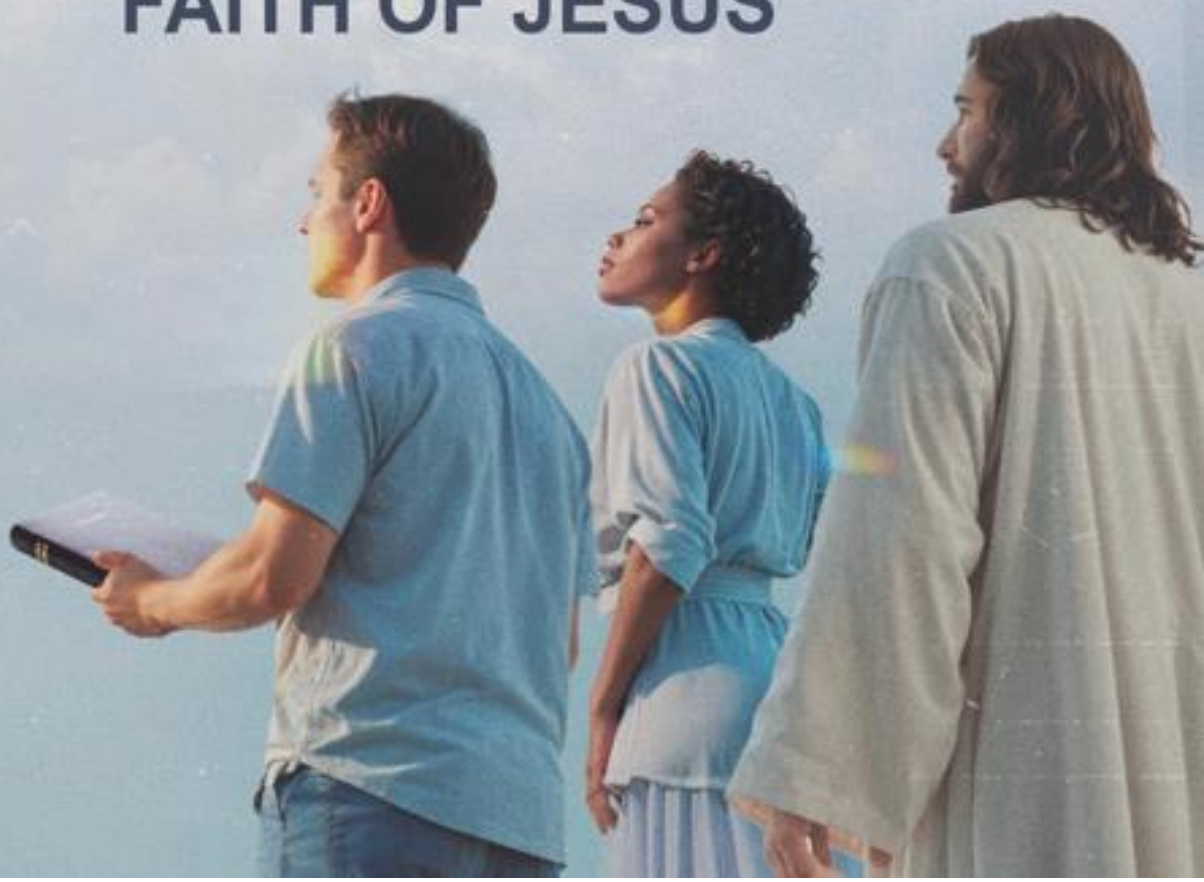




West-Central Africa Division
of the General Conference

- 2024 -
YEAR-END COUNCIL

**CALLED
TO BE**
Faithful
**COMMANDMENTS
OF GOD AND
FAITH OF JESUS**



I WILL
GO

REACH
THE WORLD 

REACH THE WORLD

I WILL GO

*Called to be Faithful
Commandments of God and
Faith of Jesus*

**YEAR-END COUNCIL
PROGRAM & AGENDA**

**OF THE
WEST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIVISION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

November 3-5, 2024

**Grand-Bassam, Abidjan
Côte d'Ivoire**

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Sabbath, November 2, 2024

6:30 – 7:30	Breakfast
7:45 – 8:00	Intercessory Prayer Session - Ministerial Association
8:00 – 10:00	Sabbath School – Emmanuel Kra
10:30 -12:30	Divine Service – Pierre Omeler
1:00 – 2:30 pm.	Lunch Break
2:30 – 5:00 pm.	Evangelism Symposium
5:00 pm.	Adjournment

Sunday, November 3, 2024

6:30 – 7:30	Breakfast
7:30 – 7:50	Steering Committee
7:45 – 8:00	Intercessory Prayer Session - Ministerial Association
8:00 – 9:00	Devotion/ Prayer Session - Magdiel Perez Schulz
9:00 – 9:15	Break
9:15 – 1:00 pm.	Business Session
1:00 – 2:30 pm.	Lunch Break
2:30 – 5:00 pm.	Business Session
5:00 pm.	Adjournment
5:00-5:15 pm.	Reflection- Elisabeth Sanguesa Abenia

Monday, November 4, 2024

6:30 – 7:30	Breakfast
7:30 – 7:50	Steering Committee
7:45 – 8:00	Intercessory Prayer Session - Ministerial Association
8:00 – 9:00	Devotion/ Prayer Session - Elbert Kuhn
9:00 – 9:15	Break
9:15 – 1:00	Business Session
1:00 – 2:30 pm.	Lunch Break

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2:30 – 5:00 pm.	Business Session
5:00 pm.	Adjournment
5:00-5:15 pm	Reflection- Gabriel Boakye Dankwa

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

6:30 – 7:30	Breakfast
7:30 – 7:50	Steering Committee
7:45 – 8:00	Intercessory Prayer Session - Ministerial Association
8:00 – 9:00	Devotion/ Prayer Session - Sabrina Cotton Desouza
9:00 – 9:15	Break
9:15 – 1:00	Business Session
1:00 – 2:30 pm	Lunch Break
2:30 – 5:00 pm.	Business Session
5:00 pm.	Adjournment
5:00-5:15 pm	Reflection- Kwame Boakye Kwanin

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PARTICIPANTS

GENERAL CONFERENCE (6)

1. *Pierre Omeler*
2. *Perez Schulz Magdiel*
3. *Myra Omeler*
4. *Elbert Kuhn*
5. *Sabrina Cotton De Souza*

GC-AWR

WEST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIVISION (28)

6. *Michael Wayne Dant*
7. *Olatunde Afolayan*
8. *Emmanuel Amegnito*
9. *Alfred Kwasi Asiem*
10. *Mawuena Assogba*
11. *James Kwaku. Badu*
12. *Abraham Bakari*
13. *Juvenal Balisasa*
14. *Markus Musa Dangana*
15. *Stella Love Drah*
16. *Ugochukwu Elems*
17. *Frederick Falayi*
18. *Jallah S. Karbah*
19. *Alexis Kouadio*
20. *Emmanuel Koffi Kra*
21. *Kwame Boakye Kwanin*
22. *Paul Amo Kyeremeh*
23. *Jane Onyinye Nwarungwa*
24. *Josiah Chijioke Nwarungwa*
25. *Abraham Dada Obaya*
26. *Nathan Teye Odonkor*
27. *Margaret Erica Osei-Bonsu*
28. *Robert Osei-Bonsu*
29. *Oyeleke A. Owolabi*
30. *Isaac Owusu-Dankwa*

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CAMEROON UNION MISSION (2)

CENTRAL-AFRICA UNION MISSION (2)

EASTERN NIGERIA UNION CONF. (3)

EASTERN SAHEL UNION MISSION (2)

NORTHERN GHANA UNION CONF. (3)

NORTHERN NIGERIA UNION CONF. (3)

SOUTHERN GHANA UNION CONF. (3)

WEST AFRICA UNION MISSION (2)

WESTERN NIGERIA UNION CONF. (3)

WESTERN SAHEL UNION MISSION (2)

ADVENT PRESS (1)

BABCOCK UNIVERSITY (1)

31. Paul Adu Sampah
32. Selom Kwasi Sessou
33. Omobonike Sessou
34. Marie Asseman Tano
35. Vincent Roger Same
36. Dang Cecile Valery epse Ndjono
37. Assienin Grah Salomon
38. Yves Eric Ouata
39. Bassey E. O. Udoh
40. Solomon Odinyebuchi Okonu
41. Etete Michael Adam
42. Djossou Adjeoda Komlan
43. Bertin Lokossou
44. Kwame Annor-Boahen
45. Matilda Obeng Kyere
46. Henry Afoakwa Brenya
47. Ishaya Istifanus
48. Jedidah James Jamo
49. Haruna Bitrus Samuel
50. Thomas T. Ocran
51. Michael Obeng Asa
52. Brigitte Adoma Oppong-Mensah
53. James Kwaku Badu
54. Wilphred Samuel Taylor
55. Ezekiel Adeleye
56. Busayo Sule
57. Ebiere Gillo
58. David Vivian Njock
59. Danilson Correia
60. Kingsley Osei
61. Ademola Tayo

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VALLEY VIEW UNIVERSITY (1)

REGULAR INVITEE GCAS (1)

SPECIAL INVITEES (GC INSTS)

ADRA AFRICA (1)

ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF AFRICA (2)

AAIDS (1)

AWR - AFRICA(1)

Hope Channel (1)

Adventist Risk Management (2)

SAFELIZ (2)

Stanborough Press (1)

GC Encyclopedia Project (1)

OCI

ASI

Legal Advisors (2)

62. William Koomson

63. Mpozembizi Furaha

64. Peter Delhove

65. Vincent Injety

66. Makhosiwonke Moyo

67. Bangwato Sikwa Ramabu

68. Immanuel Osoro Ogwal

69. Gideon Munene Mutero

70. Gilles Byron Barham

71. Sergio Mato

72. Isaac Odhiambo

73. Joseph Mudzingwa

74. Elisabeth Sanguesa Abenia

75. Onaolapo Ajibade

76. Boaz Papendick

77. Osei Amo Mensah

78. Yaw Frimpong

79. Adejoke O. Oyewunmi

OTHER INVITEES

RETIREE (1)

PRESIDENT OF THE HOST CONF. (1)

GEOSCIENCE RESEARCH INST.-WAD

EG WHITE CENTER -BU

AARC

UNION SECRETARIES (10)

80. Samuel M. Yokie

81. Kouadio Konan

82. Oluwole Ayinde Oyedeji

83. Emmanuel Eregare

84. Felix Adetunji

85. Patrick Etoughe Anani

86. Chris Annan-Nunoo

87. John Baysah

88. Edson Monteiro

89. Aristide Omer Nkonda

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UNION TREASURERS (10)

90. Edward Nyarkoh
91. Thomas Onyebuchi Opara
92. Ezekiel Oyinloye
93. Thio Tigue
94. Iorkyaa Vealumun
95. Claude Apedoh
96. Jean J. Bone
97. Abed Ishaya Chidawa
98. Basile Djossou
99. Daniel Edafe
100. Frédéric Kouassi
101. Dickson Sarfo Marfo
102. Chioma Ugochukwu
103. Joseph Vah
104. Bright Osei Yeboah
105. Folorunso I. Akande
106. Richard Offeh Bediako
107. Seth Opong
108. Guiegou Adefana
109. Djamkadi Rachel epse Teode
110. Moise Pol
111. Prosper Aforbu
112. Hanna Agyei
113. Gabriel Boakye Dankwa

INSTITUTION TREASURERS (3)

SPECIAL DELEGATES (5)

SPECIAL INVITEE (1)

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STANDING COMMITTEES AND SERVICES

PLATFORM

Kwame Boakye Kwanin, Chair
Jallah Karbah, Abraham Obaya, Bassey Udoh,
Assienin Grah Salomon

TRANSLATION

Bakari, Chair
Emmanuel Kra, Frederick Falayi, Apollos Bello,

TIME KEEPER

Juvenal Balisasa, Chair
Afolayan Olatunde, Paul Amo Kyeremeh,

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Alfred Kwasi Asiem, Chair
Frederick Falayi, Assogba Mawuena
Nathan Teye Odonkor.

TRANSPORT

Afolayan Olatunde, Chair
Matthew Annoh-Appiah,

HOTEL/FEEDING

Isaac Owusu-Dankwa, Chair
Omobonike Sessou, Nathan Teye Odonkor, Margaret Erica Osei-Bonsu,

STEERING COMMITTEE

Robert Osei-Bonsu, Chairman
Selom Kwasi Sessou, Secretary
Members: WAD Treasurer and chairs of all aforementioned committees

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GLOSSARY OF MOST FREQUENTLY USED ACRONYMS

AC	Annual Council
ACM	Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries
ADCOM	Administrative Committee
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AIIAS	Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies
AM	Adventist Mission
AMC	Adventist Media Center
AP	Advent Press
AR	Adventist Review
ARM	Adventist Risk Management
AST	Archives and Statistics
ATN	Adventist Television Network
AU	Andrews University
AUA	Adventist University of Africa
AVC	Adventist Volunteer Center
AWR	Adventist World Radio
BRI	Biblical Research Institute
BU	Babcock University
CAUM	Central African Union Mission
CFA	Concile de fin d'Année
CHM	Children's Ministries
CMUM	Cameroon Union Mission
COM	Communication
DAO	Division de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre
DOUO	Division Officers and Union Officers
ECD	East-Central Africa Division
EDU	Education

ENUC	Eastern Nigeria Union Conference
ESD	Euro-Asia Division
ESUM	Eastern Sahel Union Mission
EUD	Euro-Africa Division
FM	Family Ministries
GC	General Conference
GCAS	General Conference Auditing Service
GCC	General Conference Executive Committee
GCDO	General Conference and Division Officers
GCO	General Conference Officers
GCS	General Conference Session
GRI	Geosciences' Research Institute
GU	Griggs University/Griggs International Academy
HIS/GU	Home Study International/Griggs University
HM	Health Ministries
HRS	Human Resource Services
IAD	Inter-American Division
IHFA	International Health Food Association
IWM	Institute of World Mission
LLU	Loma Linda University
MENA	Middle East and North Africa Union
MIN	Ministerial Association
MYM	Mid-Year Meeting
NAD	North American Division
NGUM	Northern Ghana Union Mission
NNUC	Northern Nigeria Union Conference
NSD	Northern Asia-Pacific Division
OC	Oakwood College
OGC	Office of General Counsel
PARL	Public Affairs and Religious Liberty

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PME	Postgraduate Medical Education
PPPA	Pacific Press Publishing Association
PRE	Presidential
PreC	Presidents Council (General Conference and Division Presidents)
PREXAD	President’s Executive Administrative Council
PSI	Philanthropic Service for Institutions
PUB	Publishing Ministries
R&H	Review and Herald Publishing Association
SAD	South American Division
SEC	Secretariat
SecC	Secretaries Council (General Conference and Division Secretaries)
SGUC	Southern Ghana Union Conference
SID	Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division
SM	Spring Meeting
SPD	South Pacific Division
SS&PM	Sabbath School and Personal Ministries
SSD	Southern Asia-Pacific Division
STW	Stewardship
SUD	Southern Asia Division
SUM	Sahel Union Mission
TED	Trans-European Division
TRE	Treasury
TreC	Treasurers Council (General Conference and Division Treasurers)
TRS	Trust Services
UMAC	Union Mission de l’Afrique Centrale
VVU	Valley View University
WAD	West-Central Africa Division
WADC	West-Central Africa Division Council
WAUM	West Africa Union Mission

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WHT	Ellen G White Estate, Inc.
WM	Women’s Ministries
WNUC	Western Nigeria Union Conference
WSUM	Western Sahel Union Mission
YEC	Year-end Council
YOU	Youth Ministries

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MISSION STATEMENT
OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Our Mission—Make disciples of Jesus Christ who live as His loving witnesses and proclaim to all people the everlasting gospel of the Three Angels’ Messages in preparation for His soon return (Matt 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, Rev 14:6-12).

Our Method— Guided by the Bible and the Holy Spirit, Seventh-day Adventists pursue this mission through Christ-like living, communicating, discipling, teaching, healing, and serving.

Our Vision— In harmony with Bible revelation, Seventh-day Adventists see as the climax of God’s plan the restoration of all His creation to full harmony with His perfect will and righteousness.

E 85 Conflict of Interest and/or Commitment

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E 85 05 Conflict of Interest and/or Commitment Defined—Conflict of interest shall mean any circumstance under which an employee or volunteer by virtue of financial or other personal interest, present or potential, directly or indirectly, may be influenced or appear to be influenced by any motive or desire for personal advantage, tangible or intangible, other than the success and well-being of the denomination.

Because of the common objectives embraced by the various organizational units and institutions of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, membership held concurrently on more than one denominational committee or board does not of itself constitute a conflict of interest provided that all the other requirements of the policy are met.

A conflict of commitment shall mean any situation which interferes with an employee’s ability to carry out his/her duties effectively. Elected, appointed, or salaried employees on full-time assignment are compensated for full-time employment; therefore, outside or dual employment or other activity, whether compensated or not, that in any way interferes with the performance of an employee’s duties and responsibilities is a conflict of commitment. A conflict of commitment also exists in situations where an employee functions contrary to the values and ethical conduct outlined in the organization’s statement of ethical foundations and conduct (see model Statement of Ethical Foundations recommended by the 1999 Annual Council as guidelines for divisions) or when an employee functions contrary to established codes of ethical conduct for employees in particular professions (e.g. legal, investments).

E 85 10 Individuals Included Under this Policy—All trustees, officers, executive committee/board members, employees, and volunteers of denominational organizations shall be subject to this policy.

E 85 15 Conditions Constituting Conflict—A trustee, officer, executive committee/board member, employee, or volunteer has a duty to be free from the influence of any conflicting interest or commitment when serving the organization or representing it in negotiations or dealings with third parties. Both while on and off the job an employee is expected to protect the best interests of the employing organization. The following list, though not exhaustive, describes circumstances and conditions that illustrate conflict of interest or commitment:

1. Engaging in outside business or employment that encroaches on the denominational organization’s call for the full services of its employees even though there may be no other conflict.
2. Engaging in business or employment that is in any way competitive or in conflict with any transaction, activity, policy, or objective of the organization.
3. Engaging in any business with or employment by an employer who is a supplier of goods or services to any denominational organization.
4. Making use of the fact of employment by the denominational organization to further outside business or employment, associating the denominational organization or its prestige with an outside business or employment, or using one’s connection to the denomination to further personal or partisan political interests.
5. Owning or leasing any property with knowledge that the denominational organization has an active or potential interest therein.
6. Lending money to or borrowing money from any third party, excluding financial institutions, who is a supplier of goods or services or lending to/borrowing from a trustor or anyone who is in any fiduciary relationship to the denominational organization or is otherwise regularly involved in business transactions with the denominational organization.
7. Accepting or offering of any gratuity, favor, benefit, or gift of greater than nominal value or of any commission or payment of any sort in connection with work for the denominational organization other than the compensation agreed upon between the denominational organization and/or the employer and the employee.

1 8. Making use of or disseminating, including by electronic means, any confidential information acquired
2 through employment by the denominational organization for personal profit or advantage, directly or
3 indirectly.

4 9. Using denominational personnel, property, equipment, supplies, or goodwill for other than approved
5 activities, programs, and purposes.

6 10. Expending unreasonable time, during normal business hours, for personal affairs or for other
7 organizations, to the detriment of work performance for the denomination.

8 11. Using one's connections within the organization to secure favors for one's family or relatives.

9 **E 85 20 Statement of Acceptance**—1. *By Employees*—At the time of initial employment an employee
10 shall sign a statement indicating acceptance of the conditions of employment as outlined in the
11 organization's employee handbook. This acceptance shall constitute the employee's declaration of
12 compliance and resolve to remain in compliance with the conflict of interest and/or commitment policy. On
13 an annual basis the employer shall provide employees with a copy of the Statement of Ethical Foundations,
14 plus a copy of the conflict of interest and/or commitment policy, and shall inform employees regarding the
15 duty to disclose potential conflicts of interest and/or commitment.

16 2. *By Administrators, Department Directors and Trustees*—The chief administrator, or designee, of the
17 organization concerned shall receive annually a statement of acceptance and compliance with the policy on
18 conflict of interest and/or commitment from each administrator, department director, member of the
19 board/executive committee, and any other person authorized to handle resources of the organization. (The
20 employing organization may determine that other individuals shall also be required to submit annually a
21 statement of acceptance and compliance.) Submission of the statement by persons identified above shall
22 constitute a declaration of compliance with the policy and shall place the individual under obligation to
23 disclose potential conflicts of interest and/or commitment that may arise during the ensuing year.

24 **E 85 25 Reporting Potential or Actual Conflicts of Interest or Commitment**—All present and potential
25 conflicts of interest must be disclosed:

26 1. If known, in advance of any meeting, business transaction, or other activity at which the issue may be
27 discussed or on which the issue may have a bearing on the person's approach to the issue, whether directly
28 or indirectly; or

29 2. If not known in advance, when the actual, possible, or potential conflict becomes apparent. Disclosure
30 must be made to the person in charge of the meeting or activity and to the full meeting, or to the person's
31 supervisor, as appropriate. The person should remove himself/herself from the room or situation to avoid
32 participation in all discussion or deliberation on the issue, and voting. All such actions should be recorded
33 in any minutes or records kept. Following full disclosure of the present or potential conflict, the board or
34 equivalent group may decide that no conflict of interest exists and invite the participation of the person.

35 This policy establishes a process which is self-identifying. However, third parties may report alleged
36 conflicts in writing with supporting documentation, to an officer of the organization concerned if the
37 employee fails to disclose a conflict or does so inadequately. The source of third party reports shall be held
38 in confidence by the recipient unless it is required to divulge the information pursuant to a court order or if
39 there is indication that the report is fraudulent or made with malicious intent.

40 **E 85 30 Review Process for Conflicts of Interest and/or Commitment**—The officer or human
41 resource/personnel office that receives the report of potential conflict shall inform the employee's supervisor
42 and shall have the matter reviewed by the appropriate employing authority or by the committee assigned to
43 review such matters. If the disclosure has come from a third party, the officer or human resource/personnel
44 office shall inform the employee concerned and shall give the employee an opportunity to submit any
45 information which may help in the review of the reported conflict. The decision of the employing authority
46 or review committee as to whether or not a conflict exists shall be communicated to the employee in writing.

Daily Program

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1
 2 **E 85 35 Sanctions for Noncompliance**—Noncompliance includes failure to:
 3 1. Comply with this policy;
 4 2. Report accurately on the disclosure form;
 5 3. Comply with decisions made by the employing authority or review committee as a result of reported
 6 potential or actual conflicts of interest
 7 and/or commitment.
 8 Noncompliance may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination from employment.
 9 Termination from employment shall be processed in harmony with existing policies.

10 **E 85 40 Model Statement of Acceptance**—The following model statement of acceptance may be modified
 11 in a manner appropriate to the organization concerned.

12 THIS DECLARATION applies, to the best of my knowledge, to all members of my immediate family
 13 (spouse, children, parents) and its provisions shall protect any organization affiliated with or subsidiary to
 14 the In the event facts change in the future that may create a potential conflict of interest,
 15 I agree to notify the in writing.

- 16 1. I have read the Statement of Ethical Foundations and the policy on Conflict of Interest and/or
 17 Commitment.
 18 2. I am in compliance with my employer’s policy on Conflict of Interest and/or Commitment as printed
 19 above.
 20 3. Except as disclosed below:
 21 a. Neither I nor my family have a financial interest or business relationship which competes with or
 22 conflicts with the interests of the..
 23 b. Neither I nor my family have a financial interest in nor am or have been an employee, officer,
 24 director, or trustee of, nor receive/have received financial benefits either directly or indirectly from any
 25 enterprise (excluding less than five percent [5%] ownership in any entity with publicly traded securities)
 26 which is or has been doing business with or is a competitor of the
 27
 28 c. Neither I nor my family receive/received any payments or gifts (other than of token value) from
 29 other denominational entities, suppliers, or agencies doing business with the
 30
 31 d. Neither I nor my family serve/have served as an officer, director, trustee, or agent of any
 32 organization affiliated with or subsidiary to the.....in any decision-making process involving
 33 financial or legal interests adverse to the

- 34
 35 Disclosures:
 36 1.
 37 2.
 38 3.
 39 4.
 40

41 DATE NAME TITLE SIGNATURE
 42 _____

1 119-24G THIRTEENTH SABBATH OFFERING—COMPANION NAME

2
3 RECOMMENDING, To record, to add Quarterly Mission Project Offering as a companion name for
4 the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, thereby providing a descriptor that better corresponds to those
5 divisions administering the Combined Offering Plan.
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1 127-24G GLOBAL TOTAL MEMBER INVOLVEMENT 2025-2030

2
3 VOTED, To adopt the Global Total Member Involvement proposal for 2025-2030, which reads as
4 follows:

5
6 *Proposal Summary*

7
8 This proposal aims to expand Global Total Member Involvement (Global TMI) during the period of
9 2025-2030, in conjunction with the 2025-2030 “I Will Go Strategic Plans” to be voted by the world Church
10 at the 2024 Annual Council. The expansion will include greater emphasis and support for personal ministries
11 by church members. It will also include a united, churchwide evangelistic emphasis in the second (2027) and
12 fourth (2029) years of the quinquennium. For both years, each division and attached union/field will be
13 asked to launch their own territory-wide plans under the framework of Global TMI.

14
15 *Global TMI Foundation*

16
17 God is “high above all nations” (Ps 113:4) and yet near to every one of us (see Ps 145:18; Matt 1:23;
18 Eph 3:17). Similarly, the Church has a shared mission (gospel to the world), and each member has a
19 personal mission (gospel to those nearby). These two components give power to Global TMI:

20
21 Global = The power of worldwide unity in mission. Every church around the globe working together
22 on a simultaneous, shared mission.

23
24 Total Member Involvement = The power of individual labor for souls, which is Christ’s method.
25 Every member involved in personal ministry.

26
27 *Global TMI Strategy*

28
29 Christ’s method of making disciples is illustrated by the biblical harvest cycle. This framework not
30 only describes the journey of every disciple, but it outlines essential areas of ministry, both personal and
31 public, for every church:

- 32
33 1. Prepare the Soil of the Heart—Health and friendship-building ministries
34
35 2. Plant the Seed of Truth—Literature, media, and invitation ministries
36
37 3. Cultivate Spiritual Interest—Bible study ministry
38
39 4. Harvest Decisions for Christ—Evangelistic meetings
40
41 5. Preserve the Harvest—New member discipleship ministry
42

43 *2025-2030 Emphasis 1: Personal Ministry (TMI)*
44

1 Though “Global” comes first in the name, “TMI” is the priority. In the upcoming quinquennium,
 2 Global TMI will continue to encourage personal ministry by church members. Because many local churches
 3 focus on programs and events, personal work is often lacking. But of the five essential areas of disciple-
 4 making, three are accomplished mostly through personal labor: planting (literature, media, and invitations),
 5 cultivating (Bible studies), and preserving (new member discipleship mentoring). Here are just a few ways
 6 the General Conference, through cross-departmental collaboration, can offer greater support in these areas:
 7

8 Plant: Provide a GLOW literature kit for use in local church literature ministries, including tracts,
 9 pocketbooks, full-size sharing books, and Bible study guides. Publish a training and implementation guide
 10 for Literature, Media, and Invitation Ministries.
 11

12 Cultivate: Launch a Global Bible School to generate and qualify new Bible study interests before
 13 delivering them directly to local churches through interest tracking systems. Publish a Bible Study Ministry
 14 training and implementation guide.
 15

16 Preserve: Publish a New Member Discipleship training and implementation guide.
 17

18 *2025-2030 Emphasis 2: Working Together (Global)*
 19

20 The second emphasis of Global TMI 2025-2030 will be to ask every division and attached
 21 union/field to coordinate territory-wide evangelistic efforts in the second (2027) and fourth (2029) years of
 22 the quinquennium. Of the five phases of Global TMI, preparing (health and friendship-building) and
 23 harvesting (evangelistic meetings) are well-suited for public programs and events that can enhance the
 24 results of personal soulwinning efforts. Planning territory-wide themes and dates for these events will give
 25 power to Global TMI in 2027 and 2029:
 26

27 Global TMI 2027—Each territory may choose its own theme, as has been done in 2024/2025. The
 28 key is to engage every church in making evangelistic plans that cover each of the five essential areas of
 29 disciple-making. The year 2027 marks the 2000th anniversary of Christ’s anointing and baptism, fulfilling
 30 the prophecy in Daniel 9. This could be a potential theme for 2027.
 31

32 Global TMI 2029—A strong evangelistic emphasis in 2029 will give us great reason to rejoice at the
 33 General Conference Session in 2030. Each division and attached union/field is free to stretch its Global TMI
 34 2029 plans to include the first half of 2030.
 35

1 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF MISSION

2
3 Justin Kim, Executive Editor of Adventist Review Ministries, gave a brief report on the 150th
4 Anniversary of Mission.

5
6 David Trim, Director of Archives, Statistics, and Research, shared that October 16, 2024, marks the
7 actual date, 150 years ago, that John N Andrews departed to the mission field.
8 David Trim gave a report on the family life of J N Andrews, the challenges the family faced before going to
9 Switzerland, and the death of his daughter.

10
11 He shared a tribute to a missionary who recently passed away, Marica Mirilov. She along with her
12 husband, Branislav Mirilov, currently President of Cyprus Region, served as missionaries in Germany,
13 Russia, Serbia, Bulgaria, and Cyprus.

14
15 Branislav Mirilov shared that the Cyprus Region is a difficult field since people guard their religions
16 and identities, due to the religious and political differences. He added that, since 2012, his late wife worked
17 as a lay preacher in Limassol, Cyprus, encouraged by the local people. She transformed the church into a
18 warm, vibrant, and friendly community. Branislav Mirilov mentioned that missionary work comes at a cost,
19 and that she gave herself unreservedly to the Limassol church, sacrificed a lot, and died having brought so
20 many people to Christ.

21
22 Prayer was offered by Ted N C Wilson, President of the General Conference.

1 NORTHERN GHANA UNION CONFERENCE—REORGANIZATION: RECORDING

2
3 RECOMMENDING , To record the following action concerning the Reorganization of the Northern
4 Ghana Union Conference, taken by the Executive Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-
5 day Adventist, during its 2024 Annual Council, that reads as follows:
6

7
8 122-24GS NORTHERN GHANA UNION CONFERENCE— REORGANIZATION

9
10 VOTED, The reorganization of the Northern Ghana Union Conference in the West-Central Africa
11 Division into a union conference and a union mission, effective January 1, 2025, as follows:
12

13 1. The Ashanti-Ghana Union Conference with constituency from Ashanti Central
14 Ghana Conference, Ashanti South Ghana Conference, Central Ghana Conference, Green View
15 Ghana Conference, Mid-Central Ghana Conference, Mountain View Ghana Conference, and
16 South Central Ghana Conference, with headquarters in Kumasi City, Ghana.
17

18 2. The North-Central Ghana Union Mission with constituency from Mid-North
19 Ghana Conference, Mid-West Ghana Conference, North Ghana Mission, and Upper East Ghana
20 Mission, with headquarters in Techiman City, Ghana.

1 CAMEROON UNION MISSION —REORGANIZATION: RECORDING

2
3 RECOMMENDING , To record the following action concerning the Reorganization of the Cameroon
4 Union Mission, taken by the Executive Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day
5 Adventist, during its 2024 Annual Council, that reads as follows:

6
7 121-24GS CAMEROON UNION MISSION—REORGANIZATION

8
9 VOTED, The reorganization of the Cameroon Union Mission in the West-
10 Central Africa Division into two union missions, effective January 1, 2025, as follows:

11
12
13 1. The North-East Cameroon Union Mission with constituency from Adamaoua-
14 Mayo Rey Conference, Benoue-Faro Mission, East Cameroon Conference, and North Cameroon
15 Conference, with headquarters in Ngaoundéré, Cameroon.

16
17 2. The West-Central Cameroon Union Mission with constituency from Central-
18 South Cameroon Conference, Mbam-Sanaga Conference, Nyong-Afamba Conference, and West
19 Cameroon Conference, with headquarters in Yaoundé City, Cameroon.
20

1 TRANSLATION OF ELLEN G WHITE BOOKS

2
3 Michael Sokupa, Associate Director of the Ellen G White Estate, shared that 353 new languages
4 have been added to the translation project of Ellen G White literature. He mentioned that of the 353
5 previously mentioned languages, 53 are considered priority languages, and 67 Ellen G White books will be
6 translated into the major languages. He expressed that the books will be available online and in printed
7 format.

8
9 Darryl Thompson, Associate Director of the Ellen G White Estate, shared the Ellen G White
10 Writings Translation website, <https://tegw.egwritings.org>, emphasizing that it will be the platform translators
11 will use to translate Ellen G White writings. He named the project, “Sharing the Gift of Light” and said it
12 was aimed at translating 16 core Ellen G White books into all the world’s major languages. Currently, 160
13 translations of the *Great Controversy* book have been completed and can be downloaded on the website.
14

200-24G ORGANIZATIONAL AND OPERATIONAL PRINCIPLES

OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH STRUCTURE -
POLICY AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDING, To record and adapt GC B 05, Organizational and Operational Principles of Seventh-day Adventist Church Structure, to read as follows:

B 05 Organizational and Operational Principles of Seventh-day Adventist Church Structure
Organizational life and procedures in the Seventh-day Adventist Church are based upon the following principles:

1. The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a worldwide community - No change
2. The primary building blocks of global Seventh-day Adventist - No change
3. Organizational status is granted to a constituency as a trust. Official - No change
4. Decision-making is based on group processes that allow for member - No change
5. The highest level of authority within the powers granted to each level - No change
6. Different elements of organizational authority and responsibility are distributed among the various levels of denominational organization. For example, the decision as to who may/may not be a member of a local Seventh-day Adventist Church is entrusted to the members of the local church concerned (see *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual*, Chapter 7); ~~concerned~~; decisions as to the employment of local church pastors is entrusted to the local conference or local mission/field/section (see *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual*, Chapter 4); ~~mission/field/section~~ decisions regarding the ordination of ministers are entrusted to the union conference or union mission/section (see L 45 05, paragraph 5.), to the divisions (see L 45 05, paragraph 6), and to the General Conference (see L 45 05, paragraph 6.) in accordance with General Conference working policies (see L 35, L 45, and L 50); ~~mission/section~~; and the definition of denominational beliefs is entrusted to the General Conference in session (see BA 12). ~~session~~. Thus, each level of organization exercises a realm of final authority and responsibility that may have implications for other levels of organization. In a similar manner, each organization is dependent to some extent on the realm of authority exercised by other levels of organization. No church organization or entity assumes responsibility for the liabilities, debts, acts, or omissions of any other church organization simply because of its church affiliation.
7. Denominational entities may establish, in harmony with - No change
8. The Seventh-day Adventist Church has both a local and global - No change
9. References in the General Conference *Working Policy* to higher - No change

Daily Program

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1 219-24G ADHERENCE TO POLICY REQUIRED – POLICY AMENDMENT

2
3 RECOMMENDING, To record and adopt GC B 15 10, Adherence to Policy Required, to read
4 as follows:

5
6 B 15 10 Adherence to Policy Required—

7 1. The General Conference - No change

8 2. The General Conference and its institutions shall adhere to the remuneration
9 policy section of the division in which they are located, with any exceptions approved by the
10 General Conference Executive Committee at a Spring Meeting or an Annual Council. For all
11 other policies, the General Conference Working Policy shall apply, except where the General
12 Conference Executive Committee votes that the host division policies shall be followed. General
13 Conference institutions shall adhere to the remuneration policies of the host division (Y 05 05,
14 paragraph 6.) with any exceptions approved by the General Conference Executive Committee at
15 a Spring Meeting or by an Annual Council. For all other policies, the General Conference
16 Working Policy shall apply except where the General Conference Executive Committee votes
17 that the host division policies shall be followed.

1 212-24Ga FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS OF SEVENTH-DAY
3 ADVENTISTS - NEW POLICY

5
6 RECOMMENDED, To record and adopt BA 12, Fundamental Beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists, to
read
7 as follows:

8
9 BA 12 Fundamental Beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists

10
11 Only the General Conference in session can approve additions or revisions to the
12 Statement of Fundamental Beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists.

13
14 The process for initiating, reviewing, and approving the Statement of Fundamental
15 Beliefs was voted at the 2005 General Conference Session and can be found in Appendix E.

1 212-24Gb PROTOCOL STATEMENT ON ADDITIONS OR
3 REVISIONS TO THE STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL
4 BELIEFS - NEW POLICY APPENDIX

6
7 RECOMMENDING, To record and adopt the new policy appendix, GC Appendix E, Protocol
8 Statement on Additions or Revisions to the Statement of Fundamental Beliefs, to read as follows:
9

10 The following protocol statement was voted by the 2005 General Conference Session on
11 July 3, 2005:

12
13 Protocol Statement on Additions or Revisions to the
14 Statement of Fundamental Beliefs
15

16 In adding to and/or revising the Statement of Fundamental Beliefs it is imperative to
17 involve the world church as much as possible in the process. Any suggestion should be based on
18 a serious concern for the well-being of the world church and its message and mission, be
19 biblically based, and informed by the writings of Ellen G White. Considering the importance and
20 necessity of involving the world church in the process of additions and/or revisions to the
21 Statement of Fundamental Beliefs, any suggestion for possible changes should reach the office of
22 the President of the General Conference not later than two (2) years before a General Conference
23 Session.
24

25 If the perceived need for additions and/or revisions to the Statement of Fundamental
26 Beliefs is initiated by the world field, the matter should be carefully discussed at each
27 administrative level. In the evaluation of the suggested change the governing body at each level
28 shall establish an appropriate process for evaluation, seeking wide input. The process at each
29 level shall result in the governing body either recommending the proposed change to the next
30 level of administration, or abandoning any further consideration of it. In this way the
31 recommendation for changes in the Statement of Fundamental Beliefs arrive at the General
32 Conference. Once the suggestions reach the General Conference, or if the suggestions originated
33 at the General Conference, it shall appoint an ad hoc committee to coordinate the process and
34 facilitate the dialogue.
35

36 The following procedure shall be used by the General Conference in seeking the
37 consensus of the world church in favor of or against the proposed change:
38

- 39 1. The General Conference will coordinate and facilitate the process of discussion
40 through Presidential and the members of the ad hoc committee.
41
42 2. A preliminary draft approved by the Spring Meeting or Annual Council will be
43 sent to the Divisions for reactions and comments. It should be discussed at the Union and
44 Conference/Mission levels and printed in the local church papers.
45
46 3. Involve Theology/Religion Departments and Seminaries.

2 4. Discuss it at the Biblical Research Institute Committee and other pertinent
3 committees.

4
5 5. Publish a draft in the *Adventist Review*, the *Ministry*, and place it on the Internet
6 for comments and reactions from church members.

7
8 6. The GC ad hoc committee will receive all the suggestions from the world field
9 and prepare the final draft to be submitted to the Annual Council for further discussion before it
10 is placed on the agenda of the General Conference Session.

11
12 7. Only the General Conference in session can approve additions or revisions to the
13 Statement of Fundamental Beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

1 213-24G SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH MANUAL – POLICY AMENDMENT

3
4
6 RECOMMENDING, To record and adopt the amend BA 15, Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual,
to read as follows:

8
9 BA 15 *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual*

10
11 BA 15 05 Standards and Practices—The standards and practices of the church are based
12 upon the principles set forth in the *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual*, published by the
13 General Conference. These principles are to be followed in all matters pertaining to the
14 administration of local churches both within the church and in its relationship to higher levels of
15 organization. No attempt should be made by any employee to set up standards of membership or
16 to make, or attempt to enforce, rules or regulations for the church which have not been adopted
17 by the general body of believers and which are not set forth in the *Seventh-day Adventist Church*
18 *Manual*.

19
20 BA 15 10 Changes/Revisions Only by General Conference Session—The *Seventh-day*
21 *Adventist Church Manual* may be changed or revised only by the General Conference in session.
22 (See General Conference Report, No 8, p 197, June 14, 1946.) The content of the *Seventh-day*
23 *Adventist Church Manual* is presented in two formats, namely Chapters and Notes. The main
24 content of each Chapter is of worldwide value and applicable to every local church.
25 Acknowledging the need for some variations in the operations of local churches, additional
26 material which is explanatory in nature has been added as Notes at the end of some of the
27 Chapters and is intended to serve as guidance.

28
29 If revisions to the Notes of the *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual* are requested and
30 are processed through the relevant constituent levels of the Church, the *Church Manual*
31 Committee will consider the requested revisions. If approved, the revisions will be acted upon by
32 the General Conference Executive Committee at an Annual Council. ~~Committee at the final~~
33 ~~Annual Council meeting of the quinquennium so as to coordinate them with any changes to the~~
34 ~~main content of the *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual* that will be recommended to the next~~
35 ~~General Conference Session. However, the General Conference Executive Committee may~~
36 ~~address changes to the Notes at any Annual Council.~~

37
38 The *Church Manual* Committee shall be authorized to perform routine editorial tasks
39 which do not alter the meaning of the current text of the *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual*.
40 A report of the *Church Manual* Committee's editorial work shall be presented, through the
41 General Conference Administrative Committee, to the General Conference Executive Committee
42 at Annual Council. In the event that the Administrative Committee or the General Conference
43 Executive Committee determines by a one-third vote that such editorial work substantively alters
44 the meaning of the current text, such proposed changes will be decided by a General Conference
45 Session.

1 BA 15 15 Divisions Responsible for Translations—Divisions shall be responsible to
2 assure that all translations of the *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual* published or circulated
3 in their respective territories are accurate translations of the *Seventh-day Adventist Church*
4 *Manual*, English Version, adopted by the General Conference in session.

5
6 BA 15 20 Division Supplements—The *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual* applies to
7 the world field, and divisions should make it available in the languages of their respective areas.
8 Each division ~~should~~ may prepare a “supplement” to the *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual*,
9 not in any way modifying it, but containing such additional matter as is applicable to the
10 conditions and circumstances prevailing in ~~the~~ that division. The manuscripts of these
11 “supplements” shall be submitted to the General Conference Executive Committee for
12 endorsement prior to the final Annual Council meeting of the quinquennium and before being
13 printed. (See General Conference 1948 Annual Council page 19.)

1 216-24Ga CONSTITUENCY MEETING COMMITTEES (UNION
3 CONFERENCE MODEL CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS) -
4 POLICY AMENDMENT

6
7 RECOMMENDING, To record and adopt the amendment of D 10, Union Conference Model
Constitution and Bylaws,
8 Bylaws, Article IV, Constituency Meeting Committees, Sec. 1. Organizing Committee, to read as
9 follows:

10
11 **Sec. 1. Organizing Committee: a. An organizing committee for each constituency**
12 **meeting shall be appointed. It shall consist of _____ representatives from each local**
13 **conference or local mission/ field/section, _____ representatives from the health care**
14 **system/institution(s) serving the union, one representative from each of the union**
15 **conference operated institutions, It shall consist of _____ representatives from each local**
16 **conference or local mission/field/section, _____ representatives from the health care**
17 **system/institution(s) serving the union, one representative from each of the union conference**
18 **institutions, and the president of the _____ Division, or his designee, who shall serve as**
19 **chair.**

20
21 **b. The members of the organizing committee shall be - No change**
22

23 **c. The organizing committee shall nominate, and the - No change**

1 216-24Gb CONSTITUENCY MEETING COMMITTEES (UNION
3 MISSION/SECTION MODEL OPERATING POLICY) - POLICY
4 AMENDMENT

6
7 RECOMMENDING, To record and adopt the amendment of D 15, Union Mission/Section Model
Operating Policy, Article

8 IX, Constituency Meeting Committees, Sec. 1. Organizing Committee, to read as follows:

9
10 **Sec. 1. Organizing Committee: a. An organizing committee for each constituency**
11 **meeting shall be appointed. It shall consist of _____ representative(s) from each local**
12 **conference or local mission/field/section, _____ representative(s) from each union**
13 **mission/section-operated institution or division-operated institution located in this union**
14 **territory, It shall consist of _____ representative(s) from each local conference or local**
15 **mission/field/section, _____ representative(s) from each union mission/section institution or**
16 **division institution located in this union territory, and the president of**
17 **the _____ Division, or his designee, who shall serve as chair.**

18
19 **b. The members of the organizing committee shall be - No change**

20
21 **c. The organizing committee shall nominate, and the - No change**

1 216-24Gc CONSTITUENCY MEETING COMMITTEES (UNION OF
3 CHURCHES MODEL CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS) -
4 POLICY AMENDMENT
6

7 RECOMMENDING, To record and adopt the amendment of D 17, Union of Churches Model
Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article IV, Constituency Meeting Committees, Sec. 1. Organizing
Committee, to read as follows:

10

11 **Sec. 1. Organizing Committee: a. An organizing committee for each constituency**
12 **meeting shall be appointed. It shall consist of _____ representative(s) from each member**
13 **church in the union of churches, _____ representative(s) from each union or division-**
14 **operated institution located in the union's territory, It shall consist of _____ representative(s)**
15 **from each member church in the union of churches, _____ representative(s) from each union or**
16 **division institution located in the union's territory, and the president of**
17 **the _____ Division, or his designee, who shall serve as chair.**

18

19

b. The members of the organizing committee shall be - No change

20

21

c. The organizing committee shall nominate, and the - No change

1 216-24Gd CONSTITUENCY MEETING COMMITTEES (UNION OF
3 CHURCHES MODEL OPERATING POLICY) - POLICY
4 AMENDMENT
6

7 RECOMMENDING, To record and adopt the amendment of D 19, Union of Churches Model
Operating Policy, Article IX,
8 Constituency Meeting Committees, Sec. 1. Organizing Committee, to read as follows:
9

10 **Sec. 1. Organizing Committee: a. An organizing committee for each constituency**
11 **meeting shall be appointed. ~~It shall consist of _____ representative(s) from each member~~**
12 **~~church in the union of churches, _____ representative(s) from each union/division/General~~**
13 **~~Conference-operated institution located in the union’s territory, It shall consist~~**
14 **~~of _____ representative(s) from each member church in the union of~~**
15 **~~churches, _____ representative(s) from each union/division/General Conference institution~~**
16 **~~located in the union’s territory, and the president of the _____ Division, or his designee,~~**
17 **who shall serve as chair.**

18
19 **b. The members of the organizing committee shall be - No change**
20

21 **c. The organizing committee shall nominate, and the - No change**

216-24Ge CONSTITUENCY MEETING COMMITTEES (LOCAL
CONFERENCE MODEL CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS) -
POLICY AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDING, To record and adopt the amendment of D 20, Local Conference Model
Constitution and Bylaws,
Bylaws, Article IV, Constituency Meeting Committees, Sec. 1. Organizing Committee, to read as
follows:

Sec. 1. Organizing Committee: a. The organizing committee shall be constituted as follows: Each church represented at the constituency meeting shall choose, or empower its delegation to choose, one member plus one additional member for each _____ members or a major fraction thereof. In addition, the at-large delegates to the constituency meeting shall select _____ persons from the at-large delegate group to serve on the organizing committee. as follows: Each church represented at the constituency meeting shall choose, or empower its delegation to choose, one member plus one additional member for each _____ members or a major fraction thereof. In addition, the at-large delegates to the constituency meeting shall select _____ persons from the at-large delegate group to serve on the organizing committee.

- b. The members of the organizing committee shall be - No change
- c. If the organizing committee is to meet prior to the - No change
- d. The chair of the organizing committee shall be the - No change
- e. The organizing committee shall nominate, and the - No change

1 NSD/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO24AC to HMM-24AC(DIV)

2
3 216-24Gf CONSTITUENCY MEETING COMMITTEES (LOCAL
4 MISSION/FIELD/SECTION MODEL OPERATING POLICY) -
5 POLICY AMENDMENT
6

7 RECOMMENDED, To record and adopt the amendment of D 25, Local Mission/Field/Section
Model Operating Policy, Article IX, Constituency Meeting Committees, Sec. 1. Organizing
Committee, to read as follows:

10
11 **Sec. 1. Organizing Committee: a. An organizing committee shall be constituted as**
12 **follows: Each church represented at the constituency meeting shall choose, or empower its**
13 **delegation to choose, one member plus one additional member for each _____ members or a**
14 **major fraction thereof. In addition, the at-large delegates to the constituency meeting shall**
15 **select _____ persons from the at-large delegate group to serve on the organizing committee.**
16 **~~as follows: Each church represented at the constituency meeting shall choose, or empower~~**
17 **~~its delegation to choose, one member plus one additional member for each _____ members~~**
18 **~~or a major fraction thereof. In addition, the at-large delegates to the constituency meeting~~**
19 **~~shall select _____ persons from the at-large delegate group to serve on the organizing~~**
20 **~~committee.~~**

21
22 **b. The members of the organizing committee shall be - No change**

23
24 **c. If the organizing committee is to meet prior to the - No change**

25
26 **d. The chair of the organizing committee shall be the - No change**

27
28 **e. The organizing committee shall nominate, and the - No change**

1 211-24G EMPLOYEES (CREDENTIALS AND LICENSES—METHOD
3 OF ISSUING) - POLICY AMENDMENT

4
5
6 RECOMMENDING, To record and adapt the amendment of GC E 10 80, Employees (Credentials
and Licenses—Method of Issuing), to read as follows:

8
9 E 10 80 Employees—Credentials/Licenses shall be issued, upon commencement of
10 employment, to denominational employees and to those under the supervision of conferences,
11 missions/fields/sections, regions/field stations, or ~~denominationally-owned~~ denominational
12 institutions. Credentials/Licenses terminate at the time employment with the issuing
13 organization, for any reason, has ended. Divisions are authorized to grant credentials/licenses to
14 endorsed chaplains who are employed in non-denominational entities (see FA 25 10). ~~determine~~
15 eligibility based on full-time or part-time employment. In special cases a credential/license may
16 be issued to a nondenominationally employed individual while serving the Church under the
17 supervision of a denominational organization; e.g., Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries for a
18 chaplain.

1 OGC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO24AC to HMM-24AC(DIV)

2
3 220-24G PRESERVING AND TRANSFERRING SERVICE RECORDS -
4 POLICY AMENDMENT

5
6 RECOMMENDING, To record and adapt the amendment of GC E 70 30, Preserving and
Transferring Service Records, to read as follows:

8
9 E 70 30 Preserving and Transferring Service Records—1. Organizational - No change

10
11 2. Change of Position/Type of Work—When an employee’s position - No change

12
13 3. Transfer Between Denominational Organizations—When an - No change

14
15 4. Discontinuance of Denominational Service—When an employee discontinues
16 denominational service for other than retirement reasons, the organization shall record on the
17 employee’s service record an appropriate action relating to the discontinuance of service. ~~in the~~
18 ~~official office copy of the appropriate committee minutes and on the service record an~~
19 ~~appropriate action relating to the discontinuance of service and the particulars of any financial~~
20 ~~settlement made.~~

21
22 5. Retirement—When an employee who is eligible for benefits from - No change

23
24 6. Requests for Service Records—Only written requests for service - No change

25
26 7. Inquiries Regarding Service Record Policies—Inquiries regarding - No change

27
28 8. Copies to Employee—Each employee shall be given a copy of - No change

1 OGC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO23AC/217-23Ga/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/SecC/
2 GCDO24AC to HMM-24AC(DIV)

3
4 204-24Ga GENERAL CONFERENCE STATEMENT OF ETHICAL
5 FOUNDATIONS FOR THE GENERAL CONFERENCE AND
6 ITS EMPLOYEES - NEW POLICY APPENDIX

7
8 RECOMMENDED, 1. To approve the General Conference Statement of Ethical Foundations of
9 the General Conference and Its Employees for use at the General Conference; and

10
11 2. To adopt a new policy appendix, GC Appendix D, General Conference Statement
12 of Ethical Foundations for the General Conference and Its Employees, to read as follows:

13
14 General Conference Statement of Ethical Foundations
15 for the General Conference and Its Employees

16
17 Our Mission

18
19 The Seventh-day Adventist Church mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who live
20 as His loving witnesses and proclaim to all people the everlasting gospel of the Three Angels’
21 Messages in preparation for His soon return (Matt 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, Rev 14:6-12). Within the
22 scope of this mission, the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists exists to lead the
23 Church in being a worldwide witness for God’s kingdom and in making disciples of Jesus Christ.

24
25 Our Responsibilities

26
27 General Conference employees believe:

28
29 1. We are responsible first to God, our Creator. Individual and collective action must
30 reflect His character and exhibit His love.

31
32 2. We are responsible to the communities in which we work and live and also to the
33 world community. Our conduct and the discharge of our duties shall enhance the honor and
34 reputation of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

35
36 3. We are responsible to our fellow church members. We accept accountability for
37 sound leadership decisions and appropriate stewardship.

38
39 4. We are responsible to each other within the office complex. Every individual
40 deserves to be treated with dignity and respect; to have his or her role and contribution valued
41 and affirmed; to operate in a safe working environment; to experience an atmosphere of
42 challenge, open communication, and contentment.

Our Values

1. We value the *Bible* as the primary reference for life’s direction and qualities.
2. We value *excellence* in all that we do.
3. We value *ethical and moral conduct* at all times and in all relationships.
4. We value *creativity and innovation* in the completion of our mission.
5. We value *honesty, integrity, and courage* as the foundation of all our actions.
6. We value the *trust* placed in us by our colleagues and by the world Church.
7. We value *people* as children of God and therefore brothers and sisters of one family.

Ethical Responsibilities as Employer and Corporate Citizen

In pursuit of its mission, and while maintaining its responsibilities and adhering to its values, the General Conference operates under the following ethical guidelines:

1. Equal Opportunity Employment—Within the purview of laws permitting church membership as a condition of employment, and subject to denominational policies on positions requiring ministerial ordination, the General Conference will follow procedures to ensure equal opportunity of employment, remuneration, and advancement on the basis of job qualifications and performance.
2. Equity, Fairness, and Non-Discrimination—The General Conference will treat all individuals and groups with fairness. It will not practice or condone discrimination with regard to race, national origin, sex, age, marital status, or disability that does not prohibit performance of essential job functions.
3. Compliance with Laws of the Land—The General Conference will carry on its activities in compliance with the laws of the land provided these are not in contradiction to God’s will expressed in the Bible.
4. Loyalty and Fulfillment of Contractual Obligations—The General Conference will fulfill the commitments it has entered into through authorized channels. Where misunderstandings arise regarding such commitments, the General Conference shall participate,

1 with the parties concerned, in conflict resolution procedures within the organization before
2 seeking alternate dispute resolution processes.

3
4 5. Atmosphere of Safety and Happiness—The General Conference is committed to
5 providing a work environment that offers physical safety and security. It also strives to
6 encourage and promote genuine happiness through the realization that every employee is
7 valuable and every task, no matter how routine or unnoticed, is a service to God. The General
8 Conference will continue to integrate worship, work, and celebration in a manner that
9 acknowledges wholeness in life and relationships.

10
11 6. Respect for Human Dignity and Individuality—The General Conference affirms
12 and respects the uniqueness of every employee. It recognizes that a person’s value surpasses the
13 worth of his or her contribution to the organization. It believes that communal harmony and
14 corporate objectives are enhanced rather than compromised by the broad mosaic of personalities,
15 talents, skills, and viewpoints dedicated to the honor of Jesus Christ. The General Conference
16 shall strive for communication that is open, transparent, accountable, timely, and kind.

17 Ethical Responsibilities as Employees

18
19
20 We recognize that employment in the General Conference Seventh-day Adventists
21 implies commitment to the organization’s mission and concurrence with its responsibilities and
22 values. We affirm that the employer-employee relationship grows within a reciprocity of mutual
23 regard. Our reasonable service as employees includes the following ethical responsibilities:

24
25 1. Life Consistent with Church Message and Mission—While in the employ of the
26 General Conference we will live in a manner consistent with the beliefs and values of the
27 Church. We will uphold, in word and conduct, the teachings and principles held and advanced by
28 the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

29
30 2. Respect for Church-Owned Assets—We will respect the property of our
31 organization, including any intellectual property that is developed in the course of our
32 employment. We will use the property, facilities, and resources solely for the benefit of our
33 organization, unless otherwise permitted or when financial compensation for such use has been
34 arranged.

35
36 3. Respect for Colleagues—We will respect and uplift our fellow employees. We
37 will refrain from intentionally placing another in a position of embarrassment, disrespect, or
38 harassment. We will avoid all behavior that may be construed as sexually inappropriate. We will
39 honor the privacy and guard the safety of others.

1 4. Efficiency and Attention on the Job—The hours of our employment shall be
2 devoted to the work assignments entrusted to us. We will not use the employer’s time for
3 personal business or the advancement of personal interests unrelated to our work responsibilities.
4 We will not deprive our employer by entering into other employment or activities which impair
5 our performance for the General Conference while on the job. We will aspire to greater
6 efficiency and the reduction of waste in time, effort, and resources.

7
8 5. Personal Integrity in Financial Matters—We will not engage in theft or
9 embezzlement of any kind including the misuse of expense accounts, falsification of reports, or
10 the misappropriation and misapplication of resources for which we are responsible.

11
12 6. Avoiding Inappropriate Influence—We acknowledge that accepting or offering of
13 any gratuity, favor, benefit, gift, or of any commission or payment, monetary or non-monetary,
14 of greater than nominal value, in connection with work for the denominational organization other
15 than the compensation agreed upon between the denominational organization and/or the
16 employer and the employee is unacceptable. We will not offer gifts, favors, payments, or other
17 forms of reward directly or indirectly in exchange for a specific gain or action.

18
19 7. Maintaining an Ethical Environment in the Workplace—We accept the obligation
20 of maintaining ethical standards in personal life and in the workplace. We believe it is our
21 personal responsibility to report, through established confidential channels, any behavior that is
22 inappropriate or which undermines the ethical and legal environment in which the General
23 Conference operates. We are prepared to be held accountable by our colleagues for professional
24 conduct representing the moral and ethical values of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

1 OGC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GCDO23AC/217-23Gb/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/SecC/
2 GCDO24AC to HMM-24AC(DIV)

3
4 204-24Gb CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND/OR COMMITMENT
5 DEFINED - POLICY AMENDMENT

6
7 RECOMMENDED, To amend GC E 85 05, Conflict of Interest and/or Commitment Defined, to
8 read as follows:

9
10 E 85 05 Conflict of Interest and/or Commitment Defined—Conflict of interest shall mean
11 any circumstance under which an employee or volunteer by virtue of financial or other personal
12 interest, present or potential, directly or indirectly, may be influenced or appear to be influenced
13 by any motive or desire for personal advantage, tangible or intangible, other than the success and
14 well-being of the denomination.

15
16 Because of the common objectives embraced by the various organizational units and
17 institutions of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, membership held concurrently on more than
18 one denominational committee or board does not of itself constitute a conflict of interest
19 provided that all the other requirements of the policy are met. However, an officer, trustee, or
20 director serving on an organization’s board is expected to act in the best interest of that
21 organization and its role in denominational structure. Individuals, who by virtue of their position
22 or based on their place of employment are invited to serve as members on boards/committees of
23 entities/organizations that are not listed in the Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook, must secure
24 approval from their relevant governing body/administrative committee and disclose their
25 membership on such boards/committees.

26
27 A conflict of commitment shall mean any situation which interferes with an employee’s
28 ability to carry out his/her duties effectively. Elected, appointed, or salaried employees on full-
29 time assignment are compensated for full-time employment; therefore, outside or dual
30 employment or other activity, whether compensated or not, that in any way interferes with the
31 performance of an employee’s duties and responsibilities is a conflict of commitment. A conflict
32 of commitment also exists in situations where an employee functions contrary to the values and
33 ethical conduct outlined in the organization’s statement of ethical foundations and conduct (see
34 Appendix D for a model Statement of Ethical Foundations recommended as guidelines) ~~by the~~
35 ~~1999 Annual Council as guidelines for divisions~~) or when an employee functions contrary to
36 established codes of ethical conduct for employees in particular professions (e.g. legal,
37 investments).

1 OGC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/PreC/SecC/TreC/GCDO24AC to HMM-24AC(DIV)

2
3 207-24Ga REASONS FOR DISCIPLINE OF EMPLOYEES - NEW
4 POLICY

5
6 RECOMMENDED, To adopt GC E 90, Reasons for Discipline of Employees, to read as
7 follows:

8
9 E 90 Reasons for Discipline of Employees

10
11 E 90 05 Reasons for Discipline of Employees—Discipline shall be administered to
12 denominational employees in the following circumstances:

13
14 1. Moral Fall—In the case of a moral fall in violation of the seventh commandment,
15 including those violations involving sexual perversions.

16
17 2. Apostasy—In the case where an employee identifies with, or gives continuing
18 support to, any activity subversive to the denomination, and/or persistently refuses to recognize
19 properly constituted church authority.

20
21 3. Dissidence—In the case where an employee openly expresses significant
22 dissidence regarding the fundamental beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

23
24 4. Embezzlement or Theft—Embezzlement or theft of funds or property to which
25 the employee has no lawful right, or the misappropriation of such funds or property.

26
27 5. Involvement in Illegal or Questionable Financial Transactions—Involvement by
28 an employee in situations which fail to honor the trust placed in them by recruiting, sponsoring,
29 supporting, encouraging participation in, or promoting fraudulent moneymaking schemes,
30 questionable financial investments such as multi-level marketing schemes, pyramid schemes,
31 high-risk investments, get-rich-quick schemes, dubious tax avoidance strategies, or other such
32 schemes that are illegal or of questionable legitimacy in order to obtain profit or financial gain or
33 advantage for themselves or for the promoters of such schemes.

34
35 6. Unauthorized or Improper Disclosure of Information—The unauthorized or
36 improper use or release of personal, confidential, private or proprietary employer, or
37 denominational information by any means.

38
39 7. Other Reasons—Any other reason for cause (see definition of “for cause” in
40 B 45 20) or conduct which is inconsistent with the high standards of the Christian ethic, and
41 which casts a shadow over the integrity of an employee of the Seventh-day Adventist Church,
42 such as violence or other questionable activity, and which demonstrates that the individual is
43 unworthy as an employee of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

45 E 90 10 Steps to be Followed in the Discipline of Employees—When discipline must be
46 administered for any of the above reasons, the employee’s relationship to the employer as well as
1 to the Church may be affected including employment, credentials, and church membership. (See
2 also L 60 20 and L 60 25 in the case of Ministers.)

1 OGC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/PreC/SecC/TreC/GCDO24AC to HMM-24AC(DIV)

2
3 207-24Gb REASONS FOR DISCIPLINE OF MINISTERS - POLICY
4 AMENDMENT

5
6 RECOMMENDED, To amend GC L 60 20, Reasons for Discipline of Ministers, to read as
7 follows:

8
9 L 60 20 Reasons for Discipline of Ministers—Discipline shall be administered to an
10 ordained/licensed/commissioned minister in the following circumstances:

11
12 1. Moral Fall—In the case of a moral fall in violation of the seventh commandment,
13 including those violations involving sexual perversions, the minister has, by that transgression,
14 made void his/her calling and, where applicable, ordination to the sacred office of the ministry.

15
16 2. Apostasy—In the case of apostasy whereby the minister falls away to the world,
17 or identifies with, or gives continuing support to, any activity subversive to the denomination,
18 and/or persistently refuses to recognize properly constituted church authority or to submit to the
19 order and discipline of the church, he/she has, by such disloyalty, proven unworthy of a place or
20 part in the gospel ministry of this Church.

21
22 3. Dissidence—Discipline may also be administered in the case of a minister who
23 openly expresses significant dissidence regarding the fundamental beliefs of the Seventh-day
24 Adventist Church. Continued and unrepentant dissidence may eventually be seen by the Church
25 to be apostasy and identified as such by the minister’s administrative organization after
26 counseling with the next higher organization.

27
28 4. Embezzlement or Theft—Embezzlement or theft of funds or property to which
29 the minister has no lawful right, or the willful misappropriation of the same.

30
31 5. Involvement in Illegal or Questionable Financial Transactions—Involvement by
32 an employee in situations which fail to honor the trust placed in them by recruiting, sponsoring,
33 supporting, encouraging participation in, or promoting fraudulent moneymaking schemes,
34 questionable financial investments such as multi-level marketing schemes, pyramid schemes,
35 high-risk investments, get-rich-quick schemes, dubious tax avoidance strategies, or other such
36 schemes that are illegal or of questionable legitimacy in order to obtain profit or financial gain or
37 advantage for themselves or for the promoters of such schemes.

38
39 6. Unauthorized or Improper Disclosure of Information—The unauthorized or
40 improper use or release of personal, confidential, private or proprietary employer, or
41 denominational information by any means.

42
43 ~~5.~~ 7. Other Reasons—Any other reason for cause (see definition of “for cause” in B 45
44 20) or conduct which is inconsistent with the high standards of the Christian ethic, and which
45 casts a shadow over the integrity of the ministry, such as violence or other questionable activity,

46 and which demonstrates that the individual is unworthy as a leader in the Church.

1 SEC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/SEC/SecC/GCDO24AC to HMM-24AC(DIV)

2
3 208-24G RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER CHRISTIAN CHURCHES
4 AND RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS - NEW POLICY

5
6 RATIONALE: This policy is being moved from the International Service Employee *Working*
7 *Policy* for inclusion in the General Conference *Working Policy*.

8
9 RECOMMENDED, To adopt GC FL 35, Relationships with Other Christian Churches and
10 Religious Organizations, to read as follows:

11
12 Relationships with Other Christian Churches and Religious Organizations

13
14 To avoid creating misunderstanding or friction in our relationships with other Christian
15 churches and religious organizations, the following guidelines have been set forth:

16
17 1. We recognize those agencies that lift up Christ before men as a part of the divine
18 plan for evangelization of the world, and we hold in high esteem Christian men and women in
19 other communions who are engaged in winning souls to Christ.

20
21 2. When we are brought into contact with other Christian societies and religious
22 bodies, the spirit of Christian courtesy, frankness, and fairness shall prevail at all times.

23
24 3. We recognize that true religion is based on conscience and conviction. It is
25 therefore to be our constant purpose that no selfish interest or temporal advantage shall draw any
26 person to our communion and that no tie shall hold any member save the belief and conviction
27 that in this way the true connection with Christ is found. If a change of conviction leads a
28 member of our church to feel no longer in harmony with Seventh-day Adventist faith and
29 practice, we recognize not only the right but also the responsibility of that member to change,
30 without opprobrium, religious affiliation in accord with belief. We expect other religious bodies
31 to respond in the same spirit of religious liberty.

32
33 4. Before admitting to church membership members of other religious organizations,
34 care shall be exercised to ascertain that the candidates are moved to change their religious
35 affiliation by religious conviction and out of regard to their personal relationship with God.

36
37 5. A person under censure of another religious organization for clearly established
38 fault in Christian morals or character shall not be considered eligible for membership in the
39 Seventh-day Adventist Church until there is evidence of repentance and reformation.

40
41 6. The Seventh-day Adventist Church is unable to confine its mission to restricted
42 geographical areas because of its understanding of the gospel commission's mandate. In the
43 providence of God and the historical development of His work for men, denominational bodies
44 and religious movements have arisen from time to time to give special emphasis to different

45 phases of gospel truth. In the origin and rise of the Seventh-day Adventist people, the burden was
46 laid upon us to emphasize the gospel of Christ’s second coming as an imminent event, calling for
1 the proclamation of biblical truths in the setting of the special message of preparation as
2 described in Bible prophecy, particularly in Revelation 14:6-14. This message commissions the
3 preaching of the “everlasting gospel to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people”
4 bringing it to the attention of all peoples everywhere. Any restriction which limits witness to
5 specified geographical areas therefore becomes an abridgment of the gospel commission. The
6 Seventh-day Adventist Church also acknowledges the rights of other religious persuasions to
7 operate without geographical restrictions.

1 STW/ADCOM/ADCOM/TreC/GCDO24AC to HMM-24AC(DIV)

2
3 214-24G AREAS OF EMPHASIS (STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES—
4 DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES) - POLICY AMENDMENT

5
6 RECOMMENDED, To amend FS 15, Areas of Emphasis (Stewardship Ministries—
7 Departmental Policies), to read as follows:

8
9 FS 15 Areas of Emphasis

10
11 Stewardship Ministries focuses upon the following areas of emphasis in the fulfillment of
12 its purpose and mission:

13
14 1. Spiritual Renewal—Spiritual renewal must form the foundation for any
15 Stewardship Ministries thrust. Since stewardship involves the entire person living in a growing
16 partnership with God, any strategy must build on spiritual renewal. Stewardship Ministries will
17 encourage and foster materials to aid in the spiritual growth of individuals as well as the
18 corporate body.

19
20 2. Organizational Renewal—Organizational renewal is also an important area of
21 emphasis for Stewardship Ministries. Confidence in leadership and the church structure has a
22 direct impact on individual stewardship. Enhancing a spiritual foundation for the organizational
23 structure and function provides a context in which individuals can more effectively grow
24 spiritually.

25
26 3. Personal Life Management—The secular and materialistic thrust of our society
27 must be met in a more biblical way. Stewardship must be integrated into every area of life. Thus,
28 personal and total life management are areas which Stewardship Ministries seeks to strengthen
29 and resource.

30
31 4. Education About Creating Resources—Members in several parts of the world,
32 mainly where the Church is experiencing significant membership growth, are facing economic
33 challenges such as high rates of unemployment. Increasing participation in tithe and offerings
34 will only be achievable in such places if members are empowered to create resources. The
35 involvement of Church entities in this emphasis will depend on the context and the capacity of
36 the Church entities.

37
38 4. 5. Christian Money Management—People’s use of money is a reflection of their
39 walk with God. Thus, biblical principles of money management are an important part of
40 integrating the lordship of Christ into this critical area of life. Stewardship Ministries will
41 continue to develop materials to help in the area of biblical principles for money management.

42
43 5. 6. Seventh-day Adventist Financial Support Plan—Stewardship Ministries will
44 continue to assist administration in tithe and offering education through materials to support the
45 implementation of the Seventh-day Adventist Financial Support Plan. Plan, including the



46 ~~Personal Choice Giving Plan.~~

1 WHT/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GCDO24AC to HMM-24AC(DIV)

2
3 206-24G ELLEN G WHITE ESTATE, INC—POLICIES - POLICY
4 AMENDMENT

5 RECOMMENDING, To record the amendment of GC GE, Ellen G White Estate, Inc—
6 Policies, to read as follows:

7
8 GE ELLEN G WHITE ESTATE, INC AND ELLEN G WHITE WRITINGS
9 INC—POLICIES

10
11 Mission: The Ellen G White Estate supports the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist
12 Church in uplifting Jesus Christ and His Word by sharing Ellen G White’s prophetic ministry
13 and writings throughout the world.

14
15 Vision: A worldwide community of believers preparing for the soon return of Jesus in
16 which Ellen G White’s inspired messages are widely available, deeply valued, richly lived, and
17 faithfully shared.

18
19 GE 04 Ellen G White Estate, Inc

20
21 GE 04 05 Purpose and General Conference Recognition—Ellen G White entrusted her
22 writings and estate to trustees for the benefit and blessing of the Church. The General
23 Conference recognizes the Ellen G White Estate, Inc, established in response to the last will of
24 Ellen G White, as the owner and proprietor in perpetuity of all her writings. This represents a
25 sacred trust that is morally binding. As a legal organization the Ellen G White Estate is
26 authorized to hold the copyrights of all Ellen G White books and bears responsibility for the care
27 and widest possible distribution of her works. Included in this understanding are all Ellen G
28 White writings whether or not under copyright, in English as well as in all other languages. The
29 General Conference calls upon organizations and persons, within or outside of the Church, to
30 honor the provisions of the author for the continuing custody of her writings.

31
32 GE 04 10 Ellen G White Estate Board of Trustees—The Ellen G White Estate Board of
33 Trustees, established in accordance with the last will of Ellen G White, is a self-perpetuating
34 board responsible for (1) holding the copyrights and maintaining the care of her writings in all
35 languages; (2) the custody of the files and original manuscripts and other holdings of the Estate;
36 (3) the preparation and oversight of manuscripts for the translation and publication of her
37 writings; (4) the selection of matter for publication and distribution in digital and other formats;
38 (5) the election of White Estate associate and assistant directors and appointment of other
39 personnel; (6) providing guidance and support to Ellen G White Centers around the world; and
40 (7) working closely with divisions and other world Church entities to educate regarding the gift
41 of prophecy and Adventist history; (8) serving as the constituency for Adventist Heritage
42 Ministries.

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GE 04 15 Office Space and Finances—The General Conference provides the Ellen G White Estate with office space and a budget to meet its operational and travel expenses. The Board of Trustees controls this budget, authorizing all expenditures. The White Estate treasurer is chosen by joint action of the General Conference Treasury and the White Estate Board. At each regularly scheduled meeting of the Board its treasurer shall present an updated financial report.

~~GE-05 Ellen G White Writings~~

~~GE 05 05 Ellen G White Writings—The writings of Ellen G White are, in a special sense, the property of the Church. The published writings and the manuscripts were both placed by her in the care of the Ellen G White Board of Trustees, which is responsible for their safekeeping and for the promotion of their publication in all leading languages. This Board is also responsible for the issuance of new books compiled from the Ellen G White manuscripts and periodical articles. The Board, working in close cooperation with the General Conference Executive Committee, serves as the author’s representative in all matters pertaining to the published and unpublished writings, whether these be under copyright or in public domain.~~

~~GE 05 10 General Conference Recognition—The General Conference recognizes the Ellen G White Estate, Incorporated, established by Ellen G White herself, as the owner and proprietor of all her writings, thus bearing responsibility for their care, publication, and widest possible distribution. This understanding relates to all Ellen G White writings whether or not under copyright. Permission for publication of these writings emanates from the Ellen G White Estate Board; and publishing houses that publish and copyright Ellen G White books do so as agents of the Ellen G White Estate. From time to time, the Board may establish or amend policies respecting the use, publication, and/or circulation of Ellen G White writings. The General Conference calls upon organizations and persons, within or without the church, to honor the provisions of the author for the continuing custody of her writings.~~

~~GE 05 15 Office Space and Finances—The General Conference provides office space for the Ellen G White Estate. It also provides a White Estate budget, to meet the expenses represented by the regular cycle of duties of the office of the Ellen G White Estate. The Board controls this budget, authorizing all expenditures. A person chosen from the General Conference Treasury staff by joint action of the General Conference and the Board serves as treasurer for the Board and disburses the funds on authorization from the Board with a monthly statement listing these disbursements and showing the current financial standing.~~

~~The General Conference provides annually a budget for subsidizing the publication of Ellen G White books in languages other than English. Expenditures from this budget are by action of the General Conference Executive Committee on recommendation of the Spirit of Prophecy Committee.~~

~~GE 05 20 Access to Manuscripts and Other Estate Files—Access to the properties of the~~



41 ~~Ellen G White Estate shall be by permission of and according to policies established by the~~
42 ~~Board.~~

2 ~~GE 05 25 Permission to Use Writings—There is an implied permission granted by the~~
3 ~~Board to denominational writers and publishers for a reasonable use of Ellen G White writings,~~
4 ~~with the regularly employed publishing house editors being held responsible for the proper use of~~
5 ~~selected excerpts. The Board permits the inclusion of Ellen G White material in manuscripts~~
6 ~~accepted by denominational publishing house book committees, provided that no more than 20~~
7 ~~percent of the manuscript is Ellen G White material. If the manuscript contains more than 20~~
8 ~~percent of material from Ellen G White writings, the matter should come to the Board for its~~
9 ~~study and action.~~

10

11

GE 09 Ellen G White Centers

12

13 GE 09 05 Global Network of Ellen G White Centers—The work of the Ellen G White
14 Estate is assisted globally from the main office by a network of Ellen G White Centers. These
15 serve as centers of research and influence to facilitate an understanding of Ellen G White’s
16 writings and ministry and comprises four levels: (1) Ellen G White Estate Branch Offices, (2)
17 Ellen G White-Seventh-day Adventist Research Centers, (3) Ellen G White-Seventh-day
18 Adventist Study Centers, and (4) local Ellen G White Mini Centers.

19

20 GE 09 10 Ellen G White Estate Branch Offices—Branch Offices of the Ellen G White
21 Estate are extensions of the main office of the White Estate and are located at educational
22 institutions sponsored by the General Conference and serving the world Church. They are
23 established when deemed necessary by the Board of Trustees and in consultation with the
24 General Conference. Initial setup costs, salaries, and allowances, as well as operational expenses
25 are provided by the General Conference. The host institution is responsible for providing the
26 physical facility and support services.

27

28 The director of a Branch Office is elected by the Ellen G White Estate Board every five
29 years at its quinquennial meeting, following a General Conference Session, and holds the
30 position of assistant director of the Ellen G White Estate. The Branch Office director is a full-
31 time employee of the White Estate unless other arrangements are made between the White
32 Estate, General Conference Treasury, and the host institution. A local board or oversight
33 committee shall be appointed by the Ellen G White Estate Board of Trustees that includes
34 representation from the host institution, White Estate administration, and the director of the
35 Branch Office who shall serve as secretary. The committee may be chaired by an administrator
36 from the host institution and other members as recommended by the institution or determined by
37 the White Estate Board. The membership may be updated periodically as needed.

38

39 GE 09 15 Ellen G White-Seventh-day Adventist Research Centers—Upon approval by
40 the Ellen G White Estate Board and the General Conference Executive Committee, each division
41 is authorized to establish one Ellen G White-Seventh-day Adventist Research Center within its
42 division territory. This Center should serve the entire division territory. Any additional Research

1 Centers within their division territory must also be approved by the respective division executive
 2 committee and the White Estate Board and will be funded solely by the division and/or union
 3 and institution where they are located. Divisions with more than one Center can divide their
 4 territory among their existing Centers under the responsibility of union conferences. Each
 5 Research Center should encourage and provide guidance to the Study Centers and Mini Centers
 6 located within its assigned territory. In consultation with the divisions and their respective Spirit
 7 of Prophecy Coordinators, the Ellen G White Estate oversees the Research Centers around the
 8 world. Relocation of any Center requires approval by the division executive committee and the
 9 Ellen G White Estate Board.

10
 11 As a center of influence and a resource for the writings and ministry of Ellen G White
 12 and local Adventist history, the Research Center should maintain a vault or other secure place to
 13 preserve valuable historical documents and materials including Ellen White’s letters and
 14 manuscripts. All Ellen G White Estate historical materials and files, including copies of the
 15 Ellen G White letters and manuscripts, are provided on a loan basis and remain the property of
 16 the Ellen G White Estate. Should it become necessary to close a Research Center, all Ellen G
 17 White Estate historical materials and files, including the Ellen G White letters and manuscripts,
 18 are to be returned to the White Estate.

19
 20 Directors of all Research Centers are to be nominated every five years by the division
 21 executive committee in consultation with White Estate administration and elected by the Ellen G
 22 White Estate Board at its quinquennial meeting following a General Conference Session. Fifty
 23 percent of the Research Center director’s time is to be devoted to the Center and 50 percent to
 24 the educational institution in which the Center is located. In the event of a vacancy, the division
 25 executive committee in consultation with the union executive committee and/or institutional
 26 board where the Center is located shall establish a joint search committee with Ellen G White
 27 Estate administration to recommend a new director to the Ellen G White Estate Board for
 28 election. Because of the specialized nature and work of the Research Center director, a longer
 29 tenure with formal education in the area of Ellen G White and Adventist history is strongly
 30 encouraged.

31
 32 The initial Research Center in each division will receive an annual appropriation from the
 33 General Conference equivalent to 75 percent of the denominational annual basic wage factor for
 34 the territory where the Center is located. This appropriation is intended to cover 50 percent of the
 35 Research Center director’s salary and includes an additional 25 percent of the wage factor for the
 36 director’s estimated benefits. In cases where this appropriation does not cover 50 percent of the
 37 salary and benefits, the difference between the appropriation and 50 percent of the actual salary
 38 and benefits can be charged to the General Conference in a time period not to exceed one
 39 calendar year following the release of the appropriation to the division. An appropriate travel
 40 budget is to be provided by the division for the director’s field services. The General Conference
 41 may also provide the initial Research Center with an annual travel appropriation to supplement
 42 that allocated by the division. All other operating expenses, such as secretarial services, office

1 supplies, maintenance, etc, as well as the physical facilities, such as the vault, office space, and
 2 general furnishings, are to be provided by the division or sponsoring union in cooperation with
 3 the educational institution.

4
 5 If there is more than one Center in the division, the division may choose to divide among
 6 its Centers the annual appropriation received from the General Conference, but the total amount
 7 received by the division will not exceed what was provided to the initial Center. Dividing the
 8 General Conference subsidy should not result in the reduction of any services or resources at any
 9 of the Research Centers in the territory.

10
 11 Each Research Center will have a supervisory committee of seven to nine members that
 12 is responsible for management of the Center, including preparation of its annual budget. Both
 13 division and union level research center supervisory committees are recommended by the
 14 division executive committee and when applicable from the union executive committee. The
 15 Ellen G White Estate Board, as soon as practical after each General Conference Session, shall
 16 appoint the committee. The committee shall be chaired by either the president of the school
 17 where the Research Center is located or an officer (or designee) from the division or union
 18 depending upon sponsorship. The director of the Center shall serve as the secretary of the
 19 committee. The division Spirit of Prophecy Coordinator and the director of the Ellen G White
 20 Estate, or a person who officially represents the director, serve as ex-officio members of the
 21 committee. The supervisory committee is to meet at least once a year and keep records of its
 22 actions. A copy of the committee’s minutes in English shall be forwarded to the Ellen G White
 23 Estate. An in-house committee of three, including the director of the Center and chaired by an
 24 administrator from the host institution, may be recommended each quinquennium by the division
 25 or union and reviewed by White Estate administration; for consultation as needed in regard to
 26 day-to-day decisions.

27
 28 Additional guidelines for Research Centers are defined in “Governance, Finances, and
 29 Services of Ellen G White-Seventh-day Adventist Research,” available from the White Estate.

30
 31 GE 09 20 Ellen G White-Seventh-day Adventist Study Centers—An educational
 32 institution, archive, or an entity listed in the *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* may request
 33 authorization from its union, subject to approval by the division executive committee and the
 34 Ellen G White Estate Board, to establish a Study Center to serve the academic institution and/or
 35 local territory. Guidelines for Study Centers, including a list of required resource materials and
 36 equipment that may be needed, are available from the White Estate.

37
 38 GE 09 25 Ellen G White Mini Centers—Ellen G White Mini Centers may be established
 39 in local churches and conference-sponsored Adventist schools or other official local entities for
 40 the purpose of strengthening the Seventh-day Adventist Church at the local level by fostering the
 41 study of the Bible, the writings of Ellen G White, and Adventist history. Guidelines for Mini

1 Centers, including a list of required resource materials and equipment that may be needed, are
2 available from the White Estate.

3
4 GE 09 30 Summary of Financial Responsibilities—1. Branch Offices:
5

6 a. General Conference—Setup costs, operational expenses, salaries, travel,
7 and other allowances

8
9 b. Institution—Physical space to house office

10
11 2. Research Centers (first in a division):

12
13 a. Operation:

14
15 1) General Conference—Resource materials and specialized research
16 equipment (including shipping)

17
18 2) Division/Host Academic Institution—Any duty on imported items,
19 physical space to house Center, furnishings, operating expenses, such as secretarial services,
20 office supplies, maintenance, etc

21
22 b. Salary/Travel:

23
24 1) General Conference—Seventy-five percent (75%) of the division’s
25 basic wage factor for the territory where the Center is located; may provide supplemental travel
26 assistance

27
28 2) Division/Host Academic Institution—Balance of director’s salary,
29 appropriate travel budget

30
31 3. Research Centers (additional in a division):

32
33 a. General Conference—No assistance

34
35 b. Division/Host Academic Institution—All operating expenses, including
36 physical space, furnishings, setup costs, shipping and any import duty, 100 percent of the salary
37 and allowances of the director, secretarial services, and travel budget

38
39 4. Study Centers and Mini Centers:
40

41 a. General Conference/Division—No assistance
42

1 2. Promoting and translating (if necessary) the annual Spirit of Prophecy
2 Day/Adventist Heritage Sabbath program.

3
4 3. Organizing, in cooperation with the division Spirit of Prophecy coordinator, Spirit
5 of Prophecy Advisories for the local conference/mission Spirit of Prophecy coordinators, as well
6 as for any local church coordinators.

7
8 GE 14 15 Conference Coordinators—Local conference Spirit of Prophecy coordinators
9 are chosen by each conference and should report to their president or designee and liaison with
10 their union and/or division Spirit of Prophecy coordinators. Within their territory, they are
11 responsible for:

12
13 1. The planning and promotion of the Ellen G White writings, including working
14 with administrators, pastors, and teachers.

15
16 2. Promoting the annual Spirit of Prophecy Day/Adventist Heritage Sabbath
17 program.

18
19 GE 14 20 Local Church Coordinators—Local church Spirit of Prophecy coordinators are
20 chosen by each church and should report to their pastor or designee and liaison with their
21 church’s publishing ministries coordinator and conference Spirit of Prophecy coordinator.
22 Within their church, they are responsible for promoting the importance and right use of the
23 Ellen G White writings, in collaboration with the publishing ministries coordinator.

24
25 ~~GE 15 The Ellen G White Estate and the Spirit of Prophecy Committee~~

26
27 ~~GE 15 05 Spirit of Prophecy Committee—The Spirit of Prophecy Committee is~~
28 ~~appointed by the General Conference Administrative Committee and is constituted as follows:~~
29 ~~representatives of the General Conference officer group, one of whom shall serve as chair; Board~~
30 ~~of Trustees, and others. This committee shall serve during the period between the General~~
31 ~~Conference Sessions.~~

32
33 ~~General responsibility for the publication of Ellen G White books throughout the world is~~
34 ~~shared by the Board and the Spirit of Prophecy Committee, a standing committee of the General~~
35 ~~Conference.~~

- 36
37 ~~1. The Board is responsible for:~~
38
39 ~~a. New editions, changed formats, and other changes in presently published~~
40 ~~works.~~
41
42 ~~b. Abridgments, translations, and related changes.~~

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- e. Editions of works for the blind.
- d. Obtaining and keeping current all necessary copyrights.
- e. The nature and content of any indexes that may be made.

2. The Spirit of Prophecy Committee is responsible for:

- a. The overall planning of Spirit of Prophecy promotion.
- b. Encouraging the reading and use of Ellen G White writings.
- e. The annual Spirit of Prophecy Sabbath program.
- d. Promoting the non-English publication of Ellen G White material and, if

subsidies are required, recommending to the General Conference Administrative Committee the subsidy that should be granted. However, the preparation of such editions, with related correspondence and attention to legal or copyright matters, shall be the responsibility of the Board.

~~GE 15-10 Publication of Ellen G White Books—Ellen G White books are handled differently from other denominational publications. As a legal organization the Ellen G White Estate is authorized to hold the copyrights of all Ellen G White books. The Board grants permission for the use of Ellen G White writings and acts on plans involving the publication of Ellen G White materials or works drawn largely from her writings.~~

~~GE 15-15 Trade Books—The publication of Ellen G White trade books in the North American Division is shared between the two General Conference publishing houses. Because of their unique value to the church such books, once issued, shall continue as stock items. When such books need to be reset, the Board shall be informed.~~

~~Manuscript for new compilations shall be passed by the Board to the publishing houses, but it shall not be submitted to the respective book committees. The General Conference publishing houses are empowered to publish Ellen G White trade books in English for use by the world field. This permission, however, does not preclude the publishing of English editions outside the North American Division if such are deemed advisable. All negotiations for English editions which are printed outside the territory of the North American Division as well as foreign language editions are to be made between the respective division and the Board.~~

1 ~~Apart from these special arrangements, Ellen G White trade books are published on the~~
 2 ~~same basis as others issued by the General Conference publishing houses, with the publishers~~
 3 ~~meeting all initial expenses and being responsible for advertising, distribution, and similar costs.~~
 4

5 ~~GE 15 20 Subscription Books— Ellen G White subscription and trade books are handled~~
 6 ~~on the same terms. The publishing house to which the book is assigned bears all initial expense.~~
 7 ~~Control of the English printing of the books by the North American publishing houses is~~
 8 ~~restricted to its use in the United States and Canada and to the territories served by the~~
 9 ~~Stanborough Press as a subsidiary of the Review and Herald Publishing Association.~~
 10

11 ~~Prior to the publication, resetting, or re-illustrating of any Ellen G White subscription~~
 12 ~~book now in circulation, counsel shall be sought of the Board and General Conference~~
 13 ~~Publishing Ministries.~~
 14

15 ~~GE 15 25 Responsibility for Compilations— When there is a call for a compilation of~~
 16 ~~Ellen G White writings in book form, the need for such a book shall be considered by the Board~~
 17 ~~and on favorable action it shall be referred to the Spirit of Prophecy Committee for counsel. The~~
 18 ~~Spirit of Prophecy Committee may also take the initiative in recommending the publication of~~
 19 ~~new compilations. Responsibility for the authorization of the compilation and supervision of the~~
 20 ~~manuscript preparation shall rest with the Board.~~
 21

22 ~~If the compilation is made by others than the Ellen G White Estate staff, remuneration, if~~
 23 ~~any, shall be through a definite sum authorized by the Board in consultation with the General~~
 24 ~~Conference. The publishing house shall bear the expenses associated with the preparation and~~
 25 ~~publication of such books.~~
 26

27 ~~GE 15 30 Study Guides— The following guidelines are established for the preparation of~~
 28 ~~study guides for Ellen G White books:~~
 29

30 ~~1. It should be the sole objective of the study guide to lead the reader to a knowledge~~
 31 ~~of the counsels and instructions given by Ellen G White, and great care should be exercised to~~
 32 ~~avoid interpretation of writings either by comment, emphasis, or wording of the text.~~
 33

34 ~~2. Study guides to the Ellen G White books, being fully dependent on these books~~
 35 ~~for their existence, are supplements to these books, and should therefore be handled under the~~
 36 ~~regulations pertaining to the publication of Ellen G White books.~~
 37

38 ~~3. When there is a call for a printed study guide to any Ellen G White book to be~~
 39 ~~issued for distribution as a regular publication by one of the publishing houses, the responsibility~~
 40 ~~for authorization and supervision of manuscript preparation and publication shall rest with the~~
 41 ~~Board. Royalty shall be paid to the General Conference at five percent of the retail price of these~~

1 study guides (the same as for the annual devotional and missionary books of the year—see FP 55
2 10, category D).

3
4 4. The manuscript may be prepared in the Ellen G White Estate office, or the work
5 may be assigned to a person not on the office staff. In the latter case remuneration, if any, shall
6 not be made under the royalty plan but shall be a definite sum authorized by the Board in
7 consultation with the General Conference Corporation. Such payment may be charged against
8 the General Conference account to which, by agreement, Ellen G White royalty income accrues.

9
10 5. Policies that call for Spirit of Prophecy Committee approval for the publication of
11 new Ellen G White books shall apply to such study guides.

12
13 6. These policies shall not apply to such outlines and study guides that are temporary
14 in nature, mimeographed for use in institutes or classrooms in educational or other institutions.

15
16 ~~GE 15-35 Royalty—Ellen G White books shall be royalty free.~~

17
18 ~~GE 15-40 Releasing Unpublished Material—The decision as to the suitability of~~
19 ~~unpublished material for general release rests with the Board which shall approve both the~~
20 ~~release and the manner of release.~~

21
22 ~~GE 15-45 Authorization to Print—Any territory desiring to translate and publish any of~~
23 ~~the Ellen G White writings shall communicate with the Board and Publishing Ministries of the~~
24 ~~General Conference before beginning the translation. The publishing house issuing the book~~
25 ~~shall be subject to the conditions governing the issuance of denominational literature as these~~
26 ~~relate to the use of illustrations and to royalty in such cases as royalty is called for. Upon~~
27 ~~completion of the work the publishing house shall report the language, the size of the edition,~~
28 ~~and other helpful information to the Board for their records and shall file two copies of the~~
29 ~~completed work with the office of the Ellen G White Estate and one copy with Publishing~~
30 ~~Ministries of the General Conference. Board authorization to publish is separate and distinct~~
31 ~~from any financial commitment to aid in publication. (See GE 15-75.)~~

32
33 ~~GE 15-50 Worldwide Publication of Subscription Books—Encouragement is given to the~~
34 ~~publication of such Ellen G White subscription books as may meet the needs of the various~~
35 ~~territories. These books may be issued either in their entirety or in abridged form. When it is~~
36 ~~deemed advisable to use the abridgment, the standard approved abridgment should be used.~~

37
38 This plan brings a desirable uniformity into our literature. Manuscripts for abridgments
39 may be obtained from the office of the Ellen G White Estate. If a special abridgment is called
40 for, plans for its preparation must be worked out in counsel with the Board. The Board, the Spirit
41 of Prophecy Committee, and General Conference Publishing Ministries encourage publication of
42 the Ellen G White books in their entirety as far as is practical.

1
2 ~~GE 15 55 Worldwide Publication of Trade Books—1. *Purchase of Printing Rights and*~~
3 ~~*Files*—Publishing houses wishing to print Ellen G White trade books in a language already in~~
4 ~~print may purchase the printing rights and printers from the original publishers as follows:~~

- 5
6 a. ~~Text only—Five percent (5%) of initial cost of text.~~
7
8 b. ~~Combined text, art work, and pictures—Seven and a half percent (7.5%)~~
9 ~~of total initial cost.~~
10
11 c. ~~Initial cost shall include actual origination expense incurred up to the point~~
12 ~~the negatives are stripped, and flats made ready for the production of printing plates/digital files.~~
13 ~~Normal factory overhead percentages shall be included but not promotion or distribution costs.~~
14
15 d. ~~Author and artist royalties are additional as required.~~
16
17 e. ~~Digital files shall be supplied at cost, as defined in paragraph 1. c. above,~~
18 ~~plus fifteen percent (15%).~~
19
20 f. ~~Distribution Rights—The purchasing publisher’s distribution rights on the~~
21 ~~purchased book shall be limited to its own territory.~~

22
23 2. ~~*Permission to Translate*—A request for the translation of an Ellen G White Trade~~
24 ~~book in a major language used by more than one division shall be approved and the translating~~
25 ~~assigned by the World Literature Ministry Coordinating Board (WLMCB).~~

26
27 ~~GE 15 60 Translations—Translating Ellen G White books presents a unique problem.~~
28 ~~Being Spirit of Prophecy literature, the translation must be faithful and made from the original~~
29 ~~English text, and shall convey to the readers of other languages an accurate picture of the Ellen G~~
30 ~~White teaching. Care should be exercised to avoid making the translation literal, hence stilted~~
31 ~~and sometimes meaningless. On the other hand, the translator must not take the liberty to~~
32 ~~introduce his own viewpoint or add sentences to further delineate the subject presented. Nor is~~
33 ~~the translator at liberty to delete sentences. Such translations are not acceptable, and their~~
34 ~~publication must not be permitted. All translations should be carefully checked by readers~~
35 ~~designated by the union or division in which the work is done.~~

36
37 ~~In some cases, a given translation may serve several territories. When this is so, the~~
38 ~~translation shall, if feasible, be made available for checking in all areas concerned.~~

39
40 ~~The Trustees of the Ellen G White Estate retain the responsibility to approve the~~
41 ~~translations of the Ellen G White books prior to their publication and shall take such steps as~~
42 ~~they deem advisable to assure themselves that the translation is acceptable.~~

1
 2 ~~GE 15 65 Introductory Spirit of Prophecy Library—Divisions are urged to arrange for the~~
 3 ~~publication of the volumes designated as constituting the Introductory Spirit of Prophecy~~
 4 ~~Library. These volumes are to be issued in their entirety so as to correspond to their English~~
 5 ~~counterparts. The books comprising this library are:~~

6
 7 **List A (First Priority)**

- 8 ~~*Acts of the Apostles, The*~~
- 9 ~~*Adventist Home, The*~~
- 10 ~~*Christ's Object Lessons*~~
- 11 ~~*Christian Service*~~
- 12 ~~*Counsels on Stewardship*~~
- 13 ~~*Desire of Ages, The*~~
- 14 ~~*Early Writings*~~
- 15 ~~*Education*~~
- 16 ~~*Gospel Workers*~~
- 17 ~~*Great Controversy, The*~~
- 18 ~~*Ministry of Healing, The*~~
- 19 ~~*Patriarchs and Prophets*~~
- 20 ~~*Prophets and Kings*~~
- 21 ~~*Steps to Christ*~~
- 22 ~~*Story of Redemption, The*~~

23
 24 **List B (Second Priority)**

- 25 ~~*Child Guidance*~~
- 26 ~~*Counsels on Diet and Foods*~~
- 27 ~~*Evangelism*~~
- 28 ~~*Life Sketches of E. G. White*~~
- 29 ~~*Messages to Young People*~~
- 30 ~~*Testimony Treasures, Volume I*~~
- 31 ~~*Testimony Treasures, Volume II*~~
- 32 ~~*Testimony Treasures, Volume III*~~
- 33 ~~*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*~~
- 34 ~~*Selected Messages, Book 1*~~
- 35 ~~*Selected Messages, Book 2*~~
- 36 ~~*Selected Messages, Book 3*~~
- 37 ~~*Welfare Ministry*~~

38
 39 ~~GE 15 70 Responsibility for Publishing—The primary responsibility for producing these~~
 40 ~~books rests with the respective division executive committees, but the General Conference~~
 41 ~~Executive Committee, through the Spirit of Prophecy Committee, may render assistance. The~~

1 question of the order in which the Introductory Spirit of Prophecy Library books shall be
 2 published is left with committees in the various territories.

3
 4 ~~GE 15 75 Financial Assistance—1. The objective of the Spirit of Prophecy Book Subsidy~~
 5 ~~Fund is to help make the Ellen G White books available in the various languages spoken by~~
 6 ~~Seventh-day Adventists, at a price within their local buying ability, taking into account the~~
 7 ~~economy of the country, earning power of the people and size of the language group. Wherever~~
 8 ~~possible, the books shall be produced and distributed on a self-supporting basis. Where this is not~~
 9 ~~possible, financial assistance in the form of subsidies may be called for.~~

10
 11 ~~2. Although preference is given to the Introductory Spirit of Prophecy Library,~~
 12 ~~requests for subsidies may be made on any Ellen G White book for trade or subscription~~
 13 ~~printings and on materials as approved by the Board.~~

14
 15 ~~3. Subsidies for the initial publication of Ellen G White books in languages other~~
 16 ~~than English shall be made by the General Conference Administrative Committee on the~~
 17 ~~recommendation of the Spirit of Prophecy Committee and made available from the Subsidy Fund~~
 18 ~~for initial publication expense based on the number of pages of the English edition on one of the~~
 19 ~~following plans:~~

20
 21 ~~a. Plan A—For language areas with more than 5,000 members, up to USD~~
 22 ~~20 per page based on actual costs, and apportioned as follows:~~

General Conference	40%
Division	35%
Union	25%
per page	100%

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 24
 25
 26
 27
 28
 29 ~~b. Plan B—For language areas with fewer than 5,000 members, up to USD~~
 30 ~~26 per page based on actual costs, and apportioned as follows:~~

General Conference	46%
Division	39%
Union	15%
per page	100%

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 37 ~~c. Plan C—For language areas with more than 5,000 members in countries~~
 38 ~~with inadequate economies, as approved by the General Conference Spirit of Prophecy~~
 39 ~~Committee, up to USD 30 per page based on actual costs, and apportioned as follows:~~

General Conference	60%
Division	27%

1	Union	<u>13%</u>
2	per page	100%

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d. ~~Plan D—For language areas with fewer than 5,000 members in countries with inadequate economies, as approved by the General Conference Spirit of Prophecy Committee, up to USD 35 per page based on actual costs, and apportioned as follows:~~

General Conference	69%
Division	23%
Union	<u>8%</u>
per page	100%

4. ~~The union committee concerned shall take the initiative in making the arrangements for the translation.~~

5. ~~The union officers shall, in consultation with the division, prepare the request for the subsidy which shall include the following information:~~

- a. ~~Number of pages in English edition~~
- b. ~~Number of pages in translation~~
- e. ~~Number of church members served by the language~~
- d. ~~Per capita tithe~~
- e. ~~Proposed retail sale price~~
- f. ~~Approximate number of people who use the language~~
- g. ~~Number of books to be printed~~
- h. ~~Steps which have been taken to have the translation checked by individuals in other areas of the world where the publication may be used~~
- i. ~~Provision for checking the translation for accuracy~~
- j. ~~Proposed date of publication, etc.~~
- k. ~~Plans for the promotion of the book~~

1 6. The request shall be approved by the division executive committee and placed on
2 the form provided and forwarded to the Secretary of the General Conference Spirit of Prophecy
3 Committee.

4
5 7. *Division Fund*—Each division shall set up a fund to cover their portion of the
6 above subsidies.

7
8 8. *Book Stocks*—Inasmuch as it is the objective of this plan to make these Ellen G
9 White books available on a continuing basis, the publishing houses shall keep a stock of each
10 published volume to meet the need of a growing constituency. If a publishing house is not
11 financially able to carry the investment involved in this program, the division executive
12 committee shall arrange for the necessary capital for this purpose.

13
14 9. In order to ensure the continual availability of Spirit of Prophecy books
15 subsidized by this policy, funding for a second printing shall be available from the General
16 Conference at the following percentages of the maximum provision per page for original
17 translated printing and will be released to the publisher upon proof of the second printing:

18
19 Plan A—20%

20 Plan B—23%

21 Plan C—13%

22 Plan D—17%

23
24 10. To make economical reprints possible, steps should be taken at the time of the
25 initial printing to preserve the positive printers, plates, etc.

26
27 11. If unions covered by Plans C or D are financially unable to pay their percentage
28 of the required translation subsidy, they may apply through their division Spirit of Prophecy
29 Coordinator to the Spirit of Prophecy Committee for a waiver. Included with the waiver request
30 must be verification from their respective division treasurer that the union is unable financially to
31 pay its required percentage of the translation subsidy.

32
33 12. When an original translation is found to be inaccurate, or outdated, a retranslation
34 may be done. Translations that are at least twenty five years old may be eligible for retranslation
35 at full subsidy rates, as set out in paragraph 3. a. to d. above, subject to submission to the Spirit
36 of Prophecy Committee of written justification describing the need for a new translation. Such
37 requests must be approved by the Spirit of Prophecy Committee. Subsidies for retranslation of
38 books less than twenty five years old, or if older but that did not receive approval from the Spirit
39 of Prophecy Committee for full subsidy, may still receive partial retranslation subsidy. In such
40 instances, the amount of subsidy per page from the General Conference, the division, and the
41 union shall be set at 50 percent of the regular translation subsidies as set out in paragraph 3. a. to
42 d. above.

1
2 13. ~~Where a book will only be published in electronic format, 20 percent of the~~
3 ~~regular translation subsidies as set out in paragraph 3. a. to d. above may be given. If it is decided~~
4 ~~at a later time to also print the book, application may be made to the Spirit of Prophecy~~
5 ~~Committee for the balance of the subsidy that would have been granted initially had the book~~
6 ~~then been printed.~~

7
8 14. ~~For transferring translated material onto CD-ROM format, the General~~
9 ~~Conference, the divisions, and the unions involved shall subsidize with 5 percent of the regular~~
10 ~~translation subsidies as set out in paragraph 3. a. to d. above.~~

11
12 15. ~~The Spirit of Prophecy Committee recognizes the need for the production of~~
13 ~~selected books into audio books, in languages other than English. Assistance for such production~~
14 ~~may be granted on a limited basis, subject to the approval of the Spirit of Prophecy Committee.~~
15 ~~If the book has already been translated, a subsidy equal to 50 percent of the regular translation~~
16 ~~subsidies as set out in paragraph 3. a. to d. above may be given. If the book needs to be translated~~
17 ~~first, then a subsidy equal to 70 percent of the regular translation subsidies as set out in paragraph~~
18 ~~3. a. to d. above may be given.~~

19
20 GE 15 80 Handling Subsidy Funds—~~The funds voted by the General Conference~~
21 ~~Executive Committee to assist in the publication of the Ellen G White books, as a usual~~
22 ~~procedure, shall be held in trust by the General Conference until the publishing house has the~~
23 ~~translation in hand and is ready to proceed with the printing. Then upon the request of the field,~~
24 ~~together with notification of the status of the project, the treasurer/chief financial officer of the~~
25 ~~General Conference shall release such funds for use in the initial expense.~~

26
27 GE 15 85 Unused Subsidies—~~Any funds appropriated from the Subsidy Fund to assist in~~
28 ~~the initial expense of the production of an Ellen G White book outside the North American~~
29 ~~Division shall automatically revert to the fund if uncalled for within three years of the time the~~
30 ~~action was taken appropriating such funds, unless an extension in the time is granted on specific~~
31 ~~request of the division concerned.~~

32
33 GE 15 90 Reports—~~Publishing houses are to report annually to the secretary of the Board~~
34 ~~informing the Board of the Ellen G White books published, the number of copies sold, and any~~
35 ~~related pertinent information that would be of service to the Board.~~

36
37 GE 19 Ellen G White Writings

38
39 GE 19 05 Permission to Access and Use Writings—~~The Ellen G White Estate Board is~~
40 ~~recognized as the sole authority in granting access and permissions for the use of Ellen G White~~
41 ~~writings. Access to the manuscripts and other files owned by the Ellen G White Estate shall be~~
42 ~~by permission of and according to policies and practices established by the Board of Trustees.~~

1
 2 Permission is granted by the Board to denominational writers and publishers for a
 3 reasonable use of the Ellen G White writings, with the regularly employed denominational
 4 editors being held responsible for the proper use of selected excerpts. The Board permits the
 5 inclusion of Ellen G White material in manuscripts accepted by denominational publishing house
 6 book committees, provided that no more than 30 percent of the manuscript is Ellen G White
 7 material. If the manuscript exceeds 30 percent of material from Ellen G White’s writings, the
 8 matter should come to the Board for its review and action.

9
 10 GE 19 10 Authorization to Publish—Publication of the Ellen G White writings, whether
 11 in English or translated into other languages, is a sacred privilege and responsibility. Therefore,
 12 these items are to be handled differently from other denominational publications. The Review
 13 and Herald Publishing Association is the official publisher and publishing agent for the Ellen G
 14 White Estate in all languages. Publishers and printer whether church-owned or not are asked to
 15 honor the White Estate publishing arrangement. Denominational publishing houses are
 16 authorized, through an arrangement with the Review and Herald to publish Ellen G White books.
 17 Publishing houses that publish and copyright Ellen G White books do so as agents of the Ellen G
 18 White Estate.

19
 20 Any territory desiring to translate and publish any of the Ellen G White writings, whether
 21 in printed or other formats, shall request permission from the White Estate. Application for
 22 translation subsidy shall be requested from the Spirit of Prophecy Committee (see GE 25 20).

23
 24 Upon completion of the work, the publishing house shall report the language, the size of
 25 the edition, and other helpful information to the Spirit of Prophecy Committee for its records and
 26 shall file with the office of the Ellen G White Estate two copies of the printed book and also a
 27 copy in electronic format.

28
 29 GE 19 15 New Compilations, Adaptations, and Paraphrases—New compilations,
 30 adaptations, or paraphrases from Ellen G White’s writings are the responsibility of the Board of
 31 Trustees. When a manuscript for a new Ellen G White book is approved by the Board, it is not
 32 subject to content revision by the publishing entities.

33
 34 If the book manuscript is produced by others than the Ellen G White Estate staff,
 35 remuneration and editorial expenses, if any, shall be through a definite sum authorized by the
 36 Board in consultation with General Conference Treasury. The publishing house shall bear all
 37 other expenses associated with the preparation and publication of such books.

38
 39 GE 19 20 Translations—All translations of Ellen G White writings must be faithful to,
 40 and derived from, the original English text, and shall convey to the readers of other languages
 41 Ellen G White’s actual original meaning. Therefore, translators must not introduce their own
 42 viewpoints or add sentences to further describe the subject presented. Nor is the translator at

1 liberty to delete sentences. Readers designated by the responsible entity should carefully check
 2 all translations. In some cases, a given translation may serve several territories. When this is so,
 3 the translation shall be reviewed in all applicable regions.

5 Translations, being derivative works, require the permission of the Ellen G White Estate
 6 Board of Trustees, and should be done in cooperation with the General Conference Spirit of
 7 Prophecy Committee and division translation committees.

9 GE 19 25 Royalty—Ellen G White books shall be royalty free; other books, pamphlets,
 10 study guides, adaptations and paraphrases of Ellen G White books issued by the Ellen G White
 11 Estate or in cooperation with the Estate may be subject to royalty.

13 ~~GE 20 Ellen G White Estate Branch Offices and~~
 14 ~~Ellen G White Seventh-day Adventist Research Centers and Study Centers~~

16 ~~GE 20-05 Ellen G White Estate Branch Offices—Branch Offices of the Ellen G White~~
 17 ~~Estate are extensions of the main office of the White Estate and are located at educational~~
 18 ~~institutions belonging to the General Conference and serving the world church. As such, they are~~
 19 ~~responsible for promoting an understanding of the writings and ministry of Ellen G White. They~~
 20 ~~are established when deemed necessary by the Board of Trustees and in consultation with the~~
 21 ~~General Conference. Initial setup costs, salaries and allowances, as well as operational expenses~~
 22 ~~are provided by the General Conference budget.~~

24 ~~The director of a Branch Office is appointed by the Board every five years, at the first~~
 25 ~~Board meeting after the General Conference Session and holds the position of assistant director~~
 26 ~~of the Ellen G White Estate. The Branch Office director is a full-time employee of the White~~
 27 ~~Estate unless other arrangements are made between the General Conference and the institution~~
 28 ~~involved.~~

30 ~~GE 20-10 Ellen G White Seventh-day Adventist Research Centers—Each division of the~~
 31 ~~General Conference is authorized to establish one Ellen G White Seventh-day Adventist~~
 32 ~~Research Center in an educational institution located within its territory, subject to the approval~~
 33 ~~of the Ellen G White Estate Board and the General Conference Executive Committee. Research~~
 34 ~~Centers serve the division where they are located as a resource regarding the writings and~~
 35 ~~ministry of Ellen G White. Unlike Branch Offices, Research Centers are encouraged to preserve~~
 36 ~~the broader history of Adventism within their territory. In addition, the Ellen G White Estate and~~
 37 ~~the General Conference share oversight of the Research Center with the division involved. Any~~
 38 ~~relocation of the center will require approval by the division and the Ellen G White Estate Board.~~

40 ~~The director of the Research Center is to be recommended every five years by the~~
 41 ~~division in counsel with the institution where the Center is located and appointed by the Ellen G~~
 42 ~~White Estate Board as soon as possible after the General Conference Session. Unlike a Branch~~

1 Office, 50 percent of the director's time is devoted to the Center and 50 percent to the
 2 educational institution in which the Center is located. The designated employing organization of
 3 the Research Center director will be determined by the division and the host educational
 4 institution in consultation with the Ellen G White Estate. In the event of a vacancy during the
 5 quinquennium, the division is to recommend a new director to the Board for appointment.
 6

7 Each division where there is an authorized Research Center will receive annually, an
 8 appropriation from the General Conference equivalent to 75 percent of the denominational
 9 annual basic wage factor for the territory where the Center is located. This appropriation is
 10 intended to cover 50 percent of the Research Center director's salary and includes an additional
 11 25 percent of the wage factor for the director's estimated benefits. In cases where this
 12 appropriation does not cover 50 percent of the salary and benefits for the director of the Research
 13 Center, the difference between the appropriation and 50 percent of the actual salary and benefits
 14 can be charged to the General Conference in a time period not to exceed one calendar year
 15 following when the appropriation has been released to the division. An appropriate travel budget
 16 is to be provided by the division for the director's field services. The General Conference also
 17 may provide annual supplemental travel assistance. All other operating expenses, such as
 18 secretarial services, office supplies, maintenance, etc., as well as the physical facilities, such as
 19 the vault, office space, and general furnishings, are to be provided by the division with the
 20 cooperation of the educational institution involved. The General Conference provides the
 21 specialized equipment and research materials necessary for the establishment of the Center, as
 22 specified by the Ellen G White Estate. All White Estate files, including copies of the Ellen G
 23 White letters and manuscripts, are provided on a loan basis and remain the property of the Ellen
 24 G White Estate. Should it become necessary to close an Ellen G White Seventh-day Adventist
 25 Research Center, all White Estate files, including the Ellen G White letters and manuscripts, are
 26 to be returned to the Ellen G White Estate.
 27

28 A supervisory committee of seven to nine members, including the division Spirit of
 29 Prophecy Coordinator, is responsible for management of the Center, including preparation of the
 30 center's annual budget. Its members are recommended by the division after each General
 31 Conference Session and appointed at the first subsequent meeting of the Ellen G White Estate
 32 Board. The director of the Center is the secretary of the committee. The director of the Ellen G
 33 White Estate, or a person who officially represents the director, is an ex officio member of the
 34 committee. The supervisory committee is to meet at least once a year and keep records of its
 35 actions. A copy of the committee's minutes is to be forwarded to the Ellen G White Estate. An
 36 in-house committee of three, including the director of the Center, is appointed every five years
 37 by the division, for consultation as needed in regard to day by day decisions in the Center.
 38

39 GE 20-15 Additional Ellen G White Seventh-day Adventist Research Centers in a
 40 Division—The General Conference and the Board provide funds for only one Research Center
 41 per division. Additional Research Centers in a division that already have been established with

1 the authorization of the White Estate Board and the General Conference, follow the policies
 2 stated under GE 20 10 except for the financial arrangements which are the following:

3
 4 All operating expenses of the additional Research Center, including setup costs, 100
 5 percent of the salary and allowances of the director, secretarial services, and travel budget, are
 6 the responsibility of the division/union in cooperation with the educational institution where the
 7 Research Center is located.

8
 9 The division may choose to divide its annual appropriation received from the General
 10 Conference between the initial Center and additional Centers, but the total amount received will
 11 not exceed what was provided to the initial Center. Dividing the General Conference subsidy
 12 should not result in the reduction of any services or resources at any of the Research Centers in
 13 the territory. If an additional Center should close, all White Estate files are to be returned to the
 14 Ellen G White Estate, as stated in GE 20 10.

15
 16 Colleges and universities owned and operated by unions may also elect to establish a
 17 Research Center with authorization of the union, division, and the Board. All setup and operating
 18 expenses are the responsibility of the educational institution and/or its union. The director of the
 19 Research Center is to be recommended every five years by the employing organization, in
 20 counsel with the union/division, and appointed by the Board as soon as possible after the General
 21 Conference Session. A supervisory committee of no fewer than five, nominated by the
 22 college/university board, and appointed by the Board, is responsible for management of the
 23 Center. The division Spirit of Prophecy Coordinator, director of the White Estate, or persons
 24 who officially represent them, shall be ex officio members of the committee. All other policies
 25 follow those stated under GE 20 10.

26
 27 **GE 20 20 Additional Ellen G White Seventh-day Adventist Study Centers**—An
 28 educational institution may request authorization from its union and the Board for the opening of
 29 a Study Center to serve its local academic community. The Ellen G White Seventh-day
 30 Adventist Study Center consists of a physical space, in or near the library, containing resource
 31 materials pertaining to the writings and ministry of Ellen G White, and Adventist history.
 32 Distinct from Branch Offices and Research Centers, Study Centers do not have photo
 33 reproductions of the unpublished Ellen G White letters and manuscripts. All operating expenses,
 34 including initial costs and salaries, are to be provided solely by the institution involved.

35
 36 A part-time or full-time faculty member appointed by the educational institution in
 37 consultation with the White Estate, is responsible for the operation of the Study Center. This
 38 individual reports to the institution's board. The Research Center of the division where the Study
 39 Center is located serves as the main consultant and adviser for the Study Center.

40
 41 A list of required resource materials and equipment needed to establish a Study Center is
 42 available from the White Estate.

GE 20-25 Summary of Financial Responsibilities—1. *Branch Offices*:

a. ~~General Conference—Setup costs, operational expenses, salaries, travel and other allowances~~

b. ~~Institution—Physical space to house office~~

2. *Research Centers* (first in a division):

a. ~~Operation:~~

1) ~~General Conference—Resource materials and specialized research equipment (including shipping)~~

2) ~~Division/Host Academic Institution—Any duty on imported items, physical space to house Center, furnishings, operating expenses, such as secretarial services, office supplies, maintenance, etc~~

b. ~~Salary/Travel:~~

1) ~~General Conference—75 percent of the division’s basic wage factor for the territory where the Center is located; may provide supplemental travel assistance~~

2) ~~Division/Host Academic Institution—Balance of director’s salary, appropriate travel budget~~

3. *Research Centers* (additional in a division):

a. ~~General Conference—No assistance~~

b. ~~Division/Host Academic Institution—All operating expenses, including physical space, furnishings, setup costs, shipping and any import duty, 100 percent of the salary and allowances of the director, secretarial services, and travel budget~~

4. *Study Centers*:

a. ~~General Conference/Division—No assistance~~

b. ~~Host Academic Institution—All operating expenses, including physical space, furnishings, setup costs, shipping and any import duty, 100 percent of the salary and allowances of the director, and secretarial services~~

1 GE 25 Publication of Ellen G White Books
 2 (Including Trade Books, Subscription Books, Missionary Book of the Year, etc)

3
 4
 5 GE 25 05 Printed (Non-Digital) Books—When a new Ellen G White manuscript is ready
 6 to be published, the White Estate shall first work through the Review and Herald Publishing
 7 Association who will cooperate with publishing houses in the initial publication plan and
 8 process. Translation, copy editing, indexing, design/layout advertising, and distribution will
 9 generally be the responsibility of the publishing house. All new compilation manuscripts,
 10 whether initiated by a publishing house, General Conference department, or by the White Estate,
 11 must be approved by the White Estate Board of Trustees prior to publication of the book.

12
 13 GE 25 10 Permission to Publish—Permission and a license must be obtained from the
 14 White Estate through the Review and Herald Publishing Association when a publishing house
 15 wishes to produce an Ellen G White book. This would also apply to a major excerpt (defined as
 16 more than a chapter). If granted, a fee for the first-time printing rights for their territory will be
 17 paid directly to the Review and Herald. Once a publishing house has obtained the initial license,
 18 approved exact reprints may normally be produced without relicensing. Any significant
 19 modifications need to be approved and may need to be relicensed by the Review and Herald for
 20 the White Estate.

21
 22 As far as possible, it will be the goal of the White Estate to have Ellen G White books
 23 printed on Seventh-day Adventist-owned and -operated presses. If an exception is granted, it is
 24 expected that work done by commercial printers will include a provision that no books will be
 25 printed on Sabbath/Saturday. Collaboration among denominational publishing houses is
 26 encouraged, to provide between houses an exchange of product inventory or printing service, to
 27 preclude whenever possible the need to use a commercial printer.

28
 29 Particular guidelines regarding territorial restrictions for book distribution and sales
 30 including exceptions and penalties are described in “Guidelines for Ellen G White Book
 31 Publication” available from the White Estate and General Conference Publishing Ministries.

32
 33 GE 25 15 Publishing Requests from Supporting Organizations—It is expected that
 34 Ellen G White books will be published by a church-owned publishing house and that an
 35 exception only be made after other options have been exhausted. Supporting ministries of the
 36 Church should request permission from the White Estate through the Review and Herald
 37 Publishing Association to publish Ellen G White books. It is the responsibility of the Review and
 38 Herald to liaison with the appropriate publishing entity to ensure that proper licensing has been
 39 arranged.

40
 41 For non-English translations, the White Estate and the General Conference Spirit of
 42 Prophecy Committee will give guidance to ensure that translation and printing of Ellen G White

1 books is properly managed. See “Guidelines for Ellen G White Book Publication” for further
 2 information regarding correct process and resolution.

3
 4 GE 25 20 Preparation of Manuscripts by the White Estate—As part of its service to the
 5 Church, the White Estate will not charge church-owned publishing houses for its costs to
 6 produce Ellen G White book manuscripts. Production includes but is not limited to the layout
 7 and design, with the White Estate retaining ownership and copyright of the words, layout,
 8 design, and artwork if included. In certain cases when the White Estate incurs significant
 9 external expenses (such as indexing), some reimbursement or assistance from the publishing
 10 house may be arranged.

11
 12 GE 25 25 Worldwide Publication of Trade Books (defined as books not primarily
 13 distributed by literature evangelists)—Because of their unique value to the Church, Ellen G
 14 White trade books, once issued, shall continue as stock items. In some cases, certain books may
 15 be kept in print, with approval by the White Estate and the Review and Herald Publishing
 16 Association, through a “print on demand” basis. The official pagination of the standard English
 17 edition books should be retained when trade books are reset or translated so far as is possible and
 18 practical.

19
 20 1. Permission to Translate—A request to translate an Ellen G White trade book in a
 21 major language used by more than one division shall be approved by the Ellen G White Estate.

22
 23 2. Digital text files and artwork are usually available through the White Estate
 24 without cost.

25
 26 3. Sub-licensing of Ellen G White books is not permitted without permission from
 27 the Ellen G White Estate. Publisher proprietary aspects may include sub-licensing:

28
 29 a. Initial cost shall include actual origination expense incurred up to the point
 30 the pages are flowed-in, laid out, designed, and ready to be sent to be printed (electronically or
 31 physically).

32
 33 b. Formatted text only—Five percent (5%) of initial cost of text.

34
 35 c. Combined text, artwork, and pictures—Seven-and-a-half percent (7.5%)
 36 of total initial cost.

37
 38 d. Artist royalties are additional as required.

39
 40 4. Distribution Rights—Publisher’s distribution rights on books shall be limited to
 41 its own territory, as defined by General Conference Publishing Ministries. Any deviation from
 42 these rights will result in the loss of distribution rights to the offending entity.

1
2 GE 25 30 Worldwide Publication of Subscription Books— Encouragement is given to the
3 publication of Ellen G White subscription books for literature evangelists as may meet the needs
4 of the various territories. Publication of Ellen G White’s books in their entirety is generally
5 expected. When it is deemed advisable to use an abridgment, available White Estate abridgments
6 should be used. Any exceptions must be approved by the Board.

7
8 GE 25 35 Digital/Audio Publication of Ellen G White Writings—Ellen G White Estate,
9 Inc manages and maintains free worldwide digital access to Ellen G White’s writings through its
10 internet sites and apps.

11
12 1. Digital Rights—The White Estate retains digital copyrights to Ellen G White’s
13 writings and other White Estate materials in all languages with worldwide digital distribution
14 rights, including print-ready files. The Review and Herald Publishing Association serves as agent
15 for the White Estate and reserves the right to distribute worldwide Ellen G White books in all
16 electronic formats.

17
18 2. Digital Publication—Publishers shall not reproduce, digitally publish, or
19 electronically distribute any Ellen G White materials in English or any translated languages or
20 formats without being granted non-exclusive limited rights.

21
22 a. Publishers can link to White Estate digital resources and may request
23 special arrangements for marketing of a particular Ellen G White title for specialized
24 distribution.

25
26 b. All eBook preparation, design, layout, and covers are available to Church
27 publishers as a free service to the Church.

28
29 c. Electronic distribution rights are not included in any Ellen G White book
30 printing agreements. Specific permission is required for any electronic/digital format such as
31 audiobook, video, or various eBook formats.

32
33 d. Publishers can request permission to use White Estate-prepared digital
34 text, cover, layout, and design for printing.

35
36 GE 30 The Spirit of Prophecy Committee

37
38 GE 30 05 Spirit of Prophecy by the General Conference Administrative
39 Committee. The Administrative Committee shall appoint the membership and approve its terms
40 of reference.

1 GE 30 10 Purpose of the Spirit of Prophecy Committee—The Spirit of Prophecy
 2 Committee is responsible for:

3
 4 1. Overall planning to promote Ellen White’s writings throughout the world field
 5 including: (1) encouraging the reading and use of Ellen G White’s writings; (2) the annual Spirit
 6 of Prophecy Day/Adventist Heritage Sabbath program; (3) planning with General Conference
 7 Publishing Ministries for quinquennial Spirit of Prophecy sharing books.

8
 9 2. Developing, in cooperation with the world divisions and fields, comprehensive
 10 strategic initiatives for printing and distribution of Ellen G White books and writings worldwide.

11
 12 3. Encouraging translation and publication of digital and print Ellen G White
 13 writings and authorize subsidies, based on policy, within the funds available. The preparation of
 14 such translations with attention to legal or copyright matters, shall be the responsibility of the
 15 White Estate Board of Trustees in cooperation with the Committee and the world field.

16
 17 GE 30 15 Relationship to and work of Division, Field, and Territory Translation
 18 Committees—Translation Committees are established by each division, field, and territory to
 19 assess and plan translation of Ellen G White books. Each translation committee will have a
 20 liaison appointed from the Spirit of Prophecy Committee to cooperate in their work. Division
 21 translation committees will be chaired by an executive officer with the White Estate Branch
 22 Office-Division Research Center Director or Division Spirit of Prophecy Coordinator as the
 23 secretary. The translation committee should have representation from the unions and publishing
 24 house of the division. The division translation committee is responsible for recommending
 25 translation requests from unions and publishing houses to the Spirit of Prophecy Committee.

26
 27 GE 30 20 Financial Assistance—The General Conference Executive Committee provides
 28 a quinquennial budget based on a strategic plan for translation, promotion, and reading of
 29 Ellen G White’s writings.

30
 31 1. The objective of the Spirit of Prophecy Book Subsidy Fund is to help make the
 32 Ellen G White books available in the various languages spoken by Seventh-day Adventists and
 33 the world, at a price within their local buying ability, taking into account the economy of the
 34 country, earning power of the people, and size of the language group. Wherever possible, the
 35 books shall be produced and distributed on a self-supporting basis. Where this is not possible,
 36 financial assistance in the form of subsidies may be requested. Guidelines for such requests,
 37 including the translation subsidy application forms, are available from the treasurer of the Spirit
 38 of Prophecy Committee.

39
 40 2. Subsidy will be provided based on the quinquennial strategic plan of the Spirit of
 41 Prophecy Committee. Generally, strategic priority is given to the following Ellen G White
 42 books:

- 1
- 2 Acts of the Apostles, The
- 3 Christ’s Object Lessons
- 4 Christian Service
- 5 Counsels for the Church
- 6 Counsels on Stewardship
- 7 Desire of Ages, The
- 8 Education
- 9 Great Controversy, The
- 10 Jesus Name Above All Names
- 11 Ministry of Healing, The
- 12 Patriarchs and Prophets
- 13 Prophets and Kings
- 14 Steps to Christ
- 15 Story of Redemption, The
- 16 Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing

17

18 2. Mission language emphasis will be given to the quinquennial Ellen G White
 19 sharing book, Steps to Christ, The Desire of Ages, and The Great Controversy. An exception to
 20 the subsidy plan may be made for the initial translation of these books into mission languages.
 21 The total General Conference subsidy will not exceed the calculated total subsidy available for a
 22 book as described below in Plans A-D.

23

24 3. Although preference is given to the core books, requests for subsidies may be
 25 made on any Ellen G White book for trade or subscription printings and on materials as approved
 26 by the Board and the Spirit of Prophecy Committee. After the 16 core books have been
 27 translated, requests for subsidy of White Estate resource books may be approved following the
 28 funding structure described below.

29

30 4. Subsidies for the initial publication of Ellen G White books in languages other
 31 than English shall be made by the General Conference Administrative Committee through its
 32 Spirit of Prophecy Committee and made available from the Subsidy Fund for initial publication
 33 expense based on the number of pages of the English edition, utilizing one of the following
 34 plans. The per page maximum cost may be adjusted as required by the Administrative
 35 Committee:

36

37 a. Plan A—For language areas with more than 5,000 members, based on
 38 actual costs with a maximum of USD 20 per page apportioned as follows:

39

40	<u>General Conference</u>	<u>40%</u>
41	<u>Division</u>	<u>35%</u>
42	<u>Union</u>	<u>25%</u>

Per Page 100%

b. Plan B—For language areas with fewer than 5,000 members, based on actual costs with a maximum of USD 26 per page and apportioned as follows:

<u>General Conference</u>	<u>45%</u>
<u>Division</u>	<u>40%</u>
<u>Union</u>	<u>15%</u>
<u>Per Page</u>	<u>100%</u>

c. Plan C—For language areas with more than 5,000 members in countries with inadequate economies, as approved by the General Conference Spirit of Prophecy Committee, based on actual costs with a maximum of USD 30 per page and apportioned as follows:

<u>General Conference</u>	<u>60%</u>
<u>Division</u>	<u>30%</u>
<u>Union</u>	<u>10%</u>
<u>Per Page</u>	<u>100%</u>

d. Plan D—For language areas with fewer than 5,000 members in countries with inadequate economies, as approved by the General Conference Spirit of Prophecy Committee, based on actual costs with a maximum of USD 35 per page and apportioned as follows:

<u>General Conference</u>	<u>70%</u>
<u>Division</u>	<u>25%</u>
<u>Union</u>	<u>5%</u>
<u>Per Page</u>	<u>100%</u>

5. The union committee concerned may take the initiative in making the arrangements for the translation, working in consultation with the division Spirit of Prophecy coordinator and the division translation committee.

6. The applicable form(s) available from the Spirit of Prophecy Committee treasurer, with the needed information will be used to request translation subsidy. The union officers shall, in consultation with the division, prepare the request for the subsidy.

7. The request shall be approved by the division translation committee and the appropriate form will be forwarded to the treasurer of the General Conference Spirit of Prophecy Committee.

1 8. Division Fund— It is the responsibility of each division translation committee to
2 have a quinquennial translation plan developed in cooperation with their unions and mission
3 conferences. Each division shall maintain sufficient funds to cover the plan and meet requests for
4 its portion of the above subsidies.

5
6 9. Digital Access on the Ellen G White Estate Internet Sites—Before final subsidy is
7 released to a division, a digital and print (if applicable) copy of the translated book must be
8 provided to the Ellen G White Estate. If requested by a publishing house, provision will be made
9 for delayed online availability of up to two years.

10
11 10. Book Stocks—Inasmuch as it is the objective of this plan to make these Ellen G
12 White books available on a continuing basis, the publishing houses shall keep a stock of each
13 published volume to meet the need of a growing constituency. If a publishing house is not
14 financially able to carry the investment involved in this program, the division committee shall
15 arrange for the necessary capital for this purpose. In consultation with the White Estate,
16 inventory for certain books may be maintained through print-on-demand.

17
18 11. In order to ensure the continual availability of Ellen G White books subsidized by
19 this policy, funding for a second printing shall be available from the General Conference at the
20 following percentages of the maximum provision per page for original translated printing and
21 will be released to the publisher upon proof of the second printing:

22
23 Plan A—20%

24 Plan B—23%

25 Plan C—30%

26 Plan D—35%

27
28 12. To make economical reprints possible, steps should be taken at the time of the
29 initial printing to preserve the positive printers, plates, digital files, etc. The White Estate can
30 provide a pre-print-ready file if the book is available on its Internet sites.

31
32 13. If unions covered by Plans C or D are financially unable to pay their percentage
33 of the required translation subsidy, they may apply through their division Spirit of Prophecy
34 coordinator to the Spirit of Prophecy Committee for a waiver. Included with the application must
35 be verification from the division treasurer that the union is unable financially to pay its required
36 percentage of the translation subsidy.

37
38 14. When an original translation is found to be inaccurate, or outdated, a retranslation
39 may be done. Translations that are a minimum of twenty-five years old may be eligible for
40 retranslation at full subsidy rates, as set out in paragraphs 4. a. to d. above, subject to submission
41 to the Spirit of Prophecy Committee of written justification describing the need for a new
42 translation, which request must then be approved by the Committee. Subsidies for retranslation

1 of books less than twenty-five years old, or if older but that did not receive approval from the
2 Spirit of Prophecy Committee for full subsidy, may still receive partial retranslation subsidy. In
3 such instances, the amount per page from the General Conference, the division, and the union
4 shall be set at 50 percent of the regular translation subsidies as set out in paragraphs 4. a. to d.
5 above.

6
7 15. When a core book will only be published in electronic format, up to 100 percent
8 of the translation cost may be covered as long as it does not exceed the calculated subsidy for
9 translation and printing of a new book based on Plans A to D above. To receive the enhanced
10 subsidy, translators must use the provided White Estate translation software. If later it is decided
11 to also print the book, application may be made for the balance of the subsidy that would have
12 been granted initially had the book been printed then.

13
14 16. Assistance for production of core audio books and other formats such as signing
15 in non-English languages may be granted using the appropriate form on a limited basis, subject
16 to the approval of the Spirit of Prophecy Committee. If the book has already been translated, a
17 subsidy equal to 50 percent of the regular translation subsidies, as set out in paragraphs 4. a. to d.
18 above, may be given. If the book needs to be translated first, then a subsidy equal to 70 percent
19 of the regular translation subsidies, as set out in paragraph 4. a. to d. above, may be given.

20
21 GE 30 25 Handling Subsidy Funds—As a usual procedure, 50 percent of the funds voted
22 by the General Conference Spirit of Prophecy Committee to assist in the publication of the
23 Ellen G White books shall be held in trust by the General Conference until the publishing house
24 has the translation in hand and is ready to proceed with the printing.

25
26 GE 30 30 Unused Subsidies—Any funds appropriated from the Subsidy Fund to assist in
27 the initial expense of the production of an Ellen G White book outside the North American
28 Division shall automatically revert to the fund if uncalled for within two years of the time the
29 action was taken appropriating such funds, unless an extension of time is granted on specific
30 request of the division concerned.

31
32 GE 30 35 Reports—Publishing houses are to report annually to the secretary of the Board
33 informing the Board of the Ellen G White books published, the number of copies sold, and any
34 related pertinent information that would be of service to the Board or the Spirit of Prophecy
35 Committee.

217-24G ADVENTIST VOLUNTEER SERVICE – POLICY AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDING, To record the amendment of the GC R, Adventist Volunteer Service, to read as follows:

R ADVENTIST VOLUNTEER SERVICE

R 05 Adventist Volunteer Service

The Adventist Volunteer Service (AVS) plan for the worldwide Church is designed to provide volunteer service opportunities for Seventh-day Adventists who want to share in the joy of taking the gospel to the world, matching their talents, gifts, resources, and professional expertise with defined needs. It includes both the intradivision and interdivision plans.

R 10 Intradivision Adventist Volunteer Service

R 10 05 Intradivision Adventist Volunteer Service—1. Divisions/Attached Fields desiring to adopt Adventist Volunteer Service Service Plan—1. Divisions desiring to adopt an Adventist Volunteer Service plan for their territories may do so following the guidelines outlined in the Interdivision Adventist Volunteer Service policy.

2. Service in the Division—When a local Adventist Volunteer Service office proposes recruiting volunteers from their division/attached field to projects within its own division/attached field, it will do so according to a financial and insurance coverage plan mutually agreed upon by the denominational organization and the field to be benefited by the service. However, volunteers serving within their division/attached field but outside their home country still need Accident and Sickness Protection for Volunteers Insurance (ASV) from Adventist Risk Management (ARM). sending volunteers to projects within its own division, it will do so according to a financial and insurance coverage plan mutually agreed upon by the sponsoring organization and the field to be benefited by the service.

R 15 Interdivision Adventist Volunteer Service

R 15 05 Interdivision Adventist Volunteer Service—1. A Seventh-day Adventist Volunteer—A Seventh-day Adventist volunteer is 18 years of age and older, and a baptized member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, in regular standing, for no less than one year. He/She serves without remuneration, but may receive reasonable reimbursement for certain expenses incurred, making sure the assignment details meet the legal volunteer criteria for the country in which he or she is serving. Service Plan—1. Seventh-day Adventist Church members, 18 years of age and older, may offer their services as volunteers under this plan.



1 ~~division/attached field, division,~~ and if allowed under the retirement plan policies of the base
2 ~~division/attached field division~~ and applicable law.

3
4 5. 4. Volunteers shall not receive a salary but may receive an allowance to meet certain
5 expenses incident to the volunteer service, provided it does not contravene the employment laws
6 of the country of service. Compliance with taxation laws is the responsibility of the volunteer
7 and the ~~requesting~~ receiving organization.

8
9 6. 5. Because marriage is a God-ordained institution and its sanctity must be guarded,
10 volunteers and their spouses are expected to live together in the field of service. A married
11 volunteer shall not be recruited to serve without his/her spouse for a period longer than three
12 consecutive months. However, should the spouse join the volunteer prior to the end of the three-
13 month term, the assignment may be extended if the spouse remains in the field for the extended
14 period. If, on the other hand, the spouse of a volunteer leaves the field for a period longer than
15 three consecutive months, the volunteer shall be required to terminate his/her service and return
16 home.

17
18 R 15 15 Interdivision Adventist Volunteer Service (AVS) Procedures—Denominational
19 organizations Procedures—Organizations sponsoring volunteers for interdivision service shall be
20 guided by the following:

21
22 1. The General Conference Adventist Volunteer ~~Center, Service (AVS) office,~~ in
23 consultation with the General Conference International Personnel Resources and Services, shall
24 give direction to the ~~division Adventist Volunteer Service program. Each division shall appoint a~~
25 ~~director to coordinate its Adventist Volunteer Service program and to serve as the liaison person~~
26 ~~with the General Conference Adventist Volunteer Center. The General Conference Adventist~~
27 ~~Volunteer Center shall:~~ division/attached field AVS office. Each division/attached field shall
28 appoint a director of its AVS office to liaise with the General Conference AVS office.
29 Denominational organizations affiliated with the General Conference shall:

30
31 a. Promote volunteerism worldwide.

32
33 b. Preferably, use VividFaith, an online recruiting tool for denominational
34 organizations to advertise their needs and to select and process qualified applicants for various
35 types of service opportunities.

36
37 In order to access and use VividFaith, denominational organizations must be approved by
38 their own division/attached field and by the VividFaith Oversight Committee before entering into
39 a Memorandum of Understanding with the General Conference. VividFaith staff will train and
40 support personnel worldwide in its use.

1 c. Recruit volunteers for themselves or for others designated as hosts under
 2 them.

3
 4 a. ~~Publish electronically all officially approved volunteer requests from the~~
 5 ~~division Adventist Volunteer Service office on the General Conference Adventist Volunteer~~
 6 ~~Center Web site: <https://www.adventistvolunteers.org>.~~

7
 8 b. ~~Assist the division in its responsibility with promoting, recruiting, and~~
 9 ~~processing Adventist Volunteer Service volunteers within its field.~~

10
 11 1) ~~When an applicant has been approved, the division~~
 12 ~~secretary/Adventist Volunteer Service director shall send a copy of the application forms and~~
 13 ~~references to the General Conference Adventist Volunteer Center. The General Conference~~
 14 ~~Adventist Volunteer Center shall notify the requesting and sending divisions of the listing~~
 15 ~~number assigned to the volunteer or, if required, shall contact the requesting division, sending~~
 16 ~~copies of the application forms and references to verify the assignment before notifying the~~
 17 ~~sending division of the assigned listed number.~~

18
 19 ~~All volunteer requests and assignments shall be authorized at each level of the~~
 20 ~~organization but not by committee vote. Adventist Volunteer Service directors shall approve~~
 21 ~~volunteer requests and assignments on the basis that committees record these at a later time.~~
 22 ~~Requesting organizations shall be granted authority to send volunteer requests directly to the~~
 23 ~~division Adventist Volunteer Service director, provided that each level of the organization~~
 24 ~~receives a copy by facsimile or e-mail. Assignments shall be cared for in a similar manner.~~
 25 ~~However, adequate time must be allowed for all levels of the organization to object to the request~~
 26 ~~or assignment. If no one objects within the specified time set by each division, the request or~~
 27 ~~assignment proceeds without further deliberation.~~

28
 29 2) ~~The division shall assist the volunteer in obtaining all travel~~
 30 ~~documents and shall apply for the Accident and Sickness Protection for Volunteers insurance~~
 31 ~~coverage through Adventist Risk Management. The division shall also have the option to advise~~
 32 ~~volunteers where airline tickets should be purchased.~~

33
 34 e. ~~Approve and produce a variety of forms for all divisions as required, such~~
 35 ~~as: Adventist Volunteer Service Health Certificate, Adventist Volunteer Service Request Form,~~
 36 ~~Adventist Volunteer Service Reference Form, and Adventist Volunteer Service Application~~
 37 ~~Form.~~

38
 39 2. ~~Volunteers should have been members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church for~~
 40 ~~no less than one year, and in regular standing.~~

1 3. 2. Volunteers should be in good health and shall be required to undertake a medical
2 examination by a qualified practitioner if the appointment is for ~~two~~ three months or more.

3
4 4. ~~All requests for college and university volunteers for the ensuing year shall be~~
5 ~~approved by the division executive committee and shall be sent to the General Conference~~
6 ~~Adventist Volunteer Center approximately eight months prior to the departure date. Other~~
7 ~~requests for volunteers, approved in a similar manner, may be submitted at any time. All such~~
8 ~~requests shall include the following:~~

9
10 a. ~~The level of education and skills required of the applicant.~~

11
12 b. ~~The time period the volunteer is required to serve.~~

13
14 c. ~~The financial benefits offered, if any.~~

15
16 5. ~~For Adventist Mission projects, the General Conference Adventist Volunteer~~
17 ~~Center, in cooperation with the General Conference Adventist Mission office and the~~
18 ~~administration of the division, shall select an unentered territory within that division and~~

19
20 a. ~~Select the type of activity to be used to establish a church presence.~~

21
22 b. ~~Promote the evangelism project.~~

23
24 c. ~~Recruit and train an international volunteer team (the size to be~~
25 ~~determined by the project directors).~~

26
27 d. ~~Determine the length of service for the project (one year or longer).~~

28
29 e. ~~Recruit and train a new team to complete the project as deemed necessary~~
30 ~~by the directors.~~

31
32 ~~The General Conference Adventist Mission office shall share in the funding of volunteer~~
33 ~~projects in harmony with the General Conference Adventist Mission Operating Committee's~~
34 ~~funding criteria.~~

35
36 6. 3. All volunteers shall be screened for their suitability for a particular assignment
37 and for their commitment to the mission of the Church. Should the recruiting organization
38 choose to ignore the advice of the home division/attached field regarding volunteers, the home
39 division/attached field is not responsible for resolving any difficulties that may arise during the
40 period of service. ~~requesting organization fail to follow normal screening procedures or choose~~
41 ~~to ignore the advice of the home division regarding volunteers, the home division is not~~
42 ~~responsible for resolving any difficulties that may arise during the period of service.~~

1
2 7. 4. In the event that volunteers need to be disciplined and sent home prior to
3 completing their terms of service, it shall be the responsibility of the requesting receiving
4 organization to arrange for their repatriation, which may include the cost of air fares. The home
5 ~~division~~ division/attached field shall not be responsible for any repatriation expenses.

6
7 8. 5. In cases where the volunteer assignment is expressed in contractual terms, the
8 requesting receiving organizations are bound to honor such agreements.

9
10 9. 6. The programs, activities, and supervision of volunteers while in the field shall be
11 approved by the receiving organization. ~~requesting division.~~

12
13 10. ~~Volunteers who participate in Adventist Development and Relief Agency projects~~
14 ~~may do so under special arrangements.~~

15
16 11. 7. Volunteers who do not receive missionary orientation on a Seventh-day Adventist
17 college/university campus shall be required to complete mission courses offered by
18 divisions/attached fields or the *Passport to Mission* course.

19
20 8. Volunteers who are serving currently and who wish to extend their term of service
21 may be granted approval to do so.

22
23 ~~R 15 20 Basis of Division Volunteer Requests—The division requesting the services of~~
24 ~~volunteers shall do so on the following basis:~~

25
26 1. ~~Assignments for volunteers shall be limited to short term programs or to~~
27 ~~temporary (relief) positions.~~

28
29 2. ~~Volunteers who are serving currently and who wish to extend their term of service~~
30 ~~may be granted approval to do so after the General Conference Adventist Volunteer Center and~~
31 ~~the sending division have been notified by the requesting division.~~

32
33 3. ~~The General Conference Adventist Volunteer Center shall publicize the Adventist~~
34 ~~Volunteer Service plan and the list of service opportunities submitted by the divisions.~~

35
36 R 15 25 Financial Responsibility—Receiving Organization—The receiving organization
37 which receives volunteers shall be financially responsible for the following: Responsibility—
38 Division—1. The division which sends volunteers shall:

39
40 a. ~~Ensure that all volunteers have been provided with Adventist Volunteer~~
41 ~~Service (AVS) insurance coverage prior to departure.~~

1 b. ~~Be responsible for any claims incurred by the volunteer which are~~
2 ~~normally met by AVS insurance if the division, after being properly notified, fails to arrange for~~
3 ~~insurance coverage for an approved volunteer.~~
4

5 1. Requesting Accident and Sickness Protection for Volunteers (ASV) insurance
6 policy (Limited Accident and Sickness Insurance Coverage) before the volunteer leaves his/her
7 home country.
8

9 a. If the receiving organization fails to follow proper calling procedure and,
10 therefore, fails to provide ASV insurance coverage for the volunteer, any claims incurred by the
11 volunteer shall be the responsibility of the receiving organization.
12

13 b. The cost of premiums for ASV insurance which provides the following:

14 1) Accident and Sickness Protection for volunteer’s insurance policy
15 (limited accident and sickness coverage as outlined in policy brochure)
16

17 2) Worker’s Compensation for volunteers
18

19 3) Personal Effects Baggage Insurance (Personal Effects and
20 Property)
21

22 c. Insurance deductible under the ASV insurance policy.
23

24 d. Ensuring that insurance coverage is in place for all volunteers extending
25 their service beyond the limit of initial coverage.
26

27 e. Ensuring that a minimum of 31 days (about one month) of coverage is
28 provided to the volunteer for homebound travel.
29

30 f. Any claims normally met by ASV insurance incurred during this period
31 should the receiving organization fail to ensure that coverage has been arranged.
32

33 2. In the event that a volunteer returns home earlier than expected, the receiving
34 organization where the volunteer is serving shall be responsible for:
35

36 a. Notifying Adventist Risk Management through the early return procedure
37

38 b. The cost of airfares, if indicated.
39
40

1 c. The liability of the denomination shall be limited to the cost of the
2 insurance premiums and deductibles for the above coverage. (See R 15 25, paragraph 1.)
3 Volunteers shall sign the Release of Liability and Beneficiary Form. (See R 15 50.)
4

5 d. Medical coverage not included in paragraph 1. above may be provided to
6 the extent specified in the contract or Volunteer Service request listing.
7

8 e. Lodging provisions and a living allowance to cover food and local travel
9 may be provided.
10

11 f. Travel and other financial arrangements shall be approved by the receiving
12 organization. The financial arrangements for volunteers shall normally be expressed in the form
13 of a written agreement between the volunteer and the receiving organization and shall include a
14 list of allowances provided.
15

16 2. ~~The organization which receives volunteers shall be financially responsible for the~~
17 ~~following:~~
18

19 a. ~~Insurance Coverage~~

20 1) ~~For any claims normally met by AVS insurance, incurred by the~~
21 ~~volunteer if the organization fails to follow proper calling procedures, resulting in the failure to~~
22 ~~provide AVS insurance coverage for the volunteer.~~
23
24

25 2) ~~The cost of premiums for AVS insurance which provides the~~
26 ~~following:~~
27

28 a) ~~Accident and Sickness Protection for volunteer's insurance~~
29 ~~policy (limited accident and sickness coverage as outlined in policy brochure)~~
30

31 b) ~~Worker's Compensation for volunteers~~
32

33 c) ~~Personal Effects Baggage Insurance (Personal Effects and~~
34 ~~Property)~~
35

36 3) ~~Insurance deductible under the Accident and Sickness Protection~~
37 ~~for volunteer's insurance policy.~~
38

39 4) ~~Ensuring that insurance coverage is in place for all volunteers~~
40 ~~extending their service beyond the limit of initial coverage.~~
41

1 5) Ensuring that a minimum of 31 days coverage is provided to the
2 volunteer for homebound travel.

3
4 6) Any claims normally met by AVS insurance incurred during this
5 period should the receiving organization fail to ensure that coverage has been arranged.
6 In the event that a volunteer returns home earlier than expected, the division where the volunteer
7 is serving shall be responsible for notifying Adventist Risk Management and the Adventist
8 Volunteer Center.

9
10 b. The cost of airfares, if indicated.

11
12 e. The liability of the denomination shall be limited to the cost of the
13 insurance premiums and deductibles for the above coverage. (See R 15 25, paragraph 2. a.)
14 Volunteers who are 21 years of age or older (parents or legal guardians if under 21) shall sign the
15 Adventist Volunteer Service Release of Liability and Beneficiary Form absolving the
16 denomination from any liability arising out of any loss, injury, illness, disability, damage or
17 death sustained while serving in the Adventist Volunteer Service program or resulting from
18 service in the Adventist Volunteer Service program. (See R 15 50.)

19
20 d. Additional medical coverage not included in paragraph 2.a. above may be
21 provided to the extent specified in the contract or Volunteer Service request listing.

22
23 e. Lodging provisions and a living allowance to cover food and local travel
24 may be provided.

25
26 f. Travel and other financial arrangements shall be approved by the
27 requesting division or the General Conference Adventist Volunteer Center. The financial
28 arrangements for supported volunteers shall normally be expressed in the form of a written
29 agreement between the volunteer and the requesting organization and shall include a list of
30 allowances provided.

31
32 R 15 30 Relationship to Other Organizations—The Adventist Volunteer Service (AVS)
33 plan includes all projects operated by Seventh-day Adventist owned denominational entities.
34 Projects owned and operated by other organizations shall not be included in the AVS program.

35
36 ~~R 15 35 College/University Volunteers—1. Each Seventh-day Adventist~~
37 ~~college/university shall direct the Adventist Volunteer Service program on campus. It shall~~
38 ~~provide instruction and general orientation materials for the volunteers. The Adventist Volunteer~~
39 ~~Service screening committee in each college/university shall be composed of both faculty and~~
40 ~~students and shall be responsible for approving the candidates' fitness for service. The~~
41 ~~college/university campus ministries director or Adventist Volunteer Service sponsor shall be the~~
42 ~~chair of the screening committee and shall be the liaison officer between the college/university~~

1 and the division Adventist Volunteer Service director in processing the volunteers for
 2 interdivision service. Volunteers who apply from nondenominational colleges/universities, or
 3 who are no longer students, shall be screened by the pastor/elder of the church where they are
 4 members or are in regular attendance. They shall be required to complete the *Passport to Mission*
 5 course.

6
 7 2. Volunteers may be sent out by each college/university Adventist Volunteer
 8 Service office on the following basis:

9
 10 a. The college/university, through its related Adventist Volunteer Service
 11 office, shall be responsible for:

12
 13 1) Satisfactory financial arrangements for round-trip transportation,
 14 with the students providing as much as possible through personal financing and the balance
 15 provided from a campus Adventist Volunteer Service pooling fund, unless provided for by the
 16 requesting organization. All arrangements for ticketing shall be made through the travel office
 17 connections of the division unless otherwise authorized.

18
 19 2) The cost of passports, visas, inoculations, and health certificates.

20
 21 b. The requesting organization shall be financially responsible for the cost of
 22 insurance premiums (to be arranged by the home division prior to departure).

23
 24 3. The raising of funds for the Adventist Volunteer Service program in each
 25 college/university shall be in harmony with the policies of the union conferences, union
 26 missions/sections, local conferences, local missions/fields/sections, and the division in which
 27 territory the college is located.

28
 29 ~~R 15 40 Service by Secondary/Academy Student Volunteers (13 to 18 years of age)—~~
 30 ~~When projects similar to college youth volunteer activities are requested for secondary/academy~~
 31 ~~students, these shall be operated as group undertakings and supervised by adults personally~~
 32 ~~acquainted with the youth.~~

33
 34 All plans for such programs must be approved by the union conference, union
 35 mission/section, local conference, local mission/field/ section in which the secondary
 36 school/academy is located and in which the project is located.

37
 38 R 15 45 Responsibility of Volunteers—1. Generally, volunteers provide their own round-
 39 trip transportation, but on occasions occasionally transportation expenses may be provided.

1 2. Volunteers who are liable for national military service shall be responsible for
2 securing deferment or clearance from the appropriate government office before leaving the home
3 country.

4
5 3. Volunteers shall make appropriate arrangements to care for deferred educational
6 indebtedness while absent from their home countries.

7
8 R 15 50 Adventist Volunteer Service Release of Liability—All volunteers shall be
9 required to sign the appropriate release of liability and related beneficiary form as approved by
10 the General Conference Office of General Counsel, with the intended purpose of releasing the
11 denomination from any liability arising out of any loss, injury, illness, disability, damage, or
12 death sustained while serving in the Adventist Volunteer Service program or resulting from
13 service in the Adventist Volunteer Service program. ~~Counsel.~~

14
15 R 17 Temporary Evacuation Due to Natural Disasters or Political Unrest

16
17 R 17 05 Temporary Evacuation—Each ~~division~~ division/attached field shall be
18 responsible for developing and communicating to the General Conference office an Emergency
19 Management Plan that adequately provides for the care of volunteers and their families,
20 registered through General Conference Adventist Volunteer Service, in times of natural disasters
21 and political crisis. The ~~division~~ division/attached field may choose to delegate the specific
22 details and plans to the local receiving organization; however, it remains the ~~division's~~
23 division's/attached field's responsibility to ensure that all plans are appropriate and fully
24 implemented. In situations where natural disasters or political crisis render an unsafe
25 environment for the continued presence of volunteers and their families, the General Conference
26 has ultimate decision-making responsibility for evacuation in consultation with the receiving
27 ~~division~~ division/attached field and through the ~~division~~ division/attached field with the local
28 receiving organization. Medical evacuation decisions are made by the receiving organization in
29 consultation with medical professionals including, where insurance coverage is involved,
30 medical providers of the insurer.

31
32 Any General Conference financial assistance for expenses not covered by insurance will
33 normally require the participation of the General Conference and receiving ~~division~~
34 division/attached field in decisions pertaining to the length of time of the relocation and the
35 decision to return to service.

36
37 ~~R 20 Mediation and Conciliation Procedures for Seventh-day Adventist Volunteers*~~

38
* Seventh-day Adventist Volunteers are defined in R 15. This policy is intended for those divisions/attached fields that do not have a Mediation and Conciliation Policy of their own.

1 ~~R 20-05 Rationale—The Bible emphasizes the importance of proper understanding in~~
 2 ~~human relationships and directs that differences should be reconciled, and problems resolved in a~~
 3 ~~spirit of harmony and unity. The counsel given by Jesus (see Matthew 18) calls for open~~
 4 ~~communication between parties when disputes arise, in an endeavor to solve problems closest to~~
 5 ~~their origin. It is assumed therefore that when a problem arises, consultation takes place in an~~
 6 ~~effort to establish formative and remedial procedures. The Church acknowledges the principles~~
 7 ~~of natural justice and is committed to the application of such principles in decision-making~~
 8 ~~procedures that may affect an individual’s position, welfare, or reputation.~~

9
 10 ~~R 20-10 Basic Assumptions—The Church reserves the right to engage as volunteers only~~
 11 ~~those individuals who personally believe in, practice, and are committed to upholding the~~
 12 ~~doctrinal tenets of the Church, as summarized in the document “Fundamental Beliefs of Seventh-~~
 13 ~~day Adventists” (1980), and who by their Christian conduct preserve the character, order, and~~
 14 ~~unity of the Church.~~

15
 16 ~~The Church also reserves the right to relieve a volunteer from a position, either by~~
 17 ~~termination, transfer, or reassignment if, in the judgment of the controlling committee or board,~~
 18 ~~such termination, transfer, or reassignment serves the purposes of the Church and/or the interests~~
 19 ~~of the individual.~~

20
 21 ~~R 20-15 A Grievance—A “grievance” shall be any claimed misinterpretation, inequitable~~
 22 ~~application, or violation of the policies and practices of the Seventh-day Adventist Church which~~
 23 ~~could have adverse consequences for a volunteer, and which may result in dismissal,~~
 24 ~~reassignment, or variation of status, position, or volunteer benefits. Mediation is available to all~~
 25 ~~volunteers who consider they have a “grievance” and must be implemented prior to requesting~~
 26 ~~conciliation.~~

27
 28 ~~R 20-20 Exemptions—The mediation and conciliation procedures do not apply in certain~~
 29 ~~situations. Examples of such cases may include but are not limited to:~~

- 30
 31 ~~1. The settlement of insurance claims.~~
 32
 33 ~~2. Issues arising from marital differences.~~
 34
 35 ~~3. The awarding of custody of minor children.~~
 36
 37 ~~4. The deciding of matters involving the administration of estates.~~
 38
 39 ~~5. Debt collection.~~
 40
 41 ~~6. Matters involving an individual’s dispute with civil government or law~~
 42 ~~enforcement agency.~~

1
2 7. Specific theological questions.

3
4 8. Questions regarding church discipline and the transfer or reinstatement of
5 membership as recorded in the Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual.

6
7 9. Church elections.

8
9 ~~R-20-25 Mediation—Mediation is a process in which a third party helps the disputants~~
10 ~~discuss their differences and negotiate an agreement. The mediator has power over the process~~
11 ~~but not the outcome. It is a voluntary process in which those involved in the dispute jointly~~
12 ~~explore and attempt to reconcile their differences. The mediator shall be neutral, impartial, and~~
13 ~~acceptable to all parties.~~

14
15 The following procedures shall be followed in the application of the mediation procedure.
16 When a matter which is deemed to have adverse consequences for a volunteer is to be brought to
17 a decision, the volunteer shall be given the opportunity to request that a mediator be appointed
18 and shall be notified accordingly. This request shall be made no later than fourteen days after the
19 decision has been made and a “grievance” has been identified and shall be made in writing,
20 outlining the nature of the grievance. A mediator must be agreed upon by both the institution and
21 the volunteer within fourteen days of the request for mediation. The mediation process shall be
22 completed within twenty one days of the mediator being appointed.

23
24 The mediator has no authority to render a decision. The mediated dispute is settled when
25 the parties themselves reach what they consider to be a workable solution.

26
27 The disputants hold the ultimate authority in the mediation process. They enter mediation
28 voluntarily and may withdraw at any time; they control the content and the outcome; they select
29 a mediator to whom they entrust control of the process. The result of mediation is not binding
30 unless the parties agree otherwise in writing. The outcomes of mediation shall be recorded by the
31 organization where the volunteer is engaged, and it shall send a copy to the Secretariat of the
32 higher body.

33
34 ~~R-20-30 Conciliation Procedure—Step 1. Formal Notification—When mediation fails and~~
35 ~~the organization decides to maintain its original position regarding a volunteer, the volunteer~~
36 ~~shall be formally notified, both in person and in writing, by an administrator. The notification~~
37 ~~shall include:~~

38
39 1. The reason or reasons for the action.

40
41 2. The basis for the reason or reasons.

3. The provisions of the conciliation process.

Step 2. Hearing a Protest—In the event that mediation has failed completely, the volunteer protesting the decision of the organization becomes a grievant, as identified in Step 3. Within fourteen days of receiving the written formal notice of the action taken, the grievant may appeal to the next higher body for a hearing before an independent review committee by presenting the grievance, in writing, to the administrator of the next higher body, a copy of which must be forwarded to the organization where the volunteer is assigned. The written statement should include:

1. A concise statement of the grievance.

2. The circumstance(s) involved.

3. The outcome of the mediation process.

4. The specific solution or remedy sought by the grievant.

5. A request for a hearing before an independent review committee of five persons, including the chair. The allocation of the costs of calling the review committee together shall be subject to negotiation.

The organization and the grievant shall be given access to all support documentation which is to be submitted to the review committee (this does not include a transcript of arguments to be presented), and each party shall receive the documentation at least seven days before the review committee convenes. Both parties must agree, in writing, to abide by the decision of the review committee. Should the grievant fail to sign the agreement, the requested hearing shall not proceed. In this event the action of the organization shall be deemed to stand.

The organization shall be required to submit to the review committee in writing a summary of its arguments and of events which led to its action(s) in respect to the grievant. A copy of all relevant letters, documents, and committee actions shall be included in its submission.

Step 3. Setting up a Review Committee—The higher authority shall honor the request for a review committee hearing and negotiate the appointment of said committee within fourteen days. In choosing persons to serve on the review committee, consideration should be given to keeping expenses to a minimum.

The committee shall be made up as follows:

1. An independent chair nominated by the higher authority and agreed to by both parties.

1
2 2. ~~Two members (50 percent) nominated by the administration of the engaging~~
3 ~~organization, but not from the administration or executive committee or board.~~

4
5 3. ~~Two members (50 percent) nominated by the grievant.~~

6
7 ~~The review committee shall be members in regular standing of the Seventh-day Adventist~~
8 ~~Church and shall not include individuals from the legal profession.~~

9
10 ~~R 20 35 The Review Committee Function, Authority, and General Guidelines—1. The~~
11 ~~review committee shall hold its initial meeting within fourteen days of appointment.~~

12
13 2. ~~Final disposition shall be within thirty days of the appointment of the committee.~~

14
15 3. ~~The committee may invite any person or persons whom it considers may have~~
16 ~~counsel or information relevant to the grievance to any or all of its meetings. This provision~~
17 ~~excludes any legal representation. No person may demand the right to meet with the committee.~~

18
19 4. ~~The grievant and the administrator or nominee of the organization shall be~~
20 ~~required to attend an initial meeting of the review committee to present their cases in each~~
21 ~~other's presence and at other times as requested by the committee. The decision regarding the~~
22 ~~grievance shall be made in a closed meeting.~~

23
24 ~~R 20 40 General Provisions—1. Agreements, consents, and understandings must be in~~
25 ~~writing.~~

26
27 2. ~~A grievance may be dropped by the grievant at any time by informing the next~~
28 ~~higher body in writing.~~

29
30 3. ~~Extension of time at any stage may be made by mutual consent of both parties.~~
31 ~~Such agreement should be recorded and signed by both parties.~~

32
33 4. ~~Should the grievant fail to act within the prescribed time limits, the organization is~~
34 ~~not obliged to continue with the process.~~

35
36 5. ~~All participants in the process shall agree that there shall be no reprisals against~~
37 ~~other participants in the procedures.~~

38
39 6. ~~All information disclosed must remain confidential.~~

40

1 7. When a volunteer requests that the conciliation process be implemented, the
2 action taken by the organization shall remain operative until either confirmed, modified, or
3 declared void by the review committee.

4
5 8. The decision shall be arrived at by secret ballot and all members of the review
6 committee, including the chair, shall cast a vote.

7
8 9. The review committee is not authorized to award financial compensation to the
9 grievant or the organization.

10
11 10. Government laws shall have preeminence over the requirements of these
12 guidelines.

13
14 11. The following is a summary of steps that should be followed together with the
15 required time periods:

16
17 a. Grievant Actions:

18
19 1) Mediation Request—No later than fourteen days after the
20 grievance is identified.

21
22 2) Mediation Outcome—Within twenty one days of mediation
23 appointment.

24
25 3) Conciliation Request—When mediation fails and within fourteen
26 days of formal notification that the action against the grievant is to be maintained.

27
28 4) Support Material—Must be exchanged at least seven days before
29 the review committee convenes.

30
31 b. Organization Actions:

32
33 1) Mediator Appointed—Within fourteen days of mediation request.

34
35 2) Mediation Outcome—Within twenty one days of mediator
36 appointment.

37
38 3) Review Committee Appointment—Within fourteen days of
39 conciliation request.

40
41 4) Support Material—Must be exchanged at least seven days before
42 review committee convenes.

1
2
3 appointment.

5) ~~Disposition of Case—Within thirty days of committee~~

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209-24G THE TITHE AND OFFERINGS - POLICY AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDING, To record the amendment of the GC V, The Tithe and Offerings, to read as follows:

V THE TITHE AND OFFERINGS

V 04 The Tithe

V 04 05 Philosophy—Through the Bible and the ministry of Ellen G White, God gives inspired counsel and valuable guidance on many matters. This enables the Church to develop sound policies, the application of which will be in harmony with a correct understanding of God’s revealed will. In harmony with this approach, the Seventh-day Adventist Church recognizes the tithe as God’s holy portion of our income and increase to be used by the Church in the worldwide proclamation of the gospel. While many entities and activities of the Church are part of the mission of the Church, the Bible and Ellen G White make a distinction between those activities and functions that can be funded from tithe and those that are to be funded from other sources. Scripture reveals that the tithing system was instituted by God before the creation of the Hebrew nation for both the spiritual benefit of the individual and the furtherance of His cause. In this task of gospel ministry individuals and agencies properly recognized, appointed, and supervised by the organized Church will play the central role, and are supported from the tithe.

~~In contrast to offerings, the use of which is discretionary, the~~ The tithe does not belong to the individual but to the Lord and He is the One who determines how it should be used. In this, it contrasts with offerings, the use of which is discretionary. The very nature of tithe ~~Its very nature~~ places it outside the realm of human manipulation, restricts its usage, and requires a proper system of collection, storage, and distribution. The world Church plays a significant function in safeguarding the sanctity of the tithe.

V 04 10 The Nature of Tithe - No change

V 04 15 Purpose of Tithing—Reveals that God is First - No change

V 04 20 Tithe and the Role of the Church - No change

V 04 25 Central Store House—1. Just as God has been very specific in regard to the use of His holy tithe, He has also given explicit instruction regarding where members should return it. His command is, “Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse” (Mal 3:10). From ancient times the storehouse has been the name given to the temple treasury (Malachi 3:10; cf. CS 82). In Deuteronomy 12:5, 6 the Israelites were commanded to bring their tithes to the place where God said He would choose to dwell, among His people, in the land of Canaan (cf. 6T 39). From that

44 central place of worship, the tithe was to be equitably distributed, by appointed individuals, to
 45 the Levites and priests (cf. 2 Chr 31:4-19). The system provided a check and balance on the
 46 proper distribution and use of tithe.

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- 2. In harmony with the biblical central storehouse - No change
 - 3. As part of the worship experience of church members, the tithe - No change
- V 04 30 Responsibilities with Respect to Tithing—1. *Responsibility of the* - No change

8 2. *Responsibility of the Local Church*—For the convenience of church members,
 9 ~~members~~ the tithe is, as an act of worship, normally to be returned to the Lord ~~through~~ at the
 10 local church where their membership is held. Where systems have been developed to allow tithes
 11 and offerings to be processed through the internet, the tithe may go directly to the conference,
 12 mission/field/section, or union of churches. As it is the local conference, mission/field/section, or
 13 union of churches where an individual lives, and where they should have their membership, that
 14 provides the pastoral support to the member it is appropriate for that conference,
 15 mission/field/section, or union of churches to receive the tithe. The local church has the
 16 responsibility of forwarding all the tithes received on behalf of the church members, to the local
 17 conference, local mission/field/section, or union of churches as the storehouse.

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 19
 20

- 3. *Responsibility of the Church Organization*—In order for the - No change
- 4. *Institutional Tithing*—The Bible is clear that individuals - No change

21
 22

V 09 Sharing Financial Resources - No change

23
 24

V 14 Use of Tithe

25
 26

V 14 05 Gospel Ministry—1. Rationale—Proclaiming the Three - No change

27
 28

- 2. Pastors, Evangelists, Ministers—Tithe should primarily be - No change
- 3. Soul-Winning Support - No change
- 4. Literature Evangelists—Literature Evangelists are to be - No change
- 5. Evangelistic Activities—In many places youth camps and camp - No change

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37 6. Evangelistic Equipment—Evangelistic equipment comes in many forms. ~~Whether~~
 38 ~~the preacher’s voice is projected by microphone across a rented hall, carried into homes by DVD~~
 39 ~~players, or beamed around the world by radio transmitters, satellite uplink systems, or the~~

40 ~~internet, the principle is the same.~~ The purchase of evangelistic equipment and support of these
41 evangelistic means may be an appropriate use for tithe if their purpose is to support soul winning
42 endeavors and other funds are not available.
43

1 7. Auditing Service and Auditing Costs—The cost of auditing - No change

2
3 8. Bible/Religion Teachers and Spiritual Support Personnel in - No change

4
5 9. Retirement Costs—Retirement costs are part of an - No change

6
7 10. Housing for Personnel—Provision for housing is part of the - No change

8
9 11. Church Buildings—Church buildings should be - No change

10
11 V 14 15 Education - No change

12
13 V 14 20 Missionaries—Although many missionaries are serving - No change

14
15 V 14 25 Mission Outreach-Focused Organizations - No change

16
17 V 14 30 Items Not to be Funded from Tithe - No change

18
19 V 20 Accountability for the Use of Tithe

20
21 V 20 05 Continuous Monitoring of Tithe-Use—Administrators and - No change

22
23 V 20 10 Operating Caps and Limits on Use of Tithe—The General - No change

24
25 V 20 15 Promotion of Tithing Plan—Church leaders at all levels shall - No change

26
27 V 20 20 Reporting and Monitoring—Administrators and executive - No change

28
29 V 25 Offerings

30
31 V 25 05 Philosophy—The worldwide task entrusted to the - No change

32
33 V 25 10 Nature of Offerings—Offerings are both voluntary and required - No change

34
35 V 25 15 Principles Guiding our Giving—1. Offerings are an expression of worship to
36 God in response to His blessings (Prov 3:9-10). Giving—1. Bringing offerings to the Lord is a
37 Christian duty with spiritual and moral implications. To abstain from bringing them to the Lord
38 is considered by Him to be an act of robbery (Mal 3:8). The love and honor due to Him should
39 not be granted neither to ourselves, nor to someone else.
40

41 2. Bringing offerings to the Lord is a Christian duty with spiritual and moral
 42 implications. To abstain from bringing them to the Lord is considered by Him to be an act of
 1 contempt and robbery (Isa 43:22-24; Mal 3:8). The love and honor due to Him should not be
 2 granted to ourselves, nor to someone else.

3
 4 ~~2.~~ 3. Our offerings are an expression of our self-offering to God. They - No change

5
 6 ~~3.~~ 4. Offerings are an acknowledgement of God's providential care - No change

7
 8 ~~4.~~ 5. Offerings come from a heart that is at peace with God and - No change

9
 10 ~~5.~~ 6. Offerings rest on the faith-conviction that we have found in - No change

11
 12 V 25 20 Responsibility for the Offerings—Although our offerings are to be spontaneous,
 13 they are also to be systematic. Based on the blessings received from the Lord, the individual or
 14 the family should set apart, at home, a particular ~~portion~~ proportion of their income and/or
 15 increase as an ~~offering.~~ offering (Deut 16:17; 1 Cor 16:2; 2 Cor 8:11, 12). This offering is to be
 16 brought or sent to the church (Deut 12:5-7; 2 Chron 31:5-10; Neh 10:35-37). ~~church. (See Deut~~
 17 ~~16:17; 1 Cor 16:2; 2 Cor 8:11, 12).~~

18
 19 The church is expected to appoint individuals to collect the offerings and to keep records
 20 of them. This will protect the integrity of the offerings and introduce an element of
 21 accountability (cf. 2 Cor 8:17-23; 9:3).

22
 23 It is the responsibility of the world Church to establish the principles that should guide
 24 the distribution and use of offerings.

25
 26 V 25 25 Purpose of Offerings—While the specific use of tithe is restricted - No change

27
 28 V 30 Offering Plans

29
 30 V 30 05 Offering Plans—The Seventh-day Adventist Church recognizes three different
 31 offering plans in use in various parts of the world.

32
 33 1. The Combined Offering Plan, where all unassigned offerings go to a combined
 34 general fund based on a distribution ratio voted by the General Conference and the divisions.
 35 This fund is then allocated to three general categories (Acts 1:8); ~~and are then allocated to the~~
 36 ~~various organizations and functions based on a distribution ratio voted by the General~~
 37 ~~Conference and the divisions.~~

38
 39 a. The local congregation

40
 41 b. The conference or mission/field/section

42

43

c. The World Budget (union/division/General Conference)

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1 The Combined Offering Plan shall be considered the giving system recommended and
 2 promoted by the General Conference.

4
 5 2. The Calendar of Offerings Weekly Appeal, where separate - No change

6
 7 3. The Personal Giving Plan, where each member can choose the amount he/she
 8 wishes to give to each of three general categories (see V 30 05, paragraph 1. above) rather than
 9 list each separate offering. ~~offering:~~

10
 11 a. ~~The local congregation~~

12
 13 b. ~~The conference or mission/field/section~~

14
 15 e. ~~The World Budget (union/division/General Conference)~~

16
 17 V 35 Combined Offering Plan

18
 19 V 35 05 Description—Under this simplified offering plan, it will be understood that one’s
 20 expression of worship through financial stewardship begins with tithing and the support of the
 21 Church through regular and systematic offerings. All ~~all~~ undesignated offerings received at any
 22 time or by any mode are combined and distributed based on percentages approved by the
 23 General Conference and the division. While the distinction between tithe and offerings and the
 24 utilization of each is preserved, all offerings taken by the local church, including those taken
 25 during the Sabbath School and church services, are included in the Combined Offering.

26
 27 Under the Combined Offering Plan, each offering goes to support all of the various
 28 functions previously covered by separate offerings taken each Sabbath based on the Calendar of
 29 Offerings and during the Sabbath School for missions and Sabbath School expense. In order for
 30 members to understand the wide range of functions being supported by their offerings, divisions
 31 are encouraged to prepare promotional materials that, at some point during the calendar year,
 32 highlight each of the different ministries included in the traditional Calendar of Offerings as well
 33 as the world-wide mission program of the Church. ~~Care should be exercised to make it clear to~~
 34 ~~the members that the offering on that particular Sabbath is not going in its entirety for the~~
 35 ~~ministry being highlighted.~~ These promotional materials should include the following ministries
 36 or mission offering funds:

37
 38 1. Disaster and Famine Relief

39
 40 2. Adventist World Radio

41
 42 3. Hope Channel International

1 4. Annual Sacrifice

2 Offering²

3 5. Unusual

4 Opportunities Fund⁴

5 6. World

6 Mission⁶

7 7 Care shall be exercised to make it clear to the members that a percentage of any

8 8 unassigned offering that is given goes toward supporting the highlighted

9 ministries.⁹

10 10 V 35 10 Transitioning to the Combined Offering Plan—When a division votes to adopt

11 11 the Combined Offering Plan, it should be done in consultation with General Conference

12 12 Treasury

13 12 and Stewardship Ministries. It is the responsibility of Stewardship Ministries to help provide a

14 13 comprehensive education strategy at all levels of the Church before the transition is

15 14 implemented, and General Conference Treasury ~~to~~ shall give counsel relative to the distribution

16 15 of the funds. When transitioning to the Combined Offering Plan, after that decision has been

17 16 voted by the division, it is recommended that churches, conferences or missions/fields/sections,

18 17 and unions be given opportunity to determine when ~~they~~ to make the change to the new plan.

19 18 Specific details of the Combined Offering Plan and details concerning implementation may be

20 19 requested from General Conference Stewardship Ministries. Church organizations shall

21 20 implement the following procedures:

22 21

23 22 1. Divisions and/or organizations transitioning to the Combined Offering Plan shall

24 23 establish and implement a comprehensive educational strategy for administrators, pastors, and

25 24 members, including biblical stewardship, giving as an expression of worship, and the

26 25 procedures

27 25 for the Combined

28 Offering Plan.²⁶

29 27 2. Before a conference or mission/field/section implements the simplified offering

30 28 system, the conference or mission/field/section shall have a system for communicating how

31 29 Church funds are

32 used.³⁰

33 31 3. Prior to implementing the Combined Offering Plan, each church organization

34 32 should name a dedicated director for Stewardship Ministries or, if this is not possible, a

35 33 department director who will have primary responsibility for Stewardship Ministries should be

36 34 n

37 amed.

38 35

39 36 V 35 15 Designated Offerings—Churches on the Combined Offering - No

40 change³⁷

41 38 V 35 20 Distribution—The Combined Offering Fund shall be distributed as

42 follows:

43 1. Local Church—The local church shall receive a minimum - No change

44 41 2. General Conference—The General Conference shall receive 20 percent

45 of the Combined Offering for the world mission of the Church. The General

46 Conference Executive Committee shall determine the distribution of the portion of

47 the Combined Offering remitted to the General Conference.



- 1 a. The General Conference Executive Committee - No change
 2 b. The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering projects shall be - No change
 3 c. Mission Investment and Birthday-Thank Offerings should be distributed
 4 as any other unassigned offering under the Combined Offering Plan, as stipulated in V 35 20,
 5 paragraphs 1. and 2. bove.
 6
 7 3. Local Conference or Local Mission/Field/Section, Union, and Division – No change
 8 V 35 25 Report—Church members should be informed regularly - No change
 9 V 40 Calendar of Offerings Plan ~~Weekly Appeal~~
 10 V 40 05 Description—The Calendar of Offerings Plan ~~Weekly Appeal~~ is the traditional
 11 offering plan in use by the Church over the years. Sabbath School and other offerings are given
 12 for mission ~~purposes~~ purposes, and special appeals are made during the ~~divine church~~ service
 13 according to a yearly calendar of offerings voted by the General Conference. It is the basis on
 14 which the two simplified offering plans, Combined Offerings Plan (V 35) and Personal Giving
 15 Plan (V 45) are based.
 16
 17 Under the Calendar of Offerings Plan, ~~Weekly Appeal offering plan~~, the offerings for
 18 each Sabbath during the year are allocated as follows:
 19
 20 1. Local Church—Twenty-four Sabbaths (two per month) are - No change
 21 30
 22 2. Conference, Mission/Field/Section, or Union of Churches - No change
 23 32
 24 3 Division—Six Sabbaths per year are designated for division - No change
 25 General Conference—Six Sabbaths per year are designated - No Change
 26
 27 5. Local Church and/or Union and/or Division—Each year has - No change
 28 V 40 10 Promotion of Mission Funds—The responsibility for - No change
 29
 30 V 40 15 Sabbath School Offerings—1. World Mission Funds—The Sabbath School, in all its
 31 divisions, has long been recognized as the church organization that gives weekly emphasis to the
 32 Church’s worldwide program, and funds received through Sabbath School mission offerings constitute
 33 a significant portion of the world mission fund. Under the Calendar of Offerings Plan, ~~Weekly Appeal~~,
 34 all Sabbath School mission offerings are General Conference funds and are to be passed on, in their
 35 entirety, by the church treasurer to the conference,
 36 mission/field/section, or union of churches for transfer to the General Conference. These
 37 mission
 38 offerings include the regular weekly mission offering, Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, Sabbath
 39 School Investment, and the ~~Birthday/Thank~~ Birthday-Thank Offering. Each of these mission
 40 offerings is to be identified as a separate fund in the regular system of records from the local
 41 church to the General Conference. (See ~~V 35 10~~ V 35 05 for Sabbath School Offerings under
 42 the
 43 Combined Offering
 44 Plan.)

2. ~~Sabbath School Expense—The regular church budget should make provision for Sabbath School expenses, as for other ministries or departments of the church. Expense—If the expenses of the Sabbath School are not provided for in the regular church budget, a Sabbath School expense offering may be received. This offering is retained in the local church to meet the recurring expenses of the Sabbath School as voted by the Sabbath School Council.~~

3. Other Offerings—No other offering should be promoted - No change

18

V 40 20 Regular Weekly Mission Offering—Mission offerings - No change

V 40 25 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering—~~A portion of the offering received on the Thirteenth Sabbath of each quarter Offering—The offering received on, or designated for, the Thirteenth Sabbath of each quarter, a portion of which is devoted to designated projects in world~~ divisions, according to a schedule voted by the Spring Meeting or Annual Council of the General Conference Executive Committee, and is divided as follows:

1. Division of Offering—Twenty five percent of the actual - No change

2. Cut Off Date—For the purpose of computing the Thirteenth - No change

V 40 30 ~~Sabbath School Investment—1. Purpose—In Mission Investment—1. Purpose—~~

In order to encourage further giving to the mission program and to raise mission funds through various individual or family projects, the plan known as Sabbath School Mission Investment (formerly known as Sabbath School Investment) was developed. This plan is not particularly tied to a regular time period, or a weekly or quarterly appeal for the offering, but is a continuing program to promote an increase of mission gifts beyond normal regular giving, on the basis of financial returns from special fundraising projects decided on by individual members or groups. Such proceeds or offerings are received at any time, but periodically a special promotional appeal is presented in the Sabbath School.

2. ~~Sabbath School~~ Use of Mission Investment Funds—All Sabbath School Mission Investment funds are recognized as General Conference funds and are designated as a portion of the World Mission Fund. Twenty five percent of the Investment funds are returned to overseas divisions, in proportion to the regular annual base appropriations, for frontier outreach and/or large city evangelism. Projects to be benefited by their portion of the Sabbath School Mission Investment funds should be designated annually by division executive committees. The remaining seventy-five percent of the Investment funds are added to the World Mission Fund.

V 40 35 Birthday and Thank Offerings—An appeal is presented - No change

V 40 40 Annual Sacrifice Offering—This offering, normally collected - No change

V 40 45 Disaster and Famine Relief - No change

V 40 50 Adventist World Radio Offering—Adventist World Radio - No change

V 40 55 Hope Channel International Offering—Hope Channel - No change

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V 45 Personal Giving Plan

V 45 05 Description—Under this simplified offering plan individual - No change19

V 45 10 Divine Service Offerings—Members are given the opportunity - No change21

V 45 15 Sabbath School Mission Offerings—Under the Personal Giving Plan, the regular

Sabbath School offerings are to be sent to the General Conference for the worldwide work of the

Church. These include the regular weekly mission offering, the ~~Birthday/Thank~~ Birthday-Thank

Offering, the Thirteenth Sabbath ~~Offering~~ Offering, and the Mission Investment

Offering.

V 50 Camp Meeting Mission Offering - No change

V 55 Special Donations and Bequests - No change

~~V 60 Implementation~~

~~V 60 05 Implementation—Where these new tithe and offering policies differ from old policies, organizations are given up to December 31, 2017 to fully implement the changes.~~

V 65 Special Appeals

V 65 05 Offering Appeals—All denominational entities making direct appeals to church members should include in their donor materials an affirmation of the individual’s primary responsibilities to worship God by returning tithe and support the Church through regular systematic offerings. Such affirmation shall include a statement such as: “Contributions to the appeal should be above and beyond your regular return of tithe and systematic offerings through your local church.”

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24AC to GMM

408-24GS NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND THE ELECTION PROCESS - *CHURCH*
MANUAL AMENDMENT

VOTED, To retain the language in the item, “Nominating Committee and the Election Process
- *Church Manual Amendment*,” as presented.

1 OGC/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2
3 425-24GS DISSOLVING OR EXPELLING A CHURCH - *CHURCH*
4 *MANUAL* AMENDMENT

5
6 RECOMMENDED, To amend the Church Manual, Chapter 5, Organizing, Uniting, and Dissolving
7 Churches, pages 40-42, Dissolving or Expelling a Church, to read as follows:

8
9 **Dissolving or Expelling a Church**

10
11 “Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her
12 with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not
13 having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. . . . For no
14 one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. For we
15 are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones” (Eph. 5:25-30).

16
17 This spirit should permeate all efforts to help an erring church and all aspects of any discipline
18 that may be applied—always to help and save for the cause of God.

19
20 Church status is not necessarily perpetual. A church may be dissolved or expelled from the
21 sisterhood of churches for the following reasons:

22
23 1. Loss of Members—Occasionally, despite efforts to preserve - No change

24
25 2. Discipline—Occasions for expelling a church for disciplinary reasons are rare because
26 the mission of the church is to seek and to save. Where serious problems such as apostasy, refusal to
27 operate in harmony with the *Church Manual*, or rebellion against the conference persist, earnest efforts
28 should be made to avert the need for expulsion. The pastor should seek to deepen the spiritual life of
29 the church through preaching and personal visitation ministries. The conference should encourage a
30 series of revival meetings to lead the members to renew their covenant with their Lord. If these efforts
31 are unsuccessful, the pastor, in cooperation with the conference executive committee, should counsel
32 with the church and its leadership, seeking to bring healing and reconciliation and to preserve the
33 church.

34
35 Such remedial measures are preferable to permitting the deterioration of relationships, which
36 could lead to expulsion of the church.

37
38 However, if all efforts to preserve the church fail, the conference executive committee should
39 give careful study to the question of expulsion. If such action is decided upon, the conference shall
40 follow the following procedure:

41
42 a. The decision to recommend expulsion, with supporting - No change

43
44 b. If the church does not accept the recommendation, it may respond in one of the
45 following ways:

46
47 1) Eliminating the causes for discipline and - No change



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8
- 2) Appeal to the union executive committee, or to the division in case of a union of churches, to ~~arbitrate~~ mediate on behalf of the church.
 - c. If the church remains in rebellion, the conference - No change
 - d. If the constituency takes action to expel, the conference - No change

1 SEC/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2
3 409-24GSa TRANSFERRING MEMBERS - CHURCH MANUAL
4 AMENDMENT

5
6 RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 7, Membership, pages 57-61, Method of
7 Granting Letters of Transfer, to read as follows:

8
9 Transferring Members

10
11 When members move to a different area, the clerk of the church holding their membership
12 records should write to the secretary of the relevant conference requesting that a pastor in the new
13 locality visit them and help facilitate their membership transfer to the new congregation.

14
15 The clerk of the church holding the membership records also should notify the transferring
16 members of the intention to give their new addresses to the conference.

17 Members who move to another locality for longer than six months should make immediate
18 applications for letters of transfer. Members moving to an isolated area with no church within a
19 reasonable distance should apply to join the conference church.

20
21 Method of Granting Letters of Transfer—Members Transfer—The church clerk should
22 encourage those regularly attending his/her church to request a transfer of their membership. Members
23 should apply for their letters of transfer to the clerk of the church with which the members desire to
24 unite (the receiving church). That clerk sends the request to the clerk of the church from which the
25 members desire to transfer (the granting church). (For alternative method, see p. 58.)

26
27 When the clerk of the granting church receives the request, the clerk brings it to the pastor or
28 elder, who in turn presents it to the board. Careful consideration should be given by the granting
29 church and the receiving church to ensure the members in the process of being transferred are living in
30 harmony with the fundamental teachings and related practices of the church. After due consideration,
31 the board votes to recommend, favorably or otherwise, to the church. (See pp. 37-40, 41, 55-61, 71-73,
32 87.) The pastor or elder then brings the recommendation to the attention of the church for a first
33 reading. Final action is taken the following week, when the request is presented to the church for a
34 vote.

35
36 The purpose of the one-week interval is to give members an opportunity to object to the
37 granting of the letter. Objections ordinarily should not be publicly stated but be lodged with the pastor
38 or elder, who then refers them to the board for consideration. The board should give each objector
39 opportunity to appear to present his/her objection. If the objection is not based on valid grounds, the
40 person raising objection should be admonished to withdraw it. If the objection is based on valid
41 grounds, it is the duty of the board to investigate. Final action on granting the letter is deferred until the
42 matter has been satisfactorily settled.

43
44 If the objection involves personal relationships, every effort should be made to effect
45 reconciliation. If public offenses are involved, disciplinary measures may be called for. If there is some
46 spiritual lapse, efforts should be made to restore the member.

1 Clerk to Prepare Letter—When the church has granted the letter - No change
2 Letter Valid Six Months—A letter of transfer is valid for six months from - No change

3
4 Alternative Method for Membership Transfer—A division may approve - No change

5
6 Membership During Transfer—Under no circumstances shall the clerk - No change

7
8 Receiving Members Under Difficult Conditions—World conditions - No change

9
10 Counted in Statistical Reports—When quarterly and annual statistical - No change

11
12 If Member Is Not Accepted—The receiving church must receive the - No change

13
14 Letters Granted Only to Those in Regular Standing—Letters of transfer are granted only to
15 members in regular standing, never to a member under discipline. The pastor, the first elder, and the
16 church board should carefully consider changes to membership status (transfer, baptism, and
17 profession of faith). In the case that full consensus is not reached, the pastor, first elder, or the board
18 should request guidance from the conference. Qualifying statements are out of order except when the
19 pastor or board of the granting church has factual or proven knowledge that the member has been
20 involved as a perpetrator of child abuse. In that case, for the safety of children, the pastor or elder
21 should provide a confidential statement alerting the pastor or elder of the congregation to which the
22 member is transferring.

23
24 If a member who has moved to a new location has grown indifferent, the pastor or elder of the
25 granting church may, to be clear in the matter before the transfer is granted, take up the question with
26 the pastor or elder of the receiving church.

27
28 No Letter Without Member’s Approval—In no case should a church vote - No change

29
30 Church Board Cannot Grant Letters—A board has no authority to vote - No change

31
32 ~~Membership in the Conference Church—Isolated members should unite with the conference~~
33 ~~church, which is a body organized for the benefit of believers who otherwise would be without church~~
34 ~~privileges. Aged and infirmed members who live near a church and conference officers and other~~
35 ~~employees, including pastors, should be members of a local church, not the conference church.~~

36
37 ~~The conference president is the presiding elder of the conference church, and the work~~
38 ~~normally carried by the clerk and the treasurer is handled by the conference secretary and treasurer.~~
39 ~~Since the church has no board, all business normally conducted by a local church board is conducted~~
40 ~~by the conference executive committee, which also appoints delegates from the conference church to~~
41 ~~the conference session.~~

42
43 ~~Membership Record—The church should have one current, regularly updated membership~~
44 ~~record. Names are added or removed only on the vote of the church, at death, or at the member’s~~
45 ~~request. (See p. 87.)~~

1 Redemptive Membership Review—Membership records are kept up to date by the local
2 church. They are subject to review by the next higher organization. This rule, which also applies to
3 every entity or level of the organization, provides the maximum privacy of members' personal
4 information and shall comply with legal requirements. (See pp. 87-88.)
5

6 In the Bible we find the words, “[N]ot forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the
7 manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching”
8 (Heb. 10:25). There is great need to seek for those who are far away. Ellen G. White says, “If the lost
9 sheep is not brought back to the fold, it wanders until it perishes. And many souls go down to ruin for
10 want of a hand stretched out to save” (COL 191). It is a most needed ministry to review the
11 membership records and to approach this exercise in a Christ-like redemptive way.
12

1 SEC/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2

3 409-24GSb MEMBERS MOVING AWAY AND NOT REPORTING -
4 CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

5

6 RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 8, Discipline, pages 71-72, Members
7 Moving Away and Not Reporting, to read as follows:

8

9 Members Moving Away and Not Reporting—When members move, they should inform the
10 clerk or elder of their new address. While remaining members of that church, they should report and
11 send their tithe and offerings at least quarterly. If, however, members move without leaving a
12 forwarding address and make no effort to contact or report to the church, and the church cannot locate
13 them for at least two years, then the church may certify that it has tried without success to locate the
14 members and the members may be removed by a vote of the church. The clerk should record in the
15 membership record: “~~Whereabouts~~ Location unknown. Voted to designate as missing.”
16

1 SEC/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2
3 409-24GSc MEMBERSHIP RECORD - *CHURCH MANUAL* ADDITION

4
5 RECOMMENDED, To add a new section, Membership Record, to the *Church Manual*, Chapter 7,
6 Membership, following Transferring Members, on page 61, to read as follows:

7
8 **Membership Record**

9
10 **Membership Record**—The church should have one current, regularly updated membership
11 record. Names are added or removed only on the vote of the church, at death, or at the member’s
12 request. (See p. 87.) Membership records are subject to review by the conference of which the local
13 congregation is a constituent. This rule, which also applies to every entity or level of the organization,
14 provides the maximum privacy of members’ personal information and shall comply with legal
15 requirements. (See pp. 87-88.)

16
17 **Multiple Membership Records**—Where it emerges that a church member’s membership record
18 is held at more than one church, the membership record at the local church where the record is most
19 recent will be regarded as the current membership, and any other membership record of that church
20 member will be removed by vote of the relevant church as an adjustment out. This is only to deal with
21 a situation where an additional membership record has inadvertently been recorded; no member is to
22 lose his or her current membership in this way. If a person has been a member of their local church,
23 but their membership record had inadvertently not been recorded, that person can, by vote of the
24 church, be registered as a member as an adjustment in.

25
26 **Membership in the Conference Church**—Isolated members should unite with the conference
27 church, which is a body organized for the benefit of believers who otherwise would be without church
28 privileges. Aged and infirmed members who live near a church and conference officers and other
29 employees, including pastors, should be members of a local church, not the conference church.

30
31 **The conference president is the presiding elder of the conference church, and the work**
32 normally carried by the clerk and the treasurer is handled by the conference secretary and treasurer.
33 Since the church has no board, all business normally conducted by a local church board is conducted
34 by the conference executive committee, which also appoints delegates from the conference church to
35 the conference session.

36
37 **Redemptive Membership Review**—Jesus called His Church to fulfill the Great Commission to
38 make disciples. With this goal in view, local churches should aim to create a warm and caring
39 environment for spiritual growth and to encourage all ministries of the church to be united in making
40 mature and faithful disciples.

41
42 **A healthy church develops a nurturing plan that equips every member to be involved in**
43 disciple-making using their talents and spiritual gifts. In addition, it should create a strategy to retain
44 and reclaim former and inactive members through (1) a regular redemptive membership review
45 process and (2) reclaiming ministries.

1 Redemptive membership review intends to improve pastoral care based on the foundation of
2 accurate membership records. Nevertheless, it must have a redemptive purpose of seeing people rather
3 than numbers. Updating the records should be motivated by the goal of being more effective in
4 pastoral care and reaching the lost.
5

6 In the Bible we find the words, “[N]ot forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the
7 manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching”
8 (Heb. 10:25). There is great need to seek for those who are far away. Ellen G. White says, “If the lost
9 sheep is not brought back to the fold, it wanders until it perishes. And many souls go down to ruin for
10 want of a hand stretched out to save” (COL 191). It is a most needed ministry to review the
11 membership records and to approach this exercise in a Christ-like redemptive way.
12

13 In the unfortunate situation that members may still be missing after every effort has been made
14 to locate them and welcome them back into fellowship, the church may certify that it has tried without
15 success to locate the members and the members may be removed by a vote of the church. The clerk
16 should record in the membership record: “Location unknown. Voted to designate as missing.” (See pp.
17 71-72.)
18

19 Resources—For a brief description of the redemptive membership review process, see Notes,
20 #1, p. 179.
21

1 SEC/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS

2
3 409-24GNd REDEMPTIVE MEMBERSHIP REVIEW - *CHURCH MANUAL*
4 NOTES ADDITION

5
6 VOTED, To add a new section to the *Church Manual*, Chapter 7, Membership Records, Notes,
7 page 179, #1, to read as follows:

8
9 1. Redemptive Membership Review (see p. 61)—This is a brief description of the
10 suggested redemptive membership review process at the local church:

11
12 a. A special revision committee can be a great help; it is a permanent standing
13 committee that works with the local church board to screen all names in the membership records,
14 classifying them in five categories (the classification can be done directly in Adventist Church
15 Management System [ACMS] if your church is part of the system): frequently attending members
16 (online attendance may be considered), non-frequently attending members, attending another Seventh-
17 day Adventist Church, location unknown, or members to reclaim (try to reconnect through visitation
18 plan, invitation for social gatherings, special events, Reencounter or Reunion Project, etc.). The
19 categories list should be regularly updated, and the progress reported to the church board.

20
21 b. The church board should frequently examine the classification lists,
22 implementing strategies to involve each member in disciple-making of each category. The board will
23 assess the reports presented by the special revision committee; appoint a person responsible to lead in
24 working with each auxiliary list; follow the progress of each category by checking the increase or
25 decrease of members in each category; provide a separate list to the pastor/elder with the names of the
26 members who left the church for outreach by reclaiming ministries.

27
28 c. The church clerk's role is crucial in preparing the classification lists and
29 implementing membership reviews. The church clerk oversees the execution of the review process.
30 The church clerk will provide an updated membership list (from ACMS or another electronic system);
31 participate in the elaboration of the classification lists as a member of the special revision committee;
32 update each member's electronic record after the special revision committee submits its report to the
33 church board; update membership classification during the period between the special revision
34 committee meetings.

35
36 A report of the work done with the membership classification should be included on the church
37 board's agenda, once every three months, so that the board can monitor the progress of the work done
38 with the members in the classification lists.
39

1 SID/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2

3 417-24GS SETTING TITHING EXAMPLE - *CHURCH MANUAL*
4 AMENDMENT

5

6 RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 9, Local Church Officers and
7 Organizations, page 77, Setting Tithing Example, to read as follows:

8

9 ~~Setting Tithing Example—All officers shall set an example in the matter of returning a faithful~~
10 ~~tithe to the Church.~~ Setting an Example in Tithe and Offerings—All officers shall set an example in
11 the matter of returning a faithful tithe and giving offerings to the Church. Anyone who fails to set such
12 an example shall not be elected to church office.

13

Daily Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Consent Agenda

1 OGC/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2

3 415-24GS TO FOSTER TITHING (ELDERS) - *CHURCH MANUAL*
4 AMENDMENT

5

6 RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 9, Local Church Officers and
7 Organizations, page 80, To Foster Tithing (Elders), to read as follows:

8

9 To Foster Tithing—By faithfully returning tithes, elders do much to encourage other members
10 to return a faithful tithe. (See pp. 142-143, 175.) Elders can foster tithing by public presentation of the
11 scriptural privilege and responsibility of stewardship and by personal labor with members in a tactful
12 and helpful manner. Elders should regard all personal giving information as strictly confidential.

13

14 ~~Elders should regard all financial matters pertaining to members as confidential and shall not~~
15 ~~give such information to unauthorized persons.~~

16

1 YOU/BRI/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2
3 416-24GS ADVENTIST YOUTH MINISTRIES - CHURCH MANUAL
4 AMENDMENT

5
6 RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 9, Local Church Officers and
7 Organizations, pages 110 to 115, Adventist Youth Ministries, to read as follows:

8
9 Adventist Youth Ministries

10
11 The various youth organizations of the church should work closely with the ~~youth ministries~~
12 Youth Ministries department of the conference. The church works for and with its youth through
13 Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM). Under the AYM, youth are to work together, in cooperation with
14 the wider church community, towards the development of a strong youth ministry that includes
15 spiritual, mental, and physical development of each individual, Christian social interaction, and an
16 active witnessing program that supports the general soul-winning plans of the church. In the quest for
17 ~~discipleship~~, disciple-making, the goal of AYM should be to bring all youth to a saving relationship
18 with Christ, build them up in His Word to reflect a Christ-like character, train them how to serve the
19 ~~church~~ church, public campuses, and communities using their spiritual gifts, and send them out to
20 reach the communities in the power of the Holy Spirit.

21
22 AYM Mission—To lead young people into a an authentic saving relationship with Jesus Christ
23 and help them embrace His call to disciple-making and mission involvement. ~~discipleship~~.

24
25 AYM Motto—The love of Christ compels me. ~~us~~.

26
27 AYM Aim—The Advent Message to all the world in my generation.

28
29 AYM Pledge—Loving the Lord Jesus, I promise to take an active part in the youth ministry of
30 the church, doing what I can to help others and to finish the work of the gospel in all the world.

31
32 The ~~youth ministries~~ Youth Ministries program of the church comprises ~~three~~ two broad
33 categories, namely: Junior Youth (Adventurers: ages 4-9 and Pathfinders: ages 10-15) and Senior
34 Youth (Ambassadors: ages 16-21, Young Adults: ages 22-30, and Public Campus Students and Staff
35 (PCM): ages 16-30+). Public Campus Ministry is a specialized Senior Youth Ministry because it caters
36 for both Ambassadors and Young Adults on public campuses. ~~ages 10-15), Senior Youth~~
37 (~~Ambassadors: ages 16-21 and Young Adults: ages 22-30), and Public Campus Students: ages 16-30+.~~

38
39 God said to Moses, “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You
40 shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when
41 you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your
42 hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your
43 house and on your gates” (Deut. 6:6-9).

44
45 The apostle Paul added, “Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in
46 word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity” (1 Tim. 4:12).



1 ~~“We have an army of youth today who can do much if they are properly directed and~~
 2 ~~encouraged. . . . We want them to be blessed of God. We want them to act a part in well-organized~~
 3 ~~plans for helping other youth.”—GCB, Jan. 29, 30, 1893, p. 24.~~
 4

5 “We have an army of youth today who can do much if they are properly directed and
 6 encouraged. We want our children to believe the truth. We want them to be blessed of God. We want
 7 them to act a part in well-organized plans for helping other youth. Let all be so trained that they may
 8 rightly represent the truth, giving the reason of the hope that is within them, and honoring God in any
 9 branch of the work where they are qualified to labor.”—GCB, Jan. 29, 30, 1893, p. 24.
 10

11 “When the youth give their hearts to God, our responsibility for them does not cease. They
 12 must be interested in the Lord’s work, and led to see that He expects them to do something to advance
 13 His cause. It is not enough to show how much needs to be done, and to urge the youth to act a part.
 14 They must be taught how to labor for the Master. They must be trained, disciplined, drilled, in the best
 15 methods of winning souls to Christ. Teach them to try in a quiet, unpretending way to help their young
 16 companions. Let different branches of missionary effort be systematically laid out, in which they may
 17 take part, and let them be given instruction and help. Thus they will learn to work for God.”—GW
 18 210.
 19

20 “With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the
 21 message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Savior might be carried to the whole world!”—MYP
 22 196.
 23

24 While there is to be an active Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM) in every church, it is
 25 important that the youth program not be isolated from the rest of the church. In addition to their AYM
 26 participation, youth should be integrated into responsible leadership and in all lines of church work. As
 27 young elders, deacons, and deaconesses, for example, they can work with and learn from experienced
 28 officers.
 29

30 “In order that the work may go forward in all its branches, God calls for youthful vigor, zeal,
 31 and courage. He has chosen the youth to aid in the advancement of His cause. To plan with clear mind
 32 and execute with courageous hand demands fresh, uncrippled energies. Young men and women are
 33 invited to give God the strength of their youth, that through the exercise of their powers, through keen
 34 thought and vigorous action, they may bring glory to Him and salvation to their fellow men.”—GW
 35 67.
 36

37 Adventist Youth Ministries Committee—The Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM) Committee is
 38 the umbrella organization in the church for the general planning of the youth ministry program. (See
 39 pp. 139-140.) The AYM Committee includes the following church-elected officers: Young Adults
 40 leader, Public Campus ~~Ministry Ministries~~ leader/coordinator, Ambassador leader, Pathfinder director,
 41 Adventurer director, plus the ~~personal ministries~~ Personal Ministries leader, youth Sabbath School
 42 division leader, ~~children’s ministries~~ Children’s Ministries leader, ~~health ministries~~ Health Ministries
 43 leader, principal of the school, the AYM advisor, and the pastor. The Young Adults leader,
 44 Ambassador leader, Pathfinder director, Adventurer director, and Public Campus ~~Ministry Ministries~~
 45 leader are members of the church board.
 46

1 If there are no distinct Ambassador Ministry or Young Adults Ministry ~~ministry or young~~
2 ~~adults ministries~~ established in the church, or until such time as they are established, the AYM
3 Committee will plan for the senior youth ministry to include both age groups.
4

5 In parts of the world where there is no Pathfinder or Adventurer ministry, or until such time as
6 they are organized, the AYM Committee will plan for appropriate activities for the junior youth.
7

8 The Young Adults leader may chair the AYM Committee. The committee should meet as
9 necessary to develop short- and long-range goals and plans for a successful ministry. (See Notes, #19,
10 p. 184.)
11

12 Young Adults Ministry ~~Ministries~~ Committee—The Young Adults Ministry ~~Ministries~~
13 Committee is responsible for Young Adult activities and works in coordination with the Adventist
14 Youth Ministries (AYM) Committee.
15

16 The church elects the following Young Adults Ministries officers: leader, associate leader,
17 secretary-treasurer, and music director. This group forms the nucleus for the Young Adults Ministry
18 ~~Ministries~~ Committee, which appoints other officers for the respective activities.
19

20 Local churches are encouraged to have Young Adult committees and to establish Senior Youth
21 Societies (SYS). Senior Youth Societies serve as forums where evangelistic plans and senior youth
22 issues are discussed. SYS will encompass the Ambassadors, Young Adults, and Public Campus
23 Students. In these SYS meetings, young professionals should mentor those who are younger than
24 them. The Young Adults Ministry Committee will manage the SYS.
25

26 Public Campus ~~Ministries~~—Strengthening Ministry—Strengthening the Youth Ministries of
27 the church, Public Campus ~~Ministries~~ Ministry (PCM), in collaboration with the Adventist Ministry to
28 College and University Students (AMiCUS), provides vision and strategic planning for ministry to and
29 support for Seventh-day Adventist students (ages 16-30+) who attend college or university institutions
30 not operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
31

32 Public Campus ~~Ministries~~ Ministry Leader/Coordinator—The church ~~may~~ should appoint a
33 Public Campus ~~Ministries~~ Ministry leader/coordinator to develop an intentional ministry with the
34 purpose of caring for the special needs of college or university students in nearby institutions not
35 operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and discipling them to fulfil the AYM goal, mission,
36 motto, and aim, in consultation with and support of the Adventist Youth Ministries Committee. Each
37 local church may adopt one or two public campuses to support Adventist students and staff in
38 executing their mission obligations and furthering their education or professional lives.
39

40 Ambassador Ministry—The Ambassador Ministry provides - No change
41

42 Ambassador Committee—The Ambassador Committee is responsible for Ambassador
43 activities and works in coordination with the Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM) Committee.
44

45 The church elects the following Ambassador officers: leader, associate leader, secretary
46 treasurer, assistant secretary-treasurer, and music director. This group forms the Ambassador
47 Committee which appoints other officers for the respective activities.

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Pathfinder Club—The Pathfinder Club provides a church-centered outlet for the spirit of adventure and exploration, in the context of spiritual development and soul-winning, for ages 10 to 15. Activities are carefully tailored to ~~include~~ include, but not limited to, spiritual growth, leadership skills, witnessing opportunities, disciple-making, outdoor living, nature exploration, crafts, hobbies, or vocations.

Pathfinder Committee—The Pathfinder Club director and deputy directors are elected by the church. (See pp. 111-112, 184-185.) If two deputy directors are elected, there should be one male and one female. One of the deputy directors may also serve as club secretary and treasurer.

Additional Pathfinder staff may include instructors of ~~craft and nature~~ honor classes and counselors who are each responsible for a unit of six to eight Pathfinders.

Resource materials are available from the conference ~~youth ministries~~ Youth Ministries director.

Everyone involved in work with minor children must meet Church and legal standards and requirements, such as background checks or certification. Local church leaders should consult with the ~~conference,~~ conference AYM, which will ascertain and advise as to what background checks and certifications are available and/or required. (See Notes, #8, pp. 180-181.)

Adventurer Club—The Adventurer Club provides home and church - No change

Adventurer Committee—The church elects the club director and associates. (See pp. 111-112, 184-185.) Additional staff members are selected by the administrative staff of the club. Resource materials are available from the conference ~~youth ministries~~ Youth Ministries director. Everyone involved in work with minor children must meet Church and legal standards and requirements, such as background checks or certification. Local church leaders should consult with the conference, which will ascertain and advise as to what background checks and certifications are available and/or required. (See Notes, #8, pp. 180-181.)

AYM Officers—The leaders/directors of the five youth ministry entities must exemplify Christlike graces and have a burden for soul ~~winning~~ winning and nurturing, and display contagious enthusiasm. The five leaders/directors are members of the church board. In helping motivate youth to work together and take responsibilities, the leaders/directors will be in the background— guiding, counseling, and encouraging youth, helping them gain experience and the joys of achievement. The leaders/directors should study the youth profile of the church and seek to involve every eligible youth in the Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM).

The leaders/directors will keep in touch with the pastor, advisor, and the conference ~~youth ministries~~ Youth Ministries director, taking advantage of opportunities for in-service training and leading their respective ministry into a cooperative relationship with the church and the conference.

The associate leaders/deputy directors (if needed) will assist the leaders/directors and perform leadership duties when the leaders/directors are absent. The respective committees may assign additional responsibilities to the associate leaders/directors.

1
2 The secretary-treasurers will keep a record of the activities of their respective ministries,
3 submit monthly reports on forms provided to the conference ~~youth ministries~~ Youth Ministries
4 director, and encourage youth to report their witnessing activities during the ten-minute personal
5 ministries period.

6
7 The respective assistant secretary-treasurers (if needed) assist with the secretary- treasurers’
8 work as assigned.

9
10 AYM Advisor—The Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM) advisor may be an elder or other
11 person on the board who understands the objectives of the AYM, is sympathetic with youth and their
12 involvement in the church’s ministries, and will serve as a valued counselor to the youth. The advisor
13 serves as a guide or counselor to AYM officers and joins them regularly in AYM Committee meetings.

14
15 The ministry leader should become acquainted with the conference ~~youth ministries~~ Youth
16 Ministries director and keep the director informed of changes in officer personnel and other AYM
17 matters. Along with AYM leaders, the advisor should attend conference youth training institutes to
18 keep informed about developments in youth ministry.

19
20 For the sake of continuity, the advisor, if possible, should serve multiple terms.

21
22 Everyone involved in work with minor children must meet Church and legal standards and
23 requirements, such as background checks or certification. Local church leaders should consult with the
24 ~~conference,~~ conference AYM, which will ascertain and advise as to what background checks and
25 certifications are available and/or required. (See Notes, #8, pp. 180-181.)

26
27 Resources—For ~~youth ministries~~ Youth Ministries resources, see Notes, #20, p. 184.
28

1 SEC/ChManSub/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM/24AC (Steering) to GPS-25GCS

2
3 408-24GS NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND THE ELECTION PROCESS -
4 CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

5
6 RECOMMENDED, To amend the Church Manual, Chapter 10, Elections, pages 116-120,
7 Nominating Committee and the Election Process, to read as follows:

8
9 Nominating Committee and the Election Process

10
11 Officers are elected every one or two years (See p. 77.) through an appointed nominating
12 committee. In exceptional circumstances, and in consultation with the conference, the term of office
13 may be extended an additional year. This committee brings its report to the church, which then votes
14 on the names presented. This procedure enables the church to give careful study to each name prior to
15 election and avoids the competitive element that may arise when nominations are made from the floor.

16
17 The nominating committee shall study the needs of the church and inquire into the fitness of
18 members to serve in the different offices. This is another reason officers shall not be nominated from
19 the floor or by general ballot.

20
21 The church may decide based on its needs that it would be best served with a standing
22 nominating committee. As such, it may appoint such a committee which would function year-round to
23 ~~make nominations for~~ recommend to the church names to fill vacancies or to fill regular positions
24 identified in the *Church Manual*.

25
26 The size of the nominating committee will range from five members in a small church to a
27 larger number in a large church. The number to be chosen is left to the discretion of each church and
28 should be studied by the board. A suitable recommendation then will be brought to the church, using a
29 minimum of time in the Sabbath worship hour.

30
31 Quorum—The quorum for the nominating committee may be determined - No change

32
33 When and How the Nominating Committee Is Appointed—The nominating - No change

34
35 How the Process Works—The steps of the nominating process - No change

36
37 Who Should Be Members of the Nominating Committee—Only members - No change

38
39 Work of the Nominating Committee—The chairperson should call a meeting of the committee
40 as soon as possible after its election. With earnest prayer the committee should begin preparing a list of
41 nominees for all offices. Nominees must be members in regular standing of the church making the
42 appointments. The returning of a faithful tithe is a prerequisite for holding church office. The pastor or
43 chair of the nominating committee shall work with the treasurer to develop a process by which only
44 members eligible to hold office are nominated. This should be done in such a way that maintains as
45 much confidentiality as possible. The list of nominees will be presented to the church at a Sabbath
46 service or at a specially called business meeting. In making their selections, the committee may

1 ~~counsel with others who are well informed. This committee does not nominate either the pastor or the~~
2 ~~assistant pastor(s), who are appointed by the conference.~~

3
4 The list of nominees will be presented to the church at a Sabbath service or at a specially called
5 business meeting. In making their selections, the committee may counsel with others who are well
6 informed. This committee does not nominate either the pastor or the assistant pastor(s), who are
7 appointed by the conference.

8
9 The list of officers to be considered by the nominating committee may vary with size of
10 membership. A larger church may determine it needs more officers. A smaller church may have fewer.
11 The committee deals with all leadership positions except Sabbath School teachers, who are
12 recommended by the Sabbath School council and approved by the board. See Notes, #1, pp. 184-185,
13 for a list of possible officers.

14
15 Nominating Committee to Get Consent of Prospective Officers—Having - No change

16
17 Members May Appear Before the Nominating Committee—Members - No change

18
19 Nominating Committee Discussions Are Confidential—All inquiries - No change

20
21 Reporting to the Church—The nominating committee’s report is presented - No change

22
23 Objections to the Report of the Nominating Committee—Members may - No change

24
25 Filling Vacancies Between Elections—If an office of the church becomes - No change
26

1 PRE/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2
3 414-24GS BUSINESS MEETINGS - *CHURCH MANUAL*

4
5 RECOMMENDED, To amend the item , “Business Meeting” by adding “authorized by the
6 conference executive committee who shall give guidance on basic principles and technical solutions”
7 after “where allowed by local law” on page 27 lines 24 (item 412),
8

9
10 **Business Meetings**

11
12 The local church operates within defined roles in Seventh-day Adventist Church structure.
13 Within the context of those roles, the business meeting is the constituency meeting of the local church.
14 (See pp. 28-29.) Members in regular standing are encouraged to attend and are entitled to vote. A
15 member under censure has no right to participate by voice or vote.
16

17 Business meetings shall be held at least once a year. The pastor, or the board in consultation
18 with and support of the pastor, calls the meeting. Business meetings should be announced a week or
19 two in advance at the regular Sabbath worship service, with detail as to time and place. The pastor, an
20 elder chosen by the pastor, or, in some cases, the conference president, or his designee, serves as
21 chairperson of the business meeting.
22

23 Each church decides what the quorum will be for future meetings.
24

25 Where allowed by local law and authorized by the conference executive committee, who shall
26 give guidance on basic principles and technical solutions, and approved by the church board, members
27 may participate in business meetings by means of an electronic conference or similar communication
28 by which all persons participating can communicate with each other at the same time, and participation
29 by such means shall constitute presence in person at such a meeting. Votes by proxy or letter are not
30 permitted.
31

32 Major items should be decided at a regular or specially called business meeting.
33

34 The business meeting has authority over the board and may delegate responsibilities to the
35 board in addition to those already assigned by the Church Manual. (See pp. 134-138.)
36

37 The business meeting agenda should include reports about the work of the church. At least
38 once a year the agenda should include reports covering church activities. Based on those reports, a
39 proposed plan of action for the next year, including an annual budget, should be presented for
40 approval. When possible, reports and plans for the next year should be presented in writing. (See
41 Notes, #7, pp. 189-190.)
42

43 In order to maintain a spirit of cooperation between the church and conference, the church shall
44 secure counsel from conference officers on all major matters.

45 Conference and union officers (president, secretary, treasurer) or their designee may attend without
46 vote (unless granted by the church) any business meeting of any church in their territory. An action to
47 allow voting is not required if the officer is currently a member of that congregation.
48

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1 SSPM/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2
3 413-24GS CHURCH BOARD AND ITS MEETINGS - *CHURCH MANUAL*
4 AMENDMENT

5
6 RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 11, Services and Other Meetings, pages
7 134 to 138, Church Board and Its Meetings, to read as follows:

8
9 Church Board and Its Meetings

10
11 Definition and Function—Every church must have a functioning board whose members have
12 been elected during a church business meeting. Its chief concern is having an active and
13 comprehensive plan to fulfill its mission of making disciples, which includes evangelism, outreach to
14 the community, and the spiritual nurture and training of the church. ~~discipleship plan in place, which~~
15 ~~includes both the spiritual nurture of the church and the work of planning and fostering evangelism.~~

16
17 ~~Included in church board responsibilities are:~~

- 18 1. ~~An active discipleship plan.~~
- 19 2. ~~Evangelism in all of its phases.~~
- 20 3. ~~Spiritual nurturing and mentoring of members.~~
- 21 4. ~~Maintenance of doctrinal purity.~~
- 22 5. ~~Upholding of Christian standards.~~
- 23 6. ~~Recommending changes in church membership.~~
- 24 7. ~~Oversight of church finances.~~
- 25 8. ~~Protection and care of church properties.~~
- 26 9. ~~Coordination of church departments.~~

27
28
29 In addition to this overarching plan, the church board is to maintain doctrinal purity and uphold
30 Christian standards in the church, recommend changes in church membership, oversee church
31 finances, ensure the protection and care of church attendees and properties, and coordinate the work of
32 the various departments of the church.

33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42 The gospel commission of Jesus tells us that making disciples, which includes baptizing and
43 teaching, is the primary function of the church (Matt. 28:18-20). It is, therefore, also the primary
44 function of the board, which serves as the chief committee of the church. When the board devotes its
45 first interests and highest energies to involving every member in proclaiming the good news and
46 making disciples, most problems are alleviated or prevented, and a strong, positive influence is felt in
47 the spiritual life and growth of members.

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1
2 Spiritual Nurture—~~Christ’s love for the Church needs to be manifested within the Church by~~
3 ~~His followers. True discipleship entails not only Biblical teaching (Matt. 28:20), but also a passionate~~
4 ~~commitment to loving our fellow believers unconditionally. This was the heart of Christ’s message to~~
5 ~~His disciples as He faced the cross (John 15:9-13). Christ’s command to them applies to us: that we~~
6 ~~“love one another.” Ellen G. White’s powerful insight into this historical scene is still vital for us:~~
7 ~~“This love is the evidence of their discipleship.”—DA 677, 678.~~

8
9 Therefore, it is one of the primary functions of the board to ensure that members are nurtured
10 and mentored in a personal, dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ.

11
12 Making Disciples—The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ, who live as
13 His loving witnesses and proclaim to all people the everlasting gospel of the Three Angels’ Messages
14 in preparation for His soon return (Matt. 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, Rev. 14:6-12). The purpose of the Church
15 as the body of Christ is to intentionally make disciples so that they continue in an active and fruitful
16 relationship with Christ and His Church.

17
18 Disciple-making is based on an ongoing, lifelong relationship with Jesus. The believer commits
19 to “abiding in Christ” (John 15:8), to being trained for fruitful discipleship disciple-making by sharing
20 Jesus with others, as well as to leading other members to also be faithful disciples.

21
22 The Church, individually and collectively, shares responsibility for ensuring that every church
23 member remains part of the body of Christ.

24
25 Membership—The board is elected by the members at the time - No changes

26
27 Officers—The chairperson of the board is the conference-appointed - No change

28
29 Meetings—Because the work of the board is vital to the - No change

30
31 Work of the Board—The board is responsible to: 1. Develop and oversee an active, ongoing
32 disciple-making plan which includes both spiritual nurture and evangelistic outreach. This plan is the
33 most important item for the board’s attention. Ensure that there is an active, ongoing discipleship plan
34 in place, which includes both spiritual nurture and outreach ministries. This is the most important item
35 for the board’s attention.

36
37 2. ~~Study membership lists and initiate plans for reconnecting (reclaiming) members who~~
38 ~~have separated from the church.~~

39
40 3. 2. Educate and nurture all members into a personal and dynamic relationship with Jesus
41 Christ; one that includes prayer, Bible study, attending Sabbath School, witnessing, and intentional
42 spiritual growth. Train local church leadership in how to encourage intentional spiritual growth in
43 themselves and others.

44
45 4. 3. Evangelize the outreach (missionary) territory of the church. Once each quarter an
46 entire meeting should be devoted to plans for evangelism. The board will study conference

1 recommendations for evangelistic programs and methods and how they can be implemented locally.
2 The pastor and the board will initiate and develop plans for public evangelistic meetings.

3
4 5. 4. Coordinate outreach programs for all church departments, although each department
5 develops its plans for outreach within its own sphere. To avoid conflict in timing, competition in
6 securing volunteers, and to achieve maximum beneficial results, coordination is essential. Before
7 completing and announcing plans for any program, each department should submit its plans to the
8 board for approval. The departments also report to the board on the progress and results of their
9 outreach programs. The board may suggest how departmental programs can contribute to the
10 preparation, conduct, and follow-up of a public evangelistic campaign.

11
12 6. 5. Encourage the personal ministries department to enlist all members and children in
13 some form of personal outreach (missionary) service. Training classes should be conducted in various
14 lines of outreach ministry.

15
16 7. 6. Encourage the interest coordinator to ensure that every interest is personally and
17 promptly followed up by assigned laypersons.

18
19 7. Study the membership list and initiate plans for reconnecting with (reclaiming)
20 members who have separated from the church. A healthy church develops a nurturing plan that equips
21 every member to be involved in disciple-making using their talents and spiritual gifts. In addition, it
22 should create a strategy to retain and reclaim former and inactive members through (1) a regular
23 redemptive membership review process and (2) reclaiming ministries. (See p. 61.)

24
25 8. Encourage each department to report at least quarterly to the board and to members at
26 business meetings or in Sabbath meetings in regards to spiritual nurture and evangelism.

27
28 9. Receive regular reports. The board should consider details of church business and
29 receive regular reports of the treasurer on the church's finances. ~~The board should study the~~
30 ~~membership record and inquire into the spiritual standing of all members and provide for visits to sick,~~
31 ~~discouraged, or backslidden members.~~ Other officers should periodically report.

32
33 10. Promote Adventist education.

34
35 Committees of the Board—The board should permit no other business - No change
36

1 STW/SPD/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2
3 411-24GSa FINANCE - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

4
5 RECOMMENDED, To amend the Church Manual, Chapter 12, Finance, pages 141-147, to read as
6 follows:

7
8 Finance

9
10 The biblical plan for the support of the work of God is by the tithes and offerings of His people.
11 The Lord says, “Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house” (Mal.
12 3:10). The Church has followed this plan from its earliest days.

13
14 The Bible and Spirit of Prophecy present a beautiful picture of giving as a part of worship. “So
15 let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful
16 giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in
17 all things, may have an abundance for every good work” (2 Cor. 9:7-8).

18
19 “The system of tithes and offerings was intended to impress the minds of men with a great
20 truth—that God is the source of every blessing to His creatures, and that to Him man’s gratitude is due
21 for the good gifts of His providence.”—PP 525.

22
23 “Tithes and offerings for God are an acknowledgment of His claim on us by creation, and they
24 are also an acknowledgment of His claim by redemption. Because all our power is derived from Christ,
25 these offerings are to flow from us to God. They are to keep ever before us the claim of redemption,
26 the greatest of all claims, and the one that involves every other.”—6T 479.

27 “The tithe is sacred, reserved by God for Himself. It is to be brought into His treasury to be used to
28 sustain the gospel laborers in their work.”—9T 249.

29
30 “He has given His people a plan for raising sums sufficient to make the enterprise self-
31 sustaining. God’s plan in the tithing system is beautiful in its simplicity and equality. All may take
32 hold of it in faith and courage, for it is divine in its origin. In it are combined simplicity and utility. . . .
33 Every man, woman, and youth may become a treasurer for the Lord and may be an agent to meet the
34 demands upon the treasury. Says the apostle: ‘Let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath
35 prospered him.’ ”—3T 388, 389.

36
37 ~~“God has made the proclamation of the gospel dependent upon the labors and the gifts of His~~
38 ~~people. Voluntary offerings and the tithe constitute the revenue of the Lord’s work. Of the means~~
39 ~~entrusted to man, God claims a certain portion—the tenth. He leaves all free to say whether or not they~~
40 ~~will give more than this.”—AA 74.~~

41
42 “Besides the tithe the Lord demands the first fruits of all our increase. These He has reserved in
43 order that His work in the earth may be amply sustained. . . . If all would pay a faithful tithe and devote
44 to the Lord the first fruits of their increase, there would be a full supply of funds for His work.”—6T
45 384.

1 “This matter of giving is not left to impulse. God has given us definite instructions in regard to
 2 it. He has specified tithes and offerings as the measure of our obligation. And He desires us to give
 3 regularly and systematically. . . . After the tithe is set apart, let gifts and offerings be apportioned, ‘as
 4 God hath prospered you.’”—RH, May 9, 1893.

5
 6 “God has given special direction as to the use of the tithe. He does not design that His work
 7 shall be crippled for want of means. . . . The portion that God has reserved for Himself is not to be
 8 diverted to any other purpose than that which He has specified. Let none feel at liberty to retain their
 9 tithe, to use according to their own judgment. They are not to use it for themselves in an emergency,
 10 nor to apply it as they see fit, even in what they may regard as the Lord’s work.”—9T 247.

11
 12 “If we love Jesus, we shall love to live for Him, to present our thank offerings to Him, to labor
 13 for Him.”—COL 49.

14
 15 “Our heavenly Father did not originate the plan of systematic benevolence to enrich Himself,
 16 but to be a great blessing to man. He saw that this system of beneficence was just what man
 17 needed.”—3T 405.

18
 19 Stewardship

20
 21 Christians are God’s stewards, entrusted with His ~~goods~~ blessings and, as His partners,
 22 responsible to manage them in harmony with His guidelines and principles. The divine counsel is that
 23 as His stewards, we are to “be found faithful” (1 Cor. 4:2) and live according to His will as we worship
 24 Him with our whole lives (Rom. 12:1-3, Gen. 12:2-3). Stewardship covers every aspect of Christian
 25 life and experience, including the stewardship of our means. (1 Cor. 4:2). ~~Though the question of~~
 26 ~~stewardship covers many aspects of Christian life and experience, without doubt the stewardship of~~
 27 ~~our means is vitally important.~~ It concerns the entire Church family and involves our recognition of the
 28 sovereignty of God, His ownership of all things, and the bestowal of His grace upon our hearts.

29
 30 While this aspect of Christian stewardship concerns our material possessions, it nevertheless
 31 ~~reacts upon~~ defines our Christian experience. The Lord requires certain things of us, in order that He
 32 may do certain things for us. ~~Our yielding obedience to what our heavenly Father requires places this~~
 33 ~~phase of stewardship upon a high spiritual plane. He does not arbitrarily demand either that we serve~~
 34 ~~Him or that we recognize Him with our gifts. But He~~ In all areas of our lives, God invites us to obey
 35 His word and then trust His promises. Our conscientious stewardship of God’s blessings helps to build
 36 our faith. God has so arranged that when we work in harmony with Him in these things there will flow
 37 great spiritual blessings to us. ~~to our own hearts great spiritual blessings.~~

38
 39 “God desires all His stewards to be exact in following divine arrangements. They are not to
 40 offset the Lord’s plans by performing some deed of charity or giving some gift or some offering when
 41 or how they, the human agents, shall see fit. It is a very poor policy for men to seek to improve on
 42 God’s plan, and invent a makeshift, averaging up their good impulses on this and that occasion, and
 43 offsetting them against God’s requirements. God calls upon all to give their influence to His own
 44 arrangement.”—9T 248.

45
 46 Tithe



1 In recognition of the biblical plan and the believer’s experience of salvation, and the solemn
 2 ~~privilege and responsibility that rest upon members as children of God and members of His body, the~~
 3 ~~Church,~~ all are encouraged to faithfully return a tithe, one tenth of their increase or personal income,
 4 into the denomination’s treasury.

5
 6 Tithe shall not be used in any way by the local church, but held in trust and remitted to the
 7 conference treasurer. Thus tithe from all the churches flows into the conference treasury, and
 8 percentages are forwarded to the next level in accordance with General Conference and division
 9 working policies. This allows the Church to be a disciple-making movement in its regions, actively
 10 fulfilling its mission of sharing the everlasting gospel to the whole world in preparation for Christ’s
 11 soon return. next higher level in accordance with General Conference and division working policies to
 12 meet the expenses of conducting the work of God in their respective spheres of responsibility and
 13 activity.

14
 15 These policies have been developed for the gathering and disbursing of funds in all the world
 16 ~~and for the conducting of the business affairs of the cause. The financial and business aspects of the for~~
 17 funding mission and evangelistic initiatives, and for conducting the business affairs of the Church. The
 18 financial and business aspects of this work are of great importance. They cannot be separated from the
 19 proclamation of the message of salvation. They are indeed an integral part of it.

20
 21 Systematic Benevolence and Unity—The Unity—God’s word invites all believers to be faithful
 22 and systematic in their returning of tithe and giving offerings. The financial plan of the Church serves
 23 a larger purpose than appears in its financial and statistical reports. The system of sharing the funds
 24 with the world fields, as outlined by General Conference Working Policy, serves a wonderful purpose
 25 of unifying the Church’s spiritual work throughout the world.

26
 27 How Tithe Is to Be Used—Tithe is held sacred for the work of the ministry, for Bible teaching,
 28 and for the support of conference administration in the care of the churches and of field outreach
 29 (missionary) endeavors. Tithe shall not be spent on other work, on paying church or institutional debts,
 30 or on building programs, except as approved under General Conference Working Policy. For more
 31 information on the use of tithe, review Stewardship Ministries Resources, see Notes, #1, p. 190-191.

32
 33 “A very plain, definite message has been given to me for our people. I am bidden to tell them
 34 that they are making a mistake in applying the tithe to various objects which, though good in
 35 themselves, are not the object to which the Lord has said that the tithe should be applied. Those who
 36 make this use of the tithe are departing from the Lord’s arrangement. God will judge for these
 37 things.”—9T 248.

38
 39 How Tithe Is Handled—Tithe is the Lord’s and is to be brought as an act of worship to the
 40 conference treasury through the church in which the person’s membership is held. Where unusual
 41 circumstances exist, members should consult with conference officers.

42
 43 Church and Conference Officers to Set Example—Elders and other officers, as well as the
 44 pastor and conference and institutional employees, are expected to set good leadership examples by
 45 returning tithe. No one shall be continued as either a church officer or conference employee who does
 46 not conform to this standard of leadership.

Offerings

In addition to the tithe, Scripture emphasizes our obligation to bring offerings to the Lord. Withholding of offerings is classed with withholding tithe and is called robbery (Mal. 3:8). It is our privilege and responsibility to bring offerings to the Lord. We are encouraged to give offerings cheerfully and systematically as an act of worship for all that God has blessed us with, both great and small. Giving offerings is an act of loving sacrifice and a response of gratitude as we follow the Holy Spirit's promptings. Malachi 3:8-12 warns about withholding offerings and tithe and encourages us with the promise of God's blessing that will be poured out in abundance. Since the Church's earliest days, believers have given liberal offerings that have blessed and prospered God's work. ~~obligation to bring offerings to the Lord. The withholding of offerings is classed with withholding tithe and is called robbery (Mal. 3:8). Since the Church's earliest days, members have given liberal offerings that have blessed and prospered God's work.~~

~~In addition to the traditional calendar of offerings program, where each offering taken is for a specific purpose, the General Conference has approved the combined offering system and the personal giving plan. The Church has three offering plans: the Combined Offering Plan, and two other plans, the Calendar of Offerings and the Personal Giving Offering Plan. The Combined Offering Plan is preferred and is used by the highest percentage of divisions. Each division executive committee is authorized to determine which plan(s) will be used in its territory.~~

Regular and Systematic Offerings—Regular and systematic offerings are given after any income or increase in assets (Proverbs 3:9) as an act of worship, in recognition of God's blessings. They represent a worshiper's chosen proportion of any income or increase in assets (Deut. 16:17; 1 Cor. 16:2). One's expression of worship through financial stewardship begins with tithing and the support of the Church through regular and systematic offerings. Worshipers should be encouraged to distribute their regular and systematic offerings to equitably cover all the mission needs of the Church, locally, regionally, and internationally (Acts 1:8).

Where the Combined Offering Plan is practiced, worshipers are encouraged to give their regular and systematic offerings as unassigned offerings, that will be equitably distributed by the church according to a pre-arranged formula, covering all the mission needs of the Church, locally, regionally, and internationally (Acts 1:8). All loose offerings, collected at any time or mode, including during Sabbath School, will be distributed according to this same formula. (See p. 89.)

"Those churches who are the most systematic and liberal in sustaining the cause of God are the most prosperous spiritually."—3T 405.

"If the plan of systematic benevolence were adopted by every individual and fully carried out, there would be a constant supply in the treasury. The income would flow in like a steady stream constantly supplied by overflowing springs of benevolence."—3T 389.

~~Sabbath School Offerings—The Church's most widely used and successful method of regular systematic giving is through Sabbath School offerings, which are devoted to world mission work.~~

Other Offerings—Other offerings may be necessary from time to time for world mission work and for local projects. However, such offerings should be limited so as not to detract from the purpose and benefit of promoting regular and systematic giving. When such offerings are collected, they are to

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1 be used for the specific purpose for which it has been given. Those offerings should be promoted and
2 given above and beyond regular return of tithe and systematic offerings through the local church. (For
3 information regarding offerings collected during Sabbath School, see p. 88.) ~~are taken from time to~~
4 ~~time for world mission work and for general and local projects. When any offering is taken, all money~~
5 ~~collected, unless otherwise indicated by the donor, shall be counted as part of that particular offering.~~
6

7 Special Gifts to Fields—The financial support of the worldwide work of the Church is based on
8 the budget system. Appropriations are made to the various fields on the basis of budgeted needs. This
9 is a fair and equitable method of distributing the funds.

10
11 Where special gifts outside the regular budget plan are made to a particular field, a disparity is
12 created to the disadvantage of other fields. If such gifts are given for the purpose of starting new work,
13 the work thus started may languish when the special gift is used up, or it may have to be included in
14 the budget for its future support. Thus other fields, with perhaps greater needs but without the
15 opportunity of making them known, would be deprived of their equitable part of general funds that
16 would be diverted to the work started by special gifts.

17
18 History has proved the wisdom of having members generously and loyally give their offerings
19 and gifts through the accepted channels and knowing that every field shares in the benefits of their
20 giving.

21
22 Assisting the Poor and Needy—Offerings for the poor and needy ~~are~~ may be taken to assist the
23 members who require help. A reserve fund should be kept for such emergency cases. In addition, the
24 church should take a benevolent attitude toward all in need, and the board may make appropriations
25 from this fund to assist the church's health and welfare work for families in the community.

26
27 Church Budget for Local Expenses—The most satisfactory method of providing for church
28 expenses is the budget plan. Before the beginning of the new budget year, the board should prepare a
29 budget of expenses for church activities during the next year. The budget should include all income
30 and expenses, including those related to all departments. It should provide for such projected costs as
31 utilities, insurance, maintenance, janitor service, funds for the poor and needy, and church school
32 expense. (See Notes, #2, p. 191, for sample budget.)
33

34 The budget should be presented to the church for its study and adoption, and for plans to assure
35 that funds shall be provided to balance the budget during the coming year. Funds to meet the church
36 expense budget may be raised by offerings or subscriptions. Members should be urged to support their
37 local church in proportion to their financial circumstances.

38
39 Announcing Tithe and Offerings—Returning tithe and giving offerings is an essential part of
40 the worship service. Great care should be given to announcing the tithe and offering
41 collection during Sabbath School, Sabbath worship service, and, where possible, via church bulletins
42 and other church communications. The announcement should promote biblical stewardship principles,
43 including giving as an act of worship, the clear connection that exists between giving and mission, the
44 value of regular and systematic giving, and the wonderful blessings that result
45 from faithfulness. Resources are available through the offices of Adventist Mission and Stewardship
46 Ministries of the local conference.
47

General Financial Counsel

Regulation of Soliciting Funds—The following are regulations for soliciting funds:

1. No conference, church, or institution, without special counsel and arrangement, shall plan work requiring solicitation of funds from outside its territory. Any solicitation within its territory shall be in harmony with local, union, division, and General Conference policies. No authority is granted to denominational employees representing special interests in one part of the field to solicit help in any other part of the field or in any other conference without arrangement with and written authorization from conference officers where the fund-raising would take place.

2. The following principles protect churches from unauthorized, fraudulent, and undenominational solicitation:

a. Pastors and officers shall not grant the privilege of the pulpit to persons for fund-raising who have not been recognized or recommended by the conference. (See pp. 126-127.) No permission shall be granted to solicit funds either publicly or privately without such recognition.

b. All funds contributed for any cause in response to appeals shall be passed through regular church channels.

c. Conference and church officers shall take such steps as may be necessary to prevent unauthorized or illegal public solicitation.

3. No campaign other than the Annual Appeal (Ingathering or equivalent appeal), which involves using Appeal literature and containers with authorized Appeal labels, shall be conducted for the solicitation of money for either home or overseas mission work. Unions and conferences should prevent violations of this regulation.

~~4. Interdivision employees visiting their home churches or otherwise communicating with their home bases are asked to solicit funds only for enterprises included in the budget of appropriations, working in cooperation with churches and conferences to raise the funds required to meet the appropriations on which our world mission work depends. All such funds shall be passed through regular channels.~~

Questionable Methods for Raising Funds—The local church should take a strong stand against questionable methods for raising money.

“When money is raised for religious purposes, to what means do many churches resort? To bazaars, suppers, fancy fairs, even to lotteries and like devices. Often the place set apart for God’s worship is desecrated by feasting and drinking, buying, selling, and merrymaking. Respect for the house of God and reverence for His worship are lessened in the minds of the youth. The barriers of self-restraint are weakened. Selfishness, appetite, the love of display, are appealed to, and they strengthen as they are indulged.”—9T 91.

“As God’s work extends, calls for help will come more and more frequently. . . . If professing Christians would faithfully bring to God their tithes and offerings, His treasury would be full. There

1 would then be no occasion to resort to fairs, lotteries, or parties of pleasure to secure funds for the
2 support of the gospel.”—AA 338.

3
4 Tithes and Offerings Not a Personal Trust Fund—Tithes and offerings donated by members to
5 the Church do not create a trust fund for the future benefit of the givers. These funds shall be used for
6 the current purposes for which they are given.

7
8 Financing Building Plans—Churches considering the purchase or erection of church or other
9 buildings, or incurring debt of any kind, should counsel with conference officers before undertaking
10 such financial obligations. In the purchase or building of church properties, in no case shall
11 commitments be made or building operations begun until approval has been given by the conference
12 and union committees. These committees will approve only after they have assured themselves that the
13 financial arrangements conform to established policies. In giving financial counsel, the conference
14 executive committee should consider the size of the congregation, its financial strength, and the
15 location of the building.

16
17 Handling and Accounting for Funds—The gathering and handling of funds for the Lord’s work
18 is a sacred responsibility. The proper channel through which these funds flow is first from members to
19 the local church, where the treasurer receives the funds. (See pp. 88-91.) The treasurer disburses funds
20 intended for local church purposes. The treasurer holds in trust and passes on to the conference
21 treasurer funds intended for conference or general purposes. The treasurer of the local church works
22 under the direction of the board. Treasurers of any level (local church, conference, union, or
23 division/General Conference) do not act independently. They disburse funds only by action or
24 authority of responsible committees.

25
26 Auditing—Every set of accounting records, from those of the local church to those of the
27 General Conference, are subject to audit by auditors appointed for the purpose. This rule, which also
28 applies to every denominationally affiliated institution, provides the maximum of safety in the
29 handling of funds. (See p. 91.)

30
31 Transparency and Accountability—The church finance committee (see pp. 138-139) is required
32 to prepare quarterly reports that should be publicly accessible and presented to the church members.
33 These reports should include information about the proper governance of funds, the adequate
34 allocation of resources for mission-related purposes, and testimonies highlighting the impact of
35 contributions on advancing the church’s mission. Furthermore, they should present an annual report
36 showing the proportion of members that are systematic in returning tithe and giving offerings.
37

1 STW/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2
3 411-24GSb TO COOPERATE WITH THE CONFERENCE (ELDERS) -
4 CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

5
6 RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 9, Local Church Officers and
7 Organizations, page 81, To Cooperate With the Conference (Elders), to read as follows:

8
9 To Cooperate With the Conference—The pastor, elders, and all officers should cooperate with
10 conference officers and departmental directors in carrying out approved plans. They should inform the
11 church about the offering plan adopted by the division for their territory and of all regular and special
12 offerings, promote all the programs and activities of the church, and encourage all officers to support
13 conference plans and policies.

14
15 Elders should work closely with the treasurer and see that all conference funds are remitted
16 promptly to the conference treasurer at the time established by the conference. Elders should see that
17 the clerk’s report is sent promptly to the conference secretary at the close of each quarter.

18
19 Elders should regard all correspondence from the conference office as important. Letters
20 calling for announcements should be presented at the proper time.

21
22 In the absence of the pastor, the first elder (see p. 120-121) should see that the church elects
23 delegates to conference sessions and that the clerk sends the names of delegates to the conference
24 office.

1 STW/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2
3 411-24GSc TREASURER - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

4
5 RECOMMENDED, To amend the Church Manual, Chapter 9, Local Church Officers and
6 Organizations, pages 88-91, Treasurer, to read as follows:

7
8 Treasurer

9
10 Because of the important functions of the treasurer, it is wise to choose one who can be elected
11 to a new term of office to provide continuity in record keeping and reporting. Large churches may
12 elect assistant treasurers as needed.

13
14 The treasurer can greatly encourage faithfulness in the returning of tithe and deepen the spirit
15 of liberality on the part of the members. A word of counsel given in the spirit of the Master will help
16 members to render faithfully to God His own in tithes and offerings, even in a time of financial
17 stringency.

18
19 Treasurer the Custodian of All Funds—The treasurer is the custodian - No change

20
21 Conference Funds—Conference funds, which include tithe, all regular - No change

22
23 Sabbath School Offerings—Any offering collected during Sabbath School should be accurately
24 recorded by the Sabbath School secretary, who will pass them on to the treasurer as soon as possible.
25 Extension division offerings should be added to the offering regularly collected during Sabbath
26 School.

27
28 In territories that have adopted the Combined Offering Plan, these offerings should be
29 distributed according to the formula voted by the division for that Offering Plan. As part of the
30 promotion of any offering collected during Sabbath School in those territories, the givers should be
31 informed that part of their offerings will fund the quarterly world mission projects sponsored by the
32 General Conference.

33
34 All Sabbath School offerings in territories that use the Calendar of Offerings Plan, and the
35 Personal Giving Plan are for the support of the mission fields and are to be passed on in their entirety
36 to the conference. These funds include the regular weekly Sabbath School offering, the Thirteenth
37 Sabbath Offering, Mission Investment, and Birthday-Thank Offering. These Mission funds will then
38 be distributed by the conference according to policy. No mission funds may be retained by the church
39 or conference.

40
41 In territories that have adopted the Personal Giving Plan or the Calendar of Offerings Plan,
42 these mission funds are transmitted to the conference office as outlined in the section above
43 (“Conference Funds”). The regular church budget should make provision for Sabbath School expenses,
44 as for other ministries or departments of the church.

45
46 ~~Sabbath School Funds—All Sabbath School offerings are to be passed over weekly to the~~
47 ~~treasurer by the Sabbath School secretary treasurer, the treasurer keeping a careful record of all such~~



1 offerings. These mission funds are transmitted to the conference office as outlined in the previous
2 paragraph. Sabbath School expense funds are held in trust, subject to the orders of the Sabbath School
3 council (See pp. 103-104.), to meet the routine expenses of the Sabbath School.

4
5 Local Church Funds—Local church funds include church - No change

6
7 Funds of Auxiliary Organizations—Auxiliary organization funds - No change

8
9 Safeguarding the Purpose of Funds—All offerings and gifts contributed by individuals for a
10 specific fund or purpose, under all three offering plans, Funds—When an offering is taken for
11 worldwide missions or for any general or local enterprise, all money placed in the offering plate
12 (unless otherwise indicated by the donor) shall be counted as part of that particular offering. All
13 offerings and gifts contributed by individuals for a specific fund or purpose must be used for that
14 purpose. Neither the treasurer nor the board has the authority to divert any funds from the objective for
15 which they were given.

16
17 The funds of auxiliary organizations, often donations given for specific purposes, are raised for
18 that special part of the church’s work for which the auxiliary organization is established. Such funds
19 are held in trust by the treasurer, and they too may not be borrowed or in any way diverted by the
20 treasurer or the board from the objective for which they were raised.

21
22 When an auxiliary organization is discontinued, the church in a regular business meeting may
23 take action indicating the disposition of any balance of funds in the account of the organization.

24
25 Money for Personal Literature Orders—Money for personal orders - No change

26
27 Proper Method for Payment of Money by Members—The treasurer - No change

28
29 Receipts to Members—Receipts should be issued promptly for all - No change

30
31 Proper Method of Remitting Funds to the Conference—In sending - No change

32
33 Preservation of Financial Documents—Financial - No change

34
35 Books Should Be Audited—The conference - No change

36
37 Relations With Members Confidential—The treasurer should always remember that relations
38 with individual members are strictly confidential. The treasurer should never comment on personal
39 giving decisions are strictly confidential. The treasurer and the pastor should never disclose individual
40 giving records, except with consent of the giver, as required by law, as needed to audit or review the
41 church’s financial records, or as needed for the nominating committee process (see p. 118). the tithe
42 returned by any member or on the income or anything concerning it except to those who share the
43 responsibility of the work. Great harm may be caused by failure to observe this rule.

1 STW/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2

3 411-24GSd WORLD HEALTH MINISTRIES SABBATH OFFERING -

4 *CHURCH MANUAL DELETION*

5

6 RECOMMENDED, To delete the *Church Manual*, Chapter 9, Local Church Officers and
7 Organizations, pages 100-101, World Health Ministries Sabbath Offering, which reads as follows:

8

9 World Health Ministries Sabbath Offering—The entire World Health Ministries Sabbath
10 Offering is sent to the conference to be distributed according to policy. Upon the church’s request to
11 the conference, up to 25 percent of the offering received in the church may revert to the church for
12 health ministries programs.

13

1 STW/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2
3 411-24GSe SABBATH SCHOOL - *CHURCH MANUAL* AMENDMENT

4
5 RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 9, Local Church Officers and
6 Organizations, pages 103-106, Sabbath School, to read as follows:

7
8 Sabbath School

9
10 The Sabbath School, the primary religious education program of the Church, has four purposes:
11 study of the Scripture, fellowship, community outreach, and world mission emphasis. The General
12 Conference Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Department distributes the Sabbath School Bible
13 study guide for all age levels, provides designs for Sabbath School programming within the context of
14 the various world division cultures, provides resources and training systems for Sabbath School
15 teachers, and promotes world mission ~~Sabbath School~~ offerings. Because it incorporates the core
16 spiritual elements of Bible study, prayer, fellowship, and mission, Sabbath School is an essential part
17 of the church's strategy for making disciples.

18
19 “The Sabbath school is an important branch of the missionary work, not only because it gives
20 to young and old a knowledge of God’s Word, but because it awakens in them a love for its sacred
21 truths, and a desire to study them for themselves; above all, it teaches them to regulate their lives by its
22 holy teachings.”—CSW 10, 11.

23
24 “The Sabbath school, if rightly conducted, is one of God’s great instrumentalities to bring souls
25 to a knowledge of the truth.”—CSW 115.

26
27 Officers of the Sabbath School Council—The church elects - No change

28
29 Sabbath School Superintendent and Other Sabbath School Officers—The superintendent is the
30 leading officer of the Sabbath School and should begin planning for its smooth and effective operation
31 as soon as elected. The superintendent should support the plans and emphases of the conference
32 Sabbath School department and should implement decisions of the Sabbath School council concerning
33 the operation of the Sabbath School. The church may elect one or more assistant superintendents.

34
35 The secretary should complete the quarterly report on the appropriate form immediately after
36 the last Sabbath of the quarter and mail it before the deadline to the conference Sabbath School and
37 personal ministries directors. The secretary also should place a copy in the secretary’s permanent file,
38 give copies to the superintendent and the pastor, and present it at the business meeting. In addition, any
39 offering collected during Sabbath School should be accurately recorded by the Sabbath School
40 secretary, who will pass them on to the treasurer as soon as possible. (See p. 88.)

41
42 The Investment secretary promotes the Investment plan for mission support in all Sabbath
43 School divisions and keeps all members informed as the program progresses.

44
45 The Vacation Bible School (VBS) director leads in organizing, promoting, and launching
46 community evangelism through the annual VBS. The church may assign this responsibility to the
47 children’s ministries coordinator.

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1
2 The council may appoint a music director for the Sabbath School in consultation with division
3 leaders. As an expression of worship, music should glorify God. Singers and other musicians should be
4 as carefully selected as are the leaders for other parts of the Sabbath School service and should be
5 measured by the same standards. (See pp. 101, 155, 157.) The council also may appoint pianists and
6 organists for the divisions.

7
8 Sabbath School Division Leaders—The church board elects a leader - No change

9
10 Sabbath School Teachers—The Sabbath School council chooses - No change

11
12 ~~Sabbath School Offerings—The Sabbath School secretary should accurately record Sabbath~~
13 ~~School offerings and pass them on to the treasurer as soon as possible. Extension division offerings~~
14 ~~should be added to the regular Sabbath School offerings. Many Sabbath Schools take offerings for~~
15 ~~Sabbath School expense. With the exception of that expense fund, all Sabbath School offerings are for~~
16 ~~the support of the mission fields and are to be passed on in their entirety by the treasurer to the~~
17 ~~conference. These funds include the regular weekly Sabbath School offering, the Thirteenth Sabbath~~
18 ~~Offering, Sabbath School Investment, and Birthday Thank Offering. Each is to be identified as a~~
19 ~~separate fund in the financial system of the church. Mission funds are distributed according to policy.~~
20 ~~No mission funds may be retained by the church or conference.~~

21
22 ~~The Sabbath School expense offering and the mission offering, where the calendar of offerings~~
23 ~~is being used, shall not be taken as one offering and divided according to an agreed-upon formula or~~
24 ~~percentage. The offerings may be taken as combined offering where the church is operating under a~~
25 ~~division-approved combined offering plan.~~

26
27 Resources—For Sabbath School and personal ministries - No change

1 STW/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2
3 411-24GSf CONDUCTING THE COMMUNION SERVICE - *CHURCH*
4 *MANUAL* AMENDMENT

5
6 RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 11, Services and Other Meetings, pages
7 131-132, Conducting the Communion Service, to read as follows:

8
9 Conducting the Communion Service—Length of Service—Time is not the most significant
10 factor in the communion service. However, attendance can be improved and the spiritual impact
11 increased by (1) eliminating extraneous items from the worship service on this high day, (2) avoiding
12 delays before and after foot-washing, and (3) having the deaconesses arrange the emblems on the
13 communion table well beforehand.

14
15 *Preliminaries*—The introductory portion of the service should be brief, including only short
16 announcements, a hymn, prayer, offering, and a short sermon before separating for the foot-washing
17 and returning for the Lord’s Supper.

18
19 *Foot-Washing*—Each church should have a plan for meeting the needs of its members for the
20 foot-washing service. (See Notes, #5, p. 188.)

21
22 *Bread and Wine*—Following the foot-washing, the congregation comes together once again to
23 partake of the bread and the wine. (See Notes, #6, pp. 188-189.)

24
25 *Celebration*—Communion should always be a solemn, never somber, experience. Wrongs have
26 been righted, sins have been forgiven, and faith has been reaffirmed. It is a time for celebration. Let the
27 music be bright and joyous. The service should end on a high note, such as with a musical feature or
28 congregational singing, followed by dismissal.

29
30 An offering for the poor ~~is often~~ may be taken as the congregation leaves. This offering is
31 promoted as an addition to regular and systematic offerings.

32
33 After the service the deacons and deaconesses clear the table, collect the utensils, and
34 respectfully dispose of any remaining emblems. In no case should these emblems be consumed or
35 returned to common use.

1 SEC/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2

3 424-24GS CAPITALIZATION OF CHURCH DEPARTMENTS - *CHURCH*
4 *MANUAL DIRECTIVE*

5

6 RECOMMENDED, To approve a directive to amend the *Church Manual*, where appropriate, by
7 capitalizing the names of church departments (e.g. Family Ministries, Youth Ministries, etc).

8

- 1 SEC/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS-25GCS
- 2
- 3 412-24GS USE OF “DISCIPLESHIP” - *CHURCH MANUAL DIRECTIVE*
- 4
- 5 RECOMMENDED, To approve a directive to amend the *Church Manual*, by replacing “discipleship”
- 6 with “disciple-making” or “making disciples,” where appropriate.
- 7

1 TRE/24AC to GPS-25GCS

2

3 423-24GS USE OF “THIRTEENTH SABBATH OFFERING” - *CHURCH*
4 *MANUAL DIRECTIVE*

5

6 RECOMMENDED, To approve a directive to amend the *Church Manual*, where appropriate, by
7 deleting “Thirteenth Sabbath Offering” and replacing it with “Thirteenth Sabbath Offering (also
8 known as Quarterly Mission Project Offering).”

9

1 IAD/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS

2
3 419-24G INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION - CHURCH MANUAL
4 SUPPLEMENT

5
6 VOTED, To endorse the Church Manual Supplement of the Inter-American Division, which
7 reads as follows:

8
9 INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION SUPPLEMENT

10
11 Title Deeds of Church Properties

12
13 The designated corporation must have its name on all church properties. This is the only means
14 of ensuring effective property deeds for denominational real estate. This method prevents
15 a few persons who may have distanced themselves from the church from misappropriating from the
16 body of the Seventh-day Adventist Church the property that belongs to the church. In the history of
17 this movement there is no record of any misappropriation of property that has been in the name of the
18 General Conference or legal corporations of local conferences.

19
20 Legal Documents—All legal documents, including life insurance policies, wills, documents,
21 trust services minutes, must be filed for its custody and preservation in the conference or mission
22 office.

23
24 Insurance—The church, through its administrators, is obligated to ensure denominational
25 properties, such as church buildings, homes where the workers live and which belong to the
26 organization and their contents, and school buildings are adequately insured by a reputable,
27 trustworthy company.

28
29 Someone has been designated to be in charge of insurance, usually it is the treasurer of the
30 local field, who is always ready to give counsel relative to insurance and how to secure the most ample
31 protection possible for the institutions and properties of the church against multiple risks, in companies
32 of good reputation. The General Conference suggests that the properties
33 be insured based upon what it would cost to replace the buildings and their contents whenever feasible.
34 All church property insurance policies shall be in the name of the corporation. Provision shall be made
35 in the local church budget to cover these expenses.

36
37 Repairs and Conservation of Buildings

38
39 God’s church must always be well-maintained. The foundations, roofs, and paint shall receive
40 attention in such a way that they will be preserved in the best condition. This same
41 care should be taken of the properties and furnishings that belong to the denomination. Funds for this
42 purpose must come from the expense budget of the church or from special contributions. Under the
43 general direction of the church board, this work is normally supervised by the deacons.

Suggestions Relative to Wills

1
2
3 Wills, Legacies, and Testaments—The love of God constrains all who await His soon
4 appearing to give Him part of their goods so that His truth can prosper on earth. The spirit of sacrifice
5 is fundamental for Christian service.

6
7 Funds that cannot be given immediately to the cause can equally be dedicated to the cause of
8 God through wills, legacies, lifetime income, and trust agreements.

9
10 Laws Must be Strictly Followed—The laws regarding the manner of the disposal of a property
11 belonging to an individual, be this prior to or after death, must be strictly followed according to the
12 rights of the country where the testator or donor resides. If the transfer of a person’s real estate is done
13 through a title deed, the country where the property is located establishes the requirements for writing
14 the document. If the donation of a property by an
15 individual, be this real estate or personal goods, is to become effective after his death, this can be done
16 through the means of a will, or by a title deed, or other instrument.

17
18 The elaboration of a plan for even the most simple wills require adequate counsel. To find the
19 counsel of servant of the Lord relative to wills and legacies, read *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4,
20 pp. 476-485.

21
22 Who Can Make a Will—It is important that every will, donation, lifetime revenue or trust
23 agreement be done with the assessment of a professional in the area, be it the director of Trust Services
24 of the local organization, if he or she is competent to do so, an attorney they or a notary public. In any
25 case, it is necessary to strictly and faithfully follow the local laws.

26
27 Wills must always be kept in a safe place, known as a vault, so that they can be presented as
28 proof upon the death of the testator. Whenever there are different parcels of real estate, each shall be
29 described relative to its location. This also applies to personal property.

30
31 To Make a Change in a Will—Frequently, circumstances arise through which the testator
32 desires to make some alterations to his or her will. No changes should be made in a will by erasing or
33 crossing out. Any change or addition to the document shall be made by an appendix or postscript,
34 which must be done with the same formalities with which the will was prepared, and shall include a
35 statement that it is a part of the will.

36
37 Suggested Sample of a Simple Will—“I ... of the city of ... in the province of belonging to
38 (name of country) in full use of my mental faculties and memory, by
39 means of the present, I publish and declare that this is my LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT, through
40 which I revoke any and all previous wills made by me on any previous occasions.

41
42 “First. It is my will and desire that all my just debts be paid.

43
44 “Second. I grant, give and leave to (if it is a real estate, it is best to describe it and explain
45 where it is located; personal property must always be clearly described so that it can be easily
46 identified).

47

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1 “Third. I grant, give and leave to the Seventh-day Adventist Church with headquarters in

2

3
4 (The fourth paragraph may be used to any attempt to refute a will).

5
6 “Fourth. I establish that if one or more of the named beneficiaries in this will object to the
7 distribution just as it has been done, or claim to refute it for any reason, or make an attempt
8 to annul the provisions of this will, such person or persons will each receive the sum of one dollar
9 (\$1.00) and no more, and whichever and all other provisions made by the present
10 in favor of such litigants, apart from the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) as has been established, be annulled
11 and revoked.

12
13 “Fifth. By this instrument, I appoint, constitute and assign a as executor of this my LAST
14 WILL AND TESTAMENT IN TESTAMENT OF WHICH, I sign and seal this document on
15 this day of A.D. 20....

16
17 The previous instrument was signed, sealed, published and declared by as his/her LAST WILL
18 AND TESTAMENT, before us and in the presence of each of us. We, at the same
19 time, and at his petition and before him, in our presence, sign our names as eye witnesses and leave
20 proof of our residence.

21
22of
23of
24of”

25
26 In Favor of Whom Should Wills Be Made—Wills can be made to benefit the local conference
27 or mission, the union or the General Conference, Inter-American Division. In this respect, upon each
28 individual rests a grave responsibility, which is revealed in the following admonition: “God is
29 displeased with His people for becoming surety for unbelievers. They seem
30 to have lost all sense of the fact that the property they are using belongs to God, and that they must
31 render to Him an account of their stewardship.

32
33 “...Some leave their worldly business in perfect confusion. Satan has his eye on it all, and he
34 strikes at a favorable opportunity, and by his management takes much means out of the ranks of
35 Sabbath-keepers.

36
37 And this means goes into his ranks...“I was shown the awful fact that Satan and his angels have
38 had more to do with the management of the property of God’s professed people
39 than the Lord has... Satan and his angels exult over their success in this matter. And those who should
40 be wise heirs of salvation almost willingly let their Lord’s money slip out of their hands into the
41 enemy’s rank. In this way they strengthen Satan’s kingdom, and seem to feel very easy
42 about it! (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, pp. 199, 200)

43
44 The leaders of the church can help their members to get in contact with the administrators of
45 the conference or mission to ensure that the Lord’s money that He has committed to His church, be
46 assured for His cause.



1 Practical Instructions for the Communion Service

2
3 Preparation of Communion Bread—In preparing for the Lord’s Supper, it is necessary to take
4 into account the bread to be served. Because of the nature of the sacred service and the protection of
5 the participants’ health, the following recipe for the bread is VOTED to be used in the Lord’s Supper.
6 Under no circumstance should ingredients that can negatively affect the
7 health of the participants be used, and it is necessary to avoid all types of leaven or anything similar.
8

9 COMMUNION BREAD RECIPE

- 10 1 cup fine-ground flour
- 11 1/8 cup olive oil
- 12 1/8 cup water
- 13 Pinch of salt

14
15 Method: Put the flour in a bowl. Pour the water into the oil, but do not stir. Add the flour. Mix these
16 ingredients and the salt and mix with a fork until all the flour is uniformly dampened. Roll out all the
17 dough between two sheets of waxed paper to the thickness of fine dough. Place on a
18 floured baking sheet, and mark off with a sharp knife into squares of sides measuring approximately 1
19 ½ centimeters, being careful to prick each square to prevent blistering. Bake at 375-390 degrees
20 Fahrenheit (190-198 Celsius) for 15 to 20 minutes. Serves 150 persons.
21

22 SALT-FREE COMMUNION BREAD RECIPE

- 23 3 cups whole-wheat flour
- 24 . cup olive oil
- 25 ¼ cup water

26
27 Method: Put the flour in a bowl. Pour the water into the oil, but do not stir. Add the flour. Mix the
28 ingredients with a fork until all the flour is uniformly dampened. Roll out all the dough between two
29 sheets of waxed paper to the thickness of fine dough. Place on a floured baking sheet, and mark off
30 with a sharp knife into squares of sides measuring approximately 1 ½
31 centimeters, being careful to prick each square to prevent blistering. Bake at 350 degrees Fahrenheit
32 (175 degrees Celsius) for 10 to 15 minutes. Serves 300 persons.
33

34 Special Cases of Ordination

35
36 Ordination of Women as Church Elders (Voted at the 1984 General
37 Conference Annual Council)—Each congregation is free to elect the person of the gender of its choice
38 as church elder. Such a person must fulfill the requirements for such a position. However, because the
39 ordination of women as church elders can be something which may cause division, no church should
40 plan such action before consulting with the administration of the local field.
41 Such consultation is to preserve the unity of the church.
42

43 1. The concept should be carefully examined, discussed, and properly accepted at the local
44 church level.

45
46 2. If a church contemplates such an action, the entire matter should be discussed and
47 approved by the conference committee after the conference administration has sought counsel from the



1 union leadership. The negotiation between the church and the conference should occur in advance of
2 the final decision and vote by the local church.

3
4 3. The action to elect and ordain a woman as a local church elder must not be taken unless
5 a clear consensus exists that the ministry of a woman elder is desirable and even essential to the
6 spiritual well-being of the local church family. It should also be the consensus of the
7 church that a woman elder will be respected as a spiritual leader and soul-winner. The church should
8 also express its belief that there are dimensions of spiritual service and counsel that cannot be properly
9 fulfilled by a male elder.

10
11 4. A clear majority of the voting members of the local church must be in favor of the
12 action. The matter should be considered at a specially called church business meeting. Every church
13 member should be given the opportunity to vote on this issue rather than only the few who might be
14 present at a regular meeting where routine items of business are on the agenda. Although preliminary
15 study could be given to this question by the church board, any final action should be taken by the
16 church in a business meeting.

17
18 5. Whatever the decision of the church, it should result in unifying the members and not be
19 the source of divisiveness or alienation. The body of Christ, the Church, must not be tarnished in any
20 way. In this important issue, as in all things, the name of our Lord and Saviour must be exalted.

21
22 **Criteria for the Ordination of Elders and Deacons Who Have**
23 **Been Disfellowshipped but Have Returned to the Church**
24

25 If a local church elder or deacon returns to the church after being removed from fellowship and
26 was later rebaptized and his or her congregation feels that he or she has given signs of genuine
27 conversion, and desires to elect him or her once again to a leadership position requiring ordination, it is
28 recommended that in such cases they consult with the administration
29 of the local field.

30
31 **Re: Dress**
32

33 The people of God should always be found among the conservatives in dress, and will not let
34 “the dress question fill the mind.”—Ev 273. “To dress plainly, abstaining from display of jewelry and
35 ornaments of every kind, is in keeping with our faith.”—3T 366. It is clearly taught
36 in the Scriptures that the wearing of jewelry is contrary to the will of God. The apostle Paul
37 admonishes us to dress ourselves “in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided
38 hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing” (1 Tim. 2:9). The wearing of ornaments of jewelry is a bid for
39 attention not in keeping with Christian self-forgetfulness. In some countries and cultures the custom of
40 wearing the wedding ring is considered imperative, having become, in the minds of the people, a
41 criterion of virtue, and hence it is not regarded as an ornament. Under
42 such circumstances we do not condemn the practice. P.153
43

1 NAD/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS

2
3 420-24G NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION - *CHURCH MANUAL*
4 SUPPLEMENT

5
6 VOTED, To endorse the *Church Manual* Supplement of the North American Division, which
7 reads as follows:

8
9 NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION SUPPLEMENT

10
11 ORGANIZATIONS FOR HOLDING CHURCH PROPERTIES:
12 TRUST SERVICES, WILLS, AND ANNUITIES

13
14 Legal Organizations Under the Law

15
16 The Seventh-day Adventist Church conducts its evangelistic work and performs its other
17 religious functions as an unincorporated body. It is the general plan not to incorporate or register
18 regular denominational organizations unless required by law. Corporate organizations are established
19 pursuant to governing laws for the management of legal activity, and these operate under rules and
20 bylaws as adopted by each organization. All organizations planning to form legal corporations for
21 operations in North America shall first secure approval from the General Conference Executive
22 Committee. The delegates to the regular conference sessions constitute the delegates to the session of
23 the legal organization.

24
25 Title to Church Properties

26
27 In order to safeguard denominational property it is necessary to have the title vested in a
28 corporation created by a conference organization according to the laws governing in the locality where
29 the property is located. Title to all local church properties should be held by the conference
30 corporations. When properties are acquired for the use of local churches or conference organizations,
31 the titles should be held by the corporate organizations.

32
33 Care of Legal Documents

34
35 All legal documents, including insurance policies, church property deeds, abstracts, and trust
36 agreements, should be filed for safekeeping in the office of the corporate organization.

37
38 Church Repairs and Upkeep

39
40 The church, its related buildings, and their furnishings should always be kept in representative
41 condition. Funds for this purpose should come from the church-expense budget or from special
42 contributions. Under the direction of the church board, this work is generally supervised by the
43 deacons.

Insurance Policies

The church board, through the church treasurer, is under obligation to see that the properties of the denomination, such as the church building, school buildings, and equipment, are kept adequately covered by insurance. Provision for this expense should be made in the church budget. The following procedures are recommended:

1. The local church board, through the treasurer, and its consultation with the treasurer of the conference or corporation, shall be responsible for adequate insurance coverage of assets, including fire, theft, boiler, public liability, and workman’s compensation insurance, in harmony with denominational policy.

2. All denominational assets shall be insured with companies of sound financial standing and A-grade general policyholders’ rating. Reciprocal and assessable companies are not recommended. Whenever possible, insurance should be purchased through Adventist Risk Management, Incorporated.

3. The conference or corporation treasurer shall be responsible for holding and keeping a complete record of the insurance policies covering the property and assets in the conference and its churches.

a. This record shall include the name and description of the property, the amount of insurance carried, the name of the company with which it is insured, the expiration date of the insurance policy, and other relevant details.

b. Negotiations for the renewal of insurance policies should begin at least 60 days before the expiration date, to avoid unintentional lapse of coverage.

4. It shall be the duty of the conference auditor to review the church, school, or other church property insurance program and report to the governing board or committee any inadequacies in insurance coverages not in harmony with *Working Policy* recommendations.

Wills, Trusts, Annuities, and Life Income Agreements

The spirit of sacrifice and dedication is fundamental to Christian service. Moneys and property which are not given outright to the cause may still be contributed to the work of God through wills, trusts, annuities, and life income agreements.

Laws Must Be Strictly Followed

Laws concerning the disposition of one’s property, either before or after death, must be strictly followed. If conveyance of real estate is made by deed, the laws of the state or province where the land is located govern the requisites of the deed. Disposing of one’s property, whether real or supplemented by a trust agreement. Therefore, a will or trust agreement is of the utmost importance. Christian responsibility is demonstrated when one provides for the future security of one’s dependent family, and for meeting future needs of the church.

“Our brethren should feel that a responsibility rests upon them, as faithful servants in the cause of God, to exercise their intellect in regard to this matter, and secure to the Lord His own,”—*Testimonies*, vol. 4, p. 479.

Wills

The making of a will calls for good counsel. We are given definite instruction relative to securing proper counsel in the executing of wills, as follows:

“Many families have been dishonestly robbed of all their property and have been subjected to poverty because the work that might have been well done in an hour had been neglected. Those who make their wills should spare pains or expense to obtain legal advice and to have them drawn up in a manner to stand the test.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 3, p. 117.

It is essential that a will be executed in accordance with the statutory requirements of the state, province, or country where the will is made.

Bequests to the Church Organization

Bequests should be made to the legal organization of the local, union, or General Conference, or denominational institutions. In such cases, great care should be exercised to ensure the use of the correct legal title. Church officers should put their members in touch with the conference officers concerning potential bequests and subsequent procedures, that the Lord’s property, which He has entrusted to His people, may be secured for His work.

Transferring Property Before Death

A donor’s wishes for ensuring that moneys and properties will accrue for the Lord’s work, for family, or others, prior to his/her death, can be fulfilled through trusts, annuities, and life income agreements.

More detailed information on the advantages of available plans may be obtained, in confidence and without obligation, by consulting with the officers of the legal association of the conference or institution.

Health-Care Institutions



1 The gospel ministry is advanced through health-care institutions which are influenced by Christ
2 and His Spirit. Seventh-day Adventists see in the gospel commission, and the example of the Lord and
3 His apostles, the responsibility of followers of Christ to serve the spiritual, mental, and physical needs
4 of humankind through motivated Christian lives and service. Thus from the earliest years of the
5 Adventist movement, health-care institutions have been established to help facilitate the total ministry
6 of carrying the gospel to all the world.

8 REVERTING CHURCH STATUS

9
10 As stated in the *Church Manual*, church status is not necessarily perpetual (p. 41). There are
11 instances when the mission viability of a local church may need to be reviewed to add impetus to its
12 vision for growth based on Matthew 28.

13
14 Church status should only be reversed after an intentional revitalization plan has been
15 considered. This plan should consider a periodic review of church growth reports by the local
16 conference Executive Committee and the local church board. The following is a general
17 description of procedures for reverting church status.

18 Circumstances for Reverting Church Status

19
20
21 A local conference may revert a local church status under some of the following circumstances
22 based on the local conference's criteria for church vitality:

- 23 1. Persisting decline in baptisms
- 24 2. Minimal or no kingdom growth over the last few years.
- 25 26 3. Low church attendance to unsustainable levels.
- 27 28 4. Drop in membership below a threshold determined by the local conference.
- 29 30 5. No community presence.
- 31 32

33 Local Conference Process for Reverting Church Status

34
35
36 When the local conference or local church feels it is in the best interest for the mission of the
37 church to revert a church's status to company or group status, the following process shall be
38 followed:

39
40 All reverting church status recommendations must be submitted to the designated committee
41 (e.g., ADCOM, Evangelism Committee, etc.) in the local conference for review and approval. The
42 local conference in consultation with the local church or the local church based on its applicable policy
43 can make the recommendation. Once approved by the designated committee, the recommendation is to
44 be submitted to the local conference executive committee for review and approval. Once approved,
45 communication shall be sent to the local church, clearly indicating the effective date of change from
46 church status to company status or group status. Final action shall be ratified at the next constituency
47 meeting of the local conference.

48
Daily Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Consent Agenda

1 SAD/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/24AC to GPS

2
3 421-24G SOUTH AMERICAN DIVISION - *CHURCH MANUAL*
4 SUPPLEMENT

5
6 VOTED, To endorse the *Church Manual* Supplement of the South American Division, which
7 reads as follows:

8
9 SOUTH AMERICAN DIVISION SUPPLEMENT

10
11 LEGAL ENTITIES ESTABLISHED TO CARE FOR
12 CHURCH PROPERTIES AND TO RECEIVE
13 DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

14
15 Legal Entities

16
17 Unions, fields, institutions, or local churches are not authorized to constitute a legal entity to
18 host the activities of pathfinder clubs, university associations, entrepreneurs, health, education, social
19 assistance, or any other, without the prior approval of the South American Division Executive
20 Committee (*South American Division Working Policy*, B 115).

21
22 Property Titles of Church Buildings

23
24 Real estate must be deeded and registered in the name of the legal entity with legal personality
25 representing the Church in the country or in the Union where the entity is located, and never in the
26 name of individuals, asset custodians, or local congregations (*South American Division Working*
27 *Policy*, S 60).

28
29 Control and Preservation of Legal Documents

30
31 All legal documents, including insurance policies, deeds, and receipts for the purchase or sale
32 of all real estate, including churches and schools; registration certificates, authorized construction
33 projects, final work certificates, trust agreements, wills, and legacies, etc., must be filed for
34 safekeeping and preservation in the office of the corresponding legal entity.

35
36 The minutes of the local church board must be properly preserved and archived
37 in the church office, as well as historical documents, photographs, among others.

38
39 Building Restoration and Maintenance

40
41 The church or chapel, its dependencies, its furniture, and equipment must
42 always be kept in good and representative conditions. Funds for this purpose shall
43 come from the church budget or special contributions. This task is usually overseen
44 by deacons under the general direction of the Church Board.

Building and Equipment Insurance

The board of the local church, through its treasury, has an obligation to ensure that the church or chapel and its facilities are adequately covered by insurance. Arrangements must be made to include such expenses in the church budget.

1. The South American Division suggests that insurance be contracted based on what it would cost to replace the building and its contents, if feasible.

2. These insurances are managed by the local Field, in mutual agreement with the local church.

3. All insurance policies for churches, chapels, and church school buildings must be in the name of the corresponding legal entity and be filed in the local field.

Suggestions on Wills and Legacies

The spirit of sacrifice and dedication is fundamental to Christian service. Money from real estate, which cannot be given immediately to the work, can later contribute to the good of God's work through wills, legacies, and trust agreements.

Laws Must Be Strictly Followed

The person who wishes to donate his/her property or assets to the Church must take the necessary steps while he/she is still alive, because otherwise, upon his/her death, his/her assets will be distributed in accordance with the laws governing inheritances in the country where they resided, and this may not represent the person's wishes when he/she was still alive.

The laws concerning the way in which a person's property is disposed of, before or after his/her death, must be strictly followed according to what the testator's or donor's country of residence determines. If the transfer of the property is made through a deed, the law establishes the requirements for the deed and its registration. If the donation of a person's property, whether real estate or personal property, takes place after his/her death, it may be done through a will, a document of trust, or another legal instrument. Therefore, it is important to make a will.

Preparing what will be done with what someone owns and taking care of dependent family members, as well as the Church and the cause of God, is part of the most important and responsible acts of life.

“Our brethren should feel that a responsibility rests upon them, as faithful servants in the cause of God, to exercise their intellect in regard to this matter, and secure to the Lord His own” (*Testimonies for the Church*, v. 4, p. 478; see also p. 554-557).

In Favor of Whom Wills or Legacies Should Be Made

Wills or bequests must be made in the name of the legal entity that the Organization has in the corresponding country or Union. Local church leaders can help members establish contact with the



1 administrators of the Conference/Mission, to ensure that the Lord's money, which He has entrusted to
2 His people, is used for His cause.

3
4 Note of CHAPTER 7

5
6 Detailed Instruction and Public Examination Before Baptism (see p. 51)—In addition to the
7 determination regarding the instruction and public examination of baptismal candidates mentioned in
8 Chapter 7, p. 51, 52, their names must be recommended by the Church board to the floor before the
9 baptismal ceremony so that they can be received as members through baptism.

10
11 Notes of CHAPTER 8

12
13 1. Members Who Change Residence and Do Not Report (see p. 73)—In the case
14 of the South American Division, due to the widespread use of ACMS and social media in local
15 churches, the period of waiting and searching for missing members before they are removed from the
16 membership record will last for one year, provided that every effort is made to locate them and all
17 steps established in this Manual are followed.

18
19 2. Notification to Those Removed from Church Fellowship (see p. 74)—If the pastor who
20 presided over the business meeting visits the member accompanied by another member of the board,
21 to personally communicate the reasons for the discipline, the written communication provided for in
22 this Manual will be provided.

23
24 Notes of CHAPTER 9

25
26 1. Commissioned Pastor (see p. 82, 138)—In the territory of the South American Division,
27 there is no role as a commissioned pastor.

28
29 2. Wedding Ceremony—Regarding the marriage ceremony mentioned in chapter 9, p. 82,
30 of this Church Manual, the following must be considered:

31
32 a. The “exhortation” is what the pastor says to the couple just before taking
33 their vows. It is not a sermon, but a specification of the responsibilities that each of the bride and
34 groom acquires towards their spouse and their future family.

35
36 b. The South American Division, with the express authorization of the General
37 Conference Executive Committee, did not approve the exception” mentioned, referring to the officiant
38 at the wedding ceremony. Therefore, in the territory of the South American Division, this ceremony
39 must always be performed by an ordained pastor.

40
41 c. In some regions of the world, the wedding ceremony begins with a prayer
42 and ends with a final prayer giving blessings to the congregation, as in any of the other church
43 meetings. In South America, these prayers are generally not included in the wedding program; but if
44 they are included, it is not necessary for them to be done by an ordained pastor.

45
46 d. The order of the wedding ceremony suggested in the Seventh-day

1 Adventist Minister’s Handbook does not include this initial prayer, nor the final one, thus eliminating
2 the problem regarding who should or should not say them.

3
4 e. The center of the wedding ceremony consists of: 1) exhortation, sometimes also
5 called commitment or responsibility; 2) marriage vows; 3) words declaring the couple husband and
6 wife; and 4) pastoral prayer on behalf of the couple. All of this must be carried out only by an ordained
7 pastor (see, in this manual, p. 82, 184). It is evident that, even if there are no other parties, the
8 ceremony will be complete, and the marriage will be held.

9
10 3. Ministry of Reception—Regarding the reception of members and guests at church
11 programs, mentioned in chapter 9, p. 86, 88 of this Church Manual, it should be considered that action
12 2012-173 of the South American Division Executive Committee establishes the appointment of a
13 coordinator for the Ministry of Reception in each church and organized group. It is important to
14 organize this ministry based on the guidelines and materials offered by the South American Division
15 and available at: adv.st/recepcao.

16
17 4. Adventurers Club (see p. 115, 118)—Regarding the age of the Adventurers
18 mentioned in chapter 9, p. 115, of this Church Manual, it will remain from 6 to 9 years old in the
19 territory of the South American Division, maintaining the existing organization through the four
20 preliminary classes.

21
22 “Occasional programs involving families and children under six years old must be coordinated
23 by the Children's Ministries and the respective Sabbath School classes” (action 2015-103 of the
24 Executive Committee of the South American Division).

25
26 5. Adolescent’s Ministry (see p. 145)—Adolescent’s Ministry (AM) department was created in
27 the South American Division to facilitate the deepening of the spiritual experience of teenagers (ages
28 13 to 16); with the aim of attracting them to a redemptive friendship with Christ and a lifelong
29 commitment to the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

30
31 The TM, like the Children's Ministries, cooperates with the Sabbath School and other
32 departments providing the development of gifts in the context of family, church, and society. The TM
33 coordinator works with the support of the pastor and the Church board.

34
35 The objectives of the TM are the following:

- 36 a. Teach the Bible with a methodology that allows the teenager to get closer to
37 Christ.
38 b. Help church leaders and members recognize the importance of this age and the
39 appropriate time to attract teenagers to Christ and His Church.
40
41 c. Encourage the inclusion of teenagers in church programs and activities.
42
43 d. Prepare leaders who are qualified to work with teenagers.
44
45 e. Work closely with other church departments; especially Sabbath School,
46 Family Ministries, Youth Ministries, and Pathfinders and Adventurers
47 Ministries.

1 5
 2 6 101-24Ga CALENDAR OF THIRTEENTH SABBATH
 3 OFFERINGS—WORLD 2025-2031

4
 5 VOTED, To record the Calendar of Thirteenth Sabbath (Quarterly Mission Project)
 6 Offerings—World 2025-2031, which reads as follows:
 7

			Proj Selection <u>Deadline</u>	Visit to <u>Division</u>
10	2025			
11	First Quarter	Northern Asia-Pacific Division	Mar 2023	Jun 2023
12	Second Quarter	Southern Asia-Pacific Division	Jun 2023	Sep 2023
13	Third Quarter	Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division	Sep 2023	Dec 2023
14	Fourth Quarter	South American Division	Dec 2023	Mar 2024
15				
16	2026			
17	First Quarter	South Pacific Division	Mar 2024	Jun 2024
18	Second Quarter	East-Central Africa Division	Jun 2024	Sep 2024
19	Third Quarter	Inter-European Division	Sep 2024	Dec 2024
20	Fourth Quarter	Trans-European Division	Dec 2024	Mar 2025
21				
22	2027			
23	First Quarter	West-Central Africa Division	Mar 2025	Jun 2025
24	Second Quarter	Southern Asia Division	Jun 2025	Sep 2025
25	Third Quarter	Euro-Asia Division	Sep 2025	Dec 2025
26	Fourth Quarter	Inter-American Division	Dec 2025	Mar 2026
27				
28	2028			
29	First Quarter	North American Division	Mar 2026	Jun 2026
30	Second Quarter	Northern Asia-Pacific Division	June 2026	Sep 2026
31	Third Quarter	Southern Asia-Pacific Division	Sep 2026	Dec 2026
32	Fourth Quarter	Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division	Dec 2026	Mar 2027
33				
34	2029			
35	First Quarter	South American Division	Mar 2027	Jun 2027
36	Second Quarter	South Pacific Division	June 2027	Sep 2027
37	Third Quarter	East-Central Africa Division	Sep 2027	Dec 2027
38	Fourth Quarter	Inter-European Division	Dec 2027	Mar 2028
39				

			Proj Selection <u>Deadline</u>	Visit to <u>Division</u>
1				
2				
3	2030			
4	First Quarter	Trans-European Division	Mar 2028	Jun 2028
5	Second Quarter	West-Central Africa Division	June 2028	Sep 2028
6	Third Quarter	Southern Asia Division	Sep 2028	Dec 2028
7	Fourth Quarter	Euro-Asia Division	Dec 2028	Mar 2029
8				
9	2031			
10	First Quarter	Inter-American Division	Mar 2029	Jun 2029
11	Second Quarter	North American Division	June 2029	Sep 2029
12	Third Quarter	Northern Asia-Pacific Division	Sep 2029	Dec 2029
13	Fourth Quarter	Southern Asia-Pacific Division	Dec 2029	Mar 2030
14				
15				
16	Distribution summary among divisions from 2025 through 2031:			
17				
18	East-Central Africa	2		
19	Euro-Asia	2		
20	Inter-American	2		
21	Inter-European	2		
22	North American	2		
23	Northern Asia-Pacific		3	
24	South American	2		
25	South Pacific	2		
26	Southern Africa-Indian Ocean	2		
27	Southern Asia	2		
28	Southern Asia-Pacific		3	
29	Trans-European	2		
30	West-Central Africa	2		
31				

TRE/SP&B23AC/23AC/101-23Gi/SP&B24AC/24AC to JRW(DIV)

101-24Gc CALENDAR OF OFFERINGS—WORLD 2025

VOTED, To adopt the Calendar of Offerings—World 2025, which reads as follows:

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*+ Hope Channel International
19 Church Budget
26 Conference/Union

May

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

June

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

Daily Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Consent Agenda

1	<u>July</u>	
2	5	Outreach/Church Budget (Offering received at GC Session will be for Digital
3		Strategy for Mission)
4	12*+	GC Session Offering: Digital Strategy for Mission
5	19	Church Budget
6	26	Conference/Union
7		
8	<u>August</u>	
9	2	Outreach/Church Budget
10	9	Division
11	16	Church Budget
12	23	Conference/Union
13	30	Church Budget
14		
15	<u>September</u>	
16	6	Outreach/Church Budget
17	13*+	World Mission Offering (Unusual Opportunities)
18	20	Church Budget
19	27	Conference/Union
20		
21	<u>October</u>	
22	4	Outreach/Church Budget
23	11	Division
24	18	Church Budget
25	25	Conference/Union
26		
27	<u>November</u>	
28	1	Outreach/Church Budget
29	8*+	Annual Sacrifice (Global Mission)
30	15	Church Budget
31	22	Conference/Union
32	29	Church Budget
33		
34	<u>December</u>	
35	6	Outreach/Church Budget
36	13	Division
37	20	Church Budget
38	27	Conference/Union

1 Summary of Offerings
2 General Conference 6
3 Division 6
4 Conference/Union 12
5 Church 28
6
7 Total 52
8
9 *Program provided by the General Conference
10 +Worldwide offering
11

1 TRE/SP&B24AC/24AC to JRW(DIV)

2
3 101-24Gh CALENDAR OF OFFERINGS—WORLD 2026

4
5 VOTED, To adopt the Calendar of Offerings—World 2026, which reads as follows:

6
7 January

8 3 Outreach/Church Budget
9 10 Division
10 17 Church Budget
11 24 Conference/Union
12 31 Church Budget

13
14 February

15 7 Outreach/Church Budget
16 14 Division
17 21 Church Budget
18 28 Conference/Union

19
20 March

21 7 Outreach/Church Budget
22 14*+ Adventist World Radio
23 21 Church Budget
24 28 Conference/Union

25
26 April

27 4 Outreach/Church Budget
28 11*+ Hope Channel International
29 18 Church Budget
30 25 Conference/Union

31
32 May

33 2 Outreach/Church Budget
34 9*+ Disaster and Famine Relief (Program provided for NAD only)
35 16 Church Budget
36 23 Conference/Union
37 30 Church Budget

38
39 June

40 6 Outreach/Church Budget
41 13 Division
42 20 Church Budget
43 27 Conference/Union

Daily Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Consent Agenda

1	<u>July</u>	
2	4	Outreach/Church Budget
3	11*+	World Mission Offering
4	18	Church Budget
5	25	Conference/Union
6		
7	<u>August</u>	
8	1	Outreach/Church Budget
9	8	Division
10	15	Church Budget
11	22	Conference/Union
12	29	Church Budget
13		
14	<u>September</u>	
15	5	Outreach/Church Budget
16	12*+	World Mission Offering (Unusual Opportunities)
17	19	Church Budget
18	26	Conference/Union
19		
20	<u>October</u>	
21	3	Outreach/Church Budget
22	10	Division
23	17	Church Budget
24	24	Conference/Union
25	31	Church Budget
26		
27	<u>November</u>	
28	7	Outreach/Church Budget
29	14*+	Annual Sacrifice (Global Mission)
30	21	Church Budget
31	28	Conference/Union
32		
33	<u>December</u>	
34	5	Outreach/Church Budget
35	12	Division
36	19	Church Budget
37	26	Conference/Union

1	<u>Summary of Offerings</u>	
2	General Conference	6
3	Division	6
4	Conference/Union	12
5	Church	28
6		
7	Total	52
8		
9	*Program provided by the General Conference	
10	+Worldwide offering	
11		

1 TRE/SP&B24AC/24AC to JRW(DIV)

2
3 101-24Gi CALENDAR OF OFFERINGS—WORLD 2027

4
5 VOTED, To adopt the Calendar of Offerings—World 2027, which reads as follows:

6
7 January

8 2 Outreach/Church Budget
9 9 Division
10 16 Church Budget
11 23 Conference/Union
12 30 Church Budget

13
14 February

15 6 Outreach/Church Budget
16 13 Division
17 20 Church Budget
18 27 Conference/Union

19
20 March

21 6 Outreach/Church Budget
22 13*+ Adventist World Radio
23 20 Church Budget
24 27 Conference/Union

25
26 April

27 3 Outreach/Church Budget
28 10*+ Hope Channel International
29 17 Church Budget
30 24 Conference/Union

31
32 May

33 1 Outreach/Church Budget
34 8*+ Disaster and Famine Relief (Program provided for NAD only)
35 15 Church Budget
36 22 Conference/Union
37 29 Church Budget

38
39 June

40 5 Outreach/Church Budget
41 12 Division
42 19 Church Budget
43 26 Conference/Union

Daily Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Consent Agenda

1	<u>July</u>	
2	3	Outreach/Church Budget
3	10*+	World Mission Offering
4	17	Church Budget
5	24	Conference/Union
6	31	Church Budget
7		
8	<u>August</u>	
9	7	Outreach/Church Budget
10	14	Division
11	21	Church Budget
12	28	Conference/Union
13		
14	<u>September</u>	
15	4	Outreach/Church Budget
16	11*+	World Mission Offering (Unusual Opportunities)
17	18	Church Budget
18	25	Conference/Union
19		
20	<u>October</u>	
21	2	Outreach/Church Budget
22	9	Division
23	16	Church Budget
24	23	Conference/Union
25	30	Church Budget
26		
27	<u>November</u>	
28	6	Outreach/Church Budget
29	13*+	Annual Sacrifice (Global Mission)
30	20	Church Budget
31	27	Conference/Union
32		
33	<u>December</u>	
34	4	Outreach/Church Budget
35	11	Division
36	18	Church Budget
37	25	Conference/Union

1 Summary of Offerings
2 General Conference 6
3 Division 6
4 Conference/Union 12
5 Church 28
6
7 Total 52
8
9 *Program provided by the General Conference
10 +Worldwide offering
11

1 PRE/ADCOM/GCDO22AC/22AC/101-22Gf/GCDO23SM/23SM/GCDO23AC/23AC/
 2 101-23Ge/GCDO24AC/24AC to AEA(DIV)

3
 4 101-24Gd CALENDAR OF SPECIAL DAYS AND EVENTS—WORLD 2024

5
 6 VOTED, To approve the Calendar of Special Days and Events—World 2024, to read as
 7 follows:

		<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>
10	<u>January</u>		
11	6	Quarterly Day of Prayer	R&RCom
12	10-20	Ten Days of Prayer	GC-MIN
13	13	#Health Ministries	GC-HM/DIV
14	20	Religious Liberty Day	GC/NAD-PARL
15	27		
16			
17	<u>February</u>		
18	3	<i>Reach the World</i> : Personal Outreach	GC-SSPM
19	10-17	Christian Home and Marriage Week	GC-FM
20	17		
21	24		
22			
23	<u>March</u>		
24	2	Women’s Day of Prayer	GC-WM
25	9	Adventist World Radio*	GC-AWR
26	16-23	Youth Week of Prayer	GC-YOU
27	16	Global Youth Day/Global Children’s	GC-YOU/CHM
28		Day	
29	23	#Christian Education	Divisions
30	30		
31			
32	<u>April</u>		
33	6	Quarterly Day of Prayer	R&RCom
34	6	World Ambassador Day	GC-YOU
35	13	Friends of Hope Day (Visitor’s	GC-SSPM
36		Day)	
37	13	Hope Channel International*	GC-HCI
38	13-19	#Literature Evangelism Rally Week	Divisions
39	13	World Impact Day—for Distribution	Divisions
40		of Missionary Book	
41	20	Possibility Ministries Day	GC-APM
42	27		
43			

		<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>
1			
2	<u>May</u>		
3	4-25	Drug Awareness Month ---	GC-HM
4	4	<i>Reach the World: Using</i> ---	GC-COM
5		Communication Channels	
6	11		
7	18	Global Adventurer’s Day ---	GC-YOU
8	25	World Day of Prayer for Children ---	GC-CHM
9		at Risk	
10			
11	<u>June</u>		
12	1	<i>Reach the World: Bible Study:</i> ---	GC-SSPM
13		Sabbath School and	
14		Correspondence Courses	
15	8	Women’s Ministries Emphasis Day ---	GC-WM
16	15	<i>Reach the World: Nurturing Other</i> ---	GC-SSPM
17		Members and Reclaiming	
18	15	Adventist Church World ---	ADRA
19		Refugee Day	
20	22	World Public Campus Ministries Day---	GC-YOU
21	29		
22			
23	<u>July</u>		
24	6	Quarterly Day of Prayer ---	R&RCom
25	13	Mission Promotion World Mission*	GC-AM
26	20	<i>Reach the World: Media Ministry</i> ---	GC-COM
27	27	Children’s Sabbath ---	GC-CHM
28			
29	<u>August</u>		
30	3	#Global Mission Evangelism ---	Divisions
31	10	<i>Reach the World: Church Planting</i> ---	GC-AM
32	17	Education Day ---	GC-EDU
33	24	enditnow Day ---	GC-WM
34	24	#Lay Evangelism ---	Divisions
35	31		
36			
37	<u>September</u>		
38	1-7	Family Togetherness Week of ---	GC-FM
39		Prayer	
40	7	Family Togetherness Day of Prayer ---	GC-FM
41	7	#Youth Spiritual and Mission ---	Divisions
42		Commitment Day	
43	14	Mission Promotion Unusual Opportunities*	GC-AM
44	21	Pathfinder Day ---	GC-YOU
45	28	#Sabbath School Guest Day ---	Divisions
46			
47		<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>

1	<u>October</u>			
2	5	Quarterly Day of Prayer	---	R&RCom
3	5	<i>Adventist Review</i> Subscription	---	GC-ARMies
4		Promotion		
5	12	Pastor Appreciation Day	---	GC-MIN
6	19	Spirit of Prophecy and	---	GC-WHT
7		Adventist Heritage		
8	26	Creation Sabbath	---	Faith&ScCou
9				
10	<u>November</u>			
11	2-9	Week of Prayer	---	GC-ARMies
12	9-15	e-Week of Prayer for Youth and	---	GC-YOU
13		Young Adults		
14	9	Mission Promotion	Annual Sacrifice*	GC-AM
15	16	World Orphans-Vulnerable	---	GC-APM
16		Children Day		
17	23	HIV/AIDS Awareness	---	GC-AAIM
18	30-7	Stewardship Revival Week	---	GC-STW
19				
20	<u>December</u>			
21	7	Annual Stewardship Sabbath	---	GC-STW
22	14	#Health Emphasis		GC-HM/DIV
23	21			
24	28			
25				
26		*For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan		
27		#Divisions to prepare materials		
28				
29		Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found at		
30		https://gc.adventist.org/events/special-days .		
31				

1 PRE/ADCOM/GCDO22AC/22AC/101-22Gg/GCDO23SM/23SM/ADCOM/GCDO23AC/ 23AC/101-
 2 23Gf/GCDO24AC/24AC to AEA(DIV)

3

4 101-24Ge CALENDAR OF SPECIAL DAYS AND EVENTS—WORLD 2025

5

6 VOTED, To approve the Calendar of Special Days and Events—World 2025, to read as
 7 follows:

8

		<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>
9			
10	<u>January</u>		
11	4	Quarterly Day of Prayer ---	R&RCom
12	8-18	Ten Days of Prayer ---	GC-MIN
13	11	#Health Ministries ---	GC-HM/DIV
14	18	Religious Liberty Day <i>Liberty</i>	GC/NAD-PARL
15	25		
16			
17	<u>February</u>		
18	1	<i>Reach the World</i> : Personal Outreach ---	GC-SSPM
19	8-15	Christian Home and Marriage Week ---	GC-FM
20	15		
21	22		
22			
23	<u>March</u>		
24	1	Women’s Day of Prayer ---	GC-WM
25	8	Adventist World Radio* ---	GC-AWR
26	15-22	Youth Week of Prayer ---	GC-YOU
27	15	Global Youth Day/Global Children’s ---	GC-YOU/CHM
28		Day	
29	22	#Christian Education ---	Divisions
30	29		
31			
32	<u>April</u>		
33	5	Quarterly Day of Prayer ---	R&RCom
34	5	World Ambassador Day ---	GC-YOU
35	12-18	#Literature Evangelism Rally Week ---	Divisions
36	12	Friends of Hope Day (Visitor’s ---	GC-SSPM
37		Day)	
38	12	Hope Channel International* ---	GC-HCI
39	12	World Impact Day—for Distribution ---	Divisions
40		of Missionary Book	
41	19	Possibility Ministries Day ---	GC-APM
42	26		
43			

		<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>
1			
2	<u>May</u>		
3	3-31	Drug Awareness Month ---	GC-HM
4	3	<i>Reach the World: Using</i> ---	GC-COM
5		Communication Channels	
6	10		
7	17	Global Adventurer’s Day ---	GC-YOU
8	24	World Day of Prayer for Children ---	GC-CHM
9		at Risk	
10	31		
11			
12	<u>June</u>		
13	7	<i>Reach the World: Bible Study:</i> ---	GC-SSPM
14		Sabbath School and	
15		Correspondence Courses	
16	14	Women’s Ministries Emphasis Day ---	GC-WM
17	21	<i>Reach the World: Nurturing Other</i> ---	GC-SSPM
18		Members and Reclaiming	
19	21	Adventist Church World ---	ADRA
20		Refugee Day	
21	28	World Public Campus Ministries Day---	GC-YOU
22			
23	<u>July</u>		
24	5	Quarterly Day of Prayer ---	R&RCom
25	12	Mission Promotion World Mission*	GC-AM
26	19	<i>Reach the World: Media Ministry</i> ---	GC-COM
27	26	Children’s Sabbath ---	GC-CHM
28			
29	<u>August</u>		
30	2	#Global Mission Evangelism ---	Divisions
31	9	<i>Reach the World: Church Planting</i> ---	GC-AM
32	16	Education Day ---	GC-EDU
33	23	enditnow Day ---	GC-WM
34	23	#Lay Evangelism ---	Divisions
35	30		
36			
37	<u>September</u>		
38	6	#Youth Spiritual and Mission ---	Divisions
39		Commitment Day	
40	7-13	Family Togetherness Week of ---	GC-FM
41		Prayer	
42	13	Family Togetherness Day of Prayer ---	GC-FM
43	13	Mission Promotion Unusual Opportunities*	GC-AM
44	20	Pathfinder Day ---	GC-YOU
45	27	#Sabbath School Guest Day ---	Divisions
46			
47		<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>

Daily Program
General Agenda
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1	<u>October</u>			
2	4	Quarterly Day of Prayer	---	R&RCom
3	4	<i>Adventist Review</i> Subscription	---	GC-ARMies
4		Promotion		
5	11	Pastor Appreciation Day	---	GC-MIN
6	18	Spirit of Prophecy and	---	GC-WHT
7		Adventist Heritage		
8	25	Creation Sabbath	---	Faith&ScCou
9				
10	<u>November</u>			
11	1-8	Week of Prayer	---	GC-ARMies
12	8-14	e-Week of Prayer for Youth and	---	GC-YOU
13		Young Adults		
14	8	Mission Promotion	Annual Sacrifice*	GC-AM
15	15	World Orphans-Vulnerable	---	GC-APM
16		Children Day		
17	22	HIV/AIDS Awareness	---	GC-AAIM
18	29-6	Stewardship Revival Week	---	GC-STW
19				
20	<u>December</u>			
21	6	Annual Stewardship Sabbath	---	GC-STW
22	13	#Health Emphasis	---	GC-HM/DIV
23	20			
24	27			
25				
26		*For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan		
27		#Divisions to prepare materials		
28				
29		Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found at		
30		https://gc.adventist.org/events/special-days .		
31				

1 PRE/ADCOM/GCDO23AC/23AC/101-23Gg/GCDO24AC/24AC to AEA(DIV)

2
3 101-24Gf CALENDAR OF SPECIAL DAYS AND EVENTS—WORLD 2026

4
5 VOTED, To approve the Calendar of Special Days and Events—World 2026, to read as
6 follows:

		<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>
7			
8	<u>January</u>		
9	3	Quarterly Day of Prayer ---	R&RCom
10	7-17	Ten Days of Prayer ---	GC-MIN
11	10	#Health Ministries ---	GC-HM/DIV
12	17	Religious Liberty Day <i>Liberty</i>	GC/NAD-PARL
13	24		
14	31		
15			
16	<u>February</u>		
17	7	<i>Reach the World: Personal Outreach</i> ---	GC-SSPM
18	14-21	Christian Home and Marriage Week ---	GC-FM
19	21		
20	28		
21			
22	<u>March</u>		
23	7	Women’s Day of Prayer ---	GC-WM
24	14	Adventist World Radio* ---	GC-AWR
25	21-28	Youth Week of Prayer ---	GC-YOU
26	21	Global Youth Day/Global Children’s ---	GC-YOU/CHM
27		Day	
28	28	#Christian Education ---	Divisions
29			
30	<u>April</u>		
31	4	Quarterly Day of Prayer ---	R&RCom
32	4	World Ambassador Day ---	GC-YOU
33	11-17	#Literature Evangelism Rally Week ---	Divisions
34	11	Friends of Hope Day (Visitor’s ---	GC-SSPM
35		Day)	
36	11	Hope Channel International* ---	GC-HCI
37	11	World Impact Day—for Distribution ---	Divisions
38		of Missionary Book	
39	18	Possibility Ministries Day ---	GC-APM
40	25		
41			

		<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>
1			
2	<u>May</u>		
3	2-30	Drug Awareness Month ---	GC-HM
4	2	<i>Reach the World: Using</i> ---	GC-COM
5		Communication Channels	
6	9		
7	16	Global Adventurer’s Day ---	GC-YOU
8	23	World Day of Prayer for Children ---	GC-CHM
9		at Risk	
10	30		
11			
12	<u>June</u>		
13	6	<i>Reach the World: Bible Study:</i> ---	GC-SSPM
14		Sabbath School and	
15		Correspondence Courses	
16	13	Women’s Ministries Emphasis Day ---	GC-WM
17	20	<i>Reach the World: Nurturing Other</i> ---	GC-SSPM
18		Members and Reclaiming	
19	20	Adventist Church World ---	ADRA
20		Refugee Day	
21	27	World Public Campus Ministries Day---	GC-YOU
22			
23	<u>July</u>		
24	4	Quarterly Day of Prayer ---	R&RCom
25	11	Missions Promotion World Mission*	GC-AM
26	18	<i>Reach the World: Media Ministry</i> ---	GC-COM
27	25	Children’s Sabbath ---	GC-CHM
28			
29	<u>August</u>		
30	1	#Global Mission Evangelism ---	Divisions
31	8	<i>Reach the World: Church Planting</i> ---	GC-AM
32	15	Education Day ---	GC-EDU
33	22	enditnow Day ---	GC-WM
34	22	#Lay Evangelism ---	Divisions
35	29		
36			
37	<u>September</u>		
38	5	#Youth Spiritual and Mission ---	Divisions
39		Commitment Day	
40	6-12	Family Togetherness Week of ---	GC-FM
41		Prayer	
42	12	Family Togetherness Day of Prayer ---	GC-FM
43	12	Mission Promotion Unusual Opportunities*	GC-AM
44	19	Pathfinder Day ---	GC-YOU
45	26	#Sabbath School Guest Day ---	Divisions
46			
47		<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>

Daily Program
General Agenda
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1	<u>October</u>			
2	3	Quarterly Day of Prayer	---	R&RCom
3	3	<i>Adventist Review</i> Subscription	---	GC-ARMies
4		Promotion		
5	10	Pastor Appreciation Day	---	GC-MIN
6	17	Spirit of Prophecy and	---	GC-WHT
7		Adventist Heritage		
8	24	Creation Sabbath	---	Faith&ScCou
9	31			
10				
11	<u>November</u>			
12	7-14	Week of Prayer	---	GC-ARMies
13	14-20	e-Week of Prayer for Youth and	---	GC-YOU
14		Young Adults		
15	14	Mission Promotion	Annual Sacrifice*	GC-AM
16	21	World Orphans-Vulnerable	---	GC-APM
17		Children Day		
18	28	HIV/AIDS Awareness	---	GC-AAIM
19	28-5	Stewardship Revival Week	---	GC-STW
20				
21	<u>December</u>			
22	5	Annual Stewardship Sabbath	---	GC-STW
23	12	#Health Emphasis	---	GC-HM/DIV
24	19			
25	26			
26				
27		*For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan		
28		#Divisions to prepare materials		
29				
30		Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found at		
31		https://gc.adventist.org/events/special-days .		
32				

1 PRE/ADCOM/GCDO23AC/23AC/101-23Gh/GCDO24AC/24AC to AEA(DIV)

2
3 101-24Gg CALENDAR OF SPECIAL DAYS AND EVENTS—WORLD 2027

4
5 VOTED, To approve the Calendar of Special Days and Events—World 2027, to read as
6 follows:

		<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>
9	<u>January</u>		
10	2	Quarterly Day of Prayer ---	R&RCom
11	6-16	Ten Days of Prayer ---	GC-MIN
12	9	#Health Ministries ---	GC-HM/DIV
13	16	Religious Liberty Day <i>Liberty</i>	GC/NAD-PARL
14	23		
15	30		
16			
17	<u>February</u>		
18	6	<i>Reach the World: Personal Outreach</i> ---	GC-SSPM
19	13-20	Christian Home and Marriage Week ---	GC-FM
20	20		
21	27		
22			
23	<u>March</u>		
24	6	Women’s Day of Prayer ---	GC-WM
25	13	Adventist World Radio* ---	GC-AWR
26	20-27	Youth Week of Prayer ---	GC-YOU
27	20	Global Youth Day/Global Children’s ---	GC-YOU/CHM
28		Day	
29	27	#Christian Education ---	Divisions
30			
31	<u>April</u>		
32	3	Quarterly Day of Prayer ---	R&RCom
33	3	World Ambassador Day ---	GC-YOU
34	10-16	#Literature Evangelism Rally Week ---	Divisions
35	10	Friends of Hope Day (Visitor’s ---	GC-SSPM
36		Day)	
37	10	Hope Channel International* ---	GC-HCI
38	10	World Impact Day—for Distribution ---	Divisions
39		of Missionary Book	
40	17	Possibility Ministries Day ---	GC-APM
41	24		
42			

		<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>
1			
2	<u>May</u>		
3	1-29	Drug Awareness Month	GC-HM
4	1	<i>Reach the World: Using</i>	GC-COM
5		Communication Channels	
6	8		
7	15	Global Adventurer’s Day	GC-YOU
8	22	World Day of Prayer for Children	GC-CHM
9		at Risk	
10	29		
11			
12	<u>June</u>		
13	5	<i>Reach the World: Bible Study:</i>	GC-SSPM
14		Sabbath School and	
15		Correspondence Courses	
16	12	Women’s Ministries Emphasis Day	GC-WM
17	19	<i>Reach the World: Nurturing Other</i>	GC-SSPM
18		Members and Reclaiming	
19	19	Adventist Church World	ADRA
20		Refugee Day	
21	26	World Public Campus Ministries Day---	GC-YOU
22			
23	<u>July</u>		
24	3	Quarterly Day of Prayer	R&RCom
25	10	Missions Promotion	GC-AM
26	17	<i>Reach the World: Media Ministry</i>	GC-COM
27	24	Children’s Sabbath	GC-CHM
28	31		
29			
30	<u>August</u>		
31	7	#Global Mission Evangelism	Divisions
32	14	<i>Reach the World: Church Planting</i>	GC-AM
33	21	Education Day	GC-EDU
34	28	enditnow Day	GC-WM
35	28	#Lay Evangelism	Divisions
36			
37	<u>September</u>		
38	4	#Youth Spiritual and Mission	Divisions
39		Commitment Day	
40	5-11	Family Togetherness Week of	GC-FM
41		Prayer	
42	11	Family Togetherness Day of Prayer	GC-FM
43	11	Mission Promotion	GC-AM
44	18	Pathfinder Day	GC-YOU
45	25	#Sabbath School Guest Day	Divisions
46			
47			

Daily Program
General Agenda
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	<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>
1		
2	<u>October</u>	
3	2 Quarterly Day of Prayer ---	R&RCom
4	2 <i>Adventist Review</i> Subscription ---	GC-ARMies
5	Promotion	
6	9 Pastor Appreciation Day ---	GC-MIN
7	16 Spirit of Prophecy and ---	GC-WHT
8	Adventist Heritage	
9	23 Creation Sabbath ---	Faith&ScCou
10	30	
11		
12	<u>November</u>	
13	6-13 Week of Prayer ---	GC-ARMies
14	13-19 e-Week of Prayer for Youth and ---	GC-YOU
15	Young Adults	
16	13 Mission Promotion Annual Sacrifice*	GC-AM
17	20 World Orphans-Vulnerable ---	GC-APM
18	Children Day	
19	27 HIV/AIDS Awareness ---	GC-AAIM
20	27-4 Stewardship Revival Week ---	GC-STW
21		
22	<u>December</u>	
23	4 Annual Stewardship Sabbath ---	GC-STW
24	11 #Health Emphasis ---	GC-HM/DIV
25	18	
26	25	
27		
28	*For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan	
29	#Divisions to prepare materials	
30		
31	Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found at	
32	https://gc.adventist.org/events/special-days .	
33		

1 SEC/ADCOM/GCDO21AC/21AC/102-21Gd/GCDO22SM/22SM/ADCOM/ADCOM(Steering)/
 2 22AC/ADCOM/102-22Gc/ADCOM/GCDO23SM/23SM/ADCOM/GCDO23AC/23AC/
 3 ADCOM/102-23Gb/ADCOM/GCDO24SM/24SM/ADCOM/GCDO24AC/24AC to KJP(DIV)

4
 5 102-24Ga AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2024
 6

7 VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2024, with the understanding
 8 that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity, as
 9 follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>October 2024</u>			
10-11	Thu	LEAD Conference	Silver Spring MD
10-16	Thu	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
17-19	Thu	Mission Symposium	Berrien Springs MI
21-22	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Berrien Springs MI
24	Thu	Faith and Science Council	Online Meeting
25(pm)	Fri	Andrews University Board Governance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
27(am)	Sun	Andrews University Board Committees	Berrien Springs MI
27(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
28(am)	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
<u>November 2024</u>			
<u>December 2024</u>			
2(am)	Mon	ADRA International Board	Online Meeting
3-8	Tue	Global Mission Centers Year-End Meeting	Addis Ababa ETHIOPIA
4(pm)	Wed	ARM and GICV Board Committees	Silver Spring MD
5(am)	Thu	ARM and GICV Board Meeting	Silver Spring MD
9-10	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA

1 SEC/ADCOM(Steering)/22AC/ADCOM/102-22Gd/ADCOM/GCDO23SM/23SM/ADCOM/
 2 GCDO23AC/23AC/ADCOM/101-23Gc/GCDO24SM/24SM/ADCOM/GCDO24AC/24AC to
 3 KJP(DIV)

4
 5 102-24Gb AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2025
 6

7 VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2025, with the understanding
 8 that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity, as
 9 follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>January 2025</u>			
9	Thu	Ellen G White Estate Board	Silver Spring MD
15-18	Wed	PREXAD - Div & Attached Union/Field Presidents	_____
20-23	Mon	World Publishing Houses Council	Silver Spring MD
23(pm)	Thu	Future Plans Working Group	Online Meeting
27-Feb 15	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Chiang Mai THAILAND
28-29	Tue	Encyclopedia of SDAs Editorial Committee	Online Meeting
<u>February 2025</u>			
3-4	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Ethics Committee	Collegedale TN
24-25	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
26	Wed	GRI Operating Committee	Loma Linda CA
<u>March 2025</u>			
2(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Board Executive Committee	Berrien Springs MI
3(am)	Mon	Andrews University Board Committees	Berrien Springs MI
3(pm)	Mon	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
4(am)	Tue	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
5-8	Wed	Educating for Mission Regional Summit	Bulawayo ZIMBABWE
11-12	Tue	Global Leadership Conf for Newly Elected Leaders	Online Meeting
14-15	Fri	Ellen G White Estate Board (Consultation)	Kent Island MD
17-20	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
18(pm)	Tue	Adventist Review Ministries Publishing Board	Silver Spring MD
20(am)	Thu	General Conference Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD
20(pm)	Thu	Future Plans Working Group	Online Meeting
20(pm)	Thu	Adventist Possibility Ministries Committee	Silver Spring MD
24(am)	Mon	ADRA International Board	Online Meeting
25(am)	Tue	Adventist AIDS International Ministry Board	Online Meeting
25(am)	Tue	ASI Coordinating Committee	Online Meeting
26(am)	Wed	IBE Programs Review Committee	Online Meeting
27(am)	Thu	IRLA Board	Online Meeting
31(am)	Mon	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
31(am)	Mon	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD

1	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
2				
3	<u>March 2025</u>	contd		
4	31(am)	Mon	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
5				
6	<u>April 2025</u>			
7	1-2	Tue	Global Mission Issues Committee	Silver Spring MD
8	1(eve)	Tue	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
9	1(eve)	Tue	International Board of Min & Theol Ed (IBMTE)	Silver Spring MD
10	2(pm)	Wed	Adventist World Radio Board	Online Meeting
11	2(eve)	Wed	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Silver Spring MD
12	3(am)	Thu	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
13	3(pm)	Thu	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
14	6(am)	Sun	Hope Channel International Board	Online Meeting
15	6(pm)	Sun	GCAS Board	Online Meeting
16	7(am)	Mon	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD
17	8-9	Tue	Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD
18	14-May 3	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Istanbul TURKIYE
19	14-15	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Loma Linda CA
20	16-17	Wed	Faith and Science Council	Loma Linda CA
21	21-23	Mon	Adventist University of Africa Council Meetings	Nairobi KENYA
22				
23	<u>May 2025</u>			
24	19-20	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
25				
26	<u>June 2025</u>			
27	2-5	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
28	4(pm)	Wed	ARM and GICV Board Committees	Silver Spring MD
29	5(am)	Thu	ARM and GICV Board Meeting	Silver Spring MD
30	5(am)	Thu	General Conference Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD
31	5(am)	Thu	Adventist Possibility Ministries Committee	Online Meeting
32	5(pm)	Thu	Future Plans Working Group	Online Meeting
33	5(pm)	Thu	Ellen G White Estate Board	Silver Spring MD
34	8(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Board Univ Op & Fin Com	Online Meeting
35	8(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Executive Committee	Online Meeting
36	8(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Presidential Evaluation Com	Online Meeting
37	9-28	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Berrien Springs MI
38	9(pm)	Mon	Andrews University Board	Online Meeting
39	29-Jul 2	Sun	The World Congress of Chaplains	St Louis MO

Daily Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Consent Agenda

1	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
2				
3	<u>July 2025</u>			
4	3-12	Thu	General Conference Session	St Louis MO
5	21-27	Mon	IWM Re-entry (Family & Teens)	Berrien Springs MI
6				
7	<u>August 2025</u>			
8	6	Wed	Geoscience Research Institute Committee	Online Meeting
9	18-Sep 6	Mon	General Conference Mission Institute	Chiang Mai THAILAND
10				
11	<u>September 2025</u>			
12	1-2	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Ethics Committee	Berrien Springs MI
13	8-9	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
14	9-10	Tue	Global Leadership Conference	Online Meeting
15	15-18	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
16	15(am)	Mon	IBE Programs Review Committee	Online Meeting
17	16(pm)	Tue	Adventist Review Ministries Publishing Board	Silver Spring MD
18	18(am)	Thu	General Conference Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD
19	18(am)	Thu	Adventist Possibility Ministries Committee	Online Meeting
20	18(pm)	Thu	Future Plans Working Group	Online Meeting
21	18(pm)	Thu	Ellen G White Estate Board	Silver Spring MD
22	23(am)	Tue	International Board of Education	Online Meeting
23	23(am)	Tue	International Board of Min & Theol Ed (IBMTE)	Online Meeting
24	25(am)	Thu	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Online Meeting
25	30	Tue	GCAS Board	Silver Spring MD
26				
27	<u>October 2025</u>			
28	2(am)	Thu	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
29	2(pm)	Thu	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
30	2(pm)	Thu	Adventist AIDS International Ministry Board	Silver Spring MD
31	2(pm)	Thu	ASI Coordinating Committee	Silver Spring MD
32	2(pm)	Thu	Hope Channel International Board	Silver Spring MD
33	2(pm)	Thu	Institute for Prevention of Addictions Board	Silver Spring MD
34	3(am)	Fri	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD
35	5(am)	Sun	Adventist University of Africa Board	Silver Spring MD
36	5(am)	Sun	AIAS Board	Silver Spring MD
37	6	Mon	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
38	6	Mon	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
39	6	Mon	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
40	7(am)	Tue	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD

Daily Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Consent Agenda

	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
1				
2				
3	<u>October 2025</u> contd			
4	7(pm)	Tue	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
5	8(am)	Wed	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD
6	9-15	Thu	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
7	9-10	Thu	LEAD Conference	Silver Spring MD
8	20-21	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Berrien Springs MI
9	22-23	Wed	Faith and Science Council	Berrien Springs MI
10	24(pm)	Fri	Andrews University Board Governance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
11	26(am)	Sun	Andrews University Board Committees	Berrien Springs MI
12	26(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
13	27(am)	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
14				
15	<u>November 2025</u>			
16				
17	<u>December 2025</u>			
18	3(pm)	Wed	ARM and GICV Board Committees	Silver Spring MD
19	4(am)	Thu	ARM and GICV Board Meeting	Silver Spring MD
20				

1 SEC/ADCOM/GCDO23AC/23AC/ADCOM/101-23Gd/ADCOM/GCDO24SM/24SM/ADCOM/
 2 GCDO24AC/24AC to KJP(DIV)

3
 4 102-24Gc AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2026

5
 6 VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2026, with the understanding
 7 that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity, as
 8 follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>January 2026</u>			
14-17	Wed	PREXAD (GC PREXAD Members)	
19-Feb 7	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Chiang Mai THAILAND
26-27	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
<u>February 2026</u>			
2-3	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Ethics Committee	Collegedale TN
<u>March 2026</u>			
23-26	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
23(am)	Mon	ADRA International Board	Online Meeting
24(am)	Tue	Adventist AIDS International Ministry Board	Online Meeting
<u>April 2026</u>			
1(am)	Wed	IBE Programs Review Committee	Online Meeting
2(am)	Thu	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
6	Mon	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
6	Mon	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
6	Mon	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
7-8	Tue	Global Mission Issues Committee	Silver Spring MD
7(eve)	Tue	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
7(eve)	Tue	International Board of Min & Theol Ed (IBMTE)	Silver Spring MD
8(pm)	Wed	Adventist World Radio Board	Online Meeting
8(eve)	Wed	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Silver Spring MD
9(am)	Thu	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
9(pm)	Thu	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
13-May 2	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Istanbul TURKIYE
13(am)	Mon	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD
13(pm)	Mon	Hope Channel International Board	Silver Spring MD
14-15	Tue	Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD
15-19	Wed	GCDO Adventist Heritage Tour	New England
20-21	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Loma Linda CA
21(am)	Tue	Loma Linda University Health Constituency Mtg	Loma Linda CA
21(pm)	Tue	Loma Linda University Health Organizing Boards	Loma Linda CA
<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>

1	<u>May 2026</u>			
2	18-19	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
3				
4	<u>June 2026</u>			
5	1-4	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
6	8-13	Mon	Welcome Home Retreat (Family & Teen)	Berrien Springs MI
7				
8	<u>July 2026</u>			
9	13-Aug 1	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	_____
10				
11	<u>August 2026</u>			
12	7-15	Fri	Intercultural Workshop: Advancing God’s Mission	Bangkok THAILAND
13	17-19	Mon	10th IRLA World Congress	_____
14	31-Sep 1	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
15				
16	<u>September 2026</u>			
17	7-8	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Ethics Committee	Berrien Springs MI
18	14-17	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
19	16(am)	Wed	IBE Programs Review Committee	Online Meeting
20	22(am)	Tue	International Board of Education	Online Meeting
21	22(am)	Tue	International Board of Min & Theol Ed (IBMTE)	Online Meeting
22	24(am)	Thu	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Online Meeting
23				
24	<u>October 2026</u>			
25	1(am)	Thu	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
26	1(pm)	Thu	Adventist AIDS International Ministry Board	Silver Spring MD
27	1(pm)	Thu	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
28	1(pm)	Thu	Hope Channel International Board	Silver Spring MD
29	2(am)	Fri	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD
30	5	Mon	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
31	5	Mon	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
32	5	Mon	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
33	6(am)	Tue	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
34	6(pm)	Tue	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
35	7(am)	Wed	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD
36	7(pm)	Wed	Church Manual Committee	Silver Spring MD
37	8	Thu	LEAD Conference	Silver Spring MD
38	8-14	Thu	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
39	19-20	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Berrien Springs MI

	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
1				
2				
3	<u>November 2026</u>			
4				
5	<u>December 2026</u>			
6				

1	<u>August 2027</u>			
2	30-31	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
3				
4	<u>September 2027</u>			
5	13-16	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
6	16(am)	Thu	General Conference Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD
7				
8	<u>October 2027</u>			
9	4	Mon	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
10	4	Mon	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
11	4	Mon	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
12	5(am)	Tue	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
13	5(pm)	Tue	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
14	6(am)	Wed	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD
15	6(pm)	Wed	Church Manual Committee	Silver Spring MD
16	7-13	Thu	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
17	7	Thu	LEAD Conference	Silver Spring MD
18				
19	<u>November 2027</u>			
20				
21	<u>December 2027</u>			
22				

WAD AUTHORIZED MEETINGS FOR 2024

WADCOM-00 AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2024

VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Programs and Meetings 2024, with the understanding that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity, as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>October 2024</u>			
1	Tue	GCAS Board	Silver Spring MD
2(am)	Wed	Adventist University of Africa Board	Silver Spring MD
2(pm)	Wed	AIIAS Board	Silver Spring MD
3am	Thu	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
3pm	Thu	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
5	Sab	Sabbath of Prayer	All Churches
5	Sab	Digital Media Promotion	All churches
6am	Sun	Adventist AIDS International Ministry Board	Silver Spring MD
6pm	Sun	Institute for the Prevention of Addictions Board	Silver Spring MD
7	Mon	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
7	Mon	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
7	Mon	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
8(am)	Tue	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
8(pm)	Tue	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
9(am)	Wed	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD
9(pm)	Wed	Church Manual Committee	Silver Spring MD
10-11	Thu	LEAD Conference	Silver Spring MD
5-11	Thu	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
12	Sab	Pastor Appreciation Day	All Churches
19	Sab	Spirit of Prophecy and Adventist Heritage	All Churches
21-22	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Berrien Springs MI
26	Sab	Creation Sabbath	All Churches
21-25	Mon	WAD Prime Week	Abidjan, CI
29	Tue	BOE	<u>Online</u>
30(am)	Wed	WAD Publishing Administrative Committee Meeting	<u>Online</u>
30(pm)	Wed	BMTE	<u>Online</u>
31	Thu	President/Secretaries/Treasurers' Council	Abidjan, CI
30-Nov 2	Wed	WADwide Training on Reporting	WAD, Unions Comm, Abidjan
<u>November 2024</u>			
1	Fri	YEC attendants Arrival to Abidjan	Abidjan, CI
1	Fri	Strategic Planning/Budget Session	Abidjan, CI
2	Sab	YEC Sabbath worship & Evangelism symposium	Abidjan, CI
2-9	Sab	World Week of Prayer	All Churches

Daily Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Consent Agenda

1	3-5	Sun	Division Year-end Council	Abidjan,CI
2	6-7	Wed	Division Year-end Council	Abidjan,CI
3	8	Fri	YEC Attendants Departure from Abidjan	
4	9-15	Sab	e-Week of Prayer for Youth and Young Adults	YOU- All Churches
5	16	Sab	World Orphans Vulnerable Children Day	APM- All churches
6	16	Sab	Promotion of Tolerance	WAD PARL
7	18-20	Mon	CAUM Year-end Meeting	Libreville, Gabon
8	18-20	Mon	ENUC Year-end Meeting	Aba, Nigeria
9	18-20	Mon	CMUM Year-end Meeting*	Yaoundé, Cameroon
10	21-23	Mon	North-East Cameroon Union Mission session/Inauguration*	Ngaoundere, Cameroon
11	21	Thu	All Adventist Media Professionals gathering	Online
12	23	Sab	HIV/AIDS Awareness	HM- All Churches
13	25-27	Mon	ESUM Year-end Meeting	Lome, Togo
14	25-27	Mon	WNUC Year-end Meeting	Lagos, Nigeria
15	25-27	Mon	SGUC Year-end Meeting*	Accra, Ghana
16	28-30	Mon	South-East Ghana Union Mission Session/Inauguration*	Tema, Ghana
17	30-7Dec	Sab	Stewardship Revival Week	All Churches

18
19

20 December 2024

21	2-4	Mon	WAUM Year-end Meeting	Monrovia, Liberia
22	2-4	Mon	NOGH Year-end Meeting*	Kumasi, Ghana
23	5-7	Mon	South-East Ghana Union Mission Session/Inauguration*	Tema, Ghana
24	9	Thu	Advent Press Meeting*	Accra, Ghana
25	4pm	Wed	ARM and GICV Board Committees	Silver Spring MD
26	5am	Thu	ARM and GICV Board Meeting	Silver Spring MD
27	7	Sab	Annual Stewardship Sabbath	All Churches
28	11-13	Wed	WSUM Year-end Meeting	Dakar, Senegal
29	11-13	Wed	NNUC Year-end Meeting*	Lagos, Nigeria
30	11-12	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
31	14	Sab	Health Emphasis	All Churches
32	21	Sab	Human Solidarity Emphasis Day	PARL All Churches
33	24-28	Tue	Pan African Youth Congress – Babcock U	Three African Divisions

34

35 January 2025

36			VVU (Valley View University)*	VVU
37			BU (Babcock University)*	Babcock University

38

39 **NB. * The three officers will be present at these meetings.**

40

41

42



WAD 2025 AUTHORIZED MEETINGS / CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WADCOM-00 AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2025

RECOMMENDING, To approve the updated list of Authorized Programs and Meetings for 2025, with the understanding that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity, as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>January 2025</u>			
8-18	Wed	10 days of Prayer	All Churches
11	Sab	Health Ministries Day	All Churches
15-18	Wed	PREXAD with Division Presidents	_____
18	Sab	Religious Liberty Day	All Churches
19	Sun	Global Youth Day/Global Children’s Day	All Churches
20-Feb 8	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Chiang Mai THAILAND
<u>February 2025</u>			
1	Sab	Reach the World: Personal Outreach	SS /All Churches
3-4	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Ethics Committee	Collegedale TN
8-15	Sab	Christian Home and Marriage Week	All Churches
23-25	Sun	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
<u>March 2025</u>			
1	Sab	Women’s Day of Prayer	All Churches
1-31	Sat	WAD Impact 2025	All Churches
2(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Board Executive Committee	Berrien Springs MI
3(am)	Mon	Andrews University Board Committees	Berrien Springs MI
3(pm)	Mon	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
4(am)	Tue	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
8	Sab	Adventist World Radio – Sabbath	All Churches
11-12	Tue	Global Leadership Conf for Newly Elected Leaders	Online Meeting
15-22	Sab	Youth Week of Prayer	All Churches
17-20	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
18(pm)	Tue	Adventist Review Ministries Publishing Board	Silver Spring MD
20(am)	Thu	General Conference Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD
20(pm)	Thu	Adventist Possibility Ministries Committee	Silver Spring MD
22	Sab	Christian Education	All churches
24(am)	Mon	ADRA International Board	Online Meeting
25(am)	Tue	Adventist AIDS International Ministry Board	Online Meeting
25(am)	Tue	ASI Coordinating Committee	Online Meeting
26(am)	Wed	IBE Programs Review Committee	Online Meeting
27(am)	Thu	IRLA Board	Online Meeting
31(am)	Mon	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD

Daily Program	General Agenda	Policy Agenda	Consent Agenda
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1	31(am)	Mon	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
2	31(am)	Mon	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
3				
4	<u>April 2025</u>			
5	1-2	Tue	Global Mission Issues Committee	Silver Spring MD
6	1(eve)	Tue	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
7	1(eve)	Tue	International Board of Min & Theol Ed (IBMTE)	Silver Spring MD
8	2(pm)	Wed	Adventist World Radio Board	Online Meeting
9	2(eve)	Wed	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Silver Spring MD
10	3(am)	Thu	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
11	3(pm)	Thu	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
12	5	Sab	Quarterly Day of Prayer	All churches
13	6(am)	Sun	Hope Channel International Board	Online Meeting
14	7(am)	Mon	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD
15	8-9	Tue	Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD
16	12-18	Sab	Literature Evangelism Rally week	All Churches
17	12	Sab	Friends of hope Day (Visitor's Day)	All Churches
18	12	Sab	Hope Channel International	All Churches
19	12	Sab	World Impact Day—for Distribution of Missionary book	All churches
20	14-May 3	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Istanbul TURKEY
21	14-15	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Online Meeting
22	16-17	Wed	Faith and Science Council	Loma Linda CA
23	19	Sab	Possibility Ministries Day	All Churches
24	21-23	Mon	Adventist University of Africa Council Meetings	Nairobi KENYA
25	14-18	Mon	WAD 1 st Quarter Prime Week -	WAD office
26	21-25	Mon	WAD Mid-year Pre-meetings	Online meetings
27	25	Fri	Presidents/Secretary/Treasurers council	Online
28	27	Sun	Strategic Planning/Budget Session	Online
29	28-30	Mon	WAD Mid-year meetings	Online
30				
31	<u>May 2025</u>			
32	3-31	Sab	Drug Awareness Month	HM-All Churches
33	3	Sab	Reach the World: using Communications Channels	All Churches
34	19-20	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
35	24	Sab	World Day of Prayer for Children at Risk	All churches
36				
37	<u>June 2025</u>			
38	2-5	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
39	4(pm)	Wed	ARM and GICV Board Committees	Silver Spring MD
40	5(am)	Thu	ARM and GICV Board Meeting	Silver Spring MD
41	5(am)	Thu	General Conference Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD
42	5(pm)	Thu	Adventist Possibility Ministries Committee	Silver Spring MD
43	7	Sab	Reach the World: Bible Study: SS and correspondence	All Churches
44	8(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Board Univ Op & Fin Com	Online Meeting
45	8(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Executive Committee	Online Meeting
46	8(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Presidential Evaluation Com	Online Meeting
47	9-28	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Berrien Springs MI
48	9(pm)	Mon	Andrews University Board	Online Meeting

Daily Program
General Agenda
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1	14	Sab	Women Ministries Emphasis Day	All Churches
2	21	Sab	Adventist World Refugee Day	All Churches
3	28	Sab	World Public Campus Ministries Day	All Churches
4				
5	<u>July 2025</u>			
6	3-12	Thu	General Conference Session	St Louis MO
7	5	Sab	Quarterly Day of Prayer	All Churches
8	12	Sab	Mission Promotion World Mission	All Churches
9	21-27	Mon	IWM Re-entry (Family & Teens)	Berrien Springs MI
10	26	Sab	Children's Sabbath	All churches
11				
12	<u>August 2025</u>			
13	11-30	Mon	General Conference Mission Institute	Silver Spring MD
14	16	Sab	Education Day	All Churches
15	23	Sab	enditnow Day	All churches
16	25-26	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
17				
18	<u>September 2025</u>			
19	1-2	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Ethics Committee	Berrien Springs MI
20	7-13	Sab	Family Togetherness Week of Prayer	All Churches
21	13	Sab	Family Togetherness Day of Prayer	All Churches
22	9-10	Tue	Global Leadership Conference	Online Meeting
23	15-18	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
24	15(am)	Mon	IBE Programs Review Committee	Online Meeting
25	16(pm)	Tue	Adventist Review Ministries Publishing Board	Silver Spring MD
26	18	Thu	Adventist Possibility Ministries Committee	Silver Spring MD
27	18(am)	Thu	General Conference Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD
28	20	Sab	Pathfinder Day	All Churches
29	23(am)	Tue	International Board of Education	Online Meeting
30	23(am)	Tue	International Board of Min & Theol Ed (IBMTE)	Online Meeting
31	25(am)	Thu	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Online Meeting
32	27	Sab	Sabbath School Guest Day	All churches
33	30	Tue	GCAS Board	Silver Spring MD
34				
35	<u>October 2025</u>			
36	2(am)	Thu	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
37	2(pm)	Thu	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
38	2(pm)	Thu	Adventist AIDS International Ministry Board	Silver Spring MD
39	2(pm)	Thu	ASI Coordinating Committee	Silver Spring MD
40	2(pm)	Thu	Hope Channel International Board	Silver Spring MD
41	2(pm)	Thu	Institute for Prevention of Addictions Board	Silver Spring MD
42	3(am)	Fri	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD
43	4	Sab	Quarterly Day of Prayer	All churches
44	5(am)	Sun	Adventist University of Africa Board	Silver Spring MD
45	5(am)	Sun	AIIAS Board	Silver Spring MD
46	6	Mon	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
47	6	Mon	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
48	6	Mon	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD

Daily Program

General Agenda

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Consent Agenda

1	7(am)	Tue	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
2	7(pm)	Tue	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
3	8(am)	Wed	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD
4	9-15	Thu	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
5	9-10	Thu	LEAD Conference	Silver Spring MD
6	11	Sab	Pastor Appreciation Day	All churches
7	18	Sab	Spirit of Prophecy and Adventist Heritage	All churches
8	20-21	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Online Meeting
9	20-24	Mon	WAD Prime Week	WAD Office
10	22-23	Wed	Faith and Science Council	Berrien Springs MI
11	24(pm)	Fri	Andrews University Board Governance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
12	25	Sab	Creation Sabbath	All Churches
13	26(am)	Sun	Andrews University Board Committees	Berrien Springs MI
14	26(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
15	27(am)	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
16	27	Mon	Arrival Field Officers YEC	Abidjan, CI
17	28	Tues	WAD Board of Education	Abidjan, CI
18	29	Wed	WAD BMTE	Abidjan, CI
19	30	Thurs	President/Secretaries/Treasurers' Council	Abidjan, CI
20	31	Fri	Strategic Planning/Budget Session	Abidjan, CI
21	31	Fri	Arrival YEC Participants	Abidjan, CI
22				
23	<u>November 2025</u>			
24	1-8	Sab	Week of Prayer	All churches
25	1	Sab	YEC Sabbath Celebration	Abidjan, CI
26	2- 4	Sun	WAD Year-end Meeting	Abidjan, CI
27	5	Wed	Departure WAD Year-end Meeting Participants	Abidjan, CI
28	8-14	Sab	e-week of Prayer for Youth and Young Adults	All churches
29	15	Sab	World Orphans and Vulnerable Children Day	All Churches
30	18-20	Tue	CAUM Year-end Meeting	Libreville, Gabon
31	18-20	Tue	ENUC Year-end Meeting	Aba, Nigeria
32	18-20	Tue	CMUM Year-end Meeting*	Yaoundé, Cameroon
33	20-22	Mon	North-East Cameroon Union Mission*	Ngaoundere, Cameroon
34	22	Sab	HIV/AIDS Awareness	All churches
35	24-26	Mon	ESUM Year-end Meeting	Lome, Togo
36	24-26	Mon	WNUC Year-end Meeting	Lagos, Nigeria
37	24-26	Mon	SGUC Year-end Meeting*	Accra, Ghana
38	27-29	Mon	South-East Ghana Union Mission*	Tema, Ghana
39	29-6	Sab	Stewardship Revival Week	All churches
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41	<u>December 2025</u>			
42	1-3	Mon	WAUM Year-end Meeting	Monrovia, Liberia
43	1-3	Mon	NOGH Year-end Meeting*	Kumasi, Ghana
44	4-6	Mon	North Ghana Union Mission*	Techiman, Ghana
45	8	Thu	Advent Press Meeting*	Accra, Ghana
46	3(pm)	Wed	ARM and GICV Board Committees	Silver Spring MD
47	4(am)	Thu	ARM and GICV Board Meeting	Silver Spring MD

Daily Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda Items

1	6	Sab	Annual Stewardship Sabbath	All churches
2	8-9	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
3	10-12	Wed	WSUM Year-end Meeting	Dakar, Senegal
4	10-12	Wed	NNUC Year-end Meeting*	Lagos, Nigeria
5	13	Sab	Health emphasis	All churches
6	<u>January 2026</u>			
7			VVU (Valley View University) ^{3*}	VVU
8			BU (Babcock University)*	Babcock University

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³ * The three officers will be present at these meetings.



Chapter 1—Earth's Last Crisis

Widespread Apprehension About the Future

The calamities by land and sea, the unsettled state of society, the alarms of war, are portentous. They forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude. The agencies of evil are combining their forces and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and the final movements will be rapid ones.—Testimonies for the Church 9:11 (1909). LDE 11.2

Troublous Times Soon to Come

The time of trouble—trouble such as was not since there was a nation [Daniel 12:1]—is right upon us, and we are like the sleeping virgins. We are to awake and ask the Lord Jesus to place underneath us His everlasting arms, and carry us through the time of trial before us.—Manuscript Releases 3:305 (1906). LDE 12.2

We are on the very verge of the time of trouble, and perplexities that are scarcely dreamed of are before us. — Testimonies for the Church 9:43 (1909). LDE 12.4

There are stormy times before us, but let us not utter one word of unbelief or discouragement.—Christian Service, 136 (1905). LDE 12.6

Last Day Prophecies Demand Our Attention

I then saw the third angel [Revelation 14:9-11]. Said my accompanying angel, "Fearful is his work. Awful is his mission. He is the angel that is to select the wheat from the tares and seal, or bind, the wheat for the heavenly garner. These things should engross the whole mind, the whole attention."—Early Writings, 118 (1854). LDE 14.2

Study the Books of Daniel and Revelation Especially

There is need of a much closer study of the Word of God; especially should Daniel and the Revelation have attention as never before.... The light that Daniel received from God was given especially for these last days.—Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, 112, 113 (1896). LDE 15.3

Let us read and study the twelfth chapter of Daniel. It is a warning that we shall all need to understand before the time of the end.—Manuscript Releases 15:228 (1903). LDE 15.4

The Subject Should Be Kept Before the People

There are many who do not understand the prophecies relating to these days and they must be enlightened. It is the duty of both watchmen and laymen to give the trumpet a certain sound.—Evangelism, 194, 195 (1875). LDE 16.2

Chapter 2—Signs of Christ's Soon Return

Our Lord's Great Prophecy

Christ forewarned His disciples of the destruction of Jerusalem and the signs to take place prior to the coming of the Son of man. The whole of the twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew is a prophecy concerning the events to precede this event, and the destruction of Jerusalem is used to typify the last great destruction of the world by fire.—Manuscript 77, 1899. LDE 18.1

Signs on the Earth

The nations are in unrest. Times of perplexity are upon us. Men's hearts are failing them for fear of the things that are coming upon the earth. But those who believe in God will hear His voice amid the storm, saying, "It is I; be not afraid."—The Signs of the Times, October 9, 1901. LDE 19.4

Deeds of Violence

The terrible reports we hear of murders and robberies, of railway accidents and deeds of violence, tell the story that the end of all things is at hand. Now, just now, we need to be preparing for the Lord's second coming.—Letter 308, 1907. LDE 23.5

Great Balls of Fire

I saw an immense ball of fire fall among some beautiful mansions, causing their instant destruction. I heard someone say: "We knew that the judgments of God were coming upon the earth, but we did not know that they would come so soon." Others, with agonized voices, said: "You knew! Why then did you not tell us? We did not know."—Testimonies for the Church 9:28 (1909). LDE 25.1

God's Purpose in Calamities

God has a purpose in permitting these calamities to occur. They are one of His means of calling men and women to their senses. By unusual workings through nature God will express to doubting human agencies that which He clearly reveals in His Word.—Manuscript Releases 19:279 (1902). LDE 28.2

Coming Events Are in the Hands of the Lord

In the great closing work we shall meet with perplexities that we know not how to deal with, but let us not forget that the three great Powers of heaven are working, that a divine hand is on the wheel, and that God will bring His purposes to pass.—Evangelism, 65 (1902). LDE 29.3

Heaven's Regard for Earth's Affairs

The whole universe is watching with inexpressible interest the closing scenes of the great controversy between good and evil.—Prophets and Kings, 148 (c. 1914). LDE 30.4

Our little world is the lesson book of the universe.—The Desire of Ages, 19 (1898). LDE 31.1

[Ellen White states that the unfallen worlds and the heavenly angels watched Christ's struggle in Gethsemane "with intense interest" (The Desire of Ages, 693). In discussing Christ's four-thousand-year battle with Satan and his ultimate victory on the cross she uses such phrases as "the heavenly universe beheld," "all heaven and the unfallen worlds had been witnesses," "they heard," "they saw," "heaven viewed," "what a sight for the heavenly universe!" See The Desire of Ages, 693, 759, 760.]

Chapter 3—"When Shall These Things Be?"

Time of Christ's Return Not Known

Many who have called themselves Adventists have been time-setters. Time after time has been set for Christ to come, but repeated failures have been the result. The definite time of our Lord's coming is declared to be beyond the ken of mortals. Even the angels, who minister unto those who shall be heirs of salvation, know not the day nor the hour. "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but My Father only."—Testimonies for the Church 4:307 (1879). LDE 32.3

We are nearing the great day of God. The signs are fulfilling. And yet we have no message to tell us of the day and hour of Christ's appearing. The Lord has wisely concealed this from us that we may always be in a state of expectancy and preparation for the second appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ in the clouds of heaven.—Letter 28, 1897. LDE 33.3

The exact time of the second coming of the Son of man is God's mystery.—The Desire of Ages, 633 (1898). LDE 33.4

Ellen White Expected Christ's Return in Her Day

The time of test is just upon us, for the loud cry of the third angel has already begun in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ, the sin-pardoning Redeemer.—Selected Messages 1:363 (1892). LDE 37.3

What Christ Is Waiting For

Christ is waiting with longing desire for the manifestation of Himself in His church. When the character of Christ shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, then He will come to claim them as His own. LDE 39.2

It is the privilege of every Christian, not only to look for, but to hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Were all who profess His name bearing fruit to His glory, how quickly the whole world would be sown with the seed of the gospel. Quickly the last great harvest would be ripened, and Christ would come to gather the precious grain.—Christ's Object Lessons, 69 (1900). LDE 39.3

Transgression Has Almost Reached Its Limit

Transgression has almost reached its limit. Confusion fills the world, and a great terror is soon to come upon human beings. The end is very near. We who know the truth should be preparing for what is soon to break upon the world as an overwhelming surprise.—Testimonies for the Church 8:28 (1904). LDE 41.4

The Shortness of Time

May the Lord give no rest, day nor night, to those who are now careless and indolent in the cause and work of God. The end is near. This is that which Jesus would have us keep ever before us—the shortness of time.—Letter 97, 1886. LDE 42.6

Chapter 4—God's Last Day Church

God's People Keep His Commandments

God has a distinct people, a church on earth, second to none, but superior to all in their facilities to teach the truth, to vindicate the law of God.... My brother, if you are teaching that the Seventh-day Adventist Church is Babylon, you are wrong.—Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, 50, 58, 59 (1893). LDE 43.3

The Distinctive Mission of Seventh-day Adventists

Seventh-day Adventists have been chosen by God as a peculiar people, separate from the world. By the great cleaver of truth He has cut them out from the quarry of the world and brought them into connection with Himself. He has made them His representatives and has called them to be ambassadors for Him in the last work of salvation. The greatest wealth of truth ever entrusted to mortals, the most solemn and fearful warnings ever sent by God to man, have been committed to them to be given to the world.—Testimonies for the Church 7:138 (1902). LDE 45.2

In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the Word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import—the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages. There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention.—Testimonies for the Church 9:19 (1909). LDE 45.3

The Special Authority of God's Church

God has invested His church with special authority and power which no one can be justified in disregarding and despising, for in so doing he despises the voice of God.—Testimonies for the Church 3:417 (1875). LDE 47.4

God has bestowed the highest power under heaven upon His church. It is the voice of God in His united people in church capacity which is to be respected.—Testimonies for the Church 3:451 (1875). LDE 47.5

God Will Set Everything in Order

There is no need to doubt, to be fearful that the work will not succeed. God is at the head of the work, and He will set everything in order. If matters need adjusting at the head of the work God will attend to that, and work to right every wrong. Let us have faith that God is going to carry the noble ship which bears the people of God safely into port.—Selected Messages 2:390 (1892). LDE 52.1

Although there are evils existing in the church, and will be until the end of the world, the church in these last days is to be the light of the world that is polluted and demoralized by sin. The church, enfeebled and defective, needing to be reprov'd, warn'd, and counseled, is the only object upon earth upon which Christ bestows His supreme regard.—Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, 45, 49 (1893). LDE 52.2

Confidence in SDA Organization Reaffirmed

I am instructed to say to Seventh-day Adventists the world over, God has called us as a people to be a peculiar treasure unto Himself. He has appointed that His church on earth shall stand perfectly united in the Spirit and counsel of the Lord of hosts to the end of time.—Selected Messages 2:397 (1908). LDE 55.3

God has ordained that the representatives of His church from all parts of the earth, when assembled in a General Conference, shall have authority. The error that some are in danger of committing is in giving to the mind and judgment of one man, or of a small group of men, the full measure of authority and influence that God has invested in His church in the judgment and voice of the General Conference assembled to plan for the prosperity and advancement of His work.—Testimonies for the Church 9:260, 261 (1909). LDE 56.1

Spiritual Revival Still Needed

I had written thus far when I lost consciousness, and I seemed to be witnessing a scene in Battle Creek. LDE 57.2

We were assembled in the auditorium of the Tabernacle. Prayer was offered, a hymn was sung, and prayer was again offered. Most earnest supplication was made to God. The meeting was marked by the presence of the Holy Spirit.... LDE 57.3

No one seemed to be too proud to make heartfelt confession, and those who led in this work were the ones who had influence, but had not before had courage to confess their sins. LDE 57.4

The Church Triumphant Will Be Faithful and Christlike

The life of Christ was a life charged with a divine message of the love of God, and He longed intensely to impart this love to others in rich measure. Compassion beamed from His countenance, and His conduct was characterized by grace, humility, truth, and love. Every member of His church militant must manifest the same qualities, if he would join the church triumphant.—Fundamentals of Christian Education, 179 (1891). LDE 62.2

Chapter 5—Devotional Life of the Remnant

A Twofold Life

Prayer and effort, effort and prayer, will be the business of your life. You must pray as though the efficiency and praise were all due to God, and labor as though duty were all your own.—Testimonies for the Church 4:538 (1881). LDE 63.3

Firmly Rooted in Christ

The only defense against evil is the indwelling of Christ in the heart through faith in His righteousness. Unless we become vitally connected with God, we can never resist the unhallowed effects of self-love, self-indulgence, and temptation to sin. We may leave off many bad habits, for the time we may part company with Satan; but without a vital connection with God, through the surrender of ourselves to Him moment by moment, we shall be overcome. Without a personal acquaintance with Christ, and a continual communion, we are at the mercy of the enemy, and shall do his bidding in the end.—The Desire of Ages, 324 (1898). LDE 64.5

Christ and Him crucified should be the theme of contemplation, of conversation, and of our most joyful emotion.—Steps to Christ, 103, 104 (1892). LDE 65.1

The Necessity of Bible Study

None but those who have fortified the mind with the truths of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict.—The Great Controversy, 593, 594 (1911). LDE 66.3

Commit Scripture to Memory

Several times each day precious, golden moments should be consecrated to prayer and the study of the Scriptures, if it is only to commit a text to memory, that spiritual life may exist in the soul.—Testimonies for the Church 4:459 (1880). LDE 66.6

Revelation 14 an Anchor to God's People

Many who embraced the third message had not had an experience in the two former messages. Satan understood this, and his evil eye was upon them to overthrow them; but the third angel was pointing them to the most holy place, and those who had an experience in the past messages were pointing them the way to the heavenly sanctuary. Many saw the perfect chain of truth in the angels' messages and gladly received them in their order, and followed Jesus by faith into the heavenly sanctuary. These messages were represented to me as an anchor to the

people of God. Those who understand and receive them will be kept from being swept away by the many delusions of Satan.—Early Writings, 256 (1858). LDE 68.2

Chapter 6—Lifestyle and Activities of the Remnant

A Spirit of Service and Self-Sacrifice

Long has God waited for the spirit of service to take possession of the whole church so that everyone shall be working for Him according to his ability. When the members of the church of God do their appointed work in the needy fields at home and abroad, in fulfillment of the gospel commission, the whole world will soon be warned, and the Lord Jesus will return to this earth with power and great glory.—The Acts of the Apostles, 111 (1911). LDE 75.1

Faithful in Tithes and Offerings

The tithe is sacred, reserved by God for Himself. It is to be brought into His treasury to be used to sustain the gospel laborers in their work.... Read carefully the third chapter of Malachi and see what God says about the tithe.—Testimonies for the Church 9:249 (1909). LDE 78.3

Medical Missionary Work

I wish to tell you that soon there will be no work done in ministerial lines but medical missionary work.—Counsels on Health, 533 (1901). LDE 80.3

Return to the Original Diet

God is trying to lead us back, step by step, to His original design—that man should subsist upon the natural products of the earth. Among those who are waiting for the coming of the Lord meat eating will eventually be done away; flesh will cease to form a part of their diet. We should ever keep this end in view and endeavor to work steadily toward it.—Counsels on Health, 450 (1890). LDE 81.5

Family Worship

Evening and morning join with your children in God's worship, reading His Word and singing His praise. Teach them to repeat God's law.—Evangelism, 499 (1904). LDE 83.4

Guard Association With the World

Those who are watching and waiting for the appearing of Christ in the clouds of heaven will not be mingling with the world in pleasure societies and gatherings merely for their own amusement.—Manuscript 4, 1898. LDE 85.1

Music That Elevates

Music forms a part of God's worship in the courts above, and we should endeavor in our songs of praise to approach as nearly as possible to the harmony of the heavenly choirs.... Singing, as a part of religious service, is as much an act of worship as is prayer.—Patriarchs and Prophets, 594 (1890). LDE 86.4

Television and the Theater

The only safe amusements are such as will not banish serious and religious thoughts. The only safe places of resort are those to which we can take Jesus with us.—Our High Calling, 284 (1883). LDE 88.1

Dress and Adornments

The outside appearance is an index to the heart.—Testimonies For The Church 1:136 (1856). LDE 89.1

Chapter 7 – Country Living

Cities to Be Worked From Outposts

As God's commandment-keeping people we must leave the cities. As did Enoch, we must work in the cities but not dwell in them.—Evangelism, 77, 78 (1899). LDE 96.2

The cities are to be worked from outposts. Said the messenger of God, "Shall not the cities be warned? Yes, not by God's people living in them but by their visiting them, to warn them of what is coming upon the earth."—Selected Messages 2:358 (1902). LDE 96.3

For years I have been given special light that we are not to center our work in the cities. The turmoil and confusion that fill these cities, the conditions brought about by the labor unions and the strikes, would prove a great hindrance to our work.—Testimonies for the Church 7:84 (1902). LDE 96.4

Locate Institutions "Just Out From the Large Cities"

Let men of sound judgment be appointed, not to publish abroad their intentions, but to search for such properties in the rural districts, in easy access to the cities, suitable for small training schools for workers, and where facilities may also be provided for treating the sick and weary souls who know not the truth. Look for such places just out from the large cities, where suitable buildings may be secured, either as a gift from the owners or purchased at a reasonable price by the gifts of our people. Do not erect buildings in the noisy cities.—Evangelism, 77 (1909). LDE 100.1

Chapter 8 —The Cities

The Cities Are Hotbeds of Vice

Light has been given me that the cities will be filled with confusion, violence, and crime, and that these things will increase till the end of this earth's history.—Testimonies for the Church 7:84 (1902). LDE 110.3

New York City

I have no light in particular in regard to what is coming on New York, only that I know that one day the great buildings there will be thrown down by the turning and overturning of God's power.... Death will come in all places. *This is why I am so anxious for our cities to be warned.*—The Review and Herald, July 5, 1906. LDE 112.4

Other Wicked Cities

I am bidden to declare the message that cities full of transgression, and sinful in the extreme, will be destroyed by earthquakes, by fire, by flood.—Evangelism, 27 (April 27, 1906). LDE 115.2

Labor Unions a Source of Trouble for Adventists

The trades unions will be one of the agencies that will bring upon this earth a time of trouble such as has not been since the world began.... LDE 116.3

Schools, Churches, Restaurants Needed in the Cities

Our restaurants must be in the cities, for otherwise the workers in these restaurants could not reach the people and teach them the principles of right living.—Selected Messages 2:142 (1903). LDE 119.4

The Signal for Flight From the Cities

The time is not far distant when, like the early disciples, we shall be forced to seek a refuge in desolate and solitary places. As the siege of Jerusalem by the Roman armies was the signal for flight to the Judean Christians, so the assumption of power on the part of our nation, in the decree enforcing the papal sabbath, will be a warning to us. It will then be time to leave the large cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains.—Testimonies for the Church 5:464, 465 (1885). LDE 121.1

Chapter 9—Sunday Laws

The United States Will Pass a Sunday Law

When our nation shall so abjure the principles of its government as to enact a Sunday law, Protestantism will in this act join hands with popery.—Testimonies for the Church 5:712 (1889). LDE 128.2

Protestants will throw their whole influence and strength on the side of the papacy. By a national act enforcing the false sabbath they will give life and vigor to the corrupt faith of Rome, reviving her tyranny and oppression of conscience.—Maranatha, 179 (1893). LDE 128.3

Sooner or later Sunday laws will be passed.—The Review and Herald, February 16, 1905. LDE 128.4

The prophecy of Revelation 13 declares that the power represented by the beast with lamblike horns shall cause “the earth and them which dwell therein” to worship the papacy—there symbolized by the beast “like unto a leopard”.... This prophecy will be fulfilled when the United States shall enforce Sunday observance, which Rome claims as the special acknowledgment of her supremacy.... LDE 129.2

Protestantism and Catholicism Act in Concert

How the Roman church can clear herself from the charge of idolatry we cannot see.... And this is the religion which Protestants are beginning to look upon with so much favor, and which will eventually be united with Protestantism. This union will not, however, be effected by a change in Catholicism, for Rome never changes. She claims infallibility. It is Protestantism that will change. The adoption of liberal ideas on its part will bring it where it can clasp the hand of Catholicism.—The Review and Herald, June 1, 1886. LDE 130.2

Sunday Laws Honor Rome

When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with spiritualism, when, under the influence of this threefold union, our country shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution as a Protestant and republican government and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan and that the end is near.—Testimonies for the Church 5:451 (1885). LDE 131.4

Universal Sunday Legislation

As America, the land of religious liberty, shall unite with the papacy in forcing the conscience and compelling men to honor the false sabbath, the people of every country on the globe will be led to follow her example.—Testimonies for the Church 6:18 (1900). LDE 135.1

The Whole World Will Support Sunday Legislation

The whole world is to be stirred with enmity against Seventh-day Adventists because they will not yield homage to the papacy by honoring Sunday, the institution of this antichristian power.—Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, 37 (1893). LDE 136.2

The Controversy Centers in Christendom

All Christendom will be divided into two great classes—those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, and those who worship the beast and his image and receive his mark.—The Great Controversy, 450 (1911). LDE 137.2

False Revivals

Before the final visitation of God's judgments upon the earth there will be among the people of the Lord such a revival of primitive godliness as has not been witnessed since apostolic times.... The enemy of souls desires to hinder this work, and before the time for such a movement shall come, he will endeavor to prevent it by introducing a counterfeit. In those churches which he can bring under his deceptive power, he will make it appear that God's special blessing is poured out; there will be manifest what is thought to be great religious interest.... LDE 158.2

Music Is Made a Snare

The things you have described as taking place in Indiana, [These comments were made in connection with the "Holy Flesh" Movement at the Indiana camp meeting of 1900. For further details, see Selected Messages 2:31-39.] the Lord has shown me would take place just before the close of probation. Every uncouth thing will be demonstrated. There will be shouting, with drums, music, and dancing. The senses of rational beings will become so confused that they cannot be trusted to make right decisions.... LDE 159.1

A bedlam of noise shocks the senses and perverts that which if conducted aright might be a blessing. The powers of satanic agencies blend with the din and noise to have a carnival, and this is termed the Holy Spirit's working.... Those things which have been in the past will be in the future. Satan will make music a snare by the way in which it is conducted.—Selected Messages 2:36, 38 (1900). LDE 159.2

Let us give no place to strange exercisings, which really take the mind away from the deep movings of the Holy Spirit. God's work is ever characterized by calmness and dignity.—Selected Messages 2:42 (1908). LDE 159.3

Evil Angels Appear as Human Beings

Evil angels in the form of men will talk with those who know the truth. They will misinterpret and misconstrue the statements of the messengers of God.... Have Seventh-day Adventists forgotten the warning given in the sixth chapter of Ephesians? We are engaged in a warfare against the hosts of darkness. Unless we follow our Leader closely, Satan will obtain the victory over us.—Selected Messages 3:411 (1903). LDE 160.3

Satan Resembles Christ in Every Particular

As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ. The church has long professed to look to the Saviour's advent as the consummation of her hopes. Now the great deceiver will make it appear that Christ has come. In different parts of the earth, Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness, resembling the description of the Son of God given by John in the Revelation. (Revelation 1:13-15). The glory that surrounds him is unsurpassed by anything that mortal eyes have yet beheld. The shout of triumph rings out upon the air: "Christ has come! Christ has come!" LDE 163.2

Chapter 10—The Little Time of Trouble

The End of Religious Liberty in the United States

Seventh-day Adventists will fight the battle over the seventh-day Sabbath. The authorities in the United States and in other countries will rise up in their pride and power and make laws to restrict religious liberty.—Manuscript 78, 1897. LDE 144.3

The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience.—The Great Controversy, 588 (1911). LDE 144.4

How to Stand Firm Under Persecution

We shall find that we must let loose of all hands except the hand of Jesus Christ. Friends will prove treacherous and will betray us. Relatives, deceived by the enemy, will think they do God service in opposing us and putting forth the utmost efforts to bring us into hard places, hoping we will deny our faith. But we may trust our hand in the hand of Christ amid darkness and peril.—Maranatha, 197 (1889). LDE 150.6

The only way in which men will be able to stand firm in the conflict is to be rooted and grounded in Christ. They must receive the truth as it is in Jesus. And it is only as the truth is presented thus that it can meet the wants of the soul. The preaching of Christ crucified, Christ our righteousness, is what satisfies the soul's hunger. When we secure the interest of the people in this great central truth, faith and hope and courage come to the heart.—General Conference Daily Bulletin, January 28, 1893. LDE 151.1

A Crisis Makes God's Interference More Marked

When the defiance of the law of Jehovah shall be almost universal, when His people shall be pressed in affliction by their fellow men, God will interpose. The fervent prayers of His people will be answered, for He loves to have His people seek Him with all their heart and depend upon Him as their Deliverer.—The Review and Herald, June 15, 1897. LDE 153.1

Chapter 11—Satan's Last Day Deceptions

Lying Spirits Contradict the Scriptures

Through the two great errors, the immortality of the soul and Sunday sacredness, Satan will bring the people under his deceptions. While the former lays the foundation of spiritualism, the latter creates a bond of sympathy with Rome.—The Great Controversy, 588 (1911). LDE 157.2

How the Counterfeit Differs from the Genuine

Satan is striving to gain every advantage.... Disguised as an angel of light, he will walk the earth as a wonder-worker. In beautiful language he will present lofty sentiments; good words will be spoken by him and good deeds performed. Christ will be personified. But on one point there will be a marked distinction—Satan will turn the people from the law of God. Notwithstanding this, so well will he counterfeit righteousness that, if it were possible, he would deceive the very elect. Crowned heads, presidents, rulers in high places, will bow to his false theories.—*Fundamentals of Christian Education*, 471, 472 (1897). LDE 166.1

Miracles Cannot Supersede the Bible

The last great delusion is soon to open before us. Antichrist is to perform his marvelous works in our sight. So closely will the counterfeit resemble the true that it will be impossible to distinguish between them except by the Holy Scriptures. By their testimony every statement and every miracle must be tested.—*The Great Controversy*, 593 (1911). LDE 170.2

Chapter 12—The Shaking

The Chaff Separated From the Wheat

We are in the shaking time, the time when everything that can be shaken will be shaken. The Lord will not excuse those who know the truth if they do not in word and deed obey His commands.—*Testimonies for the Church* 6:332 (1900). LDE 173.4

The Straight Testimony Produces a Shaking

I asked the meaning of the shaking I had seen, and was shown that it would be caused by the straight testimony called forth by the counsel of the True Witness to the Laodiceans. This will have its effect upon the heart of the receiver, and will lead him to exalt the standard and pour forth the straight truth. Some will not bear this straight testimony. They will rise up against it, and this will cause a shaking among God's people.—*Testimonies For The Church* 1:181 (1857). LDE 175.3

The Lord calls for a renewal of the straight testimony borne in years past. He calls for a renewal of spiritual life. The spiritual energies of His people have long been torpid, but there is to be a resurrection from apparent death. By prayer and confession of sin we must clear the King's highway.—*Testimonies for the Church* 8:297 (1904). LDE 176.1

False Doctrines Draw Some Away

The enemy will bring in false theories, such as the doctrine that there is no sanctuary. This is one of the points on which there will be a departing from the faith.—*Evangelism*, 224 (1905). LDE 177.3

Rejection of the Testimonies Results in Apostasy

The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God. "Where there is no vision, the people perish" (Proverbs 29:18). Satan will work ingeniously, in different ways and through different agencies, to unsettle the confidence of God's remnant people in the true testimony.—Selected Messages 1:48 (1890). LDE 177.5

Defections Among Church Leaders

Many a star that we have admired for its brilliance will then go out in darkness.—Prophets and Kings, 188 (c. 1914). LDE 178.3

New Converts Will Take the Places of Those Who Leave

The broken ranks will be filled up by those represented by Christ as coming in at the eleventh hour. There are many with whom the Spirit of God is striving. The time of God's destructive judgments is the time of mercy for those who [now] have no opportunity to learn what is truth. Tenderly will the Lord look upon them. His heart of mercy is touched, His hand is still stretched out to save, while the door is closed to those who would not enter. Large numbers will be admitted who in these last days hear the truth for the first time.—Letter 103, 1903. LDE 182.2

Chapter 13—The Latter Rain

The Promise of the Latter Rain

Near the close of earth's harvest, a special bestowal of spiritual grace is promised to prepare the church for the coming of the Son of man. This outpouring of the Spirit is likened to the falling of the latter rain.—The Acts of the Apostles, 55 (1911). LDE 186.1

The Latter Rain Will Produce the Loud Cry

At that time the "latter rain," or refreshing from the presence of the Lord, will come, to give power to the loud voice of the third angel, and prepare the saints to stand in the period when the seven last plagues shall be poured out.—Early Writings, 86 (1854). LDE 186.4

We Should Pray Earnestly for the Descent of the Holy Spirit

We should pray as earnestly for the descent of the Holy Spirit as the disciples prayed on the Day of Pentecost. If they needed it at that time, we need it more today.—Testimonies for the Church 5:158 (1882). LDE 188.3

The descent of the Holy Spirit upon the church is looked forward to as in the future, but it is the privilege of the church to have it now. Seek for it, pray for it, believe for it. We must have it, and Heaven is waiting to bestow it.—Evangelism, 701 (1895). LDE 188.4

Like the 1844 Movement

The power which stirred the people so mightily in the 1844 movement will again be revealed. The third angel's message will go forth, not in whispered tones, but with a loud voice.— Testimonies for the Church 5:252 (1885). LDE 202.1

Like the Day of Pentecost

Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given. Miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and signs and wonders will follow the believers.—The Great Controversy, 611, 612 (1911). LDE 203.2

Children Proclaim the Message

When the heavenly intelligences see that men will no longer present the truth in simplicity as did Jesus, the very children will be moved upon by the Spirit of God and will go forth proclaiming the truth for this time.—The Southern Work, 66 (1895). LDE 206.3

World-wide Extent of the Proclamation

During the loud cry the church, aided by the providential interpositions of her exalted Lord, will diffuse the knowledge of salvation so abundantly that light will be communicated to every city and town.—Evangelism, 694 (1904). LDE 208.4

Many Adventists Brace Themselves Against the Light

There is to be in the [Seventh-day Adventist] churches a wonderful manifestation of the power of God, but it will not move upon those who have not humbled themselves before the Lord, and opened the door of the heart by confession and repentance. In the manifestation of that power which lightens the earth with the glory of God, they will see only something which in their blindness they think dangerous, something which will arouse their fears, and they will brace themselves to resist it. Because the Lord does not work according to their ideas and expectations they will oppose the work. "Why," they say, "should we not know the Spirit of God, when we have been in the work so many years?"—The Review and Herald Extra, December 23, 1890. LDE 209.3

Multitudes Will Answer the Call

Multitudes will receive the faith and join the armies of the Lord.—Evangelism, 700 (1895). LDE 211.4

Many who have strayed from the fold will come back to follow the great Shepherd.— Testimonies for the Church 6:401 (1900). LDE 211.5

In heathen Africa, in the Catholic lands of Europe and of South America, in China, in India, in the islands of the sea, and in all the dark corners of the earth, God has in reserve a firmament of chosen ones that will yet shine forth amidst the darkness, revealing clearly to an apostate world the transforming power of obedience to His law. Even now they are appearing in every nation, among every tongue and people; and in the hour of deepest apostasy, when Satan's supreme

We Must Humble Our Hearts in True Repentance

A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs. To seek this should be our first work. There must be earnest effort to obtain the blessing of the Lord, not because God is not willing to bestow His blessing upon us, but because we are unprepared to receive it. Our heavenly Father is more willing to give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him, than are earthly parents to give good gifts to their children. But it is our work, by confession, humiliation, repentance, and earnest prayer, to fulfill the conditions upon which God has promised to grant us His blessing. A revival need be expected only in answer to prayer.—Selected Messages 1:121 (1887). LDE 189.1

Clearing the Way for the Latter Rain

It is left with us to remedy the defects in our characters, to cleanse the soul temple of every defilement. Then the latter rain will fall upon us as the early rain fell upon the disciples on the Day of Pentecost.—Testimonies for the Church 5:214 (1882). LDE 192.3

Not All Will Receive the Latter Rain

Are we hoping to see the whole church revived? That time will never come. There are persons in the church who are not converted, and who will not unite in earnest, prevailing prayer. We must enter upon the work individually. We must pray more, and talk less.—Selected Messages 1:122 (1887). LDE 195.2

Chapter 14—The Loud Cry

The Heart of God's Last Message

Several have written to me, inquiring if the message of justification by faith is the third angel's message, and I have answered, "It is the third angel's message in verity."—Selected Messages 1:372 (1890). LDE 199.4

The message of Christ's righteousness is to sound from one end of the earth to the other to prepare the way of the Lord. This is the glory of God, which closes the work of the third angel.—Testimonies for the Church 6:19 (1900). LDE 200.3

The Message Will Go With Great Power

As the third angel's message swells into a loud cry, great power and glory will attend its proclamation. The faces of God's people will shine with the light of heaven.—Testimonies for the Church 7:17 (1902). LDE 201.4

As foretold in the eighteenth of Revelation, the third angel's message is to be proclaimed with great power by those who give the final warning against the beast and his image.—Testimonies for the Church 8:118 (1904). LDE 201.6

effort is made to cause "all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond," to receive, under penalty of death, the sign of allegiance to a false rest day, these faithful ones, "blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke," will "shine as lights in the world."—Prophets and Kings, 188, 189 (c. 1914). LDE 211.6

Thousands Converted in a Day

There will be thousands converted to the truth in a day who at the eleventh hour see and acknowledge the truth and the movements of the Spirit of God.—The Ellen G. White 1888 Materials, 755 (1890). LDE 212.2

The time is coming when there will be as many converted in a day as there were on the Day of Pentecost, after the disciples had received the Holy Spirit.—Evangelism, 692 (1905). LDE 212.3

Influence of the Printed Page

More than one thousand will soon be converted in one day, most of whom will trace their first convictions to the reading of our publications.—Evangelism, 693 (1885). LDE 213.4

In a large degree through our publishing houses is to be accomplished the work of that other angel who comes down from heaven with great power and who lightens the earth with his glory [Revelation 18:1].—Testimonies for the Church 7:140 (1902). LDE 214.2

Chapter 15—The Seal of God and the Mark of the Beast

Only Two Classes

There can be only two classes. Each party is distinctly stamped, either with the seal of the living God, or with the mark of the beast or his image.—The Review and Herald, January 30, 1900. LDE 215.1

What the Seal of God Is

Just as soon as the people of God are sealed in their foreheads—it is not any seal or mark that can be seen, but a settling into the truth, both intellectually and spiritually, so they cannot be moved—just as soon as God's people are sealed and prepared for the shaking, it will come. Indeed, it has begun already.—The S.D.A. Bible Commentary 4:1161 (1902). LDE 219.4

The seal of the living God is placed upon those who conscientiously keep the Sabbath of the Lord.—The S.D.A. Bible Commentary 7:980 (1897) LDE 220.1

What the Mark of the Beast Is

The mark of the beast is the papal sabbath.—Evangelism, 234 (1899). LDE 224.1

When the test comes, it will be clearly shown what the mark of the beast is. It is the keeping of Sunday.—The S.D.A. Bible Commentary 7:980 (1900). LDE 224.2

When the Mark of the Beast Is Received

The Sabbath will be the great test of loyalty, for it is the point of truth especially controverted. When the final test shall be brought to bear upon men, then the line of distinction will be drawn between those who serve God and those who serve Him not. LDE 225.2

Chapter 16—The Close of Probation

Probation Will End Suddenly, Unexpectedly

When probation ends, it will come suddenly, unexpectedly—at a time when we are least expecting it. But we can have a clean record in heaven today, and know that God accepts us.—The S.D.A. Bible Commentary 7:989 (1906). LDE 230.1

Unbelief and Forbidden Pleasures Continue

When the professed people of God are uniting with the world, living as they live, and joining with them in forbidden pleasure; when the luxury of the world becomes the luxury of the church; when the marriage bells are chiming, and all are looking forward to many years of worldly prosperity—then, suddenly as the lightning flashes from the heavens, will come the end of their bright visions and delusive hopes.—The Great Controversy, 338, 339 (1911). LDE 232.3

Chapter 17—The Seven Last Plagues and the Wicked

All the World Will Be Gathered on One Side or the Other

All the world will be on one side or the other of the question. The battle of Armageddon will be fought. And that day must find none of us sleeping. Wide awake we must be, as wise virgins having oil in our vessels with our lamps. The power of the Holy Ghost must be upon us and the Captain of the Lord's host will stand at the head of the angels of heaven to direct the battle.—Selected Messages 3:426 (1890). LDE 250.3

The Seventh Plague

The whole earth heaves and swells like the waves of the sea. Its surface is breaking up. Its very foundations seem to be giving way. Mountain chains are sinking. Inhabited islands disappear. The seaports that have become like Sodom for wickedness, are swallowed up by the angry waters.... The proudest cities of the earth are laid low. The lordly palaces, upon which the world's great men have lavished their wealth in order to glorify themselves, are crumbling to ruin before their eyes. Prison walls are rent asunder, and God's people, who have been held in bondage for their faith, are set free.—The Great Controversy, 637 (1911). LDE 251.5

Chapter 18—The Seven Last Plagues and the Righteous (The Great Time of Trouble, Part 2)

The Great Time of Trouble Begins After Probation's Close

When Christ shall cease His work as mediator in man's behalf, then this time of trouble will begin. Then the case of every soul will have been decided, and there will be no atoning blood to cleanse from sin. When Jesus leaves His position as man's intercessor before God the solemn announcement is made, "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still" (Revelation 22:11). Then the restraining Spirit of God is withdrawn from the earth.—Patriarchs and Prophets, 201 (1890). LDE 253.1

Terrible Beyond Comprehension

The season of distress and anguish before us will require a faith that can endure weariness, delay, and hunger—a faith that will not faint, though severely tried.... LDE 254.2

The "time of trouble such as never was," is soon to open upon us; and we shall need an experience which we do not now possess, and which many are too indolent to obtain. It is often the case that trouble is greater in anticipation than in reality; but this is not true of the crisis before us. The most vivid presentation cannot reach the magnitude of the ordeal.—The Great Controversy, 621, 622 (1911). LDE 254.3

Death Decree Similar to That Issued by Ahasuerus

I saw the leading men of the earth consulting together, and Satan and his angels busy around them. I saw a writing, copies of which were scattered in different parts of the land, giving orders that unless the saints should yield their peculiar faith, give up the Sabbath, and observe the first day of the week, the people were at liberty after a certain time, to put them to death.—Early Writings, 282, 283 (1858). LDE 258.3

God's People Flee the Cities; Many Imprisoned

As the decree issued by the various rulers of Christendom against commandment keepers shall withdraw the protection of government, and abandon them to those who desire their destruction, the people of God will flee from the cities and villages and associate together in companies, dwelling in the most desolate and solitary places. Many will find refuge in the strongholds of the mountains.... But many of all nations and of all classes, high and low, rich and poor, black and white, will be cast into the most unjust and cruel bondage. The beloved of God pass weary days bound in chains, shut in by prison bars, sentenced to be slain, some apparently left to die of starvation in dark and loathsome dungeons.—The Great Controversy, 626 (1911). LDE 259.4

The Righteous Have No Concealed Wrongs to Reveal

God's people ... will have a deep sense of their shortcomings, and as they review their lives their hopes will sink. But remembering the greatness of God's mercy, and their own sincere repentance, they will plead His promises made through Christ to helpless, repenting sinners. Their faith will not fail because their prayers are not immediately answered. They will lay hold of the strength of God, as Jacob laid hold of the Angel, and the language of their souls will be, "I will not let Thee go, except Thou bless me."—Patriarchs and Prophets, 202 (1890). LDE 263.2

The Saints Will Not Lose Their Lives

The people of God will not be free from suffering; but while persecuted and distressed, while they endure privation, and suffer for want of food, they will not be left to perish.—The Great Controversy, 629 (1911). LDE 264.1

God Will Provide

The time of trouble is just before us, and then stern necessity will require the people of God to deny self and to eat merely enough to sustain life, but God will prepare us for that time. In that fearful hour our necessity will be God's opportunity to impart His strengthening power and to sustain His people.—Testimonies For The Church 1:206 (1859). LDE 265.2

God's People Cherish No Sinful Desires

Now, while our great High Priest is making the atonement for us, we should seek to become perfect in Christ. Not even by a thought could our Saviour be brought to yield to the power of temptation. Satan finds in human hearts some point where he can gain a foothold; some sinful desire is cherished, by means of which his temptations assert their power. But Christ declared of Himself: "The prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in Me." (John 14:30). Satan could find nothing in the Son of God that would enable him to gain the victory. He had kept His Father's commandments, and there was no sin in Him that Satan could use to his advantage. This is the condition in which those must be found who shall stand in the time of trouble.—The Great Controversy, 623 (1911). LDE 267.2

God's People Delivered

It is at midnight that God manifests His power for the deliverance of His people.... In the midst of the angry heavens is one clear space of indescribable glory, whence comes the voice of God like the sound of many waters, saying, "It is done" (Revelation 16:17). That voice shakes the heavens and the earth.... LDE 270.2

Chapter 19—Christ's Return

Jesus Descends in Power and Glory

Soon there appears in the east a small black cloud, about half the size of a man's hand. It is the cloud which surrounds the Saviour, and which seems in the distance to be shrouded in darkness. The people of God know this to be the sign of the Son of man. In solemn silence they gaze upon it as it draws nearer the earth, becoming lighter and more glorious, until it is a great

white cloud, its base a glory like consuming fire, and above it the rainbow of the covenant. Jesus rides forth as a mighty conqueror.... LDE 274.1

The Reaction of Those Who Pierced Him

Those who have acted the most prominent part in the rejection and crucifixion of Christ come forth to see Him as He is, and those who have rejected Christ come up and see the saints glorified, and it is at that time that the saints are changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, and are caught up to meet their Lord in the air. The very ones who placed upon Him the purple robe and put the crown of thorns upon His brow, and those who put the nails through His hands and feet, look upon Him and bewail.—Manuscript Releases 9:252 (1886). LDE 275.1

Homeward Bound!

We all entered the cloud together, and were seven days ascending to the sea of glass.—Early Writings, 16 (1851). LDE 280.2

The Saints Given Crowns and Harps

I saw a very great number of angels bring from the city glorious crowns—a crown for every saint, with his name written thereon. As Jesus called for the crowns, angels presented them to Him, and with His own right hand, the lovely Jesus placed the crowns on the heads of the saints.—Early Writings, 288 (1858). LDE 281.4

Chapter 20—The Inheritance of the Saints

A Gift From the Lord

Christ, only Christ and His righteousness, will obtain for us a passport into heaven.—Letter 6b, 1890. LDE 283.1

Glory Indescribable

I saw the exceeding loveliness and glory of Jesus. His countenance was brighter than the sun at noonday. His robe was whiter than the whitest white. How can I ... describe to you the glories of heaven, and the lovely angels singing and playing upon their harps of ten strings!—Letter 3, 1851. LDE 286.4

Streams, Hills, and Trees

There are ever-flowing streams, clear as crystal, and beside them waving trees cast their shadows upon the paths prepared for the ransomed of the Lord. There the wide-spreading plains swell into hills of beauty, and the mountains of God rear their lofty summits. On those peaceful plains, beside those living streams, God's people, so long pilgrims and wanderers, shall find a home.—The Great Controversy, 675 (1911). LDE 288.1

The Vigor of Eternal Youth

None will need or desire repose. There will be no weariness in doing the will of God and offering praise to His name. We shall ever feel the freshness of the morning, and shall ever be far from

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Our Joy Will Constantly Increase

And the years of eternity, as they roll, will bring richer and still more glorious revelations of God and of Christ. As knowledge is progressive, so will love, reverence, and happiness increase. The more men learn of God, the greater will be their admiration of His character. As Jesus opens before them the riches of redemption and the amazing achievements in the great controversy with Satan, the hearts of the ransomed thrill with more fervent devotion, and with more rapturous joy they sweep the harps of gold; and ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands of voices unite to swell the mighty chorus of praise.—The Great Controversy, 678 (1911). LDE 305.1

The Whole Universe Declares That God Is Love

The great controversy is ended. Sin and sinners are no more. The entire universe is clean. One pulse of harmony and gladness beats through the vast creation. From Him who created all, flow life and light and gladness, throughout the realms of illimitable space. From the minutest atom to the greatest world, all things, animate and inanimate, in their unshadowed beauty and perfect joy, declare that God is love.—The Great Controversy, 678 (1911). LDE 306.1