

**March 1**

## **Local Church Budget**

This week our tithe and offerings will support our local church budget. Like every family, the local church family has financial obligations to meet. Some are easy to see like power and heat, Pathfinders and Church School. However, many are not so obvious: children's magazines, Sabbath school Bible study guides, teaching supplies, staff salaries, cleaning services, property insurance, community outreach, family emergency fund and the list goes on and on.

These are just a few of the costs that must be met month after month as the local church seeks to be a light in the community and take care of each other's needs. Because these expenses are constant, My Personal Giving Plan recommends that 3-5 percent of one's income be set aside for the local church budget. This systematic giving ensures that all members share both in the blessings and the responsibilities of the local congregation.

Thank you for your faithfulness in supporting your local church, your local family. Let's pray...

**March 8, 2025**

## **Adventist World Radio**

*(Note to the offering reader: Download the AWR 2025 video and the latest offering resources at [awr.org/offering](http://awr.org/offering))*

Adventist World Radio (AWR) uses many forms of technology to reach people where they are, in their local dialect. From AWR's shortwave towers in Guam to 2,000 radio stations around the world, these messages are broadcasting in more than 130 languages every day. And for those who aren't in range of a radio station, AWR's YouTube videos, ministry app, and tracts are ministering to millions.

In addition, solar-powered Godpods are reaching everyone from prisoners to shepherds! And the ministry's semi-truck in Ukraine is both meeting needs in the community and broadcasting Bible-based messages of hope wherever it goes.

In 2023 and 2024, the ministry joined with the General Conference's "Total Member Involvement" initiative to hold more than 1,500 meetings across 40+ countries during *Christ for Europe*. From the UK to Italy to Ukraine, people made decisions for baptism. Shortly after these events, meetings in Zambia, Rwanda and Papua New Guinea saw record crowds and baptisms.

God predicted that one day we would be "utterly amazed" (Habakkuk 1:5, NIV) at what He would do—and we are!

Thank you for your support for the ministry of Adventist World Radio.

**March 15**

## **Local Church Budget**

*Author Melvin Santos Speaking:*

I visited a country during a mission trip where the people didn't have many conveniences or material things like we do in North America. They lived in dilapidated homes where conditions were deplorable. No one owned vehicles so they walked. Despite their sad state of affairs, the people seemed happy and content with what little they had.

Their faith in God was rich and genuine, resulting in praise and melodious singing as they went about their daily activities. They didn't seem to worry as much. I was humbled and ashamed to say that I required many things to be comfortable.

I learned that the greatest danger is the accumulation of things. Why? Because we focus most of our time and energy on what is not kingdom-worthy. We feel entitled to spend more on ourselves instead of helping those in need.

“If the hearts of God's people were filled with love for Christ, if every church member were thoroughly imbued with the spirit of self-sacrifice, if all manifested through earnestness, there would be no lack of funds for home or foreign missions. Our resources would be multiplied; a thousand doors of usefulness would be opened, and we would be invited to enter” (*Testimonies for the Church*, Vol.6, p.449).

Our offering for today is for the local church budget. Let's ask God to give us contentment and cheerful hearts ready to give where He calls us. Let's pray...

**March 22**

**Wisconsin Conference Budget**

How many of you here today are thankful for God's blessings? Although we don't deserve these blessings, they are generously given to us by our Father in heaven.

I've discovered the Bible's teachings of God as the Owner and we as managers. Every tenth of our income or possessions, known as a tithe, is God's. However, He entrusts us with the management of the remaining 90%. We manage it according to His will and what will give Him glory.

Today's offering is for the Wisconsin Conference Budget. Let's ask Him to fulfill His desires for us in our giving and in our managing of His blessings to us. Let's pray...

**March 29**

## **Local Church Budget**

Jesus shared the parable of the talents to illustrate our relationship with Him and purpose in life. Matthew 25 records the story of three servants who were each given talents according to their abilities. In the end, two were commended for investing their talents wisely, and one was not.

The parable teaches us that we need to use the talents we've been given to grow God's kingdom and for God's glory. We shouldn't hide or neglect them. God rewards those who act in faith by investing what He has given.

Are you wondering what talents God has given you? Think of your time, talents, treasures, temple, and testimony. God has committed these things to us; how we invest them reveals whether we can be entrusted with eternal riches. By using and growing these talents, they develop in us Christ-like characters and He then multiplies what He gave to us.

Our offering for today is for the local church budget. Ask yourself, how can your talents, your gifts be a blessing for your church family? Let's pray...