

## North American Division

### **Offertory Readings 2015**

Our mission as a church is “to reach the North American Division territory, with the distinctive, Christ-centered Seventh- day Adventist message of Hope and Wholeness.” Stewardship Ministries is dedicated to helping members catch the vision of “funding the mission to finish His work.” These funds make an impact on preaching the gospel to save the lost.

Systematic giving is part of being a faithful steward. When we tithe, we are recognizing that God owns everything. Offerings express our gratitude for what Christ has done for us. He loves a cheerful giver and has chosen this method to support those who preach the gospel as they reach the world with His message.

The 2015 English offertory readings were written by Dr. Nikolaus Satelmajer. He is an author and has worked as pastor, conference treasurer, and *Ministry* magazine editor, and he is now retired in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Again, this year we are videotaping these offertory readings in short clips that can be played in your church. You will find them at [www.iGiveSDA.org](http://www.iGiveSDA.org). You can also find these offertory readings at the iPhone and Android app stores. Download the free *igivesda* app, which includes the readings and video clips.

Revival and reformation will drive your actions. Wherever revival and reformation is present, tithing appears. These three: revival, reformation, and tithing, will deepen your spirituality.

**John Mathews**  
**NAD Stewardship Ministries Director**

Dear Presenter,

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

1. **PRAY:** Pray for the power of the Holy Spirit. Pray that God will use your words to speak to the hearts of the congregation.
2. **PRACTICE:** Read over the appeal at least three times to familiarize yourself with it. Find key words (underline or highlight them) to emphasize throughout the reading. Strive to share these readings with excellence.
3. **PREPARATION:** There may be times when other materials are sent to your local church to distribute or present along with the appeal. Please use them accordingly, and determine how they can be used most effectively.
4. **PRESENT WITH PASSION:** Read slowly and clearly. It is an amazing responsibility to lead out the worship in giving. Fill your heart with the thoughts presented, and God will do the rest.
5. **PRAY:** Each appeal has a prayer that has been prepared as a guide to go along with the thought of the day. Present to God what is on your heart as it relates to the appeal. Please keep the prayer concise and to the point.

May God richly bless you and speak through you as we take this journey together in 2015.

**January 3, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a worldwide movement, but the local church is the center of church ministry. Sabbath School, divine worship, Pathfinder programs, Community Services, Evangelism, and many other programs and activities take place in thousands of Seventh-day Adventist churches around the world. These activities take place because church members generously give of their time, talents, and means.

Today is the first Sabbath of the New Year. I thank you for supporting the programs of this congregation. As we look forward to this year, may each of us commit to supporting our congregation so that the Lord will be glorified in our community.

Today's offering is for the ministries and operations of our church. Let us be faithful stewards by returning the tithe and giving an offering according to the means that God has entrusted us.

In Proverbs 11:25 (NIV), we are told that "a generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." At the start of this year, let us thank God for the blessings we receive when we are faithful with our tithe and generous with our offerings. God is generous with us; let us also be generous.

**January 10, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Alberta Advance**

The Alberta Conference is actively involved in supporting local churches and the Alberta Conference membership as a whole. Currently the Alberta Advance offering enables the conference to assist local church projects, youth camps, church schools, CUC, PAA, worthy students and Foothills Camp. As a result we have witnessed stronger congregations and have had many members share with us the blessings they have received in their lives.

Thank you for your support and ministry to the Alberta Conference.

**January 17, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

Jesus tells us, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21, NIV).

We have heard that verse many times, but Adelina Alexe, a Seventh-day Adventist Seminary student at Andrews University, helps us understand the meaning of this passage. She writes, "Ellen White fills in the contours of what 'heavenly treasure' means: 'Every opportunity to help a brother in need, or to aid the cause of God in the spread of the truth, is a pearl that you can send beforehand, and deposit in the bank of heaven for safe keeping.'" She also writes, "What shall we do with our time, our understanding, our possessions, which are not ours, but are entrusted to us to test our honesty? Let us bring them to Jesus. Let us use our treasures for the advancement of His cause. Thus we shall obey the injunction, 'Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven' " (*Beyond Blessings*, page 23).

We are part of God's heavenly kingdom. Let us return our tithe and offerings as joyful members of God's kingdom.

The offering today is for the ministries and needs of our local church.

**January 24, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Religious Liberty\* NAD**

Seventh-day Adventists have always been strong advocates of religious liberty—for themselves and for others. One of the ways we have proclaimed this message is through *Liberty* magazine. While anyone may subscribe to the journal, it is sent to many government officials, judges, attorneys, and other leaders. Today, we have the opportunity of giving an offering so that *Liberty* magazine will continue to be sent to influence leaders in our community and throughout the country.

If you wish to add names to the list of those getting the magazine or get the magazine for yourself, please see our church religious liberty leader.

I invite you to return the tithe to the Lord and give an offering for *Liberty*. God will bless our faithfulness, and liberty will continue to be proclaimed throughout the land.

**JANUARY 31, 2015**

**Today's Offering: NAD Evangelism**

Many evangelistic projects and meetings take place throughout the North American Division. During the past several years, we have focused on some of the major cities in the territories of our division. Because of the generous offerings given by our members, the division has been able to support these city projects. We have a worldwide mission, and that includes the millions living in the large metropolitan areas.

Jesus, in Mathew 23:37 and Luke 13:34, tells us how much He cared for the people in Jerusalem. He also cares for the people living in our cities.

Today, let us worship by returning a faithful tithe, and as the Lord impresses us, an offering for NAD Evangelism. God will bless us, and He will also bless those who will hear the message of Jesus Christ.

**FEBRUARY 7, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

A local church functions because the members follow the leading of the Holy Spirit and exhibit an attitude of respect and love for others. Often, individuals who were once strangers become part of a church family that worships and works together. Such a group becomes a strong spiritual body and is able to meet all challenges. That is why the Apostle Paul writes, "If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31, NIV). These wonderful promises keep us spiritually strong.

Our attitude about offerings is also an indicator of our spiritual strength. The Bible makes it clear that the spirit with which we give is more important than how much we give.

Today the offering is for our church—for the programs, ministries, and needs of the congregation. Let us rejoice that we are a part of this congregation and that we have the opportunity to help support it with our financial gifts.

**FEBRUARY 14, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Canadian Adventist Television Ministries\* (WB)**

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has been a pioneer in broadcasting the gospel over radio and television. Here in Canada, the church has the unique situation of being the only media ministry in North America to have a nationwide broadcast. Moved by the ministry of the Voice of Prophecy with H.M.S Richards and the Kings Heralds quartet, Henry Feyerabend was inspired at a young age to be involved in broadcast media outreach. His dream and vision became a reality in 1973, when, through his leadership, It Is Written Canada was born. His vision to use television and radio as an evangelistic tool, has led to It Is Written Canada being one of the most recognized religious broadcasts across the nation. Many individuals get their first introduction to the Adventist message by watching or listening to the broadcast. Many of these individuals are not necessarily looking for a spiritual broadcast, but when they come across it, often their minds are open to the message.

Today, the offering is being taken throughout Canada for the support of It Is Written Canada. You and I have the opportunity to support this ministry with our prayers and offerings.

Ask the Lord to guide you in returning a faithful tithe and giving an offering for Adventist television ministries.

**FEBRUARY 21, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

What are the needs in our congregation? Whatever the needs are, God is willing to fulfill them. We join the Apostle Paul in proclaiming, "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19, NIV). Do we believe that? Do we truly trust that God will meet our needs—both our individual needs and those of the congregation? God is a God who fulfills His promises and surely He will fulfill this promise.

What are the needs of our congregation and who will fulfill them? Today's offering is for the local church, and yes, it is up to us to fill those needs. But the good news is that we do not fulfill them on our own. We ask God to bless, and through us, God will fulfill these needs.

As we give today's tithe and offering for our local church, let us give it with an attitude of gratefulness to our God because He has blessed us.

**FEBRUARY 28, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Alberta Advance**

What a joy in being able to support the work amongst unreached groups in Alberta. We are fortunate that through Alberta Advance we have heard unreached children say "I think these people really love us".

Thank you for helping us reach out to people for our Lord Jesus Christ and being able to demonstrate HIS love towards them. You will be amazed at the number of people in heaven who will thank you for supporting the work here on earth.

Please give to Alberta Advance to further the work right here at home.

**MARCH 7, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

The family was made up of a father, mother, and five children. The oldest child was about twelve years old. The children were busy putting their coins into the tithe and offering envelopes. Some of the older children were helping the younger ones. When the deacon came to their pew, the children were still writing and sealing their envelopes. The deacon stopped by the pew and patiently waited until the last child had sealed the envelope, and then, with a joyful expression on his face, received the envelopes. All together those envelopes contained very little money, but it was given joyfully and received graciously.

Today, our offering is for our church. It's for the programs and activities of our congregation. How much you give is between you and the Lord. Whatever we give, let us give joyfully. No one should force us to give, for we give out of gratitude to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Thank you for the tithe you return and the offering you give.

**MARCH 14, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Adventist World Radio\* (WB)**

As Gustavo works alone on his farm in the green hills of the Dominican Republic, his radio is his constant companion. All day long, he toils among his fruit trees and vegetable plants to the Adventist World Radio affiliate station.

Around the world, people are tuning in to AWR through a wide variety of ways. From Middle Eastern students in Internet cafes to villagers with small shortwave radios in Cambodia, people are hearing the voice of hope in their own languages. Their lives are transformed by these messages of God's love, such as this listener who wrote: "Your radio station is an immense source of inspiration that keeps me going in spite of all the odds."

AWR's programs can be heard on shortwave, AM/FM, and online in nearly 100 languages. Your generous offering today will keep these programs traveling to the furthest corners of the globe. We are invited to return our tithe and offering, and today the offering is for Adventist World Radio. Thank you for your support.

**MARCH 21, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

In Matthew 6:8 (NIV) Jesus says, "Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him." Who is "them"? Jesus is referring to hypocrites. While some sarcastically state that the church is full of hypocrites, each church has members who faithfully participate in the various ministries and support the church with their time, talents, tithe, and offerings. Just as Jesus says in Matthew that God knows what we need even before we ask, faithful members often know what the needs of the church are because they are involved in the life of the church. Thank you for being a faithful supporter.

Today's offering is for our Church Family Budget. The church budget supports the ministries of the church and provides the funds needed for the church building. We are privileged to return our tithe and Church Family Budget offering.

**MARCH 28, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Alberta Advance**

Today's offering is for Alberta Advance.

Foothills Camp is an important part of the ministry of our conference. Over the past 40 years that the camp has been in operation, many lives have been touched and many decisions have been made to follow Christ. Programs take place there year round and include our camp meeting, kids and youth camps, family camp, blind camps, church retreats, training programs and so much more. This year we are working on completion of a new washroom block by the cabins.

As we know, our camp isn't getting any younger and there are things that need upgrading in order to continue the ministry there. This morning please be generous and support this important ministry.

**APRIL 4, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

Proverbs 3:5, 6 (NKJV) gives us these encouraging words:

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
And lean not on your own understanding;  
In all your ways acknowledge Him,  
And He shall direct your paths.”

A congregation that trusts in the Lord is a healthy congregation. Because the members trust the Lord, they also learn to trust each other.

Today's offering is for the ministries and operating expenses of our congregation. When we ask for an offering, we trust that each member will pray to the Lord for guidance and give accordingly.

Thank you for returning a faithful tithe and giving an offering for our local church.

**APRIL 11, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Canadian Christian Record Services\* (WB)**

“And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart” (Galatians 6:9, NKJV).

Did you know the Seventh-day Adventist Church has a ministry to people who are blind or visually impaired? Christian Record Services for the Blind improves the quality of life for more than 20,000 children, teens, and adults with visual impairments in 71 countries worldwide.

Christian Record helps the blind see Jesus by providing free programs and services such as:

Christian magazines and books in audio, braille, and large print formats

*Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guides* in audio and braille

*Primary Bible Study Guide* in braille

College scholarships

Bible study courses in audio, braille, and large print

Summer and winter camps

Spanish materials in audio and large print

Full-Vision books, a multi-format series for children and families, in audio, braille, and print

*inSight4Vets* audiobook players for blind or visually impaired military veterans

Open your eyes to the possibilities of partnering with Christian Record. Helen Keller wrote, “Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” Together we can do so much, and your financial gift today enables Christian Record to enhance the lives of people who are blind or visually impaired.

Thank you for supporting the ministry of Christian Record with your offerings.

**APRIL 18, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

When we give a gift to someone we love, the giver and the receiver experience joy. Sometimes we give a gift to a person as a way of showing appreciation for something they did. Ellen White reminds us that “the gifts are to be made in consideration of the great goodness of God to us” (*Stewardship*, page 80).

Today we are giving an offering for our local church. The offering will support the ministries and programs of our congregation. Our church is part of God's family, and we are truly giving to God. We give joyfully because we have experienced God's goodness to us.

Let us return God's tithe and give an offering for our local church today.

**APRIL 25, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Alberta Advance**

We are accustomed to hockey stats, census stats, and shopping stats...almost any kind of stats. Listen to some Alberta Adventist Education stats for the 2014-2015 school year. Keep in mind that these numbers are close approximations.

65 classrooms (including 9 virtual classrooms) filled with 872 students taught by 80 teachers and overseen by 12 administrators

105,000 instruction hours in Grades K-12

1600 lunch hours

20 Spiritual Emphasis weeks held bi-annually sometimes with guest speakers and sometimes presented by students

3 nature-based intentional days/weeks for students in Grades 5-9 where the time spent is intentionally Christ centered

Countless classroom worships and opportunities to pray together

Unnumbered outreach projects, acts of kindness and moments of care demonstrated by staff and students alike

It all happens because of:

Immeasurable dedication from teachers who do their utmost to help students achieve academic success

A myriad of rehearsals for special programs at school and in our churches

Adventist Education in Alberta

Employs dedicated and certified teachers

Serves Seventh-day Adventist families in every corner of Alberta

Impacts the surrounding community

Provides nurture and training to future church leaders

And lastly...needs and values your support! Thank you for being a part of educating our youth!

**MAY 2, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

Every so often we hear in the news that someone has made a large donation to a hospital, school, or some other worthy institution. Such gifts are a valuable source of income for these institutions and make it possible for them to serve their communities.

Many of us are not able to make such large gifts, yet whatever the size of our gift, in the eyes of God it can be a great gift. Listen to these encouraging words: "But it is not the greatness of the gift that makes the offering acceptable to God; it is the purpose of the heart, the spirit of gratitude and love that it expresses. Let not the poor feel that their gifts are so small as to be unworthy of notice" (*Stewardship*, pages 73 and 74).

Today, our offering is for the Church Family Budget. Let us give it with a spirit of gratitude and love in our heart. If we give with such an attitude, God will bless both the giver and the congregation.

I invite you to give an offering for the ministry of our local church and return God's tithe.

**MAY 9, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Disaster & Famine Relief \* (WB)**

Jesus said in Matthew 24:6 and 7 (NKJV), "See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. . . . And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places." We further read in *The Great Controversy* (pages 589 and 590), "Satan . . . is at work. In accidents and calamities . . . in fierce tornadoes and terrific hailstorms, in tempests, floods, cyclones, tidal waves, and earthquakes, in every place and in a thousand forms. . . . These visitations are to become more and more frequent and disastrous."

ADRA Canada is the Adventist church humanitarian agency. On our behalf they compassionately respond to disasters throughout the world. They provide food, water, and other essentials to survivors of wars, famines, earthquakes, floods and other life disrupting events. They remain after the immediate emergency to help those affected rebuild their homes and their lives.

We do not know when the next disaster will strike, but we do know that through humanitarian acts we make known the just, merciful and loving character of God.

Today, your offering will be gratefully received by ADRA Canada to further their efforts.

Thank you for returning God's tithe and supporting today's offering for ADRA Canada.

**MAY 16, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

The local church functions because members volunteer their time and share their talents. Also, it functions because the members support it financially. While giving is important, the Apostle Paul reminds us of something else that is very important. Paul writes, "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7, NIV). When we give gifts to loved ones, we do not give because we have to, but rather we give because we want to. Both the giver and the receiver experience joy. Paul reminds us that this is the same with our giving to God—we give gladly.

Today, the offering is for our church. It will be used to support the ministries, programs, and facilities of our congregation. You and I do not give because we are forced to give; we give cheerfully.

Thank you for returning God's tithe and giving an offering for our congregation.

**MAY 23, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Alberta Advance**

The offering today is for Alberta Advance. This offering provides the opportunity to support priority initiatives within the Alberta Conference. Foothills Camp receives a portion of the Alberta Advance offering to fund its improvements and ongoing development.

Foothills Camp, located in a natural setting along the Red Deer River, provides an environment where guests are able to appreciate the beauty and richness of nature provided by our Creator. Deer, squirrels, various birds, are amongst the Camp's frequent "visitors". This, along with the camp's peaceful surroundings, provide a restful setting for meetings and sessions focused on spiritual growth and achieving our mission of sharing God's love and the Gospel.

Programs for the youth are able to draw on Foothills Camp natural setting to provide learning opportunities about nature and experience living close to nature.

Please generously support Foothills Camp through Alberta Advance.

**MAY 30, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Burman University (formerly Canadian University College)**

Our offering today is to benefit Burman University (formerly CUC). It is exciting to hear of the tremendous growth that has taken place at Burman University over the past few years. With youth from every province in Canada, the Northwest Territories, much of the US and abroad, Burman University is very representative of our church in Canada and our world church. Many of our pastors, teachers, evangelists and administrators across Canada are proud of their connection to Burman University. Please support your university in Canada as our young men and women study, work and live together on a safe, vibrant, and diverse campus, striving to fulfill their goals of training for service.

Your gift today is very much appreciated and needed and does make a real difference in the lives and success of our incredible young people. Last year's offering increased substantially thanks to your increased participation. What a huge blessing if that could again grow to match the increasing needs. If not prepared today please take one of the special envelopes provided, home for future giving. Thank you for your financial support and for continuing to lift up the students, faculty and staff of Burman University in your thoughts and prayers throughout the year.

Investing in our youth is investing for eternity!

**JUNE 6, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

The Apostle Paul writes:

“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. I can do all this through him who gives me strength” (Philippians 4:12, 13, NIV).

Local congregations have also learned to be content in all situations. Sometimes we don't seem to have what we need, yet the Lord does not forget us. Sometimes we don't seem to have the money for our ministries, yet the Lord blesses us. The reason we are content is because God gives us the strength we need. That was Paul's experience and that can be ours, too.

Today's offering is for our local church. Ask the Lord to help you decide what you should give and remember that whatever you give, our church will be able to fulfill its mission because God will strengthen us.

Thank you for returning God's tithe and offering today for the Church Family Budget.

**JUNE 13, 2015**

**Today's Offering: General Conference Session Offering  
(for World Mission) GC**

An old hymn, "Give of Your Best to the Master," describes Jesus as "dauntless . . . young and brave," and its well-known refrain says:  
"Give of your best to the Master; Give of the strength of our youth."

The 2015 General Conference Session offering will provide children and young people the opportunity to give of their best to Jesus. The *Give them the Keys!* offering is a unique opportunity for the world church to show its confidence in the younger members of our family.

This offering will go 100 percent to mission, service, and outreach projects that are planned, owned, and implemented by children and young people from elementary, high school, and college age groups.

This offering will make it possible for children and young people to be involved in hundreds of unique and creative projects to reach people with the love of Jesus and the good news of salvation.

Please pray for this offering—that it will empower our young people in mission and be a life-changing experience for them and the people they reach.

**JUNE 20, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Canadian French Work\* (WB)**

Canada has two official languages: English and French. Most of the French population live in Quebec. History tells us that the Quebecois have become disillusioned with organized religion and are indifferent to the Present Truth. Our challenge is to reach 6.5 million of French-speaking Quebecois in la Belle Province one at a time.

The Il Est Écrit TV program is the most valuable evangelistic tool to reach the French-speaking populous in Canada. They received hundreds of letters every year from seekers who have been blessed by these programs, requesting prayers, visits and Bible studies.

Your offering today will help us to provide French materials to these seekers as well as to organize more outreach events.

God is opening up doors in cities across Quebec. In the cities of Rimouski and Gaspésie two Adventist medical doctors and their families recently relocated to those cities. They started small group Bible studies which are arousing some interest. Placing Bible workers in these cities will encourage evangelistic interest which will lead to a strong church plant in those cities.

Quebec City, the provincial capital, has a population of about 800,000 but only 125 Adventist members. The years 2015-2017 will be dedicated to intense evangelistic work in Quebec City.

Your generous support today will help us reach our French-speaking Quebecois, as well as build a strong Adventist presence in communities across Quebec.

Thank you for returning God's tithe and your support of the Canadian French Work.

**JUNE 27, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Alberta Advance**

Today's offering is for the Alberta Advance.

A portion of this offering supports our camp – Foothills Camp. Over 40 years ago, this camp was dedicated to the ministry of the gospel and is used as a spiritual retreat for all ages, including our youth. Many decisions for Christ have been made and many have been baptized in the pool and in the shallow waters of the river. The prayer of the Youth Department is that you give the gift of camp to some young person that you know and that you financially support this important ministry. Today, as the offering is collected, be generous. Let's all take ownership of our camp and give to help maintain and grow this important ministry.

**JULY 4, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

A Seventh-day Adventist minister, LeRoy E. Froom, tells us that “money is a good servant but a bad master. It is stored power. A power for evil when abused, it can be an even greater power and blessing for good” (*Ministry*, May 1960). Faithful stewards use money so that it is a blessing both in their lives and the lives of others. A congregation needs God’s guidance in their decisions on how to use the funds that are entrusted to it.

Today, the offering is for the local church. The offering will support the programs and ministries of this congregation and the upkeep of our facility. What you give today, God will bless.

Let us return God’s tithe and the offering for the Church Family Budget.

**JULY 11, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Women's Ministries\* NAD**

From the beginning, the Women's Ministries Department has been engaged in carrying out the mission of the Church, and that is "to proclaim to all peoples the everlasting gospel. . ." When Jesus explained what separates the sheep from the goats in Matthew 25:31–46, He made it clear that ministry to others is a primary characteristic of Christians. With the theme, "A Ministry for Every Woman," the North American Division Women's Ministries Department actively encourages every woman in the Church to be involved in service to others. According to Ellen G. White, "They [women] can come close to the hearts of those whom men cannot reach. Their labor is needed" (*Evangelism*, page 465).

Today's offering is for Women's Ministries in the North American Division. Your gift, marked Women's Ministries, will affirm the work of women in the church. By visiting [www.nadwm.org](http://www.nadwm.org) you can view all of the wonderful resources, including DVD Bible studies that are available.

Thank you for returning the Lord's tithe and for your support of the Women's Ministry offering.

**JULY 18, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

In Psalm 24:1, 2 (NKJV), David tells us:  
The earth *is* the Lord's, and all its fullness,  
The world and those who dwell therein.  
For He has founded it upon the seas,  
And established it upon the waters.

It is comforting to know that we belong to the Lord. Because we belong to God, He has made provision for us to be saved from our sins and become part of His kingdom. We thank Jesus Christ that, because of His ministry, death, and resurrection, we truly belong to God. Our congregation is part of God's kingdom.

Today's offering is for the local church. It will help us meet the needs of this congregation and the ministries we have. Thank you for your faithful support of this congregation with your time, talents, and offerings.

**JULY 25, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Alberta Advance**

The Alberta Conference is actively involved in supporting local churches and the Alberta Conference as a whole. Currently our summer camps are running and the programs held at Foothills Camp are touching those from very young to our seniors. We have the Blind Camp, Adventurer Camp, Junior Camp, Family and Senior Camp as well as Specialized and Teen Camp. There is definitely something for everyone. Without your support these programs would be impossible to happen. Your offering helps each member of the Alberta Conference. In fact, all of the Alberta Advance offering goes directly to the work here in Alberta – nothing is used for the Alberta Conference office.

**AUGUST 1, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

How do we respond to God's love for us? T. E. Unruh writes that "the true motive in Christian stewardship is *gratitude*, and gratitude is our response to the daily manifestations of God's love for us" (*Ministry*, March 1967).

When we hear the word "stewardship," we often think it only refers to money. Money is a part of stewardship, but stewardship also is about how we use all the gifts that God has given us. We, as a congregation, also need to be faithful stewards by using our gifts and means to serve our members and the communities where we live.

Today, the offering is for our local church. How much you give is a decision that you and the Lord need to make. Ask the Lord to guide you, and then respond to His guidance. You and I need to give with a spirit of gratitude to our God and Savior.

Let us return, in a spirit of gratitude, a faithful tithe and give an offering for the ministries and needs of our congregation. Thank you.

**AUGUST 8, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Andrews University/Loma Linda University\* (WB)**

Today's offering is for two well-known Seventh-day Adventist educational institutions—Andrews and Loma Linda universities. These schools were established and continue to fulfill the important mission of providing quality Christian education. We know that Christian education is expensive, but as a church, we continue to value this education for it prepares our youth for today's world and God's Kingdom.

Our denomination has always invested in young people. That is one of the reasons why we have one of the largest educational systems sponsored by a denomination. We need to make certain that our schools will continue to meet the needs of our youth.

I invite you to return the tithe and ask the Lord to bless you so that you can support with your offering the youth at Andrews and Loma Linda universities.

**AUGUST 15, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

“Time and money are two of God’s most valuable gifts. . . . But in both, God holds a designated reservation. There is holy time and there is holy money—the Sabbath and the tithe” (LeRoy E. Froom, *Ministry*, July 1960).

When Seventh-day Adventists think of time as a gift from God we, often refer to the Sabbath. And the Sabbath indeed is a wonderful gift from God. Each week, the Sabbath brings us blessings through rest, the opportunity for worship and fellowship, and a reminder that God is our Creator. On the other days, we also have time, and that is a gift from God.

In our society, money is part of our everyday lives. If properly used, money can be a blessing to others and us. Tithe is holy money, and God wants us to return it to Him. God does not force us to return tithe, but when we do, we enter into a wonderful partnership with Him.

Offerings also come from the money with which God has blessed us. How much we return in offering is a decision that we make. Today’s offering is for our local church so that we can conduct the ministries and programs that benefit our church and community. Thank you for returning the tithe and providing an offering to support our church budget.

**AUGUST 22, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Alberta Advance**

Giving. What does it mean to you? A charitable receipt at the end of the year? A specific project you may be interested in? Or, does it mean furthering the work and seeing the bigger picture of our church here in Alberta?

The Alberta Conference is composed of congregations that have joined together to advance Adventist missions within our province. The responsibilities and needs are great and include coordinating evangelism, education, technology, involving the youth, training local leaders for effective ministry, and supporting the pastors. A church and conference that is on the cutting edge of ministry and accomplishing Adventist mission will always be in need of funds to support and expand the work. In 2 Corinthians 9:7 NKJV it says, "So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver".

We are asking today for you to give. Don't leave the giving to the person next to you or the person in front of you or even the person who has more than you may have. Thank you for supporting the work in Alberta by giving to Alberta Advance.

**AUGUST 29, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Canadian Native Ministries\***

We are thankful for your support of the Canadian Native Ministry Offering year after year. Your offerings are doing great things to reach our Native population. It made it possible to finish the production of the 13 series "Native New Health" health DVDs. These Native New Health programs deal with some of the major issues that plague the Native population. These DVDs are being used on various reserves and prisons across Canada as an entering wedge for the gospel of salvation. Your funds also support our Native School in Alberta which grew from a kindergarten to grade 9 school to kindergarten to grade 12 school; as well as assist four of our conferences to hire Bible workers dedicated to the Native work.

Jesus wants us to partner with Him in His mission.

**"To preach** good tidings to the poor;

**To heal** the brokenhearted,

**To proclaim** liberty to the captives,

And **the opening of the prison** to *those who are* bound;

**To proclaim** the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God;

**To comfort** all who mourn,

**To console** those who mourn in Zion,

**To give** them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning,

The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness..."

**.....Isaiah 61:1-3**

Your continued prayerful financial support for the Canadian Native Ministries is gratefully appreciated.

**SEPTEMBER 5, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

I share with you Jesus' words: "If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer" (Matthew 21:22, NIV).

The local church is a place where our faith is tested on a regular basis. When we come to church, we trust that someone opened the church, that Sabbath School leaders are waiting for the children, and that worship has been planned. We believe in each other.

It is the same with the support of our local church ministries and programs. No one is forced to support them—we, as members under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, decide to support the activities of the church. Those in charge of these ministries have to believe that we will provide the needed funds for the ministries. The local church, indeed, is a place where we live by faith.

Thank you for returning a faithful tithe and for providing an offering for our Church Family Budget.

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Fall Mission Appeal (Unusual Opportunities)\* WB**

From time to time, situations develop which create mission opportunities where we can respond quickly if funds are available. In these cases, if we had to wait for months or years to raise funds, these opportunities might disappear. The "Unusual Opportunities" offering we are receiving today will be used for these situations.

Many of you may remember when the "Iron Curtain" fell. Shortly after that time, many properties in the former USSR became temporarily available at very low prices. Although a few were purchased at the time for church buildings, funds were very limited, so for the most part, this was a missed opportunity. More recently, a similar situation has developed in another country. Because of the existence of the "Unusual Opportunity Fund," we have been able to provide US\$700,000 for the purchase of prime properties at very low prices for future church locations. These are the kinds of things this offering is for, whether for properties, evangelism opportunities, or other "open doors" that may quickly close at any time, and we want to be ready.

You can help us respond to these opportunities by participating in the offering today.

**SEPTEMBER 19, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

Why do we come together each Sabbath? One reason is because God has set aside the Sabbath as a day of worship. Another is because we enjoy fellowshiping with other believers. Jesus gives one more reason when He says, ““But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you’ ” (Matthew 6:33, NKJV). We are on a journey together—traveling to God’s kingdom. If we are faithful to our mission, Jesus tells us that everything else will be added. God knows what we need, and He will supply those needs.

God knows the financial needs of our church. And if we listen to His voice, we will know, as individuals, what we should do. God never forces us to give. He wants us to give with a joyful heart.

Today, our offering is for the local church. This offering will support the ministries and programs of our congregation. I invite you to give from a joyful heart. If we give willingly, the Lord will bless, and the needs of our congregation will be met

**SEPTEMBER 26, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Alberta Advance**

What does Adventist Education mean to you? Have you had opportunity to witness the fruits of the dedicated teachers and administrators who make up our Adventist school system in Alberta?

One church member and graduate of the Seventh-day Adventist system reflects: *"From my earliest childhood days I longed to go to a "church school". I lived in a remote part of Alberta and Christian Education was available to no one in my corner of the world. During my middle school years, I had a short taste of what it was like to attend church school. My fellow students knew so much about the Bible. How I envied them. During my high school and college years, I was able to attend Seventh-day Adventist academies and colleges. Those were some of the best years of my life. I had leadership opportunities, travel opportunities through fine arts tours, and educational experiences that have served me well throughout my life. Later, when choosing an education path for our children, we made personal sacrifices to provide the best Seventh-day Adventist Christian education. Today, as we participate in our grand-children's education, we have no regrets for the past...and praise God for the future He provides for us."*

Is Adventist education perfect? No! Perfect does not exist on this earth, but it is the most perfect choice that can be made as we journey together to the kingdom. Whether or not we have children, we are provided an opportunity to participate in shaping children's lives for eternity. We invite you to dig deeply and partner with God to educate and nurture ambassadors for Christ!

**OCTOBER 3, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

In Deuteronomy 28:12 (NIV) we read, "The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands." Today in many parts of North America, not as many people live in rural areas, and thus may not appreciate the importance of rain for crops. But the verse also tells us the Lord wants "to bless all the work of your hands." That blessing is available to all of us.

The Lord wants to bless the work we as individuals do and also the work done by our congregation. The local church is a place where we come together to worship, fellowship, and make plans to proclaim the message of Jesus Christ. It's where we support each other and the ministries of the church. We also provide a place where we worship. Thank you for your support of the various ministries and programs of our congregation.

Today, the offering is for our local church. Let us thank the Lord for inviting us to worship together and give an offering for our local church.

**OCTOBER 10, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Voice of Prophecy Canada\* (WB)**

From its humble beginnings in a chicken coop in Walnut Park, California, to the global outreach ministry of today, *Voice of Prophecy* exists to bring lost people into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. This mission is carried out through evangelism, the *Discover Bible School*, media outreach, and global outreach.

*Discover Bible School* is the biggest Bible correspondence school on the planet. Tens of thousands have found Christ through *Discover*, using carefully planned and exquisitely guided studies of His Word.

In 1929, H.M.S. Richards sensed that the invention of radio was not simply for the sake of entertainment; it could be used to broadcast the Good News of the second coming of Christ. He was right. Today, countless individuals—perhaps hundreds of thousands—can trace their spiritual birth back to the *Voice of Prophecy*. His ideas were cutting-edge, and *Voice of Prophecy* continues to innovate and utilize the latest technological advancements.

With your support, the brightest days for *Voice of Prophecy* are still ahead.

Thank you for your offering for the *Voice of Prophecy Canada*.

**OCTOBER 17 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

The Apostle Paul writes, "God *is* faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord" (1 Corinthians 1:9, NKJV). God's faithfulness is a central theme of the Bible. It's because of God's faithfulness that Jesus Christ came to our world, lived among us, died for us, and rose for us.

The local congregation functions because members faithfully fulfill their responsibilities. "Thank you" to all those who gladly give of their time and abilities so that we have a place to worship and can benefit from the various church programs.

Today, our offering is for our Church Family Budget. This offering will provide the funds needed for various ministries and programs of our church. What we give, God will bless. We know He will fulfill His promise.

**OCTOBER 24, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Alberta Advance**

“Leading our churches to faithfulness in the support of God’s work will bring untold blessing upon the members individually and upon the church as a whole.” Roy Allan Anderson wrote this profound statement (*Ministry*, September 1961).

Those who have faithfully supported God’s work can testify of the blessings they have received. God has promised to bless, and He always keeps His promises. Our denomination has also been blessed because we have dedicated our resources to the proclamation of God’s message. The Alberta Advance helps support programs at Foothills Camp, Youth programs, Sabbath School programs as well Evangelism, Singles Ministry, SAGE and Family Life to mention a few.

Today, the offering is for Alberta Advance. The offering will benefit conference-wide programs and ministries.

**OCTOBER 31, 2015**

**Today's Offering: NAD Evangelism**

The preaching of the return of Jesus Christ has been a central message of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. We have proclaimed that message in the communities where we live and in areas where there are no Adventist churches. In the North American Division, there are many communities—large and small—where we still need to proclaim the message of Jesus Christ. That is why today we are calling for an offering throughout our division to support a variety of evangelistic projects.

During the past several years, we have focused on some of our major cities. Because of the generous offerings given by church members, the division has been able to support these city projects. We have a worldwide mission, and that includes the millions living in the large metropolitan areas. Today, the majority of the population lives in the large metropolitan centers, and we need to proclaim the good news to the millions in these cities. Let us partner with the Lord and proclaim the good news to those individuals.

Today, let us worship by returning a faithful tithe and, as the Lord impresses us, an offering for NAD Evangelism.

**NOVEMBER 7, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

What are the needs in our congregation? Does the building need some attention? How about the various programs in our church—do they need your support?

An Adventist minister Mel Rees wrote, “Those who plan their giving do not *wait* for things to give to—they *look* for them!” (*Ministry*, December 1969). I invite you to look around our church and *look* for things to give to. Where does the church need your talents, time, and abilities? Where does your congregation need your prayers? Do your church leaders need to hear your words of appreciation? Where does your church need your financial support? Look for opportunities to give to your church and strengthen its programs. When you give, your church will be blessed and you will experience the joy of partnering with God.

Let us return a faithful tithe and experience the joy of giving for our local congregation.

**NOVEMBER 14, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Annual Sacrifice (Global Mission)\* (WB)**

Since 1990, the Annual Sacrifice Offering has made it possible for Global Mission pioneers to establish more than 13,000 new congregations in previously unreached areas of the world.

Global Mission, the frontline mission arm of the Church, uses a holistic approach to reaching people. These pioneers work within their own culture where they understand the community and speak the local language. They help with peoples' basic needs, like food, water, shelter, healthcare, and education. They share lessons from the Bible whenever they can.

Your financial support makes it possible for frontline workers to offer hope and assurance to those who live in fear and despair. Whatever you give, it will make a big difference to someone who is still waiting to hear about Jesus.

Please give as generously as you can to the Global Mission Offering.

**NOVEMBER 21, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

Paul writes, "For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people" (2 Corinthians 8:3, 4, NIV).

That is how Paul describes the giving of the church members in Macedonia. He tells us that the members there were in "extreme poverty," (v. 2) yet they gave "beyond their ability" (v. 3). Furthermore, Paul tells us that they gave with an attitude of joy. The church in Macedonia was a sacrificial congregation.

In our congregation, there are individuals who do not have much, yet they give beyond their ability. And they do it joyfully. Thank you for your faithfulness. It's because of such faithfulness that we have a church.

Today's offering is for our local church. The funds received will be used for the ministries and operation of this congregation.

**NOVEMBER 28, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Alberta Advance**

It's hard to imagine there was a time when Seventh-day Adventists believed the Gospel Commission extended no further than the Atlantic Ocean in the east, and the Pacific Ocean in the west. They believed that going to every nation, kindred, tongue and people could be done right at home in the United States and Canada.

Fortunately, it wasn't long before the church realized its mission was for the whole world, and today we see tremendous progress. We've scattered literature like leaves of autumn. We've sent thousands of missionaries. We've broadcast satellite TV programs. We've established work in over 200 countries.

Yet major parts of Alberta still remain virtually untouched by the good news about Jesus. Today we need a fresh and larger vision for the needs of the people in our Province. Once again, like the early Adventists, we need to move outside our local congregations, our comfort zones and traditional thought patterns, and find new and fresh ways to reach the unreached in our Province with hope.

There's nothing more important in all the world than sharing the love of Jesus with people who don't know Him. There's nothing more rewarding than seeing the new life and hope that Jesus brings. Today you can help reach the unreached with hope by supporting the Alberta Advance offering. 100 % of your offering today goes to projects in the Alberta Conference.

**DECEMBER 5, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

The holiday season is a busy season. Many of us are making plans for family get-togethers. Others are busy buying gifts for loved ones and family members. And some, I might add, are even busy anticipating the gifts we may get.

We give gifts because we choose to do so. Just because we give gifts does not mean that the recipient will return a gift. Yet, God tells us that those who give, will in return, receive. Jesus tell us, “Give, and it will be given to you’ ” (Luke 6:38, NIV). Indeed, God is generous with His gifts, and we thank Him for that.

Today, the offering is for our local church. Let us give this gift joyfully to our church to support the various ministries of this congregation. Jesus is the ultimate gift we can share with others.

Thank you for returning God's tithe today and for giving an offering for the Church Family Budget.

**DECEMBER 12, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Canadian Inner City\* (WB)**

The World Budget today supports Inner Cities in Canada. By supporting Canadian Inner City, you can make a lasting impact in your community and beyond, whether it's volunteering your time, donating goods, or financial contributions. Touching one heart, one family, one community, we can transform the world. Commit to make a difference today through Canadian Inner City.

Jesus lived His life as a humble servant: “ ‘Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many’ ” (Matthew 20:28, NIV). Therefore, the bottom line of the Christian journey is to be servants of God. We bear witness throughout Jesus' ministry of a genuine servanthood approach toward humanity, especially people who were marginalized, disadvantaged, and disenfranchised from society. They were the poor, sick, unclean, and outcasts. Jesus expanded the kingdom of God to places, people, and cultures in which others were not interested.

Canadian Inner City offerings provides you with opportunities to serve communities in Christ's name. Assisting in disaster relief ministries, elder care, and crisis care, urban ministries, tutoring, and mentoring. Your financial gifts to the Canadian Inner City offering will make it possible to continue transforming communities—one life at a time.

**DECEMBER 19, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Church Family Budget**

A local church is made up of individuals who have accepted the Lord's invitation to worship and work together. The Psalmist writes these words of encouragement: "For our heart shall rejoice in Him, / because we have trusted in His holy name" (Psalm 33:21, NKJV). Rejoicing and trusting is important for a healthy congregation. We rejoice in the Lord and for the opportunity to be together. We trust the Lord and in each other.

One of the ways we show trust is by believing that the members will provide the funds needed to fulfill the ministry of the church. As we come to the end of the year, I want to thank you for the financial support you have given and the offering that you will give today. Let us continue to be faithful and provide the needed funds for our congregation.

Today, God invites us to return a faithful tithe and give an offering that our congregation needs for its ministries.

**DECEMBER 26, 2015**

**Today's Offering: Alberta Advance**

Today is the last Sabbath of the year. Whatever has happened during the year, we know that God has been with us, and for that we are so thankful.

The offering today is for Alberta Advance. The Alberta Advance offering provides the opportunity to support priority initiatives within the Alberta Conference which includes assisting with church building programs.

Many of Alberta's church congregations do not have a church facility and meet in rented locations. The lack of a permanent church home often limits the ability of these congregations to provide a full range of programs or provide a site from which to base outreach activities. The high cost of real estate and construction makes proceeding with a church facility development impossible without additional assistance.

The offering today is your opportunity to assist these congregations in furthering their mission. Please generously support Alberta Advance.

## **THIRTEENTH SABBATH OFFERINGS—2015**

North American Division March 28+

Northern Asia-Pacific Division June 27+

Southern Asia-Pacific Division September 26+

Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division December 26+

## **MISSION INVESTMENT PROJECTS—2015**

Southern +

Canadian +

\*Special Materials Provided

+Special Project Development

WB = Designates an offering for NAD that is part of the World Budget