



MyPersonalGivingPlan



“REMEMBER THIS:
Whoever sows sparingly
will also reap sparingly,
and whoever sows generously
will also reap generously.”

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6 NIV

NATURE *reveals* *the countless ways* GOD PROVIDES *for His creation.*

JUST ONE TINY SEED. But from it springs a stalk that forms an ear—and God’s principle of multiplication is revealed. The efforts of the farmer increase when he generously sows his field with thousands of individual grains of wheat. God provides the sun and the water. Each seed’s effort multiplies and the farmer reaps a harvest that feeds and benefits a multitude.

The same principle is at work in God’s church.

Although the church is made up of individuals, we find our strength in our united efforts. Each member plays a vital role in the body of Christ so that all may contribute to the picture of Jesus that the world sees. We recognize that our time, or talents, and our possessions are not our own, but a trust given to us by a loving Creator.

The psalmist writes, “The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein” (Psalm 24:1). That is why the Seventh-day Adventist Church has developed a suggested program of systematic giving:

MY PERSONAL GIVING PLAN



A few small seeds combine to plant a field of wheat that ultimately feeds thousands.



We return our tithes and offerings as an expression of love for God.



God promises to pour out blessings so that there won't be room enough to receive them.



While our contributions may seem insignificant, their impact reaches far beyond our expectations.



MyPersonalGivingPlan

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 *My Personal Giving Plan*. Like all plans, it requires thought and consideration. God invites us to respond to His church’s needs with both our minds and our hearts. No great work can be built upon emotional or sporadic giving.



Church financial support is divided into five key areas:

Where do the tithes and offerings go?		How much should I give?
Tithe	For the support of pastors, evangelists, Bible teachers, and administrators.	Biblically mandated as 10% of our income.
Local Church Budget	Staff salaries, school operating expenses, children’s magazines, teaching supplies, worthy student fund, church bulletins, utilities, maintenance, insurance, etc.	My Personal Giving Plan suggests three to five percent of our income.
Conference Advance	Christian education, local evangelism, Vacation Bible Schools, the monthly Union magazines, summer camps, and much more.	My Personal Giving Plan suggests one to two percent of our income.
World Budget	General Conference medical and educational institutions, world mission support, and evangelism.	My Personal Giving Plan suggests one to three percent of our income.
Special Projects	Capital campaigns for church or school projects, mission trips, supporting ministries, etc.	As God has prospered.

THE TITHE

LOCAL CHURCH BUDGET

CONFERENCE ADVANCE

WORLD BUDGET

SPECIAL PROJECTS



Adventist pastors are paid by the conference with the tithe funds that are sent in by the local congregations.

THE TITHE

*“Bring...
all the tithes
into the
storehouse”*

(MALACHI 3:10)

The Holy Scriptures teach us that a tithe, or a tenth, of our income is “holy unto the Lord” (Leviticus 27:30). Unlike free will offerings, the tithe is biblically mandated to be 10 percent. It is that portion that He has reserved for Himself. In ancient times, this meant 10 percent of one’s crops or herds. Today, it is a tenth of our income, or in the case of a business, a tenth of the profit.

God has given us clear directions as to the use of the tithe. It provides for the gospel ministry and is to be devoted to the support of those who are bearing God’s message—pastors, evangelists, Bible teachers, and administrators. Without members giving a faithful tithe, the means for supporting God’s work would be crippled. No single congregation could fulfill the Great Commission to take the Good News to all the world. But as churches work together, God blesses their united efforts.

The tithing system is beautiful in its simplicity and equality. Every man, woman, and child may become a treasurer for the Lord, a shareholder in God’s work on earth.

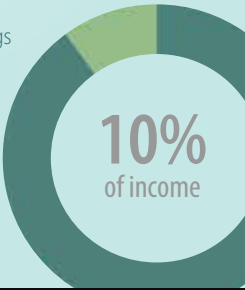
Give electronically: www.AdventistGiving.org



Abraham is the first person known to have paid tithe. See Genesis 14:22



The tithe envelope has gone digital. Visit www.AdventistGiving.org to return your tithe and offerings on your phone. Simple and secure.



THE TITHE

LOCAL CHURCH BUDGET

CONFERENCE ADVANCE

WORLD BUDGET

SPECIAL PROJECTS



Children's magazines and Sabbath School study guides are purchased with local church budget offerings.

LOCAL CHURCH BUDGET

*“Give unto
the Lord the
glory due
unto his
name: bring
an offering,
and come
into his
courts.”*

(PSALM 96:8)

Perhaps the most obvious need addressed in *My Personal Giving Plan* is the support of the local church. Every week, members see evidence of their offerings in the form of warm, clean, and attractive surroundings in their church home that serves as a light in their community.

And like every family, your church family has financial obligations to meet. Some, such as power and heat, are easy to see, but many are not so obvious. Property insurance, church school operating expenses, children's magazines, teaching supplies, Sabbath School study guides, staff salaries, cleaning services, worthy student fund, church bulletins—these are but a few of the costs that must be met month after month.

My Personal Giving Plan recommends three to five percent of one's income to be set aside for the local church budget. This systematic giving ensures that all share in both the blessings and the responsibilities of the local congregation.

Give electronically: www.AdventistGiving.org



The local church budget helps keep the lights on. It is used to pay utilities such as electricity, gas, and water.



School operating expenses are a major part of many local church budgets.



THE TITHE

LOCAL CHURCH BUDGET

CONFERENCE ADVANCE

WORLD BUDGET

SPECIAL PROJECTS



The Conference Advance offerings make it possible for every member to receive their Union magazine at no charge.

CONFERENCE ADVANCE

*“Train up
a child in
the way he
should go:
and when he
is old, he will
not depart
from it.”*

(PROVERBS 22:6)

Your local conference is a sisterhood of churches that helps each congregation accomplish important objectives that are beyond the reach of any one church. The Conference Advance offering addresses specific needs in the overall conference as well as a variety of special projects. One of the largest portions goes to fund Christian Education.

Another substantial part of the Conference Advance offering is set aside for local evangelism to finance programs most local congregations cannot shoulder on their own.

Elementary education, child and youth evangelism, academy operation, the monthly Union magazines, and summer camps are also areas supported by the Conference Advance offering.

All of these educational and life-changing programs are possible because individual members choose to contribute a suggested amount of one to two percent of their income to the Conference Advance offering.

Give electronically: www.AdventistGiving.org



Conference camps, supported by Conference Advance offerings, provide one of the best opportunities for children to make a decision for Christ.



1%-2%
of income



THE TITHE

LOCAL CHURCH BUDGET

CONFERENCE ADVANCE

WORLD BUDGET

SPECIAL PROJECTS



Every 25 seconds
someone becomes
a member of
the Seventh-day
Adventist church!

WORLD BUDGET

*“Go ye
therefore,
and teach all
nations....”*

(MATTHEW 28:19)

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 are 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 in more than 600 languages, the message of Jesus’ soon return can be heard.

Historically, it has been the privilege and duty of the 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 one to three percent of our income be set aside for this global outreach. Together, we can make sure the Adventist message continues to grow worldwide.

Give electronically: www.AdventistGiving.org



A new Adventist church is organized every 3 to 5 hours!



Our offerings often have a multiplied value in countries with weaker currencies, enabling our gifts to accomplish a tremendous amount of good.



THE TITHE

LOCAL CHURCH BUDGET

CONFERENCE ADVANCE

WORLD BUDGET

SPECIAL PROJECTS



SPECIAL PROJECTS

*“...as
God hath
prospered...”*

(1 CORINTHIANS 16:2)

The final area of giving is special projects. *My Personal Giving Plan* doesn't recommend a specific percentage for special projects since the need and scope will vary from project to project, but these offerings support undertakings such as a local church building initiative or a mission trip. It also includes our response to requests for help from denominational entities such as ADRA and other direct mail appeals. Contributions to Adventist supporting ministries engaged in work that you wish to support also fall under the Special Projects category.

There are many wonderful ministries in the Adventist church, and by careful consideration and wise planning, we can help them to flourish.

Give electronically: www.AdventistGiving.org

Each MEMBER *has a* PART *to* PLAY

"Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

There is nothing more calculated to unite our interest with the interest of God than giving our time and means to His work. When we acknowledge Jesus as Lord of all our affairs and accept His command to support and build up His church, we enter into a divine partnership that blesses us more than it blesses others. Many in our church wish they had a stronger faith and a greater zeal for God's church, yet they do not see the part Christian stewardship plays in strengthening their faith. Setting aside our self-centered desires in order to provide for the needs of others will be an adventure in faith and will give tone to our walk with Christ. This is the principle of Life that the Creator reveals to us: "For God so loved the world, that He gave..."

God's church needs your help, and you need His church. Make the decision today to systematically support your church family in all the areas of My Personal Giving Plan. Challenge each other to be generous with what the Lord has entrusted us.

"The spirit of liberality is the spirit of heaven. Christ's self-sacrificing love is revealed upon the cross. That man might be saved, He gave all that He had, and then gave Himself. The cross of Christ appeals to the benevolence of every follower of the blessed Saviour. The principle there illustrated is to give, give. This, carried out in actual benevolence and good works, is the true fruit of the Christian life. The principle of worldlings is to get, get, and thus they expect to secure happiness; but, carried out in all its bearings, the fruit is misery and death....

"Meet around the cross of Calvary in self-sacrifice and self-denial. God will bless you as you do your best."



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