

# Local Church Budget

**October 5, 2024**

I have prayed and walked for miles and miles in my tennis shoes. One semester, I walked around the campus of our university with students and prayed over the people in our campus community. We walked around the entire property, making sure to both share words, and some quiet time of personal prayer, as we lifted up our campus. We wanted to see the Holy Spirit move in a mighty way and transform lives, and we had the audacity to believe that He would do it. We held close to our hearts verses like, “If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer” found in Matthew 21:22. As I watched, I saw God transform my life and the lives of my students through prayer that year, and ever since then.

The beautiful thing about prayer is that we can do it at any time, anywhere, and it’s something that we are able to share with one another. Today’s offering is for our local church budget. Our church serves as a place we can come together and share in our joys and woes. We can listen and learn from one another, and grow together in Christ. We hope to keep this light shining in the church for many years to come, and that is made possible by your generous gifts.

# Sunnydale Academy

**October 12, 2024**

Today's offering is for Sunnydale Adventist Academy. In Mark 16:15, we are given the Gospel Commission, "Go throughout the whole world and preach the gospel to all people." The Gospel Commission is the heart of Sunnydale and today's offering is for the Student Assistance fund. This year Sunnydale's enrollment is 165 students. The joy of having a full enrollment also brings challenges of operation including the need to fund each student. 92% of the students need financial assistance to be enrolled at Sunnydale. The need for Financial Assistance is more today than over the past several years.

The diversity of the Sunnydale family is amazing with more than 24 languages represented within the student body. Students come from small towns and the inner city neighborhoods. The financial status of the students is as varied as the school culture is diverse. A student from this year's senior class shared, "Being at Sunnydale was never really part of my plan whatsoever, but it was part of God's plan for me! For that, I will always be grateful. As I start my senior year, I look back on my journey from freshman year to now with a deep sense of appreciation for Sunnydale."

The importance of the offering you give today, is connecting hearts to Jesus! In addition to your offering today, please give on a monthly basis to the Sunnydale Student Assistance fund. Thank you for your support. Your support of Sunnydale makes a difference in the lives of our children.

# Local Church Budget

October 19, 2024

Isaiah 40:31 says, “but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint”. Have you ever been weary? Have you ever felt like throwing in the towel? You’re not alone. It’s normal to get tired. Some days I wake up and consider all of the different “hats” I wear – parent, teacher, friend, sister, daughter, speaker, author – and just thinking about all of them can make me tired. There may be a lot that is demanded of you, and that can be tough. In my mind, that’s why Sabbath is that much more beautiful; it gives us time to reset and focus on where our hope comes from. Hoping in the Lord gives us the strength we need to keep on going, even when we feel like we are drowning in responsibilities.

Today’s offering is being collected to support our local church budget. Our church serves under many different titles as well. To many, it is a house of prayer. To others, it is a place of learning in Sabbath School and during the divine worship service. Still, to others, it is a place of refuge. When you give to the local church budget, you give to support the mission and ministry of our local church, which touches many lives.

# Combined Youth Ministries

**October 26, 2024**

This fall, over fifty students from our Adventist Elementary schools gathered at Camp Heritage to spend four days learning outdoors and Diving Deep into God's Creation. With the help of amazing volunteers, students were able to study water science, water safety, and animal tracks. The weather was perfect to allow the youth time to swim and even participate in boating and tubing. For many of the students, Outdoor School is the first time they get to experience swimming.

This event was made possible because of a partnership between the Education Department, Youth Department, and Sunnydale Adventist Academy which are the three ministries you support when you give to Combined Youth Ministries.

The funds you give help to provide opportunities for our youth to encounter Jesus through experiences in Adventures, Pathfinders, summer camp, and in their Adventist Education journey.

We thank you for your continued support and for investing in the future of our church by supporting the youth ministries in the Iowa-Missouri Conference.