

**EDITORIAL**  
What's the Point?

**FEATURE**  
5 Ways Pathfinders Grow  
the Church

**PERSPECTIVE**  
The Love of God

# gleanner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION

**HOW  
THE  
CHURCH  
WORKS**

MAY/JUNE  
2022  
VOL. 117, N°3



**IMAGES of CREATION**

*“Have you not known?  
Have you not heard? The Lord is  
the everlasting God, the Creator  
of the ends of the earth. He does  
not faint or grow weary; His  
understanding is unsearchable.”  
Isaiah 40:28, ESV*

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MAY/JUNE 2022

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# HOW THE CHURCH WORKS

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**Pathfinders**  
 Grow the Church

### CAN I MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN MY CHURCH?

It's a question many are asking right now. With our General Conference session taking place in June, now's a great time to dig in and discover how the Adventist Church works and how you can effect change.

**PATHFINDERS CLUBS** have been around for just about 70 years. Why are they important and how can they grow your church? Find out from five Northwest Pathfinder influencers.

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CHURCH

# WHAT'S THE POINT?

**THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION AND THE NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONSTITUENCY SESSION ARE BOTH SCHEDULED FOR THIS SUMMER. WITH ALL THAT IS GOING ON IN OUR WORLD, IT'S AN EXCELLENT TIME TO ASK WHY WE HAVE THESE MEETINGS?**

The first reason we gather is to remember where God has led. Here in the Northwest, God has blessed with a good growth in membership, a resilient Adventist Education system, a strong outreach to youth and young adults, a new scholarship for NPUC students attending WWU, a new leadership development emphasis, new church plants and revitalization projects and an incredible increases in tithe and offerings. It is amazing how God has blessed, even during the pandemic.

Spiritual renewal is another reason for these meetings. Whenever God's people gather, it is an opportunity for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. A focus on Christ and His matchless love opens hearts to receive

the anointing of the Spirit. We do not want to miss this opportunity.

We also gather to refocus on the future. At the NPUC constituency session in August, delegates will hear plans to address the needs of our local conferences. The union's role is to serve local conference leadership as they move the mission forward.

Finally, delegates will elect leadership positions as presented by the nominating committee and consider recommendations made by the constitution and by-laws committee. The NPUC is also blessed to support the mission of Walla Walla University, which will hold their constituency meeting in the afternoon of August 7.

Since becoming the North Pacific Union president, I've worked with our executive committee to hone our purpose. Our mission is to reach all people within the North Pacific Union and the world with the distinctive,



JOHN FREEDMAN  
*North Pacific Union president*

Christ-centered, Seventh-day Adventist message of hope and wholeness. We have placed a strong emphasis on the value of servant leadership and collaboration. Our vision to live out our mission is this: As Christians looking for Jesus soon return, we will reflect His character, show His unconditional love for all people and passionately share the gospel.

In the book, *The Acts of the Apostles*, by Ellen White, we find a beautiful description of the church's mission. "The church is God's appointed agency for the salvation of men. It was organized for service, and its mission is to carry the gospel to the world." Another passage in the same book describes God's vision for His church: "... through the church will eventually be made manifest, even to "the principalities and powers in heavenly places," the final and full display of the love of God" (*Acts of the Apostles*, page 9).

The Seventh-day Adventist Church structure has been modified a few times in our relatively short existence, but always with a focus on our mission. You could describe our structure like a set of interlocking blocks.

The Unions are the building blocks of the General Conference. Every union of the

world church is represented on the GC Executive Committee. Understanding that the GC cannot plan and effectively execute ways to carry the gospel to every part of the world, the Unions have been tasked with this responsibility in their respective territory. The GC and their Divisions (an arm of the GC) are tasked with serving the Unions in doing mission.

The building-blocks of the Unions are the local conferences within their territory. The building-blocks of the local conferences are the churches and schools within their territory. Unions serve the local conference leadership and the conference leadership serve their churches and schools. The local churches disciple and equip their members to accomplish the mission in their communities.

The church is not perfect, though we strive to glorify God in all we do. It does make mistakes, for which we ask forgiveness. "Enfeebled and defective as it may appear, the church is the one object upon which God bestows in a special sense His supreme regard. It is the theater of His grace, in which He delights to reveal His power to transform hearts" (*Acts of the Apostles*, page 12). The church is at its best when we strive together to glorify

God, living God's love in service to others and reaching out to passionately share the Gospel. Yes, we ask for forgiveness when we fail, but get up off our knees to continue forwarding the mission.

If ever the world needed hope, it is today. With of the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, the fear of nuclear war is spreading, and millions are afraid of the darkness enveloping the world. I recently had an opportunity to speak with a young adult who was fearful of nuclear war. He grew up a Seventh-day Adventist, attended our schools and knew our prophetic message.

As we talked, gradually faith and peace were restored by gently reviewing the scriptures he already knew, focusing on the love of Christ and the hope of the second coming. Darkness cannot dispel darkness. Only light can dispel darkness. A focus on Christ and His Word will restore faith and peace. As the theater of the grace of God, the church is where real transformation of human hearts takes place.

JOHN FREEDMAN  
*North Pacific Union president*

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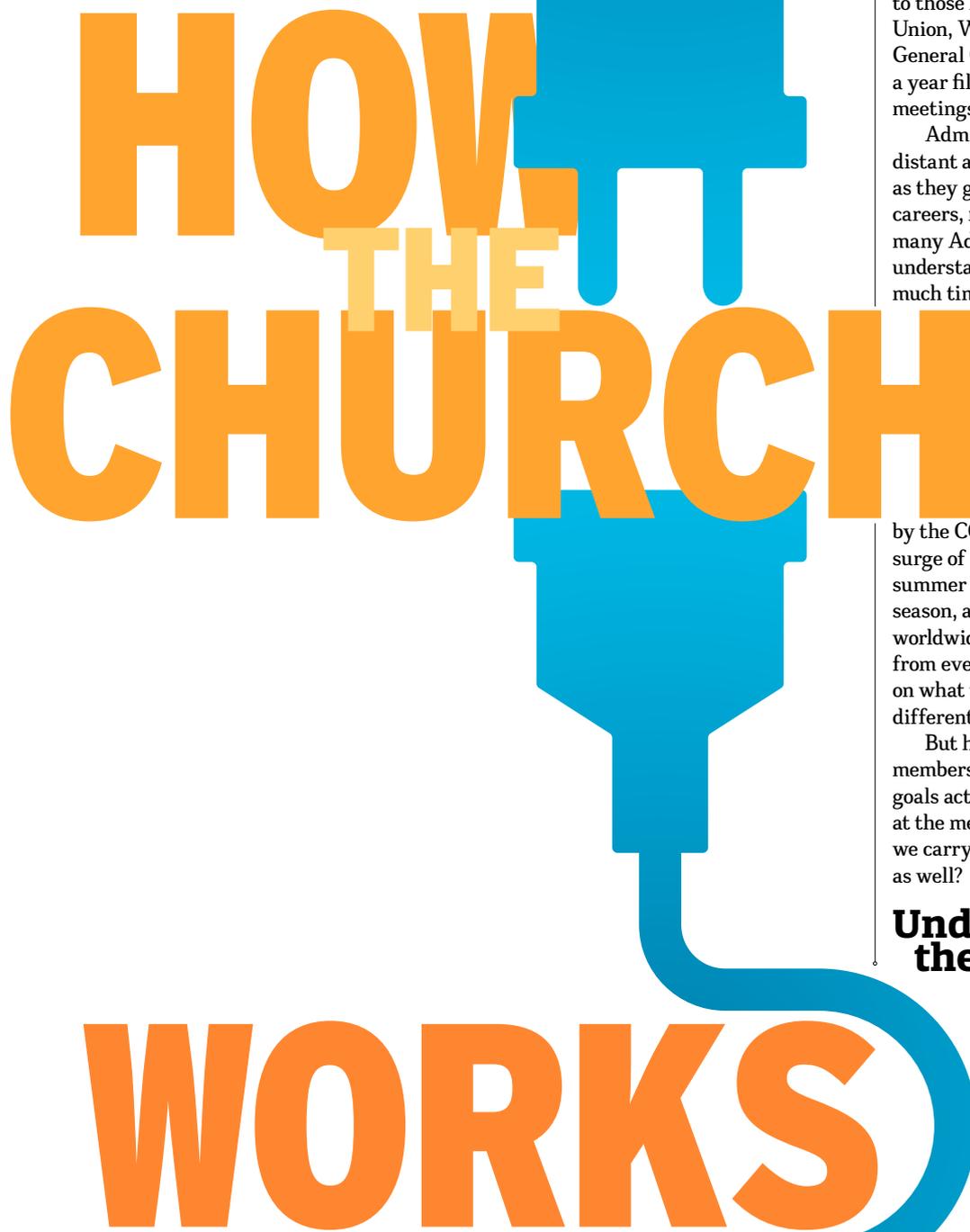
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**IMAGES OF CREATION, P. 2**



"Mountain Goat,"  
in The Enchantments,  
Washington,  
by Tobin A Kearns,  
of Walla Walla, Washington



# HOW THE CHURCH WORKS

## A Meaningful Voice?

In 2022, Seventh-day Adventists from around the world will gather to make vital decisions about policy and leadership. From the constituency session happening in my local Oregon Conference in September, up to those happening in the North Pacific Union, Walla Walla University and the General Conference Session in June, this is a year filled with important organizational meetings.

Administrative meetings might seem distant and irrelevant to many Adventists as they go about the stresses of their own careers, relationships and lives. In fact, many Adventists may have a hard time understanding the purpose of spending so much time, money and energy on so many meetings. For those of us who wish the church would change or grow faster, it can be hard to view yet another meeting as a positive thing.

These past few years have been incredibly polarizing. From the disruption and fear brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, a renewed surge of civil rights movements in the summer of 2020, a hyperpolarized election season, a wave of natural disasters and worldwide political turmoil, Adventists from every school of thought have opinions on what the church should be doing differently.

But how do we—the local church membership—help make those ideas and goals actually come to fruition? Are we left at the mercy of our administrators, or do we carry a meaningful influence and voice as well?

## Understanding the Structure

Because we live in a world full of top-down hierarchies—from company CEOs and presidents, to religious authorities like the Pope in the Roman Catholic Church—our understanding of leadership in the Adventist Church is often skewed to understand our church as a similar top-down model. But as Dr. George Knight, a prolific author and former professor at the Theological Seminary at Andrews



**THE ADVENTIST CHURCH IS AN INTERCONNECTED GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF ORGANISMS AND SYSTEMS THAT INFLUENCE EACH OTHER DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY.**

University, said, “We do not have a presidential system ... but more and more, we act as if it is. And therefore, whether it’s the local conference, the union conference or the General Conference, we have a temptation to make it into a presidential system where the president sets the agenda.”

Lowell Cooper, a retired General Conference vice president, described our system this way: “The world Seventh-day Adventist Church is really a rather complex organization. We have some 90,000 churches. We have institutions, schools, hospitals, clinics, publishing houses and many different

ecclesiastical units: local missions, local conferences, unions, divisions, etc.”

The Adventist Church structure can most accurately be described as interlocking and interdependent. Yet, many Adventists tend to think of the church as a pyramid, with the local church at the bottom and the General Conference at the top. In a way, this is correct.

The local church is the foundation that the rest of the Adventist Church is built upon. It’s where church membership is held. This is where members are allowed to vote on church business matters and can also be elected to church leadership

roles. When someone wants to get baptized or join the Adventist Church, it’s the local church who is responsible for membership matters.

Next is the local conference layer. This is made up of groups of churches in a particular territory – usually either a state or geographical region. The local conference employs pastors and teachers in each territory, and this is also the layer that collects tithe – money used to maintain the church.

A group of conferences makes up a union, such as the North Pacific Union. Not only do unions support the

conferences in their territory, but they also oversee Adventist colleges and universities and the operations of clinics, hospitals, media ministries and other special entities.

The final layer is the General Conference. This is the Adventist Church’s global leadership body. It is split into 13 divisions that oversee different parts of the world. The divisions aren’t technically their own layer but are a working part of the General Conference.

The General Conference Session is a decision-making event occurring every five years. This is when important decisions are made – electing officers, voting on changes to the official church manual and approving modifications or additions to our official fundamental beliefs.

To understand how all of these layers come together, I’ll use my church as an example. My local church, in Hillsboro, Oregon, belongs to the Oregon Conference, which oversees churches and schools in Oregon and a few in Southern Washington. The Oregon Conference belongs to the North Pacific Union, which includes the Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Upper Columbia and Washington conferences. The NPUC is part of the North American Division of the General Conference, which supports unions in the United States and Canada, as well as other territories like Guam and Bermuda.

It’s easy to see why people might visualize the Adventist Church structure as a pyramid. But is that really an accurate representation? Are the people on top of the pyramid in charge of the people below? Or is it an inverted pyramid with the power resting at the local church?

In reality, the Adventist Church structure is more like an interdependent ecosystem.

## A Finely Balanced Ecosystem

The Adventist Church is an interconnected global community of organisms and systems that influence each other directly and indirectly. If one part of that ecosystem fails or takes over, the system can have serious issues. A good starting point for figuring out how the Adventist Church works is to look deeper at how your local church operates.

When asked about church structure, Alex Bryant, North American Division president said, "If you understand how things are at the local church level, it's almost identical at every other level of the church. For example, we use a nominating committee process to elect a local church deacon, a local church usher and a local church youth leader. We use the exact same nominating committee process to elect the General Conference President and all positions in between."

Committees and constituency sessions allow

for a certain amount of accountability and democracy that a top-down system wouldn't. When our system works as it was designed, decisions around church policy are made collectively by the people we choose to represent us.

## Tipping The Scale

Even though our church structure provides accountability and democratic choice, there are challenges when things get out of balance. For example, if elected positions are taken up by, say, people of a certain age group or racial demographic, does it make room for new ideas? If people are nominated to fill these positions because they agree with how the church is already working, how can we challenge the system when things aren't going well?

What happens when there is a growing generation gap between church leaders and younger generations, like Millennials and Gen Z?

These aren't mere hypothetical questions. Our

church is facing a potential crisis. Bonita Shields, North American Division interim associate secretary, said, "Somewhere around 66% of pastors are eligible to retire. So we're looking at a big change, and I think that's going to force us to look at how we do ministry, and also how our church is structured."

There are other ways that demographics of leadership and decision-makers don't accurately reflect the church, as well. For decades, Black Adventist leadership was kept out of decision-making conversations, committees and constituencies.

We are doing much better at including Black leaders than we were a hundred years ago. Still, many Adventist administrators tend to be White men. That is despite the demographic data of the North American Division showing that only about 40% of churches are historically White.

While the NAD has an intentional drive to have diverse administrative leadership teams, the truth of the matter is that White men are still far more likely to have access to the mentorship and support that feeds the

leadership pipeline.

Another area of imbalance is gender equality. Although there are some groups of Adventists who believe women are not biblically allowed to be pastors, the General Conference officially supports women as deacons, elders, pastors and administrators. However, it does not allow for women to be ordained as their male counterparts. Instead, they're commissioned.

Officially, all pastors are paid on the same pay scale regardless of conference position, race or gender. But because certain leadership positions can only be held by ordained ministers (mainly conference, union division and general conference presidential positions), female pastors are barred from the positions of leadership that their male counterparts can access. They often face continuous and constant scrutiny through many levels of their ministry calling.

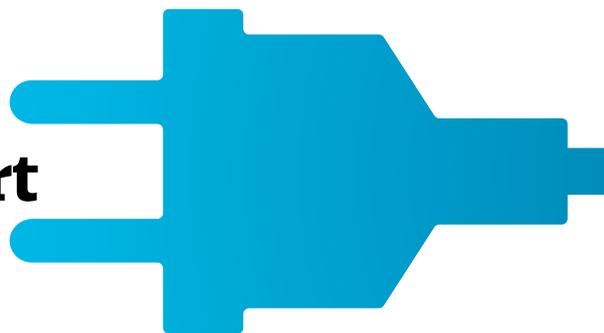
While problems aren't difficult to find in our current system of governance, there are positive aspects of the system easily overlooked. One such benefit is how our church handles business meetings.

The Adventist Church isn't the only denomination to use a representative form of governing for business meetings. In some other denominations, delegates are responsible for their own expenses. In others, that burden falls to the delegate's local church.

In the Adventist Church, there is a unique difference. Delegates to any church business meeting, from the conference on up to the General Conference, have their travel costs covered for every meeting.



# "We need young people involved at every level of the church! The best place to start is in your local church."



At first glance, paying for delegates to travel may seem like a waste of church resources. However, making sure delegates don't personally foot the bill ensures we have delegates from every Adventist territory and differing socioeconomic backgrounds in attendance to make decisions for the worldwide church. Ideally, this levels the playing field for representatives with a wide spectrum of financial resources.

## Start Local

With all of these overlapping factors and details about how the church is organized, the question remains, "How can the average member participate in creating change in a large global church?"

According to Bryant, change starts at your local church. "What I encourage young people to do is to try to get involved," he said. "When you get to the division level, there are 1.2 million people in the North American Division. So you're one of 1.2 million, and the chances of getting involved in the vision and process are less likely. At your local church level, you may be one person among 200 or 300 people, but the process is the same, and it's a great learning opportunity on how the church operates. Once you get that experience, or you sit on that board with a pastor or local conference president, they may be looking for someone—because people

are saying, 'We need to get young people involved,' at every level of the church! So the easiest place to get involved is the place that's closest to you, whether it's at the local church or the local conference."

For anyone wanting immediate change, feedback like this can feel overwhelming. It can be a lifelong commitment at a local level before the possibility to participate beyond it arises. And yet, there's a reason to hope. Each of us can have an immediate voice by connecting with our elected delegates at the conference, union and division levels. Build relationships and participate in meaningful conversations to help those chosen representatives make informed decisions.

## Why Not Change?

Being a part of organizational decision-making and change can take a lot of time, energy and prayer. At times, it can be incredibly frustrating. Sometimes it's easy to be discouraged and ask why we continue using such a system?

For all of its issues, our model of governance protects from hasty decision-making that could potentially cause incredible damage. In addition, we have checks and balances to help keep autocratic and erratic leaders from taking the church in

their own direction.

Though the process is slow, even the policies that shape church organizations can be changed through our voting process if given enough time and interest. Kyoshin Ahn, NAD undersecretary, explained a little about how policy works to benefit us. "A recommendation for a new policy or the revision of an existing policy comes to us from every direction," said Ahn. "It comes from local conferences or unions or various denominational entities. The reason I'm saying that, is that policy is dynamic. It is not fixed, although it is fixed in writing—it is dynamic and can be amended."

## Historical Perspective

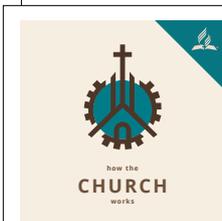
In the early iterations of our church, there was a time when Adventists did not want an organizational structure of any kind. As a people who were pushed out of their former churches for their beliefs in the second coming of Jesus, abolitionism and other movements, they were incredibly sensitive to the ways institutional baggage could become an obstacle to the

urgent mission they believed God had set before them. But they soon realized that an established organization would help them carry out God's mission in the coming years.

For example, in order for Adventists to receive conscientious objector status during the Civil War—to avoid bearing arms against their fellow man—Adventists had to belong to an official religious organization. To run their publishing houses, they needed to purchase property and equipment and register their publications.

As the church organization grew it became complex. Today, with more people operating across the globe, the Adventist Church's decisions must be made with increasing care for the massive spectrum of humanity they serve. Policies, leadership and decision-making bodies are a vital part of that process in our modern-day, and they remain an important way a local church member can participate in shaping the Seventh-day Adventist Church for future generations.

KALEB EISELE  
Gleaner writer



This article was adapted from episode 3 of *How the Church Works*, a podcast written and produced by Heather Moor, Nina Vallado and Kaleb Eisele, and sponsored by the Adventist Learning Community. To listen to the full episode, hear interviews with the administrators quoted in this article or to learn more about the podcast, visit [howthechurchworks.com](http://howthechurchworks.com).

# 5

## Ways Pathfinders Grow the Church

With churches beginning to return to pre-pandemic ministry, there's never been a better time to take a fresh look at an outreach opportunity with real potential to grow your church. I'm talking about Pathfinders.

I recently spoke with Pathfinder coordinators from across the Northwest at a training weekend at Gem State Academy. A coordinator is a team leader that works with the club directors in a specific region. Sometimes, a coordinator plays a specific role for all clubs in their local conference.

As I spoke with these dedicated leaders, I discovered five ways Pathfinder clubs help grow a church.



Rachel and Kinley Stumps, Upper Columbia Conference Pathfinder coordinators

## 1. PATHFINDERS INTRODUCE KIDS TO JESUS

Kinley and Rachel Stumph are some of the youngest Pathfinder coordinators in the Northwest. Rachel shared how Pathfinders is a low-key way for kids to enjoy learning about God. "It's fun," she said. "It doesn't put pressure on kids to become a Christian, but as time goes on they will be drawn to Jesus."

Eric Barber, Upper Columbia Conference North Cascades coordinator, put it this way when asked about the value Pathfinder clubs for a local church. "I think it comes down to the core memories that kids take away into adulthood," he said. "Anchors are really important. Even when young people choose a different direction sometimes, life will throw something in their path that will remind them of those core beliefs and values they learned in Pathfinders."

So, what if you don't have children in your church? That isn't stopping some churches in Upper Columbia Conference. Richie Brower, UCC Pathfinder director, said, "If your church doesn't have kids attending, Pathfinders has proven to be a successful outreach to families."

"Find the needs in your community," added Eric Barber. "It may be that parents in your community need after school care. Open an after school club to help meet that need."

The club opens a door to reach families in your community. It's a way to share Jesus using nature, a tool so many are eager to learn more about.

## 2. PATHFINDERS DEEPEN AN APPRECIATION FOR CREATION

To earn honors, Pathfinders spend a lot of time learning about nature. Those brightly-colored and embroidered badges displayed on their sashes represent hours of learning. As they study about each honor, young people grow their appreciation for nature and its Creator.

I remember my own experience. Every honor taught me beautiful details about God's craftsmanship and incredible design. The shell honor is especially memorable for me.

"The structure and adventure, connecting with other kids, was what attracted me as a kid," said Eric Barber. "As a young adult, it was a great way to get involved with the church. Pathfinder Clubs combined our love of the outdoors and our love for youth."

Amber Barber, Eric's wife and ministry partner, said, "It's been energizing to watch kids experience new things through Pathfinders. We really enjoyed watching kids experience creation on visits to Yellowstone and other national parks."

Whether it's a campout or exploring in nature for an honor, Pathfinders brings kids face to face with their Creator.



Pedro Santiago Gijon, Washington Conference Hispanic Pathfinders coordinator

# 3.

## PATHFINDERS BUILD DEEP RELATIONSHIPS

There's something special about Pathfinders that strengthens and grows a church family. The secret sauce is the relationships that are forged in the club setting.

"The friendships kids form in Pathfinders turn into lifelong friendships," said Amber Barber. "Our daughter still talks with friends from Pathfinders."

Kinley Stumph joined Pathfinders because it was something he and his brother could do outside of church and school. It provided a way for them to stay active and at the same time stay connected to spiritual things.

As a young teen, Rachel Stumph found Pathfinders helpful in making connections after moving to a new town. "Pathfinders was a way to find friends," she said. "They are still are friends to this day."



# 4.

## PATHFINDERS OFFER MULTIGENERATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Unlike many school settings, Pathfinders offers kids an opportunity to interact with younger and older kids. Rachel Stumph reflected on her experiences. "My sister became a Pathfinder when I was six-and-a-half years old. I was three years younger. I was eager to join, but had to wait a few years until I was old enough."

In addition to the club-aged kids, Pathfinders are able to interact with the older teens who have transitioned into club leadership training as well as the adult leaders. This multigenerational setting accurately reflects what they'll experience in a church setting later in life.

# 5.

## PATHFINDERS TRAIN LEADERS

One of the greatest ways Pathfinders grows a church is through leadership training. Young people have opportunity for immediate involvement in ministry, offering experience that leads to leadership.

For Rachel Stumph, Pathfinders kept her centered and involved in ministry. "It helped me think about where I was going in life and gave me something to be passionate about in the church," she said.

Pedro Santiago Gijon, Washington Conference Hispanic Pathfinder coordinator said, "The most important thing about Pathfinders is that we're training leaders to carry on the church now and in the future. If a church doesn't have a Pathfinder club, that church is in danger of disappearing. But when you have a club, you're investing in the future of your church."

"Sometimes you feel like your work in Pathfinders is insignificant," said Santiago Gijon. "People don't see what you do, and the parents are hard to work with sometimes. The other day, I was in a hardware store getting supplies for my construction company. One of my Pathfinders, who I hadn't seen in quite a while, saw me and called to me across the store. He was so grateful for what I had done all those years back. He's now working in a new church plant of young people. I've had many experiences like that where young adults come up to me and share how much Pathfinders meant to them and helped them stay active in the church."

## PATHFINDERS AND OUR FUTURE

In conclusion, a strong Pathfinder club has potential to dramatically grow a church — not just through youth baptisms, though that is wonderful, but also in other important ways. Our youth find connection to God and to each other when we provide a safe space for them to learn and grow.

"I was really nervous at first because I felt we didn't know anything," said Amber Barber. "We discovered that we can do more than I thought. There's a really good group of people to work with to learn from and get support from."

In addition to the willing spirit Amber describes, it really comes down to two simple things to decide to start a Pathfinder club. "What do you need to be a Pathfinder leader? You need a passion for God and a love for young people," said Eric Barber. "And a willingness to go outside your comfort zone."

JAY WINTERMEYER  
Gleaner editor

Eric and Amber Barber, Upper Columbia Conference North Cascades coordinators



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**Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists**  
4h · 🌐

**Oregon Young Adults**  
March 26 at 10:00 AM · 🌐

This is the "Solidarity Wall" on the campus of University of Oregon. The wall, built by the Storyline Church, provided space to express pain and support for vic... See more

**Montana Conference of Seventh-day Adventists**  
March 3 at 1:55 PM · 🌐

The theme for the Montana Conference is "Renewing Faith and Restoring Hope." There are many practical and relevant ways to make this theme come to life in our churches, and one of those is ways is to get back to the basics. It's time to review what we believe as Seventh-day Adventists, and you can do that with this new Bible Study Project. Elder Ken Norton, the president of the Montana Conference, shares what this project is all about in this video.

**Washington Conference of Seventh-day Adventists**  
March 25 at 7:09 PM · 🌐

They told her she couldn't do anything with three pennies. God had other ideas.

#GrowingLeaders blog by Doug Bing

**Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists**  
Yesterday at 4:31 PM · 🌐

Pastor Macy Weir was installed as lead pastor of Tabernacle Adventist Church in Portland last Sabbath.

"Somehow it was fitting that the service had to be held in the basement fellowship hall due to the sanctuary heating system being down, as it represented the challenges navigated these past years," wrote President Dan Linrud in a Facebook post, "I'm so proud and have so much respect for the steady leadership Pastor Macy has provided as associate pastor and twice interim pas... See more

**Alaska Conference of SDA**  
Published by Tandi Perkins · March 20 at 9:18 PM · 🌐

Honoring our own!

NWADVENTISTS.COM | BY NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS

**Answering His Call: Northwest Women Leading in Ministry**  
Alice Moncher's eyes crinkle around the edges when she greets you at the Northside Church

**Upper Columbia Conference**  
March 16 at 10:59 AM · 🌐

Equipping for Service: Walla Walla is April 8-9 at Walla Walla University Church. Join us for a weekend of training including seminars, sermons, vespers and a Q&A session with our new president that will allow you to learn and be engaged with UCC as we work towards bringing One More to His kingdom!

For a complete weekend schedule, list of seminar topics, and more information, please visit [uccsda.org/equipping](http://uccsda.org/equipping).

**Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists**  
March 24 at 5:04 PM · 🌐

ACS began in 1934 when women from the Sunnyside Seventh-day Adventist Church and the Adventist Sanitarium (now Adventist Health Portland) began meeting to sew quilts and clothing for struggling families during the Great Depression. Gradually the group started to distribute food in addition to clothing. In 1963 the ministry expanded when additional churches joined the effort, seeking to pool their resources to create a more effective program. That is when PACS was officially f... See more

Washington Conference of Seventh-day Adventists  
2h · 🌐

#HolyLand Photo Tour from Pastor Ryan Wilson

On our first night in Jerusalem, a group of six of us made our way to the Damascus Gate and into the old city of Jerusalem. We managed to find the Wailing Wall. Since the Temple Mount itself is under Palestinian Muslim control, this is as close as the Jews can get to the Holy of Holies. It was such a privilege to be in a place with such a rich spiritual history. As a friend pointed out, I'm also grateful that Christ invites us to... See more

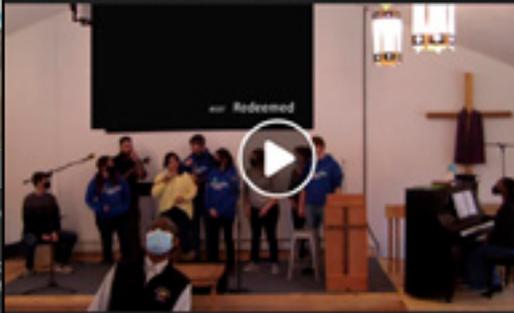


Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists  
March 25 at 3:28 PM · 🌐

This school year, the Tillamook Adventist School seventh and eighth graders created artwork for a local micro-shelter. This gave residents of each shelter something special to hang on the wall as well as something to take with them when they move on. Madisen, a seventh grader, wrote the following poem that explains the project:  
"These art projects that we all are making will be great for the tiny homes!... See more



Alaska Conference of SDA  
Published by Brenda Johnson · March 26 at 8:12 PM · 🌐



Alaska Bethel Seventh-day Adventist Church was live.  
March 26 at 12:07 PM · 🌐  
Happy Sabbath! Welcome to Arctic Camp Meeting - Our Theme is Together in Mission. Be blessed and thank you for joining us today.

Upper Columbia Conference  
March 14 at 5:02 PM · 🌐

In early 2020, Renew Spokane was selected to receive a grant from Mission to the Cities, an initiative introduced by General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, which focuses on reaching urban areas for Christ and provides funding to assist in meeting this goal. The grant provides nearly \$1 million dollars spread over five years and will strengthen the outreach efforts of the program.  
The formation of Renew Spokane tied together the efforts of several existing U... See more



Washington Conference of Seventh-day Adv  
2h · 🌐

Around two years ago when, through an apologetics (Arnett's journey with God accelerated to where he is) student pastor at Auburn Adventist Academy Church.  
#washingtonacts



Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists  
March 23 at 3:45 PM · 🌐

(1 / 2) "I first remember the joy of sharing Jesus as a youth and young adult. My mom would drive me to the Space Age gas station on Foster Road to meet up with Pastor Elvera Blake, and she would take me out to Gresham to do Bible studies with another young girl my age. I loved those Bible studies, and it was there that I think my love for ministry began. When I was 16 years old a Bible worker named Fadia invited me to a youth program called Youth for Jesus. We knocked on doo... See more



Sermons, music and more available at  
**NWADVENTISTS.COM**

Alaska Conference of SDA  
Published by Tandi Perkins · March 27 at 11:27 AM · 🌐



Anchorage Community Seventh-day Adventist Church  
Seventh Day Adventist Church  
Call now

# UKRAINIAN STUFFED CABBAGE ROLLS



HOLUBTSI, OR STUFFED CABBAGE ROLLS, ARE A UKRAINIAN STAPLE. THIS MEAL HAS A LONG HISTORY, AND LIKE MANY EUROPEAN RECIPES, EVERY MOM AND GRANDMA MAKES IT HER OWN WAY.

SERVE THEM WITH A SIDE OF BREAD, MASHED POTATOES OR ENJOY THEM SIMPLY ON THEIR OWN. THEY'RE FREEZER-FRIENDLY, TOO!



**INGREDIENTS****Wrappers:**

1 large green cabbage head

**Filling:**

2 tablespoons olive oil

1 large yellow onion, roughly chopped

4 cloves garlic, minced

1 small red bell pepper, roughly chopped

2 medium carrots, roughly chopped

1 1/3 cup cooked lentils

1/2 cup rolled oats

1 cup cooked brown rice

1 teaspoon dried thyme

1 teaspoon dried oregano

1 teaspoon sweet paprika

1/2 cup parsley, finely chopped

1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper

Salt to taste

**Sauce:**

2 tablespoons olive oil

1 tablespoon tomato paste

1 small yellow onion, finely chopped

2 cans (14.10 ounces) diced tomatoes

2 to 4 cups vegetable stock

2 dried bay leaves

Salt (to taste)

**INSTRUCTIONS:****Wrappers:**

1. Remove core and outer leaves of the cabbage head.

2. Fill a large pot with 2 inches of water and bring to a boil. Place the cabbage head inside and cover.

3. Let it steam until the outer layer of leaves are translucent and pliable.

4. Remove the cabbage and place in a large colander. Remove leaves carefully to prevent tearing. Let them dry while you make the filling.

**Filling:**

1. Place chopped onion, bell pepper and carrots in a food processor with the S blade. Pulse them until you have a finely chopped consistency.

2. Sauté the vegetables in a large skillet on medium-high heat until liquid has evaporated.

3. Add olive oil and sauté for a couple more minutes.

4. Add in the rest of the filling ingredients to the skillet and mix well. Take the skillet off the heat and set aside.

**Sauce:**

1. In a large pot on medium-high heat, sauté the onion in olive oil until translucent and fragrant.

2. Note: Set aside the vegetable broth and bay leaves. They will be added later.

**Assemble the Rolls:**

1. With a pairing knife, cut and remove the center rib from a cabbage leaf.

2. Rib side up, scoop 1/3-1/2 cup of the filling mixture onto the leaf. For easy rolling, place the filling about a couple of inches towards the middle, then shape the filling into a compact form.

3. Roll the leaf over the filling and gently pull it towards you to make a tight and neat roll. Bring in the sides of the leaf over the middle, then roll it tightly like a burrito.

4. Repeat this process for each leaf.

**Cook the rolls:**

1. Ladle 1 cup of tomato sauce into the bottom of a 13x9 casserole dish.

2. Place the cabbage rolls side by side in the dish. Nest bay leaves under or between each roll.

3. Pour enough vegetable stock to into the baking dish until it comes half-way up the sides of the the cabbage rolls.

4. Cover with foil and bake on 350 for 1 hour.

5. Remove the foil and bake for another 30 minutes. Check occasionally to make sure the liquid hasn't completely evaporated. Add more if needed.

6. Remove bay leaves, then serve!



# Lay-equipping Evangelist Named in Oregon

**GERIZIN DE PEÑA, EVANGELIST AND PASTOR, WAS BORN IN HIJUEY, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. HIS PARENTS, A LAY-EVANGELIST COUPLE, DEDICATED HIM TO GOD AS AN INFANT TO BECOME A GOSPEL PREACHER. IN HIS EARLIEST YEARS, DE PEÑA WAS CONVICTED HE MUST BECOME A PASTOR AND EVANGELIST.**

De Peña remembers that his father would pitch his own large tent and then preach a powerful evangelistic series. His mother joined as the soloist.

After De Peña completed college, he was hired as a pastor for one of the local conferences. After eight years of pastoral ministry, he was called to be an evangelist for the East Conference in the Dominican Republic. During his four years at this ministry post, he averaged 25 evangelistic meetings per year.

In 2010, Upper Columbia Conference extended a call to De Peña to serve in the Wenatchee Valley. After five years there, he received a call from the Oregon Conference where he has pastored for the last six years, most recently at the Salem Hispanic church.

“My dream is to mentor and train dozens of lay evangelists,” De Peña said. “I don’t believe there should be



one “evangelism star,” rather, my dream is to see many lay members accept Christ’s call to become Kingdom builders who will develop and train other disciple-making disciples for Christ.”

De Peña explained a four-step plan for his vision.

The first step is identifying a pair of

individuals from each Hispanic church to be mentored and equipped to fulfill their role as lay-evangelists. “Jesus sent out people in pairs, and we will be doing the same thing,” said De Peña. These mission-focused pairs will continue weekly training via YouTube and Facebook through a training program De Peña has developed called *Blessing Your Week*. These provide discipleship training, mentoring, equipping and intentional intercessory prayer for the individuals the Spirit will lead them to.

Another component in De Peña’s evangelistic training is developing reception and welcome ministry teams. Studies show that visiting guests determine within the first 10 minutes whether they will return. De Peña wants to ensure that every guest that enters our Adventist churches will be received with such a warm and genuine welcome that they will determine to return.

“In reality,” shared De Peña, “our entire evangelistic plan is grounded in prayer! Prayer is foundational, and nothing will happen without ongoing, intentional prayer.”

“The Oregon Conference Hispanic constituents will be very blessed because of Pastor De Peña’s

acceptance of the position of Hispanic Evangelist,” said Elder David Paczka, Oregon Conference Hispanic director. “Without a doubt, his evangelistic gifts and talents will be used by God to share the gospel with many souls.”

Thank you for praying for Pastor Gerizin de Peña, his wife Molly and their three children, Zabdiel (18), Gadiel (17) and Haidee (10), as God’s Spirit pours down on this new mission-focused, evangelistic equipping ministry in Oregon Conference!

CAROLANN DE LEÓN  
*North Pacific Union Hispanic, family ministries and ministerial associate director*



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-HSP-70](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-HSP-70)



MISIÓN Y SERVICIO

# Gerizín de Peña nombrado Evangelista en la Conferencia de Oregón

**EL PASTOR** Gerizín De Peña nació en el pueblo de Hijuey, en la República Dominicana. Desde su niñez sabía que llegaría a ser un pastor-evangelista. Sus padres, una pareja de laicos-evangelistas viajaba predicando el Evangelio de las Buenas Nuevas de Salvación. Ellos compartieron con él niño Gerizín, que el había sido dedicado a Dios en su infancia para ser predicador del Evangelio. El padre de Gerizín construía su propia carpa y luego predicaba su serie evangelística mientras que su esposa lo acompañaba como su



lo mismo”—dice De Peña. Estas parejas misioneras continuarán su entrenamiento semanal a través de un programa de capacitación que De Peña ha desarrollado llamado “*Bendiciendo Tu Semana*” por YouTube y Facebook. Estas sesiones semanales de entrenamiento proporcionarán entrenamiento de discipulado, tutoría y equipamiento que incluirá oración intercesora intencional para las personas con las que el Espíritu los guiará a conectarse durante la semana.

solista.

Después de haber terminado la universidad, sirvió como pastor para una de las conferencias locales por ocho años donde sus dones y talentos evangelísticos fueron innegables. Eventualmente fue invitado a ser el evangelista de la Conferencia del Este, donde predicó un promedio de 25 reuniones evangelísticas cada año durante los cuatro años de su ministerio allí.

El pastor Gerizín nos explicó su plan evangelístico de cuatro fases. La primera se enfoca en identificar a un par de individuos en cada iglesia que desean ser entrenados e equipados como *evangelistas laicos*. “Jesús envió a misioneros en pareja y nosotros haremos



De Peña explica que “Otro componente en los planes evangelísticos es la capacitación de los Equipos del Ministerio de Recepción.” Los estudios

demuestran que las personas que llegan de visita a nuestras iglesias determinan dentro de los primeros 10 minutos si regresarán o no. “Las primeras impresiones realmente importan,” dice De Peña, “y tenemos que asegurarnos que cada invitado que ingrese a una iglesia adventista sea recibido con una bienvenida tan cálida y genuina que desee regresar.” De Peña concluyó diciendo, “¡Todo nuestro plan evangelístico se basa en la *oración!* La oración es fundamental; y nada sucederá sin la oración continua e intencional y el empoderamiento del Espíritu Santo para equipar a los miembros laicos para compartir a Jesús con las personas que Dios ha puesto en sus esferas de influencia”.

“La hermandad hispana de la Conferencia de Oregón ha sido muy bendecida con el llamado aceptado por el pastor Gerizín De Peña como Evangelista Hispano”, comparte el Pastor David Paczka, director hispano de la Conferencia de Oregón; “Sin dudas, sus dones evangelísticos serán usados por el Señor para la ganancia de muchas almas”.

Gracias por mantener al pastor Gerizín de Peña, a su esposa Molly, y a sus tres hijos, Zabdiel-18, Gadiel-17 y Haidee-10, en sus oraciones mientras el Espíritu de Dios se derrama sobre este nuevo ministerio de equipamiento evangelístico centrado en la misión de Cristo—la formación de discípulos—en la Conferencia de Oregón.

CAROLANN DE LEÓN  
*North Pacific Union Hispanic, family ministries and ministerial associate director*



CHURCH

# Somasundram Accepts Alaska Call

**ALASKA CONFERENCE IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT ASHWIN SOMASUNDRAM HAS ACCEPTED THE CALL TO SERVE AS VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMINISTRATION.**

Somasundram comes to Alaska with more than 20 years of experience in union, conference and university administration. His ministry accomplishments include service in the British Union Conference for Global Missions, leadership at both Newbold College and Andrews University, Texas Conference administration as well as mission work in Israel.

Somasundram completed a doctoral degree in ministry in 2014 with a focus on developing a model to empower the West Huston Church in multicultural and global ministry. He also holds a bachelor of arts in theology and a master's degree in ministry.

Impressive church growth, revitalizing declining schools and successfully guiding pastors in administrative leadership all point to Somasundram's spiritual gifts. He is passionate about equipping and mentoring others in cultural intelligence and self-care. Somasundram's experiences and talents will greatly bless Alaska leaders and members.

"I am so grateful God led us to Ashwin," said Kevin Miller, Alaska Conference president. "I look forward to having him join our team here at Alaska Conference. I know he will be a blessing to our members and the mission we've been called to."

LIESL VISTAUNET  
Gleaner writer



WEST HOUSTON SDA CHURCH

Ashwin Somasundram (right) speaking at a baptism at West Houston Adventist Church where he most recently pastored.



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-AK-99](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-AK-99)

YOUTH



Bottom right clockwise: Ashley Oozeva, Ina Koonooka, Evelyn Koonooka, Ella Koonooka, Alyssa Oozeva and Elayne Koonooka.

## A LIGHT SHINES IN THE ARCTIC DARK

**THE GAMBELL CHURCH** is on the western tip of St. Lawrence Island in the Bering Sea. Roughly 200 miles southwest of Nome and 35 miles from Russia, it is one of the most remote Adventist churches. Despite the distance, Gambell was blessed to host a Rocky Railway Vacation Bible School on a most unusual date — Christmas Eve, 2021.

It was an intentional decision to hold the program during the dark cold days during Christmas and the new year as children were out of school for their winter break. It was an opportunity to bring light to the children of Gambell when their daylight average is about four hours a day with short windows of twilight.

Originally, the VBS program was to be held in Nome, but it was diverted to St. Lawrence Island and brought by Arctic Mission Adventure, the ministry outreach of the Alaska Conference with funding from Adventist Community Services. God knew the children of Gambell would need the program, and in His wisdom He ensured materials were on hand where needed!

On good-weather days, the church hosted seven kids. On bad-weather days, three children still came to the light and shelter of the church, expressing praise and worship to our Creator. All left with a much-needed diversion from the dark days with the knowledge that they had learned a little more about a loving Savior.

Many thanks to all involved in getting the VBS material together to allow believers in Gambell to present Him to "be (with) His called, chosen and faithful followers" (Rev. 17:14), and knowing "where two or three gather in His name, He is there with us" (Matt. 18:20).

PETU CHRIS KOONOOKA  
Gambell Church elder



MORE ONLINE AT  
[NWADVENT.ST/117-3-AK-45](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-AK-45)

CHURCH

# Nome Pastoral Team Opens Hearts and Home

**HAVE YOU EVER FELT** like you've lost everything? For one mother in sub-arctic Alaska, this is exactly how she felt when her children had to be placed into a foster care home. Little did Pastor Chad and Elizabeth Angasan know that their paths would cross with this mother, and that lives would be changed and God would be glorified.

It began when the Angasans accepted a call to Nome, Alaska. They believed God had called them to "build His army" but did not have a clear vision of what that meant. The word "army" brings to mind a group of military personnel, extremely organized with ranks ranging from top to bottom, trained for war. What did God mean by all of this?

Once settled into their new home, Elizabeth quickly connected with the Nome Children's Home. Starting out as volunteers, Elizabeth later began full time employment at the home while Chad continued as a volunteer. The couple fell in love with the beautiful children that came through the home. It reminded them of the years they



• Pastor Chad Angasan with foster son, Jook Jook.

• Chad Angasan, left, takes Josiah and friends enjoy an afternoon of Sno-going



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-AK-46](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-AK-46) 

had spent in Togiak, Alaska, when God began filling their hearts with love to share with these precious souls.

Over the next two years of pastoring the Nome district, Elizabeth and Chad witnessed kids come and go. Sadly, some children had to stay at the home on multiple occasions as their parents were unable to care for them. The home is a wonderful safe space for children that have experienced all forms of abuse. Yet those that have to stay for long periods of time begin to feel like no one wants them.

In June 2021 siblings, Josiah (12) and Jook Jook (2), arrived at the children's home. Over the next seven months, the Angasans developed a special bond with the children while mentoring and sharing the love of Jesus. In January 2022, Chad and Elizabeth decided to foster the siblings and opened their home to provide a safe, stable atmosphere filled with hope and healing.

The two boys are thriving

in their new foster home with the Angasans. Chad and Elizabeth said it's been rewarding to be a part of letting God shine His love into the boys' lives.

They especially enjoyed being part of a special time that happened during the Nome Arctic Camp Meeting, Feb. 25-26. The boys' mother attended the meetings. Over the weekend, a time of healing and reconciliation between the children and their mother occurred.

The ultimate outcome from the time the family had together isn't known. But we can be certain God has good plans for both the Angasans, and their little family. He's promised hope and a future as it tells us in Jer. 29:11.

CHAD ANGASAN  
*Nome and Savoonga Church pastor*



CHURCH



The Victory Choir will present our Sabbath afternoon concert. Don't miss it!

# 2022 Idaho Conference Camp Meeting Is In Person!

**JOIN US**, either in person or on livestream, for the 2022 Camp Meeting, held on the campus of Gem State Adventist Academy at 16115 S. Montana Avenue in Caldwell, Idaho! We are looking forward to a full-fledged camp meeting June 14-18, 2022, subject to the prevalence of COVID-19.

Our Tuesday through Thursday evening speaker is Dr. Darold Bigger, retired U.S. Navy Chaplain Rear Admiral. The weekend speaker is Shawn Boonstra, Voice of Prophecy director and speaker.

Robert Costa, Escrito Esta speaker, is the guest speaker for the Spanish language meetings, held simultaneously on the GSAA campus. The Spanish language meetings will also be livestreamed.

Joining camp meeting for our youth and young adults is Pastor Mark Tamaleaa, New Haven Church youth and young adult pastor in Overland Park, Kansas. Watch our Facebook (@idahocampmeeting) and [IdahoAdventist.org](http://IdahoAdventist.org) for more details!

We plan to have children's divisions meeting as usual, weekday seminars during the day and the ABC Auditorium sale on Friday afternoon. A Women's Ministries Prayer Focus time happens on Friday afternoon and offers a preview for the fall Women's Retreat!

Our daytime seminar speaker, Eric Flickinger, It Is Written associate speaker, will share more about soul winning and evangelism. Dale Galusha, Pacific Press Publishing Association president, will speak about the last 15 years of Ellen G. White's life. Sung Kwon, Andrews University associate professor and MA in Leadership in Social Innovation program director, will discuss

how to develop a passion for community outreach. Learn more about health with Richard Sloop, a neurologist in Yakima, Washington. He and his wife Linda, a registered dietitian, have been doing health evangelism at the Adventist church in Yakima for 20 years. Linda will join him in the presentations.

Come on Sabbath afternoon for a concert by the Victory Choir, a men's choir from Boise's Oasis Church. You'll love

the beautiful, close harmonies of this choir of Rwandan refugees.

Our theme this year is "Prepared. Willing. Faithful." Come and learn more about how you can make an impact for God's Kingdom in the Idaho Conference.

EVE RUSK  
*Idaho Conference communication director*



Come on the weekend to hear Shawn Boonstra, speaker/director of The Voice of Prophecy!



Eric Flickinger, It is Written associate director, will present on soul winning and evangelism.

Robert Costa is the speaker for the Spanish language camp meeting.



Dr. Darold Bigger, Tuesday-Thursday evening speaker, is the author of *A Time to Forgive* and is a licensed marriage and family therapist who has also worked at Walla Walla University in administrative roles for many years.



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-ID-08](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-ID-08)

EDUCATION

# BVAS Adds a STEM Lab

**AS PART OF THE PROCESS** to become a STEM certified school, Boise Valley Adventist School developed a STEM (Science Technology, Engineering and Math) laboratory.

Through a series of grants and donations, Ken Utt, BVAS principal, began updating the school's current STEM lab with the purchase of two portable workstations, six Lego STEM sets and five EV3 robotic kits. His goal was to consolidate the science related materials, catalog the items and provide STEM learning activities for the students.

The lab is a dedicated space that provides Project Based Learning, encouraging students to be problem solvers, critical thinkers and innovators. "The lab is a place to foster 21st century job skills such as communication, collaboration and creativity," Utt said. "It leads to the development of other social skills such as empathy, adaptability, confidence, curiosity, perseverance, leadership and self-discipline."

Kindergarten students use the lab to promote creativity and exploration through hands-on discovery while the third and fourth grade students utilize the lab to create Lego structures. Mrs. Roach, 3rd & 4th grade teacher noted, "The lab provides a change in the classroom environment and creates an atmosphere that encourages students to engage in the activity."

The lab was particularly useful while students prepared for the Invention Convention as it provided a space for students to work on their projects. In addition, teachers appreciated having a dedicated workspace with proper equipment.

Future plans for the STEM lab include implementing two new clubs: a Lego Club and a Robotics Club.

MELANIE LAWSON  
*Boise Valley Adventist School teacher*



More online at  
[NWADVENT.ST/117-3-ID-72](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-ID-72)

CHURCH

## IDAHO CONFERENCE REACHES 7,000 MEMBERS

**AT THE IDAHO CONFERENCE** Winter Pastors' meetings in January, conference administrators surprised pastors with a cake in celebration of the growth of conference membership. The Idaho Conference has officially reached more than 7,000 members.

Pastors and staff sang the doxology, recognizing that it is not human effort, but God's blessings that brought the conference to this milestone. Those not able to attend in person participated in the celebration via Zoom.

Idaho Conference is in the midst of Operation Exponential Growth, an ongoing initiative to grow God's Kingdom within the conference. Even during pandemic challenges, there were 156 baptisms and professions of faith in 2021.

A week after the celebration, pastors began working on a baptism goal for 2022.

The next phase of Operation Exponential Growth kicked off in April with several series of meetings across the conference. Pastors and conference administration

recognize that despite the pandemic and its many challenges, people are looking for something more.

At the end of 1999, the Idaho Conference had 5,853 members. Since January 1, 2000, it has experienced a cumulative 21.17% growth rate, as of Dec. 31, 2021. Spread out over more than 22 years, that works out to be a pretty slow growth rate each year. So, while this year's success is reason to celebrate, it is also an opportunity to recognize opportunities to further grow.

Let's all be part of growing God's Kingdom. Remember our conference mission, why we do what we do: "We are called to make disciples in our communities, sharing the distinctive, Christ-centered, Seventh-day Adventist message of hope and wholeness."

EVE RUSK  
*Idaho Conference communication director*



Jim Bollin, David Prest Jr, Don Klinger and John Rogers posed with the cake.



MORE ONLINE AT  
[NWADVENT.ST/117-3-ID-50](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-ID-50)

# Food. Fun. Fellowship. Faith. It's Here. It's Montana Camp Meeting



The King's Heralds

**IT'S RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER, AND WE COULDN'T BE MORE EXCITED! MONTANA CONFERENCE CAMP MEETING IS ONE OF THOSE EVENTS THAT BRING US ALL TOGETHER TO BE INSPIRED, GROW AND RECONNECT WITH OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST. IT'S AN EVENT THAT BRINGS BACK MEMORIES OF NOSTALGIA, YET AT THE SAME TIME, MAKES US LONG FOR HEAVEN. THIS SUMMER, WE ARE PLANNING A CAMP MEETING TO REMEMBER.**

Montana's Camp Meeting has a new date this year. It starts Wednesday evening, July 6, and ends Saturday night, July 9. There are a few reasons why we moved the date, but probably the greatest reason was to accommodate our featured speaker, Pavel Goia, pastor and General Conference ministerial secretary.

Goia knew that God had called him to ministry at a young age. But as a young man born and raised in communist Romania, following his calling was not an easy task. After a short drifting during his teenage years, his life took a proverbial turn. He promised to serve God and fulfill his original calling. His promise was tested almost immediately.

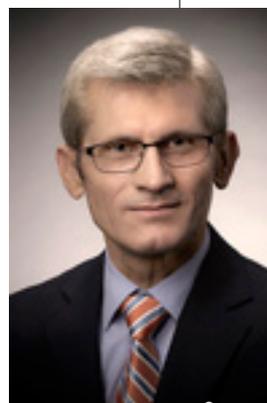
The events that ensued are chronicled by the book *One Miracle After Another: The Pavel Goia Story*, by Gregg Budd.

Goia is known for his powerful testimonies of God's miraculous power, and we know we will be inspired and blessed as God speaks through him during camp meeting. He will speak every evening at 7:00 p.m. and for the church service on Sabbath morning.

On Thursday and Friday morning, there are several workshops you can participate in. We call these Hobby Classes, and while we haven't finalized them yet, some of the things we are considering, in addition to several small group Bible study classes are parenting

workshops, a photography class and more. If you have an idea for a hobby class, let us know! As we finalize the list, it will be posted on our website, [montanaadventist.org](http://montanaadventist.org).

If that's not enough fun for you, we will take it up a notch. On Thursday afternoon, we will be tubing the Madison River. Everyone is invited to join this excursion as we soak up the sun, enjoy the beautiful scenery and allow families and friends to connect.



Pastor Pavel Goia

On Friday afternoon, we are headed to Hyalite Canyon and Reservoir. There, we can hike, swim, and if you have a canoe or paddleboard, bring it! If the Madison or Hyalite isn't your style, don't worry, there will still be things to do on the campus of Mount Ellis Academy each afternoon.

We haven't forgotten you, teens and youth! Not only are you invited to go tubing and swimming, but we have something else special for you.

Two Guys and the Word will be here! Who? Stephen and Kevin have been best friends for over 12 years, and they love spending time with youth tackling real-life questions and issues with God's Word in the coolest way possible. Go ahead and follow @tgatw on



• Hyalite Canyon and Reservoir

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR. Montana Camp Meeting, July 6-9

Two Guys and the Word



enough space to include all the details of camp meeting, but as the date draws near, we will add more information to our website and send it to you through our enewsletter, the Montana Herald. Make sure you subscribe at [montanaadventist.org/herald](http://montanaadventist.org/herald).

So save the date! And make your way to Mount Ellis Academy this summer, where there's food, fun, fellowship and faith. It's here. It's Montana Camp Meeting.  
STEPHEN CARLILE  
*Billings Church pastor and Montana Conference communications coordinator*

Mark your calendar. Montana Camp Meeting, July 6-9



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-MT-98](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-MT-98) 

Instagram to get to know them before camp meeting.

To wrap up the weekend, Elder Ken Norton, Montana Conference president, will lead Sabbath School and Pastor Goia will speak for the church service. After lunch, and a

restful Sabbath afternoon, we will come together for an Adventist tradition, a concert by the King's Heralds. The King's Heralds have been making music for well over 90 years and have made their way around the world, sharing

the gospel message through song. We are looking forward to hearing Don, Mark, John and Jeff sing and tell stories as we close out the weekend.

Of course, there is not

# Northwest Pathfinders Conquer Two Books



Pathfinders from the Bellevue Sojourners club compete with other Northwest teams at the NPUC Pathfinder Bible Experience.

**QUIET WHISPERS** and murmurs filled the Gem State Adventist Academy gymnasium during the North Pacific Union Pathfinder Bible Experience, March, 12, 2022. Eight Northwest clubs attended the event where teams pushed their memory banks to the limit, answering specific questions from 1 Kings and Ruth.

“The hardest part was 1 Kings, chapter 4,” said one young man from the Middleton, Idaho Pathfinder team.

A team member added, “The commentary questions are the hardest for me.” Other team members agreed.

In addition to detailed

questions from the assigned Bible books, Pathfinders are also tested on information from the *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*.

Before the union competition, teams gathered outside the gymnasium for inspection. Pathfinder leaders from each conference worked together to inspect the teams. They reviewed their uniforms, praised teams for their attention to detail and made recommendations for improvement when appropriate. At the end of each inspection, the leaders prayed with each team and asked God to help them remember all they had studied.

After their inspection, members of the Spokane Valley club talked about what surprised them about this year’s PBE experience.

Ella, age 15, said, “I enjoyed learning about people you don’t normally hear about in children’s Bible stories.”

“The hardest part for me was the sugar fast,” said another 16-year-old team member. The sugar fast is an exercise teams participate in to learn how diet affects brain health and retention.

During the competition, teams sat in a circle and quietly listened as Kevin Wallin, Washington Conference PBE coordinator and this year’s quiz master, read them their questions twice. They had 30 seconds to write their answer down and hand it off to the judges. The teams answered 90 questions in all.

PBE is the official North American Division Pathfinder Bible study program. Each year, teams of six club members study a portion of the Bible (alternating Old Testament and New Testament), memorizing large sections of God’s word. Large clubs often have more than one team participating.

There are four levels of competition: area, conference, union and division finale. Teams that

placed first moved on to the 2022 division finale on April 23 in Eugene, Oregon.

“Regardless of placement, everyone here is a winner,” said Rob Lang, NPUC Pathfinder director. “Time spent in God’s word is always a win and we celebrate each one of you today.”

## NPUC Team Placement

- » Third - Boise Ponderosa, Idaho Conference
- » Third - Fort Vancouver, Oregon Conference
- » Third - Middleton Swords, Idaho Conference
- » Second - Bellevue Sojourners and Golden Lions, Washington Conference
- » Second - Spokane Valley Trailblazers, Upper Columbia Conference
- » Second - College Place Village Waiilatpu, Upper Columbia Conference
- » First - Bellevue Ivory Apes, Washington Conference
- » First - Pleasant Valley Carmelites and Mochi Ponders, Oregon Conference



JAY WINTERMEYER  
Gleaner editor

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-NPUC-90](https://www.nwadventist.org/st/117-3-npuc-90)

BIBLE READINGS

for

# May

Follow the daily plan to read the entire Bible in a year.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<p><b>1</b></p> <p>2 Samuel 7; 1 Chronicles 17; Psalms 1-2; 33; 127; 132</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>2 Samuel 8-9; 1 Chronicles 18</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>2 Samuel 10; 1 Chronicles 19; Psalms 20; 53; 60; 75</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Psalms 65-67; 69; 70</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>2 Samuel 11-12; 1 Chronicles 20; Psalm 51</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>Psalms 32; 86; 102; 103; 122</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>2 Samuel 13-15</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Psalms 3; 4; 13; 28; 55</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>2 Samuel 16-18</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Psalms 26; 40- 41; 58; 61; 62; 64</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>2 Samuel 19-21; Psalms 5; 38; 42</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>2 Samuel 22-23; Psalm 57</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Psalms 97-99</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>2 Samuel 24; 1 Chronicles 21-22; Psalm 30</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Psalms 108-109</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>1 Chronicles 23-26</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Psalms 131; 138- 139; 143-145</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>1 Chronicles 27- 29; Psalm 68</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Psalms 111-118</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>1 Kings 1-2; Psalms 37; 71; 94</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Psalm 119:1-88</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>1 Kings 3-4; 2 Chronicles 1; Psalm 72</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Psalm 119:89-176</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Song of Solomon 1:1-5:1</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Song of Solomon 5:2- 8:14; Psalm 45</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>Proverbs 1-4</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>Proverbs 5-8</p>				

Our 2022 Bible reading plan is laid out chronologically with Sabbaths off. Sign up for our newsletter and get the entire 2022 reading plan as a free gift.

[nwadvent.st/FreeBiblePlan](http://nwadvent.st/FreeBiblePlan)

EDUCATION

# Hood View Takes Kindergarten to the Forest

HOOD VIEW ADVENTIST SCHOOL IS OFFERING A UNIQUE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR YOUNG STUDENTS THROUGH A “FOREST KINDERGARTEN” PROGRAM. RATHER THAN SPENDING THE SCHOOL DAY IN A TRADITIONAL CLASSROOM, LIZZIE SEGORIA TEACHES HER EIGHT KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS IN A FOREST CLASSROOM BEHIND THE SCHOOL BUILDING.



Forest schools are uncommon, not only in Adventist education but in education systems across the United States. They began in Scandinavia in the 1950s, and have gradually gained popularity throughout the world, especially in Germany.

As of 2020, Hood View’s program is one of about 25 outdoor, forest and nature kindergarten and preschools in Oregon. There are only 585 in the United States.

Circumstances fell into place for Hood View to offer this special program when Lizzie Segoria joined the staff as a teacher’s aide a few years ago. Segoria is a certified teacher not only through the Adventist denomination but also through the Forest School Teacher Institute, she recognized the possibilities the school property had with its 20 wooded acres. She began a limited forest school program where she took students outdoors for learning time for an hour a few times a week.

This school year, HVAS decided to add a full-time Forest Kindergarten as a pilot program. The four boys and four girls in the program spend most of their school day outside. The students dress appropriately according to the season, and they carry personal supplies in backpacks.

Additional learning materials needed are brought out to the forest in a garden cart. For particularly inclement weather, the school has a covered shelter for the Forest Kindergarten or indoor space in the library.

Kim Cornette, HVAS principal said, “Not only are [the students] learning their basic academics and learning them well, but they are also learning about wildlife, they are learning about how to be safe when climbing and building and playing in the forest.”

If the weather is cold, Segoria has a fire going to keep the children warm—and of course, students are taught fire safety. Segoria not only uses paper assignments and books at times, but she also employs nature as an instructional tool. For example, she introduces a bird of the month to the kindergarteners, and then they learn to recognize the call of the bird, what it looks like and how to draw it.

According to Forest Kindergarten parents, their children have thrived in the program. One parent shared that through the program her daughter’s “confidence and curiosity about all subjects has exploded.” While her daughter has progressed in her knowledge of reading, math and the Bible, it has not felt laborious. The parent said, “She has so much fun every day, she doesn’t even realize that she’s learning!”

Hood View’s faith-based forest school is well-situated to teach students not only academics but a connection to the Creator of nature—their ultimate Teacher.

MCKENZIE WALLACE

*Oregon Conference education department writer*



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-OR-81](https://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-OR-81)

CHURCH

# OC Executive Committee Announces Retirements, Restructuring and New Team Members

**IN EARLY MARCH**, Stan and Gloria Beerman, long-time Oregon Conference employees, announced their upcoming retirements. Stan has served as assistant to the president for five years. Gloria has been a part of the children's ministries department for more than a decade, most recently serving as assistant director and the Adventurers Club director.

"The Oregon Conference has been immensely blessed by the ministry of the Beermans," said Dan Linrud, conference president. "We wish them God's abundant blessings as they make this transition into retirement."



Stan Beerman



Gloria Beerman



Randy Hill



Daniel Ortega

PHOTOS BY GARY MCCLAIN

Anticipating these transitions, the Oregon Conference executive committee moved to fill the vital roles.

First, the committee voted to call Randy Hill, current associate director for youth ministries and conference Pathfinder director, to fill the role of assistant to the president. Hill will manage

pastoral placements as well as Gladstone Camp Meeting.

Second, an opportunity presented itself. "When you look across the North American Division," said Linrud, "Pathfinder and Adventurer ministries are often directed by the same department." Adopting this structure, Daniel Ortega was invited to serve as associate director in the new

Family & Children's Ministries department. He will primarily focus on the Pathfinder and Adventurer ministry. Ortega previously served in the Oklahoma Conference.

**JONATHAN RUSSELL**  
*Oregon Conference assistant to the president for multimedia communications*

# METAMORPHOSIS

GLADSTONE CAMP MEETING 2022  
SPANISH JULY 14-16  
ENGLISH JULY 19-23



This year's speakers include:

Richie Halverson



Randy Maxwell



John McVay



Roscoe Shields, Jr



...and many more!

Learn more at [www.OregonAdventist.org](http://www.OregonAdventist.org)

CHURCH

# Vancouver Church Engages Youth in Evangelism

ADVENTIST COMMUNITY CHURCH OF VANCOUVER HAD NO EVANGELIST PLANS FOR THE SPRING OF 2021. AMID THE PANDEMIC, THERE WAS NO ONE WILLING TO LEAD THE MEETINGS. ROGER WALTER, PASTOR, ASSUMED THEY WOULD GO AHEAD WITH EVANGELISM ANYWAY.

Walter and four others experienced a growing idea over the course of a week. Remarkably, each were thinking independently, and as it gathered steam in their hearts, it seemed that it might be an idea from the Holy Spirit.

The idea? Why not let the youth in the church do the evangelism? As they thought and prayed about it, it continued to feel like a great idea.

During the pandemic, the church youth program had grown a lot. Instead of stopping

activities, as many churches were doing, Vancouver chose to create a safe space for teens to come together.

When it came to evangelism, Walter didn't expect much response. Maybe five to seven kids would preach a sermon each. He anticipated preaching the rest, and he was okay with whatever the outcome might be.

Bill McClendon, NPUC evangelism director, teamed up with Pastor Walter to hold an evangelism training

rally. They invited kids from near and far, and many came. They were taught how to preach, how to present calls and why Adventist churches do evangelism and how it works. At the end of the rally, they made a call for youth who wanted to preach. It was more than successful; there were not enough sermon slots in the schedule to accommodate all those who volunteered!

Walter went from expecting to preach the series himself to training these young preachers how to present the seminar series themselves. They gathered every week and practiced, trained, learned and grew.

During the series, the teens did everything—greeting, registration table, visitation, data entry and, of course, preaching. The seminar resulted in four baptisms and four to five attendees continuing to come to church.

Gabe, a teen volunteer, was asked if he liked preaching. He responded, "Not really, but I love what it produces, so I will keep doing it!"

Word soon spread about

the Vancouver church youth. Six months later, the church decided to do it again. This time, however, they split into two groups and preached two series at the same time. Each church had a team of seven teens with one pastor assigned to mentor. Again, their youth preached all of it. By the time the second series was finished, three teens were ready and willing to try a whole seminar by themselves.

Because of the seminar series, five teens made decisions to become pastors and evangelists. Two are considering full-time evangelism as a career.

One of the young speakers now lives in Arkansas and is planning to do an entire series himself. Walter continues to coach him. Another, now living in Tennessee, is planning to come back to Vancouver for the next series. The group also continues to meet nearly every week to train their youth and pray together.

ROGER WALTER  
*Adventist Community Church of Vancouver pastor*



More online at  
[NWADVENT.ST/117-3-OR-80](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-OR-80)



## EDUCATION

# PAA Celebrates 25 Years of Rock Climbing

**TWENTY-FIVE** years ago, six Portland Adventist Academy students formed the school's first rock climbing club. Led by Mark Smith, PAA teacher and renowned and avid climber at the forefront of the sport, the club has quickly become one of the most popular on campus.

With many indoor climbing gyms in the Portland, Oregon area, PAA students are blessed to have a place to climb up to three times a week. In addition to weekly meet ups, the club travels annually to Smith Rock State Park for an outdoor climbing experience.

This non-competitive sport has been a foundation for deepening relationships between students and staff. "I love the way we all work together to help someone complete their goal," said MacKenzie Hall, a sophomore. "Rock climbing club feels like a family where we can openly talk with each other and get some good exercise."

"As a co-sponsor and amateur climber, the club has provided an opportunity for me to connect with, and even learn from students," said Nathalia Parra, English teacher. "Students have skills and experience they can use to teach me. The bonds and connections that grow are the true main core of this club."

Over the last 25 years, hundreds of students have joined the Club for friendship and exercise. "But the highest purpose of the club," Smith said, "is opening opportunities

for character development, including facing and overcoming personal fears and limitations in order to realize everything God wants for our lives. Rock climbing during the teen years is an amazing opportunity to build self-confidence, awareness and reliance on God at a formative time in life. Climbing changed my life, and it's gratifying to see climbing transform the lives of students at PAA."

The variety of skills developed through the club have served many of its members. Several have gone on to obtain credentials as nationally certified climbing instructors, and more than half of Walla Walla University's Climbing Wall staff are PAA graduates who achieved their level of experiences through PAA's club.

What began for many as leisure and simple exercise has become a catalyst for success. Parents feel the blessings of the climbing club as well and are grateful for such opportunities.

"Rock climbing has provided Liz with the opportunity to really discover what she is capable of, and to push herself to new heights – both literally and figuratively," said Lynnette Struntz, a proud parent. "Liz loves to compete, and one of the many great elements of rock climbing is that you get to compete against yourself. Each week, Liz pushes herself to beat last week's best climb. Through this endeavor, she strengthens

her problem-solving skills and endurance"

What started with just six climbers, the PAA Rock Climbing Club has grown to twenty-six coed members in its 25th anniversary year. It has impacted so many lives as they have witnessed a little glimpse of heaven on earth – growing and encouraging each other as we climb to our eternal home.

NATHALIA PARRA  
PAA English teacher



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-OR-35](https://www.nwadventist.org/st/117-3-OR-35) +



MISSION & OUTREACH

# Albany Church Shares Brain Optimization Seminar

ON FEB. 11-12, 2022, THE ALBANY CHURCH HOSTED NEIL NEDLEY, FOUNDER AND MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF THE COMMUNITY-BASED AND RESIDENTIAL NEDLEY DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY RECOVERY PROGRAMS.

Nedley's Friday presentation focused on depression, anxiety and the brain chemicals which contribute to those conditions. The presentation was followed



Dr. Neil Nedley shares brain optimization tips during a presentation at the Albany Church. Nedley serves as president of Weimar University, a higher education college that houses the world-famous NEWSTART program in central California.

by a short question and answer period.

During the Sabbath morning presentations, Nedley reviewed scriptural evidences to remind us that the people we read about in our Bibles were human, just as we are. They also suffered from depression, addictions and personality challenges that are so common in our world today. He reminded the congregation that God persevered; He

loved and never gave up on His children – just as He continues to do with us now.

A huge contributing factor to good mental health is exercise, fresh air and sunshine. Nedley and Barry Taylor, Albany Church pastor, encouraged attendees to take advantage of that Sabbath's warm and sunny winter afternoon, and to get outside to spend some time in nature – God's second book – to do what Nedley refers to as "forest bathing." Returning for the Sabbath evening presentation, Nedley focused on how plant-based diets can remedy many common mental and physical health concerns.

In addition to the Albany Church family, many neighboring church members and the local community attended the four seminars. Questions from the audience showed they were highly engaged in the presentations.

JEANIE HOOPER REED  
*Albany Church secretary*



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-OR-89](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-OR-89)

CHURCH



Anne and Chelsea Gibson graced the event with Christmas carols.

## VOLUNTEERS CELEBRATE AT NAMASTE

ON DEC. 5, 2021, volunteers from Clark County Adventist Community Services enjoyed a festive occasion at Namaste Fine Indian Cuisine in Portland, Oregon.

Many years ago, while looking for a venue for an awards banquet, Eleanor Hetke, CCACS executive director, called several local restaurants. Because she and her husband had developed a special fondness for Indian food while serving as missionaries in India for 23 years, Hetke included Indian restaurants in her search. When she spoke with Harjinder Chand, owner of Namaste, he offered the banquet hall, buffet and servers free of charge because CCACS is a non-profit organization. He wanted to support their efforts to help those in need.

Upon receiving this tremendous gift, Hetke decided to put the money that had been set aside for the banquet toward sponsoring two children in India. Chand was so moved by this act, that he donated an additional \$500 for the children. This has become an annual event – Chand hosting the banquet free of charge, and CCACS putting the money toward sponsoring children in India.

During the banquet, medals were awarded to those who had achieved milestone-hours and years of service.

Through collaboration with local food banks, Northwest Harvest, Chuck's Produce, Fred Meyer and six Adventist churches in Clark County, CCACS provides emergency food and clothing. Last year they served 4,394 families, 3,851 homeless individuals and distributed 142,794 pounds of food. More than 50 volunteers donated a total of 14,143 hours.

CARYN PIERCE  
*Oasis Church Member*



MORE ONLINE AT [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-OR-89](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-OR-89)

## BIBLE READINGS

for

# JUNE

Follow the daily plan to read the entire Bible in a year.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			<b>1</b> Proverbs 9-12	<b>2</b> Proverbs 13-16	<b>3</b> Proverbs 17-20	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Proverbs 21-24	<b>6</b> 2 Chronicles 2-3; 1 Kings 5-6	<b>7</b> 1 Kings 7-8; Psalm 11	<b>8</b> 2 Chronicles 4-7; Psalms 134; 136	<b>9</b> Psalms 146-150	<b>10</b> 1 Kings 9; 2 Chronicles 8; Proverbs 25-26	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Proverbs 27-29	<b>13</b> Ecclesiastes 1-6	<b>14</b> Ecclesiastes 7-12	<b>15</b> 1 Kings 10-11; 2 Chronicles 9; Proverbs 30-31	<b>16</b> 1 Kings 12; 2 Chronicles 10	<b>17</b> 1 Kings 13-14; 2 Chronicles 11-12	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 1 Kings 15:1-24; 2 Chronicles 13-16	<b>20</b> 1 Kings 15:25-16:34; 2 Chronicles 17; 1 Kings 17-19	<b>21</b> 1 Kings 20-21	<b>22</b> 1 Kings 22; 2 Chronicles 18-20	<b>23</b> 2 Kings 1-4	<b>24</b> 2 Kings 5:1-8:15	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 2 Kings 8:16-29; 2 Chronicles 21:1-22:9	<b>27</b> 2 Kings 9-11; 2 Chronicles 22:10- 23:21	<b>28</b> 2 Kings 12-13; 2 Chronicles 24	<b>29</b> 2 Kings 14-15; 2 Chronicles 25-27	<b>30</b> Jonah 1-4		

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[nwadvent.st/FreeBiblePlan](http://nwadvent.st/FreeBiblePlan)

## CHURCH



• Kathy Geoghegan shared that her favorite part of working at the College Place ABC was selling people their first Bible.

## College Place ABC Employee Reflects on Years of Service

**AFTER 22 YEARS OF SERVICE, RELATIONSHIP BUILDING AND SHARING STORIES WITH ABC CHRISTIAN BOOKSTORE CUSTOMERS, KATHY GEOGHEGAN, STORE MANAGER, RETIRED FROM THE COLLEGE PLACE, WASHINGTON STORE.**

Geoghegan began her time at the ABC after relocating to the small town in January 2000. “We just became Adventists a year before we moved,” she said. “So we were excited about all the churches and schools and, of course, the ABC Bookstore.”

Geoghegan began work at the ABC as a part-time salesclerk while renewing her real estate license. She continued to volunteer there even while working in real estate for approximately twelve years. When the manager position became available in 2014, her experience made her a perfect fit for the role.

“Thinking back over the years at the ABC,” Geoghegan recalled, “my favorite part is selling Bibles to [people] who have just given their lives to the Lord—someone who has never even owned a Bible. It thrills my heart to see how excited they are and how they are filled with so much hope. They will come back and share how God is working in their lives. That never gets old!”

During her time at the ABC, Geoghegan formed lasting bonds with the customers. “As I look back over

the past 22 years, my customers have become my friends,” she said. “I have laughed with them, cried with them and prayed with them. I will truly miss them all.”

Geoghegan retired in March and plans to remain in College Place. She continues to pray for God to guide her and her husband to where He wants to use them next. When asked what excitement retirement will bring, she shared, “I am looking forward to—if you can believe this—reading some books!”

“I am so grateful to the Upper Columbia Conference for letting me serve this wonderful community for so many years,” said Geoghegan. “The bookstore has been my passion, and I am truly going to miss every part of it.”

MAKENA HORTON  
*Upper Columbia Conference  
communications coordinator*

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-UC-52](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-UC-52)



CHURCH

# A Lasting Legacy Wraps Up

**AFTER 36 YEARS OF TRAIL-DUST, GOSPEL MUSIC AND GREAT FUN, A FOURTH OF JULY TRADITION IN THE NORTHWEST IS COMING TO AN END.**

Cowboy Camp Meeting got its start along the Tucannon River in the summer of 1984. The Blue Mountain Chapter of the newly formed Adventist Horseman's Association wanted to combine their love of horse camping and their love for Jesus into one joyful celebration.

"What began as a weekend camping trip with a few families quickly grew in popularity, and the AHA soon adopted the event as an annual meeting for all its chapters," said Charles Brown, founding member and current AHA chaplain.

The event grew to become a five-day Fourth of July

celebration with 250 people and 150 horses and mules.

"Each morning we would open with gospel music, stories for the kids and Christ-centered preaching," said Brown. The remainder of the day would be filled with trail rides, mounted games, hiking and a lot of good old-fashioned relaxation in the beauty of God's creation.

Over time, several traditions developed. A favorite was the children's Fourth of July parade with decorated horses, patriotic dogs and enthusiastic spectators.

"Worship on Sabbath in the mountains was always

special, and the amount of food that would be produced for potluck was a constant source of amazement," said Brown. "The sun would set, and the lights would come on for the annual auction followed by stories and songs around the campfire, late into the night."

Word began to spread about Cowboy Camp Meeting. People from as far away as Colorado and California began to make Cowboy Camp Meeting an annual tradition. Similar events began to spring up in British Columbia, Colorado, Arkansas and Texas—each attracting people with a common love of horses and the outdoors. As a result, hundreds have committed their lives to Christ and more than 20 new Christians have been baptized in streams, lakes, ponds and even a stock tank.

As the cost of owning horses increased and lives became

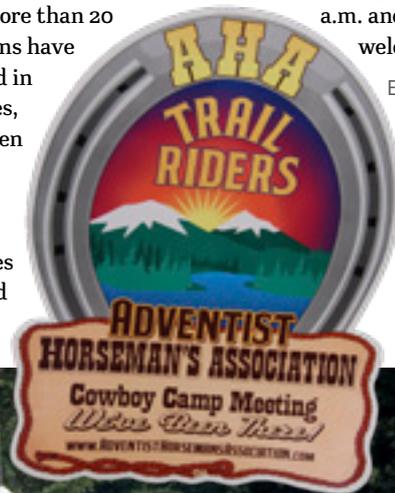
busier, attendance at Cowboy Camp Meeting had begun to wane in recent years. With pandemic restrictions in 2020 and excessive heat in 2021, the cancellations spelled the end of an era. In January, the AHA board voted to end Cowboy Camp Meeting and AHA.

"While it is hard to see such a wonderful experience end, we can celebrate all the lives transformed by its ministry through the years," said Greg Middlestetter, AHA board member.

The final AHA Roundup happens on May 22, 2022, at the Hermiston Church fellowship hall (855 W Highland Ave, Hermiston, OR 97838).

Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. and all are welcome.

ERIC BROWN  
Upper  
Columbia  
Conference  
ministerial  
director



More online at  
NWADVENTST/117-3-UC-54



MISSION & OUTREACH

# Otis Orchards VBS Leads to Young Adult Baptisms

**WHEN OTIS ORCHARDS CHURCH BOARD MEMBERS FELT GOD URGING THEM TO HOLD A VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PROGRAM IN THE SUMMER OF 2021, THEY WEREN'T SURE IF THEY WOULD FIND THE VOLUNTEERS TO PULL IT OFF. NEVERTHELESS, THEY CONTINUED TO FEEL GOD'S CALL TO STEP OUT IN FAITH AND BELIEVE HE WOULD PROVIDE THE HELP THEY NEEDED FOR A SUCCESSFUL VBS PROGRAM.**

"If you look at the return on investment—meaning how many people become a part of the church or take an active role to get more people into the church—VBS has a much better return on your investment of time and money than do regular evangelistic series," said Matthew Burton, Otis Orchards Bible worker.

"Generally, with a standard evangelistic series you can expect maybe a few individuals to become interested in your church,

whereas with VBS you can sometimes get a whole family and even a few friends," he explained. "The plus of teaching kids about Jesus ... is that kids are so excited to learn more about Jesus."

The church board applied for help from His Travelers, a volunteer group of young adults led by the Upper Columbia Conference children's ministries department. Luckily, His Travelers were able to assist with the program, putting on a Bible skit and volunteering as

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-UC-60](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-UC-60)



rotational group leaders.

That Sabbath, the church was packed full of members, children and guests. Michelle, a mother who had been bringing her young son to VBS every day, attended the church program, and continued to attend church every Sabbath following the program. Michelle became a regular attendee of the young adult sabbath school at Otis Orchards and started becoming more involved in the church.

In addition to sending His Travelers, Michelle, her young son and others, God also sent a couple from a neighboring church to assist with the program. Following the completion of VBS, the couple felt impressed by God to provide more leadership and assistance at Otis Orchards. They transferred their membership and began attending church, bringing their son, Christopher, each Sabbath.

Christopher became a regular attendee of the young

adult sabbath school, and became more involved with the church. After several weeks, Michelle and Christopher each expressed interest in baptism. Both were baptized in February.

"I think that VBS played a significant role in the baptism of Michelle, and played an indirect role in the baptism of Christopher," shared Burton. "These two individuals are taking an active role in our church, ... [leadership is] the most valuable thing that has come out of our outreach."

Otis Orchards is planning another VBS for the upcoming summer with the help of His Travelers. They are excited to form more connections with the community.

MAKENA HORTON  
*Upper Columbia Conference communications coordinator*

VBS programs are a very valuable form of outreach since children are so eager to learn more about God.



DAMEN THERKILSEN

## CHURCH

# Upper Columbia Conference Ordains Two Pastors

**JON JENNETTE AND HOWARD TELLO, UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE CHURCH PASTORS, WERE BOTH ORDAINED IN SEPARATE SERVICES IN JANUARY.**

Jon Jennette, pastor of Grandview, Prosser and Sunnyside churches, was ordained on Jan. 8, 2022, at Sunnyside Church, in Sunnyside, Washington.

Eric Brown, UCC ministerial director, was there to present the candidate. "Jon has already made an impact on these small churches," said Brown. "God has plans for Jon, and I am excited to see what is in store." Rodney Mills, UCC vice president for administration, gave the homily, and David Jamieson, UCC president, presented the certificate.

Jennette was born and raised in Nashville, Tennessee. He was baptized in June 2007, and by July he was attending the Amazing Facts Center of Evangelism. In 2008, he began full-time Bible work and continued this work for 10 years.

During the last four of those years, he completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in theology at Walla Walla University. Jennette and his wife, Frances, were married in 2011 and have an eight-year-old daughter.



Jon Jennette, his wife, Frances, and their daughter, Amy

Howard Tello, pastor of Chewelah and Deer Park churches, was ordained on Jan. 29, 2022, at the Chewelah Church. Pierre Steenberg, assistant professor of religion at Union College, presented the candidate.

"Howard has an amazing journey to share, and I believe God has called him to this conference for a special reason," said Brown. Mills gave the

homily for Tello and also presented the certificate of ordination to him.

Tello started church ministry at the age of 19. Serving as a Bible worker, evangelist, senior pastor and a developer of leaders, he has added value and made an impact wherever he leads. He desires to inspire men and women to yearn for God with all of their hearts, minds and souls. He is eager for them to reach their fullest human potential through Christ and to impact the lives of all those they contact.

Tello and his wife, Hannah, have three children: Isaiah, Ariana and Gabriel.

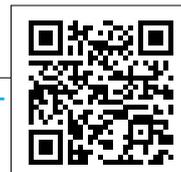
"God has been using both these men to change lives," said Brown. "I am so pleased to see them join the ranks of ordained pastors."

DUSTIN JONES  
*Upper Columbia Conference  
director of communications*



Howard Tello and his wife, Hannah

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-UC-93](https://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-UC-93) +





More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-UC-61](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-UC-61)

## Shine 104.9 Partners With Local Organization to Build Wells in Guatemala

PROVIDED BY DARIN PATZER



Darin Patzer, Gary and Rod Bartholomew celebrate a new well with drillers, Bible workers and villagers.

**MORE THAN A DECADE AGO**, Shine 104.9 (KEEH-FM) began a partnership with Water for Life, a Spokane, Washington based charity that works to build wells in Guatemala.

Darin Patzer, Shine 104.9 general manager, recently traveled to Guatemala with volunteers from Water for Life to visit rural villages benefiting from the wells.

“I got to experience, first-hand, the joy of the villagers in receiving new wells. It was rewarding,” said Patzer. “Because of the donations from our local community in the Pacific Northwest, the lives of babies are being saved each year, and the quality of life [for] villagers is enhanced through

fresh water and [by] learning of the Living Water offered by Jesus.”

Shine 104.9, the Upper Columbia Conference radio ministry holds an annual one-day, on-air Water for Life event to raise money for the organization. All together, listeners typically pledge between \$15,000–25,000 to the cause.

In addition to this event, during Shine’s annual Sharathon fundraising event, listeners are asked if they would allow \$5 of their donation to be given to other ministries, including Water for Life. The funds generated from this partnership have assisted Water for Life in drilling and maintaining approximately 200 wells in Guatemala.

To learn more about Water for Life, visit [guatemalawells.com](http://guatemalawells.com).

MAKENA HORTON

*Upper Columbia Conference communications coordinator*

Upper Columbia Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

featuring

**John Bradshaw**      **David Jamieson**

*The King's Herald's*

# HIS SOON RETURN

**Getting Serious About The Second Coming**

June 16-18  
Spokane Valley Church

[www.uccsda.org/campmeeting](http://www.uccsda.org/campmeeting)

**EDUCATION**

# Wachter New Washington Education VP

**WASHINGTON CONFERENCE IS PLEASED TO INTRODUCE MICHELLE WACHTER AS ITS NEW VICE PRESIDENT FOR EDUCATION.**

Wachter brings 32 years of teaching and education administration experience to her new role, including the past four years as Washington Conference’s associate superintendent of schools.

“Michelle has served very well here as the associate in the Education department and is well known to the teaching staff,” said Doug Bing, Washington Conference president. “We are happy that she has accepted this vice president position and look forward to seeing how God will use her in this new ministry position.”

During the pandemic, Wachter implemented weekly Zoom prayer times for principals, coordinated encouraging messages, provided self-care tips for busy educators and spent significant time investing in teachers, principals and a variety of education committees.

“These past two years during the pandemic have been very challenging, and our educational system needed to continue meeting the spiritual,



Michelle Wachter

emotional and academic needs of each student,” Wachter said. “It was my privilege to walk alongside the incredible educators in our Washington Conference as they rose to the challenge. I am excited to continue serving the Washington Conference educational team in my new role.”

**EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Prior to coming to Washington, Wachter was a teaching principal in Bozeman, Montana, and assisted in conference-level educational leadership for four years.

Wachter invested 20 years in educational instruction

at Rogue Valley Adventist Academy in Medford, Oregon. As a classroom educator, Wachter loved the challenge of teaching a variety of elementary grades.

“As a teacher, you learn to read the room, to adjust to the needs of your students, to build relationships and to make sure their socioemotional needs are met,” Wachter reflected. “I’ve always been about building relationships.”

Wachter earned a bachelor’s degree in education and a master’s in school counseling from La Sierra University. She is currently working on a master’s in education leadership through Walla Walla University and has also completed some master’s level work in special education.

Wachter started her educational career in California at West Covina Adventist School, then she taught at La Sierra Adventist Elementary. While at West Covina, she met and married Chip Wachter, a computer systems expert. The couple has three young adult children and a menagerie of animals.

**TRANSITIONS**

Wachter is entering the vice president role after Craig Mattson chose to enter a PhD program and serve as full-time principal of Northwest Christian School in Puyallup, Washington, a role that he had been filling on an interim basis for two years. He is leading a pilot program in Washington Conference to implement Marzano High Reliability standards-based learning.

“I have the utmost respect for Craig and look forward to continuing the vision for standards-based instruction to help our students excel,” Wachter said. “My prayer is to support and empower educational leaders to excellence. There are great opportunities for us to collaborate and vision together as a team of school leaders for the benefit of our Adventist Education students, educators and school system.”

HEIDI BAUMGARTNER  
*Washington Conference  
communication director*



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WA-63](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WA-63)



Northwest education leaders pray for Michelle Wachter in her new role as Washington Conference vice president for education.

EDUCATION

## Author Visits Buena Vista School

**IN MARCH, BRITTANY DIAS**, children's book author, speaker and entrepreneur, visited Buena Vista Elementary School in Auburn, Washington. She visited each classroom to read her book *Ava & Mae Own a Lemonade Stand* and talk with students about writing and publishing.

The students were thrilled to meet Dias. Amber Nelson, first grade teacher said, "We've been learning about influential women this month. One of my students raised his hand and told Ms. Dias, 'We are learning about important women like you.' It was so sweet. My kids were in awe of her."

"Kids are so uninhibited," said Dias. "You can really see their wheels turning.

The fourth graders were especially excited to read with me. Each time Ava and Mae solved a problem, the kids would repeat the lines from the book with me. 'No matter the time, no matter the day, Ava and Mae will find a way!' Hearing them recite it with me over and over with such enthusiasm was very affirming."

*Ava & Mae Own a Lemonade Stand* is the story of two little girls that problem-solve their way to success. When their lemonade stand business runs out of supplies, the girls persevere through the challenges and find solutions to their problems.

One little girl told Dias that she hopes

to be a children's book illustrator. A boy in the same class was thrilled to meet a real author because he plans to be one when he grows up. He's well on his way because one of his hand-made books is available to borrow from the school library!

Even older students were excited to meet Dias. "My students were highly engaged," said Vicki Rutherford, seventh grade teacher. "They had many questions about writing books, the publishing process and if she will be writing more stories about Ava and Mae."

"Yes," said Dias. "I'm already planning a second story. In the next book, the girls put on a fashion show and, of course, face more challenges to overcome."

Dias shared with students that being open and flexible is an important skill for future authors. She never imagined she'd one day write a children's book, but her career in public health led her to this unexpected opportunity. Dias is working to help people take charge of their health and push past barriers to access healthcare. She is starting this essential work by empowering children to be the writers of their own destiny.

The lessons learned in the book are timeless. Perseverance and resilience are character traits people can develop at any age. "Sometimes, when I'm feeling overwhelmed about what I want to accomplish, I think about Ave and Mae," said Dias. "And I hope the kids who read the book will, too. There will always be challenges to face, but through perseverance, we can all find a way, just like Ava and Mae."

*To learn more about author, Brittany Dias, meet her at special events or invite her to speak at your school, visit [avaandmae.com](http://avaandmae.com).*

LIESL VISTAUNET  
Gleaner writer



Brittany Dias, children's author, visited each classroom at Buena Vista School in Auburn, Washington, to share a message of perseverance and resilience through her children's book *Ava & Mae Own a Lemonade Stand*.



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WA-97](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WA-97)

EDUCATION

# Education Spotlight



Mentoring at Grays Harbor Adventist Christian School takes many forms including making tin can stilts.

## PARTNERING FOR ETERNITY

**ALL SHOULD BE QUIET** in the halls and classrooms after school is dismissed at Grays Harbor Adventist Christian School — but not on Wednesday afternoons!

A sewing machine buzzes, puzzles are built, craft projects are assembled and painted and a piano's keys are plunked — it is the sights and sounds of Grays Harbor students with their senior mentors.

For the past five years, GHACS has participated in the Partnering For Eternity program, and it is a win for all. Senior mentors have meaningful connections and purpose in sharing their skills and talents. The students acquire new skills and understanding, parents receive financial help to pay school tuition and the school is able to welcome additional students through the PFE scholarships.

For some students, having an older friend is a new experience, and it makes an impact on their hearts. One young mentee continued visiting his mentor even as his life was nearing its end. Saying goodbye was important.

The Partnering for Eternity program has been a blessing to the GHACS staff, students, parents and mentors alike. They

praise God for those who give so unselfishly to make lasting impacts on both young and old lives.

ADRIA HAY  
Grays Harbor Adventist Christian School principal

MORE ONLINE AT  
[NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WA-59](https://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WA-59)



**WASHINGTON CONFERENCE** is pleased to introduce Ron Jacaban as its new associate superintendent for schools. Jacaban is a seasoned education leader and well-respected principal from Puget Sound Adventist Academy in Kirkland, Washington.

**THE MUSIC GOES ON!** The last major conference event before the pandemic began in 2020 was Washington Conference's Arts Festival. The festival returned in 2022, after only one year off. It provided about 250 seventh and eighth grade students an opportunity to join a one-day master music class with local clinicians before performing an evening concert for parents and grandparents.



**AUBURN ADVENTIST ACADEMY** served as the new host site for the Pacific Northwest Adventist LEGO Robotics tournament. Future engineers and scientists from six northwest Adventist schools explored transportation themes in this year's "Cargo Connect" tournament.



More online at  
[NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WA-01](https://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WA-01)

CHURCH



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

# Auburn Hispanic Welcomed as a Church

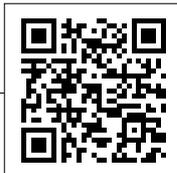
**CHURCHES ARE PLANTED** in Washington Conference because praying people understand the call of God in their lives. They know about confessing sins, making sacrifices, leaving behind comforts and even demanding a blessing from God, the way Jacob did.

Auburn Hispanic Church quickly grew from company to church status during the pandemic. Now, the church has answered another call to plant a second church. Triumph Church is now reaching second and third generation Hispanic members and their friends.

Planting side-by-side churches doesn't happen very often, but it is to God's glory that it has – this work is not done yet!

DOUG BING  
*Washington Conference president*

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WA-00](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WA-00)



CHURCH

## CHEHALIS MEMBERS HELP RENOVATE LOCAL GOSPEL MISSION

**EARLY IN JANUARY 2022**, floodwaters reached almost four feet inside the Lewis County Gospel Mission building in Chehalis, Washington.

Between the floodwaters and the resulting power cut to refrigerators and freezers, the mission lost 90% of its food supply. Many other supplies were also discarded, including most of its clothing inventory.

In the days following the flood, Chehalis Church members joined volunteers from the community to help with recovery efforts. Together, they removed damaged goods, power-washed racks, washed kitchen utensils and made take-out meals to deliver to homeless camps. The church also assisted with financial donations to replenish kitchen supplies.

By mid-March, hot meal service resumed, even while repair efforts continued.

The mission provides a hot breakfast and lunch through the work week and then a hot breakfast and sack lunch on weekends. In addition, packaged food, clothing, bedding, backpacks, tents, sleeping bags, bus passes and showers are always available to those in need.

Interactions between volunteers and mission guests are a shared blessing. The quiet 'thank you' with a served meal, the shy smile of appreciation as the food is dished up, speaks volumes to volunteers. In one small way, sharing the life exemplified by Christ by serving those in need allows Chehalis members to grow their faith and strengthen bonds with the community outside the church building walls.

CLIFF MUNROE  
*Chehalis member*



MORE ONLINE AT [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WA-06](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WA-06)

HEALTH

# Community Clinic Brings New Vision

**A PATIENT WAS SELECTING HIS FRAMES AFTER A FREE COMMUNITY VISION CLINIC WHEN HE WAS ASKED WHICH ONES HE LIKED.**



Eden Yoon, Ophthalmologist, is part of the LifeBridge Church plant in University Place, Washington. Eden discovered a need for free vision services after volunteering with Tacoma Rescue Mission.

“Whichever. You can choose them,” he muttered.

The volunteer persisted, “Which frames do you want?”

The patient broke down crying. When he had composed himself, he said, “Nobody has ever asked me what I wanted before. All my life, I have never felt cared for. But now I feel that from you all today.”

A Tacoma Rescue Mission staff member who helped coordinate the community health event shared that her favorite place to be during the clinic was at the table where

patients selected their new glasses. She loved watching patients try the frames on, look in the mirror and select the ones they wanted.

“Choices give dignity,” she shared with the mission team. “Most of these people wake up and live their entire day every day with very few choices. It was exciting for them to get to make a choice how they wanted to express themselves.”

It is very difficult for people experiencing homelessness with state insurance to get a vision appointment. They often have

to wait six to eight months. This is especially challenging because their day-to-day living situation is so unpredictable. When they finally have a vision appointment, they only have a few different frames to choose from. As a result, their socioeconomic status can easily be identified simply by the glasses they wear.

At the LifeBridge Vision Clinic there were dozens of high-quality, name-brand frames from which to choose. As patients looked in the mirror, their faces would break into huge smiles. It was priceless.

This was the second LifeBridge Church Vision Clinic directed by Eden Yoon, Ophthalmologist. The dream began during the pandemic when Yoon recruited fellow LifeBridge Church plant members to volunteer with him to serve meals at Tacoma

Rescue Mission.

While serving food, Yoon met one of the Rescue Mission staff members who was part of the recovery program. He shared that he had been reading the Bible for the first time in his life, but he was having trouble with his eyesight.

That is when it clicked in Yoon’s mind, “Why don’t we organize a free vision clinic for people at Tacoma Rescue Mission?”

The Rescue Mission was elated to pursue the project with LifeBridge Church. This opportunity had never happened before. In May 2021, LifeBridge Church hosted their first vision clinic, seeing over 100 people experiencing homelessness.

The second clinic happened just under a year later, in February 2022, and served around the same number of patients. This time, multiple miracle stories were heard and experienced.

The LifeBridge Vision Clinic doesn’t simply help people see more clearly; it gives them a new vision of who Jesus is, how much He cares about them and what He can do in their life.

DUSTIN SERNS  
*LifeBridge Church pastor*



A choice of eye glasses gives dignity and respect to residents who receive assistance at the LifeBridge Vision Clinic.



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WA-99](https://www.nwadventist.org/stories/117-3-wa-99) 

# New Library Focuses on Spiritual Resources



**WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY'S CHAPLAIN OFFICE, WELLNESS CENTER AND STUDENT ASSOCIATION CREATED A FREE LIBRARY FILLED WITH A VARIETY OF BOOKS FOCUSED ON SUPPORTING SPIRITUALITY. THE LIBRARY IS OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS AND STAFF AND WORKS ON AN HONOR-SYSTEM: YOU MAY TAKE ANY BOOK AT ANY TIME AND RETURN IT WHEN YOU ARE FINISHED.**

The idea to open a student-organized library stemmed from an annual event hosted by the Associated Students of Walla Walla University which allowed students to take home a devotional book. Mitchell Powers, a junior theology major and ASWWU spiritual vice president, explained that the dorm chaplains wanted to create a more lasting opportunity for students to foster their spiritual growth through reading. Although students have access to the Peterson Memorial Library, most of those books are academic in nature.

Anja Sandholm, sophomore biochemistry major, said, "This project is important to me because it centers God in a place where we can be reminded to take a break and focus on what is truly important."

The new library opened on February 24 with more than 115 books. The shelves hold philosophy books, books discussing physical and mental health and a copy of "So You Want to Talk About Race," the library's most popular book so far. These books were chosen through polls so, as Powers explained, "They hit the matters that students care about."

Powers said, "I know some people are going to say, 'Well, if you have a book, and it's not about the Bible, is it really spiritual?' But we cannot separate the body and the spirit, and if we do, it's not a Christian idea. The body, the mind, philosophy – we have to learn about all these different things because they do play a factor towards spirituality. Really, every book here, if someone grabs it, would benefit their spiritual lives and make them think deeper."

To learn about other spiritual resources available to Walla Walla University students, visit [wallawalla.edu/cm](http://wallawalla.edu/cm).

ASHLEY HERBER  
*WWU university relations student writer*



Move online at   
[NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WWU-06](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WWU-06)

The new student library contains a variety of books focused on supporting students' spiritual journeys.

EDUCATION

# WWU's School of Engineering Continues to Prepare Students for Ministry



Darius Felder is a senior electrical engineering student at WWU.

**THIS YEAR, WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING. OVER THE YEARS, THE SCHOOL HAS CONTINUALLY OFFERED AN ACADEMICALLY CHALLENGING PROGRAM WITHIN A FAITH COMMUNITY THAT CULTIVATES A COMMITMENT TO SERVICE. DARIUS FELDER, A SENIOR ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING STUDENT, EXEMPLIFIES THIS COMMITMENT TO USE ENGINEERING SKILLS IN HIS SERVICE.**



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WWU-07](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WWU-07) 

Felder first considered how engineering might fit into his future while watching the Hope Channel. The program was exploring mission field work, and Felder was fascinated by the inclusion of a missionary engineer. Most people think of missionaries as predominantly doctors or pastors. Seeing engineers support the construction and operation of mission hospitals and advance gospel radio opened Felder's mind to what the impact of a future in engineering could have. "I had always wanted a career that would be bigger

than myself," said Felder.

In pursuit of that goal, Felder added the Global Humanitarian Engineering Emphasis to his engineering degree. "I take a variety of classes, including ethics, religion and sociology classes, about how to engage in humanitarian work and work with groups that are different from yourself," said Felder.

Felder has not waited until graduation to put his knowledge into action. He's been honing his skills through volunteer work with Engineers without Borders and as a math teacher in Yap, Micronesia. He

also leads out in the His Kids in Action club.

Felder feels that leading in His Kids in Action is the most important ministry he is a part of at WWU. Every month, he organizes activities and worships for kids in the Washington State Penitentiary area. "The emphasis is on the connection—to minister to these kids who come from rough backgrounds," Felder said. Felder sees it as an important way to give back, because he can relate to many of the children.

Challenging classes, close collaboration with faculty, an internship at a hypersonic tech startup and an ambitious senior project have given Felder a great start. In fact, he already has a job offer, despite being several months from graduation. But it is the extracurricular and service activities at WWU that make him feel especially prepared.

"I'm not totally sure what to expect of the future, but I have the courage to take it on," he said. "When I'm going through difficult math and calculus classes, and I attend a testimony from other engineers about how they're using their degree to help people and make a positive impact, it reminds me I can keep going. Service has been the glue that helped me stick to engineering."

KELSI NASH  
WWU university relations supervisor

EDUCATION

# WWU To Offer Master of Engineering Program

**A MASTER'S OF ENGINEERING DEGREE** (M.Eng.) will be offered by the Walla Walla University School of Engineering as early as September 2022.

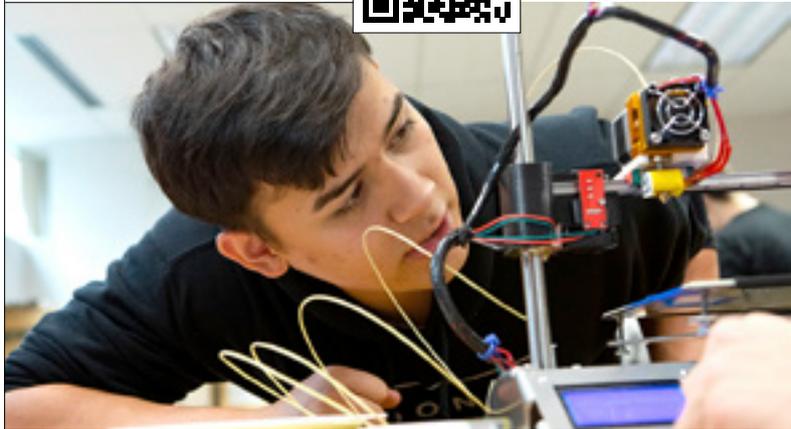
The one-year program will provide a focus on expanding technical knowledge and preparation for business and project management in the engineering profession. The program will allow current undergraduates the opportunity to obtain a master's and extend their expertise into another discipline with little disruption. The program is also designed to be accessible

to working professionals as courses will be taught with occasional in-person attendance or one-week immersive experiences.

The mission of the masters in engineering program is to develop competent and compassionate engineering professionals who lead with integrity at the forefront of their fields.

Students will complete coursework in three core areas: engineering specialty, research and design theory, and project management and decision-

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-WWU-08](https://nwadvent.st/117-3-wwu-08)



making. With over 32 elective courses, students will be able to customize their coursework and projects to align with their professional goals. Students with mathematics or sciences backgrounds will also be well-positioned to join the program.

Students in the M.Eng. program will benefit from the 75-year history of excellence in engineering instruction in the WWU School of Engineering. The master's program will build upon the WWU bachelor of engineering program, which has been continually accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) for 49 years.

"As the flagship engineering program in Seventh-day Adventist higher education, offering a graduate program is the next innovative step in preparing professional engineers for leadership in this growing field," said Pam Cress, associate vice president for graduate studies.

For more information on the program and to be notified when applications are open, email [engineering@wallawalla.edu](mailto:engineering@wallawalla.edu).

The M.Eng program is pending final approval by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

KELSI NASH  
WWU university relations supervisor

Article ID: 33008  
Title: WWU To Offer Master of Engineering Program  
Links: 2  
Filenames: 33008-70003-engineering\_1.png, 33008-70004-engineering\_2.jpg  
<https://nwadvent.st/117-3-wwu-08>

Education

# WWU To Offer





HEALTH

# Patient Does Victory Laps After Life Changing Surgeries

**LYNDA LEOPOLD HAS JOURNEYED DOWN MANY PATHS IN HER LIFE, BUT AT AGE 73, THERE IS ONE PATH IN PARTICULAR SHE STILL REMEMBERS VIVIDLY.**



“On May 20, 1957, my mom, my brother and I were living in a suburb of Kansas City, and there was a tornado,” Lynda recalled.

The tornado was one of the most powerful ever recorded. “It picked me up inside the house,” Lynda said. “I remember that distinctly, until I hit an immovable object and got a concussion. There was nothing left of our house. Absolutely nothing.”

Lynda suffered extensive injuries and lost her mom and brother. “I broke my left femur and my right elbow and had a board impaled in my right knee among other things,” Lynda said. “Surgeons at the time wanted to do an above-the-hip amputation, but thankfully, my dad said no. Fortunately, my face was mostly saved from the trauma, but it’s been a journey since then.”

That journey – during which she cultivated a career in recreation and education – has taken Lynda through countless doctor’s visits, medical interventions and hospital stays. Leading specialists

around the country tried their best to restore her mobility. “Everybody used to say, ‘Well, I can fix this,’ but they couldn’t,” she said.

A breakthrough arrived when Lynda met Philip Merritt, a doctor at Adventist Health Glendale. “Dr. Merritt has basically put me back together,” she said. “He’s been a miracle worker, and it’s been a 31-year journey with him.”

Those 31 years have been full of miracles for Lynda. Six years ago, while she was getting ready for one of her surgeries with Dr. Merritt, the medical team discovered a thoracic aortic aneurysm that would have otherwise gone unnoticed. The team at Adventist Health Glendale performed surgery to replace her aorta.

“The path that led me here wasn’t by chance,” Lynda said. “I’m firmly convinced of that and so is Dr. Merritt. There was a higher power that was leading us both on this very good collision course.”

After 51 surgeries – the last 10 with Dr. Merritt – Lynda still marvels at the ease of everyday tasks like tying her shoes. But a new dream has put her body in motion like never before. In 2007, Lynda



discovered lap swimming while doing rehabilitation in the pool.

“After I had my aortic aneurysm repair,” Lynda said, “I said to myself, ‘You know, you need to start ticking some of these things off your bucket list,’ and one thing on my bucket list was to medal at a swim meet.”

“I compete with able-bodied swimmers, former Olympians, former Olympic coaches and people who’ve learned to swim in the last year,” she said. “I generally come in last, but I’ve resigned myself to that.”

But Lynda’s determination helped her accomplish that Bucket List wish! In 2019, Lynda won a medal at the U.S. Masters Long Course National Championships and was invited to join the Rose Bowl Masters swim team.

“A student once asked me, ‘If you could go back and have the tornado not happen, would you?’” Lynda said. “No, I wouldn’t change it, because I wouldn’t be who I am today, and I’m happy with who I am today.”

KIRSTEN CUTLER  
*Adventist Health managing editor for Story & Experience*



Move online at  
[NWADVENT.ST/117-3-AH-79](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-AH-79)



## family WEDDINGS

**MARTIN-GOTSHALL** – Cami Jean Martin and Tim Jordan Gotshall were married Dec. 12, 2021 in Chehalis, Washington. Cami is the daughter of Terry and Judy (Hempel) Martin. Tim is the son of David and Karen (Johnston) Gotshall.

## family AT REST

**ANDERSON** – Jeanette, 80; born Aug. 11, 1941 in Knoxville, Iowa; died Dec. 4, 2021 in Lynden, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Walton; son, Anthony (Tony); daughter-in-law, Teresa Anderson; and 2 grandchildren.

**ARNETT** – Owen Delano, 88; born Jul. 1, 1933 in Fremont, Nebraska; died Jan. 28, 2022 in Nampa, Idaho. Surviving: spouse, Bunny; daughters, Candice Spiel, Marcinda Rambaran and Merlynn Arnett; step-sons Jon Pflugrad, Ben Pflugrad, Leonard Pflugrad and Steve Pflugrad; 5 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren, 4 step-grandchildren and 3 step-great-grandchildren.

**BOLTON** – Robert Earl, 107; born Oct. 3, 1914 in McGee, Saskatchewan, Canada; died Jan. 13, 2022 in Vancouver, Washington. Surviving: son, Robert; daughters, Erlene (Bolton) Lau and Alice Joy (Bolton) Brown; 7 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, 3 step-grandchildren and 5 step-great-grandchildren.

**BROWER** – Lani, 90; born 1931 in Chicago, Illinois; died 2022; Surviving: son, Chuck (Dorane) Brower; daughters, Ilona (Mitch) and Julie Ward; 4 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

**CARTER** – Elvin Eugene, 92; born June 22, 1929 in Sunyside, Washington; died July 10, 2021 in Baker City, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Mary Jean; sons, Tom and Tony; daughter Jeanie Ryder; 7 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

**DAVENPORT** – Robert R., 69; born Aug. 26, 1952 in Nigeria, West Africa; died Dec. 6, 2021 in Everett, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Mary Jo (Pippin) Davenport; daughters, Jennifer Case, Melissa

Davenport and Elisabeth Cone; brothers William, Gary and Jim; and 6 grandchildren.

**DUNKS** – Gerion E. (Holland), 98; born April 10, 1923, Little Rock, Arkansas; died Jan. 12, 2022, Springfield, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Wally; son, Michael; daughter, Dixie Wurscher; sister, Ruth Sandy; 3 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

**DUNNEWIN** – Dorothy “Dot” Marie (Garvin), 92; born April 5, 1929 in Parma, Idaho; died Dec. 14, 2021 in Spokane, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Earl (Duke); son Michael (Mick); daughter, Melissa (Missy) Holmes; 3 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**DUNNEWIN** – Earl “Duke,” 96; born Aug. 8, 1925 in Holland, Michigan; died Feb. 7, 2022 in Spokane, Washington. Surviving: son Michael “Mick,” daughter, Melissa “Missy” Holmes; 3 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**EMERY** – Lindy (Caulkins), 65; born April 17, 1956 in Portland, Oregon; died Jan. 27, 2022 in Eugene, Oregon. Surviving:

daughter, Jaycee Trnnify; brothers, Larry and Tern; sisters, Ruth Hancock, Cheri Emery, Kathy Hammond and Cindy Estipona; and 3 grandchildren.

**FOOTE** – John Benjamin, 71; born Aug. 25, 1950 in Canton, New York; died Aug. 27, 2021 in Union Springs, New York; Surviving: spouse, Teri; son, Joseph B.; daughter, Amy Main (Max); brothers, Ben, Carl and Daniel; sister, Joan Fischer; brothers-in-law, Eugene, Tim Fred George and Richard Dana; sister-in-law Kathy Nudd; 26 nieces and nephews, 34 great nieces and nephews, 5 great-great nieces and nephews.

**FOSTER** – Frances Louise (Nelson), 87; born Oct. 5, 1934 in Los Angeles California; died Dec. 3, 2021 in Cottage Grove, Oregon. Surviving: daughters, Elizabeth Boram and Ruth Mundall; brother, Benny Nelson; 7 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**FOSTER** – Ray Lyon, 87; born Sept. 5, 1934 in Los Angeles, California; died March 2, 2022 in Cottage Grove, Oregon. Surviving: daughters, Elizabeth Boram and Ruth Mundall; brothers, Glen and Gary; sister Lynda; 7 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**FRANKLIN** – Darleene Florence (Storey), 90; born Aug. 8, 1931 in Anaconda, Montana; died January 29, 2022 in Dallas, Oregon. Surviving: sons, Dale II and Bennett; daughters, Susan Evans and Julie Segura; 13 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

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OUR FAMILY

1931–2022

## LANI BROWER

Our dear mom was spoken of as “she’s so sweet,” by all. Like the song “Sweet LeLani,” she was to our dad, Karl, a “heavenly flower in their paradise for two.” In 54 years of marriage, he introduced her always as “my bride,” and merged their names into “Karlani,” as one signature on cards.

Born in Chicago, then raised in Nebraska, she raised three children alone while working as a dental assistant for 15 years. She had the loving support of her Hungarian parents, Vilma & Julius Dennis who lived next door. Marrying Karl in 1967, they moved to California, and she chose a life of hospitality. Well-known for her dining tables with dishes end-to-end, they routinely hosted large groups of church members and visitors.



“Karlani” Brower

She played the piano for her own enjoyment, as her father did. She loved to sing at home and with the church trio, and had a wonderful sense of humor that was infectious. She always seemed to easily see the sunny side of life.

Lani Mom loved the Lord and, as a single mom, she was faithful to take her parents and children to church, driving 30 minutes to Omaha every week. After marrying Karl, she brought him to the Lord to become a faithful servant in the many roles he led in churches from Merced, to Simi Valley, Tujunga, Las Vegas, the Loma Linda Victoria Church, and in Oregon, the Lebanon and Portland Sunnyside Churches.

She is survived by her son, Chuck Brower and his wife Dorane of Gresham, Oregon; daughter, Ilona and husband Mitch of Moreno Valley CA; daughter, Julie Ward of Bend, Oregon; four grandchildren, Travis, Tara, Vincent and Victoria; and 5 great-grandchildren. Deceased brother, Alfred Dennis.

We await Jesus’ coming to raise her victorious in His Loving Arms and “so we shall always be with the Lord” together again.

**GREEN** – Virginai Rae (Christensen), 91; born June 30, 1930 in Chicago, Illinois; died Feb. 1, 2022 in College Place, Washington. Surviving: Dan Kaylor and Mark Kaylor; brother, Wally Christensen; sister, Lois (Christensen) Dalrymple; 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**HERBEL** – Georgia Renee (Reimann), 74; born Sept. 11, 1947 in Sidney, Montana; died Feb. 19, 2022 in Hardin, Montana; Surviving: spouse, Marvin; son, Jeren, daughters Shauna Havel and Julie Herbel; 2 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**HOOVER** – I. Atwood, 77; born July 19, 1944 in Frost, Louisiana; died Aug. 12, 2021 in Soap Lake, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Ann (Burton); sons Daniel (Hazel) Hoover and Mark (Yvonne) Hoover.

**JACKSON** – Bradley Charles, 70; born July 2, 1951 in Portland, Oregon; died January 6, 2022 in Canby Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Patricia (Schuler); son, Joshua (Anna) Jackson; daughter, Kimberly Jackson; sisters, Miline Linder and Penny Kitsemble.

**JOHNSON** – Velma Genevieve (Derden), 95; born May 23, 1926 in Dallas County, Texas; died Jan. 12, 2022 in Bellevue, Washington.

**KELLER** – Betty Sue (Osgood), 94; born May 15, 1927 in Elkhart, Indiana; died Jan. 7, 2022 in College Place, Washington. Surviving: sons, Karlton and Kris; step-son Fred Roesener; sister, Charlotte Rollenhagen; 6 grandchildren,

6 great-grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren and 6 step-great-grandchildren.

**KIVETT** – Winifred “Freddie” (Beggs), 95; born Jan. 29, 1927 in Advent Gulch, Cambridge, Idaho; died Jan. 29, 2022 in College Place, Washington. Surviving: son, Elden.

**LEEPER** – James Charles, 83; born Oct. 14, 1938 in Waterloo, Iowa; died Feb. 4, 2022 in Sandpoint, Idaho. Surviving: spouse, Judith “Judy” (Smith); sons, Jeff and Jerry; daughter, Jill McCann; 5 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

**LOUK** – Charles Earnest, 66; born Feb. 3, 1955 in China Lake, California; died Nov. 27, 2021 in Kennewick, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Cassie Ann (Schef); sister, Kari Louk; step-sisters, Karla Moore, Tanya Shorpe, Amber Flower and Bridget Malek.

**MORRIS** – Dorothy F. (Hogan), 98; born April 16, 1923 in Kansas City, Missouri; died Dec. 14, 2021 in Meridian, Idaho. Surviving: daughters, Doranna (Dave) Peterson, Mindy (Ray) Struble-Hickey and Tana Schroeder; 6 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

**NOVAK** – Phyllis Clarene (Meier), 99; born Oct. 10, 1922 in Farmington, Washington; died Dec. 30, 2021 in Gladstone, Oregon. Surviving: son, Lee; daughters Renee Novak and Cindy (Bill) Hartley; 7 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

**RAU** – Rodney D., 71; born Dec. 12, 1950 in Turlock, California; died Jan. 6, 2022 in Willow, Alaska. Surviving: spouse, Brenda.

**RICH** – Dennis L., 72; born April 25, 1949 in St. Helena, California; died Oct. 19, 2021 in Bozeman, Montana. Surviving: spouse, Shirlee (Dupper); son, Dustin; daughter, Stacey; brother, Lew; twin sister, Donna Schmidt; and 3 grandchildren.

**ROGERS** – Volney “Von” Duane, 83; born Nov. 27, 1938 in Vancouver, Washington; died May 31, 2021 in Battle Ground, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Judy; son, Kelly (Gayla) Rogers; daughter, April (Ken) Rogers; brothers Harold and Charles; 4 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

**SCHNABEL** – Harold, 92; born May 17, 1929 in Blair, North Dakota; died Jan. 12, 2022 in College Place, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Junis (Moos); sons, Bruce and Rodney; daughters Linda Dolsee and Connie Schnabel; 3 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

**SICHLEY** – Russell Scott, 103; born Oct. 28, 1918 in Columbe, South Dakota; died Dec. 24, 2021 in Gresham, Oregon. Surviving: son, Scott; daughters, Linda Nelson, Patsy Sichley and Sandra Frazier; 7 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

**SORENSEN** – Elden Sherley, 86; born Feb. 25, 1935 in Visalia, California; died Feb. 16, 2022 in Spokane, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Joan;

daughter, Jill (Bret) Wheeler; and 7 grandchildren.

**STELLING** – Donald Eugene, 74; born Sept. 12, 1947 in Escondido, California; died Feb. 10, 2022 in Loma Linda, California. Surviving: spouse, Elisa (Wainz); sons, Adam and Baron; daughters, Donna Searles and Regina Cuccia; brothers, Robert and Richard; 5 grandchildren and 9 step-grandchildren.

**STEWART** – Donald Howard, 74; born Aug. 19, 1947 in Glendale, California; died Feb. 20, 2022 in Walla Walla, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Diane (Jones); son, Scott; daughter, Jenny Williams; brother, Doug; and 9 grandchildren.

**STRATTON** – Barbara Jean (Stotts), 95; born Jan. 5, 1927 in Minot, North Dakota; died Jan. 29, 2022 in Charmichael, California; Surviving: son, Marc (Jeannie) Stratton; daughters, Aletha (Richard) Ensminger and Yvonne Stratton; 8 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**TRYON** – Thelma Kate (Bull), 99; born Feb. 18, 1922 in Douglas, Arizona; died Jan. 15, 2022 in Spokane, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Robert; sons, David Keene and Don Tryon; daughters, Sharon Wells (Keene) and Jeannine Broome (Tryon); 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

**TODOROVICH** – John, 93; born 1928 in Walla Walla, Washington; died Nov. 4, 2021 in Loma Linda, California; Surviving: 5 children, 7 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**TUCKER** – Richard C., 86; born Feb. 18, 1935 in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho; died April 23, 2021 in Sandpoint, Idaho. Surviving: spouse, Ruth (Sleeter); brother, Wendell; sister, Marjorie Dillon; 3 children, 9 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

**WOOLEVER** – Gene, 96; born Jan. 6, 1926 in Broken Bow, Oklahoma; died Jan 30, 2022 in Tallahassee, Florida. Surviving:

spouse, Bertha (Oksenholt); sons, David and Michael; daughters, Ann-Marie Steinhouse, Cheri Woolever, Rebecca Lucas and Sandra Garman; sister, Blondena Hawkins; 8 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, 4 step-grandchildren and 4 step-great-grandchildren.

**YEAKLE** – Gary R., 78; born Nov. 28, 1943 in Wichita, Kansas;

## 1935-2021

# RICHARD C. TUCKER

Richard (Dick) C. Tucker, 86, of Sandpoint, Idaho, passed away on April 23, 2021, from complications of Covid-19. He was born Feb. 18, 1935, in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, to Alfred and Ruth Tucker, and grew up on the family farm north of Sandpoint. Dick graduated from Upper Columbia Academy in 1953, and then Walla Walla College in 1959 with a degree in Civil Engineering. He married Ruth Sleeter in 1954, and they spent most of their lives in North Idaho.



Richard Tucker

They had three daughters; Carol Nord of Coeur d’Alene, Lynda Bailey of Sandpoint and Lori Kyle of College Place, Washington.

As an outdoorsman who loved the mountains and forests of North Idaho, Dick was fortunate enough to own businesses that allowed him to spend a great deal of time there, both as an engineer/land surveyor, and as a logger and road builder. His children and grandchildren fondly recall many hikes with him in the mountains where he taught them the names of trees, and how to look for signs of wildlife. Dick was involved in many land development projects throughout Bonner County, and his advice was frequently sought out on various water and sewer projects. An active member of his church, Dick spent many hours helping with various building projects at his church and Camp Mivoden.

Richard is survived by his wife of 66 years, Ruth Sleeter Tucker; his sister Marjorie Dillon of Parker, Colorado; his brother Wendell of Sandpoint; his three children, nine grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

1928 – 2021

## JOHN TODOROVICH

John Todorovich passed away on Nov. 4, 2021, in Loma Linda, California. Lovingly known as Elder “T” to many, he faithfully served God in his ministry for nearly 40 years. He made a lasting impression with those he met as he shared his kindness and compassion. He was cherished and beloved by many.

John was born in Walla Walla, Washington in 1928 and was the youngest of ten children. He graduated from Walla Walla College in 1955 and began his ministry in Oregon. He spent most of his ministry pastoring in the Southern California and Oregon Conferences. He received and answered the call to become Vice President of the Oregon Conference in 1981. He returned to Southern California in 1989 to pastor at the Camarillo Church. In 1992, he returned to conference administration as the Ministerial Secretary for the California Conference, where he remained until his retirement.

John enjoyed landscaping and took a personal interest in beautifying his yard whenever he moved. He especially loved roses and made sure they were always in his gardens. He also enjoyed listening to music and reading.

John is survived by five children, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He will be remembered as a man that loved God, ministry and his family.



John Todorovich

died Jan. 28, 2022 in Fall Creek, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Sue (Welch); son, Daryl; daughter, Deena Yeakle; brother, Vic; and 2 grandchildren.

**ZABOR**—Euretta Erma, 96; born Sept. 14, 1925 in Faribault, Minnesota; died Jan. 9, 2022 in Walla Walla, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Robert; son, Phillip; daughter, Linda Dianne; 2 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

The North Pacific Union Gleaner accepts family listings as a service to members of Adventist churches in the Northwest. This information is not intended as an endorsement of any facts or relationships represented.

All family announcements are published online at [NWAadventists.com/family](https://www.nwadventists.com/family). To submit family announcements, go to [NWAadventists.com/contribute](https://www.nwadventists.com/contribute). To publish an expanded obituary with a short bio and photo, contact [info@nwadventists.com](mailto:info@nwadventists.com) or call 360-857-7200 for submission and cost information.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NORTH PACIFIC UNION

#### Offering

May 7—Local Church Budget;  
 May 14—Disaster & Famine Relief (GC and NAD);  
 May 21—Local Church Budget;  
 May 28—Local Conference Advance;  
 June 4—Local Church Budget;  
 June 11—Women's Ministries (NAD);  
 June 18—Local Church Budget;  
 June 25—Local Conference Advance.

#### Official Notice: NPUC and WWU Constituency Sessions

Official notice is hereby given that the twenty-ninth regular constituency meeting of the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) of Seventh-day Adventists and Walla Walla University will be held at the Adventist Community Church of Vancouver, 9711 NE St. Johns Road, Vancouver, Washington, on Aug. 7, 2022, at 9 a.m. The purpose of the constituency meeting is to present reports covering the five-year period ending December 31, 2020; to elect executive officers and other vice presidents, and the executive committee for the ensuing quinquennial period; to consider and act upon recommended changes to the bylaws; and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

The present bylaws provide that the delegates to this meeting shall be the duly appointed delegates from the local conferences within the Union and certain ex officio and other delegates. Registration of delegates is scheduled to take place at the Adventist Community Church of Vancouver from 8-9 a.m., Aug. 7, 2022. All duly appointed delegates are urged to attend this constituency session.

John Freedman, NPUC president and WWU board chairman  
 Bill McClendon, NPUC vice president for administration

#### Official Notice: NPUC Association

Official notice is hereby given that a regular membership meeting of the North Pacific Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists is called for 3:45 p.m. on Aug. 7, 2022, and will be held at the Adventist Community Church Vancouver, 9711 NE St Johns Road, Vancouver, Washington. The membership is composed of the Board of Trustees of the NPUCA, the appointed ex officio members and other delegates to the Aug. 7, 2022 NPUC constituency meeting.

The purpose of this regular meeting is to receive reports and transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

John Freedman, NPUCA president  
 James H. Brown, NPUCA secretary

### OREGON

Portland Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend on May 7  
 PAA is pleased to welcome Karl Haffner, well-known speaker, author and Vice President for Student Services at Loma Linda University, as the 2022 PAA Alumni Reunion speaker for the Sabbath worship service.

PAA is planning an in-person alumni reunion morning worship service at Sunnyside Church for Sabbath, May 7, 2022. Honor classes reunions may meet on campus in the afternoon. All are welcome on campus that afternoon for a retirement reception for long-time math teacher Bob Johnson, who retired at the end of last school year, following a 39-year teaching career. He taught at PAA for 32 years.

The honor classes are: 1942 (80th Year), 1947 (75th Year), 1952, 1962, 1972 (50th Year), 1982, 1992, 1997 (25th Year), 2002, 2012, 2017 (5th Year – Why wait 10 years?)

MORE EVENTS LISTED AT [NWADVENTISTS.COM/EVENTS](https://www.nwadventists.com/events).

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Events

**CHRISTMAS VALLEY OREGON CAMP MEETING** starting June 16 at 9:30 a.m. through June 18, 2022 at 60506 Old Lake Rd., Christmas Valley, Oregon. Speakers include James Rafferty, Carlos Munoz, Dick Duerksen and Laura Williams. Free meals and dry camping available. More information available on [Facebook.com/SDAChurch97641/](https://www.facebook.com/SDAChurch97641/) or text/Call 541-223-8984.

**PUA CLASS OF 1972 50th REUNION,** May 7th 2022 in Portland, Oregon. Please contact Richard (Dick) Sanders Class President Phone/text (310) 721-1101, email [richardwsanders@hotmail.com](mailto:richardwsanders@hotmail.com) or Doraine Todorovich Lehde, Class Secretary, Phone/text (805) 341-1333, email [lehdedoraine@gmail.com](mailto:lehdedoraine@gmail.com)

**PORTLAND ADVENTIST ACADEMY'S IN-PERSON ALUMNI REUNION** is May 6-8. Sabbath worship at Sunnyside Church includes speaker Karl Haffner, class roll call and class photos. Visit [paasda.org](http://paasda.org) > Alumni or call (503) 255-8372 for more information.

Miscellaneous

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**JULY/AUG.** MAY 24  
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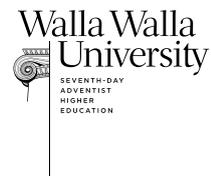


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**NE Washington Camp Meeting Speakers July 26-30 2022**

 <b>Anil Kanda</b> Main Camp Meeting Speaker California Conference Evangelist <a href="http://NEWACampmeeting.com">NEWACampmeeting.com</a> Great Children and Youth Meetings Sheridan Meadows SDA Retreat Center 89 Sheridan Road Republic Washington 99166	 <b>David Jamieson</b> Upper Columbia Conference President	 <b>Greg Griffiths</b> Pastor of the Colville District	 <b>Jay Gallimore</b> Former Michigan Conference President	 <b>Vicki Griffin</b> Health Lecturer
	 <b>Howard Tello</b> Pastor of the Chewelah District	 <b>Anthony Burrell</b> Pastor of the Kettle Falls District		

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James Rafferty



Dick Duerksen



Carlos Muñoz

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“THE PRINCE OF PEACE”

June 16, 17, 18, 2022



Laura Williams and  
Ernie Hernandez

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Facebook: Central Oregon Camp Meeting Christmas Valley

[www.centraloregoncampmeetingcvda.com](http://www.centraloregoncampmeetingcvda.com).

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- Early Childhood Coordinator ..... Carisa Carr
- Hispanic Ministries ..... César De León
- Associate ..... CarolAnn De León
- Information Technology ..... Loren Bordeaux
- Associate ..... Daniel Cates
- Legal Counsel ..... André Wang
- Ministerial, Global Mission, Men's and Family Ministries ..... César De León
- Associate ..... CarolAnn De León
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- Public Affairs, Religious Liberty ..... André Wang
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**Local Conference Directory**

**ALASKA CONFERENCE**

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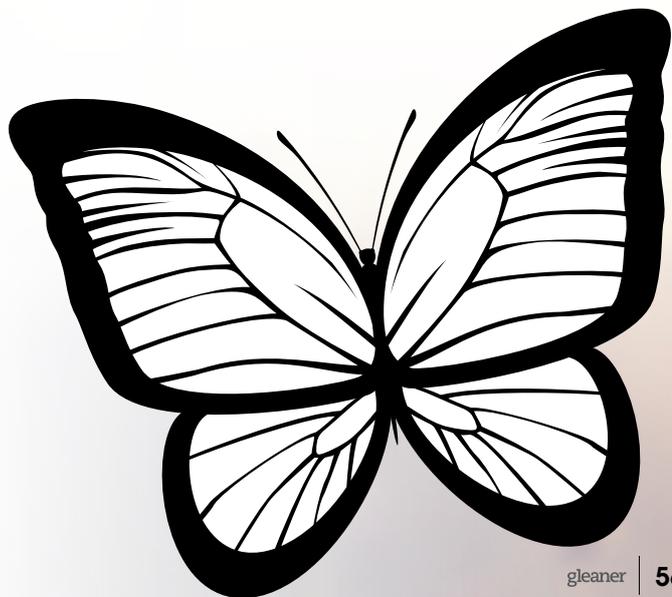
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# Butterflies are Cool!

FROM THEIR BRIGHTLY COLORED WINGS TO THEIR EFFORTLESS GRACEFUL FLIGHT, BUTTERFLIES ARE SOME OF GOD'S SPECIAL CREATIONS! HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THESE AMAZING INSECTS? HERE ARE SOME FUN FACTS THAT MAY INSPIRE YOU TO THINK ABOUT BUTTERFLIES IN A WHOLE NEW WAY.



**Butterfly wings are transparent.** Before you run to get an eye exam, let us explain. Butterfly wings are covered in a multitude of miniature scales – thousands of them. And those colors you see when a butterfly flits across your yard are the reflection of various colors through the scales. The wings themselves are made up of a protein called chitin, which is the same protein that forms an insect's exoskeleton. And much like an exoskeleton, chitin is transparent.

**There are almost 20,000 butterfly species.** If you've ever wanted to memorize all the various species of butterflies, it may take longer than you expected! An easier starting point would be those species regularly occurring in the lower 48 states. But, that's still a pretty big number. About 575 in fact! Why not keep track of all different kinds that frequent your neighborhood?

**Butterflies taste with their feet.** This fact may surprise you. A butterfly's daily activities consist of eating and mating, both of which require landing – even if it is only briefly. When food is the priority, those taste receptors help the butterfly locate the right plants and the key nutrients it needs for survival.

**Butterflies only live for a few weeks.** The average lifespan of an adult butterfly is roughly three to four weeks, however, the entire life cycle can last anywhere between two and eight months. As with anything, there are exceptions to the rule. At least one species of butterfly lives for approximately 24 hours, while some migratory butterflies, like the North American Monarch, can survive for nearly eight months.

**The most common butterfly in the US is the Cabbage White.** Named for its mostly white marking, with hints of yellow and green like the vegetable, the Cabbage White may not be the most colorful butterfly in your garden or yard, but it is the most common. The male Cabbage White has one prominent black spot on each wing, while the female has two.

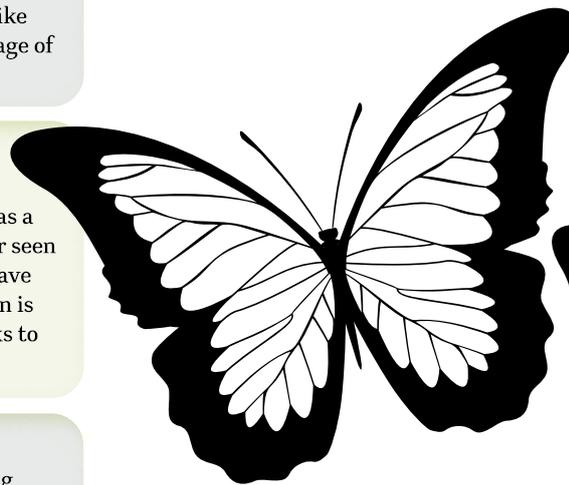
**Some butterfly species migrate.** Butterflies are cold-blooded and require – in ideal settings – a body temperature of approximately 85 degrees to activate their flight muscles. In most cases, cold weather will end the already short life of a butterfly by rendering them immobile. But others take the dropping temperature as a signal to move. If the weather begins changing, some species simply migrate in search of sunshine. Some, like the North American Monarch, travel an average of 2,500 miles!

**One of the largest butterflies is the Giant Swallowtail Butterfly.** With a wingspan of between four and seven inches, this species has a name that fits its dimensions. If you have ever seen one on a hike or around your yard, you may have been spellbound. Their swallowtail description is borrowed from birds of the same name, thanks to the long tails on this butterfly's hindwings.

**Butterflies have a liquid diet.** Butterflies are always on the lookout for food. The interesting thing is they only eat liquids. They simply don't have the ability to chew. Instead, they drink nectar and other liquids through a proboscis, which is a lot like a fancy straw. God designed the butterfly with a proboscis to help them get the food they need.

**A butterfly's wings protect it from predators.** Butterflies frequently use their wings as a defense mechanism. Either by folding their wings to blend in with their surroundings, or wearing a full spectrum of colors and patterns to frighten predators, a butterfly's wings are often their best protection.

**Butterflies actually have four wings, not two.** Despite how they may appear in motion, or in drawings or paintings you may have seen, butterflies have four separate wings. The wings closest to its head are called the forewings, while those in the rear are called the hindwings. Thanks to strong muscles in the butterfly's thorax, all four wings move up and down in a figure-eight pattern during flight.



Now that you know a little more about these delicate insects, here are some you can enjoy coloring.



# Benefits of Intergenerational Relationships



AUTHOR | LaVonne Long



Our family is extremely blessed to live only 1.5 miles from my parents. My children are able to grow up with grandparents who are actively involved in their daily lives. I am also thankful, my kids interact with elderly church members either at events or with those who serve as Sabbath school teachers.

We are also excited that our kids are a part of the Partnering for Eternity scholarship program at our local Adventist school. Both of my children have benefited from having a senior mentor during the school year. They get to bake, plant, craft and go on walks with them. They play games, put together puzzles and much more. It's been so educational and helpful for both my kids and their senior mentors. I am happy that we've built and encouraged these relationships in our kids' lives.

The benefits of intergenerational relationships should not be a surprise. Research suggests that relationships between children and seniors are quite beneficial to them both. The following are a few of these great benefits. I am sure there are many more reasons you can add to this list.





*I'm thankful my kids have opportunity to regularly interact with elderly church members.*

**BENEFITS OF INTERGENERATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS**

- » Kids learn from shared wisdom that comes with age.
- » In many cases, older adults often have more flexible spending-time than a child's parents.
- » Older adults tend to be more patient with young children.
- » Children improve their social skills.
- » The attention given to children can increase self-worth.
- » These relationships decrease the social isolation some elderly people experience.
- » Experts tell us that time spent with children can improve an elderly person's cognitive skills.
- » Elderly people grow a deeper sense of purpose.
- » Society benefits when we work to normalize aging and alleviate fears of growing old.

» Intergenerational relationships provide opportunity to learn new skills for both the old and young.

Cross-generational interactions are so important for both our young and old. So let's make it a social norm to foster these intergenerational relationships!

Parents, I hope you will find someone in your church, school or neighborhood with whom you can connect. And, if you are an older adult reading this, reach out to the young family that does not have grandparents in their life; build a relationship with the children. It's healthy for you, the parents and the children.

LAVONNE LONG  
*Northwest Adventists family columnist*

More online at  [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-POV-88](http://NWADVENT.ST/117-3-POV-88)

# The Love of God

*“God and love are synonymous. Love is not an attribute of God, it is God. Whatever God is, love is. If your conception of love does not agree with justice and judgement, purity and holiness, then your idea of love is wrong.” – Oswald Chambers*



**T**

he God I believe in can't be limited to a specific temple, book or dogma. God is iconoclastic. Let me give you an example.

When Jesus cleansed the temple He said, “My house shall be called a house of prayer for all people” (Matt. 21:13). Then He flipped over their tables and said, “Your house is left onto you desolate” (Matt. 23:38). Jesus attacked the accepted religious norms of His day.

The religious leaders in Jesus' day tried to stuff the Almighty into a box based on their own prejudice, patriarchy and pride. Christ smashed it all down. He called them hypocrites! He blew the doors of salvation wide open.

The Jewish leaders tried to limit God to a church. God left their building desolate. God transcended the temple, but they were oblivious.

A few years later, the apostle Paul tried to make it plain, “Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and the Spirit of God dwells in you?” (1 Cor. 3:16).

They called themselves the children of Abraham. Jesus said, “your father is the devil.” They thought they were the “chosen ones” so they condemned the world in God's name. Christ said, “I did not come to condemn the world, but to save it.”

They thought they could contain the Almighty in a book. They attributed their own bigotry, misogyny and nationalism to

their understanding of God. They thought scripture taught them to separate the saved from the damned. Christ said you're reading it wrong, “the Scriptures point to me!” The religion of Christ isn't about separating insiders from outsiders. The religion of Jesus is based on love.

The scriptures point to Jesus. Because of Jesus, I believe that nothing can separate us from the love of God. But is that true?

What if I don't know God's name and was never taught the sinner's prayer? What if I have never read the Bible in my life? Does God's love still cover me?

What if I believe the wrong thing about a theological question, or what if I make a mistake and don't feel sorry soon enough? What if I have stopped going to church because I have been hurt there? Are those reasons for God to stop loving me?

What if I have difficulty connecting to God though the Bible? Is it ok to have questions about that, or do my questions cut me off from God's love?

Does Jesus only love me when I'm good, when I do the things I should? Or does Jesus love me even when I'm bad?

What if I was gay and some church people say to me, “homosexuals will not inherit eternal life?” What does God think about that?

Have you read Paul's answer to these questions?

He says, “I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor

AUTHOR

Kevin McGill

More online at  [NWADVENT.ST/117-3-POV-56](https://www.nwadventist.org/stories/117-3-POV-56)

things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom. 8:38-39).

According to scripture NOTHING can separate us from the love of God. Yet it’s hard for us to believe that. We doubt because many of us have experienced spiritual abuse.

Some of us have been taught to cover up abuse for the sake of “evangelism.”

Some of us have been taught to value the institution of marriage more than the people in a marriage.

Some of us have been taught that if we love the wrong people, we are an “abomination.”

Some of us have been taught that God is love, but if we don’t believe in His love, we will be tortured forever in hell.

As Ty Gibson points out, “It is spiritually abusive to hammer people with the idea

that they must stop sinning while withholding God’s unmerited love from their view.”<sup>[1]</sup>

The antidote for spiritual abuse is honesty. The truth is this, there is nothing you can do that will separate you from the love of God.

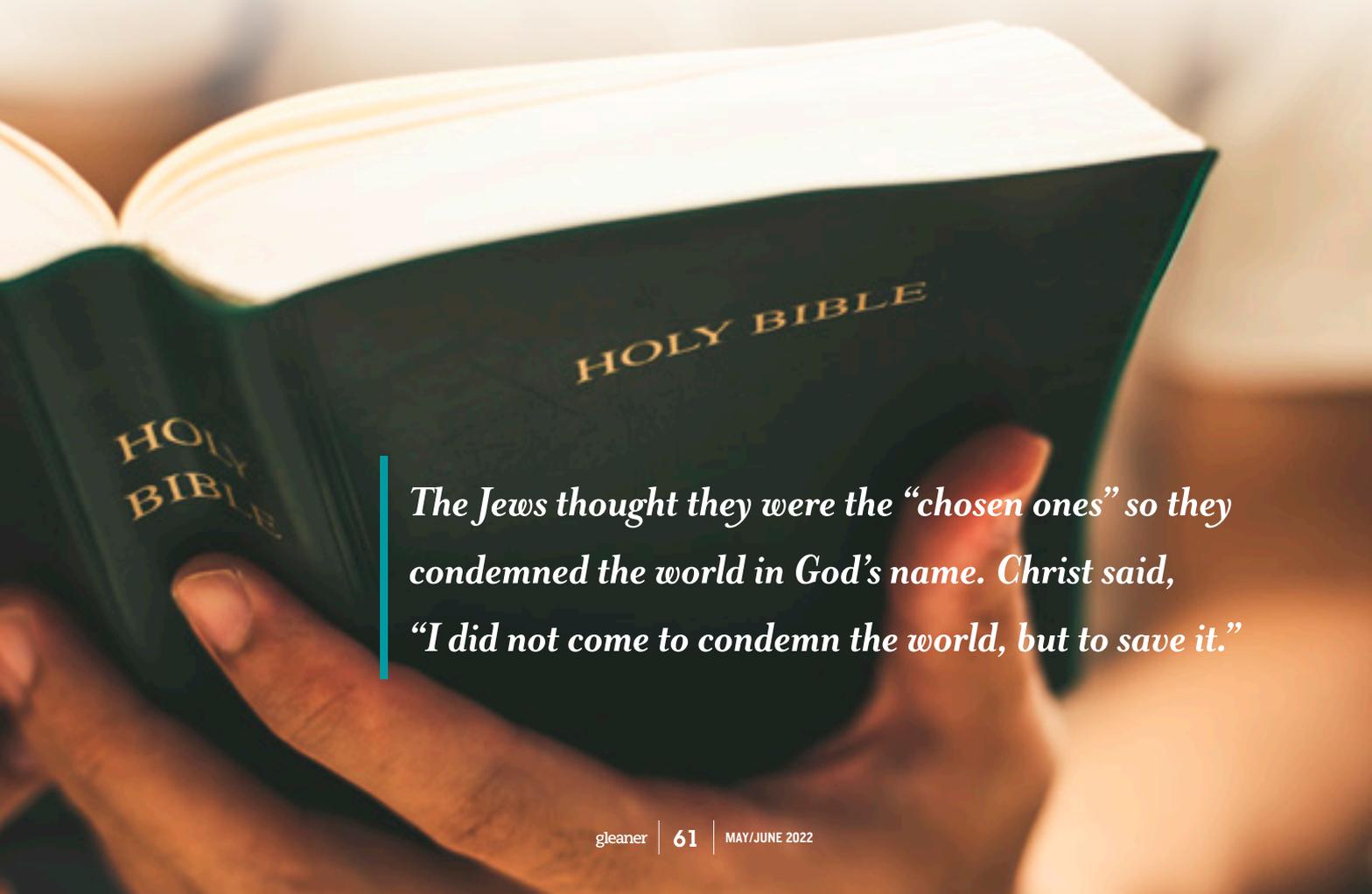
If we make it primarily about what we must do, we lose the primacy of what God has done. Amazing grace isn’t so amazing if ultimately, we have to work for it. We don’t change

by trying to be better. We change by allowing the truth to set us free.

The opposite of sin is not perfection. It is connection to a God who offers unconditional love.

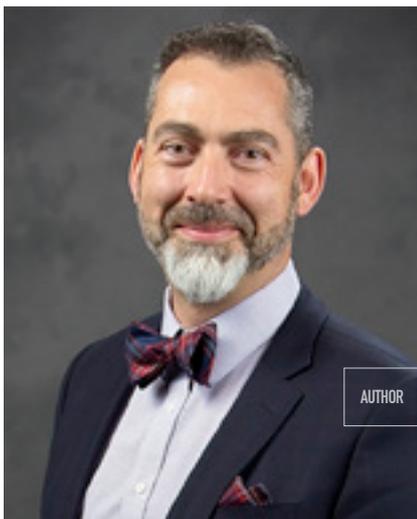
[1] <https://twitter.com/tyfgibson/status/816405026725892097>

KEVIN MCGILL  
Green Lake Church senior pastor



*The Jews thought they were the “chosen ones” so they condemned the world in God’s name. Christ said, “I did not come to condemn the world, but to save it.”*

# FROM WHERE I Stand



AUTHOR Jay Wintermeyer

## AN APPEAL

**D**o you remember Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy’s historic address to the United States Congress?

I’ll never forget. I was sitting on my couch at 6 a.m. crying as I watched this brave leader plead for help. As he spoke, his nation was being torn apart by enemy forces.

Zelenskyy’s speech, which was given as a virtual address to members of Congress, came as the United States was under pressure from Ukraine to supply more military assistance to the embattled country. The speech featured a short video with harrowing scenes from the war-torn country graphically depicting the brutal and deadly toll of the invasion. At the end, the screen read, “Close the Sky Over Ukraine.”

Thinking back to that speech, I see striking similarities between the early days of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and what I see happening in our church. Our church is under attack. An enemy is seeking to destroy the ground we’ve claimed for God by any means possible.

Sometimes the attacks are subtle. Other times the assaults are full-blown air strikes. The enemy masquerades as people claiming to be on God’s side, yet all the while they’re driving people away by angry judgmental self-righteousness. The enemy destroys by getting families to fight against each other, and by spreading rumors and fake news. People bring the religion of politics into the church and cling to that instead of holding on to the hand of the Almighty God.

The enemy’s tanks, artillery and well-aimed missiles are tearing our churches apart. Casualties are everywhere. Just like Ukraine, where there aren’t enough people to bury the dead, most of our churches no longer have active young adult participation. They’ve left, not because

they don’t believe in God. They don’t believe in the church members.

So why all the spiritual chaos? I found an interesting clue in something Thomas Schelling, the economist and Nobel Prize winner said. “Game theory is merely the study of how rational people interact when they know that their decisions impinge on each other.”

What would happen if we stop and take note of how our actions and words might impact others. Often, we appear so focused on sharing truth but seem to forget to look at the fallout from how and when we speak. How do our words and actions impinge on the lives of those around us?

Thinking back to what prompted all these thoughts, I have a Zelenskyy-like appeal for my fellow believers:

People sitting in the pews, please stand up and help! We are under attack and desperately need your assistance right now. Today is the day to live out God’s love to everyone you meet. Be more concerned about showing God’s love than you are about showing judgment. “Judgment is Mine,” says God, “not yours.”

People sleeping through church, wake up! Wake up, and close the sky over your church families. Form a shield around your vulnerable, shelter the weak and discouraged. Be God’s hands and feet so people can see His love in action and find hope.

Consider before you speak and before you act. Deliberate on the effect your words and actions have. There’s enough chaos already. Stop the fighting, and together, let’s provide the world with the antidote Jesus came to show us: God’s love.

JAY WINTERMEYER  
Gleaner editor

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PERIODICALS

## 2022 NORTHWEST CAMP MEETINGS

Camp meetings are fast approaching here in the Northwest. Not only are camp meetings a time for fellowship, but more importantly they provide a time to connect deeper with Christ and reflect on the hope and wholeness of His love, sacrifice and soon return. Consider attending a camp meeting near you this summer.

### **Alaska Conference**

**July 19-23:** Southcentral Camp Meeting at Pioneer Peak Campground

### **Idaho Conference**

**English:** June 14-18, 2022, featuring Dr. Darold Bigger Tuesday-Thursday and Shawn Boonstra Friday-Sabbath

**Spanish:** June 14-18, 2022 featuring Pastor Robert Costa All events will be held on the campus of Gem State Adventist Academy.

### **Montana Conference**

**July 6-9:** Mount Ellis Academy

### **Oregon Conference**

**July 14-16:** Campestre Hispano Oregon, Gladstone, Oregon

**July 19-23:** Gladstone Camp Meeting, Gladstone, Oregon

### **Upper Columbia Conference**

**June 16-18:** Spokane Valley Church

### **Washington Conference**

**June 4:** Hispanic Convocation (Hybrid), Green River Community College, Auburn, Washington

**Aug. 26-28:** Young Adult Convocation, Sunset Lake Camp, Wilkeson, Washington

**Sept. 2-3:** South Sound Convocation, Sunset Lake Camp, Wilkeson, Washington

**Sept. 9-10:** Peninsula Convocation, Bremerton, Washington

**Sept. 16-17:** North Peninsula Convocation, Sequim, Washington

**Oct. 7-9:** Southwest Convocation, Olympia, Washington

**Oct. 22:** Northwest Convocation, Burlington, Washington

