

# Local Church Budget

**July 4, 2026**

Did you know that there are two countries in the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists that celebrate their nationhood in the first week of the month of July? You guessed it right. They are Canada, on July 1, and the United States of America, on July 4. So, happy Canada Day to Canada and happy Independence Day to the United States of America! Nationhood in the history of a country is a milestone of separation from another country's rulership. This means that the country is free to lead and rule itself by its own government and laws.

Although these holidays are not like Easter or Christmas, for many citizens, they are a time to reflect on God's goodness to us as a people. As members of the JudeoChristian faith, we are called to "Proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants", as it says in Leviticus 25:10, and to celebrate the gift of freedom from the bondage of sin.

While we express gratitude to be able to live in a land of freedom, may we also look in faith to the future, and commit our lives to God and His will. May we bring our gifts in worship to the true God, as it says in Psalm 33:12, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord". May the coffers of our local church never be empty.

The offering today is for local church budget.

# World Budget

**July 11, 2026**

Known for its speed and agility, the cheetah is the fastest land mammal, able to go from zero to 60 miles per hour in just three seconds.

When an unexpected situation hits the Seventh-day Adventist Church, we too need to be nimble and agile to respond rapidly. By so doing, we can turn a challenge into a new opportunity to increase the impact of God's mission throughout the world.

In recent years your support of the World Mission Budget offering has helped fund projects such as an outreach center in Eastern Europe and television stations in Norway. It has funded a comprehensive health outreach program in Sweden and Ebola education in Africa. And when local outreach programs in Rwanda resulted in hundreds of new believers and new church buildings were urgently needed, your gifts helped make that possible!

Our prayer is that you will be generous as we meet challenges and opportunities around the world to preach the Adventist message and paint a compelling portrait of God in many lands.

The offering today is for the world budget.

# Local Church Budget

July 18, 2026

Every steward has been endowed by God with at least one talent. As faithful stewards we are to seek opportunities to develop and expand our talents. Not only are we expected to develop our talents for personal gain, but we are to seek to grow and increase so that the mission of Christ and the kingdom of God can advance. For example, a person who has the ability to sing continues to rehearse, so that they might become better at singing the right notes and conveying the message of the song they are performing. The same is true of our financial resources. We should give careful and prayerful thought to how we invest our monies, so that the returns can be beneficial not just to our own bank accounts but also to the cause of Christ.

The parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30 highlights the importance and the expectation of increasing our resources. Like the master, God expects that we will make use of the opportunities presented to us to grow the resources He has given us. In fact, those who increased their talents in the parable were given more. They are declared as good and faithful servants.

Today as we gather to worship through giving, let us seek to be good and faithful servants who will assist in the ministries and mission of our local church. Our offering for today is for the local church budget.

# Combined Youth Ministries

July 25, 2026

In the process of salvation, God has established several markers of loyalty to Himself. One such example of loyalty is the faithful returning of one's tithe. The tithe, as we know, is designated by God. We do not have the choice to determine the amount. The one tenth has already been decided by God. Many wonder what the purpose of the tithe is and what is it used for.

The Scriptures point out several purposes of the tithe. First, it was designed to support the priesthood in the Old Testament. Today, that means pastors and gospel workers. In 1 Corinthians 9:13-14, it says, "Don't you know that those who serve in the temple get their food from the temple...In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel". Secondly, tithing supports ministry workers as is stated in Deuteronomy 14:28-29. Thirdly, tithing is a form of worship. Next, as it says in Malachi 3:8-12, it shows God we trust Him, not money, to provide for us. Also, God promises to bless us for giving. Along with other purposes, tithing as a part of stewardship builds character.

As we worship God today, let us be aware that tithing is about more than the money. It is about our loyalty, allegiance, and commitment to God. Let us be faithful stewards as we support God's work and the ministries of the Conference.