

Possible Process for Discerning How to Distribute Local Benevolence Dollars in 2017

- I. **Determining Process.** Celebration has options for determining how to share our gifts locally.
 - a. Continue with only Resurrección and El Camino. (At least near-consensus to shift to ministries more closely aligned with our mission and locale.)
 - b. Allow the LT to make that decision without input. (Not how we do things of this importance here!)
 - c. Ensure the participation of everyone in this process, not just those most comfortable speaking in public!
 - i. Some introverted folks need time to process information and think about it before giving opinions or making decisions.
 - ii. Divergent views need to be respected
- II. **Develop and adopt a fair process,** and try that for a few years. One ***possible*** process might look like this:
 - a. Start with a review of our Vision and Mission Goals, to ensure that our choices of recipients are an extension of our central values, and not random. What is God calling us to do this year?
 - b. Establish a list of “worthy” recipients, which can be changed annually. Criteria might be:
 1. Non-profit ministry or organization
 2. In keeping with our core values, mission goals
 3. Our gift will help, and is needed
 4. Our gift will not create dependence
 5. At least two members of Celebration care about this ministry/organization
 6. (others?)
 - 7.
 - c. Gather those into separate categories (or not), such as
 1. Homeless
 2. LGBTQ
 3. Advocacy
 4. Care for Creation
 5. Interfaith
 6. Youth and Families
 7. Outdoor/Camping Ministries
 8. Emergency local needs
 9. (others?)
 10. .
 - d. Estimate dollars available for distribution to local benevolence (5% of income)
 - i. Decide whether to give less money to more recipients, or more money to fewer recipients.
 1. Give a percentage (eg. split that 5% between 5 recipients; split between 2-4 recipients)

2. Divide estimated total between more/all nominees
- e. Decide how often recipients are reviewed and rotated.
 1. Where consensus continues to exist, one recipient or category might continue. (eg. Currently have consensus on Homeless and LGBTQ support, so always have one recipient from each of those categories; OR we want to always support Family Promise, but might also choose to support Anacortes Family Center on rotating basis)
 2. If we have 5 recipients, 2 of them carry over, and 3 change annually; decide which ones at Annual Meeting
 3. Each recipient receives 1 (or 2) year of support in rotation, until all organizations on our list have been supported, then recycle the list.
 4. We might keep slot #5 as an annual Emergency Fund for Local Need, while the other 4 slots rotate.
 - a. LT and pastor authorized to designate recipients of Emergency Fund.
- f. Voting
 - i. Members and friends vote from the list for this year's categories.
 - ii. Then members and friends vote for their favorite within each category
 - iii. Voting might take place..
 1. At the December Budget meeting we vote on our categories for next year's local benevolence.
 2. At the January Annual Meeting we vote on this year's recipient within each category.
- III. Disbursement. Local Benevolence dollars are set aside (off the top) monthly in a holding account, and disbursed to recipients quarterly.
 - a. If a member's favorite ministry did make the "worthy" list, but did NOT make this year's cut as a recipient, and they still want to make a gift to it through Celebration, they may. That gift would be considered an "offering" in addition to our "tithes", and would be disbursed separately.