

Local Church Budget

The angel recorded every offering made to God. In *Testimonies to the Church* (vol. 2, p. 518), Ellen White notes the following statement: “I was shown that the recording angel makes a faithful record of every offering dedicated to God and put into the treasury.” She continues on page 520 with the following words: “Duties in this direction are binding upon all who profess to be followers of Christ. God’s law specifies their duty to their fellow men: “Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.””

In February we celebrate love in secular society. But from a spiritual perspective, God also celebrates the importance of love toward our fellow human beings. Mrs. White is very explicit in stating that loving our neighbor is a “duty” for all of us who profess to be “followers of Christ.” Such an imperative is inescapable. God desires that we serve, in love, those closest to our spheres of influence. These could be our neighbors, coworkers, or anyone we come into contact with regularly.

This week our offering is dedicated to the local church budget. Our local churches have ministries that reach out corporately to our local communities and our “neighbors.” Let us be generous with our tithes and offerings so that our outreach may be a substantial blessing for those who receive it.