

# Ever Wonder? "Where Does The Tithe Go?"

Most Seventh-day Adventists are aware that the church is supported financially by the Tithes and offerings of the members of the church. Most members are also aware that the Tithe is not retained by the local church but is sent to the local conference.

Some of that Tithe finds its way back to the local church in the form of services provided by the conference (i.e. pastors' salaries, church school subsidies, etc.). Some of it is shared to support the world-wide work of the church.

## Kentucky-Tennessee Conference

Notice Figure 1. Approximately 75% of the Tithe is retained by the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference for use within our conference.

## Institutional Appropriations

About 8.5% of the Tithe goes as appropriations to other entities within and outside North America, including some General Conference institutions (i.e. Adventist World Radio, Andrews University, and Loma Linda University).

## Administrative Operations

Approximately 7.5% of the Tithe goes to fund the operation of the Southern Union Conference, North American Division, and the General Conference offices.

About 5% of the Tithe is returned to Unions and Conferences as specific appropriations.

## Overseas Missions

The remaining 4% of the Tithe is used to support the overseas divisions of the world field and missionaries to those areas.

## Pastors

Approximately 33.8% is used to provide the salaries and benefits to our local church pastors.

## Education

25.3% is spent in support of Adventist education. This includes a portion of the teachers' salaries, subsidies to Highland Academy and Madison Academy, Southern Adventist University, and the Office of Education.

## Ministries

The carrying out of other ministries takes another 15% of the Tithe. These ministries include Literature Ministry, Youth Ministry, Camp Ministry, Women's Ministries, Family Life, Hispanic Ministry, Communication, Estate Planning, and Camp Meetings.

## Retirement

16.8% is used to fund benefits for retired denominational workers.

## Administration

The remaining 9.1% of the Conference Tithe goes to operate the Conference office and administration. This includes the presidential, secretariat, and treasury departments, information technology, local church development, auditing services, risk management, mem-

bership, office maintenance, utilities, insurance, and other general costs.

— Douglas Hilliard  
Treasurer



Figure 1

## Tithe Retained by the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference

As already mentioned, the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference retains approximately 75% of the Tithe received which is used to fund the Lord's work

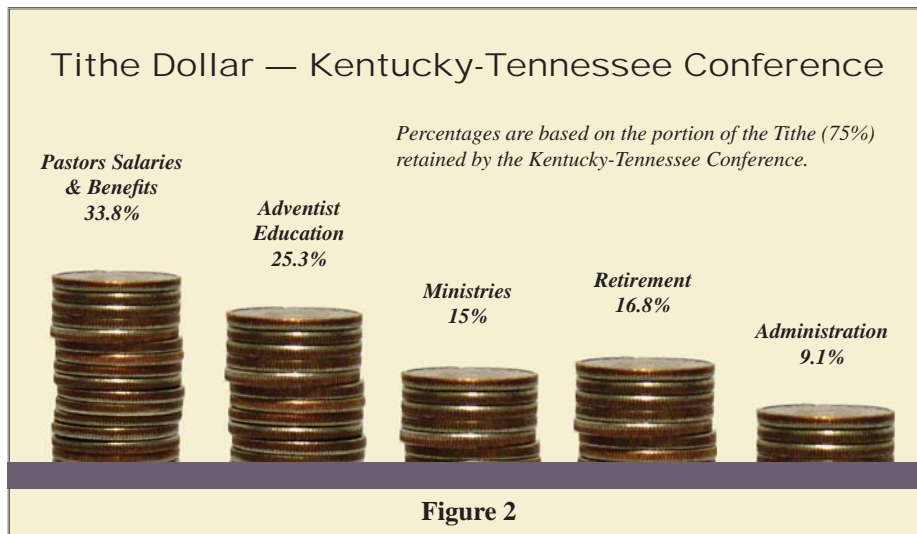


Figure 2

right here in our field. (Figure 2.) That work includes the operation of the conference office, pastors' salaries, Adventist Education, and other ministries to the community and our constituents.