

Treasury Newsletter

Why did you choose to minister in church work?

Our everyday work, paid or unpaid, is a ministry. As followers of Christ, we believe that God created His people for work—throughout Scripture, God calls people to unite with Himself in every aspect of life, personally and professionally. It stands to reason that we are called to view our jobs as ministry assignments from God.

No matter where you work or what you do, God calls us to fulfill the mandate in Matthew 5:16, “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

On the first issue of the Treasury Newsletter, we asked the treasury team this question: **Why did you choose to minister in church work?** You'll find their answers below.

Keith Richter

Chief Financial
Officer/Treasurer



From a childhood as a member of the Catholic Church, I felt a strong call to some form of ministry, which was recognized by the local leadership, who sent me to various conferences. What I didn't know was that God had a journey planned beforehand where my talents and gifts could be used for His end-time Church. I still recall the day in 2006 when a former Conference President of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and friend whom I sought for counsel convinced me I did indeed have the talents and gifts to serve the church. So, with that encouragement, I accepted the call I had received to serve the Alberta Conference in Treasury. It has been a privilege and honour to serve God's church here in Alberta ever since.

Solomon Agdon

Associate Treasurer



I chose to work in the church denomination because I felt it was God's purpose and calling for my life to be part of the team to help finish His work. The covenant I made with Him to serve His church in the treasury department has been very rewarding. I felt God's hand leading and blessing His church to provide means in carrying the Gospel to the uttermost part of the earth. Only eternity can reveal the number of precious souls brought to the feet of Jesus because of each member's participation, faithfulness, and commitment in response to His love and invitation to be co-labourers in His kingdom.

Alexandra Alvir

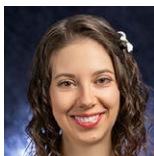
Church Auditor



I could be using the gifts and abilities that God graciously has shared with me by working for any other business or entities out there, perhaps earning more money; however, He has pleased to call me to do what I do, ministering His people from over here (the church). I believe that we all play an essential role in advancing the kingdom in whatever we do for a living. The aim is, one day, to see Him face to face.

Rebecca Masson

Payroll Administrator/
Accountant



I wouldn't say that I specifically pursued ministry in church work. But I know that God has blessed me while working in the Conference office, and I hope that the work I have done in my years here has blessed the churches and schools in Alberta.

Penny Marcinyk

Administrative
Assistant (Treasury)



As a much younger me, I would weigh my options. I wanted to be a Dental Hygienist, but I felt my hands were too shaky. I also thought about Nursing but soon realized I did not particularly appreciate looking at and examining veins. My other option was to work in an office. I enjoyed this career outside of the church. In 1988 I was invited to join the Man-Sask Conference in the Youth Department and jumped

in. Then in 1989, I was invited to join the Alberta Conference as the Youth Department secretary. So why did I choose to do church work? I feel, in a small way, this is my way of serving God.

Areli Trejo

Business Intern



I'm grateful for the opportunity to minister in church work by working at the Alberta Conference this year. Upon graduation, I did not seek employment at the Conference, but when the opportunity arose, I knew God was opening doors for a reason, and therefore I trusted His plan. Having purpose and doing meaningful work are important to me. I am very much enjoying being a part of this ministry.

Nanette Quines

Accountant



God sent me to different work avenues before I joined the Conference team in 2020. My experiences made me realize the significance of ministering to a community of love. I sought to be deeply immersed in a place where people support each other, encourage each other, challenge each other, and serve one another. It's a blessing to be in a community that listens to each other's stories and points to a hope that remains true. I am in a fellowship that inspires one another to abide in the One who loves us perfectly. Indeed, I am grateful for the opportunity to minister in church work. God led; I chose to follow.



Llew Werner
Director, Risk Management and Project Development



As one journeys through life, one is faced with key decisions that may impact the direction of one's life. Choosing a skill set or profession are one of life's key decisions. Of equal importance is to determine the purpose of one's life. The challenge then becomes blending ones work with fulfilling one's purpose in life. I felt that God was calling me to focus on furthering humanitarian services rather than commercial success. The majority of my work has taken me overseas. Each of the opportunities for service in various parts of God's world has given me a greater appreciation of people and a glimpse of God's creation.

I returned to Canada in 2013; the Alberta Conference asked if I would be interested in joining their staff. After prayer and consultation with my wife, the answer once again was "Here am I, please send me," although this time, it was in my home country. Life continues to be busy as one works to expand the ministry of God through the Alberta Conference.

Corene Glover
Assistant Treasurer/ Auditor (Education)



It's a privilege for me to use my talents, skills, and education to help make our Adventist Education System the best it can be. Being part of a team that focuses on the "eternal" rather than the "earthly" makes all the difference.

Angel Marsdin
Assistant Auditor (Education)



I did not choose to minister in church work; God chose me. I decided years ago not to get involved with church work due to some challenges that I experienced while working as an administrative assistant for an Adventist school while being the PTA leader. But God knew my heart, and with the help of the Holy Spirit, I have accepted the call as in Isaiah 6:8 when God asks, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" I went to Coralwood Adventist School on my first assignment, and as they say: "The rest is history."

CHARITIES AND GIVING GLOSSARY:

- **Arm's length** – describes a relationship where persons act independently of each other or who are not related.
- **Bequest** – a property a qualified donee receives from the will of a deceased person.
- **Cash gifts** – generally include cheques, money orders, bank drafts, as well as cash. Donations made by debit card and by credit card are also considered cash gifts.
- **Designated gift** – a type of gift made between registered charities that are not at arm's length to each other. A gift becomes a designated gift if the donor charity identifies it as a designated.
- **Qualified donee** – an organization that can issue official donation receipts for gifts it receives from individuals and corporations. It can also receive gifts from registered charities.
- **Registered** – an organization has applied to the CRA and received approval as meeting the requirements for registration as a charity and has been issued a charitable registration number.
- **Restricted funds** – are funds tied to a specific use and not available for the general purposes of the organization.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

- **DESIGNATED GIVING POLICY.** This is a policy regarding restricted funds or donations given for a specific project or Church ministry. Once such a policy is adopted and members are made aware, the Board may legally vote to redesignate restricted funds should a project be over-funded or terminated. Without such a policy, neither the Board nor the church in a business meeting may legally vote to redesignate restricted funds to a purpose different from what they were donated for. This policy must be published in the bulletin or posted on the bulletin board so that donors are aware of it.
- **BENEVOLENCE FUND POLICY.** This is a policy where a committee, chosen by the church board members, will study the case of each individual or family requesting financial assistance from the church. After reviewing the case, it is expected that the benevolence committee will be able to recommend to the church board a fair financial assistance that the person/family in need could be assisted. The process must be clear and well-known by the church members. Please note that the financial aid applies to anyone in need, a church member, or a friend from the community, and it would be subject to church financial availability. A sample policy template is available at the treasury office as a guide.

Discuss these with the church board and have the board adopt the two policies mentioned above. Take note of the Action Number and date. As this is the standard practice in the charitable industry, we recommend that the churches have these policies adopted.

For treasury inquiries and more info regarding Financial Aid/Benevolence Fund Policy, please email treasury support at treasurersupport@albertaadventist.ca



Did you know?

Interac debit cards could save up to 3% on online giving.



Share this link with church members:

[Steps Toward Faithful Stewardship \(hope.study\)](https://www.hope.study)

