

Our mission is “to reach North America and the world with the distinctive, Christ-centered Seventh-day Adventist message of hope and wholeness.” In 2027, the North American Division is highlighting the love of Jesus through the “All Things New” approach, inviting us to *Pray Like Jesus, Serve Like Jesus, Share Jesus, and Follow Jesus* (www.nadadventist.org/allthingsnew). Jesus declared, “And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself” (John 12:32, NKJV). We are also reminded that “more people than we think are longing to find the way to Christ” (*Gospel Workers*, p. 158). In harmony with the NAD and the World Church’s 2027 focus on sharing Jesus with the world, these offertory readings are designed to lift up Jesus and help members see stewardship as a Christ-centered way of life.

Stewardship Ministries is dedicated to helping members catch this vision. Stewardship is far more than money; it is the faithful management of the whole life God has entrusted to us. Through the 7Ts of stewardship, we recognize that God calls us to honor Him with our time, temple, talents, treasure, trust, theology, and testimony. While stewardship embraces all of life, these readings will focus especially on the fourth T—Treasure—within the larger truth that giving is not merely a financial act, but a spiritual response to the goodness, ownership, and faithfulness of God.

Running through these offertory readings is the theme “God Will Provide.” This theme reminds us that before God asks us to give, He first reveals Himself as Provider. When we return tithe, we acknowledge that God owns everything. When we give offerings, we express gratitude for what He has done and trust in what He will continue to do. God loves a cheerful giver, and He has chosen this sacred method to support those who preach the gospel as they reach the world with His message of hope and wholeness. In every reading, the authors’ desire is joined with ours to point hearts to Jesus—the One who provides, saves, restores, and makes all things new.

An extensive selection of videos (Video Library) emphasizing numerous stewardship topics are located on our website at www.nadstewardship.org/videos. Note particularly the “I am a

Steward” series. Freely include and/or use them to replace the live offering appeals as needed or desired. They are between a-minute-and-a-half to three minutes in length. Mixed in with them are various tutorials to aid in stewardship education. Then, we’re excited to introduce a series of short, four-minute videos titled “*Taste and See*” which are available in both English and Spanish. <https://www.nadstewardship.org/tithes-offerings/offering-call-videos/>.

Faithful stewardship is a matter of the heart. We don’t give to receive love and blessings from God. We give because:

- We have already received God’s love and blessings.
- Our hearts and lives are full of the joy of the Lord.
- We desire to live out God’s character of abundant generosity—especially as exhibited through the giving of the ultimate gift: the life of His Son.

Giving is a natural response for recipients of God’s goodness.

God’s blessings to you as you help others experience the joy of faithful generosity and wholistic stewardship.

Michael Anthony Harpe



Director

Stewardship Ministries

North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists

Stewardship Directors

Marcos Bomfim, General Conference

Michael Harpe, North American Division

Tom Murray, Atlantic Union

Paul Musafili, Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada

Emmanuel Asiedu, Columbia Union

Vacant, Lake Union

Roy Simpson, Mid-America Union

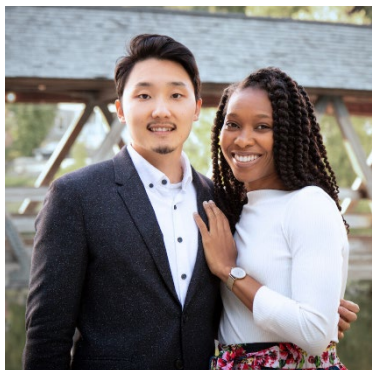
Jeff Fogelquist, North Pacific Union

Stephen Mayer, Pacific Union

David Long, Southern Union

Helvis Moody, Southwestern Union

Marcey Lachance, Guam-Micronesia Mission



Stephen and Felecia Lee are a ministry couple helping young people follow Jesus wholeheartedly.

Stephen is a mission-minded entrepreneur who strengthens Gospel work through leadership, organization, and partnership.

Felecia is a homemaker, founder of the New Wives Club, and director of Women's Ministries who equips women to grow in faith through practical, Christ-centered discipleship.

Together, they speak and create content that builds healthy relationships, strengthens communication, and calls this generation to live with God-focused purpose.

About the Readings

This material can be translated, printed, or photocopied by Seventh-day Adventist entities without securing further permission. Republished documents should include the following credit line: North American Division Stewardship Ministries.

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture is from the New International Version (NIV) Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Primary Authors: Stephen and Felecia Lee

Editors: Michael Harpe, Rudy Salazar, & Lisa Rasmussen

North American Division Stewardship Ministries © 2027

About My Personal Giving Plan

The North American Division encourages the use of the “My Personal Giving Plan.” This plan was developed as a guideline to assist members in systematic giving. The plan suggests that, in addition to returning 10 percent of a member’s personal income as tithe, certain percentages may be dedicated as offerings to three main categories:

- Local Church Budget: 3–5 percent
- Conference Advance: 1–2 percent
(education, evangelism, VBS, summer camps, and Union magazines)
- World Budget: 1–3 percent

Visit <https://www.personalgivingplan.com> to see a more extensive breakdown for each category.

The My Personal Giving Plan encourages each of us to renew our commitment to the principles of Christian stewardship. While it blesses the church as a whole, its real impact is on us as individuals in our faith-based covenant with God.

Everything in God’s creation is orderly and purposeful. The same can be said of the My Personal Giving Plan. Like all plans, it requires thought and consideration. No great work can be built upon emotional or sporadic giving.

Calendar of Offerings – NAD 2027

Special Offerings

January 9	Religious Liberty (NAD)
February 13	Adventist Television Ministries Evangelism (NAD)
March 13	Adventist World Radio (GC)
April 10	Hope Channel International, Inc. (GC)
May 8	Disaster and Famine Relief (GC and NAD)
June 12	Women's Ministries (NAD)
July 10	World Budget (GC)
August 14	Christian Record Services (NAD)
September 11	World Budget (Emphasis: Radio Ministries) (GC)
November 13	Annual Sacrifice for Global Mission (GC)
December 11	Adventist Community Services (NAD)

Thirteenth-Sabbath Offerings for 2027

First Quarter:	West-Central Africa Division (WAD)
Second Quarter:	Southern Asia Division (SUD)
Third Quarter:	Euro-Asia Division (ESD)
Fourth Quarter:	Inter-America Division (IAD)

Summary of Offerings

Local Church Budget	27
Conference Advance	12
Union Designated	2
NAD	5
World Budget	6

Where Do My Offerings Go?

Local Church Budget

Perhaps the most obvious need addressed in the My Personal Giving Plan is the local church. Like every family, the local church family has financial obligations. Some are easy to see, like utilities and heat, but many are not as obvious: children's magazines, Sabbath School Bible study guides, teaching supplies, staff salaries, cleaning services, church school operating expenses, property insurance, worthy student fund, and community outreach. These are but a few of the costs that must be met month after month as the local church seeks to be a light in the community. Because these expenses are constant, My Personal Giving Plan recommends setting aside 3 to 5 percent of one's income for the local church budget. This systematic giving ensures that all share in both the blessings and the responsibilities of the local congregation.

13th Sabbath Offering

You've heard how everyone in an Amish community comes together for a barn raising. Well, Seventh-day Adventists also have projects where we all pitch in to accomplish a goal. That is the purpose of the 13th Sabbath offering. Every 13th Sabbath, the church focuses on one of its world Divisions to accomplish a mission goal. The offering often goes toward building facilities for education, evangelism, or media outreach. The 13th Sabbath offerings have been used to establish schools such as Central Philippine Adventist College. A recent offering made a youth camp possible in Belize. All the church members around the world join hands in these projects through sacrificial giving. In 1913, the 13th Sabbath overflow amounted to \$474. Now, it exceeds a quarter of a million dollars. We call it an overflow offering—it encourages extra giving beyond the usual mission offering. In practice, 25 percent of the 13th Sabbath offering is considered overflow. The rest is more broadly distributed to continue mission work around the globe. A 13th Sabbath offering can be given at

any time by marking it on your tithe envelope. Want to be part of something big? You'll be part of a worldwide community expanding Adventist mission work when you give to the 13th Sabbath offering. Remember: Our giving funds the mission to finish the work.

Birthday Thank Offering

On your birthday, you usually get a present. However, in church, many people give a gift on their special day. It is called a Birthday Thank Offering. Have you ever given someone a thank-you gift? Maybe they watched your cat for a weekend or sang a song at your wedding, and you just wanted to show how grateful you felt. Well, church members sometimes offer a gift of pure gratitude to God. It might be on the occasion of a birthday, thanking God for the blessings of the past year. Or maybe thanking Him for a particular blessing, such as a promotion at work. Or a new grandbaby. They mark it on their tithe envelope as a Birthday Thank Offering.

So, what happens to the Birthday Thank Offering? This gift is directed to church Divisions outside North America to do mission work. Much of it is used in evangelistic activities, but some also goes to clinics, hospitals, and educational institutions. A portion of your gift supports the General Conference mission program, helping place missionaries in new fields and advance the Adventist message. Thus, your gift of gratitude goes to missionaries and church institutions around the world who, in turn, will accept it with gratitude. It shows that being thankful can be contagious, doesn't it?

Conference Advance

Your local Conference is a sisterhood of local churches that helps each congregation within its boundaries accomplish important objectives beyond the reach of any one church alone. A Conference Advance offering addresses these specific needs as well as a variety of special projects. Some conferences use other names to describe this offering. One of the largest portions goes to

fund Christian education. Another substantial part of the Conference Advance offering is set aside for evangelism in the local community. It is also used to finance programs and advertising that most local churches cannot shoulder alone. Child evangelism, inner-city evangelism, Vacation Bible School, summer camps, and youth evangelism are also areas supported by the Conference Advance offering. Another benefit of the Conference Advance offering is the popular Union papers and magazines that are shipped free of charge to church members. These informative publications help unite believers across a large area and foster a sense of community. All of these educational and life-changing programs are possible because individual members choose to contribute a suggested amount of 1 to 2 percent of their income to Conference Advance.

Mission Investment Offering

The Mission Investment Offering is a partnership between you and God. You pick a project and dedicate the income to the Mission Investment Offering.

Here's an example involving chickens! When Kelly Rose Bishop was a teenager, she decided to commit 10 percent of her egg business to investment. She sold eggs to regular customers and to people who just stopped by her house. After two months, she noticed her sales had increased by 50 percent. That's how the partnership worked. She promised to give 10 percent of her income (that was her part). She believes that God blessed her little business because the 10 percent grew due to a new, larger income. That was God's part.

There are many ways to enter into partnership with God. For example, you might dedicate the money you save using coupons at the grocery store, or you can dedicate the money you save by skipping dessert when eating out. One person picked up aluminum cans that she found on her morning run and gave the proceeds to investment. Every dollar you raise goes to advance Adventist

missions overseas. Come up with your mission investment idea today.

Sabbath School Mission Offering

When the Sabbath School Mission Offering envelope comes around, it is easy to slip in a dollar or two. But when you find out where it goes, you might want to give more!

The mission offering travels to church Divisions outside North America, where the needs are great. Much of it is used in evangelistic activities, but some funds also aid clinics, hospitals, and educational institutions. Adventist World Radio receives support from this offering, and a portion of your gift helps administer the General Conference's mission program, which trains and sends missionaries into new fields to advance the Adventist message. The offering that you give in your Sabbath School room literally goes a long way as it aids mission work around the globe.

World Budget Offering

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a worldwide church, and the world budget is our contribution to this global mission.

From the earliest days of the Adventist Church, men and women have responded to Christ's Great Commission by looking beyond their own shores. Today, Seventh-day Adventists make up one of the fastest growing Christian churches in the world, with more than 3,000 people being baptized every day! In more than 200 countries and 600+ languages, the message of Jesus's soon return can be heard.

Historically, it has been the privilege and duty of materially blessed members in developed nations to plant seeds of growth in poorer regions of the world. New evangelistic strategies that address ever-changing global realities are constantly being developed, and our offerings give life to these new programs.

My Personal Giving Plan recommends that 1 to 3 percent of our income be set aside for this global outreach. Working together, we can make sure the Adventist message continues to grow worldwide.

Special Projects Offerings

These offerings include ministries such as Women's Ministries and Christian Record Services. My Personal Giving Plan doesn't recommend a specific percentage for these since the need and scope will vary from project to project. For example, these offerings support undertaking local church building initiatives or a mission trip. The special projects also include requests for help from denominational entities such as ADRA and Adventist World Radio, as well as other Adventist supporting ministries that you may wish to assist.

2027 North American Division Sabbath School Mission Investment Projects

ATLANTIC UNION

The first Franco-Haitian Church in the New York Conference is working to build a church building of its own where they can express their faith in their native tongue and culture. The new facility will provide a dedicated hub for youth programs.

CANADIAN UNION

Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan, needs a church planter to cultivate expressed interest in the area. An informal Adventist group has met in the area for 13 years and ministers to the community as they are able, but a dedicated worker is needed to follow up on interests and plant an official church.

SOUTHWESTERN UNION

Zomi Seventh-day Adventist Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma, is seeking support to establish a new mission and community outreach center serving the growing Zomi immigrant and refugee population from Burma (Myanmar) as well as our surrounding English-speaking community. Tulsa is home to an estimated 10,000–15,000 Zomi people, while the Seventh-day Adventist presence within this population remains very small.

Greetings, Presenter or Facilitator,

Thank you for your willingness to share the offering appeals with your local congregation. It is a wonderful and gratifying responsibility. How you present these readings will determine how effective they are. Here are some suggestions to consider before you share:

Pray: Pray for the power of the Holy Spirit. Pray that God will use your words to speak to the hearts in the congregation.

Practice: Read over the appeal at least three times to familiarize yourself with it. Read slowly and clearly. Underline or highlight key words to emphasize during the reading. Strive to share these readings with excellence.

Prepare: Sometimes materials for special days are sent to your local church to distribute or present along with the appeal. Determine how they can be used most effectively.

Personalize: If you have a personal experience that you think will strengthen the appeal, please share it. People connect with others through stories. (*What comes from the heart goes to the heart.*)

Present with Passion: A presentation can have all the above elements, but without passion, it may not stir the hearts of the hearers. Ask God to fill your heart with His Spirit so that you can present the appeal with spirit and truth.

May God richly bless you and speak through you as we take this journey together in 2027.

January 2, 2027

Local Church Budget

Seven years ago, at GYC, the annual Adventist convention for young people, a young woman named Felecia stood in a lunch line when the food ran out. Ready to leave and buy something elsewhere, she was encouraged by a stranger to wait. Though hesitant, she stayed. After some time, another young man, Stephen, joined the line. They began talking, shared a meal when the food finally arrived, and ten months later they were married. Looking back, Felecia realized how much she would have missed if she had not chosen to wait.

As we begin this new year, many of us are waiting—for answers to prayers, for direction, for God to move in our lives. A new year brings new hopes, new plans, and new opportunities to trust Him more deeply.

But waiting is not passive—it is an act of faith. The Bible reminds us, “They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength” (Isaiah 40:31). And one of the most practical ways we demonstrate that faith is through our giving.

At the start of a new year, giving becomes a declaration: “God, I am placing You first.” When we return our tithe and give our offerings, we are not just supporting the church—we are committing our entire year into God’s hands. We are trusting Him with our income, our plans, and our future.

Prayer:

Dear God, we place our future in your hands. We pray that you will teach us to wait upon you. In Jesus name.

January 9, 2027

Religious Liberty

Did you know that government restrictions on religious liberty are rising worldwide? Today, more than 30 percent of the world's population lives in countries—from China to Russia to Islamic-majority nations such as Pakistan and Iran—where there are strict limits on religious speech and assembly.

Here in North America, we can gather freely each Sabbath to worship. We can share our faith with others without restrictions and without fear of reprisals. But these are privileges we should never take for granted.

As Adventists, we've become known around the world as people who stand for the God-given principle of religious freedom for everyone, regardless of who they are or what they believe. *Liberty* magazine, which celebrated its 120th anniversary last year, is the oldest religious liberty journal in the world today and it is still reaching thought leaders and lawmakers across the North American Division. And today, in courtrooms and legislatures, the Adventist Church continues to use its voice to support individual conscience and religious liberty.

Your prayers and support for this ministry are needed now, more than ever. Even here, in the land of liberty, there are increasing pressures on religious freedom, and we know that this pressure will only keep growing. Give generously today as, together, we faithfully hold high the banner of truth and religious liberty in these last days.

January 16, 2027

Local Church Budget

Matthew 6:31-32 says, “So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’”

We all struggle with things in our lives that we worry about. Whether you’ve been in church for 20 years or 20 days, sooner or later you’re reminded of the biblical admonition not to worry about your daily necessities.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gave several reasons why we shouldn’t worry. First, our Heavenly Father already knows what we need. When we truly believe that He knows our situation and we keep in mind that He cares and He is able, we realize that worry is pointless. Second, striving after life’s basic necessities from a place of constant worry and anxiety is what pagans do. Unlike those who do not know the love of a Heavenly Father, believers know they have a loving God they can trust.

To worry is like worshipping at an altar set up in honor of your trouble. It is a temptation from the enemy to make you believe that, even though God knows your needs, maybe He won’t provide. The act of worship through giving is one way that God puts to death worry in the believer’s life, as it teaches us to trust in Him. Giving reminds us that God is sovereign and owns everything. We no longer have to live as though our Lord is still in the tomb and not on the throne.

As you choose to give your tithes and offering today, know that God is able to help you overcome worry and anxiety.

January 23, 2027

Conference Advance

After the miraculous feeding of the 5,000, Jesus instructed his disciples, “Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost” (John 6:12, NKJV).

When you reflect on this past week, how many fragments of your life have been lost? There are fragments of time, like standing in line at the store, stopping at a red light, waiting for water to boil on the stove, or the last three minutes before your shift is done. There are fragments of energy, such as the last bit of strength you have at the end of a long day of work, when you just want to collapse on the couch and watch Netflix.

Jesus wants all of your life, including the fragments we so easily throw away because we think they are insignificant. The wisdom of a steward is seen not in how they spend most of the Master’s resources, but in what they do with the pennies. Which parts of your life do you regard as insignificant in the grand scheme of your day? It may seem as though waiting two minutes for bread to toast is insignificant, so we scroll on our phones while we wait. But consider how your life could drastically change if you began to see that even those two minutes could be dedicated to the Lord? Spending \$5 on your favorite snack every week may seem like nothing, but add it all up, and that \$20 could sponsor a child for a month. An hour watching your favorite show every evening could be turned into an hour of prayer for revival in your home. And 10 minutes on social media could be given to your spouse to deepen your marriage.

As you give today, prayerfully consider giving the fragments of your time, energy, and resources to the Lord by supporting the initiatives in your conference.

January 30, 2027

Local Church Budget

Philippians 4:12 says, “I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.”

Are you content? Many times, we assume that contentment is simply being satisfied with what we have. But true contentment is even deeper. It is being completely satisfied in Jesus Christ, despite what you have or do not have.

When Paul says he is content whether he is well-fed or hungry, it means he can delight in both circumstances. The original word for “learned the secret” conveys the idea of “shutting the eyes and mouth to *experience* and be *initiated into* the wonderful ‘mystery’ of learning to *be content in Christ* in every scene of life—*no exceptions*.” ([BibleHub.com](https://www.biblehub.com))

Contentment is not something to be found, but something to be learned. To *find* conveys the idea of a one-time discovery, whereas to *learn* is connected to the idea of process and progress. This kind of contentment is not something anyone can learn by sheer exercise of the mind and willpower. It is a heaven-revealed secret. The secret to being content that Paul discovered was Jesus Christ. Contentment is not just learning to be satisfied when you do not get what you desire. It is learning to be satisfied with what God desires for you.

Giving that honors God flows from a heart that is content in Him. As you give, take the next few moments to prayerfully ask the Lord to teach you the secret of being content.

February 6, 2027

Local Church Budget

We love the image of Jesus searching for the lost lamb. It comforts us because we see ourselves as that lamb—helpless, innocent, simply in need of rescue. But the reality is deeper than that.

The sheep in the story is not always gentle or innocent. It is often stubborn, wandering by choice, resisting the very Shepherd who comes to save it. And yet, the Shepherd still goes. He pursues. He gives of Himself—at great cost—to bring the sheep back. That is the kind of love God has shown to us.

The Lord did not give because we were deserving. He gave because He is love. He gave His most precious Gift—Jesus Christ—so that we could be restored, forgiven, and brought back into His fold.

And that love becomes the model for our giving. Too often, we give when it is convenient, when it feels safe, or when we believe the cause is worthy enough. But biblical stewardship calls us higher. It calls us to give as God gives—sacrificially, faithfully, and generously—even when it stretches us.

Our offerings to the Local Church Budget make real ministry possible—supporting the work of the church, reaching people who may feel far from God, and extending the same grace we have received.

Let your offering be a response to that love—a willing, generous act that reflects the heart of the Shepherd.

February 13, 2027

NAD Television Ministries

In a world filled with screens, it's easy to miss the quiet ways God still speaks. A young girl named Andra struggled to connect—new language, new environment, and growing discouragement. But everything changed when she discovered an Adventist media program. As she listened, not only did her understanding grow—*her faith grew too*. What began as simple listening became a life anchored in Christ.

Today, countless people—children, teens, and adults—are just like Andra. They are searching, listening, wondering is God near? Through media ministries like Voice of Prophecy, It Is Written, Jesus 101, La Voz de la Esperanza, Breath of Life, and Faith for Today, the gospel is reaching them right where they are.

Scripture reminds us, “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17, NKJV). These ministries are planting seeds of faith through voices, stories, and truth-filled messages that cut through the noise of everyday life.

Every broadcast, every program, every message is an opportunity for someone to hear God's voice—perhaps for the very first time.

This morning, your offering helps plant those seeds. It helps someone hear hope instead of despair, truth instead of confusion, and Jesus instead of silence.

As we give today, we are not just supporting media—we are participating in mission. We are helping hearts grow, just like Andra's.

Will you help plant more seeds for God's kingdom today?

February 20, 2027

Local Church Budget

Did you know that humans are the only mammals that can delay sleep? Most of us need more rest, yet for many reasons we put it off. We stay up later to watch another episode, continue a conversation, or finish a task. We wake up earlier for work or to catch a flight.

But how easy is it for you to give up 15 minutes of sleep to spend time with Jesus? It is easy to believe that in moments of crisis or persecution we would give everything for Christ. Peter once said he was ready to die for Jesus—but he struggled simply to stay awake and pray. The reality is this: giving our lives for Christ tomorrow begins with surrendering the small comforts of today. And this principle extends to every area of our lives—including our finances.

Giving is, at its core, an act of surrender. It is choosing to trust God not only with our time and habits, but also with the resources He has placed in our hands. Sometimes the challenge is not in making a large sacrifice, but in letting go of what feels small yet personal—what we might otherwise spend on ourselves.

So today, ask the Holy Spirit: what do you want me to give up? A small comfort? A personal expense? Something I've been holding onto?

Remember, your offering is more than a transaction—it is an expression of trust, gratitude, and commitment. And the same God who calls you to give is faithful to supply all your needs.

February 27, 2027

Local Conference Advance

In the days of the judges, God's people drifted further into sin. Even the priests—those entrusted with spiritual leadership—were corrupt. The sons of Eli abused their roles through greed, taking what belonged to God, and living immoral lives. Tragically, Eli honored his sons more than he honored the Lord.

Yet, despite this broken system, Elkanah remained faithful. Year after year, he went to Shiloh to worship and to give his offering to God. And when Hannah received the son she had prayed for, she did something remarkable—she gave him back to the Lord, entrusting him to serve in the very place where corruption existed. From a human perspective, it would have been easy to stop giving. It would have been understandable to withhold their offerings or walk away altogether. But Elkanah and Hannah did not base their faithfulness on the failures of people—they based it on God's faithfulness.

And that is the lesson for us today. Our giving is not ultimately about people—it is about God. It is an act of trust. It is a declaration that, regardless of what we see around us, we believe God is still at work, still worthy, and still in control. There may be things that trouble or discourage us. But faithful giving says, “God, I trust You anyway.”

As you return your tithe and offerings today, let it be an expression of your confidence in God—not in human systems, but in His unchanging character. He sees your faithfulness, and He will honor it.

March 6, 2027

Local Church Budget

Many times, we think that if we could see God act on our behalf, our faith would be secure. But the Bible shows, again and again, that this is not the case.

The Israelites saw God's miracles repeatedly, yet when difficulty arose, they returned to their natural state of unbelief. Jesus resurrected Jairus' daughter and the widow's son at Nain. Still, when Lazarus died, the people wept as though they did not trust Christ's power to raise the dead.

Many of us here today are questioning whether God will come through again, even though He has sustained us up to this point. The only thing that gives rise to unshakeable faith is the Word of God. Before we see anything, we must choose to believe God's Word. If we wait to see before we believe, we indulge in a deceptive kind of faith. It makes us think we trust God when, in reality, we doubt Him. To doubt God's power is to believe that what the enemy says about His character might be true.

Let us step into the Jordan River before it parts. When we return our tithe and give our offerings, we are, in a sense, stepping into the Jordan—trusting that God will provide, sustain, and make a way.

Our offerings to the Local Church Budget support the ongoing mission of this church, allowing ministry to move forward even when the future is uncertain.

March 13, 2027

Adventist World Radio

The Witch Doctor's Story:

Alphonse was a powerful witch doctor deep in the hills of southwestern Uganda. He earned significant money from the occult services he provided using demonic sorcery. At 68 years old, after years of witchcraft and physical neglect, Alphonse appeared to those who knew him as beyond redemption. But God, who sees through the outward appearance, saw the longing in Alphonse's heart. One night, he had a dream. He saw a man dressed in white appear before him. The shining figure directed him to a specific tree and instructed him to eat of the fruit. Without hesitation, and still in his dream, Alphonse obeyed, and as he did, he felt a huge weight lift and knew he was set free. When he awoke, Alphonse understood the meaning of the dream: He needed to abandon all witchcraft.

Then Alphonse learned that the Adventist Church had a radio station that covered his area of Uganda. It was our *AWR Messenger 104.2 FM* station, which our engineers had personally installed in 2021. He began leaving his radio tuned to our station, and as he listened, he was convicted by the clear gospel truths that pierced his heart. Today, Alphonse is a baptized member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, influenced by AWR.

We invite you to help AWR's radio broadcasts reach hearts in closed countries and diverse communities. Your support will share Jesus' love in native languages and dialects, making it possible for people to receive solar-powered Godpods and bring peace, hope, and spiritual nourishment to those in remote and troubled areas.

March 20, 2027

Local Church Budget

What does it mean when the Bible says, “Where sin abounds, grace much more abounds”? Imagine this: you fall into a deep hole. Rescuers arrive and lower a rope so they can pull you out. But the sides are slippery, and you keep sliding deeper. So they let down more rope—again and again. The deeper the hole, the more rope they provide.

Why do they keep lowering the rope? Is it to leave you there? No—it is to lift you out.

Grace is like that rope. No matter how far we fall, God continues to reach down to us. His grace is not permission to remain in the hole, but power to rise. It is His strength, mercy, and provision—everything we need to live a new life in Jesus Christ.

Perhaps today, someone here feels stuck in a financial hole. Maybe managing resources has been difficult, or making ends meet feels overwhelming. But God’s grace extends even into our finances. He invites us to trust Him, to place Him first, and to believe that He will provide what we need.

Faith is not always easy, especially when resources feel limited. Yet this is exactly when trust matters most.

Today, as we return our tithe and give our offerings, let us take hold of that rope of grace. Let us respond in faith, believing that God will lift us and guide us.

Prayer: Dear God, help us to trust You fully, even in our finances. Bless these tithes and offerings today.

March 27, 2027

Local Conference Advance

The crucifixion of Jesus Christ was both the worst and the best event in human history. It revealed the depth of Satan's hatred and, at the same time, the immeasurable love of God. Some believe it was merely the physical pain of the cross that caused Jesus to sweat great drops of blood. Yet many others were crucified before and after Him, and none experienced the same agony.

What weighed upon Jesus was not only the burden of sin, but the consequence of sin—the righteous judgment of God. This suffering went far beyond the lashes, the crown of thorns, or the nails driven into His hands and feet. It was deeper than the surrounding darkness and the presence of evil forces.

At its core, it was the separation from His Father—the withdrawal of God's comforting presence. For the first time, Jesus experienced what it meant to be forsaken. Having been one with the Father for all eternity, even a moment of separation brought indescribable anguish. The weight of that separation was overwhelming.

When we begin to grasp the cost of our redemption, it changes how we respond. We are moved to love, to surrender, and to give.

What we return to God today can never compare to what Christ has given for us. Yet He is pleased when we give wholeheartedly, in gratitude for His sacrifice.

April 3, 2027

Local Church Budget

Luke 3:1-2 says, "In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene— during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John..."

Before mentioning John, seven men are listed. Seven men with position, power, prestige, and palaces. Yet, of all the men listed, the word of God was revealed to a rugged prophet living in the wilderness, dressed in camel hide and eating locusts and honey.

James 2 reminds us not to judge by outward appearance—not to give special honor to those who are well dressed while overlooking others.

This speaks directly to us today. It is easy—even in the church—to measure value by appearance, status, or even financial ability. We may be tempted to think that what matters most is how much someone has or how much they can give. But God does not evaluate as we do—He looks at the heart.

And that includes how we give. Giving is not about impressing others or comparing amounts. It is not about position, income, or recognition. True giving is about a heart that is surrendered to God—whether the gift is large or small.

Jesus Himself, in the story of the widow giving the two mites, reminded us that a simple offering, given with sincerity, can mean more than great wealth given without devotion.

April 10, 2027

Hope Channel International

Hope Channel International is bringing the message of Jesus to every corner of the globe through 900+ television stations, digital evangelism, mobile platforms, and Bible study tools in more than 100 languages.

Jennifer, a single mother living in Melbourne, Australia, was looking for truth. It was just another day scrolling through YouTube until an animated film caught her eye. Her daughter, Isabella, fresh out of high school, leaned in beside her, curious.

The video was *The Great Controversy*, a vivid, thought-provoking depiction of the cosmic conflict between good and evil, posted on Hope Channel's YouTube channel. Watching this video and a comment they left, "We want to get baptized," became the start of a life-changing journey. Someone from Hope Channel International saw the comment and reached out to offer Bible studies.

However, even before the studies began, the Holy Spirit had already been at work. Reflecting on her journey, Jennifer said, "I would pray to God, and I would cry to God. I'd say, 'God, I love You. I want to learn about You—but where do I start?' He directed me to a website that would speak to me on a very intimate, individual basis."

On May 10, 2025, Jennifer and Isabella were baptized and are now active members of the West Point Seventh-day Adventist Church in Sydenham, Australia.

Today, your generosity creates space for miracles, broadcasts hope into homes, and helps people discover Jesus, many for the first time.

April 17, 2027

Local Church Budget

No matter how hard you crush a rose, it will never produce a foul odor—only a sweet fragrance. Its very nature causes it to release perfume. Squeeze a honeycomb, and you will not find poison, only rich, golden honey. Why? Because its nature produces what is sweet. But press a lemon, and you will only get something sour. It can never give the sweetness of a mango or a cantaloupe because its nature determines its outcome.

When Jesus was pressed, beaten, and crucified, not a trace of bitterness came forth—only love, mercy, and forgiveness. Even on the cross, He said, “Father, forgive them.” His nature was, and is, perfectly good.

So, the question for us today is: when we are squeezed, what comes out? Whatever fills our hearts will flow out in moments of pressure. Amy Carmichael wrote, “A cup brimful of sweetness cannot spill even one drop of bitter water, no matter how suddenly it is jarred.”

And when we are squeezed financially, what comes out? Fear, hesitation—or trust in God?

The good news is found in 2 Corinthians 5:17, “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.” Christ gives us a new heart, a new nature.

Today, as we give, let our offerings reflect that new nature. Give generously, give sacrificially, and give in faith—because what comes out reveals who we trust.

April 24, 2027

Local Conference Advance

Perhaps you know a single woman who longs for marriage but feels discouraged because she believes “there are no good men left in the church.” Maybe that woman is your daughter, sister, or friend. Perhaps that woman is you. There are also single men who feel unseen, believing they are overlooked or only considered friends. Maybe you’re that man, quietly wondering if God still has someone for you.

In 1 Kings 19, we find Elijah in a similar place of discouragement. He believed he was the only remaining faithful prophet. From his perspective, everyone else had fallen away. But God gently reminded him that he was not alone—there were still 7,000 who had remained faithful. Even when Elijah could not see them, God was still at work.

Sometimes, we view life through the lens of scarcity. We feel there isn’t enough—whether it’s relationships, opportunities, or even finances. We look at our resources and wonder how we will make it, how we will provide, how things will work out.

But God calls us to see differently—to live by faith, not fear. Just as He had already provided faithful believers in Elijah’s time, He continues to provide for our needs today.

As we give our tithes and offerings, we are choosing to trust God beyond what we can see. We are declaring that He is our Provider. Today, let us give in faith, believing that God’s supply is always greater than our scarcity.

May 1, 2027

Local Church Budget

In Matthew 4, Satan took Jesus to the top of the temple to tempt Him. We often imagine that temptation happens in dark or obviously sinful places—somewhere Christians would avoid. But Scripture reminds us that the enemy does not always work in obvious ways.

When Satan seeks to deceive God's people, he often chooses subtle paths. He may not lead you to a casino or a wild party. Instead, he may meet you in familiar, comfortable places—even at church—where your guard is down. There, temptation may come in quieter forms: a critical spirit toward leaders, gossip about others, or selfish attitudes.

He may not tempt you with major crimes, but with something far more subtle like placing your own needs above God. In our finances, this can look like prioritizing ourselves first and giving to God only if there is something left over. Yet this quiet shift reveals where our trust truly lies.

While the church is a place of worship and fellowship, we must remain spiritually alert. God calls us to be watchful in our thoughts, attitudes, and actions—and that includes how we manage what He has entrusted to us.

Today, as we return our tithe and give our offerings, let this be more than a routine. Let it be a moment of surrender. Choose faith over fear, trust over self-reliance. In Christ, we have victory. Let us give with hearts fully committed to Him.

May 8, 2027

Disaster and Famine Relief

Adventist Community Services (ACS) continues to stand with communities in times of disaster—even when those disasters impact us directly. During some of the most devastating fires in California, our churches opened shelters for those who lost their homes, established distribution centers for essential supplies, and provided emotional and spiritual care to individuals facing unimaginable loss.

At the same time, some of our own churches were forced to close for months due to smoke and fire conditions that made gathering unsafe. Many of our members were personally affected and displaced. Yet even in the midst of these challenges, ACS continued serving in those very same communities—meeting urgent needs with compassion, resilience, and faith.

Following Hurricane Helene in North Carolina, ACS established a state warehouse that operated for more than nine months, distributing essential goods to thousands of individuals and families in crisis.

This is the work ACS carries out year-round. From California to Tennessee to New York, we live out Christ's calling to serve those in need, demonstrating His love to all, regardless of race, gender, or economic status. As Scripture reminds us, "Whatever you did for one of the least of these...you did for me" (Matthew 25:40).

We invite you to partner with us. Your support helps us bring hope, help, and the love of Jesus to those who need it most.

May 15, 2027

Local Church Budget

In Scripture, we often see a surprising pattern. In Genesis 20, Abraham prayed for Abimelech's barren wife and maidservants, and they conceived; yet Sarah waited years for her own child. Joseph and Daniel could interpret the dreams of kings, yet they could not interpret their own dreams. Elisha was able to raise the dead, yet he could not prevent his own death.

Why would God allow this? Sometimes, He withholds from us that which we are able to provide for others so that we never confuse the source of the blessing. It reminds us that we are not the providers—God is.

Many of us carry quiet burdens. We pray for healing, for family restoration, or for financial breakthrough. We may help others, give counsel, and serve faithfully, yet still struggle in our own lives—especially in our finances. It can feel discouraging when we are faithful, yet our situation does not change immediately. But here is the twist: giving is not just something we do after the breakthrough—it is part of the breakthrough. When we give in faith, especially in seasons of uncertainty, we are declaring that God is still our Provider.

We are choosing to trust Him, not our circumstances.

Today, as you return tithe and give your offering, let this be your statement of faith: “God, You define my situation. My trust is not in what I have, but in who You are.”

And that kind of faith changes everything.

May 22, 2027

Local Conference Advance

When I (the author) lived in France, I loved to see people walking from the bakery every morning with freshly baked, delicious baguettes! But if the bread is so good, why do most people buy it for just one day? My guess is that the French have no doubt that their little bakery will be open the next day. They know the town's faithful baker will be busy at the oven, ready to supply their need for freshly baked bread.

Now, if they can trust the baker to be there tomorrow, why can't we trust that Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, will supply our needs tomorrow? Shouldn't this faith cause us to rest secure that we have enough for today? Do you need strength for the trial you're walking through? He gives you strength for today. Do you need provision? He gives what you need for today. Charles Spurgeon wrote, "A traveler needs only one staff. A bundle of staves quickly becomes a burden." More than what we need can become too heavy.

Seek the face of Jesus every day. Trust Him to supply enough strength, grace, and victory for today. Don't try to stock up on grace, fearing there won't be enough for tomorrow. Remember, even angels' food left for the next day breeds worms and stinks. Lamentations 3:23 reminds us that God renews His mercies every morning.

Let your giving today be an act of faith that you believe in God's ability to provide for today and tomorrow.

May 29, 2027

Local Church Budget

At some point in our lives, we all face situations where we fall short of what we need. A weary mother is awake at 2 a.m. with a crying baby and lacks the strength to keep going. A husband looks at his frail wife in a hospital bed and sighs deeply, knowing there isn't enough money for the treatment she needs. A college student walks across campus, discouraged, unsure how to pay for the upcoming semester. A minister enters a board meeting, desperately needing wisdom to address an issue dividing the congregation. An older individual faithfully sends out resumes, yet no job comes.

In moments like these, we often turn to Scripture for reassurance that God provides. In Genesis 22:14, Abraham gives God a name filled with hope: Jehovah Jireh, meaning "Yahweh will provide," or more literally, "The Lord will see to it." Yes, God provides strength, wisdom, guidance, and resources.

But we must remember the context. God revealed Himself as Jehovah Jireh when Abraham chose to obey a very difficult command—to sacrifice his son Isaac. It was in that moment of faith and obedience that God provided the ram.

God's provision often follows our trust in Him.

Today, as we return our tithe and give our offerings, let us ask the Lord for the strength and grace to obey Him fully, trusting that He will see to our every need.

June 5, 2027

Local Church Budget

John 11:28-29 says, “And when she had said these things, she went her way and secretly called Mary her sister, saying, ‘The Teacher has come and is calling for you.’” As soon as she heard *that*, she arose quickly and came to Him.”

How quickly do you go to Jesus when He calls? You might be on your way to a meeting and sense a nudge to pray. You might be making dinner, listening to a podcast, and suddenly feel drawn to open Scripture. You might be walking down a grocery aisle and feel prompted to make eye contact and offer a simple hello.

If we ignore these seemingly small promptings of the Holy Spirit, we will ignore the larger promptings. Many of us are seeking God’s direction in making major life decisions, and when things are unclear, we say God is silent. Unfortunately, we have often made ourselves deaf to God’s leading by not moving quickly when He called.

If we ignore God’s voice on how to spend ten percent of our income, we will ignore His guidance on how to spend the remaining ninety percent starting with the free will offering gift and then everything else. As you give today, ask God to renew in your heart a desire to obey Him promptly and to go to Him quickly when He calls.

June 12, 2027

Women's Ministries Offering

Galatians 6:9 reminds us, "Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." All around the North American Division, women are taking this scripture to heart, and the impact of our annual Women's Ministries Emphasis Day offering reaches far beyond what any of us could do alone. These funds help us expand our ability to provide compassionate outreach and evangelistic connections, specially planned and carried out by women.

The resources benefit us here in our local conference and beyond. In one church, members responded to a pressing need last winter by opening their doors as a warming center. Women's Ministries volunteers organized resources, prepared a warm meal, and prayed together before welcoming guests—creating a safe, caring environment for individuals experiencing homelessness. The results weren't just community outreach; it also brought multigenerational connection among the women of the church as they served together. Support from this offering helped make that ministry possible.

Additionally, this offering helps to provide resources for a special weekend for teen girls—a time to break down barriers, build friendships, and grow closer to Jesus.

Our Women's Ministries offering also supports Christ-centered leadership training for women, equipping them to lead, mentor, and serve in their local churches and beyond.

June 19, 2027

Local Church Budget

One of the tactics the enemy uses to keep your mind off God is to relentlessly assault you with painful things you did in the past. The memories constantly flash through your mind, pulling you into darkness. If he is not successful in bringing up the past, he will project onto your mind's screen all the terrible things that could happen in your future. Like dark, angry storm clouds that block out the sun, these grim possibilities block out the light of God's gracious dealings with you in the past.

And finally, if he can't make you worry about tomorrow, he will tempt you to complain about the present moment. He shines a spotlight on all the thorns and covers up the roses in your garden. By all accounts, your life is filled with nothing but thorns and thistles. Saint Augustine of Hippo said, "Trust the past to God's mercy, the present to God's love, and the future to God's providence."

Despite what you may feel, if you place your confidence in the sacrifice of Jesus, you can believe the past is forgiven. If you know that God is love and His disposition toward you as His child is favorable, you can believe your current and future circumstances will work out for your good and for His glory.

Let this assurance strengthen your hands as you worship through giving today.

June 26, 2027

Local Conference Advance

Abraham was very wealthy. When Sarah died, the people of the land urged him to choose any burial cave he wished and even offered to give it to him for free. But Abraham refused and insisted on paying the full price (see Genesis 23).

In 2 Samuel 24, King David was also offered land at no cost so he could build an altar to the Lord. Yet he responded, “No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the LORD my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.”

These examples remind us that true worship often involves sacrifice. As God’s people, when we have been blessed with the ability to pay in full, we should consider doing so. Simply attending the same church as someone who provides a service does not mean their work should come without value.

Accepting a discount or a gift is not wrong in itself. What matters is the spirit behind our decision. The web developer in your church has bills to pay. The caterer may be supporting a family. The contractor may be helping a child through college. The photographer may be caring for an aging parent.

So, the next time you consider asking for a discount—or when someone offers their services freely—pause, pray, and ask God for wisdom.

With that same spirit of honor and gratitude, let us return our tithes and offerings today, giving in a way that reflects the value we place on God’s blessings.

July 3, 2027

Local Church Budget

Have you noticed in Jacob's story that, even though God spoke directly to him, He never told Jacob that Joseph was alive? God could have exposed the deception of his sons, but He didn't. He could have warned Jacob about the coming famine, as He did Pharaoh, but He chose not to. Had God revealed everything, the story might have unfolded very differently.

This reminds us that God does not always explain His ways or reveal what lies ahead. Even faithful believers experience seasons of uncertainty. Consider Job—described as blameless and upright—yet he was never told why suffering came upon him. From his perspective, heaven was silent, even though God was still present and at work.

There are times in our lives when we don't understand what God is doing—or not doing. We may pray for clarity in our finances, direction in our decisions, or relief from difficult circumstances, yet answers don't come when we expect them.

In those moments, God invites us to trust Him, not because we see the full picture, but because He does.

Habakkuk expressed this kind of faith, "Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food... yet I will rejoice in the Lord" (Habakkuk 3:17-18).

Today, as we return our tithe and give our offerings, we do so in that same spirit—trusting the wisdom, timing, and goodness of our God.

July 10, 2027

World Budget

Today, we have the privilege of participating in something much bigger than ourselves—the worldwide mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The World Budget Offering is not just another line item in the local church giving; it is a powerful expression of unity and purpose. Through it, we join hands with believers across continents, languages, and cultures to proclaim the Everlasting Gospel.

While we may not all travel as missionaries, our offerings go where we cannot. They support evangelistic efforts in unreached areas, provide resources for growing churches, and sustain global ministries like media outreach, education, and humanitarian work. In places where members have little, this offering becomes a lifeline for mission to continue.

The apostle Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 9:7 that “God loves a cheerful giver.” Giving is not about obligation—it is about opportunity. It is about trusting God and becoming partners with Him in His work.

Let us give generously, faithfully, and with joy, knowing that we are helping to proclaim the everlasting Gospel to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language, and people.

July 17, 2027

Local Church Budget

A prophet once told a man with leprosy that if he wanted to be healed, he needed to wash in the Jordan River. The man, a foreigner, was offended. “The rivers in my country are better than this one!” he protested. Yet when he humbled himself and obeyed, he was healed.

The Jordan may not have seemed impressive, but it was the place God chose for his healing. In the same way, there are moments when God’s instructions may not align with our preferences or logic, yet they invite us into trust and obedience.

When it comes to our finances, we often feel we know the best path forward. Our plans may seem practical, efficient, even wise. But Scripture reminds us that God sees what we cannot. His guidance is not merely about economic success; it is about shaping our hearts, priorities, and trust in Him.

Following God’s principles does not guarantee ease or immediate results, but it does lead us into a life that honors Him and reflects faithful whole life stewardship. It helps us place money in its proper place—not as our security, but as a tool entrusted to us by God.

We give, not as a strategy to gain more, but as a response to what God has already given to us.

Today, as we return our tithes and give offerings, let us choose trust over preference, and faith over control, placing all we have into the Lord’s hands.

July 24, 2027

Local Conference Advance

God's miracles are not always evidence that we are walking in His will. In Judges 15, God split a rock and gave Samson water after a battle that began with his own poor choices. In 2 Kings 3, God provided water and granted victory to King Jehoram's army—even though Jehoram was an evil king.

These stories remind us that God, in His mercy, sometimes provides even when our lives are not fully aligned with Him. He may open doors to help pay your tuition, even while you resist His counsel. He may allow a project to succeed that He never led you to begin. In His love, grace, and relentless desire to save us, God may work in unexpected ways—not to affirm our path, but to preserve us, draw us to repentance, and lead us to something better.

Even in our finances, we may experience blessings despite unwise or unfaithful decisions. But blessings alone are not proof of God's approval.

Instead of measuring God's will by outcomes, we are called to measure our lives by His Word. Romans 2:4 reminds us, "Don't you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? ... His kindness is intended to turn you from your sin" (NLT).

Today, as we return our tithe and give our offerings, let us respond to God's kindness with obedience. May His goodness lead us not just to gratitude, but to deeper faithfulness.

July 31, 2027

Local Church Budget

There is a parable about a pumpkin that lamented over the fact that it spent its life ripening on the ground. It envied the figs, apples, oranges, and other fruits that spent their lives seemingly high up in the sky, among the branches of beautiful trees and the fluttering wings of birds.

“Why must I spend my life on the ground?” he cried.

The farmer came along one day and noticed the sad pumpkin. After discovering the cause of its despondency, the farmer said, “There’s a reason you don’t grow on a tree! If a ripe fig falls to the ground, it could be crushed by feet. But for you, a pumpkin, on the ground, you cannot be crushed. If you fell from a tree, your weight would not only cause you to dash open, but you could hurt a fruit picker below. Your toughness suits you for the ground, while softer, more tender fruit needs the safety of the branches.”

We may not always see God’s wisdom in keeping us in a low state. We may desire to be placed higher up, in a more prominent position. But in His mercy, He keeps us where our souls will be most protected. Whether you are on a mountain top today or in a valley, trust that God has you right where He knows you will grow best.

Today, let us give from a heart at peace with being placed low at the foot of the cross.

August 7, 2027

Local Church Budget

One day, a Bible study leader drew a picture of a house on one side of a sheet of paper and a church building on the other. He handed someone a pair of scissors and asked them to cut up the picture of the house without cutting the church. It was impossible. The moment the house was cut, the church was cut as well.

That simple illustration reminds us of a powerful truth: what happens in the home affects the church.

Today, many homes are under pressure—especially financially. Couples are struggling with rising costs, debt, and difficult decisions. Disagreements over spending, saving, and giving can create tension, distance, and discouragement. And when finances become a source of stress at home, it often carries over into our spiritual lives and our church community.

The Bible says, “Saul...made havoc on the church, entering into every house” (Acts 8:3). One of the enemy’s strategies is to weaken the home—because if the home is strained, the church will feel it too.

But there is hope.

When the disciples were gathered in fear and uncertainty, behind closed doors, Jesus came and stood in their midst. And He still does the same today. Even in the middle of financial stress, uncertainty, or disagreement, Christ can bring peace, unity, and direction.

Giving—especially when finances feel tight—is not easy. For couples, putting God first in their giving may be difficult, but it can bring them closer together.

August 14, 2027

Christian Record Services

Imagine sitting in these very pews. As the service begins, a man looks toward the screen or his bulletin, but the words are a blur. He doesn't ask for a large-print copy or lean over to a neighbor for help. Instead, he simply bows his head in silence.

He isn't just struggling to see the text—he is struggling with the quiet shame of feeling like he no longer belongs. Due to irreversible vision loss, he is also losing his dignity in the place where he should feel most at home.

This is the "Quiet Crisis." When a doctor says, "There is nothing more we can do," a patient isn't just losing their sight; they are stepping into a life of isolation and fear. Medical care ends where loneliness begins.

But today, there is a solution.

When that person leaves the doctor's office, they can now receive a Lifeline Kit from Christian Record Services. Inside is more than information—it is a connection. Through this ministry, they are paired with people who will pray with them and remind them that their life still has profound purpose and value.

This is the bridge between diagnosis and hope. Every kit and every phone call is made possible by you. I invite you to join this mission today. Help us ensure that no one walks into the dark alone. By supporting Christian Record Services, you remind our neighbors that they are not forgotten, they are not alone, and they are deeply loved.

August 21, 2027

Local Church Budget

One morning, a new wife cried alone over a difficult situation. She did not want to worry her husband and planned to talk to him later. When he came into the room and saw a wad of used tissues, he gently asked, “Were you crying?”

“Yes,” she replied.

He responded kindly, “Next time you cry, come to me.”

A Korean proverb says, “Even a sheet of paper is lighter when carried by two people.” In Psalm 56:8, God says that He collects our tears in His bottle. Could it be that one of the ways He does this is through the people He has placed in your life? God often uses friends, relatives, and church members to help carry our burdens and share in our pain.

When you cry alone because you fear being a burden, you may be missing an opportunity for God to care for you through someone else. This does not mean we should share everything with everyone; solitude is sometimes necessary. But often, God works through others—offering wisdom, prayer, or simply the quiet comfort of their presence.

Today, as we return our tithes and give offerings, we also participate in this ministry of care. Our giving supports the church, allowing it to be a place where burdens are shared and lives are uplifted.

Let us give generously, knowing that our gifts help bring comfort, hope, and God’s love to those who need it most.

August 28, 2027

Local Conference Advance

There is a tale about an eagle, an ant, and a whale who were summoned to a cosmic convention. As representatives of Earth, they were asked to describe their world. After hearing their reports, the assembly reached a surprising conclusion: “There must be a mistake. These cannot be from the same planet.” One described vast skies, another endless tunnels of dirt, and the third claimed there was only water.

One planet—different perspectives. Each view held some truth, but none captured the whole picture.

In the same way, consider the situation you are facing today. There are different perspectives. The enemy sees it as an opportunity to discourage or destroy you. The Lord sees it as a chance to shape and sanctify you. You may simply see it as a burden too heavy to carry.

One problem—different perspectives. The question is: whose perspective will you choose?

Scripture reminds us, “The Lord does not see as man sees...” (1 Samuel 16:7). Our vision is limited, but God’s is complete and trustworthy.

That includes how we view giving. We may see it as a loss, a sacrifice, or something we can only do when it’s convenient. But God sees it as trust, worship, and participation in His work.

Today, as we return our tithe and give our offerings, let us choose God’s perspective—giving not out of obligation, but in faith, believing He sees what we cannot and provides beyond what we imagine.

September 4, 2027

Local Church Budget

One winter, a woman made a simple mistake. She noticed squirrels coming to her back porch and thought she could help them, so she began leaving breadcrumbs. She overlooked one important truth: when you feed wild animals, they keep coming back.

When spring arrived, birds began building nests in the nearby shrubs and under the deck. That's when she discovered something else about squirrels—they raid birds' nests for their eggs.

Sin is far more dangerous than any backyard squirrel. Feed it even a little, and it will return with a greater appetite. We may think we are in control or that we won't go too far, but over time, we begin to see how quickly it grows.

What "squirrels" are being fed in our lives today? An unhealthy relationship? Greed? Gluttony? Lust? The pressure to overwork? The enemy is never satisfied with crumbs—he always wants more.

But there is hope. One morning, as a squirrel kept returning to threaten a bird's nest, the woman realized she could not solve the problem alone. She turned to her husband for help. Even though she had created the situation, she needed someone stronger to step in.

In the same way, we can turn to our Savior, who gives victory over sin.

Today, as we give, let it be an act of surrender. Surrender and let the Master help us fight our temptation to a materialistic lifestyle. Choosing to trust in Christ's power to lead us to freedom.

September 11, 2027

World Budget (Emphasis: Radio Ministries)

Imagine if your outreach methods had no walls, borders, or fences to keep them from reaching billions of people. Adventist Radio Ministries broadcasts across the airwaves to places where missionaries cannot go, transforming lives for eternity.

Radio overcomes the barriers of government restrictions, cultural opposition, illiteracy, and geography. And radios are one of the cheapest forms of technology, accessible to most of the world's population. Adventist Radio Ministries broadcasts the Advent hope of Christ's soon return to the people of the world in their own languages. Producers in local studios create programs in more than 100 "heart languages"—the mother tongues that touch listeners' hearts most profoundly. More languages are added as producers and airtime funding becomes available. Many studios also operate Bible correspondence schools, through which they can communicate God's beautiful messages with listeners.

These Adventist Radio Ministries receive more than 100,000 letters, phone calls, texts, and email messages from listeners yearly. Our goal is to reach every person with the saving message of God's love through programs broadcast in over 200 critically important languages worldwide. This goal can become a reality through your financial partnership.

The hymn Adventists like to sing says: "Lift up the trumpet, and loud let it ring: Jesus is coming again!" Like a trumpet, this message is ringing out over radio waves in many places around the world.

Let's join together and use Adventist Radio Ministries to tell the world that Jesus is coming again.

September 18, 2027

Local Church Budget

How important is your devotional life to you? We understand the value of beginning each day with God through prayer and the study of His Word. Yet many still struggle to maintain a consistent prayer life.

Now imagine having such a deep commitment to prayer that you would rather face lions than miss time with God. By the time Daniel was thrown into the den, he wasn't afraid of the lions—they were powerless before a man anchored in prayer. Rather than being overcome by fear, Daniel was sustained by his relationship with God.

He would not give up his time with God, even at the risk of his life. Yet many of us miss prayer for far less. We set it aside when we feel pressed for time—busy mornings, work responsibilities, or school demands can easily crowd out time with God.

But this kind of intimacy with Christ is not reserved for a few extraordinary believers. It is available to anyone who chooses to consistently seek Him and depend on His strength.

The foundation of our stewardship of treasure is our stewardship of time. When we put God first in our daily lives, it naturally shapes how we prioritize everything else, including our finances.

Today, as we give, let it be an act of worship. Let it reflect a life where God truly comes first—in our time, our hearts, and our resources.

September 25, 2027

Local Conference Advance

Habakkuk 2:4 says:

“Behold the proud,
His soul is not upright in him;
But the just shall live by his faith.”

Living by faith requires humility. It means depending on God for our needs and seeking His wisdom in all we do. To ask for help, we must first recognize that we cannot do everything on our own.

In our world, dependence can sometimes feel uncomfortable. We are taught to be self-sufficient and to provide for ourselves. But depending on God is different—it does not bring shame; it brings peace and confidence. Our jobs, abilities, and resources are important, but they are not our true source. They are simply tools God uses to provide for us.

Scripture contrasts pride and faith. Pride leads us to rely on ourselves, while faith leads us to trust in God. A life of faith is centered not on self, but on God’s care and faithfulness.

Giving is one practical way we express that trust. It is a simple but meaningful act that acknowledges God as our Provider. When we give, we choose faith over self-reliance.

Today, as we return our tithes and give offerings, let it reflect a humble trust in God—recognizing that everything we have comes from Him, and that He is faithful to provide.

October 2, 2027

Local Church Budget

In the story of Jonah, after he preached to the city of Nineveh, the people repented and turned to God. Instead of rejoicing, Jonah became angry. He said, “I knew that You are a merciful and compassionate God... eager to turn back from destroying people.” Jonah had a different measure of success than God. To him, success may have looked like judgment, receiving what they deserved, or being proven right. But to God, success was mercy, repentance, and changed lives.

This raises an important question for us today: How do you measure success? Do we measure it by visible results, financial security, a good car, a good house, or nice clothes? Or do we measure it by faithfulness to what God asks of us?

Jonah initially ran from his mission, even though it ultimately succeeded. In the same way, we may hesitate to follow God’s leading—especially when it comes to our finances—because we are unsure of the outcome.

But in His mercy, God patiently worked with Jonah. Through every experience, God was not only reaching Nineveh—He was shaping Jonah’s heart.

Giving works the same way. God does not ask us to give because success is guaranteed in the way we expect. He invites us to give because faithfulness is the true measure of success.

Today, as we return our tithes and give offerings, let us choose God’s definition of success—trusting Him and responding in faith, regardless of what we see.

October 9, 2027

Union Designated

There's a story about a woman named Sunday Wesche and her family, who faced tremendous financial hardship. Her husband, a God-fearing man and retired teacher, made investments with the best of intentions to provide for his family. Sadly, every investment failed. He eventually filed for bankruptcy and lost their home. With two young adult children still living at home, the situation was overwhelming.

Yet Mrs. Wesche told her children, "God is our Provider. His mercy, grace, and provision are not dependent on us never failing. We are going to be a family that prays, believing that God will meet our needs."

As the eviction date approached, the family packed their belongings, unsure of where they would go. One morning, Mrs. Wesche received a call from a friend who said God had placed her on his heart. He asked if there was anything he could do. When she hesitated, he gently said, "If you're not humble and honest, I can't be faithful to what God is asking me to do." She shared their need for a place to stay. The man offered them an empty home he owned, where they could live temporarily. Soon, they found themselves moving into a beautiful house in the mountains.

When we humble ourselves, God often provides in unexpected ways—and He often uses others to do it.

Today, as we return our tithes and offerings, we also become part of God's provision in someone else's life and for others to hear this Gospel of the Kingdom.

October 16, 2027

Local Church Budget

For centuries, God pleaded with His people to place their trust in Him rather than in idols that had no power. When they faced threats from other nations, instead of turning to God in repentance and seeking His help, they sent ambassadors to Egypt, relying on military strength. In Isaiah 31:1 He says, “Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, who rely on horses, who trust in the multitude of their chariots and in the great strength of their horsemen, but do not...seek help from the LORD.”

When you face difficulties, where do you turn? When you are unsure of your direction in life, do you spend time before God or take trips to distract yourself? If your business is not thriving, do you turn to God first or to business gurus? When problems arise in your marriage, do you recommit yourself to obeying God’s Word, or complain to a friend about your spouse? While it is not wrong to travel, seek advice, or talk with others, we should ask whether God is our first or last resort.

In Isaiah 30:15 (NKJV), God says, “In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it.” Yet His invitation remains; turn, trust, and find strength in Him alone.

When we return to God the first portion of our income, we affirm that He is our first and main Source of help.

October 23, 2027

Local Conference Advance

What is the main point of the prophetic books of Daniel and Revelation? Is it simply to help us identify last-day events?

Imagine a group of students preparing for a difficult final exam on their large textbook. Partway through, one of the students confidently claims that the test will only cover one chapter, Chapter 15. The others panic and focus all their attention there, assuming that will guarantee success. In doing so, they miss something important—they never stop to ask, “How do you know?”

In a similar way, when we study prophecy, it is easy to focus only on details and timelines. But the greater purpose is to lead us to the One who reveals these things. Prophecy points us to God’s sovereignty, His faithfulness, and His control over all things.

When we truly understand that God is in control, it changes how we live—and how we handle our finances. Our confidence is not in what we have or what we can calculate, but in Who we trust. Giving, then, is not just about percentages or amounts. It is about recognizing God as our Provider and responding to Him in faith. It reflects a heart that trusts Him with both the present and the future.

Today, as we return our tithes and offerings, let us shift our focus from numbers to relationship—giving not out of obligation, but as an expression of trust in the God who holds everything in His hands.

October 30, 2027

Union Designated

Isaiah 49:15-16 says, “Can a woman forget her nursing child, and not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely, they may forget, yet I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands.”

When we place our complete trust in God, nothing can remove us from where He has placed us. First, we are secure in His hands. Our salvation is sure, and He has engraved our names on the palms of His hands. In Him, we are safe.

Because of this, our hearts do not have to be shaken. No matter what we face, we can remain confident in God’s promises; that He will never leave us, that He will provide for our needs, and that He will guide us in every situation.

This same trust calls us into God’s mission. The church has been given the responsibility to share the gospel with the world—to proclaim hope, truth, and salvation in Jesus Christ. Even when challenges arise, God continues to move His mission forward, often using ordinary people like us.

Through our giving, we become part of that mission. Our tithes and offerings help carry the message of the gospel beyond our immediate reach—into communities, cities, and countries we may never personally visit.

Today, as we give, let it be an act of trust and participation. We are not just giving resources; we are helping to share the good news of Jesus with a world in need.

November 6, 2027

Local Church Budget

Amy Carmichael, born in Ireland, knew God had called her to be a missionary. In 1895, she arrived in India, where she would serve faithfully for the next 55 years, preaching the gospel.

But her journey to the mission field did not begin smoothly. Before reaching India, she first sailed to Japan. During the voyage, the ship was caught in a violent storm and could not reach port. In the midst of the chaos, Amy and the other passengers had to be lowered into small tugboats using nets to reach shore safely.

When she arrived, she was soaked, exhausted, and alone. No one came to meet her. She found herself in a foreign land, unable to communicate, cold, and uncertain of what would happen next.

Reflecting on the experience, she later wrote, “All this was part of the going forth unto a land I knew not... and if things went wrong, it was so much more the fun. I knew they would come right in the end. And they always did... I sat down tranquilly on the mats and waited to see what the angels would do.”

That kind of peace in the face of uncertainty comes from deep trust in God.

What need is pressing on you today, especially in your finances? Are you worried about how things will work out?

Every need is an opportunity for God to provide. As you worship through giving today, trust Him with your resources, and watch how He works in ways you may not expect.

November 13, 2027

Annual Sacrifice for Global Mission

Psalm 50:5 says, “Gather My saints together to Me, those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.”

In recent years, millions of people in urban centers, rural areas and also in some of the most challenging regions of the world have found salvation in Jesus and joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Studies indicate that every 22 seconds someone becomes an Adventist and that every four hours a new congregation is established. This remarkable growth is a testimony to God’s power—and to your faithful support. Through your offerings and the focus on Global Mission, thousands of new congregations have been planted among previously unreached people groups. But the work does not end at baptism. These new believers need nurturing, discipleship, and encouragement as they grow in their faith and learn to share it within their communities.

Your sacrificial offerings are part of a life-giving river that sustains mission work locally, regionally, and around the world. They help provide resources, training, and support so that new members can become strong disciples of Jesus.

Just as drops of rain form streams, and streams grow into rivers, each gift you bring today joins with millions of others. Together, the 23+ million members of the Adventist Church have a Global Mission to baptize and make disciples worldwide.

Today, we invite you to give sacrificially by placing your offerings at the feet of Jesus. Keep this river of mission flowing through your generosity and your prayers.

November 20, 2027

Local Church Budget

Most of us are familiar with Malachi 3:10 that says, “‘Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,’ says the LORD Almighty, ‘and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.’”

Unfortunately, this passage could easily be misunderstood. Many of us believe that if we faithfully return tithes and give a generous offering, then we can be sure that sooner or later, God will bring the financial relief we need. Some think serving God faithfully means they can count on getting physical healing or restoration of a broken relationship.

But trusting in Jesus does not mean that your situation will always work out. John the Baptist trusted in Jesus, but he died a violent death. James trusted in Jesus, but he was killed with a sword. Christians in Rome trusted in Christ but were thrown to the lions.

So why do we trust Jesus? Because He is good. Even if your situation does not work out the way you envisioned, God loves you and will provide you with the blessings you need in your particular circumstances. You can trust His wisdom.

Are you ready to take God’s challenge and put Him to the test? As you return tithe and give your offering today, remember that a thankful heart always finds a way to give.

November 27, 2027

Local Conference Advance

In February 2013, while walking their dog on their property, a couple noticed a partially buried, rust-covered metal can. Curious, they dug it up and discovered over 1,400 gold coins. The coins had an original face value of about \$28,000, but after careful evaluation, they were found to date back to the 1800s and were worth nearly \$10 million.

Most of us can only imagine finding such treasure in our backyard. We might think about paying off debt, buying a home, supporting missions, or even taking a long-awaited vacation. But what if we truly believed that treasure is all around us? How differently would we live?

The reality is that the people around us are far more valuable than gold. When we take time to ask meaningful questions and truly listen, we begin to see the richness God has placed in each person—whether in our church, at work, or in our community.

As we give financially today, let us remember that giving is not limited to money. Our offerings support the mission of reaching people—sharing hope, meeting needs, and reflecting God’s love. At the same time, we are called to invest personally in the lives around us.

When we learn to see others as God sees them, we discover a greater kind of wealth—one measured not in gold, but in love, compassion, and eternal impact.

December 4, 2027

Local Church Budget

A man named Richard owned a vast orchard. Every summer, people in the town enjoyed picking apples, peaches, and pears. At the end of the season, however, much of the fruit still remained on the trees.

Neighbors were welcome to come anytime and pick fruit at no cost. One spring, a couple moved into the area. For years, Richard invited them to enjoy the orchard. Yet each season came and went, and they never came to pick fruit. Instead, they continued buying fruit from their local grocery store.

One fall, while visiting another neighbor, they noticed bags and bags of apples. “They’re from Richard’s orchard,” the neighbor said. “There’s still so much left. It’s all going to waste, and the animals are getting to it.”

That afternoon, the couple finally went to the orchard. When Richard asked them why they had never come before, their answer left him incredulous, “We were too shy to come. We were afraid you were just being polite and weren’t serious about the invitation.”

How many of us hesitate to go to God for the blessings He promises? Is it guilt or shame that holds us back? Are we afraid God isn’t serious about the blessings He offers us?

As you return tithe and give your offering today, remember that you have a generous Father who invites you freely. He desires not only to bless you, but for you to receive and enjoy all that He provides.

December 11, 2027

Adventist Community Services (NAD)

All around us, needs are growing faster than many can keep up. Families are making impossible choices, communities are feeling the strain, and too many people are slipping through the cracks. In times like these, the call to serve isn't optional. Adventist Community Services takes the church to the community, ensuring that every person knows they are remembered, valued, and loved. Across our communities, ACS teams provide tangible relief for today's challenges. They follow in the footsteps of Jesus—feeding the hungry, clothing those in need, visiting the lonely, and reaching out to those others may overlook.

One Sabbath, Sarah felt impressed to check on a mother and her three children who had been visiting the local food pantry. When she arrived, the house was dark and still. Though hesitant, she knocked. The door slowly opened, and the mother shared their reality: they had completely run out of food and would not have any for three more days. The children were lying quietly in bed, trying to conserve their energy as they waited. Moved with compassion, Sarah was grateful she had listened to the Holy Spirit's prompting. That day, she brought groceries and hope to a family in desperate need.

Adventist Community Services is active in cities and towns across the North American Division. Today, you are invited to be part of this ministry. Through your offering, you can help bring relief, dignity, and Christ's love to those who need it most.

December 18, 2027

Local Church Budget

In 2007, a New York family purchased a small white bowl for just \$2 and placed it on their mantle. For years, it sat there unnoticed until curiosity led them to have it evaluated. To their surprise, it was a rare 10th-century Chinese bowl, initially valued at \$200,000 and later sold at auction for \$2.2 million.

Then, in 2020, a man bought a blue-and-white bowl at a yard sale for \$35. After sending photos to experts, he discovered it was a rare 15th-century piece worth more than \$700,000.

Though incredibly valuable, both items were treated as ordinary for years. Their true worth wasn't recognized until someone took a closer look.

In the same way, many priceless gifts in our lives can be overlooked. The Bible is one of them. Readily available to many of us, it can easily be taken for granted. Yet in other parts of the world, believers risk everything just by owning a copy. What we often leave unopened on a shelf is treasured beyond measure by others.

Today, your offering supports the ministry of our local church, making it possible to preach God's Word, nurture spiritual growth, and serve those in our community. Through our Sabbath School classes, Bible studies, outreach efforts, and acts of care, lives are touched, and hearts are drawn closer to Christ. Let us recognize the value of what God has entrusted to us and invest in His work right here in our church.

December 25, 2027

Local Conference Advance

Do you ever find the Bible hard to read or difficult to stay engaged with? If so, you're not alone. Many Christians, young and old, struggle to study God's Word consistently. Especially in today's fast-paced world, it can sometimes feel distant or unexciting.

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus—the Word made flesh, we may miss the reason for the season. In the busyness of the season, with lights, music, shopping, and gatherings, we can miss the deeper meaning. It's a bit like trying to see the Milky Way while standing in Times Square in New York City. The Milky Way is there, but the surrounding lights would make it hard to notice.

In the same way, God's Word is full of wonder, truth, and life. The challenge is not that it lacks meaning, but that our lives are often too crowded to fully experience it. The celebration of the birth of Jesus invites us to slow down and refocus—to remember that Jesus came to bring light into our darkness.

Just as Christ entered our world in humility, God invites us to make space for Him in our hearts. When we do, His Word becomes alive and meaningful in new ways.

Today, as we give our tithes and offerings, we respond to the greatest gift ever given, Jesus Christ. Our giving supports the work of sharing His message of hope with others.

This season, let's not only celebrate the greatest Gift of Jesus, but also share it through our generosity and our renewed commitment to His Word.