

A POSITIVE YEAR for NAD Tithe

BY BONNIE DWYER

When the coronavirus shuttered church services in 2020, treasurers at all levels of the church braced for the worst. What would happen to tithe and offerings if members simply watched services from home and didn't have a designated place and time to turn in their tithe envelopes? Would members use the online giving options that had been created?

It turns out that they would, and they did, according to the year-end tithe report recently posted on the North American Division website. The year of 2020 ended with tithe of \$1,093,421,650.01, a gain of \$18 million compared with \$1,075,010,963.32 in 2019.

Tom Evans, recently retired treasurer of the North American Division, calls this report simply amazing. People are faithfully giving, he points out.

They are returning their tithe, but the sad news is that the combined Sabbath School and mission offerings have not seen the same result. The World Mission Offering is off by 21.18%, and Sabbath School is

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down 22.14%. In 2020, the combined offering was \$16,486,809.93; in 2019, it was \$20,917,105.92

In the breakdown of the NAD tithe numbers, eighteen conferences registered a loss for the year. For some, it was a small loss, less than 1%. Tithe in the Washington Conference was down 0.21%, and the South Atlantic Conference saw a difference of -0.22%.

There were forty-two conferences that saw a gain. Again, for some it was a small gain. In the Illinois

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Code	Entity Name	# Of Rep.	Membership		2020	2019	Variance		Per Capita		
			2020	2019			Amount	%	2020	2019	%
AN1111 North American Division of SDA											
AN1111	North American Division of SDA	23			272,232.92	239,141.64	33,091.28	13.83			
ANNG11	Guam-Micronesia Mission	13	5,862	5,796	2,675,841.46	2,543,071.59	132,769.87	5.22	456.47	438.76	4.03
Group Totals			5,886	5,820	2,948,074.38	2,782,213.23	132,769.87	5.22	454.61	436.95	4.04
AN6111 SDA Church in Canada											
AN6111	SDA Church in Canada	12			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
AN6411	Alberta Conference	12	12,240	11,942	12,672,738.18	13,384,797.79	(712,059.61)	(5.31)	1,035.35	1,120.82	(7.62)
AN6811	British Columbia Conference	12	11,188	11,405	10,926,201.49	10,521,930.83	404,270.66	3.84	976.60	922.57	5.85
AN6B11	Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference	12	4,019	4,131	4,148,342.83	3,732,235.68	416,107.15	11.14	1,032.18	903.47	14.24
AN6F11	Maritime Conference	12	1,682	1,651	1,697,346.18	1,610,721.94	86,624.24	5.37	1,009.12	975.60	3.43
AN6M11	Ontario Conference	12	34,598	33,917	26,206,279.48	26,091,931.32	114,348.16	0.43	757.45	769.29	(1.53)
AN6P11	Quebec Conference	12	8,775	8,533	5,714,250.96	5,606,189.57	108,061.39	1.92	651.20	657.00	(0.88)
AN6T11	SDA Church in Newfoundland and	12	504	506	641,429.90	534,161.54	107,268.36	20.08	1,272.68	1,055.66	20.55
Group Totals			73,006	72,085	62,006,589.02	61,481,968.67	524,620.35	0.85	849.34	852.91	(0.42)
AN4111 Atlantic Union Conference											
AN4411	Bermuda Conference	12	3,982	4,019	4,578,594.09	4,941,397.67	(362,803.58)	(7.34)	1,149.82	1,229.51	(6.48)
AN4811	Greater New York Conference	12	31,975	31,120	26,790,803.61	28,078,051.15	(1,287,247.54)	(4.58)	837.87	902.25	(7.13)
AN4B11	New York Conference	12	6,020	5,904	5,384,561.63	5,042,866.36	341,695.27	6.77	894.45	854.14	4.71
AN4F11	Northeastern Conference	12	60,355	59,432	44,915,976.20	47,907,448.59	(2,991,472.39)	(6.24)	744.20	806.09	(7.67)
AN4I11	Northern New England Conference	12	5,208	5,206	6,269,134.59	5,963,527.80	305,606.79	5.12	1,203.75	1,145.51	5.08
AN4M11	Southern New England Conference	12	19,700	19,166	19,277,974.13	19,122,299.97	155,674.16	0.81	978.58	997.72	(1.91)
Group Totals			127,240	124,847	107,217,044.25	111,055,591.54	(3,838,547.29)	(3.45)	842.64	889.53	(5.27)
ANB111 Columbia Union Conference											
ANB411	Allegheny East Conference	12	31,883	42,290	35,455,227.95	36,460,851.13	(1,005,623.18)	(2.75)	1,112.04	862.16	28.98
ANB611	Allegheny West Conference	12	17,198	16,897	7,286,116.64	7,222,709.11	63,407.53	0.87	423.66	427.46	(0.88)
ANB811	Chesapeake Conference	12	16,435	16,085	20,065,671.81	20,452,526.81	(386,855.00)	(1.89)	1,220.91	1,271.53	(3.98)
ANB911	Mountain View Conference	12	2,248	2,221	3,586,408.80	2,951,673.04	634,735.76	21.50	1,595.38	1,328.98	20.04
ANBB11	New Jersey Conference	12	17,388	16,868	12,631,843.82	13,516,482.79	(884,638.97)	(6.54)	726.47	801.31	(9.33)
ANBF11	Ohio Conference	12	12,274	11,883	13,062,741.11	12,122,194.82	940,546.29	7.75	1,064.26	1,020.13	4.32
ANB111	Pennsylvania Conference	12	12,547	12,335	13,379,979.17	12,984,142.14	395,837.03	3.04	1,066.39	1,052.63	1.30
ANBM11	Potomac Conference	12	37,583	36,677	36,040,832.19	36,421,573.00	(380,740.81)	(1.04)	958.97	993.04	(3.43)
Group Totals			147,556	155,256	141,508,821.49	142,132,152.84	(623,331.35)	(0.43)	959.02	915.47	4.76
ANF111 Lake Union Conference											
ANF411	Illinois Conference	12	13,879	13,790	11,920,299.50	11,904,435.58	15,863.92	0.13	858.87	863.27	(0.50)
ANF811	Indiana Conference	12	8,961	8,744	9,525,421.13	9,734,733.48	(209,312.35)	(2.15)	1,062.99	1,113.30	(4.51)
ANFB11	Lake Region Conference	12	31,382	31,595	11,084,114.90	11,047,967.72	36,147.18	0.32	353.20	349.67	1.00
ANFF11	Michigan Conference	12	26,887	26,666	36,804,859.01	36,115,851.37	689,007.64	1.90	1,368.87	1,354.38	1.07
ANFI11	Wisconsin Conference	12	7,789	7,741	7,738,293.77	7,298,013.24	440,280.53	6.03	993.49	942.77	5.37
Group Totals			88,898	88,536	77,072,988.31	76,101,001.39	971,986.92	1.27	866.98	859.55	0.86
ANG111 Mid-America Union Conference											
ANG411	Central States Conference	12	9,198	8,785	4,638,205.22	4,879,668.88	(241,463.66)	(4.94)	504.26	555.45	(9.21)
ANG611	Dakota Conference	12	4,000	4,003	5,055,444.71	4,782,959.14	272,485.57	5.69	1,263.86	1,194.84	5.77
ANGB11	Iowa-Missouri Conference	12	11,949	12,078	10,743,335.07	10,618,519.86	124,815.21	1.17	899.10	879.16	2.26
ANGF11	Kansas-Nebraska Conference	12	11,684	11,741	12,363,789.37	12,041,783.23	322,006.14	2.67	1,058.18	1,025.62	3.17
ANGI11	Minnesota Conference	12	10,646	10,490	9,532,896.56	9,191,113.36	341,783.20	3.71	895.44	876.18	2.19
ANGM11	Rocky Mountain Conference	12	17,569	17,646	17,383,356.16	18,174,772.97	(791,416.81)	(4.35)	989.43	1,029.97	(3.93)
Group Totals			65,046	64,743	59,717,027.09	59,688,817.44	28,209.65	0.04	918.07	921.93	(0.42)
ANI111 North Pacific Union Conference											
ANI411	Alaska Conference	12	3,800	3,930	4,460,066.28	4,516,765.26	(56,698.98)	(1.25)	1,173.70	1,149.30	2.12
ANI811	Idaho Conference Inc	12	6,952	6,927	6,573,081.22	5,966,591.65	606,489.57	10.16	945.49	861.35	9.76
ANIB11	Montana Conference of SDA	12	4,024	4,009	5,195,638.62	4,499,877.38	695,761.24	15.46	1,291.16	1,122.44	15.03
ANIF11	Oregon Conference	12	36,939	36,677	35,476,288.78	32,798,898.20	2,677,390.58	8.16	960.40	894.26	7.39
ANII11	Upper Columbia Conference	12	27,155	27,178	27,668,215.28	25,951,621.39	1,716,593.89	6.61	1,018.90	954.88	6.70

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ANIM11	Washington Conference	12	23,944	23,729	21,954,156.45	22,001,821.38	(47,664.93)	(0.21)	916.90	927.21	(1.11)
Group Totals			102,814	102,450	101,327,446.63	95,735,575.26	5,591,871.37	5.84	985.54	934.46	5.47
ANP111 Pacific Union Conference											
ANP411	Arizona Conference	12	20,695	20,839	15,389,213.43	14,129,472.20	1,259,741.23	8.91	743.62	678.03	9.67
ANP811	Central California Conference	12	34,305	34,613	27,441,066.09	29,125,435.19	(1,684,369.10)	(5.78)	799.91	841.46	(4.93)
ANPB11	Hawaii Conference	12	6,179	6,300	5,679,960.37	5,900,771.84	(220,811.47)	(3.74)	919.24	936.63	(1.85)
ANPF11	Nevada-Utah Conference	12	10,545	10,390	7,358,893.62	7,418,611.32	(59,717.70)	(0.80)	697.86	714.01	(2.26)
ANPI11	Northern California Conference	12	41,015	40,856	42,185,107.72	41,702,327.30	482,780.42	1.15	1,028.53	1,020.71	0.76
ANPM11	Southeastern California Conference	12	70,180	70,187	57,376,489.22	55,672,246.98	1,704,242.24	3.06	817.56	793.20	3.07
ANPP11	Southern California Conference	12	39,775	40,361	32,561,843.97	33,887,554.92	(1,325,710.95)	(3.91)	818.65	839.61	(2.49)
Group Totals			222,694	223,546	187,992,574.42	187,836,419.75	156,154.67	0.08	844.17	840.26	0.47
ANT111 Southern Union Conference											
ANT811	Carolina Conference	12	24,339	23,806	26,222,727.97	26,098,338.85	124,389.12	0.47	1,077.40	1,096.29	(1.72)
ANTB11	Florida Conference	12	64,863	63,848	64,413,468.81	63,521,555.14	891,913.67	1.40	993.07	994.89	(0.18)
ANTF11	Georgia-Cumberland Conference	12	42,275	41,377	61,891,821.03	55,834,978.97	6,056,842.06	10.84	1,464.03	1,349.42	8.49
ANTG11	Gulf States Conference	12	13,219	12,989	12,475,141.77	10,754,778.51	1,720,363.26	15.99	943.73	827.99	13.97
ANTH11	Kentucky-Tennessee Conference	12	15,662	15,493	18,102,181.62	17,084,244.62	1,017,937.00	5.95	1,155.80	1,102.71	4.81
ANTM11	South Atlantic Conference	12	50,757	49,816	25,275,272.35	25,219,512.50	55,759.85	0.22	497.97	506.25	(1.63)
ANTP11	South Central Conference	12	37,368	36,575	23,119,482.04	21,253,413.76	1,866,068.28	8.78	618.70	581.09	6.47
ANTT11	Southeastern Conference	12	57,605	55,178	26,877,836.89	26,647,822.68	230,014.21	0.86	466.59	482.94	(3.38)
Group Totals			306,088	299,082	258,377,932.48	246,414,645.03	11,963,287.45	4.85	844.13	823.90	2.45
ANW111 Southwestern Union Conference											
ANW411	Arkansas-Louisiana Conference	12	13,471	13,355	12,719,698.75	10,785,160.86	1,934,537.89	17.93	944.23	807.57	16.92
ANW811	Oklahoma Conference	12	8,588	8,585	8,416,404.74	7,630,815.11	785,589.63	10.29	980.02	888.85	10.25
ANWB11	Southwest Region Conference	12	27,320	26,986	12,363,194.15	12,526,843.17	(163,649.02)	(1.30)	452.53	464.20	(2.51)
ANWF11	Texas Conference	12	62,304	60,591	54,233,191.49	53,142,010.26	1,091,181.23	2.05	870.46	877.06	(0.75)
ANW111	Texas Conference	12	12,016	12,031	7,520,662.81	7,697,748.67	(177,085.86)	(2.30)	625.89	639.83	(2.17)
Group Totals			123,699	121,548	95,253,151.94	91,782,578.07	3,470,573.87	3.78	770.04	755.11	1.98
TOTAL			1,262,927	1,257,913	1,093,421,650.01	1,075,010,963.22	18,410,686.79	1.71	865.78	854.60	1.31

Conference it was less than 1%—at 0.13%. Northern California Conference just made it over the 1% line to 1.15%. The conferences with the biggest gains were the Mountain View Conference, with an increase of 21.50%, and the SDA Church in Newfoundland, with 20.08%. The Alleghany East Conference experienced a large increase in per capita giving—28.98%— but it was a tough year for the conference, with a 2.75% loss in tithe dollars year over year.

In 2021, the numbers that will be watched closely will be church attendance. As more and more congregations are allowed to again have in-person services, will the membership return? Or will the comfort of sitting in one's living room and watching a service online replace the experience of worshipping in a church sanctuary?

Evans thinks there is something to be said about being

in church giving Sabbath School and mission offerings. But he praises the Lord that members continued to return their tithe in 2020.



BONNIE DWYER is editor of *Spectrum*.