

Dear Conference Family,

I want to extend to each of you an invitation, and perhaps said with more clarity, an urgent appeal, to join thousands of church members across our conference on April 15, in participating in a day of fasting and prayer. Scripture details numerous occasions, and the resultant blessings, of what happens when God's people both pray and fast. In many instances, when faced with difficult problems or the danger posed by invading armies, or when simply threatened by impossible circumstances, the Children of Israel would both pray and fast. Often, this experience would last one day, from morning thru evening. While not a magical formula which guarantees a hoped for prescribed result, it seems that God values the humble act of uniting prayer with fasting, and then chooses to bless in wonderful ways.

While it seems that we do not hear much on the topic in the modern era, the Adventist Church has a rich history of encouraging its members to fast and pray. As early as 1865, while the Civil War continued to rage, church leaders encouraged believers to fast and pray for God to intervene and conclude the horrible conflict. According to Review and Herald editorials printed in the same year, James White wrote that the time of prayer and fasting introduced a period when "he had never seen such intensity and feeling, nor better times in Battle Creek or the whole world field. Many prayers were answered."

In the midst of the COVID-19 crisis, could God not bring about the same result today, in response to His people practicing this same spiritual commitment as our church ancestors did yesterday? Pleading to God for safety, deliverance, and the great advancement of His cause despite the present crisis? Thank you for thoughtfully considering joining together as we dedicate April 15, as a day where we will petition the Lord throughout the day, and experience in those same hours the blessings of a fast.

Steve Haley
President

Kentucky-Tennessee Conference of Seventh-day Adventist

Dear Pastors and Elders,

The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic is far-reaching, devastating homes, families, businesses, countries, and the whole world! The enemy has used this virus in an attempt to disrupt and stop the work of the church and its mission. However, we know that we have a God Who sees and hears our cry for help. The Angel of the LORD (Jesus) made sure that a simple pregnant (not by her choice) Egyptian maid was given the message "I am the God Who sees! And, in naming her son Ishmael (means *God hears*), God made sure she knew He was also the God Who hears! Today, He assures us of that same reality! He hears us! If we ever needed to pray, it is now! If we ever needed to see God, it is now! If we ever needed to ask for healing, it is now!

Elder Haley is calling on all Pastors, elders, and members of the KYTN Conference to set aside **Wednesday, April 15** as a day of prayer and fasting. He is asking that we pray for God to heal our land of this plague, heal our people, give strength, courage, and open doors for opportunities to share the love of God!

Please join us on **April 15** as together we make our petitions known to God asking Him to reveal His will and intervene! Thank you for dedicating this day in prayer and fasting. Check out our Webpage link below for more details.

Gail McKenzie
Prayer Ministries Director
Kentucky-Tennessee Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

For Further Information

For further details, visit our event [webpage](#) or go to www.kytn.net and click on the [Prayer and Fasting banner](#). We will also be posting the event on our Facebook page: [Kentucky Tennessee Conference of Seventh-day Adventists](#).