

January 3, 2026

Local Church Budget

There is something special about the beginning of a new year. It's the energy and the excitement. It's the opportunities that it offers. It provides the chance to forget the past and its challenges, while we embrace the possibility to start over. The New Year offers the opportunity for us to look at the future with optimism and gratefulness. For this reason, I like new, don't you?

Paul liked the idea of new also. That's why he encourages us to look towards the future instead of looking back. He says, "Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead" (Philippians 3: 13, 14, NIV), we should press toward the goal to win. The encouraging thing is, when Christ is in the lead, we must succeed. For this reason, we can embrace the possibilities of the new year— striving to be better stewards for God.

So may our goals this year include spending consistent time in *worship* and developing a relationship of steel with God. May we take care of our *wellbeing (physically and psychologically)* and *witness* about His love by using our talents and gifts. May we faithfully return to God the designated portion of our *wealth* and take care of our *world* and the environment.

Let's determine to make 2026 an exceptional year of sacrificial generosity, in our local church and worldwide.