



STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS



My All In Response to God's All!

TITHE AND OFFERINGS READINGS

2014

Celebrating God's Goodness
by
Dr. Richard J de Lisser

ATTENTION!

Dated material to be adapted,
translated and distributed to
Seventh-day Adventist Churches
before December 2013.

This resource is for use during the divine service before the offering is taken up. It may be bound so that the page for the day can be easily torn off and taken onto the pulpit by the designated elder/offering facilitator. It may also be downloaded online from www.adventiststewardship.com on the resources page. Each week's reading will also be posted on www.facebook.com/Dynamicstewards by Thursday of each week for access by local elders and service leaders and even members.

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Foreword

Celebrating God's Goodness Dr. Richard J. de Lisser



The age of austerity has given rise to the age of anxiety, as people around the world are worried about their economic future and they see no hope.

As God's people, however, our faith must remain resolute and strong even in the ruins of a recession, for even in the midst of austerity there is all-sufficiency in the provisions and the goodness of God!

Celebrating God's goodness to us is the overarching theme for this year's tithe and offering readings. Each month we celebrate a different aspect of God's goodness as an encouragement to us to hold on and remain faithful to Him in our giving. Remember that He will, "Open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you *such* blessing that *there will not be room* enough to *receive it*. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,"... "And all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land," says the Lord of hosts! (Malachi 3:10-12, *italics supplied*).

Be encouraged, my friends, and celebrate God's goodness this year!

Biographical Sketch of Dr. Richard Jermain de Lisser

Dr. Richard J. de Lisser is a fourth generation Seventh-day Adventist and was baptised in 1978. Having worked in the British Civil Service as an administrative assistant to the Secretary of State for Education, Lord Baker of Dorking, he responded to the call to enter gospel ministry and undertook his ministerial training at West Indies College, (now Northern Caribbean University) graduating in 1991 as the senior class president with a BA in Religion. In 1993 he graduated from Newbold College with a MA in Religion from Andrews University.

He commenced ministerial service in July 1993 and was ordained to the Gospel ministry in 1998. In 1999 he completed his doctoral degree and graduated from North Park Theological Seminary Chicago, Illinois, USA.

Dr. de Lisser has pastored seven churches and has served as a district coordinator, Chairman of the London Area Advisory Council (LAAC), Personal Ministries, Sabbath School and Communication Director and he currently serves as pastor of the Edmonton Church as well as Stewardship and Trust Services Director for the South England Conference. He is married to Joanne Graham-de Lisser, a health professional, and God has gifted them a 7 year old son Akala Joshua Alexander de Lisser.

Dr. de Lisser is a member of the Institute of Directors and is a published author, journalist, and editor. His first book is entitled *The Credit Crunch Christian: 27 Ways to Lookup When Things are Looking Down*. He is currently working on his second book entitled: *Credit Crunch Kids: 30 Ways of Finding Financial Freedom in God*.

Dr. Richard de Lisser has been recently diagnosed with early onset Parkinson's disease but continues to minister from a position of full dependence on God.

SABBATHS WITHOUT DESIGNATED OFFERINGS (DIVISION).

There are five Sabbaths in 2014 that do not have designated offerings. Each Division committee is to designate these offerings for use in their Division, Union or Conference. Hence they are labeled “Division” offerings in the calendar.

The Sabbaths are:

January	11
February	8
June	14
August	9
October	11

THIRTEENTH SABBATH OFFERINGS FOR 2014

West-Central Africa Division	March 29
Southern Asia Division	June 28
Euro-Asia Division	September 27
Inter-American Division	December 27

CALENDAR OF OFFERINGS

January

- 4.....Outreach/Church Budget
- 11.....Division
- 18.....Church Budget
- 25.....Conference/Union

February

- 1.....Outreach/Church Budget
- 8.....Division
- 15.....Church Budget
- 22.....Conference/Union

March

- 1.....Outreach/Church Budget
- 8^{*+}.....Adventist World Radio
- 15.....Church Budget
- 22.....Conference/Union
- 29.....Church Budget

April

- 5.....Outreach/Church Budget
- 12^{*+}.....World Mission Budget
- 19.....Church Budget
- 26.....Conference/Union

May

- 3.....Outreach/Church Budget
- 10^{*+}.....(Program provided for NAD only) Disaster and Famine Relief
- 17.....Church Budget
- 24.....Conference/Union
- 31.....Church Budget

June

- 7.....Outreach/Church Budget
- 14.....Division
- 21.....Church Budget
- 28.....Conference/Union

July

5.....	Outreach/Church Budget
12 ^{*+}	World Mission Budget
19.....	Church Budget
26.....	Conference/Union

August

2.....	Outreach/Church Budget
9.....	Division
16.....	Church Budget
23.....	Conference/Union
30.....	Church Budget

September

6.....	Outreach/Church Budget
13 ^{*+}	World Mission Budget (Unusual Opportunities)
20.....	Church Budget
27.....	Conference/Union

October

4.....	Outreach/Church Budget
11.....	Division
18.....	Church Budget
25.....	Conference/Union

November

1.....	Outreach/Church Budget
8 ^{*+}	Annual Sacrifice (Global Mission)
15.....	Church Budget
22.....	Conference/Union
29.....	Church Budget

December

6.....	Outreach/Church Budget
13.....	GC Session Offering
20.....	Church Budget
27.....	Conference/Union

*Program provided by the General Conference

+Worldwide offering

Summary of Offerings

General Conference	6
Division	6
Conference/Union	12
Church	<u>28</u>
Total:	<u>52</u>

SCHEDULED SPECIAL OFFERINGS

March 8.....Adventist World Radio

April 12.....World Mission Budget

May 10.....Disaster and Famine Relief

July 12.....World Mission Budget

September 13.....World Mission Budget
(Unusual Opportunities)

November 8.....Annual Sacrifice (Global Mission)

These information pages are reprinted at the end of the booklet for your convenience.

January 4, 2014

Offering: Outreach/Church Budget

Celebrating God's Goodness!

The New Year is here and Isaiah 43:18-19 says, Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing!

God has promised to do 'a new thing' for us in this New Year! As we begin the year let us commit ourselves to the one who holds the future.

In the book, *The Desert*, published in 1908 and written by Marie Louise Haskin, she penned the words of this poem entitled:

The Gate of The Year

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light, that I may tread safely into the unknown!" And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."

We don't know what will happen in this New Year, but we do know that once we place our hand in God's hands and give to Him what is due unto His name He will do for us a new thing!

Appeal: Let us be thankful to God and celebrate His goodness towards us this Year by giving an offering of thanksgiving.

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



January 11, 2014
Offering: Division
Celebrating His Ownership

Rev. 4:11 says, "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."

God created us for His pleasure, all that we are and all that we have belong to Him. In creating us He has endowed us with gifts that we are to invest for His glory and offer back to Him in thanksgiving. In doing so we celebrate His goodness to us as an extension of our Stewardship relationship with Him.

Acts 17:28 says, "For in Him we live and move and have our being." As some of your own poets have said, "We are his offspring."

Appeal:

God owns us, and all that we see around us. Let us be thankful to Him for His goodness towards us as we give our monetary gifts today.

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



January 18, 2014
Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating God's Ownership

Psalm 24:1 says, "The earth is the LORD'S, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein."

"The Lord sought to teach Israel that in everything He must be first. Thus they were reminded that God was the proprietor of their fields, their flocks, and their herds; that it was He who sent them the sunshine and the rain that developed the crops and ripened the harvest. Everything that they possessed was His" (*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 337).

God is good and His goodness flows to all of us in what He gives us for our benefit. God is not a selfish God even though He owns everything. God gives, that's His nature.

Appeal: Today why not let giving become part of our nature and by doing so help to benefit someone else! Remember, we don't own anything—it all belongs to Him!

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



January 25, 2014

**Offering: Conference/Union
Celebrating His Ownership**

“Yours, O LORD, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and You are exalted as head over all” (1 Chron. 29:11).

“When Satan declared to Christ, ‘The kingdom and glory of the world are delivered unto me, and to whomsoever I will I give it,’ he stated what was true only in part, and he declared it to serve his own purpose of deception. Satan’s dominion was that wrested from Adam, but Adam was the vicegerent of the Creator. His was not an independent rule. The earth is God’s, and He has committed all things to His Son. Adam was to reign subject to Christ. When Adam betrayed his sovereignty into Satan’s hands, Christ still remained the rightful King. Thus the Lord had said to King Nebuchadnezzar, ‘The Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will’ (Daniel 4:17)” *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 129, 130).

Appeal: Christ is the owner and ruler of this world and He depends upon us to help promote this truth to the world by giving for sake of the Gospel. God owns and God reigns; now that’s good news!

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!

February 1, 2014

**Offering: Outreach/Church Budget
Celebrating His Benevolence**

Deuteronomy 9:18 says, “And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.”

God’s benevolence towards us is so designed as to be reciprocated.

Ellen White states: “Practical benevolence will give spiritual life to thousands of nominal professors of the truth who now mourn over their darkness. It will transform them from selfish, covetous worshipers of mammon to earnest, faithful co-workers with Christ in the salvation of sinners” (*Testimonies*, Volume 3, p. 387).

Martin Luther once said, “I have held many things in my hand, and have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God’s hands that I still possess.”

Appeal:

We are partners with God in the blessings of benevolence. As we bless others so we ourselves are also blessed. As we give today we will be a blessing and we will be blessed. Be a blessing today!

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!



February 8, 2014
Offering: Division
Celebrating His Benevolence

God cares for us so much that, as Ellen White states, “He loads us with His benefits. We are indebted to Him for the food we eat, the water we drink, the clothes we wear, the air we breathe. Without His special providence, the air would be filled with pestilence and poison. He is a bountiful benefactor and preserver” (Counsels on Stewardship, p. 17). “Systematic benevolence should not be made systematic compulsion. It is freewill offerings that are acceptable to God. True Christian benevolence springs from the principle of grateful love. Love to Christ cannot exist without corresponding love to those whom He came into the world to redeem. Love to Christ must be the ruling principle of the being, controlling all the emotions and directing all the energies. Redeeming love should awaken all the tender affection and self-sacrificing devotion that can possibly exist in the heart of man. When this is the case, no heart-stirring appeals will be needed to break through their selfishness and awaken their dormant sympathies, to call forth benevolent offerings for the precious cause of truth” (*Testimonies*, Vol. 3, p. 396).

Appeal: Let us be moved with compassion and not compulsion as we give today, ‘For God loves a cheerful giver!’

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!

February 15, 2014
Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating His Benevolence

“Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine” (Prov. 3:9,10).

“Divine wisdom has appointed, in the plan of salvation, the law of action and reaction, making the work of beneficence, in all its branches, twice blessed. He who gives to the needy blesses others, and is blessed himself in a still greater degree” (*Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 13).

When we give to the Lord’s cause we make an investment into the kingdom and the souls gathered into its borders are blessed with eternal life. They are our result and our reward.

Appeal: Today we honor God for His goodness towards us by the gifts we bring to Him. We engage in the work of salvation through the blessings He has bestowed upon us and by extension we are blessed and the cycle begins again. Give! Don’t stop the blessings from flowing.

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!



February 22, 2014

**Offering: Conference/Union
Celebrating His Benevolence**

As we partner with God in our giving we cannot lose. Ellen White says, "That man might not lose the blessed results of benevolence, our Redeemer formed the plan of enlisting him as His coworker. God could have reached His object in saving sinners without the aid of man; but He knew that man could not be happy without acting a part in the great work. By a chain of circumstances which would call forth his charities, He bestows upon man the best means of cultivating benevolence, and keeps him habitually giving to help the poor and to advance His cause" (*Counsels on Stewardship*, p.13).

By its necessities a ruined world is drawing forth from us talents of means and of influence, to present to men and women the truth, of which they are in perishing need. And as we heed these calls, by labor and by acts of benevolence, we are assimilated to the image of Him who for our sakes became poor. In bestowing, we bless others, and thus accumulate true riches" (*Counsels on Stewardship*, p.13).

Appeal:

When we give like God gives we become like Him in word and in action. Do you want to be in God's image? Then give like God gives. Doesn't it feel good to know that YOU are like God when you give?

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!

March 1, 2014

**Offering: Outreach/Church Budget
Celebrating His Love**

John 3:16 says, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

“And what more appropriate time could be chosen for setting aside the Lord’s tithe and presenting our offerings to God? On the Sabbath we have thought upon His goodness. We have beheld His work in creation as an evidence of His power in redemption. Our hearts are filled with thankfulness for His great love. And now, before the toil of a week begins, we return to Him His own, and with it an offering to testify our gratitude. Thus our practice will be a weekly sermon, declaring that God is the possessor of all our property, and that He has made us stewards to use it to His glory. Every acknowledgment of our obligation to God will strengthen the sense of obligation. Gratitude deepens as we give it expression, and the joy it brings is life to soul and body” (*The Review and Herald*, February 4, 1902).

Appeal:

Loving is giving! Giving is loving! If we love like God loves we will give like gives. Go on, tell Him that you love Him—give!

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!



March 8, 2014

**Offering: Adventist World Radio
Submitted by AWR – Shelley Nolan**

With 1.3 billion people, China is one of the church's largest mission fields. For years, Adventist World Radio has broadcast programs in Mandarin for 10 hours a day to China. All of those programs can now be heard on the Internet as well.

This voice of hope is bringing news of God's love to those who need it most, such as this listener who wrote:

"The past years, I have counted on your prayers and your website to help me pass through much difficulties. Though we have not met, it was your prayers that led me to feel the love of the Lord, and I have felt it was the Lord helping me through you. As a single parent having a daughter with depression and suicidal inclination, I felt the sky was to collapse on me. [You] made me feel there is someone praying for me in some part of the world. The Lord has cared for my daughter time after time. May [He] bless our family as we work for Him."

Appeal: AWR's programs can be heard on shortwave, AM/FM, and online in nearly 100 languages. Your generous gift to the annual AWR offering today will keep those programs traveling to the furthest corners of the globe. Thank you for your support!

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!

March 15, 2014
Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating His Love

Luke 12:6-7 says, “Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.”

God values us more than we know. We are precious in His sight and His love towards us knows no limit.

Ellen White writes, “Forgetting our own difficulties and troubles, let us praise God for an opportunity to live for the glory of His name. Let the fresh blessings of each new day awaken praise in our hearts for these tokens of His loving care. When you open your eyes in the morning, thank God that He has kept you through the night. Thank Him for His peace in your heart. Morning, noon, and night, let gratitude as a sweet perfume ascend to heaven” (*The Review and Herald*, June 2, 1910).

Appeal: God loves us, and that’s a fact! But how much do we love Him? Only our giving will show. Show God some love today!

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!



March 22, 2014

**Offering: Conference/Union
Celebrating His Love**

1 John 3:1-2 says, "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."

"Those who have risen with Christ to walk in newness of life are the elect of God. They are holy unto the Lord and are acknowledged by Him as His beloved. As such, they are under solemn covenant to distinguish themselves by showing humility of mind. They are to clothe themselves in garments of righteousness. They are separate from the world, from its spirit, its practices, and they are to reveal that they are learning of Him who says, 'I am meek and lowly in heart' (Matt. 11:29). If they realize that they have died with Christ, if they keep their baptismal vow, the world will have no power to draw them aside to deny Christ. If they live the life of Christ in this world, they are partakers of the divine nature. Then, when Christ, who is our life, shall appear, they also will appear with Him in glory" (*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 19, pp. 236, 237).

Appeal: If we are like Him, let us give like Him today!

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



March 29, 2014
Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating His Love

1 John 4:19 says, "We love him, because He first loved us."

The late great American writer of religious and inspirational poetry, Helen Steiner Rice (1900 - 1981), wrote in her poem entitled, *How Little We Know of Suffering and Woe*:

"God, how little I was really aware
Of the pain and the trouble and deep despair
That floods the hearts of those in pain
As they struggle to cope and feel it's in vain,
Crushed with frustration and with 'no haven to seek,'
With broken spirits and bodies weak
And yet they forget Christ suffered and died
And hung on the Cross and was crucified,
And He did it all so some happy day
When the sorrows of earth have all passed away,
We who have suffered will forever be free
To live with God in Eternity."

Appeal: This is what love did. This is what love does.
What tangible way can we respond to this...but give!

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



April 5, 2014

**Offering: Outreach/Church Budget
Celebrating His Greatness**

Psalms 48:1 says, "Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness."

In 1715 King Louis XIV of France died after a reign of 72 years. He had called himself "the Great," and was the monarch who made the famous statement, "I am the State!" His court was the most magnificent in Europe, and his funeral was equally spectacular. As his body lay in state in a golden coffin, orders were given that the cathedral should be very dimly lit with only a special candle set above his coffin, to dramatize his greatness. At the memorial, thousands waited in hushed silence. Then Bishop Massilon began to speak; slowly reaching down, he snuffed out the candle and said, "Only God is great" (*Today in the Word*, April, 1989, p. 24).

Psalms 95: 3 says, "For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods."

Appeal: Only God is great! If He is great to us then we will give to Him. We cannot out-give God's greatness as His greatness far exceeds our giving, but we can celebrate His greatness through our giving. Let us give to the cause of a great God! Only God is great!

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!

April 12, 2014

Offering: World Mission Budget

Submitted by GC Treasury – Verland Ernston

Did you know that there are approximately 13,000 spoken languages in the world? And that Adventist publications are printed in less than 400 of them?

Did you know that 3.1 billion people have no access to the Scriptures? That's half the population of the earth! And 2 billion of them are unaware that there is even such a thing as a Christian Bible.

Twice a year the offering taken during our church service goes to support mission work around the world, and today is one of those days.

It helps fund missionaries, hospitals, clinics, schools, and churches. And it helps print literature and prepare broadcasts so that people who may otherwise never know of Jesus can hear or read about Him in their own language.

Appeal: Today we have a special opportunity to help share words of hope and love. Your help is appreciated. Thank you for supporting the World Mission Offerings and reaching a world in need.

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



April 19, 2014
Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating His Greatness

Psalms 86:10 says, “For thou art great, and doest wondrous things: thou art God alone.”

The most wondrous thing that God has ever done was to send His Son Jesus to die for us as outlined in the Bible’s most famous verse, John 3:16. William P. K. Lee, in *Tear Drop on Seed Life*, puts this verse into what he identifies as the 12 greatest things to ever exist in the universe.

“For God”—the greatest person
“So loved”—the greatest love
“The world”—the greatest multitude
“That He gave”—the greatest act
“His only Begotten Son”—the greatest gift
“That whosoever”—the greatest individual
“Believeth”—the greatest faith
“In Him”—the greatest assurance
“Should not”—the greatest deliverance
“Perish”—the greatest sentence
“But have”—the greatest possession
“Everlasting life”—the greatest life

Appeal: The greatest gift from the greatest God!
What will our response be as we celebrate His greatness today?

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



April 26, 2014
Offering: Conference/Union
Celebrating His Greatness

Job says in Job 36:26, “Behold, God is great, and we know him not, neither can the number of his years be searched out.”

“He who desires to rise to true greatness must walk humbly before God, not with a forced humility, but with a genuine sense of his own inefficiency and of God’s greatness. He is to strive earnestly to make the soul temple a place where God delights to dwell” (E.G. White: *A Call to Medical Evangelism and Health Education* p.46).

“He whose heart God touches is filled with a great love for those who have never heard the truth. Their condition impresses him with a sense of personal woe. Taking his life in his hand, he hurries away, a God-sent, God-inspired messenger, to do a work in which angels can co-operate” (E.G. White: Manuscript 73, 1901).

Appeal: Through our tithes and offerings today we celebrate the greatness of God and we assist in His great work, that of the spreading of the gospel. Do you want to be great? Then give!

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



May 3, 2014
Offering: Outreach/Church Budget
Celebrating His Blessings

Ephesians 3:1 says, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.”

We are a blessed people, both individually and collectively. But what do we do with our blessings? Do we share them or do we hoard them? God’s blessings are to be shared. Those of us who are blessed must become a blessing—by blessing others!

Ellen White says, “To every true believer God imparts light and blessing, and this the believer imparts to others in the work that he does for the Lord. As he gives of that which he receives, his capacity for receiving is increased. Room is made for fresh supplies of grace and truth. Clearer light, increased knowledge, are his. On this giving and receiving depend the life and growth of the church. He who receives, but never gives, soon ceases to receive. If the truth does not flow from him to others, he loses his capacity to receive. We must impart the goods of heaven, if we would receive fresh blessing” E.G. White: *Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 36).

Appeal: Give to the cause of Christ! Be a blessing today and we’ll be blessed ourselves!

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!



May 10, 2014

Offering: Disaster and Famine Relief

(Program provided for NAD only)

Submitted by ADRA – Crister Delacruz

In the news, we are often overwhelmed with images of misery and pain. Most global headlines are about conflict, suffering, and death. Annually, millions around the world needlessly suffer from hunger and are displaced by disaster.

Statistics tell us that hunger kills more people than AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis combined. Millions more suddenly find themselves victims of a disaster and are left with nothing more than the clothes on their back. Do you find yourself wondering what you can do to help someone in need?

In cases of emergency, ADRA is there to show God's love and mercy to the suffering. Following the example of Jesus, ADRA is able to help an estimated 20 million annually. In over 120 countries around the world, ADRA feeds the hungry, shelters the homeless, educates the illiterate, provides healthcare to the sick, protects the innocent, and gives hope to the hopeless.

Appeal: Through our offering this morning, we are partnering with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) to become an agent of hope and healing today, to men, women and children, like Jesus did while He was on earth.

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



May 17, 2014
Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating His Blessings

Hebrews 6:7 says, “For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh off upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God”.

God created the earth to be a blessing to us! We are sustained on this planet by the power of His hand.

As Ellen White writes, “Every good thing of earth was placed here by the bountiful hand of God as an expression of His love to man. The poor are His, and the cause of religion is His. The gold and the silver are the Lord’s; and He could rain them from heaven if He chose. But instead of this He has made man His steward, entrusting him with means, not to be hoarded, but to be used in benefiting others. He thus makes man the medium through which to distribute His blessings on earth” (*Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 15).

Appeal: In our giving, let us choose to be blessing bearers today!

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!



May 24, 2014
Offering: Conference/Union
Celebrating His Blessings

Luke 6:38 says, “Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.”

We are conduits of God’s blessings. His blessings are to be shared liberally and with alacrity.

Ellen White writes, “The Lord does not propose to come to this world, and lay down gold and silver for the advancement of His work. He supplies men with resources, that by their gifts and offerings they may keep His work advancing. The one purpose above all others for which God’s gifts should be used is the sustaining of workers in the harvest field. And if men will become channels through which heaven’s blessing can flow to others, the Lord will keep the channel supplied” (*Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 36).

Appeal: Keep the channels open. Freely we have received, freely we give!

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!



May 31, 2014

**Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating His Blessings**

Proverbs 10:22 says, “The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.”

We are rich! We are blessed! We have many reasons to be thankful. We have reason to be grateful, for God has blessed us.

Ellen White writes, “It is God who blesses men with property, and He does this that they may be able to give toward the advancement of His cause. He sends the sunshine and the rain. He causes vegetation to flourish. He gives health and the ability to acquire means. All our blessings come from His bountiful hand. In turn, He would have men and women show their gratitude by returning Him a portion in tithes and offerings—in thank offerings, in freewill offerings, in trespass offerings. Should means flow into the treasury in accordance with this divinely appointed plan—a tenth of all the increase, and liberal offerings—there would be an abundance for the advancement of the Lord’s work” (*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 75).

Appeal: Let us advance the cause of Christ through the blessings He has bestowed upon us. Let us celebrate His blessings today as we return the Lord’s tithes and give our freewill offerings.

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!



June 7, 2014

**Offering: Outreach/Church Budget
Celebrating His Creation**

Genesis 1:1 says, “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” Our stewardship began with His creatorship and ownership. We became custodians at creation and stewards on the sixth day.

Ellen White writes, “[Their] gracious Master was the true proprietor of their fields, their flocks, and their herds; ...the God of heaven sent them sunshine and rain for their seedtime and harvest, and ... everything they possessed was of His creation. All was the Lord’s, and He had made them stewards of His goods” (*Testimonies*, Vol. 4, p. 77).

He allows us to benefit from His creation even though we did not contribute to the earth’s creation. We are privileged beneficiaries of creation.

Appeal: As His stewards, let us celebrate His creative acts today. Through our giving let us, allow others to be beneficiaries of His *re-creative* acts.

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!



June 14, 2014
Offering: Division
Celebrating His Creation

Psalms 19:1-3 says, "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.

God's glory is revealed to us everyday, His creative acts are seen all around us. Who can deny that there is a God! But many are denied the privilege of knowing the God of which nature speaks because they have not been reached with the gospel. George Washington Carver said, "I love to think of nature as an unlimited broadcasting station through which God speaks to us every hour, if we will only tune in."

It is our responsibility through our giving to ensure that while nature speaks of God, we act on God's behalf to reach lost souls for Christ!

Appeal: As creation preaches its sermon everyday let us provide the means and partner with God to show to the world the glory of the gospel of salvation.

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



June 21, 2014

**Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating His Creation**

Psalms 33: 6-9 says, “By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.”

The God of creation is to be celebrated! He alone is worthy of our praise, our honor and our gifts. Ellen White writes, “God’s claim to reverence and worship, above the gods of the heathen, is based upon the fact that He is the Creator, and that to Him all other beings owe their existence” (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 336).

Appeal: Giving is an act of worship! As we celebrate and honor our creator God today through our gifts, let us remember that we owe Him a debt of gratitude for being alive today. Let us give so that others might live!

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!



June 28, 2014

**Offering: Conference/Union
Celebrating His Creation**

Psalms 8:3-6 says, “When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? And the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet.”

What a privilege it is that God has given to us this earth to look after. We are to have dominion over it but not domination. We are to care for the earth as God cares for us on the earth. What an awesome responsibility!

Ellen White states, “We should regard ourselves as stewards of the Lord’s property and God as the supreme proprietor, to whom we are to render His own when He shall require it” (*Testimonies*, vol. 4, pp. 480 - 481).

Appeal: We have a responsibility to look after God’s creation; to sustain it and maintain it for future generations. As we give today let us give out of gratitude to God who gave us dominion over the earth remembering that our gifts will help spread the Good News all over the earth. Now that’s dominion!

My all in response to God’s all!



July 5, 2014

**Offering: Outreach/Church Budget
Celebrating His Faithfulness**

God is faithful! His promises are sure! Lamentations 3:22-23 says, "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

God will never fail us! God will never leave us! His mercies are new every morning.

Ellen White writes, "What God promises He is able at any time to perform, and the work which He gives His people to do He is able to accomplish by them. If they will live according to every word He has spoken, every good word and promise will be fulfilled unto them. But if they come short of perfect obedience, the great and precious promises are afar off and they cannot reach the fulfillment" (*Counsels on Health*, p. 378).

Appeal: God is faithful, but what about us? As we give today lets us represent God's faithfulness by our faithful giving, so that the work of the gospel can be accomplished through us. Remember He is faithful because He has promised!

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



July 12, 2014

Offering: World Mission Budget

Submitted by GC Treasury – Verland Ernston

A few years ago, an emphasis on “project giving” began which has resulted in mission work that may otherwise not have been possible. But once completed, successful projects often become part of the on-going work of the church and must be sustained if that success is to continue. And that requires on-going, regular, systematic “non-project” giving from our faithful members.

Today’s offering for the “World Mission Budget” is added to other “non-project giving” such as our Sabbath School Mission offerings. The members in many locations around the world cannot afford the continuing, day-to-day operating expenses of this mission work. Therefore “non-project giving” is essential to sustain the work of the long-term success of “project giving.”

“In His providence, the Lord has ordained that the work in His vineyard should be sustained by the means entrusted to the hands of His stewards” (*Testimonies*, Vol.3, p.117).

Appeal:

May we be faithful stewards today, in sustaining the Lord’s work.

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!



July 19, 2014
Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating His Faithfulness

We have some great singers in the church who sing some great songs, but the psalmist going solo states in Psalms 89:1, “I will sing of the mercies of the Lord for ever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations.”

The psalmist will never ever run out of things to sing about as it pertains to the mercies of God and His faithfulness and neither will we.

The psalmist goes on to say in verse 8, “O Lord God of hosts, who is a strong Lord like unto thee or to thy faithfulness round about thee?” No one is faithful like our God! His promises are sure!

Ellen White writes, “God knows our wants, and has provided for them. The Lord has a treasure house of supplies for His children, and can give them what they need under all circumstances. Then why do we not trust Him? He has made precious promises to His children on condition of faithful obedience to His precepts” (*That I May Know Him*, p. 224).

Appeal: May our giving be music to God’s ears in celebration of His faithfulness, for His promises are sure!

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!



July 26, 2014
Offering: Conference/Union
Celebrating His Faithfulness

Never hide God's faithfulness to you! Someone needs to hear your story to strengthen them along life's journey. Tell your story!

Like the psalmist declares in Psalms 40:10, "I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart; I have declared thy faithfulness and thy salvation: I have not concealed thy lovingkindness and thy truth from the great congregation."

Tell your testimony, as John the Revelator writes in Revelation 12:11, "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony...."

Ellen White declares, "Your testimony in its genuineness and reality He will make powerful in the power of the life to come. The word of the Lord will be in your mouth as truth and righteousness (*Christ's Object Lessons*, p.148).

Appeal: What testimony do you have to tell today about God's faithfulness? Tell somebody and let us remember to thank God for His faithfulness towards us in our gifts to Him today!

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



August 2, 2014

**Offering: Outreach/Church Budget
Celebrating His Gifts**

God gives gifts! God loves gifts! You are God's gift to the world! You are a gift, you are gifted and you are a walking repository of God's gifts! 1 Corinthians 12:8-11 records, "For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."

Ellen White says, "God bestows various talents and gifts upon men, not that they may lie useless, nor that they may be employed in amusements or selfish gratification, but that they may be a blessing to others by enabling men to do earnest, self-sacrificing missionary work. God grants man time for the purpose of promoting His glory" (*Evangelism*, p. 266).

Appeal: God has gifted you to the world and entrusted you with His gifts. God gives gifts to you to be used for His glory. What gift can you give to Him today in celebration of His gift to you? Remember God loves gifts!

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



August 9, 2014
Offering: Division
Celebrating His Gifts

God gives the best gifts! Matthew 25:14-15 says, "For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey".

What has God gifted to you while He has been away?
And what are you doing with these gifts?

Ellen White declares, "God has committed to each of us sacred trusts, for which He holds us accountable. It is His purpose that we so educate the mind as to be able to exercise the talents He has given us in such a manner as to accomplish the greatest good and reflect the glory to the Giver" (*Testimonies*, Vol. 3, p. 32).

The Master is about to return to check on His investments. Will He celebrate with us on a handsome return, or will we find ourselves outside of the kingdom gift-less and lost?

Appeal: As we give today let us remember to use our other gifts to His glory, so that many others will be able to gain eternal life.

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



August 16, 2014
Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating His Gifts

As we use God's gifts to us they are multiplied miraculously. 2 Corinthians 9:6 says, "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."

Commenting on this concept, Ellen White states, "Talents used are talents multiplied. Success is not the result of chance or of destiny; it is the outworking of God's own providence, the reward of faith and discretion, of virtue and persevering effort. The Lord desires us to use every gift we have; and if we do this, we shall have greater gifts to use" (*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 353).

Ours gifts and talents once used and invested will bring great returns. The more that we use them the more they will be multiplied.

Appeal: Our monetary gifts that we give today will also be multiplied, and when we get to heaven will we witness the return on our investment with multiple souls added to the kingdom! May our gifts be multiplied today!

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



August 23, 2014
Offering: Conference/Union
Celebrating His Gifts

The gift of the gospel is God's best gift, Matthew 24:14 says, "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

God gives gifts for the promulgation of the gospel. Ellen White declares, "God has a great work to be done in a short time. He has committed to the young talents of intellect, time, and means, and He holds them responsible for the use they make of these good gifts. He calls upon them to come to the front, to resist the corrupting, bewitching influences of this fast age, and to become qualified to labor in His cause. They cannot become fitted for usefulness without putting heart and energy into the work of preparation" (*Lift Him Up*, p.127).

Appeal: Our young people have the gift of energy, vigor, and vitality, coupled with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit; God's great work will be done. As we return the Lord's tithe and offerings today, why not think of it as an investment in the future of our young people and in the finishing of the work of the Gospel!

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



August 30, 2014
Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating His Gifts

God gives good gifts! James 1:17, says, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

The New Testament describes three of God's good gifts:

The Gift of Christ: John 4:10 says, "Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldst have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water."

The Gift of the Holy Spirit: Acts 8:18-20 says, "And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. But Peter said unto him, thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money."

The Gift of Eternal Life: Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Appeal: God has given to us heaven's choicest gifts. What will we give in return?

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!

September 6, 2014
Offering: Outreach/Church Budget
Celebrating His Work

The work of God is exciting!

Isaiah 61:1 says, “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.”

The work of God is engaging!

Mark 16:15 says, “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”

The work of God costs money!

Ellen White declares, “The work of evangelizing the world has been greatly hindered by personal selfishness. Some, even among professing Christians, are unable to see that the work of the gospel is to be supported by the means that Christ has given them. Money is needed in order that the work done all over the world may be carried forward” (*Testimonies*, vol. 9, p. 52).

Appeal: The work of God is supported and celebrated through our giving. Every soul added to the kingdom costs. What will we contribute to the work of God today?

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



September 13, 2014

Offering: World Mission Budget (Unusual Opportunities)

Submitted by GC Treasury – Verland Ernston

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

For the past several years, this offering has averaged over US \$600,000, and has been used in places like Syria, Zanzibar, and Yemen.

Appeal: We can have a part in responding to these urgent opportunities by participating in our offering today.

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



September 20, 2014
Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating His Work

The wisest thing that we could ever do as Christians is to engage in the work of soul winning. In fact, our Christian credentials would be called into question if this were not our first work!

The wise man Solomon declares in Proverbs 11:30, “The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.” Ellen White writes, “Those who rejoice in the precious light of truth should feel a burning desire to have it sent everywhere” (*Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 42).

The light of truth must radiate from our hearts to such an extent that we will sacrifice everything we have for the work of God. As Ellen White states, “Thousands upon thousands are perishing in sin, and a lack of means is hindering the proclamation of the truth that is to be carried to all nations and kindreds and tongues and people. There are men ready to go forth as the Lord’s messengers, but because of a lack of means in the treasury they cannot be sent to the places where the people are begging for someone to come and teach them the truth” (*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, p. 52).

Appeal: Are we helping God’s work or are we hindering it? Our giving will tell!

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!



September 27, 2014
Offering: Conference/Union
Celebrating His Work

Investing in God's work brings temporal and eternal blessings. Malachi 3:10 promises, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

Ellen White, commenting on this chapter, states: "Never was there a more important time in the history of our work than the present. The message of the third chapter of Malachi comes to us, holding up before us the need of honesty in our relations to the Lord and His work. My brethren, the money that you use to buy and sell and get gain will be a curse to you if you withhold from the Lord that which is His. The means entrusted to you for the advancement of the Lord's work should be used in sending the gospel to all parts of the world" (Testimonies, Vol. 9, p. 53).

Appeal: The finishing of God's work depends on you and me and the means that we have at our disposal. Today as we further the work of God through our giving let us prepare ourselves for temporal and eternal blessings.

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



October 4, 2014

**Offering: Outreach/Church Budget
Celebrating His Church**

The Church is God's chosen investment agency on earth for the salvation of mankind. 1 Peter 2:9 says, "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light".

Ellen White states, "Every believer should be wholehearted in his attachment to the church. Its prosperity should be his first interest.... It is in the power of all to do something for the cause of God. There are those who spend a large amount for needless luxuries; they gratify their appetites, but feel it a great tax to contribute means to sustain the church. They are willing to receive all the benefit of its privileges, but prefer to leave others to pay the bills. Those who really feel a deep interest in the advancement of the cause will not hesitate to invest money in the enterprise whenever and wherever it is needed" (*Testimonies*, Vol. 4, p.18).

Appeal: God has made an investment in us! He has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light! Have we made a financial investment in His church? Remember the prosperity of God's church is our responsibility.

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



October 11, 2014
Offering: Division
Celebrating His Church

The Church of the first century was an exciting church to be involved in. It was a church of action, activity and productivity. It was founded by God, functioned by the Holy Spirit and focused on Christ and His soon return. Acts 2:46-47 records, "And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

Ellen White says, "The church is God's appointed agency for the salvation of men. It was organized for service, and its mission is to carry the gospel to the world. From the beginning it has been God's plan that through His church shall be reflected to the world His fullness and His sufficiency. The members of the church...are to show forth His glory. The church is the repository of the riches of the grace of Christ; and through the church will eventually be made manifest, even to 'the principalities and powers in heavenly places,' the final and full display of the love of God" (*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 9).

Appeal: Are you excited to be a part of God's last day Church? Let us give to the cause and watch God add to the church daily such as should be saved.

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



October 18, 2014
Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating His Church

This is God's Church! He founded it upon Himself! Hell may rail against the church but it will never prevail against it! However, if as a church we hide the message of salvation behind the doors of the church then ostensibly the gates of hell have prevailed momentarily against the church!

Open the doors of the church! Get the message out! Kick down the gates of hell and take territory for Christ! Ellen White declares, "The church is God's fortress, His city of refuge, which He holds in a revolted world. Any betrayal of the church is treachery to Him who has bought mankind with the blood of His only-begotten Son. From the beginning, faithful souls have constituted the church on earth. In every age the Lord has had His watchmen, who have borne a faithful testimony to the generation in which they lived. These sentinels gave the message of warning; and when they were called to lay off their armor, others took up the work. God brought these witnesses into covenant relation with Himself, uniting the church on earth with the church in heaven. He has sent forth His angels to minister to His church, and the gates of hell have not been able to prevail against His people" (*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 11).

Appeal: May our faithfulness today find favour with God and the future faithful ones!

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



October 25, 2014

**Offering: Conference/Union
Celebrating His Church**

God's church is a working church! God's church is a worshipping church! Working for God and worshipping God go hand in hand. The one leads to the other.

Acts 14:27 says, "And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles."

The church came together to worship and to talk about the work of the church, which is the saving of souls.

Ellen White writes, "The church is organized for service; and in a life of service to Christ, connection with the church is one of the first steps. Loyalty to Christ demands the faithful performance of church duties. This is an important part of one's training; and in a church imbued with the Master's life, it will lead directly to effort for the world without" (*Education*, p. 268).

Appeal: Loyalty to Christ and the work of His church is our Christian duty. Our giving, as an act of worship, shows our loyalty to Him, for it enables the work of His church to grow and enter new territory. Why not worship Him in our giving? Why not work for Him through our giving?

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



November 1, 2014

**Offering: Outreach/Church Budget
Celebrating His Promises**

God is a promise keeper!

The hymn writer, Russell Kelso Carter, wrote the famous hymn *Standing on the Promises of God* after having suffered from a very serious heart condition at age 30. He promised God that if he was healed or not he would serve the Lord for the rest of his life. He began to stand on the promises of God's word and lived healthily for another 49 years! The second stanza of the song and the refrain sum up his resolve. They read:

Standing on the promises that cannot fail
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail
By the living Word of God I shall prevail
Standing on the promises of God

Refrain:

Standing, standing
Standing on the promises of God my Savior
Standing, standing
I'm standing on the promises of God

Appeal: God keeps His promises. God keeps His word. Do we keep our promises? Do we keep our word? What have we promised to give to God today?

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



November 8, 2014

Offering: Annual Sacrifice (Global Mission)

Submitted by: Adventist Mission - Nancy Kyte

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.

With a presence in nearly 200 countries, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is one of the fastest growing denominations in the world. But there is still much work to be done.

Global Mission, the frontline mission arm of the Church, uses a wholistic approach to reaching people. The pioneers work within their own culture where they understand the community and speak the local language. They often help with people's basic needs like food, water, shelter, health care, education, and sharing the Bible.

Your financial support makes it possible for frontline workers to offer hope and assurance to those who live in fear and despair. Every dollar makes a big difference to a man, woman, or child somewhere—to *someone* who is still waiting to hear about Jesus.

Appeal: Please give as generously as you can to the Annual Sacrifice Offering. Thank you!

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



November 15, 2014
Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating His Promises

God is faithful to His promises!

Hebrews 10:23 says, “Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;).”

A preacher once asked this question of his congregation: “Are we standing on the promises or sitting on the premises?”

Ellen White writes, “Take Christ at His word, and let your lips declare that you have gained the victory. Is Jesus true? Does He mean what He says? Answer decidedly, yes, every word. Then if you have settled this, by faith claim every promise that He has made, and receive the blessing” (*Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p.517).

The children sing a little song and it goes like this:
Every promise in the Book is mine,
Every chapter, every verse, every line;
All are blessings of His love divine,
Every promise in the Book is mine.

Appeal: Claim God’s promise today! Luke 6:38 says, “Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over!” That’s a promise!

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!



November 22, 2014
Offering: Conference/Union
Celebrating His Promises

If it were not for the promises of God where would we be? As the Pilgrim Fathers set out for the New World they were guided by the promises of God and relied upon Him for their everything, believing that, as it is recorded in Philippians 4:19: “But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

Their need was to build and develop, plant and reap, live and love, dream and be free. For the prospect of all of this they were thankful, and grateful for the promises of God.

Abraham Lincoln recorded these telling words at Thanksgiving-time during the Civil War of 1863: “We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven. We have been preserved, these many years, in peace and prosperity. We have grown in numbers, wealth and power, as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own.”

Appeal: As we give our offerings today, let us resolve never forget to be thankful to God, for we are preserved by His promises and not our own pretense.
Prayer

My all in response to God's all!

November 29, 2014
Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating His Promises

Great and precious are the promises of God!

2 Peter 1:4 says, “Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

Ellen White says, “There are many who, though striving to obey God’s commandments, have little peace or joy. This lack in their experience is the result of a failure to exercise faith. They walk as it were in a salt land, a parched wilderness. They claim little, when they might claim much; for there is no limit to the promises of God” (*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 563).

God’s promises are precious! God’s promises are great! God’s promises are limitless!

Appeal: Let us claim God’s promises with joy and peace as we give today, and we will participate in the life of God and the work of the Gospel.

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!



December 6, 2014

**Offering: Outreach/Church Budget
Celebrating His Coming**

Today we celebrate World Stewardship Day, a day set aside to highlight faithful, total, and complete stewardship in Jesus Christ. But what does Stewardship mean to us as Seventh-day Adventists who look forward to the second coming of Jesus? *The 28 Fundamental Beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church* records our 21st doctrine as follows:

“We are God's stewards, entrusted by Him with time and opportunities, abilities and possessions, and the blessings of the earth and its resources. We are responsible to Him for their proper use. We acknowledge God's ownership by faithful service to Him and our fellow men, and by returning tithes and giving offerings for the proclamation of His gospel and the support and growth of His church. Stewardship is a privilege given to us by God for nurture in love and the victory over selfishness and covetousness. The steward rejoices in the blessings that come to others as a result of his[/her] faithfulness.”

Appeal: Luke 12: 42-43 records, “And the Lord said, who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.” May we give today as faithful, total, and complete stewards living in the light of His coming.

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



December 13, 2014
Offering: GC Session Offering
Celebrating His Coming

Jesus is coming soon! This has been the clarion call, the rallying cry for Christians throughout the centuries. The certainty of Christ's return brings us hope, joy and peace, but before He comes there is still work to be done!

John 9:6 says, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work."

Ellen White declares, "We are nearing the end of this earth's history, and the different departments of God's work are to be carried forward with much more self-sacrifice than has yet been practiced" (*Evangelism*, p. 631).

She goes on to write, "The work which the church has failed to do in a time of peace and prosperity, she will have to do in a terrible crisis, under most discouraging, forbidding circumstances" (*Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 5, p. 463).

Appeal: Jesus is coming! What are we doing? Let us celebrate His second coming in our giving today thus enabling His work to be finished so that we can all go home!

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



December 20, 2014
Offering: Church Budget
Celebrating His Coming

The signs of Christ's returning are all around us, we should not be caught unawares.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, says, "But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober."

Ellen White says, "God calls for men to give the warning to the world that is asleep, dead in trespasses and sins. He calls for freewill offerings from those whose hearts are in the work, who have a burden for souls, that they shall not perish, but have everlasting life" (*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 446).

Appeal: Are our hearts in the work? Does the second coming of Jesus Christ burn within our hearts? Do we have a heart for the lost? Let us give today with all our heart and wake the world up to Christ's coming so that many 'shall not perish, but have everlasting life!'

Prayer

My all in response to God's all!



December 27, 2014
Offering: Conference/Union
Celebrating His Coming

The first advent of Christ was greeted with celebration and jubilation in the heavens and on the earth, as angels sang and wise men brought their gifts to the newborn king.

Ellen White writes, “The gospel message proclaimed by Christ’s disciples was the announcement of His first advent to the world. It bore to men the good tidings of salvation through faith in Him. It pointed forward to His second coming in glory to redeem His people, and it set before men the hope, through faith and obedience, of sharing the inheritance of the saints in light. This message is given to men today, and at this time there is coupled with it the announcement of Christ’s second coming as at hand. The signs which He Himself gave of His coming have been fulfilled, and by the teaching of God’s word we may know that the Lord is at the door.” (*Christ’s Object Lessons*, p.226).

Appeal: As we bring our gifts today like the wise men of old to celebrate the coming of the King of Kings, may we purpose in our hearts to be ready for His return and help others to be ready too. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

Prayer

My all in response to God’s all!

