

January 31,2026

Local Church Budget

This wonderful world in which we live came from the hand of the Creator in new and pristine beauty. Thus, God declared it was “very good” (Genesis 1:31, KJV). The creation was flawless and perfect. There was no discord in the universe. However, every day since Adam and Eve chose to eat the forbidden fruit in disobedience to God’s instruction, our planet has been ebbing away. We observe the impact of this deterioration in physical diseases that plague humanity, psychological stress that is at its peak, social displacements resulting from broken relationships, and geographical tensions playing out in wars and commotions. But there is hope in the midst of this chaotic puzzle.

In Revelation 21:1-5, John speaks about Christ, the great puzzle solver, who will make a new heaven and a new earth, for the old ones will pass away. In this new heaven, you will find the holy city, the new Jerusalem. And in this city, God “will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away” (verse 4, ESV). Affliction will not rise again. As

C.S. Lewis once said, “Joy will be the serious business of heaven.”

As we give to our local budget today, let us make it our utmost goal to invite others to enroll in the new kingdom of God.