

The church is a community of people sharing a common purpose and fellowship. We are continually growing in faith and in the knowledge of Jesus, the Son of God.

Investment is not simply another offering; it is a plan whereby individuals invest money, time and effort in a faithful partnership with God for the purpose of supporting His world mission. God is the senior partner in any Investment project. Investing with God as a partner, we are laying up treasures in heaven. "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt. 6:21).

Sometimes our plans may not seem to materialize as we desire and the return from an investment seems small. If we are true to our work God will reward our effort. "However small your talent, God has a place for it. That one talent, wisely used, will accomplish its appointed work. By faithfulness in little duties, we are able to work on the plan of addition and God will work for us on the plan of multiplication. These littles will become the most precious influences in His work" (Ellen G White, Christ's Object Lessons p. 360)

Investment Secretary

Activities and Events

Here are some ideas to help you promote interest in the Investment plan.

A Ten-Minute Program to Introduce Investment

- Explain what Investment is. Often there are new members who do not understand. Emphasize "partnership with God".
- A brief history of the Investment program and what it has accomplished for world mission.
- Show the goal chart and inform the congregation of the goal that has been recommended.
- Relate one or two brief success stories, emphasizing the simplicity of the plan.
- Distribute a brochure with a project list for members to choose from or allow them to devise a project of their own.
- Have a brief prayer for the success of the Investment program.

Other activities

- Have one of the children's divisions come and tell what they are doing for Investment and show their goal device.
- Interview someone who has had a successful Investment project.
- Arrange an annual sale of items such as Christmas cards, baked goods, garden produce, crafts, clothing, doll's clothing and toys.

For resources and information on training, log into the members site at sspm.adventistconnect.org or contact your local conference personal ministries director.



THE MINISTRY OF THE

Investment Secretary

Have you been asked to serve your local church as an investment secretary? Or perhaps you serve on a church nominating committee and wonder what the investment secretary is expected to do. This guide has been designed to help you understand this role within your local church.

sspm.adventistconnect.org

The Role of the Investment Secretary

An Investment secretary is responsible for launching the Investment plan early in the year and frequently promoting it throughout the year. They work closely with all the Sabbath School leaders at each age level to arrange for times when the Investment plan can be promoted before each group on a regular basis.

The Investment Secretary is responsible for:

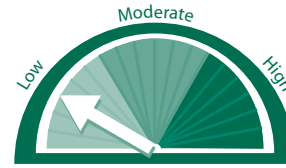
- promoting investment in world mission at all age levels - particularly at the start of the year in January and the conclusion in November (it may be June to June depending on your church calendar)
- supplying investment promotional materials to highlight mission and outreach needs
- meeting with Sabbath School Leaders to set goals and plan for the year's activities
- providing a goal chart or device in a central location to show the funds being raised
- keeping records and meeting with the church treasurer to keep track of money invested
- providing progress reports for all divisions
- communicate with members regularly and answer questions to build confidence
- provide significant stories and news to the conference

Responsible to

Cooperate with the pastor and the various Sabbath School leaders.

Time Commitment

- Communication with members is ongoing and may require bulletin announcements, power points or displays
- Meeting with the treasurer and managing records
- Two or three hours each week



Term of Office

The term is usually a full year. A person can serve longer once a vision is caught for this ministry.

Skills and Spiritual Gifts

God has gifted each of us in different ways. The following gifts are valuable when considering the choice of members for the role of Investment Secretary.

- **Administration:** The service of directing or guiding the church (and its activities) toward a destination. Progress is best achieved with love and selflessness.
- **Leadership:** The ability to set goals in accordance with God's purpose for the church. This involves wisdom and communicating goals in a way that encourages and motivates others to work together to achieve them.

Skills desired for running a smooth Investment program include the ability to *set goals* and establish ways to attain them; a *knowledge of human behaviour* and an ability to *work effectively with all age groups* in the church; the ability to *implement the planned program* once it has been set up; skill to *motivate and encourage* church members to follow through with their projects, doing all they can and then leaving the results with God; the ability to *include everyone* in an Investment project and communicate that their participation is needed to make the program a success.

