

# gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION



North Pacific Union  
of Seventh-day Adventists®

reaching  
**ONE**  
more

CONSTITUENCY  
REPORT 2022

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# CONSTITUENCY SESSION FACTS

With the North Pacific Union constituency session coming up Sunday, Aug. 7, 2022, here is a quick look behind the scenes.

## **How many delegates are involved in the NPUC constituency session?**

Currently, as we are about to print and publish this report, the official listing of delegates includes about 350 names. The actual number present and voting at the Aug. 7 session may be somewhat less. A delegate must be present to vote. There are no proxy options.

## **How are delegates selected?**

The majority directly represents and is proportional to local conference membership. Each conference, regardless of its size, is allowed three delegates "at large." In addition, their executive committees must elect an additional delegate for every 400 members. For instance, the Idaho Conference, with approximately 7,000 members, has three "at large" delegates plus 17 additional delegates who represent the membership formula. A majority of these delegates must be lay members without direct ties to church employment. According to the NPUC bylaws, there are also "ex-officio" delegates who represent specific institutions or groups.

## **Why is the Walla Walla University constituency session held at the same time and place?**

The university's constituency and delegates are essentially the same as the NPUC, with one small difference: the addition of WWU board members who are not already NPUC delegates. At some point during the day on Aug. 7, the NPUC session will adjourn and the WWU session will convene.

## **What do the delegates actually vote on?**

Delegates will vote on the names for executive officers (president, executive secretary and treasurer) and the three vice presidents recommended by the nominating committee. According to the NPUC constitution, only the executive officers and vice presidents are voted into office at the main constituency session. Departmental directors and their associates are selected and approved at the executive committee meeting following the session (in November this year). During lunch, delegates will be grouped by conferences to choose recommended names to be presented for a vote later in the afternoon to select the executive committee for the next five-year term. They will also vote on any changes to the bylaws and upon other legal and financial matters.

## **Is the Aug. 7 session a closed meeting, or can anyone attend?**

This is an open meeting and will be live-streamed. In order to ensure equal representation, only official delegates are allowed to participate and vote. Between now and Aug. 7, each member has an opportunity to find someone on the delegate list with whom to share opinions and concerns.

# gleaner

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2016-2020

Another North Pacific Union constituency session is just around the corner. While it is hard to believe it's been more than five years since we last gathered, much has changed since 2016. Today, our country seems more divided than ever in the wake of the polarizing events we've come through.



John Freedman  
NORTH PACIFIC UNION PRESIDENT

As a church, we have important work to do. Our mission is to reach all people within the North Pacific Union and the world with the distinctive, Christ-centered, Seventh-day Adventist message of hope and wholeness.

When we gather for our constituency session in August, we're going to do four things to help us remain focused on our mission of reaching one more. We will remember, renew, refocus and act.

Just as we will do in person, in the next few pages, I want to remember how God has led us. I want to encourage spiritual renewal and invite the Holy Spirit to continue leading us. I want to refocus our attention on the future and outline upcoming plans. And finally, as Northwest members, I want to look at the ways we can take action to continue carrying out our mission.

## OUR SPECIAL ROLE

Headquartered in Ridgefield, Washington, the NPUC facilitates the work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church throughout Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. We provide services and resources for more than 100,000 church members in more than 500 churches and companies throughout our territory, as well as 125 elementary and secondary schools, one university, eight summer camps and many community outreach ministries.

Since becoming the North Pacific Union president, I've worked with our executive committee to hone our purpose. 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.

There is power in God's unconditional love. That stands in stark contrast to how the world views power. The world has a love of power, and it is tightly grasped to control others.

Unlike the world, Jesus laid out a different example for us in the

MISSION

Our mission is to reach all people within the North Pacific Union and the world with the distinctive, Christ-centered, Seventh-day Adventist message of hope and wholeness.

VISION

As Christians looking for Jesus soon return, we will reflect His character, show His unconditional love for all people and passionately share the gospel.

PRIORITIES

1

Youth and Young Adult Involvement

2

Adventist Education Support

3

Cutting-edge Evangelism Emphasis

4

Small Conference Collaboration

5

Leadership Development

form of service. A servant's heart can harness untold power when we love the way God loves. Here at the union, our special role is to serve our six conferences in ways that enable our ministry to thrive and grow in the local church. We have placed a strong emphasis on the value of servant leadership and collaboration with our local conferences.

In our efforts to lead and collaborate, we've trimmed our operations to allocate as many resources as possible to the local conference. We've accomplished this while still fulfilling the vital duties assigned to unions in our interconnected church structure.

I'm very proud of our efficient team. Tasks like pastor and teacher credentialing, curriculum development, member and public communications, legal review and financial oversight and training are performed with excellence. We are the smallest team of any union in North America, even though we represent more members than several other unions.

REMEMBERING HIS LEADING

I'm grateful for the many ways I have seen God at work since 2016. Even though we've been through some very challenging times, remembering God's

blessings and leadership gives us the courage to move forward in faith.

In early 2020, COVID-19 thundered across the Northwest, causing one of the most dramatic ministry shifts in the past century. I was preaching evangelistic meetings at the time. It was so painful to make the decision to cancel meetings and close the church doors just when people were engaged and excited about all they were learning from the Bible.

My meetings were not the only ones affected by the pandemic. Dozens of churches were forced to shut down. Churches and schools faced significant challenges to alter their

ministries. It was a discouraging time.

Despite the radical overnight shift our churches and schools faced, God provided strength, wisdom and resilience to enable education and church community to continue. I am incredibly proud of our pastors, teachers and church leaders across the union who made heroic contributions to ensure ongoing ministry.

At the union, we quickly retooled and began regular remote meetings with conference leaders. Our staff found new ways to encourage and support those we serve. In-person training events shifted to virtual conferences. The 2020

Children's Ministries Convention, Urban Ministries Convention and several other online conferences supporting pastoral staff, provided valuable resources to our members both in English and Spanish. These virtual platforms enabled more attendees than ever to access this training.

I'm grateful we were able to partner with the North American Division to provide additional financial support to our

conferences during the pandemic.

Another pandemic blessing was the continued faithful giving by members across the Northwest. We experienced strong tithe gains despite the shutdowns. Many took greater advantage of online giving options to share their tithe and offerings with the local church and conference. Today, approximately 60% of members give online.

## A TIME OF RENEWAL

God's faithfulness and leading have been so evident. He has empowered our faith community through some very challenging times. Just like Jehoshaphat in 2 Chron. 20:21, I invite you to praise God for His enduring love and faithfulness. We have so much to be thankful for.

While I am awed by God's leading, I feel an urgency. The world, in turmoil around us, is looking for answers and meaning. Now more than ever, I feel the need to reflect God's love. A focus on Jesus and His matchless love opens our hearts to receive the anointing of the Spirit.

We desperately need the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The outpouring of God's Spirit is what will empower us to overcome the challenges our church faces as we emerge from the pandemic.

needs strong committed leadership today and tomorrow. Priority must be given to finding, equipping and mentoring young leaders.

Our work with the Growing Together initiative across the union during the past quinquennium specifically targets this vital need. It brings members of all ages together to build a thriving multi-generation church ministry team.

In addition to the Growing Together work, we're continuing to fund education opportunities at Walla Walla University for NPUC students not currently attending Adventist schools. We've already committed \$1 million for this cause with more to come.

In addition to young adult engagement and mentorship, the NPUC plans to continue working to build up the outreach efforts of our three small conferences. We began this work in Idaho with exciting results. In 2020, plans were made to begin a major evangelistic effort in Idaho in 2021. Dozens of meeting sites were selected and speakers booked.

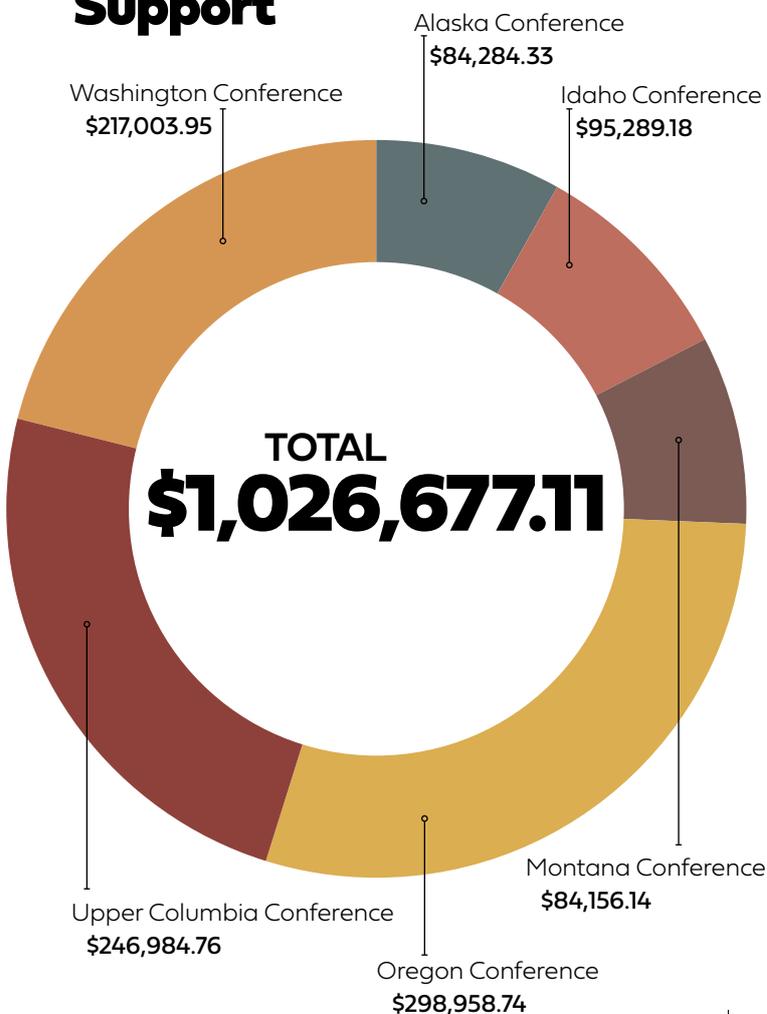
In the final days of 2021, Idaho led the union in baptisms for the year and celebrated its second-highest number of baptisms on record. This outstanding effort was successful due to the collaboration between the union and our large

## REFOCUSING ON THE FUTURE

As churches and schools find a new normal, it is vital to refocus on the future and the opportunities for outreach ahead. As we look to the future, there are several main areas the NPUC plans to prioritize.

First, we plan to continue placing priority on youth and young adult engagement. Our church

## Pandemic Conference Support



conferences. The Oregon, Upper Columbia and Washington conferences not only share a portion of their tithe to support growth in the smaller conferences, but they also have committed their evangelist teams to provide one campaign a year in each of the three conferences.

Evangelism is not the only place we're working to build and focus on the future. Every year, the NPUC works with our conference leadership to provide customized leadership development to officers, directors and pastors. We provide coaching, training and resources to equip and grow our leadership team. We've worked with the North American Division by using some of their resources as well as developing some of our own.

## ACTING THROUGH FAITH

Here's where things get real. This is where you and I talk about what's going to take our faith community beyond serving ourselves and into the realm of truly making a tangible impact for Christ.

We can make all the plans in the world, but they won't achieve any lasting results unless we're intentional. The Internet and social media have enabled people to spot fake news faster than ever before.

You know what? That's exactly what they'll see in us unless we actively seek Jesus.

Let's intentionally seek to know Jesus and reflect His love in all our interactions with others. We have to choose the things that He wants in order to be more than a hollow Christian. When we daily seek to learn about Jesus and study how He lived out God's love here on earth, that's when people will begin to notice.

Jesus said, "And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself" (John 12:32, ESV).

When people see Jesus, and when they see God's love lived out through us, that's when real power will begin to flow through the church. That's a goal worth working toward. Won't you join me?

It has been a real honor to serve you this past quinquennium. I look forward to seeing how God will lead and guide the NPUC as we move forward together in His power and might!

John Freedman, *North Pacific Union president*

## 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 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 Dec. 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*

# SECRETARIAT REPORT 2016–2020



Bill McClendon  
VICE PRESIDENT



Kristina Lopez  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

## FAST FACTS

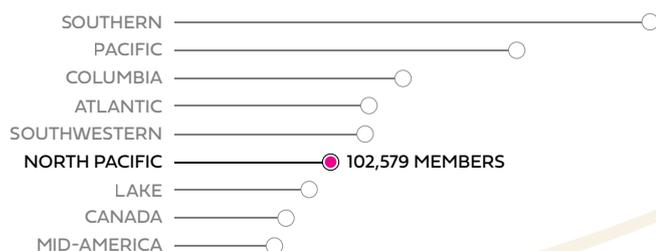
For the first time in our history, the membership of NPUC crossed the 100,000 mark in 2016. NPUC currently ranks 6th in size among the nine unions that make up the North American Division.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 experienced a net loss of membership for the first time in almost 100 years.

Six conferences make up the NPUC territory: Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Upper Columbia and Washington. Oregon is the largest conference with 36,589 members, while Alaska is the smallest with 3,870 members.

While Washington is geographically the smallest conference, it is the fastest-growing.

## RANKING OF NPUC AMONG NAD UNIONS (BASED ON MEMBERSHIP FOR 2020)



In June 2019, the NPUC hosted and helped sponsor a meeting with 13 General Conference Division Secretaries from around the world in hopes of better understanding how we are carrying out the mission in NPUC.

## SUMMARY

The secretariat office ensures smooth administrative operations of the North Pacific Union and its associated entities. The secretariat functions as the custodian of records and policies while overseeing the implementation of the executive committee actions.

The secretariat helps provide oversight of union office operations and functions; maintains and distributes official minutes, policies and resolutions of the North Pacific Union Executive Committee; and ensures that the union, its conferences and entities abide by their respective constitutions and bylaws.

In addition, our office is responsible for the maintenance of personnel records and the issuing of appropriate credentials and licenses to North Pacific Union workers and retirees.

## ATTENDANCE FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS



**MISSION**

*To provide administrative leadership, strategic planning and support to Adventist leaders throughout the North Pacific Union as we work together to reach our population with the distinctive Christ-centered message of hope and wholeness.*



Janette Remboldt  
RECEPTIONIST



Deanna Waters  
RECEPTIONIST

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**Leadership Transitions:** This quinquennium has brought an unusually large number of conference leadership transitions. The NPUC administration has worked with local executive committees and standing nominating committees to provide an efficient and smooth officer selection process to fill these vacancies.

**Leadership Development:** We have developed and performed comprehensive midterm and end of term performance evaluations for conference officers and departmental directors.

**Church Attendance:** Accurate attendance figures have been taken for 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 in all six conferences in the North Pacific Union. The total average church attendance figures on any given Sabbath for the four years combined is 39.68 percent of NPUC church membership. Due to the pandemic, we did not take church attendance in 2020.

**Union Operations:** We have made significant changes in ministry and support services throughout this quinquennium, resulting in inefficiencies that have allowed us to reduce the number of full-time employees by nearly 15%.

↓  
**39%**  
**2019**

? None was taken due to the pandemic  
**2020**

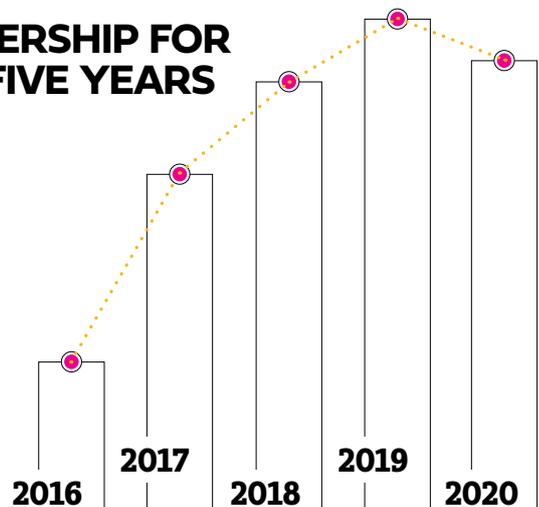
**FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES**

We have an opportunity to focus on renewing membership growth.

Attendance is waning. What are the ways we can rebuild member participation?

We must continue to focus on diversity, equity and

**MEMBERSHIP FOR LAST FIVE YEARS**



# TREASURY REPORT 2016–2020



Mark Remboldt  
CFO AND TREASURER



Robert Sundin  
UNDERTREASURER

## FAST FACTS

The North Pacific Union received a clean, unqualified audit opinion by the General Conference Auditing Service each year during this quinquennium.

From 2016–2020, a total of \$21,114,273 was given to Walla Walla University by the NPUC and its conferences.

During the past five years, \$7,656,949 was expensed and appropriated for evangelism by the Union office.

\$946,800 was given by the NPUC for Hispanic Scholarships within the K–12 educational program — a 40% increase compared from the previous five years.

Tithe received in 2016–2020 amounted to \$484,152,106. The Union office retained 9% for operations.

## SUMMARY

The Treasurer and the entire treasury department ensure that financial policies and practices of the North Pacific Union are consistent with general church guidelines and the four basic principles in Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP): cost, revenue, matching and disclosure. The treasurer provides monthly financial statements and reports to the Executive Committee members and departmental directors. Yearly budgets are developed by the treasurer and presented to various committees. The treasurer also acts as a counselor to local conference, university and academy treasurers. Department staff take care of human resource benefits and issues, personnel records, payroll and health benefits.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During the past years, we have assisted all six local conferences in the use and development of our accounting and payroll software package from the North American Division office. Annually, we conducted a treasury council for all conference treasury personnel and academy vice presidents for finance. In this setting, we have discussed changes and developments of church accounting practices and policies, and we created a forum for interactive training. The NPUC mentors its local

**MISSION**

*To be honest and accountable stewards of the funds God provides for the fulfilling of His mission through this church.*



Anne Vu  
ASSOCIATE TREASURER



Penny Ford  
ACCOUNTING CLERK



Doug Meharry  
MAINTENANCE

financial leaders in communicating financial data clearly and distinctly to its constituents.

Each month, we provide a monthly financial statement and report highlighting key indicators and provide tools for financial analysis to our executive board members and departments.

Every year, finance and audit review committees met two or more times to review current finances, audits and budgets, and to make financial recommendations to the executive board.

Despite the pandemic years (2020–2022), we maintained operations as well as office hours. Contingencies were developed in preparation for a financial downturn due to pandemic challenges. With the decline of travel and meetings, we were able to use a virtual platform for communications. This has reduced travel and meeting expenses.

Budgets have been developed and provided in a timely fashion each year and month. Participation with the development of the budget is enhanced by officers and department directors. Each department gives input regarding income and expense items for the year.

**FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES**

Additional funding is needed to help meet the growing diversity in our church. There are capital needs to update and/or provide a place of worship for our growing ethnic groups and companies. Many of our ethnic families cannot afford to send their children to Adventist schools. Changes need to be made to provide elementary and secondary education for all of our members' children.

There is a growing need to increase our funding for internships in all areas of the church. There is a decline of students wishing to enter the ministry or other church employment, such as treasury.

Capital improvements — how do we provide funding for aging physical plants, within areas of ever-increasing costs and property values?

Economics — we must prayerfully find ways to decrease expenditures without undermining essential programs and supportive services.

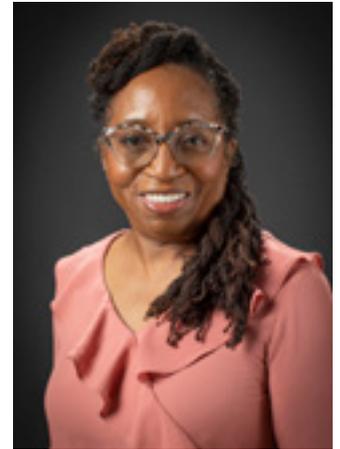
# ADVENTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES AND DISASTER RELIEF REPORT

## MISSION

*To serve the poor and hurting in Christ's name.*



Byron Dulan  
DIRECTOR



Pattric Parris  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

## FAST FACTS

More than 100 vibrant community service efforts continue to serve across the Northwest including thrift stores, food pantries and health clinics.

In the wake of growing fire activity, Oregon, Upper Columbia and Washington conferences have all been heavily involved in fire relief efforts.

The demand for ACS food aid and free health care has significantly grown following the outbreak of COVID-19.

## SUMMARY

The North Pacific Union disaster response coordinator serves as a liaison with government agencies encompassing the NPUC and responds to requests for donations management, coordinating and supporting conference ACS leaders and volunteers activated to disasters. They also organize annual advisories of conference ACS Disaster Response directors and North American Division leadership, including training events for ACS DR volunteers. They support relationships with Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster Response and government agencies. The NPUC DR coordinator is a volunteer who is given an expense budget by the NPUC to support training events and travel expenses.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Fire relief efforts continued across the Northwest.

Flood response provided aid to affected communities.

Disaster drills helped communities and organizations build preparedness.

ACS Training equipped volunteers to respond appropriately when needed.

Government relations efforts continue to pave the way to help in times of crisis.

## FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

**Increasing disasters** — more disasters are occurring on a regular basis. There is more need than ever before for our relief efforts.

**Preparedness** — we must be ready to relieve suffering from disasters whenever and wherever they happen. Personal, family, community and institutional preparedness requires a plan, trained personnel, equipment and resources.

## OUR TEAM

Byron Dulan, ACS director

Larry D. Mays, NPUC disaster relief coordinator

Pattric Parris, ACS administrative assistant

# ASSOCIATION REPORT 2016-2020

## MISSION

*To provide funds to purchase, build, expand or renovate the facilities in our Union so that people in the North Pacific Union can be reached with the distinctive, Christ-centered, Seventh-day Adventist message of hope and wholeness.*

## FAST FACTS

Manage approximately 100 loans totaling approximately \$25 million.

Manage approximately 500 depository accounts totaling approximately \$40 million.

Loan amounts have ranged from \$6,000 to \$2.57 million.

Over half of the depository funds have come from churches, conferences and schools.

The Revolving Fund opened in January 1978.

## SUMMARY

We are a depository for North Pacific Union's members, churches and institutions who have entrusted us as an investment vehicle. In return, they receive interest on their funds on a quarterly basis. They have deposited these funds with us so that church-related entities can borrow funding to purchase, build, expand or renovate their facilities.

We provide these funds to the church-related entities at competitive rates but without the collateral that a commercial institution might require. To compensate for that collateral, each conference guarantees the payment of the loans within their conference should the church-related entity default on their loan. It is called a Revolving Fund because once loans are paid off, these funds are then available to loan out again.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Transferred the administration of our Trusts to Western Adventist Foundation as of January, 2020. With this transfer and retirements and relocations, staffing has been reduced in the department.

Initiated the availability of paperless statements for both loans and deposit accounts for those that choose to receive them that way.

Changed our investment advisor to a local firm.



Jay Graham  
DIRECTOR



Debbie Morauske  
ACCOUNTING CLERK

Mandated all new loans to entities, as of 2018, to be paid via ACH. Encouraged pre-2018 loan holders to sign up for ACH payments as well. Currently, approximately 65% of loans are paid via ACH monthly.

Encouraged depositors to receive their quarterly interest payments via direct deposit. This resulted in approximately 93% of quarterly interest payments paid to depositors via direct deposit.

Loaned over \$14.6 million to churches, conferences and schools within the North Pacific Union.

## FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Investing non-loaned funds to get the highest possible returns while still following investment policy the guidelines.

Managing the balance between loans and deposits to avoid too many excess deposits while still having enough to service loan requests as needed.

Signing up more loan holders to remit their monthly payments via ACH.

Getting more account holders to go to paperless statements.

# COMMUNICATION REPORT

## MISSION

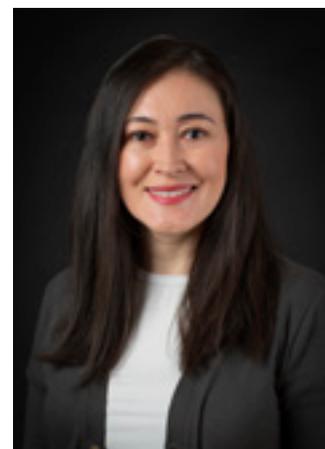


Jay Wintermeyer  
DIRECTOR

*To foster a sense of Northwest church community among members and provide support to conferences in helping members share their stories of Adventist message and mission.*



Anthony White  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR



Sandra Osorio  
ADVERTISING CLERK  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

## FAST FACTS

More than 14.2 million pages are printed and mailed each year to provide the *Gleaner* to Northwest Adventist homes.

During 2016–2020, the *Gleaner* received national recognition from sister organizations for excellence in content and design.

Adventist media touches more than 250,000 listeners/viewers each week in the Northwest.

## SUMMARY

North Pacific Union communication personnel are focused partners with local conference colleagues in “telling the story” of Northwest Adventists in action to members and the public through print, broadcast, video and social media.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Websites** — [nwadventists.com](http://nwadventists.com) has pioneered regularly updated news, articles and opportunities for Northwest member interaction.

**Newsletters** — the weekly NPUC newsletter more than doubled its subscriptions in 2020. Additionally, we worked with two conferences to start producing regular digital newsletters.

**Enhanced content** — a redesign and rebrand of the print and online *Gleaner* format in 2020 has allowed for more immediate online stories, expanded perspective articles and visual appeal in print.

**Active social media** — member stories, conference events, world church news and daily Bible verse posts make up the vibrant active Facebook, Instagram and Twitter feeds. Social media is a key component of the publishing plan.

**Central information source** — the NPUC and *Northwest Adventists* websites have provided a common point for immediate information — to the farthest reaches of Alaska or Montana and around the world.

## FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

**Member connections** — we have an opportunity to improve how our publishing channels connect Adventists of differing ages with the church’s mission.

**Online updates** — the NPUC and *Northwest Adventists* websites must be regularly updated to remain on the cutting edge of effective online communication and 24/7 mobile access technology.

**Public awareness** — we must find more productive ways of connecting our church’s mission to meet the real needs within our Northwest communities — sharing these partnerships effectively.

# CREATION STUDY CENTER REPORT

## MISSION

*To promote aspects of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's mission of sharing our Christ-centered hope that pertain to origins and God's ultimate purpose in creating and saving the world.*

## FAST FACTS

No other union conference has such a resource.

This department regularly visits more churches and schools than any other NPUC department.

The museum contains a number of world-class fossils and mineral specimens, like a giant camarasaurus leg bone, as well as a leg bone of an adult mammoth.

We sponsor teachers and students annually to participate in a "DinoDig" where they are able to excavate dinosaur bones in one of the richest fossil beds in the world.

We have distributed books and videos on creationism to every pastor in the NPUC.

## SUMMARY

We provide resources to churches, schools, pastors, teachers and laymen that support a Biblical view of creation, contrasted to the hopeless and speculative nature of the theory of evolution. The resources include a hands-on museum, videos and a website, as well as in-person presentations meant to share scientific and scriptural support for the Genesis account.

Specifically, we offer tours of the museum, videos and books that can be checked out, articles on related subjects via the website and physical samples of minerals and fossils that are given out to school children. Plus, Stan Hudson goes to churches for creation seminars and to schools for weeks of prayer that are focused on creation. This is done in the territory of the North Pacific Union.



Stan Hudson  
DIRECTOR



Marella Rudebaugh  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Constructed and furnished the creation museum.

Produced and distributed a creation lecture series on DVD to every NPUC pastor.

Raised grant money for the production of an advanced website: [creationstudycenter.com](http://creationstudycenter.com).

Joined forces and funding with the Geoscience Research Institute to operate a huge booth at the Oshkosh Pathfinder Camporee, educating over one thousand visitors on creation; we also taught hundreds of Pathfinders honors in geology, rocks, meteorites, the Biblical flood and more.

Began work on the first Adventist-produced for-Adventist churches origins seminar, complete with PowerPoint slides, full scripts, instructions and videos of interviews with experts.

## FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Continuing and expanding resource production as science discoveries develop.

Replacing Stan Hudson as he retires/or reduces his involvement.

# EDUCATION REPORT

## MISSION

*Adventist education is an essential partner in ministry to bring Faith, Hope and Wholeness to students and families of the North Pacific Union. Educators lead students to encounter Jesus, find evidence for faith, engage the distinctive Adventist worldview for life and experience excellence in learning.*



Dennis Plubell  
VICE PRESIDENT



Becky Meharry  
ELEMENTARY DIRECTOR



Keith Waters  
SECONDARY DIRECTOR



Carissa Carr  
EARLY CHILDHOOD  
EDUCATION COORDINATOR



Debbie Hendrickson  
REGISTRAR

## FAST FACTS

6,608 students were reported in the opening K–12 enrollment for last school year (2021–2022), the highest student enrollment in twelve years (since 2009).

731 children on average over the last five years have been educated and cared for in 41 NPUC Early Childhood programs/centers.

524 educators have NAD Educator certificates issued/maintained by the NPUC Office of Education Registrar.

70% increase in funding for teacher affirmation and appreciation activities was provided during the last two pandemic school years.

\$1.12 million is provided in direct operating subsidies to senior academies and small remote schools annually in an NPUC-unique funding program.

## SUMMARY

Churches provide the place (school facilities), and the conference employs personnel and oversees program administration for all Adventist schools. Our NPUC team of educational leaders collaborates with conference and school leaders to ensure that:

We lead curriculum development committees and provide funding (grants and matching funds) for the adoption of learning materials that support instruction embedded in an Adventist Christian worldview.

Coherent policies are developed and maintained to effectively guide the programs and operations of Northwest Adventist schools.

We lead, facilitate and/or participate in school accreditation visits (program accountability). We

manage all aspects of the denominational educator certification program (personnel accountability).

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Provided guidance and support for the recognition of the first senior academy in the Alaska Conference, Amazing Grace Academy (K–12) in Palmer, Alaska.

Led in the training and implementation of the new *ENCOUNTER* Bible course curriculum across all grades K–12.

Facilitated the adoption, training and implementation of a new annual student assessment program.

Supported a teacher coaching program and established curriculum coaching to assist in the implementation of a standards-referenced learning program.

Reviewed, revised and updated the complete NPUC *Education Code* (updated for the first time in 30 years).

Introduced CoreStrengths assessment and training and other leadership programs for conference and school administrators.

Implemented a completely digital school accreditation protocol and reporting process across all schools.

## FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Increasing government intrusion into operations via health/safety and employment regulations/statutes.

Responding to a chaotic educational landscape that is requiring more of teachers' personal, social-emotional and spiritual reserves.

Clearly communicating the value proposition of Adventist education to Millennial and GenX parents.

# FAMILY LIFE AND MEN'S MINISTRIES REPORT

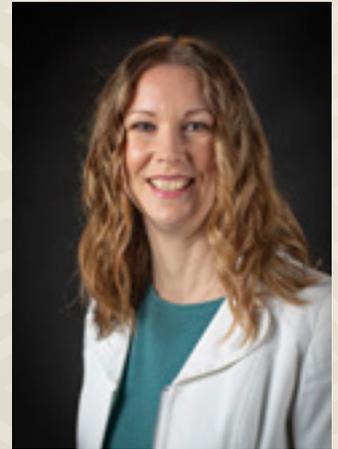
**MISSION** *To provide resources, training and networking opportunities to foment healthy, hope-filled and mission-focused families in our North Pacific territory.*



César De León  
DIRECTOR



Carolann De León  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR



Marella Rudebaugh  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

## FAST FACTS

Research by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows one in five Americans was sexually molested as a child; one in four was beaten by a parent to the point that a mark was left on their body; one in three couples engage in physical violence; a quarter of Americans grew up with alcoholic relatives; one of eight witnessed their mother being beaten or hit.

Parents exhibiting emotionally-healthy spiritual lives are more successful at raising mentally, emotionally and spiritually healthy children who will remain rooted in Christ when they transition into adulthood and begin their own families.

Empowering parents to become mission-focused disciples will change the way they live out their marriages and the way they parent and disciple their own children.

## SUMMARY

Through intentional planning, training and relevant resources, we strive to empower conference Family Life & Men's Ministry directors as they coach and empower local church-appointed Family Ministry & Men's Ministry directors to provide resources for parents and families in church and community in areas of emotionally healthy parenting that results in mission-focused parents, children and families sharing Christ's Good News Gospel.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Family evangelism** — *Christ on Display* seminars have been presented around the NPUC to train and empower parents to intentionally disciple their children into a transformational relationship with Jesus.

**Men's ministry leaders training** — the first NPUC Men's Ministry Leaders Training Weekend has been scheduled to empower men from the ages of 18–99 to better reflect Christ in their roles as sons, husbands, fathers and grandfathers.

**Coaching and mentoring to ministry couples and families** — when emotionally broken spiritual leaders (professional and lay) seek emotional and spiritual healing, they are better prepared to effectively disciple their own family, their church and the families in their community.

## FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Appoint mission-focused, family life and men's ministry leaders in all six NPUC conferences.

Provide on-demand training and resources to our conference Family Life & Men's leaders.

# GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT

## MISSION

*To provide effective and ongoing access to legal counsel to church leadership at the NPUC, conference and local church/school levels and to minimize legal risks and distractions in order to permit the church to actively focus on fulfilling its mission.*

## FAST FACTS

The NPUC Office of General Counsel provides guidance and support to the NPUC as well as the six conferences in the territory for compliance with federal, state and local laws and denominational policies.

Topic areas include: COVID-related regulations, private education, contracts, disability accommodation, employment matters and premises liability.

## WHO IS ANDRÉ WANG?

Wang has served as NPUC General Counsel since 2015.

He is an alumnus of Portland Adventist Elementary School, Auburn Academy and Pacific Union College.

He is principal second violinist of the Sunnyside Symphony Orchestra at Sunnyside Church in Portland Oregon.

He is an adjunct instructor at Walla Walla University and Mt. Hood Community College teaching education law and business law, respectively.

## SUMMARY

The NPUC Office of General Counsel provides guidance with the overall goal of minimizing legal exposure and liability. It supplies a unique and valuable perspective because of its close association and understanding of the structure and operation of the church.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**COVID Response** — Daily COVID briefings with leaders and administrators at the height of the pandemic to advise on latest restrictions, regulations and mandates relating to churches and schools.

**Human Resources Support** — Assembled an advisory team comprised of the HR directors of the local conferences to navigate complicated employment rules and workplace regulations.

**Government Relations** — Established connections with government officials and staff and brought voice to the interests of the Adventist Church in the northwest.



André Wang  
GENERAL COUNSEL

**Communication Updates** — Regular communiqués to conference leaders and *Gleaner* articles to church membership on issues of legal importance.

**Risk and Liability Assessment** — Assisted local administrators, pastors and principals in finding the proper balance between legal compliance and advancing ministry in their churches and schools.

## FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

**Monitoring COVID Regulations and Mandates** — The rules are constantly changing and are unique to every county and from state to state.

**Monitoring Court Decisions** — Courts in each state, as well as federal courts, issue rulings that impact churches and private schools.

**Engaging Government Agencies** — Maintaining connections with elected officials and agency directors.

**Emerging Legal Issues** — Staying current of legal developments in the areas of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Title VII religious exemptions, and growing liability exposure for churches and schools.

# HISPANIC MINISTRIES REPORT

**MISSION** *To support local conferences and their Hispanic pastors in fulfilling the Great Commission of Jesus Christ.*



César De León  
VICE PRESIDENT



Carolann De León  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

## FAST FACTS

There are 105 Hispanic churches & companies being served by 40 Hispanic pastors.

Provided evangelistic appropriations for the Hispanic work in the amount of \$200,000.

Hispanic Capital Funding has assisted several churches in acquiring and remodeling church buildings in the amount of \$310,000.

## SUMMARY

Our department works directly with our Hispanic conference directors to coordinate, consult, assist and provide resources for mission-focused ministry programs.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Baptisms** — membership grew from 12,456 to 15,271 in this quinquennium, with 2,815 baptisms during this period. Presently, Hispanic members represent 15.3% of the NPUC membership.

**New Work** — 26 new companies and churches were established.

**Real Estate** — seven church buildings were purchased with the assistance of the union capital funds.

## BAPTISMS

2016.....	13,731
2017.....	14,257
2018.....	14,627
2019.....	15,144
2020.....	15,271

## NEW TOTAL GROUPS CHURCHES

<b>Alaska</b>	0	1
<b>Idaho</b>	3	10
<b>Oregon</b>	7	34
<b>UCC</b>	6	34
<b>WA</b>	10	26

**Stewardship** — tithe grew to \$4,784,400.08 in the last five years.

**Marriage Retreat** — a marriage retreat took place in Portland with 225 couples in attendance.

**Advisory** — aided conferences in vetting and hiring pastors and church workers — mentorship and counseling was provided.

## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Plant 40 new churches in the next five years.

Increase by 50% lay participation in preaching, training and baptisms.

Purchase 10 new church buildings.

## FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

**Purchase of buildings** — acquire resources to purchase new places of worship.

**Adventist education** — identify resources to facilitate Christian education for children and young people.

**Mission focused disciples** — implement practical methods to train and equip mission-focused pastors and laity.

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT

## MISSION

*To Facilitate Christ-centered ministry*



Loren Bordeaux  
DIRECTOR



Daniel Cates  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR



Tami Edwards  
SUPPORT SPECIALIST

## FAST FACTS

### Teams and Zoom Meetings

Average number of monthly online meetings — 370\*

Average monthly total attendee meeting minutes — 160,000\*

Attendee client systems — 50% Windows, 19% Mac, 15% iOS, 8% Android, remaining other

\* Estimated meetings from all North Pacific union and conference offices based on actual numbers from a portion of North Pacific offices. Does not include meetings hosted by local churches or schools.

## SUMMARY

It has been a quinquennium of surprises, challenges and opportunities. Clearly, the COVID-19 pandemic caused everyone's life to change in profound ways and gave everyone a chance to exercise their prayer life even more. So, too, for those in the IT department. Within one week, in March 2020, all Northwest conference offices went from being fully open to fully closed due to the pandemic. Normally, about 50 percent of an office's staff has a portable computer and can work remotely, but the other 50 percent needed a solution, and fast. With God's help, the IT staff went above and beyond, and with the staff's patience, all NPUC workers supported by IT were soon able to work remotely. While

the pandemic was an obvious elephant in the room over the last two years, it has not been the only elephant that needed our attention. Thankfully, with much prayer and perseverance, the NPUC and our Northwest offices are pushing forward in spreading The Good News of a loving Savior who will soon return.

## THANKFUL FOR

Resources to deploy over 115 new staff computers throughout the North Pacific Union territory.

New internet connectivity solution for Big Lake Youth Camp.

Opportunity to serve the technology needs of NPUC and area conferences.

## PRAY FOR

Cybersecurity wisdom for all staff.

Resources to replace aging IT infrastructure (servers, wired/wireless network hardware, phone system, etc.).

Our schools — especially small schools — finding a way to help them manage the technology they need to prepare students for service in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

# MINISTERIAL REPORT

**MISSION** *The NPUC ministerial department is committed to encouraging and empowering mission-focused, member-equipping leaders and pastors.*



César De León  
DIRECTOR



Carolann De León  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR



Marella Rudebaugh  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

## FAST FACTS

There are 349 pastors in six conferences tending to a membership that spreads through five states and six conferences.

Ministry modality has shifted from pulpit dependence to the establishment of organic relationships in search of meaningful spirituality.

People are seeking spiritual development in many other places beyond our churches.

## SUMMARY

The North Pacific Union facilitates the professional and spiritual growth of our ministerial directors, pastors, evangelists, Bible workers and their families. It also helps implement the NAD Seven Core Ministerial Qualities: Leadership, relationship, worship, character, evangelism, scholarship and management.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Leadership development** — assisted conference counterparts in designing and conducting continuing education programs and events for pastors, including the support and promotion of the Andrews University off-campus intensives, held at our NPUC office, for the educational advancement of ministerial workers through the MAPM degree (in both Spanish and English).

**Partnership with WWU** — the ministerial department collaborated and financially assisted Walla Walla University School of Theology and worked closely with professors to coordinate the functions and training for the junior class internship program.

**Summer ministerial internship** — establishment of a summer ministerial internship program for WWU theology students, exposing them to 10 weeks of ministry mentorship and hands-on experiences in the areas of church administration, church liturgies, youth programming and soul-winning.

**Ministerial retreats** — facilitated training and continuing education for conference ministerial directors, evangelism directors and evangelists during the annual Ministerial Networking Retreat. This retreat facilitates interfacing experiences of several conference departments and administrators.

## FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

**Emotionally healthy spirituality** — it is critical that we assist and empower our pastors to stay mentally healthy and spiritually strong as they face the post-pandemic lethargic condition of many and the drastic decline in regular church attendance.

# NATIVE MINISTRIES REPORT

## MISSION

*To bring the gospel of hope and wholeness to our Native American people throughout the North Pacific Union and in collaboration with our constituent conferences and the North American Division Native Ministry Council.*

## FAST FACTS

Each conference in the NPUC is now giving attention to Native people groups within its territory.

In addition to the 17 Native church groups, focus is being given to planting two more groups, one in Dutch Harbor, Alaska, and one on the Warm Springs Reservation near Madras, Oregon.

We now have three full-time active Native workers, two are in Alaska and one in Oregon.

We have developed a Voice of Prophecy correspondence Bible school with a husband and wife team in Minnesota. They are averaging 70 Bible Studies per week.

We are more than halfway to reaching our goal of producing a 26 DVD discipleship Bible study series called *Native New Life*. These are seen not only in the NW, but across the North American Division and in many places around the world (Australia, Ukraine, Mongolia, China, Germany, France and now in Africa).

## SUMMARY

We oversee 17 Native congregations/church groups involved in ministry to Native people.

We collaborate with NPUC conferences and the North American Division in finding, recommending and training workers for Native villages/reservations.

We hold cross-cultural training seminars for possible workers and churches interested in Native ministry.

We promote outreach among Native people and develop resources for workers to use in their ministry.



Steve Huey  
DIRECTOR



Marella Rudebaugh  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Conducted ministry/cross-cultural seminars.

Established a relationship with ARISE Bible training program to enable interested long-distance workers to take the ARISE course online to strengthen our workers' ministries.

Partnered with Adventist Frontier Missions to reach the Assiniboine and Sioux Nations in Poplar, Montana.

Held an annual leadership weekend for Native ministry workers in Alaska.

Nine Native camp meetings throughout the Northwest territory are held each year.

Began filming a new DVD series called *Native New Life*. This series focuses on how to live a vibrant life daily with Christ.

## FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

There are deep cultural misunderstandings between White Americans and Native Americans.

While we have a presence in 11 of the 220 Native villages in Alaska, we have plans to reach additional villages. We need willing members as well as financial gifts.

We need more trained Native pastors.

There are 49 federally recognized reservations with an Adventist presence in only 12 of them.

# PUBLIC AFFAIRS & RELIGIOUS LIBERTY REPORT

## MISSION

*To champion the constitutional guarantee of religious freedom for all people of faith in its government relations and workplace mediation services.*

## FAST FACTS

Established in 1906, the Northwest Religious Liberty Association (NRLA) serves as the office of Public Affairs & Religious Liberty for the NPUC, and is the oldest religious freedom advocacy organization in the northwest.

NRLA works in the areas of legislative, civic, judicial, academic, interfaith and corporate arenas on behalf of the church and all people and institutions of faith.

Since the last constituency session (September 2016), NRLA has mediated and/or advocated on behalf of 492 individuals in the corporate workplace and other public venues.

## SUMMARY

The North Pacific Union continues to champion the principles of religious liberty in the public arena as a ministry for its members and to all people of faith. The NRLA provides legislative advocacy as well as legal guidance, mediation, advocacy and referral services in the workplace, home, schools, prisons and military. It provides noncombatant letters connected to United States naturalization applications.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Mediation cases** — workplace issues, Sabbath accommodation, labor unions, US citizenship, prison and school sports.

**Government relations** — federal, state, county and municipal levels, with legislative advocacy among our team of capitol pastors.



André Wang  
DIRECTOR

**Educational advocacy** — preaching assignments and presentations to churches, camp meetings, civic groups, academic symposiums and radio/podcast appearances.

**Liberty campaign** — subscription processing, mailing, donor letters and fundraising.

## FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

**Government overreach** — monitoring and, when necessary, advocating on matters impacting the church and its members.

**Executive actions and judicial decisions** — monitoring regulatory actions and court rulings in the five states within the NPUC territory.

**Engaging government agencies** — maintaining connections with elected officials and agency directors.

# REGIONAL MINISTRIES REPORT

## MISSION

*To reach all peoples with the Adventist message of hope and wholeness.*



Byron Dulan  
VICE PRESIDENT



Pattric Parris  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

## FAST FACTS

Churches and groups .....	11
Membership .....	3018
Pastors (full and part-time) .....	10
K-12 teachers .....	6

## FOCUS

African Americans, African diaspora and any who can benefit from ministries by regional churches.

## DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

With the collaboration of pastors, lay leaders, conference and union leaders, several targeted organizational changes and programmatic initiatives have been instituted to support new growth and stop membership decline.

The union regional advisory committee (which meets twice yearly) is composed of representatives from each conference and includes gender and cultural diversity and persons representing important institutions such as K-12 education, Walla Walla University and Adventist Health, as well as auxiliary organizations such as the Northwest Adventist african american local elders federation and Daughters of Zion.

Local conference regional advisory committees are active in the larger conferences.

Regional growth funding is available to conferences that have regional churches.

A union-wide strategic plan has been developed, highlighting 5 elements: major reaping evangelistic meetings, church planting, congregational revitalization, church building (construction) and K-12 education.

## ACTIVITIES

Major reaping evangelism scheduled for the Seattle and Portland 2022-2023.

Fall 2021, local church reaping evangelism involving 6 churches netted 24 baptisms.

COVID response activities: community food distribution increased at churches in Seattle and Tacoma, Washington and Portland, Oregon. Seattle churches hosted vaccination and testing activities.

Church plants in progress, now or in the near future: Seattle Ghanaian; Missoula community; Walla Walla Valley; Ethiopian Oromo Group and Boise, Idaho.

A weekend youth ministry spiritual revival was held with 72 youth and leaders in attendance.

## FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Growing four church plants to church status and completing two new church buildings.

Growing the Regional Development fund and the initiatives it supports.

Recruiting more Black students and teachers to Adventist K-12 schools.

Building connection and engagement with young adults in our colleges and churches.

Support over 100 Northwest youth to attend the West Coast Youth Conference.

# URBAN MINISTRIES CONSTITUENCY REPORT

## HISTORY

Urban Ministry is not really a new player in the arsenal of Adventist ministries in the North American Division. It was practiced and prevalent in the early 20th century in cities such as Chicago, New York and San Francisco. However, its emphasis diminished until a brief revival in the 1970s and now is defined as "Inner-City Ministries." That emphasis also petered out again. Today, we seek to renew the Adventist mission for, to and within cities where a majority of the American population resides.

## DEFINITION

Urban Ministry is not easily understood because it is much broader than work within the geography of a municipality. In North America, urban ministry inculcates practically everyone and everything, because "urbanity" influences everyone regardless of geography. Anyone who operates a computer or cell phone is influenced by elements of urban life. Urban ministry attempts to understand and address, with the love of Jesus, the needs of people suffering under these complications. The urban context itself presents a whole new series of missional challenges that Adventism did not face until relatively recently. With the majority of Americans living in cities, or at least heavily influenced by urban life, it makes sense that the church would focus on urban ministry as a means of fulfilling its mission to share the everlasting gospel of God's love to every nation, kindred, tongue and people.

## CURRENT PROGRAM

The NPUC office of Urban Ministry began in 2019, and has been engaged in the following activities:

Educating church, conference and union leaders regarding the opportunities and challenges of urban ministry.

Organized and implemented the NPUC Urban Ministries Convention, held virtually Sept. 16-18, 2021, offering dynamic speaker presentations and 35 breakout seminars, including tracks on ACS, Children's Ministry, Conscience and Social Justice, Disaster Response, Health Ministries, Prison Ministries, Thrift Ministries and Urban Ministries. Presentations may be found at [npuc.org](http://npuc.org).



Byron Dulan  
DIRECTOR



Pattric Parris  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Supporting Urban Ministry initiatives such as:

**Renew Spokane:** A GC/NAD/NPUC/Upper Columbia Conference financed a pilot collaboration of innovative and effective ministries in the Spokane, Washington area. Its purpose is to create a collective sphere of influence to meet the needs of disadvantaged families, share the true love and image of Jesus and collaborate in planting churches in areas where there is minimal or no Adventist presence.

**HOPE House:** A transitional housing facility in Tacoma, Washington is for "returning citizens" who have been incarcerated in the prison system. See the Prison Ministry Report for more information on this endeavor.

## FUTURE PLANS

Foster greater cooperation, collaboration and coordination between Adventist entities.

Re-educate Adventist churches and members regarding the overwhelming admonition and support for urban ministry found in Scripture and Ellen White's writings.

Design and convene an Urban Ministry Immersion Experience for young adults.

# WOMEN'S MINISTRIES REPORT

## MISSION

*To model Jesus Christ in our sphere of influence through meaningful relationships and effective ministries.*



Sue Patzer  
DIRECTOR

## VISION

To see pew "warmers" become pew "fillers."

What a privilege it is to serve as a "liaison" for women's ministry in the North Pacific Union. I remember way back to the late 1980s when women's ministry was not a department of the GC, NAD, unions or conferences. I remember when a group of Northwest women (Ruthie Jacobson, Ginny Allen, Barbara Nelson, ...), concerned by the direction of the feminist movement, prayerfully considered the ways in which God's desire for women could be supported by the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

That was the beginning, a *grassroots* movement that quickly spread throughout the NPUC, then eastward. Eventually, women's ministry had roots around the globe. It is now a department at the General Conference, in every division, each union and every conference around the world. But the action is still where it has always been: *at the grassroots*. Its purpose was, and still is, to call women — especially those who have not yet put their spiritual gifts to use — to rise out of their comfort zones and become "pew fillers" instead of "pew warmers." In women's ministry, there is a *ministry for EVERY woman*, and I am honored and blessed to serve with them.

## NPUC WOMEN'S MINISTRIES OBJECTIVES CONTINUE TO

Provide opportunities for women to deepen their faith through spiritual growth and renewal.

Address concerns unique to women.

Provide servant-leadership lifestyle training to inspire women to recognize their spiritual gifts.

Promote and provide service opportunities.

Mentor young women.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Small group Bible studies, conference and church spiritual retreats, women's Sabbath School classes and an annual women's devotional book.

Annual Summit on Abuse, seminars targeting specific needs (i.e. single moms, widows, women's health, etc.).

Retreats, local church activities, support of deaf women's

ministries, NAD, NPUC and conference women's ministry websites.

Leadership workshops, directors' advisories, NAD ministries convention and NAD women's ministry convention.

Camp meeting "God in Shoes" activities, retreat outreach opportunities and community-impact opportunities.

*Gorgeous2God* Instagram & Facebook pages, young women's retreats, Adventist university scholarship program.

## FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

COVID-19 has given us an opportunity to grow in ways we did not foresee. Virtual seminars and retreats have allowed us to reach far beyond our NW borders, and the numbers of "attendees" have far surpassed expectations.

Sadly, there are still small voices who believe that women's ministry is all about tea parties, dividing families, ordaining women, husband-bashing or belaboring the woes of the woman's plight. They have not yet recognized the beauty in seeing a woman finally "get" that she was created in God's image, and to be like Him is to live a lifestyle of servant-leadership, as Christ did. We want to continue to inspire, educate and motivate!

More can be done to mentor and involve young women. We will continue to broaden our focus.

# YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES REPORT

## MISSION

*Our mission is to disciple our young people to the love of Jesus in order for them to reach people within the North Pacific Union and the world with the distinctive, Christ-centered, Seventh-day Adventist message of hope and wholeness."*

## FAST FACTS

- 3,500+ campers served each year at six ACA accredited camps across the Northwest.
- 2,500+ Pathfinders and staff attended the 2019 Oshkosh Pathfinder Camporee.
- 100+ churches are involved in Growing Together.
- Annual NPUC Leadership and Discipleship Summit trains and equips young people.
- Three Northwest summer camps offer DiscipleTrek spiritual training programs.

## SUMMARY

The scope of work is to provide support, training, leadership and inspiration to the following ministries throughout our territory: Children’s Ministries, Adventurer Ministries, Pathfinder Ministries, Teen Leadership Training, Master Guide Ministries, Sabbath School, Youth Ministries, Camp Ministries, Young Adult Ministries, Public Campus Ministries – Adventist Christian Fellowships, National Serviceman’s Organization and Growing Together Cohorts for churches.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- DiscipleTrek
- Sabbath School Training
- Children’s Ministries Convention
- Adventurer training and club growth
- Pathfinder training and club expansion
- Growing Together



Rob Lang  
DIRECTOR



Velvet Lang  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

## FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

- Engaging churches in the Growing Together cohort learning journey to bring about positive Christ centered culture change for all generations.
- To engage young adults in the life and mission of the church.
- Focusing on intentionally fulfilling the Gospel commission of discipleship by collaborative efforts in all ministries and developing discipleship opportunities for deeper growth to fill gaps — example DiscipleTrek.
- Adapting and thriving in the midst of COVID losses while rebuilding ministries that have fragmented.
- Developing thriving youth Sabbath schools.
- Establishing more Adventist Christian Fellowships to support and disciple Adventists who are attending secular universities in our territory.

# AUDITORS EXPLAINED

Every Northwest Adventist institution has an obligation to carry out its mission with an honest regard for financial accountability. Part of that accountability comes in the form of regular audits of financial records — many of which are done by the staff from the regional office of the General Conference Auditing Services. Here's a quick overview of the typical auditing process and why it matters.

## ***What are the main duties of an auditor who audits the finances of a church/school or conference?***

The auditors' main responsibility is to report whether church entities (academies, Adventist Book Centers, conferences, the union, etc.) have prepared their financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and complied with denominational policies. Auditors examine the financial records of each organization and determine if their financial statements are compliant. In addition, they perform a review of core policies. These are a specific list of financial policies compiled by the General Conference and adopted by the North American Division. Each church entity is required to follow the working policies of the church/NAD.

Once GCAS has completed their work, they issue a report to that institution's operating board on whether its financial statements are presented fairly and if they comply with generally accepted accounting principles as accepted by the denomination. They also include a report on their evaluation of the organization's internal controls.

The GCAS only audits institutions that are included in the *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook*. Local churches, junior academies and elementary schools have reviews done by the local conference.

## ***What limitations or guarantees do audits provide?***

Even though GCAS auditors are employed by and perform their duties on behalf of the General Conference, their work is performed in accordance with the same standards as if they were in public practice.

## ***What does a typical school or conference audit NOT do?***

A financial audit does not make a final determination on whether an organization is financially healthy, although they do evaluate whether the organization will be able to operate at least 12 months after the end of the fiscal year. The goal of the audit is to ensure that the financial statements are fairly, accurately and honestly stated so the organization's management and governing board can make informed decisions regarding its direction.

## ***What specific kinds of anomalies do auditors watch for?***

Auditors look carefully at the internal controls of the organization. Does the provided documentation adequately support the record of balances and transactions in the financial statements? Or are there gaps in that documentation that leave the records open to question?

## ***What process is in place to deal with fraud if it is found by a GCAS auditor?***

Fraud is not a common occurrence in GCAS audit work; however, it does unfortunately happen at times. If fraud is discovered or suspected, the auditor will discuss the findings with their regional manager. Then the issue will be discussed with the officers of the organization and, depending on the nature of the item, the next higher organization. GCAS will also include this in their report to the local organization's board. It is up to the management and/or the board to determine the actions the organization will take.

## ***What does an audit cost? Who pays for the school or conference audits?***

The NAD pays for 50 percent of the cost of the audit. Within the Northwest, the North Pacific Union pays 25 percent, and the remaining 25 percent is passed on to the local conference where the audited institution is based. GCAS billing structure is on a cost-recovery basis. They have no profit margin based into their rates. Their goal is to provide excellent audit services to the Seventh-day Adventist Church at the best value possible.

## ***How often are institutional audits performed?***

GCAS performs a financial audit for each organization on their list annually. They also do a review of each local conference trust program once every three years. So, each year they generally have 26 financial audits and a couple of conference trust reviews.

# THE SELECTION PROCESS

## ARTICLE VII OF THE NORTH PACIFIC UNION BYLAWS POINTS OUT THAT THE VOTING DELEGATES AT ANY REGULAR OR SPECIAL CONSTITUENCY MEETING OF THIS UNION SHALL BE:

a. Appointed delegates which shall represent the local conferences within the NPUC territory. Each local conference shall be entitled to three delegates without regard to conference membership and one additional delegate for each 400 church members or major fraction thereof, based on its membership on the last day of the third full calendar quarter preceding the constituency meeting. No less than 50 percent of the delegates in this category shall be individuals other than active or retired church pastors, officers, department directors, associate or assistant department directors of General Conference, division, union or local conferences. Delegates shall be selected in a manner determined by each local conference executive committee unless otherwise specified by the local conference constitution.

b. The following ex-officio and other delegates.

- » The individual members of the executive committee of this union.
- » The individual members of the General Conference executive committee who may be present at any constituency meeting of this union. The number of such delegates representing the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists shall not exceed 5 percent of the total number of appointed delegates provided for herein above in Section 2.a. of article VIII.
- » The Vice President for Academic Affairs, the chairman of the School of Theology of Walla Walla University, plus three additional delegates selected by and representing the faculty and staff of Walla Walla University, and two additional delegates selected by and representing the students of Walla Walla University. The student delegates shall hold membership in one of the churches within this territory.
- » Two employees of Adventist Health, chosen by its governing board. At least one of these individuals shall be the president of a hospital within this union territory.
- » Two employees of Pacific Press Publishing Association, chosen by its governing board.
- » The members of the constitution and bylaws committee of this union.
- » The directors of all recognized departments of this union, as determined by the executive committee of this union conference.
- » Such other persons as may be selected by the union executive committee, including officers of the North Pacific Union Association of Seventh-day Adventists. The total number of delegates from this category shall not exceed 5 percent of the total number of appointed delegates provided for herein above in Section 2.a. of article VIII.

# 2022 NPUC CONSTITUENCY DELEGATES

## How Delegates are Chosen?

The local North Pacific Union operates by a representative form of governance. Local church members choose trusted leaders to serve at the conference level. Conference governing bodies, in turn, select individuals to represent their interests and concerns at the union level. Every five years, the NPUC convenes a constituency session to review finances and elect leadership that will lead and support conferences and represent the local churches and conferences at the General Conference level.

## DELEGATE LIST

The following list of delegates selected for the 2022 North Pacific Union constituency session has been developed in accordance with the requirements of the existing NPUC bylaws. In the weeks leading to the Aug. 7 session, replacements may happen within conference delegations due to individual delegates' inability to serve.

### NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

G. Alexander Bryant  
Kyoshin Ahn  
Randy Robinson

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Alyce Ispirescu  
Andrea Schellenberg  
Andreas Beccai  
Bill McClendon  
Byron Dulan  
César De León  
Dale Bryson  
Dan Linrud  
David Brown  
David Jamieson  
David Prest  
Dennis Plubell  
Don Mead

Doug Bing  
Gretchen Bowers  
Ila Cockrum  
Jerry Nickell  
Jerry Pogue  
Jerry Russell  
John Freedman  
John McVay  
John Rogers  
Jon Altman  
Julie Sanders Keymer  
Kenneth Norton  
Kevin Erich  
Kevin Miller  
Linda Sloop  
Maria Duron  
Maria Lopez  
Mark Remboldt  
Michael Hope  
Mileen Loeffler  
Ofa Langi  
Paul Rasmussen  
Paul Woodward  
Pedro Pozos  
Rodney Payne II  
Rory Wold  
SR Thorward  
Stephen Evenson

### BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Amanda Withers  
Bill Starn  
Doug Palmer  
James Cazort  
Jim Jenkins

John Stone  
Loren Cooper  
Rodney Mills  
Steffen Moller  
Steve Kreitner  
Terrie Aamodt  
*Washington VP (vacant)*

### ADVENTIST HEALTH

Joyce Newmeyer  
Kyle King

### PACIFIC PRESS

Dale Galusha  
Robert Hastings

### WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

Carl Coseart  
John Griffin  
Katherine Gonzalez  
Kellie Bond  
Natasha Mwansa  
Pam Cress  
Prakash Ramoutar

### NPUC DIRECTORS

Jim Brown  
Loren Bordeaux  
Rob Lang  
Stan Hudson

### OTHER APPOINTED DELEGATES

Becky Meharry  
Bill Whitney  
Robert Sundin  
Cam Lundby  
De'Ann Watkins  
Enrique Vado  
Florencio Bueno  
Jana Patten  
Jay Graham  
Jerilyn Burtch  
Kathy Beagles Coneff  
Kathy Morgan  
Keith Walde  
Keith Waters  
Larry Witzel  
Lou Fitting  
Lynda Kim  
Lyndsey Schumacher  
Macy Weir  
Randy Maxwell  
Ryan Rogers  
Ryan Whitehead  
Steve Huey  
Sue Patzer

### ALASKA CONFERENCE

Adrian Neacsu  
Brooke Reynolds  
Catherine Wieden  
Clint Hess  
Dan De La Torre  
Denise Tank  
Francine Lee  
Lynden Belin  
Mike Owens  
Penney Kennedy  
Ryan Woehler  
Steve Libby  
Todd Parker

### IDAHO CONFERENCE

Brian Yeager  
Cristina Ionescu  
David Ballard  
David Salazar  
Dixie Perez  
Gerald Margil  
Ginette Lanto  
Hill Griggs  
Janice Bailey  
Jim Bollin  
John Soule  
Joyce Yeager  
Larry Blackmer  
Melanie Decker  
Mireira Munoz  
Patrick Frey  
Ryan Bell  
Simona Cardwell  
Tammie Knauff  
Valerie Iwasa

### MONTANA CONFERENCE

Donna Bacon  
Eric Harris  
Jeff Hutton  
Jim Brown  
Judy Schwab  
Kathy Edwards  
Laura Worf  
Melissa Stuber  
Rudy Fallang  
Steve Schwab  
Travis Stuber  
Vince Charlton

### OREGON CONFERENCE

Alex Reyna  
Allyson Cram  
Amanda Nawara  
Andrea Foster  
Angela Walter

Arturo (Art) Mendez  
 Barry Taylor  
 Belinda Rodriguez  
 Ben Brown  
 Bill Guth  
 Bill Willis  
 Bob Steingas  
 Bonnie Mayne  
 Brandon O’Neil  
 Brenda Thorpe  
 Carl Ted Winters  
 Charles Limberg  
 Colleen Shaver  
 Dan Salyers  
 Daniel Ciobanu  
 Darrell Genstler  
 David Paczka  
 David Rodriguez  
 Dennis Nutter  
 Dwight Winslow  
 Ed Lassman  
 Edward Nelson  
 Elizabeth Fish  
 Gary Evans  
 Gene Heinrich  
 George Personius  
 Geri Wytcherley  
 German Escalante  
 Girlie Aguilar  
 Gregory Middlestetter  
 Harry Hansen  
 Hernan Schmidt  
 Isidro Chan  
 James Lee  
 Javier Sanchez  
 Jeff Sperley  
 Joan Oksenholt  
 Joaquin Barragan  
 Joe Maier  
 John Pritchard  
 Joshua McKinney  
 Josie Hall-Downs  
 Juan Pacheco  
 Judy Blackwood  
 Kathy Westermeyer  
 Keith Miller  
 Kim Cornette  
 Lauralee Whitley  
 Linnea Stonebraker  
 Lutz Binus  
 Lynette Schenkel  
 Mackie Hagerman  
 Mark Rudebaugh  
 Mark Witas  
 Marlon Batz  
 Megan Hall

Melie Rose Larios  
 Merrill Caviness  
 Michael Brackett  
 Miguel Vasquez  
 Mike Buster  
 Mike Kelley  
 Mike Kelley  
 Nathan Hellman  
 Negussie Sado  
 Norm Allred  
 Oscar Lozano  
 Patty Aparicio  
 Phil Segura  
 Phillip Kuntz  
 Phyllis Woods  
 Ric Peinado  
 Richard Machlan  
 Rodney K. Pierson  
 Roger Houser  
 Ron Mitchell  
 Roscoe Shields  
 Santos Mariscal  
 Sean Murphy  
 Steve Mackey  
 Susan Armstrong  
 Ted Burbee  
 Tom Becraft  
 Tom Hall  
 Vern Henry  
 Virginia Jeanne Beckner  
 Wendell Davis  
 Wilfredo Collins  
*One vacancy to be filled*

**UPPER COLUMBIA  
 CONFERENCE**

Allee Currier  
 Becki Rogers  
 Bill Kasper  
 Bill Wheeler  
 Brenda Aufderhar  
 Brent Featherston  
 Brian Harris  
 Cary Fry  
 Cheryl Gabel  
 Dave Thomas  
 Dave Wetmore  
 David Wallace  
 Debby Maniscalco  
 Dennis Burke  
 Dwain Hendrickson  
 Eric Haeger  
 Eric Sayler  
 Erna Marquez  
 Gary Beck  
 Holley Bryant  
 Jaime Flores

James Pellow  
 Jared Meharry  
 Jared Spano  
 Jason Worf  
 Jeff Larson  
 Jeremiah Smart  
 Jody Washburn  
 Joe Reeves  
 Jon Jennette  
 Jose Ochoa  
 Julian Gurrola Martinez  
 Keeni Mitchell  
 Keith Wilkes  
 Kevin Wilfley  
 Larissa Bitton  
 Larry Goodhew Jr  
 Larry Moore  
 Lowell Cooper  
 Lynelle Ellis  
 Maria Carmen Oseguera  
 Michelle Maier  
 Moises Ramirez  
 Monique Morris  
 Nancy Canwell  
 Nathan Cutler  
 Ovidio Demiar  
 Patti Schultz  
 Patty Marsh  
 Paula LeBrun  
 Perita Rivas  
 R Andrew McCrary  
 R Kent Knight  
 Raven Leonardini  
 Renee Resler  
 Sara Maniscalco  
 Sergio Manente  
 Shaun Bush  
 Stephanie Bailey  
 Stephen Farr  
 Steve Hamstra  
 Terry Franks  
 Tricia Lofthouse  
 Tyler Kruger  
 Vincent Onkoba  
 Warren Davis  
 Yesenia Trujillo  
*Four vacancies to be filled*

**WASHINGTON  
 CONFERENCE**

Abishai Aiolutepotea  
 Allie Tyman  
 Andrew Rapp  
 Bill Roberts  
 Bob Moore  
 Bob Paulsen

Brent Kimura  
 Bryan Clay  
 Carlos Rodriguez  
 Cecilia Espinoza  
 Dean Willis  
 Dustin Serns  
 EuGene Lewis  
 Fred Toailoa  
 Fuchsia Dulan  
 Gesele Thomas  
 Gloria Henry  
 Greg Gratias  
 Heidi Baumgartner  
 Jack Walter  
 Jaimie Kraus  
 Janet Boggess  
 Jason Canfield  
 Jeff Keating  
 Joe Underhill  
 Jonathan Cambell  
 Jonathan Clark  
 Jose Jerez  
 Josh Tyman  
 Karen Sharman  
 Kathy Morgan  
 Kelli Robinson  
 Lana Tambingon  
 Leif Anderson  
 Lisa Bryant  
 Lori Kissinger  
 Lynda Kim  
 Marvin Lee  
 Matthew Enders  
 Michael Morss  
 Michelle Wachter  
 Mileen Loeffler  
 Nitza Salazar  
 Pam Scott  
 Pattie Perham  
 Peter Fackenthall  
 Priciliano Villegas  
 Randy Maxwell  
 Rick Luce  
 Rome Ulia  
 Ron Fridlund  
 Ron Jacaban  
 Ryan Wilson  
 Scott Tyman  
 Tiffany Odiyar  
 Trevor Wister  
 Tricia Caldwell  
 Vitali Oliinik  
 Vivien Vasquez  
 Wagner Cilio  
 Wayne Wentland  
 Willie Iwankiw

**gleaner**

North Pacific Union Conference  
5709 N. 20th St.  
Ridgefield, WA 98642

NWAdventists.com

PERIODICALS

# **29<sup>th</sup> REGULAR CONSTITUENCY SESSION *of the* NORTH PACIFIC UNION**

**AUGUST 7, 2022, AT 9 AM  
ADVENTIST COMMUNITY CHURCH OF  
VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON**

**WATCH THE LIVESTREAM AT  
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