## **Local Church Budget**

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." – Winston Churchill

When the author of our reading became a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church decades ago, a song, "Love is Something," written by Malvina Reynolds, was sung during their Adventist Youth (AY) programs. This song was sung during the evening offering collection. The first verse went something like this: "Love is something if you give it away, give it away, give it away, tove is something if you give it away, you end up having more."

The idea that love begets more love could not be truer. When we love like Jesus loves, the benefits are abundant. When we give like Jesus gives—without limitation—the blessings return in abundance, running over. And we "won't have enough room to take it in!" (Malachi 3:10, NLT).

The Bible says in Acts 20:35, "Remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

May the copious blessings of heaven be ours, as we give in love, gratitude, and without reservation to the cause of Christ in our local church today.