

**April 25, 2026**

## **Local Conference Advance**

God still impresses His people to give sacrificially, without fanfare, to build up His work. The writer (Anthony) reported sitting in a meeting where the discussion centered on the commitment and benevolence of some donors. As he listened, goosebumps erupted on his forearms. This particular story was riveting. He was in awe. He was thrilled. To think that this person in question was not a baptized member of the church at the time—he was inspired. According to the story, the donor's only association with Adventism was through an encounter with a George Vandeman (founder of It is Written) evangelistic series he attended in his early life. And yet he had no reservation in giving millions to help in the construction of a new phase of the conference headquarters. The report says he gave over and over again, willingly, not caring to be mentioned. And he refrained from living a lavish lifestyle. In fact, it is said, he would often say, "It's not my money, it belongs to God."

God is still inviting willing persons who are able to contribute to His cause. As He instructed Israel, He's calling us to, "Give generously...without a grudging heart; then because of this the LORD your God will bless you, in everything you put your hand to" (Deuteronomy 15:10, NIV).

Today, as we return our tithes and offerings, and give to our conference's needs, may the promises of God be ours.