75th!
52. **Emails:** Sign up to receive our e-mail updates from Episcopal Relief & Development.
53. **House Party:** Consider hosting a small gathering at your home to share about the work of Episcopal Relief & Development and the 75 years of service.
54. **Pinterest:** Visit our Pinterest page and follow us!
55. **Bowl-A-Thon:** Great for all ages and for church groups. Get pledges to support our work worldwide and raise awareness.
56. **Alternative Gift Market at Christmas:** Host a special market during Christmas inviting your fellow parishioners or community to buy gifts from our Gifts for Life catalogue. Order catalogues and set up a table for a few weeks before Christmas.
57. **Dance Contest:** Invite all members in your parish or community to join in for some funky fun. See who can dance the longest or who has the greatest moves. Donations can be made to Episcopal Relief & Development.
58. **Adult Wine Tasting: Turning Wine into Water:** Host a wine tasting for adults to support clean water work. Charge a small fee. Do offer non-alcoholic options as well. Host a short program to discuss the importance of clean water.
59. **Poster Contest:** Organize a contest with children or youth to draw/ design posters that show healing a hurting world or other aspect of our work that provide hope.
60. **Read-A-Thon:** Host a read-a-thon for children and youth at your parish or community group. Youth can organize this. Collect pledges for the numbers of books read during the time period.
61. **Hope Chest Sunday:** Order a special hope chest from our materials. Encourage children to bring their coins and allowance as part of learning early stewardship for those in need and to provide hope in the world.
62. **Plant a Garden:** Invite members of your congregation including youth and children to plant a garden together. Discuss how food is grown and essential for many around the world. Donate yields to the local food bank.
63. **Meal from Your Garden:** If you have a vegetable garden, host a special communal meal to reconnect to the importance of locally sourced food and why that approach addresses hunger in the communities where we work.
64. **Zumba:** Sponsor an amateur Zumba class 5 times a week for 15 minutes or every Sunday after service totaling 75 minutes. Ask for a suggested donation as admittance.

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65. **Line Dancing:** This is a great community event. Sponsor a line dance marathon last 75 minutes. Charge a small admission for participants. The people who dance the longest win a small prize.
66. **Choir Sing- A-Thon:** Invite your choir to sing their favorite hymns or songs for 75 minutes with proceeds to Episcopal Relief & Development.
67. **Karaoke Fundraiser:** Who doesn't like to sing? Rent a machine and invite all members of your church to sing inspiring songs. Charge an admittance and share information about our work between performers.
68. **Write an Op-Ed:** Share the good work of Episcopal Relief & Development and why you and your parish/ community support our critical work around the world.
69. **Write a Song or Jingle:** In 75 words or less, put pen to paper and write a song or jingle about our mission in healing a hurting world. Make it fun, educational, and intergenerational
70. **Macarena:** Invite 75 people to dance the Macarena and put it on YouTube. Of course, please get the consent of all those involved.
71. **Book Sale:** Ask all your friends, relatives, and teachers to donate their old books. Advertise your book sale by means of posters and flyers. Set up a table and sell books. If there are leftovers, give them to a library, shelter, or school.
72. **Miniature Golf:** Build a nine-hole miniature golf course at your school, featuring ramps, water and sand traps, and other obstacles. Charge people to play a round during lunch.
73. **February 14:** Sell red carnations for Valentine's Day.
74. **Give it up!** Get sponsored to go without something. Give up speaking for a day, computer games for a week, chocolate for a month, or give up magazines for the whole of Lent! Get sponsored or donate to the money you save.
75. **What ideas do you have?** Use your creativity and have fun! Go to our website for materials and resources to engage your congregation and community.