

**April 25, 2020**

## **Local Conference Advance**

***Timely and proper maintenance is important.*** A few years ago, a man met a milestone when his 1964 Porsche 356 C reached an astonishing one million miles driven. He became a local celebrity in his hometown. You have probably heard stories like this in the media: automobile owners of various brands being offered brand new vehicles for similar reasons. When the owners of the various cars were asked what the secret was to such long driving histories, they were almost unanimous in their responses: “Timely and proper maintenance.”

Maintaining the ministries of our local conferences is similar. The “proper and timely maintenance” is predicated on a systematic and proactive giving on our part. In fact, we should teach such benevolent and premeditated approaches to tithing and offerings to our children. After all, they are the next generation of Seventh-day Adventist Christians to carry the “torch” of the Gospel forward.

It needs to be timely so as to avoid moments of crisis and total backdowns. We are all familiar with how small problems left unattended turn into major headaches later. Let us resolve that we will systematically, proactively, and benevolently support the mission, the vision, and the ministries of service in our local conference territories.