

EDITORIAL
CHOOSE GRATITUDE

FEATURE
10 REASONS WHY ADVENTIST
EDUCATION MAKES SENSE

PERSPECTIVE
BAD RELIGION

gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION



**THE JOURNEY
TOWARD ADVENTIST EDUCATION**

JAN/FEB
2022
VOL. 117, N° 1



IMAGES of CREATION

*By day the Lord commands His steadfast
love, and at night His song is with me.
Psalms 42:8*

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JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2022

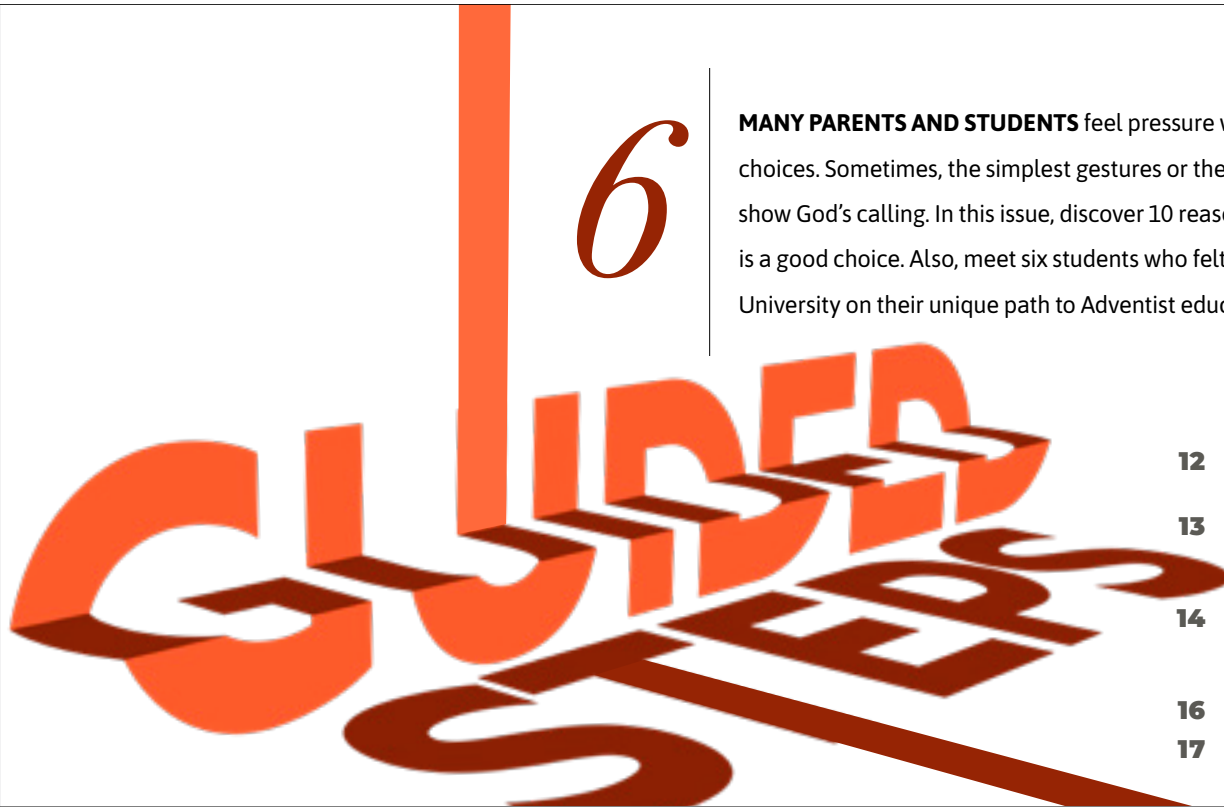
CHOOSE GRATITUDE

HAVE YOU NOTICED how people are losing hope? You hear about it on the news and at the grocery store checkout stand. Scientific research suggests there is one remedy for our eroding civil society that costs very little. Discover the simple exercise that has the power to affect positive culture change and bring people together.

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MANY PARENTS AND STUDENTS feel pressure when making education choices. Sometimes, the simplest gestures or the grandest miracles can show God's calling. In this issue, discover 10 reasons Adventist Education is a good choice. Also, meet six students who felt guided to Walla Walla University on their unique path to Adventist education.



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MISSION & OUTREACH

CHOOSE GRATITUDE

FOR MANY YEARS, I'VE DONE A REVIEW OF MY LIFE ON NEW YEAR'S DAY. LIKE MANY PEOPLE, I'VE MADE RESOLUTIONS TO EXERCISE MORE, LOSE WEIGHT, EAT HEALTHIER, SPEND MORE TIME WITH MY FAMILY, START A NEW HOBBY, READ MORE BOOKS, ETC. — I REVIEW THE THINGS THAT COULD CONTRIBUTE TO BETTER PERSONAL WELL-BEING. THIS YEAR, I'VE DECIDED TO FOCUS ON BEING MORE GRATEFUL.



JOHN FREEDMAN
North Pacific Union president

Why gratitude? I've been researching simple ways to create positive culture change in our post-modern and post-Christian world. I've discovered the simple practice of gratitude works. Not only does thankfulness affect positive culture change, but it also creates a greater sense of personal well-being. That's a pretty good bargain!

Jonah Goldberg, a writer for the National Review, believes "civil society" is declining because people are "losing respect for the

conditions that allow human beings to flourish."

He defines civil society as a vast social ecosystem made up of families, schools, churches, associations, sports, business and local communities. He believes it "mediates life between the state and the individual."

In his opinion, it is a healthy society that will civilize people, not the state, that civilizes people. Many Christians would agree with Goldberg's perspectives.

A worldview is a set of basic beliefs through which we interpret life. As Christians, we have a worldview that tells a compelling story about a God of love, forgiveness, grace and service to others. But it's no longer a dominant worldview in America. America's worldview is changing.

Current culture presents a worldview of tribalism, politics, partisanship, unhealthy use of power, etc. — all of which

erode civil society. Today, social media magnifies tribalism. A tribal us-versus-them worldview, when intensified on social media, makes it easier to find like-minded, but virtual "friends," a thousand miles away than to have a conversation with our next-door neighbor. The problem, Goldberg says, is that Americans no longer center their lives on "family, friendship, religion and civil society ... the only vessels of meaning, compatible with a free society."

Scientific research suggests there is one remedy for our eroding civil society that costs very little. Professor Robert Emmons points out that "gratitude binds people together in relationships of reciprocity, and therefore is one of the building blocks of a civil and humane society." The simple exercise of gratitude — a basic Biblical principle — has the power to affect a positive culture change.

Barry Brownstein, professor emeritus of economics and leadership at the University of Baltimore, tells a revealing story about gratitude in an essay featured on fee.org. "In 2017, a storm knocked out power to many local communities for almost a week. Propane for running generators and furnaces was in high demand. Speaking with the driver who delivered propane to our house, I learned of the long hours he was working to keep customers' furnaces running. He gave me a glimpse into the human realities of emergency response. Up to that point, I had been preoccupied with the griping thoughts about how



I have a request. Would you please share some of those results with the *Gleaner* staff? We promise to share your positive experiences in every issue during 2022.

In closing, let me put this into practice: Thank YOU for the privilege of being a spiritual leader here in the Pacific Northwest.

I deeply appreciate the desire I see – by our diverse members across the NPUC – to make a difference and to be change agents through the power of the living Christ. Thank you for your sincere prayers for the anointing of the Holy Spirit on our constituency.

I'm grateful for the ministry done every week in our communities. Thank you, to those of you who prepare weekly Sabbath school lessons, from our adults to our children and youth. Thank you to those serving our young adults, and for working to bring their energy to our churches. Thank you, pastors, for your faithful, loving ministry. Thank you, teachers, for your faithful ministry to our children. (You'll find many things about Christian education to be grateful for in this issue.)

I can go on and on expressing gratitude to you, our friends and fellow ministers in Christ. And I will, throughout my year of gratitude. I hope you'll join me.

JOHN FREEDMAN
North Pacific Union president

long our power and access to the internet had been out.”

Now, Brownstein looks for ways to express gratefulness and to connect to those who serve him.

In Brownstein's essay, he quoted Emmons who said, “Gratefulness is the knowing awareness that we are the recipients of goodness. In gratitude, we remember the contributions that others have made for the sake of our well-being.” Unsurprisingly, he discovered that “grateful people experience higher levels of joy, enthusiasm, love, happiness and optimism.” His research also showed “the practice of gratitude as a discipline protects a person from the destructive impulses of envy, resentment, greed, anger and bitterness” – which tend to undermine social relationships.

When we experience gratitude, we experience increased levels of well-being. In a *Scientific American* study on which character traits produced well-being, Professor Scott Kaufman concluded that “the best predictor of

well-being was gratitude.”

All Biblical character traits produce positive well-being, but the best predictor was gratitude.

I appeal to you, in Christ, be more grateful in this new year. Be bold and express gratitude to all people who are serving you in any capacity to increase your well-being. This will build better relationships, which will build a better society. It will affect positive culture change and increase your personal well-being.

One practical way to do this is to express gratitude every day in a journal. If you do this in the morning, it will start your day on a positive note. Another way is to express gratitude to those serving you. Genuinely thank grocery checkers and shelf stockers, TSA workers, airport and airline workers. Express gratitude to postal workers and restaurant workers. You can also express gratitude to those you interact with regularly, like your neighbors and especially family. You will be amazed at the results.

gleaner

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IMAGES OF CREATION, P. 2



“Morning Pastels,”
in Bandon, Oregon,
by Scott Knight of Battle
Ground, Washington.

**HOW SIX WALLA WALLA
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
FOUND THEIR WAY
TO A COMMUNITY OF
LEARNING AND GROWTH
FROM NEAR AND FAR**

Many students feel pressure when choosing where to pursue their higher education. Sometimes, however, the simplest gestures or the grandest miracles can show God's calling.

Meet six students who felt guided to Walla Walla University on their unique path to Adventist higher education.

MAJOR Mechanical engineering
HOMETOWN Bogotá, Colombia





HAROLD SANCHEZ

FOR HAROLD SANCHEZ, Walla Walla University is a little further from home than for most students. Sanchez, a mechanical engineering major, grew up in Bogotá, Columbia. Because English is not his first language, he sometimes has to work extra hard to understand what he learns in class.

The move to Washington was a culture shock. But Sanchez enjoys WWU and says being here is fulfilling his dream to study engineering. “It is a good challenge,” he explains, “It’s really hard, but I’m really enjoying it. In engineering, you have to ... solve problems all of the time. I enjoy engineering because I like thinking.”

It was not always Sanchez’s plan to end up at WWU. As a 15-year-old, Sanchez attended Crowley High School in Dallas, Texas. Although Sanchez had to leave high school early to return to Columbia, he fell in love with America and knew that someday he wanted to return. That goal, however, would have to wait.

Sanchez’s dream job is to be a designer at Boeing, so he earned a degree in aeronautical engineering from a Columbian University. He then spent two years studying business in Australia before deciding to earn another degree – this time in mechanical engineering.

In early 2021, he applied to several Canadian universities. Sadly, either his college or visa applications kept being denied. Sanchez felt defeated. “Nothing was working,” he said. “At that point, I was really disappointed. I told myself that I won’t apply to universities anymore.” His dream seemed more unattainable than ever before.

But then, something miraculous happened. Sanchez’s aunt, who lives in the Walla Walla Valley, suggested WWU because she learned it had an exceptional engineering school.

Sanchez applied, despite the significant divergence from his plans. “I sent the documents in May,” he said. “And on Aug. 26, they told me, ‘Yes, you are approved to come to Walla Walla, and you have two weeks to get a visa.’”

“That is impossible!” he thought. Nonetheless, two weeks later, he was boarding a plane to WWU with his visa in hand.

He reflected, “I didn’t expect it, it was something that just happened. God made a miracle.”

Through everything, Sanchez trusted God to carry him through whatever trial he faced. “It has been a long time, but God has prepared me for this,” he said. “I will always talk about spiritual stuff because it is the most important thing that people forget. ... I have been learning throughout my life that if you put God first, everything works towards your happiness.”

BY ASHLEY HERBER
WWU university
relations student
writer



JOHNATHAN JOSEPH

JONATHAN JOSEPH HAD JUST completed high school when the 9/11 terrorist attacks shook the United States. Passionate about serving his country, he joined the army instead of heading to college. “I wanted to help,” said Joseph. “I was committed to making a difference.” In 2003, he was deployed to Iraq to serve in the airborne infantry.

After completing his service, the return to civilian life and school came as a shock. Joseph struggled with homelessness and alcoholism.

It was a spiritual encounter, or a “Damascus road moment,” as Joseph describes it, that began Joseph’s journey to Walla Walla University. “Those things played a huge role in leading me to Christ and the university,” he said. “I reached my lowest point before my spiritual encounter and new direction.”

Through individual Bible study, Joseph’s life transformed. He learned about many Adventist values from his study. Providentially, he was led to Emerald City Community Adventist Church in Seattle, Washington, and the guidance of Eugene Lewis, the church pastor. Joseph told Lewis about his experience, and Lewis encouraged him to get a degree so that he could follow his passion to help the church.

The mixture of God’s direction and Lewis’ guidance brought Joseph and his family to the WWU campus, where he now studies religion as a sophomore.

“I was very brave when I was younger,” Joseph said, “like with joining the military and all of that, but it was terrifying coming here, just making the decision to get the family together and move.”

The journey hasn’t been easy, but Joseph explained that he finds peace surrendering to God’s guidance. “If I could go back to before I started school at WWU and tell myself one thing, I would say, ‘believe, just get through the doubt.’”

The decision to further his education at WWU has been an exciting one. Joseph finds a sense of belonging in his classes and in conversations with his professors.

“After being out of school for so long, it is a little surprising how well I’m doing in the class,” said Joseph. “But that is because of God’s grace. I loved being a soldier, and it’s that same passion and commitment that drives me now, but I’m a soldier for God now.”

BY KIERSTEN EKKENS

WWU university relations student writer



MAJOR
HOMETOWN
Theology
New Orleans, Louisiana

YARIDEE GAETA

YARIDEE GAETA FIRST LEARNED about Walla Walla University from Marcus Bagingito, a family friend and WWU sophomore. Gaeta, who grew up in Southern California, was intrigued by his description of the small-town atmosphere and the campus community.

Despite her interest, it was challenging for Gaeta to think about leaving her family, and she found herself worried about being so far from home. “I didn’t know what to expect,” Gaeta said. “I thought it might be one of those small clique towns, or like what you see in the movies about towns out in the middle of nowhere.”

The thought of leaving her family felt especially hard because during the summer, several close family members had passed away and Gaeta and her family were dealing with a lot of grief. “I’ve been going through a lot,” Gaeta explained. “I was afraid to get involved and then lose people.” And additionally, COVID-19 meant Gaeta couldn’t visit the campus before school started. It was unnerving.

After prayer and consideration, Gaeta took the leap and came to WWU. She found a friendly and understanding community with a lot of support.

Now, as a freshman biochemistry and pre-med student, Gaeta loves that her small class sizes allow her to ask questions and connect personally with professors. With the additional support of friends, her dorm resident assistant and others on campus, Gaeta is thriving.

The LatinX Club also supports her with a special sense of belonging. Meeting with other students to enjoy activities that reflect her culture has been powerful. She said, “I have a friend who spends 10 minutes each day talking with me and making sure I’m okay. And I’ve gotten the opportunity to meet staff members and friends who help too.”

Though taking the step to come to WWU was a challenge for Gaeta, she’s glad she did it. She told herself, “I’m going to make it. I’m going to take the risk, and I’m going to succeed here. I’m going to achieve the goals that I want, and I’m going to meet people who change my perspective of life.”

BY KIERSTEN EKKENS
WWU university relations student



MAJOR
HOMETOWN
Business administration
Tonj, South Sudan

ABRIEL THUC

ABRIEL THUC’S JOURNEY to WWU was marked by perseverance and the impact of his new-found church family.

Born and raised in South Sudan, Thuc made the difficult decision to leave home due to an unrelenting civil war. He made his way to Kenya where he would get education at a refugee camp.

Conditions there, however, were not ideal for living, much less for real academic learning. Thuc briefly mentioned having limited access to food and water before explaining that he felt called to pursue something better for himself.

His chance came. A video, posted online, showed Thuc playing basketball with friends on a dirt court – some players without shoes. When a woman in Southern California saw the video, she



MAJOR
HOMETOWN
Biochemistry
Perris, California





coordinated with American schools to find athletic scholarships for the players.

Thuc’s journey to the United States was only a small step towards WWU. He studied at two different schools on basketball scholarships before finding his true home in Maryland. There, his host family had a profound impact on his life, and Thuc was baptized as an Adventist.

In 2017, WWU’s basketball coach invited Thuc to join the team. Despite being unable to visit the university before applying, the genuine interest and care he was shown convinced Thuc this was where he should be.

As a proud junior business administration major, Thuc is hopeful God will soon lead him to a job that allows him to pass on the generosity he received along his journey.

“Walla Walla University is a place of hope,” said Thuc. “Things turned out well for me because of the people – the staff, teachers, students – who helped me so much. It’s a good environment. I will never forget it.”

BY KELSI NASH
WWU university relations supervisor

JESSICA FERNANDEZ

JESSICA FERNANDEZ DIDN'T ORIGINALLY want to attend Walla Walla University. Most of her friends from Puget Sound Adventist Academy were planning to study at WWU, but Jessica wanted the opportunity to branch out a bit and attend a larger school.

While Fernandez applied to study psychology at WWU, part of her hoped she wouldn't be accepted. It would be easier to decide where to go if she was accepted by another college.

When she was ultimately accepted to multiple schools, the decision became more difficult.

Fernandez knew she was passionate about psychology, so to narrow her list of choices, she reached out to psychology professors from each of the schools. Linda Ivy, professor of psychology at WWU, was the only professor who responded.

About two or three weeks before school started, Fernandez finally decided that WWU was where she was meant to be. She loved the encouragement and support she received from Ivy, and she appreciated the opportunities available through the psychology department.

“The teachers are really helpful. They are willing to talk to help you find opportunities outside the classroom. And it’s easy to get involved in a club,” said Fernandez, who is now a sophomore.

To high school students who have hopes to spread their wings, Fernandez said, “Walla Walla may be close to home and smaller, but if anything, the fact that it is smaller allows you to make better, closer connections. You get to actually know many people, and you are actually known by your professors, rather than just being a student among many.”

Looking back, Fernandez is beyond happy that she made the choice to study at WWU. She said, “I have become more independent and learned many life skills while being away from home. ... It has allowed me to grow more than I ever have, both academically and personally.”

BY T. BROOKE FISHER
WWU university relations student writer





ANDY ANAYA

ANDRES ANAYA ATTRIBUTES HIS ABILITY to attend to Walla Walla University to the support he received before he was even considering colleges. Anaya grew up in an Adventist family in Portland, Oregon, but attended public schools until his eighth-grade year. Anaya felt he was frequently facing two different worlds.

“It was difficult going to school during the week with kids with other values and beliefs,” said Anaya. His parents focused on instilling in him good morals and taught him to make wise choices, regardless of those around him. Still, they wished they could give him the opportunity to have an Adventist education.

Shortly before Anaya began high school, he received a letter. “It explained there was a partnership between the local Adventist school and the church my family attended that would allow my brother and me to attend Portland Adventist Academy at an affordable price,” said Anaya.

Anaya said that even though he was hesitant to leave what he had always known, he saw the blessing that God was offering. He began attending PAA his freshman year.

That opportunity would be critical for Anaya. It was at PAA that he met some of his best friends, built a closer connection to God and discovered his passion for praise music. Beyond that, attending PAA set the foundation for him to continue his education at WWU.

Now studying computer engineering, Anaya said the top-notch engineering program has pushed him academically, but he especially appreciates the opportunities he has to continue ministering to others through worship music.

“God put the right people in my life to lead me specifically to Walla Walla,” Anaya said. “I expect to graduate here, and I am confident in where God will take me next.”

BY KELSI NASH
WWU university relations supervisor

T

HE ADVENTIST EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM serves more than 1.9 million students each year. We've been committed to quality Christian education for a long time. In fact, our educational roots predate the American Civil War.

But longevity alone doesn't make us great. Adventist education's greatness lies in its commitment to rise above the status quo and make positive impacts on generations of students. Implementing modern teaching methods is one of many ways Adventist education has historically fulfilled this commitment.

Standards-based learning is the next exciting step in our journey to excellence. It brings a transformational shift in the learning process and has the potential to illuminate understanding for countless learners.

In standards-based learning, clear communication defines what is to be learned. A teacher guides a student in setting personal learning goals and tracking their progress. These goals allow both the teacher and

student to accurately measure individual growth and achievement. The process empowers the student and cultivates an attitude and mindset for lifelong learning.

This shift in education won't be achieved overnight. It is a journey.

The journey has begun here in the Northwest. Several pilot schools are already laying the foundation. They are discovering best practices for standards-based learning and identifying what areas need clarity and better understanding before full implementation.

Meanwhile, training for the new method is happening for all Northwest Adventist educators.

While the shift to standards-based learning requires hard work and patience, the benefit to our students, both current and future, will be well worth the effort.

Standards-based learning is one more step in our journey to excellence.

N

A TRANSFORMATIONAL LEARNING SHIFT

BECKY MEHARRY
*North Pacific Union
director for elementary
education*



ORTHWEST ADVENTIST SCHOOLS

ALASKA CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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Dillingham Seventh-day Adventist School 446 Windmill Hill Rd., Dillingham, AK 99576	907-842-2496	Sueal Cunningham	K-8
Golden Heart Christian School 1811 Farmers Loop Rd., Fairbanks, AK 99708	907-479-2904	Cindy Dasher	K-8
Juneau Adventist Christian School 4890 Glacier Hwy., Juneau, AK 99801	907-780-4336	Cynthia Lewis	K-8
Sitka Adventist School 1613 Halibut Point Rd., Sitka, AK 99835	907-747-8855	Rachel Carle	1-8

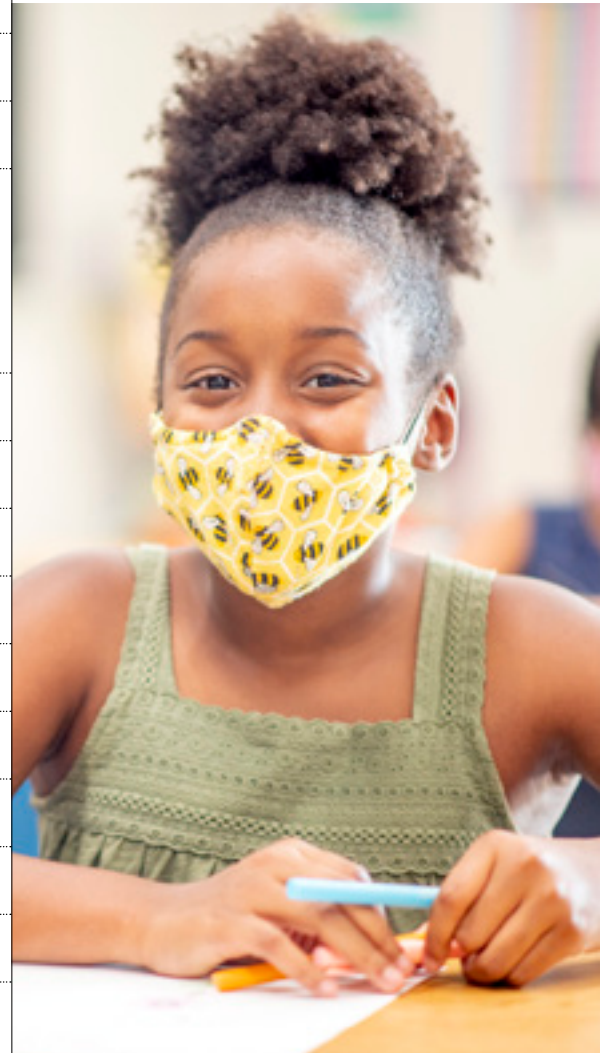
IDAHO CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

7777 W Fairview Ave. · Boise, ID 83704 · 208-375-7524

Superintendent: Patrick Frey

Gem State Adventist Academy 16115 S. Montana Ave., Caldwell, ID 83607	208-459-1627	John Soule	9-12
Baker Adventist Christian School 42171 Chico Rd., Baker City, OR 97814	541-523-4165	Laurie Hosey	K-8
Boise Valley Adventist School 925 N. Cloverdale Rd., Boise, ID 83713	208-376-7141	Ken Utt	K-8
Caldwell Adventist Elementary School 2317 Wisconsin Ave., Caldwell, ID 83605	208-459-4313	Laura Springer	K-8
Eagle Adventist Christian School 538 W. State St., Eagle, ID 83616	208-938-0093	Jessica Davidson	1-8
Enterprise SDA Christian School 305 Wagner St., Enterprise, OR 97828	541-426-8339	Dona Dunbar	1-8
Hilltop Adventist School 131 Grandview Dr., Twin Falls, ID 83301	208-736-5934	Roberta Crenshaw	1-8
La Grande Adventist Christian School 2702 Adams Ave., La Grande, OR 97850	541-963-6203	Melissa Akers	K-8
Salmon SDA School 515 Upper Fairmont St., Salmon, ID 83467	208-756-4439	Dan Tyler	1-8
Treasure Valley SDA School 305 1/2 S. 9th St., Payette, ID 83661	208-642-2410	Valerie Iwasa	1-8

All Seventh-day Adventist schools in the North Pacific Union, including Walla Walla University, admit students of any race to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school and make no discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnic background, country of origin or gender in the administration of education policies, applications for admission, scholarship or loan programs and extracurricular programs.



10 Reasons Why Adventist Education Makes Sense

ADVENTIST EDUCATION PROVIDES FAMILIES AND STUDENTS WITH A ROBUST LEARNING PLATFORM. HERE ARE TEN REASONS WHY ADVENTIST SCHOOLS ARE A GOOD CHOICE.

1

SPIRITUAL FOCUS

Seventh-day Adventist schools focus on preparing students not just for success in this life, but for eternity. The ultimate goal of each teacher is to see each student in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

2

STUDENT-TEACHER RATIO

Most Seventh-day Adventist schools have a low student-teacher ratio. This allows for more individualized attention and instruction. "The benefits of smaller classes extend beyond test scores and student engagement. In addition to the longer-term positive attributes of small class sizes in the early grades, benefits include continued academic and life success." nwadvent.st/117-1-FT-14

3

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

CognitiveGenesis, a four-year study of 30,000 students enrolled in Seventh-day Adventist schools across North America, found that students in Seventh-day Adventist schools achieve an average of half a grade above predicted ability in all subjects.

4

TAILORED CURRICULUM

Seventh-day Adventist schools benefit from a curriculum especially designed for single and multigrade classrooms. The North American Division Office of Education has developed excellent, high-quality, standards-based materials for all classrooms. The curriculum is designed so that students are constantly connected with Christ and the possibilities He has for each life.

JAY WINTERMEYER
Gleaner editor

MONTANA CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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Five Falls Christian School 2930 Flood Rd., Great Falls, MT 59404	406-452-6883	Arlene Lambert	K-8
Glacier View School 36332 Mud Creek Lane, Ronan, MT 59864	406-676-5142	Savannah Maize	K-8
Highland View Christian School 2504 Grand Ave., Butte, MT 59701	406-221-7044	Diane Haulman	1-8
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Valley View Adventist Christian School 264 Hwy. 200 S., Glendive, MT 59330	406-687-3472	Joyce Freese	1-8

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Cottage Grove Christian School 820 S. 10th Street, Cottage Grove, OR 97424	541-206-0385	Heather Houston	1-8
Countryside Christian School 88401 Huston Rd., Veneta, OR 97487	541-935-6446	Angela Walter	1-8
Emerald Christian Academy 35582 Zephyr Way, Pleasant Hill, OR 97455	541-746-1708	Doug Gaylor	PK-10

NORTHWEST ADVENTIST SCHOOLS

Gold Coast Christian School 2175 Newmark Ave., Coos Bay, OR 97420	541-756-6307	Eric Valdes	1-8
Grants Pass Adventist School 2250 NW Heidi Ln., Grants Pass, OR 97526	541-479-2293	Richard Rasmussen	K-8
Hood View Adventist School 26505 SE Kelso Rd., Boring, OR 97009	503-663-4568	Kim Cornette	PK-8
Journey Christian School 96 Garden St., Kelso, WA 98626	360-423-9250	Julie Corson	PK-8
Klamath Falls Adventist Christian School 2499 Main St., Klamath Falls, OR 97601	541-882-4151	Kari MacPhee	K-8
Lincoln City Christian School 2126 NE Surf Ave., Lincoln City, OR 97367	541-994-5181	John McCombs	K-8
Madras Christian School 66 SE H Street, Madras, OR 97741	541-475-7545	Jana Edge	PK-8
Madrone Adventist School 4300 Holland Loop Rd., Cave Junction, OR 97523	541-592-3330	Bridget Cline	1-8
McMinnville Adventist Christian School 1349 NW Elm St., McMinnville, OR 97128	503-472-3336	Elizabeth Fish	PK-8
Meadow Glade Adventist Elementary School 18717 NE 109th Ave., Battle Ground, WA 98604	360-687-5121	Ric Peinado	K-8
Mid Columbia Adventist Christian School 1100 22nd St., Hood River, OR 97031	541-386-3187	Peter Hardy	PK-10
Portland Adventist Elementary School 3990 NW 1st St., Gresham, OR 97030	503-665-4102	Brandon O'Neal	PK-8
Rivergate Adventist Elementary School 1505 Rivergate School Rd., Gladstone, OR 97027	503-656-0544	Megan Hall	PK-8
Riverside Adventist Christian School 463 N. Shepherd Rd., Washougal, WA 98671	360-835-5600	Bethany Edmundson	PK-8
Roseburg Christian Academy 1653 NW Troost St., Roseburg, OR 97471	541-673-5278	Mary Korcek	K-8
Scappoose Adventist School 54287 Columbia River Hwy., Scappoose, OR 97056	503-543-6939	Girlie Aguilar	PK-8
Shady Point Adventist School 14611 Hwy. 62, Eagle Point, OR 97524	541-826-2255	Sandra Sumerlin	1-8
Shoreline Christian School 4445 Hwy. 101, Florence OR 97439	541-997-5909	Sara Lasu	1-8
Sutherlin Adventist Christian School 845 West Central Ave., Sutherlin, OR 97479	541-459-9940	Dianna Mohr	1-8
Three Sisters Adventist Christian School 21155 Tumalo Rd., Bend, OR 97703	541-389-2091	Jenny Neil	PK-8
Tillamook Adventist School 4300 12th St., Tillamook, OR 97141	503-842-6533	Matthew Hunter	PK-8
Tualatin Valley Academy 7405 E Main Street, Hillsboro, OR 97123	503-649-5518	Christina Orozco-Acosta	PK-10

5 FAMILY ATMOSPHERE

Seventh-day Adventist schools have a family atmosphere that is similar to what students encounter in the real world outside the classroom. "The range of social relationship students build in a multilevel classroom more closely reflects the social situations individuals encounter in workplaces, communities and families." nwadventist.org/117-1-FT-14

6 INVOLVED PARENTS

Parents appreciate the stable learning community of Adventist schools and the stronger relationships they are able to develop with their child's teacher. There are opportunities for parents to be involved whether it is volunteering in the classroom, assisting with a field trip or serving on the local school board.

7 PEER TUTORING

"The benefits of having older students offer assistance to younger students are supported by research. Studies show that both the student being tutored and the student doing the tutoring improve academically." Anderson, R.H. and B. Paven. *Nongradeness: Helping it Happen*

8 COMMUNITY SERVICE

Students in Seventh-day Adventist schools are encouraged to become active members of the local community through various community service projects. From putting on a musical program at the nursing home to raking leaves for an elderly person in the school neighborhood, students are actively engaged in showing God's love to the world.

9 HIGHER EDUCATION

Students who attend Seventh-day Adventist schools are more likely to attend college. Over 85% of graduates from Seventh-day Adventist high schools attend college and over 80% of them complete college degrees. This is compared to 66% and 14% of public high school students respectively. Bridgeland, John M. *The Silent Epidemic: Perspectives of High School Dropouts*

10 REMEDIATION AND ENRICHMENT

In single and multigrade classrooms, remediation and enrichment activities can be more discreetly arranged than in traditional classrooms.

Visit an Adventist school near you today. adventistlocator.org

UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

3715 S Grove Rd · Spokane, WA 99224 · 509-838-2761

Superintendent: Brian Harris | Associate Superintendents: Archie Harris

Cascade Christian Academy 600 N. Western Ave., Wenatchee, WA 98801	509-662-2723	Stephanie Gates	K-12
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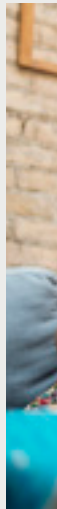


Why Sleep Matters

Imagine you're in a doctor's exam room. You see an exhausted middle-aged woman walk in with a 7-year-old boy. The boy is clearly hyperactive. The mother tells the doctor how her son is inattentive in school and struggles to do his homework.

Fast-forward six months. The little boy is listening to his mother and able to sit and draw quietly during the next doctor's visit.

What made the difference? Find out the critical factor that can dramatically improve a child's ability to learn and focus.



Upper Columbia Academy 3025 E. Spangle-Waverly Rd., Spangle, WA 99031	509-245-3600	Jeff 'PJ' Deming	9-12
Walla Walla Valley Academy 300 SW Academy Way, College Place, WA 99324	509-525-1050	Erik Borges	9-12
Beacon Christian School 615 Stewart Ave., Lewiston, ID 83501	208-743-8361	David Gage	K-8
Brewster Adventist Christian School 115 Valley Rd., Brewster, WA 98812	509-689-3213	Doug Hartzell	1-8
Colville Valley Adventist School 139 E. Cedar Loop, Colville, WA 99114	509-684-6830	Bertram Generlette	K-8
Cornerstone Christian School 513357 Hwy. 95, Bonners Ferry, ID 83805	208-267-1644	Esther Holley	1-8
Crestview Christian School 1601 W. Valley Rd., Moses Lake, WA 98837	509-765-4632	Melissia Wallen	K-8
Goldendale Adventist School 47 Bickleton Hwy., Goldendale, WA 98620	509-773-4156	David Robinson	K-8
Harris Junior Academy 3121 SW Hailey Ave., Pendleton, OR 97801	541-276-0615	Shannon Whidden	K-8
Hermiston Junior Academy 1300 NW Academy Ln., Hermiston, OR 97838	541-567-8523	Paula LeBrun	K-8
Lake City Academy 125 E. Locust Ave., Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814	208-667-0877	Doug Zimmerman	K-8
Milton-Stateline Adventist School 53565 W. Crockett Rd., Milton-Freewater, OR 97862	541-938-7131	Jeanne Goodhew	K-8
Omak Adventist Christian School 425 W. Second Ave., Omak, WA 98841	509-826-5341	Jennifer Hoffpauir	1-8
Orofino Adventist Christian School 46420 Highway 12, Orofino, ID 83544	208-46-7540	Cathie Hartman	K-8
Palisades Christian Academy 1115 N. Government Way, Spokane, WA 99224	509-325-1985	Monte Fisher	K-10
Palouse Hills Christian School 3148 Tomer St., Moscow, ID 83843	208-882-0350	Ben Pflugrad	K-8
Peaceful Valley Christian School 32084D Hwy. 97, Tonasket, WA 98855	509-486-4345	Henry Buursma	1-8
Pend Oreille Valley Adventist School 33820 Hwy. 41, Oldtown, ID 83822	208-437-2638	Brittany Parker	1-8
Rogers Adventist School 200 SW Academy Way, College Place, WA 99324	509-529-1850	Holley Bryant	K-8
Sandpoint Junior Academy 2255 W. Pine St., Sandpoint, ID 83864	208-263-3584	Michael Lee	1-8
Spokane Valley Adventist School 1603 S. Sullivan Rd., Spokane Valley, WA 99037	509-926-0955	Darla Shupe	K-8
Tri-City Adventist School 4115 W. Henry St., Pasco, WA 99301	509-547-8092	Tracy Lang Fry	K-10
Upper Columbia Academy Elementary 2810 E. Spangle-Waverly Rd., Spangle, WA 99031	509-245-3629	Kristy Plata	1-8
Yakima Adventist Christian School 1200 City Reservoir Rd., Yakima, WA 98908	509-966-1933	Delmar Wolfkill	K-10

NORTHWEST

ADVENTIST SCHOOLS

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

32229 Weyerhaeuser Way S. · Federal Way, WA 98001 · 253-681-6008

Superintendent: Craig Mattson

Associate Superintendent: Michelle Wachter

Auburn Adventist Academy 5000 Auburn Way S., Auburn, WA 98092	253-939-5000	Peter Fackenthal	9-12
Orcas Christian School 107 Enchanted Forest Rd., Eastsound, WA 98245	360-376-6683	Terry Pottle	K-12
Puget Sound Adventist Academy 5320 108th Ave. NE, Kirkland, WA 98033	425-822-7554	Ron Jacaban	9-12
Skagit Adventist Academy 530 N. Section St., Burlington, WA 98233	360-755-9261	Aubrey Fautheree	K-12
Baker View Christian School 5353 Waschke Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226	360-384-8155	MaryAnn Barrett	K-8
Buena Vista SDA School 3320 Academy Dr. SE, Auburn, WA 98092	253-833-0718	David Morgan	K-8
Cedarbrook Adventist Christian School 461 Kennedy Rd., Port Hadlock, WA 98339	360-385-4610	Greg Reseck	1-8
Cypress Adventist School 21500 Cypress Way, Suite A, Lynnwood, WA 98036	425-775-3578	Autumn Paskell	K-8
Forest Park Adventist Christian School 4120 Federal Ave., Everett, WA 98203	425-258-6911	Lucille Nelson	K-8
Grays Harbor Adventist Christian School 1216 US Hwy. 12, Montesano, WA 98563	360-249-1115	Adria Hay	1-8
Kirkland Adventist School 5320 108th Ave. NE, Kirkland, WA 98033	425-822-7554	Ron Jacaban	K-8
Kitsap Adventist Christian School 5088 NW Taylor Rd., Bremerton, WA 98312	360-377-4542	Linda Taber	K-8
Lewis County Adventist School 2104 S. Scheuber Rd., Chehalis, WA 98532	360-748-3213	Kelly Gennick	K-10
Mountain View Christian School 255 Medsker Rd., Sequim, WA 98382	360-683-6170	Michelle Noonan	1-8
Northwest Christian School 904 Shaw Rd., Puyallup, WA 98372	253-845-5722	Craig Mattson	K-8
Olympia Christian School 1215 Ethel St. NW, Olympia, WA 98502	360-352-1831	Sharron Schwartz	K-8
Poulsbo Adventist School 1700 NE Lincoln Rd., Poulsbo, WA 98370	360-779-6290	Judelle McCormick	K-8
Shelton Valley Christian School 201 W. Shelton Valley Rd., Shelton, WA 98584	360-426-4198	Connie Mitzelfelt	K-8
Sky Valley Adventist School 200 Academy Way, Monroe, WA 98272	360-794-7655	Melissa Hammond	K-8
Whidbey Christian Elementary School 31830 SR 20, Oak Harbor, WA 98277	360-279-1812	Byron Schurch	1-8

Although there is stress all around us — and we do indeed live in stressful times — our homes need to be the sanctuaries God intended them to be.

Find out how kids depend on adults to provide balance in turbulent times in this article on our website.



La conferencia de Idaho da la bienvenida a más de 40 nuevos miembros hispanos

MÁS DE 40 PERSONAS han sido aceptadas en varias iglesias hispanas en la Conferencia de Idaho.

Los bautismos y las profesiones de fe son el resultado de miembros hispanos locales, ancianos y evangelistas visitantes que trabajan juntos para compartir a Jesús. Sus esfuerzos son parte de la iniciativa de la misión de la conferencia llamada Operación Crecimiento Exponencial.

Durante el año pasado, bajo el liderazgo del pastor Gerald Margil, coordinador hispano de la conferencia y pastor de distrito de Treasure Valley, varios ancianos hispanos de iglesias aceptaron el desafío de predicar una serie de evangelización. La conferencia

otorgó a cada uno de ellos privilegios eclesiásticos para bautizar a aquellos con quienes estudiaron personalmente.

Ha sido inspirador ver a nuestros miembros hispanos unirse al llamado de Dios para compartir las buenas nuevas. Continuemos orando por nuestra familia de la conferencia de Idaho mientras continúan compartiendo el evangelio de Jesucristo en sus círculos de influencia. Ore también por la próxima serie de reuniones programadas para la primavera de 2022.



Idaho Conference Welcomes 40+ New Hispanic Members

DESPITE THE CLOUD of COVID-19 still hanging over our churches, more than 40 individuals have been accepted into several Hispanic churches in the Idaho Conference.

The baptisms and professions of faith are the result of local Hispanic members, elders and visiting evangelists working together to

share Jesus. Their efforts are part of the conference mission initiative called Operation Exponential Growth.

During this past year, under the leadership of Pastor Gerald Margil, conference

Hispanic coordinator and Treasure Valley district pastor, several Hispanic church elders accepted the challenge to preach an evangelistic series. Each was granted ecclesiastic privileges by the conference to baptize those with which they personally studied.

It has been inspiring to witness our Hispanic members joining God's call to share the good news. Let's continue to pray for our Idaho conference family as they continue to share the gospel of Jesus Christ in their circles of influence. Please pray also for the next series of meetings scheduled for spring 2022.

CAROLANN DE LEÓN
North Pacific Union Hispanic and family ministries assistant director



More online at NWADVENT.ST/117-1-HSP-10



Homecoming Weekend 2022



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-118.83627247951956

**Homeward bound,
together again!**

April 21–24, 2022

If you graduated and/or attended WWC/WWU, join us for a weekend on campus and visit with former classmates and friends old and new!

Weekend highlights

- 75th anniversary of Edward F. Cross School of Engineering
- 100 years of math majors and minors
- 125th anniversary of the School of Nursing
- Alumni of the Year 2022
- Car Show
- Eugene Winter Golf Classic
- Richard J. Kegley Memorial Fun Run
- Honor class reunions and photos for 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2012
- Special music programs
- And more!

Find details at wallawalla.edu/homecoming.



- ▶ Submit your class member profile at wallawalla.edu/alumnote.
- ▶ Plan to register in February 2022!

CHURCH

Talkeetna House Fire Restoration Unites Communities

ON JULY 24, 2021, DURING THE SABBATH MORNING OFFERING APPEAL AT THE ALASKA CONFERENCE CAMP MEETING, ATTENDEES WERE CALLED TO HELP RESTORE THE HOME OF ANDREW AND RHIANNA VANORNUM, MEMBERS OF THE SUNSHINE CHURCH NEAR TALKEETNA, ALASKA.

The VanOrum home had burned to the ground the night before while Andrew was out. His wife, Rhianna, and their children had miraculously escaped without injury. The offering and conference matching funds came to approximately \$20,000, laying a solid foundation for a reconstruction project launch.

Word spread through the Wasilla Church congregation. Patrick Teagerden, Wasilla Adventist Community Services director, immediately called for volunteers. Wendell and Linda Downs were assigned to assist with identifying volunteer help and perform cost accounting. Members of the Palmer Church wanted to be involved, too. Lee Grimstad and Rob Carleson, Craftsmen for Christ leaders, offered to share their skills for the project.

The Talkeetna Fire Chief launched a GoFundMe campaign, eventually netting

\$45,000. In addition, Moore's Hardware agreed to provide building material at cost, and cover costs for rented equipment.

God's miracles were evident. With funds in place, the group was ready to organize. On Aug. 5, a planning group met at the Wasilla Church.

Under Teagerden's leadership with ACS, the wheels began to turn and generosity continued to stir. All the windows for the new home were donated during the meeting. It was determined that a 300-foot driveway to access the property was most urgent. But God was moving. Almost unbelievably, the very next morning Sam McCullough, a

local contractor, had already fulfilled the need with the help of his crew. God also moved in the hearts of Tom Bosnjak and Mark Woodward, Adventist

volunteer missionaries, who provided free demolition and cleanup of the property, which took place Aug. 8.

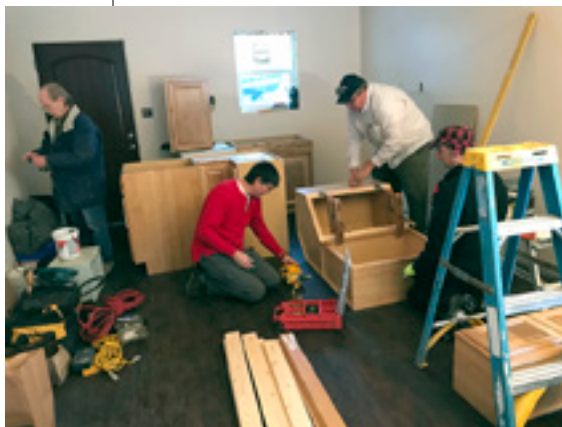
Every Sunday thereafter was dedicated to home rebuilding. Experienced craftsmen, Grimstad, Carleson, Robert Carey and George Alder, led teams in specific areas of construction. Both

progress with little fuss or friction. By October, the home was sealed up with exterior paint, a wood stove in place and insulation and sheet rock installed. The family moved into their new home that month, though there is still more work to be done. God continues to move in the hearts of volunteers to keep this project moving forward.

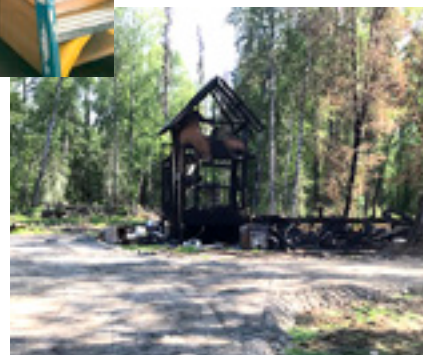
This project brought together people from three Adventist churches as well the Talkeetna community. People have marveled at the comradery developed between a broad cross-section of volunteers. God truly blessed,

and continues to bless, the hearts and efforts of all involved.

WENDELL DOWNS
Wasilla Church member



Volunteers installed kitchen cabinets in the rebuilt VanOrnum home.



A mid-summer fire destroyed the VanOrnum family home.

Talkeetna church members and community locals continued to show up for work on Sundays and sometimes during the week, as well. Wasilla and Talkeetna church members even provided lunch for the workers.

It was thrilling to watch the house

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-1-AK-95](https://www.nwadventist.org/st/117-1-AK-95)



EDUCATION

THIRD GENERATION AT GOLDEN HEART CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

GOLDEN HEART CHRISTIAN SCHOOL in Fairbanks, Alaska proudly welcomed its first third-generation students for the 2021–2022 school year.

Through the school's 50 years, there have been quite a few second generation students attending the school. This year, members of the Burrow family

built on the tradition.

Tammy (Stuller) Burrow attended the school in the 1970s. Tammy's daughter, Ashley (Burrow) Irwin, attended in the 1990s. Ashley's children, Brayden and Brooklyn, are enrolled this year.

In the last three years, GHCS has grown significantly. In 2019 there

were nine students enrolled, and in 2020 there were 16. This school year, there are 24 students and most are from the community.

It takes a team of dedicated teachers and volunteers to bring quality Adventist education to Fairbanks. Cindy Dasher is the school's certified teacher and Jane Bador is the full-time assistant. Helen Norton, a retired teacher, volunteers to help teach math to fifth through eighth grade. Sharon Junbenville, another retired teacher, helps first and second-graders with phonics. Pearl LaFountain comes each Friday to lead art projects with groups of students.

Showing the students how to have a personal relationship with Jesus is a key component to the GHCS curriculum. Steve Evenson, Fairbanks Church pastor, comes on Wednesday afternoons and has worship with the students.

Members are proud of Golden Heart Christian School and believe it is the best private school in the interior of Alaska.

CINDY DASHER
Golden Heart Christian
School principal / teacher



MORE ONLINE AT
NWADVENT.ST/117-1-AK-25

EDUCATION

Students' Snowy Potato Harvest Aids Charity

ON SEPT. 24, 2021, the entire student body from Amazing Grace Academy in Palmer, Alaska donned their coats and boots and helped harvest potatoes for Valley Blessings, a local charity organization.

This year, the annual potato harvest happened during an early snowfall, the earliest snowfall in recent memory. The morning began with worship and a reminder of the ways Jesus served others—even by washing His disciple's feet, which were undoubtedly dirty and smelly. Digging potatoes is also a dirty job, but it is a way that students can serve others in the community.

Students, families and teachers look forward to this annual event. It's a fun opportunity to get outside, enjoy the fall weather and help local families in need. There's even a friendly competition to find the smallest, largest and most uniquely shaped potato, helping to make the event extra fun for the students.

After the harvest, the potatoes are donated to a local



Amazing Grace Academy students and families harvesting potatoes for local community families.

charity that prepares and provides a Thanksgiving meal for over 1000 families. A part of that meal includes the potatoes harvested by the AGA students and community volunteers, reminding them their work is vital to so many. Following Jesus' example of serving others, this event brings a true sense of purpose to all who participate.

KAREN CARLTON
Amazing Grace Academy
principal



More online at 
NWADVENT.ST/117-1-AK-87

Idaho Conference Churches Experience Exponential Growth

IN 2021, THE Idaho Conference, in cooperation with the North Pacific Union, began Operation Exponential Growth. The NPUC provided two guest evangelists, assistance with getting Hispanic evangelists and financial resources to make plans a reality.

The Holy Spirit is being poured out in the Idaho Conference through Operation Exponential Growth. Members who have grown cold are returning to fellowship. Community friends who have been looking to heaven for answers are discovering new truth and coming into the Adventist family.

Here are a few exciting examples of ways the Holy Spirit is changing hearts.

Chris Evenson, Nampa Church pastor, led his church in praying the brochures



• The Nampa Church had a capacity crowd on opening night and had to use overflow areas.

mailed would get into the hands of those who are hungering for God. A woman had been out walking on a very clean path one day. She couldn't help noticing a flyer lying

CHURCH

alongside the path. She left it there, but when she got home, she felt impressed to go back and get the flyer. She was at the meeting that night and continued attending the series.

Jose Alcantara had been attending the Heyburn Church for several years. Many had prayed for him. He had been invited to be baptized but kept putting it off. After the small group studies, one Sabbath Jose stood up at church and said, "I want to be baptized!"

Operation Exponential Growth is a deep commitment to the gospel commission, empowered by members working hand-in-hand with pastors to present the gospel message throughout Idaho Conference. Operation Exponential Growth continues in 2022 with meetings beginning in April.

DON KLINGER

Idaho Conference assistant to the president



More online at NWADVENT.ST/117-1-ID-20 ⁺



EDUCATION

Answer to Prayer Begins a Journey to Gem State Adventist Academy

LACY HUSTON, A GSAA SENIOR, ATTENDS THE BOARDING SCHOOL BECAUSE GOD ANSWERED HER PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE.

Lacy lived in Salmon, Idaho, most of her life. She attended the Adventist elementary school for several years before going to the local public high school.

Once in high school, Lacy became increasingly unhappy. Feeling friendless and finding no interest in extracurriculars like sports, she could feel herself shutting down. She brought her struggles to God in prayer.

“Lord,” she prayed, “If you want me [at GSAA], please show me. If not, I will try to be happy to stay here.”

Like Gideon in the Bible, she put out a fleece. If one person in her church family were to ask if she

was going to go to GSAA, she would take that as a sign to pursue it.

Several weeks passed without a mention. But then, at a church event, someone approached Lacy and asked about GSAA. Before the event was over, two more people mentioned GSAA to her!



Lacy and her mom stop for a photo during Senior Night volleyball.

Excited to see God working, Lacy spoke to her parents about her prayer and her desire to attend GSAA. A plan was set in motion to make it possible.

It didn't take long for Lacy to connect with new friends and feel like she fit in. She even joined the volleyball team and later the basketball team. She says the sports program's great atmosphere makes it feel like her team is family.

Bible class has made an especially great impact on Lacy's Christian walk. Lacy says she has new understandings about God and has spiritually matured in ways she would not have, had she stayed in her public school.

MARTA STONE
Gem State Adventist Academy teacher and campus communications assistant



More online at
NWADVENT.ST/117-1-ID-84

EDUCATION

RURAL SCHOOL FINDS CREATIVE WAYS TO PROMOTE HANDS-ON LEARNING

TEACHERS AT Enterprise Christian School in Enterprise, Oregon, stepped outside the box this school year. Using donations specifically for technology, the school stretched funds as far as possible to enhance its Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) program.

Giving specific focus to engineering, the school purchased a 3D printer, a laser CNC machine, a Circuit Maker and an electronic cutting machine that can cut all sorts of designs from materials like paper, vinyl and card stock.

The new equipment will give the students experiences they had never dreamed possible in a small school. Jordan Lindsay, fifth through eighth grade teacher, has plans for his students to design and create real-life objects that serve a useful purpose. They could be chess pawns, gears or model airplanes. The possibilities are only limited by the students' imaginations. Students in Lindsay's classroom will also identify real-life problems, then design solutions to solve those problems.

In addition to the improved STEM program, a garden was built by loving church members and Dona Dunbar, principal and kindergarten through fourth grade teacher. Students will soon begin construction on a greenhouse, where they'll learn about microgreens, seed starting and winter gardening. The produce grown in the garden and greenhouse will be given to the students' families, church members and the community.

The school's improvements will not only help students gain new skills, they will also help the school be a shining light and witness to the Enterprise community.

BRENDY LINDSAY
Enterprise School volunteer



MORE ONLINE AT
NWADVENT.ST/117-1-ID-75

Healing Through Service

RECENTLY, THE NEWS has reported on Americans leaving their jobs for new ones. Apparently, the continual weight of responsibility without appropriate recognition or compensation has sapped people of motivation. There is an understandable hunger to step away from the busyness and take time to reflect. I can relate.

For me, weekends are an oasis from the regular grind of the week. One particular weekend, I really needed a break. Instead, I found myself sitting behind the steering wheel of Mount Ellis Academy's school bus, mentally preparing myself for a six-hour drive north to Kalispell, Montana.

The MEA hand bell choir and touring choir were performing for the next day's church service, and the driving duties had fallen to me. I felt grumpy, and I guess I didn't do

a very good job of concealing it.

A student pointed out to me that driving for the music tour presented me with an opportunity to live out the "Serve" part of our school's motto: Discover, Develop and Serve. But for me, the mental effort required to dig in to serve felt like digging into bedrock.

After the stressful drive, through darkness and sometimes heavy rain, we finally arrived at the church parking lot. Standing beneath the glare of a fluorescent light, not knowing where I would sleep that night, I felt the unrelenting pace of boarding school life settling into my bones.

Out of the darkness, I heard a voice. "Are you Matthew? I believe you are staying with us tonight."

After the warm handshake, something inside

me started to lighten. Perhaps I wouldn't have to spend the night on a gym floor.

Before I went to bed, I chatted with my host family and discovered we had grown up in the same part of the country and even knew some of the same people.

The next morning, outside the church, I spent several minutes visiting with a man about driving the school's bus. Then I talked with some young men I had gone waterskiing with a couple of summers ago. Once inside the sanctuary, I noticed parents of former students sitting near me.

Perhaps I wasn't a stranger in a strange land after all.

As I watched our students perform, I noticed the smiles on the surrounding faces and I began to appreciate the joy the students were bringing.

The tiredness in my bones from the night before began to dissipate and was replaced by a sense of belonging.

As I reflected on the experience, something struck me. The pristine river of life that once flowed out of Eden, contrasts with what we find in our world today. Our river is more like Naaman's muddy Jordan.

In the muddiness of life, drudging through acts of service can actually move us beyond ourselves. Once we move into the mud and dip into it with our faith, just like Naaman, we can be healed.



• Matt Lukens, MEA Spanish and English teacher, makes his way back to the bus after a quick stop en route to Kalispell.

MATTHEW LUKENS
Mount Ellis Academy English and Spanish teacher



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-1-MT-74](https://www.nwadventist.org/st/117-1-MT-74)

Townsend Hosts Free Vision Clinic

MISSION & OUTREACH



ON OCT. 1, 2021, MONTANA'S TOWNSEND CHURCH HOSTED A FREE VISION CARE CLINIC CALLED BETTER VISION BETTER HOPE.

The event served the local community by providing free eye screenings and offering a wide selection of eyewear frames. Andrea Schellenberg, event coordinator, worked with her family and church members to make the event a success. Oswald Rondon, ophthalmologist, performed eye exams with assistance from his family; wife, Betty; son, Amadeo and daughter, Amadis.

During the clinic, recorded hymns were played and literature,

including writings of E.G. White, was shared. When requested, church elders would pray with guests.

A total of 43 people were served at the clinic. Some received prescriptions, some new frames and everyone received give-away-bags.

Two days after the event, the Rondon and Schellenberg families traveled to the neighboring town of Whitehall to hold a second event. The patients' new glasses were delivered to churches by Thanksgiving.



KATE HUMPHREY
Townsend Church clerk

More online at
NWADVENT.ST/117-1-MT-93

**Legal Notice:
Montana Conference of Seventh-day Adventist's
Renewing Faith and Restoring Hope Constituency Session**

Notice is hereby given that the 63rd Regular Session (quadrennium) of the Montana Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc., under the laws of the state of Montana, will be held in the gymnasium/auditorium on the campus of Mount Ellis Academy, Bozeman, Montana, April 10, 2022, beginning at 10 a.m. This Renewing Faith and Restoring Hope Constituency Session is called for the purpose of electing officers and departmental staff for the ensuing term, to elect a Board of Directors, to elect an Articles and By-laws Committee, to consider amendments to the by-laws, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the session. Each church in the conference is entitled to one delegate plus one delegate for each 17 members or major fraction thereof.

Ken Norton, Montana Conference President



Wenatchee Remembers Beloved Community Leader



More online at
NWADVENT.ST/117-1-NPUC-76

MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED PEOPLE GATHERED AT THE WENATCHEE CHURCH ON OCT. 30, 2021, TO CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF CHARLES R. STEINBERG.

The prominent Wenatchee attorney, and two-time Chelan County judicial candidate, died Sept. 21, 2021 after collapsing at his home.

The service, held in Steinberg's home church, was attended by people from all walks of life. Dozens of people took the opportunity to share memories of this humble man who touched all who knew him. Many were moved to tears as friends and family recounted how Steinberg befriended, cared for, mentored and served all in his sphere of influence.

People shared how Steinberg had served them in a professional capacity with genuine care and attention. A Washington state chess champion, he enjoyed applying his analytical skills to solve people's legal problems at his law practice.

"I worked with Charles for eight years. He was one of the nicest business owners in the whole town, and I've dealt with a lot [of them]," said a radio ad rep. "He always treated me extremely well."

Another person sharing memories said, "I was nervous about seeing a lawyer, but Charles put me at ease right

from the start." It didn't take long, and they knew they had a life-long friend.

This sentiment was echoed by yet another friend. "Charles was my lawyer, but beyond that, it's kind of unique when your lawyer is one of your best friends. Charles always had good advice for me."

People of all ages attended the service, including many friends of Steinberg's daughter, Sophia. As they shared their memories, it was evident that Steinberg genuinely took an interest in each one of them.

"The Steinbergs moved next door to us when I was growing up," said a young neighbor. "Charles shared my competitive spirit and was always up for whatever game I was in the mood for."

Another young person said, "Their house was always just a very safe place."

Steinberg felt joy when serving others. He often helped feed homeless people in Wenatchee's Locomotive Park on Saturday afternoons. His generosity was the subject of many stories.

Steinberg is also known for the pro bono work he performed on behalf of



Charles on the steps of the United States Supreme Court. He received national recognition in 2002 for his religious liberty work.

religious liberty organizations, including the Northwest Religious Liberty Association. He was vice president of the association for 22 years.

Andre Wang, NPUC general counsel and director of public affairs and religious liberty director, shared his memories in a video.

Steinberg frequently argued on behalf of churches and institutions challenging civic law on religious-freedom grounds. In 2001, he helped strike down a King County moratorium on the construction of large churches or private schools in rural areas.

His religious liberty work wasn't limited to local issues.

In 2021, he won a U.S. District Court case in partnership with the Becket Fund that guarantees accommodation for Sabbath-keeping athletes.

Steinberg grew up in Shoreline, Washington and studied law at Willamette University in Salem, Oregon, before relocating to Wenatchee in 1994. He opened his private practice that year. He twice ran for Chelan County Superior Court judge, in 2012 and 2018.

Steinberg is survived by his wife Joni, and an adult daughter, Sophia. He was 55.

JAY WINTERMEYER
Gleaner editor

Follow [@NWAdventists](#) on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter for daily Bible verses.

BIBLE READINGS
for

JANUARY

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

S M T W T S

						1 ////
2 //// Genesis 1-2	3 //// John 1:1-3; Psalm 8; Psalm 104	4 //// Genesis 3-5	5 //// Genesis 6-7	6 //// Genesis 8-9; Psalm 12	7 //// Genesis 10-11	9 ////
9 //// Genesis 12-13	10 //// Genesis 14-16	11 //// Genesis 17-19	12 //// Genesis 20-23	13 //// Genesis 24-26	14 //// Genesis 27-29	15 ////
16 //// Genesis 30-33	17 //// Genesis 34-37	18 //// Genesis 38-40	19 //// Genesis 41-43	20 //// Genesis 44-46	21 //// Genesis 47-50	22 ////
23 //// Job 1-5	24 //// Job 6-9	25 //// Job 10-13	26 //// Job 14-17	27 //// Job 18-21	28 //// Job 22-24	29 ////
30 //// Job 25-28	31 //// Job 29-32					

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.



Children's Ministries Director Shirley Allen Announces Retirement

TWELVE-YEAR-OLD Shirley Giles looked around her church, marveling at the adults who had accepted her, embraced her, loved her and advocated for her.

She noticed the old ladies that would stop to give her an encouraging word, the Sabbath School teachers that would invest in her as a non-Adventist. She noticed the time and energy that they put into caring for her. At that moment, she felt convicted that her life's work was to do the same—to advocate for those who aren't able to speak up for themselves.

After living out that conviction, Shirley Allen (née Giles) announced her retirement in 2021. Her long and faithful career of advocacy, ministry and support for children ended Dec. 31, 2021 when she

retired from her position as the Oregon Conference children's ministry director.

Allen's work covered two continents where she served in roles such as teacher, principal, pastor, church ministries director, family ministries director and children's ministries director. No matter the role or location, her heart for the children has always been her motivation. "Children are worth it," Allen said. "They're worth [our] very best. They're worth all the time and energy we can put into them. Children don't have a voice. They need us to advocate for them."

In her nearly 20 years in Oregon, Allen made her mark and left a legacy of valuing children and empowering leaders. "Pastor Shirley

Allen has been a mainstay of Oregon Conference for children's ministries for many years," wrote President Dan Linrud. "Her passion for helping children know, love and serve Jesus and others, has inspired others across our field to make a difference for kids in their churches and communities. Shirley's dedicated leadership has impacted her native South Africa, the Oregon Conference and the North American Division. She is beloved by those who have had the privilege to serve with her in any capacity."

Conference church children's ministries leaders remember her training seminars, borrowing stuffed animals from the "Zoo Room" and the myriad resources and conversations with Allen that inspired them to lead meaningful ministries.

Through Allen's tireless leadership, Gladstone Camp Meeting's children's program grew into a coordinated, multisensory program that inspires kids of all ages to love Jesus more deeply. "Camp meeting was always the big thing for me," remembered Allen. "I love to see the kids all participating and having fun while learning about Jesus. ... The whole vibe of camp meeting has been amazing," Allen said.

While Allen doesn't yet know what retirement will hold for her, two things are certain: She and her husband Dave plan to stay in their home in Happy Valley, Oregon. More importantly, she'll still be advocating for children wherever she goes.

"She will be missed," said Linrud. "We wish her God's abundant blessings in this next chapter of retirement."

JONATHAN RUSSELL

Oregon Conference assistant to the president for multimedia communications



More online at NWADVENT.ST/117-1-OR-18 ⁺

CHURCH

Pastor Jana Lee Appointed to Children's & Family Ministry

IN OCTOBER 2021, Jana Lee was welcomed to the Oregon Conference as the new children's and family ministries director.

For the last 10 years, Lee has been an associate pastor responsible for ministry to kids and families at Meadow Glade Adventist Church in Battleground, Washington. She'll begin her new responsibilities in mid-January.

She fills the role vacated by Shirley Allen's retirement in December 2021. With its new director, the department also receives a new name and focus: *Children's and Family Ministries*.

"Shirley has been building this idea for a while," Lee explained. "She has been building toward empowering and encouraging families and caregivers. It's the caregivers that are in the best position to reveal Jesus to the kids, so I'm excited to be in a place where I can encourage and disciple parents, caregivers and their children."

"Pastor Jana Lee has served with excellence and passion as she has effectively led ministries for children and families," said President Dan Linrud. "The Oregon Conference has been blessed by her active vision of helping children in her churches and families in her communities know, love, serve and share Jesus. We are thrilled that the Lord has led Pastor Jana to do this on a conference-wide basis from her new position as director for Children's and Family Ministries. We anticipate big blessings ahead!"

JONATHAN RUSSELL
Oregon Conference
assistant to the president for
multimedia communications

More online at
NWADVENT.ST/117-1-OR-20



CHURCH

OREGON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE VOTES PERSONNEL CHANGES

ON OCT. 21, 2021, the Oregon Conference Executive Committee took the following personnel-related actions:

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

Krissy Barber was invited to serve as associate director for communication following Gary McClain's departure in August to work with his family business. McClain's 15 years of leadership and service as communication director will be missed.

Barber joined the department as a graphic design intern almost 15 years ago and was later named administrative assistant. As associate director, Barber will work with Jonathan Russell, Assistant to the president for multimedia communication.

Barber said, "I'm excited to take on this new role as part of the communication team. As always, my goal is for our team to ever better-serve our members, churches and ministries throughout the region."

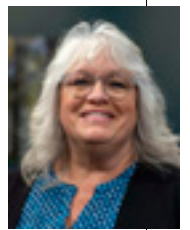


RISK MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

In 2021, Simona Cardwell announced her resignation as risk management director. Cardwell was highly appreciated by conference staff and pastors for her graceful leadership in dealing with complex risk and insurance issues.

The executive committee voted to invite LuDell Parrett to fill the position. To facilitate a smooth transition, Parrett began working before Cardwell's departure.

Parrett is a long-time leader at the East Salem Church and a member of the Oregon Conference Executive Committee. "I am confident the Spirit is calling me to this risk management ministry," Parrett said. "I'm very excited to partner with many believers to help ensure the safety and success of all our church's, school's and the conference's endeavors."



JONATHAN RUSSELL
Oregon Conference
assistant to the
president for multimedia



MORE ONLINE AT
NWADVENT.ST/117-1-OR-19

EDUCATION

RVAA Students Care for Chickens on a Mission

THE CLUCKING SOUNDS OF CHICKENS FLOAT ON THE BREEZE OUTSIDE THE KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOM AT ROGUE VALLEY ADVENTIST ACADEMY. THE CHICKENS ARE TENDERLY CARED FOR BY THE CLASS WITH THE HELP OF THEIR AMAZING TEACHER, RACHAEL DAVIES.

Throughout the school day, especially during recess, the kindergarteners take turns carrying a basket to the chicken coop to collect eggs. These eggs don't come from just any ordinary chickens. They are "Chickens on a Mission."

Davies began keeping chickens at RVAA as part of a project-based learning

lesson inspired by attending the EXCEED program at Loma Linda University. She wanted her students to be able to participate in a hands-on project that would also involve helping other people.

She decided to have her

kindergarten students raise chickens and sell the eggs to earn money they could donate to ADRA. The money allows ADRA to purchase chickens and goats for people around the world. By selling the animal's milk or eggs, people are able to support their families.

So far, the students have raised enough money to buy six baby chicks for a family in either Africa or South America. Besides learning to care for chickens they've come to adore, the project has also helped them learn the value of money.

If you ever visit RVAA to buy some eggs, you'll get to see how much the students love their chickens, and that they love helping people, too. These "Chickens on a Mission" are making a positive impact on young children in Rogue Valley, Oregon, as well as children around the world.

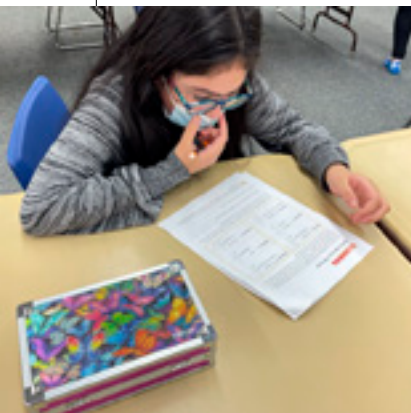


ANDREA JACKSON
Roseburg Christian Academy
volunteer

Throughout the school day, especially during recess, the kindergarten students take turns carrying a basket out to the chicken coop.

EDUCATION

GRANTS PASS STUDENTS ENJOY FALL WEEK OF PRAYER



EARLY IN THE SCHOOL, the Grants Pass Adventist School welcomed soon-to-retire, Shirley Allen, Oregon Conference children's ministries director, as guest speaker for its fall week of prayer.

Each morning, Allen participated in a short program with the kindergarten through second grade class. The entire student body would then come together each day for song service. She also shared a special message with grades three through eight.

Allen reminded students that, "Jesus loves me, I am saved, and for that, I am joyful." She also taught them to say, "I am brave," "I am helpful" and "I am free." Working with Jesus, we each can accept His love. With Him, we can embody each of these qualities.

Each day, she spoke about the special gifts God has given each of us. Students were encouraged to grow these gifts and help Him.

The students loved listening to Allen's Bible stories and wonderful memories of South

Africa, her homeland. At the end of the week of prayer, each child had an opportunity to make a commitment to Jesus.

JENNIFER BURKES
Grants Pass Church
communication leader

AMY WHITCHURCH
Grants Pass Adventist School
teacher



MORE ONLINE AT
NWADVENT.ST/117-1-OR-83

EDUCATION

LAA Lions Survive and Thrive

FOR THE LAST 25 YEARS, Livingstone Adventist Academy students have survived a trek into the Central Oregon high desert. Seniors venture into the wilderness and face challenges that inspire personal and spiritual growth. Two days later, the juniors join them for a weekend campout.

As the 2021-22 school year began with fewer restrictions than the previous year, the senior survival and junior/senior campouts were planned with anticipation. Neither the juniors nor the seniors had ever experienced the event, because it had to be canceled last year.

Many students learned from the experience, saying that if they had it to do over, they would “bring more clothes” or “pack more food” or “make their shelter more enclosed.” Making their own shelters left the seniors feeling “really accomplished.” Plus, it was a lot of fun.

One student surprised the whole group with supplies to make s’mores, which fostered a spirit of sharing and togetherness. Another student brought enough pancake mix to make breakfast for everyone. Waiting patiently, as one pancake at a time finished frying, gave the group extra time to spend with each other and an opportunity to grow closer.

What if the energy and resilience of our high school students could remind us that there is more to life than merely surviving? Life’s challenges may be difficult, but through them, we have the chance to bond deeply with each other and rely on God, our Creator. Let’s meet the challenge!



KATRINA KOCH
Livingstone Adventist Academy teacher



More online at NWADVENT.ST/117-1-OR-30



EDUCATION



Madras Christian School teachers (left to right) are Lisa Holliday, pre-K–K; Jana Edge, principal and grades 1–2; Grant Hagen, grades 3–8.

VETERANS EDUCATE STUDENTS AT MADRAS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

ON NOV. 10, 2021, and in honor of Veterans Day, Madras Christian School students were visited by two local veterans.

Duane Ledford, Marine gunner, and Cicilia Ledford, Marine corporal, spoke in the three classrooms, raising awareness of the duties and responsibilities that many service men and women have outside of combat. They also spoke of the service projects completed by the Marines in Madras, Oregon. Students asked questions and expressed interest in serving their country in the future.

Local experts come to MCS to share their knowledge on a regular basis. Past presenters have brought collections of birds, insects and reptiles, allowing students to interact with God’s creation.

Madras Christian School is the only non-public school in Jefferson County. It re-opened in 2017 and has grown to a three-classroom school with an enrollment of 45 students in grades pre-K through eighth grade.

At MCS, only five of the 45 students are Adventist. One of those students was just recently baptized — along with his mother and brother — because of the experiences their family had with the school.

JANA EDIGE
Madras Christian School principal



MORE ONLINE AT NWADVENT.ST/117-1-OR-89

CHURCH

Hallowed Halloween

THE SHARON CHURCH SITS IN A BUSTLING NEIGHBORHOOD NOT FAR FROM DOWNTOWN PORTLAND IN AN IDEAL LOCATION TO INTERACT WITH THE COMMUNITY.

“We’ve been looking for a new way to get involved with our community,” said Roscoe Shields, Sharon Church pastor. “So, we started looking at Halloween.”

Transforming Halloween into a ministry moment was a unique concept, requiring intense creativity and energy from the Sharon members. Ideas blossomed and led to a final grand plan—a fun, family-friendly, drive-through, interactive Bible study to help people understand the true state of the dead.

By Halloween afternoon, 147 people had pre-registered for the event held in the church parking lot. It featured nine stops where guests could visit and learn about important Bible truths.

“We wanted to engage people in a meaningful way,” said Drechelle McCray, church member. “But [we also wanted it to] be safe for all of us during Covid, so the drive-through seemed like a good idea.”

Sharon Church’s

creative, innovated outreach made an impact. It opened the door to build relationships with neighbors and brighten their community with the light and love of Jesus.

DICK DUERKSEN
Oregon Conference story catcher and storyteller



TIM TAYLOR

Nine interactive stops in the church parking lot provided the community with a fun, family-friendly Bible study that helped answer what happens when you die.



More online at NWADVENT.ST/117-1-OR-21



CHURCH

Fall Fun at PVC Fosters Community

THE HALLS RANG with laughter and conversation at Pleasant Valley Church on Saturday evening, Oct. 30, 2021. The Fall Fun event, with games, crafts and food, had an attendance far beyond expectations.

Initially planned for 100 people, the team serving dinner faced a positive problem—they needed more food for a growing line of people.

As the isolation of 2020 rolled into 2021, individuals and families came seeking a sense of normalcy, community, companionship and camaraderie. People found relief in the invitation to come and enjoy themselves while catching up with friends or meeting new ones. Folks who had not entered PVC in two years came and reconnected with friends. Several new faces were also welcomed!

The crowd enjoyed a variety of booths: pumpkin decorating, scarecrow

building, a cakewalk, two Nerf booths, a “Walk the Plank” game, apple bobbing (with chopsticks!) and a “Don’t Let ‘Em Drop!” glow-in-the-dark balloon challenge. Outside, a cozy fire pit welcomed guests, complete with s’mores! For those hoping for a more low-key evening, card and board games were available.

A heartfelt “thank-you” goes to everyone who attended, and to the many who volunteered their time and talents to make the evening a blessing to so many people. It was a night that gave everybody something to savor. But more importantly, the sense of fellowship and togetherness fed their souls.

MELINDA HOLLAND
Pleasant Valley Church member



More online at NWADVENT.ST/117-1-OR-41

Hood View Meets the COVID-19 Challenge

often have traveled a long distance for a food box—some from as far away as Oregon City and Milwaukee, others from towns near Mount Hood.

The number of families being served has grown significantly. More than 200 families were served through the month of May 2020. The next month, with an influx of seasonal migrant workers, 190 families were served in just one week. By May 2021 the monthly count had grown to 480 families every month!

If you travel the back roads of Boring, Oregon, you will see a sign at a School in Damascus, advertising free food boxes at Hood View Adventist Church. Because of this contact, some participants are asking what Adventists believe. One said she didn't even know the church existed before the pandemic.

Like ripples in a pond, God's love reverberates through every act of service from the hands of His followers.

In times like these, it's important to remember "... Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was Me—you did it to Me" (Matt. 25:40 MSG).

CYNTHIA CRAWFORD
Hood View Church member

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-1-OR-07](https://www.nwadventist.org/st/117-1-or-07) +



THE SUDDEN CLOSURE of churches throughout Oregon in March 2020, due to the deadly coronavirus pandemic, may have shut the lights out and locked the doors, but it did not stop Hood View church members from finding ways to serve each other and their community.

Members of the Hood View Church, in Boring, Oregon, continued to quietly help others while maintaining as little physical contact as possible to love and protect others from the highly contagious virus.

Hood View members checked in on those around them, and sent cards of encouragement. Church leaders delivered Sabbath School quarterlies and communion emblems for virtual celebrations of the Lord's supper. It was a vital way to build connection with more vulnerable members. One member, delivered and stacked firewood, another played the accordion in the parking lot of an assisted living facility, others took food to the sick, picked up groceries and provided transportation to doctor appointments.

One Hood View member heard about an organization that lost the use of their distribution site to share boxes of food for those in need. They were able to get permission from health authorities to allow the Hood View Church to host the group so they could continue serving others.

For nearly two years, that program has continued to thrive. Every Tuesday, cars line up, circle the church parking lot and stretch down adjacent roads. The people in these cars

DICK DUERKSEN



MISSION & OUTREACH



The latest "wood cutting party" was very productive.

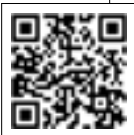
LA PINE MEMBERS FIND MINISTRY IN WOOD CUTTING

SEVERAL MEMBERS of the La Pine Church have found a creative way to give to those in need in their community. They've started a "wood ministry." Launched by former head deacon, Ty Kobza, they've been turning fallen trees from all over the area into firewood. Many community members have donated their trees to help those in need of firewood for the winter months.

In coming months, inmates from the Deschutes County Jail will be working with the wood cutting team as part of their community work requirement.

DON SURRETT
La Pine Church communication secretary

MORE ONLINE AT [NWADVENT.ST/117-1-OR-11](https://www.nwadventist.org/st/117-1-or-11)



EDUCATION

Seniors are the Heart of CAA

AT THE HEART OF THE COLUMBIA ADVENTIST ACADEMY CAMPUS IS A WATER TOWER. BUT THE TRUE HEART OF THE SCHOOL ARE STUDENTS, ESPECIALLY SENIORS, WHO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP, ENERGY, NOVEL IDEAS AND MENTORING, TO BLESS THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY.

The class of 2021 originally planned to give the CAA water tower a makeover as their class gift. When they discovered the \$200,000+ price tag, the plan changed to a one-mile walking trail in the northwest corner of the school property.

It was CAA students, teachers and community members who made it happen.

Aaron Payne, chaplain and organizer said, "We asked our students to come to school in work clothes and to bring a rake. The students worked hard, and it was fun to see what happened when everyone united together for a common cause."

Payne said, "Our hope is that this trail be a blessing to our school and school community for a long time."

The biology class has already used the trail for its diversity of ecosystems for birding, and additions will be made to the trail as time and weather permit.

LARRY HIDAY
CAA Gleaner correspondent



EDUCATION



GOD BUILDS DRIVEWAY TO SCHOOL

IN THE FALL OF 2017, the Oregon Department of Transportation informed Central Valley Christian School they would be placing a concrete barrier down the median of the highway, right in front of the school driveway. It would block over 75% of the students from turning into the school.

With an already struggling enrollment, this was a big challenge for such a small school. But, as has been the trend in this community, a group of volunteers banded together to brainstorm solutions.

Would the farmer, whose field surrounds the school on three sides, be willing to trade some land to give the school access to a nearby side street? It was worth the ask.

To make a long story short, the neighbor agreed to a land-swap and the school community rallied together to voice their support at what can only be described as the best attended city council meeting ever. More than 30 school supporters showed up at the meeting where the new driveway was approved.

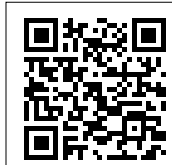
Following mountains of paperwork for wet-land studies, land surveys and more, the new 1,000 foot paved-driveway was finally completed by the fall of 2021.

Enrollment has grown 30% at CVCS, this year. Is it solely because of the safer driveway entrance? No one knows, for sure. But as one supporter says, "God doesn't build driveways to nowhere. He builds driveways to His schools."

AMANDA NAWARA
Central Valley Christian School principal & grades 3-5 teacher



MORE ONLINE AT
NWADVENT.ST/117-1-OR-32



Move online at NWADVENT.ST/117-1-OR-15

EDUCATION

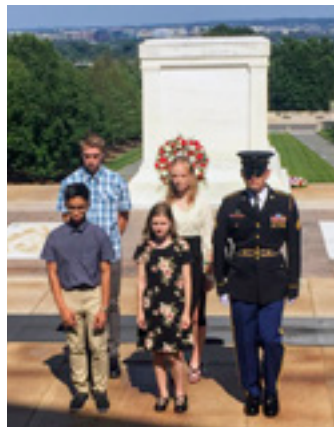
PAA Students Walk Through History

“BUT IT HAPPENED so long ago.”
 “The textbook is so boring.”
 These are not uncommon phrases uttered by history class students. Many adults would agree when recalling their own experiences in high school years or even decades ago.

Fortunately, 21st century social studies teachers have many more resources readily available to engage students in the exploration of the past. This includes access to archives, primary documents, high-quality documentaries and experts from all over the world.

At Portland Adventist Academy, social studies are taken a step further—instead of solely bringing history into the classroom, students go *to* the history! Every other summer, PAA offers a United States history class and tour. After the class has met for several weeks, and key understandings of U.S. history have been laid as a foundation, students, parents and teachers depart on a two-week tour of major historical sites on the East Coast.

The trip includes stops at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Gettysburg National Military Park, Colonial Williamsburg and countless locations in Washington, D.C. including The White House, The U.S.



PAA students, Samuel Ngo, Madeleine Healy, Ethan Evans and Jayme Brown had the honor of placing a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in 2019.

Capitol, The Supreme Court and Smithsonian Museums.

“Would you rather read about Gettysburg in a textbook or be *in* Gettysburg and walk Little Round Top where Colonel Chamberlain held the extreme left of the Union Army,” said Sean Kootsey, PAA history teacher. “History comes alive through experiential learning, by being there, by touching it.”

“Both my sons were able to participate in the PAA U.S. history class tours,” said Cindy Ulloa, “which created life-long memories for them. Learning by experience gave them knowledge and perspective for the foundation of our country, which is hard to get from just reading a book.”

A spiritual highlight is visiting Arlington National Cemetery on Sabbath, where

a PAA student lays a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on behalf of the PAA community. “... It’s a completely different experience than just reading about it,” said Senior Samuel Ngo, who presented the wreath on the last trip in 2019.

“Walking through history creates permanent memories and a better understanding of our history,” Ulloa reflected, “while at the same time creating an incredible experience never to be forgotten.”

Plans are already in the works for the next history tour this summer.

SEAN KOOTSEY
 Portland Adventist Academy
 history teacher



More online at NWADVENT.ST/117-1-OR-91 +

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paasda.org/admissions



David Jamieson Named Upper Columbia Conference President

DAVID JAMIESON, CHURCH OF THE VALLEY PASTOR, IN LANGELY, BRITISH COLUMBIA, ACCEPTED THE CALL TO SERVE AS UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE PRESIDENT. JAMIESON BEGINS HIS NEW ROLE IN JANUARY.



MAKENA HORTON

David and Shandra met at Canadian Union College (now Burman University) and have been married for 36 years.

“My passion in ministry is reaching out to lost men, women, boys and girls with the everlasting gospel, in the context of the three angels’ messages, and helping them prepare for the soon return of the Lord Jesus Christ,” said Jamieson. “We want to encourage everyone, everywhere, to love God, love people and to serve the world.”

The North Pacific Union administration prayerfully worked with the UCC nominating committee to select a new leader. In July 2021, John Freedman, NPUC president and chair of the nominating committee, encouraged all UCC members to respond to a survey asking them about their hopes for the future of the conference. As the survey closed, more than 200

names were put forward for presidency.

Jamieson grew up in St. John’s, Newfoundland, Canada and attended Canadian Union College (now Burman University), where he met his wife, Shandra. In 1989, he received a Master of Divinity degree from Andrews University and returned in 2009 to receive a Doctor of Ministry degree with an emphasis in evangelism and church growth.

Before pastoring at Church in the Valley, Jamieson served as president of the Newfoundland Conference in Eastern Canada. He has traveled worldwide, speaking at conferences and sharing seminars for pastors and laity, highlighting topics related to pastoral leadership, community outreach and evangelism. Additionally, he has been the speaker-director for Faith Out Loud Canada, a 30-minute, five-

days-a-week radio program, listened to throughout all of Canada.

Shandra has supported David in multiple roles during their 36 years of marriage and ministry, including serving children’s ministries divisions, VBS programs, local church guest services and teaching in Adventist schools. Together, they worked to ensure that their four (now adult) children, Shantel, Stacia, Joshua and Jared, were raised in a home, founded on Adventist values while contributing to their continued love for Christ and passion for ministry.

Shantel, their oldest child, lives in Burlington, Washington, with her husband, Nathan, and their son, Jamieson. Stacia, their second daughter, lives in Mount Vernon, Washington, with her husband Michael. Their eldest son, Joshua, daughter-in-law, Emily, and youngest son, Jared, live in Loma Linda, California. All four children attended Walla Walla University.

“I am deeply humbled by and consider it an honor and a privilege to serve the Upper Columbia Conference,” said Jamieson. “It is also abundantly clear to me that it will take all of us working together to advance God’s kingdom in the Inland Northwest and beyond. Shandra and I deeply covet your prayers, and we look forward to meeting each of you.”

MAKENA HORTON
Upper Columbia Conference communication coordinator



More online at  NWADVENT.ST/117-1-UC-12

EDUCATION

A Sandwich, a Random Act of Kindness and a New Opportunity



More online at NWADVENT.ST/117-1-UC-78

STEPHANIE GONZALES was standing in line at Subway ordering lunch one afternoon. That’s when she saw Paul Munilla, a Sandpoint Junior Academy board member, reading a book. She struck up a conversation with him about the book and, as divine providence would have it, the conversation steered into the topic of Christianity.

He offhandedly shared with her that he was a member of the Sandpoint Adventist Church and that they also have a school. He invited Gonzales to check it out sometime. Since she was ahead of him in line, she finished her order and ended up

paying for his lunch.

“I had just been blessed with a little extra money, and I wanted to pay it forward with an act of kindness,” she said. Munilla hardly had a chance to thank her, and didn’t get to talk much more with her before they parted ways.

The chance-meeting planted a seed that would lead Gonzales and her daughter, Baylee, to take a tour of Sandpoint Junior Academy.

“I had been wanting to get Baylee into a new school, especially a faith-based one, but I never thought it would be possible to make that happen,” Stephanie said.

When Baylee met her teachers in the classroom, there was no doubt that this was where she needed to be. Baylee was accepted as a student at SJA, and she is now thriving.

When asked about her experience so far, Baylee said she “loves doing math” and that “friends here are more exciting [than in her last school].”

“Baylee always comes home excited about history and science and Bible and shares what she is excited about,” said Gonzales. “She wasn’t excited about school before. This is a more positive environment. Ever since she started here, she is a whole new kid. Even other people who know her are noticing.”

MICHAEL LEE
Sandpoint Junior Academy principal

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SANDPOINT JUNIOR ACADEMY

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MAKEWA HORTON

• Brian Harris (left), Upper Columbia Conference vice president for education, was asked by Monte Fisher (right), principal of Palisades Christian Academy, to cut the ribbon for the ceremony.

Palisades Christian Academy Opens New Gymnasium

IN OCTOBER 2021, PALISADES CHRISTIAN ACADEMY IN SPOKANE, WASHINGTON, HELD A RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY TO CELEBRATE THE OPENING OF THEIR BRAND-NEW MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING/GYMNASIUM.

The new addition is more than 15,000 square feet and includes two full-sized basketball courts and a large stage at one end. The gym space has also been laid out to accommodate two full volleyball courts, badminton, pickle ball and more.

“We hope to use this space for community gatherings, church nights and after-school sports,” said Monte Fisher, PCA principal.

When PCA was still known as Spokane Junior Academy, they had completed a new main school building in 2009 at a different location. It was renamed during the relocation of the school campus. Since the relocation, the school has used their bus barn to conduct physical education classes during the winter months. Now, more than 10 years after the completion of the main building, students finally have a gymnasium to play in, and a large location for social gatherings and events—especially appreciated during Spokane’s winter months.

During the ceremony, Fisher thanked all those who contributed to the important addition. The project was heavily impacted by Tim Windemuth, PCA development director.

“Coach Windemuth’s unquenchable enthusiasm and driving energy inspires those around him,” said Fisher. “He does this for the kids and loves every minute of it.”

Windemuth served as the athletic director of Walla Walla University for 30 years and is still finding ways to serve the Lord. Windemuth raised a significant portion of the funds for the project, led from inception, and organized volunteer groups to help keep the project on budget. When Windemuth was asked why this is so critical, he shared, “We just want to see these kids in heaven.”

Additional thanks were shared with Wesslen Construction, owned and operated by Jerry and Jeff Wesslen, and Cox Construction, owned and operated by Kenton Cox. The firms united their efforts, agreeing to take on the project in late 2019. The Wesslen and Cox families both attend the South Hill Church in Spokane.

There was understandable uncertainty during the months of the project. Construction costs skyrocketed, materials became less accessible, and

the workforce changed dramatically. Yet, the project miraculously continued to progress steadily. “Despite the challenges that arose in the project, God seemed to always have an answer,” Fisher said. “When we were at a loss, God would open the doors, and it was clear who was in charge of this effort.”

Brian Harris, Upper Columbia Conference vice president for education, was asked to cut the ribbon for the building dedication ceremony. Harris previously served as the school’s principal many years ago, and was heavily involved in the initial project. Harris reminisced about the challenges faced during the building of the school, and shared a few of the stories about the process more than 10 years ago.

At the ceremony, Harris reminded the audience of more than 200, why these building projects are so important “We take on projects like these to bring just One More to the kingdom.”

MONTE FISHER
*Palisades Christian Academy
principal*



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-1-UC-83](https://www.nwadventist.org/st/117-1-uc-83)

EDUCATION

YACS Faces Challenging Times With God

FOLLOWING THE 2019-20

school year and the impacts of COVID-19, the Yakima Adventist Christian School family was excited about a new school year and in-person classes with friends and teachers.

Denise Carey, YACS principal, had spent countless hours during the 2020 summer vacation working with the Yakima County Health Department, the school board and others to ensure a safe and smooth return to in-person education. Little did they know the other challenges awaiting.

Following a silent battle with cancer, Carey suddenly passed away on Oct. 17, 2020. Since many were

unaware of Carey's battle, the news of her death hit hard. The sudden vacancy in leadership prompted many questions.

The book of Isaiah says, "I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please" (Isah. 46:10, NIV). The text continues, "Before they call, I will answer; while they are still speaking, I will hear" (Isah. 65:24, NIV).

Knowing the end from the beginning, and answering our prayers before they were breathed, God was already providing.

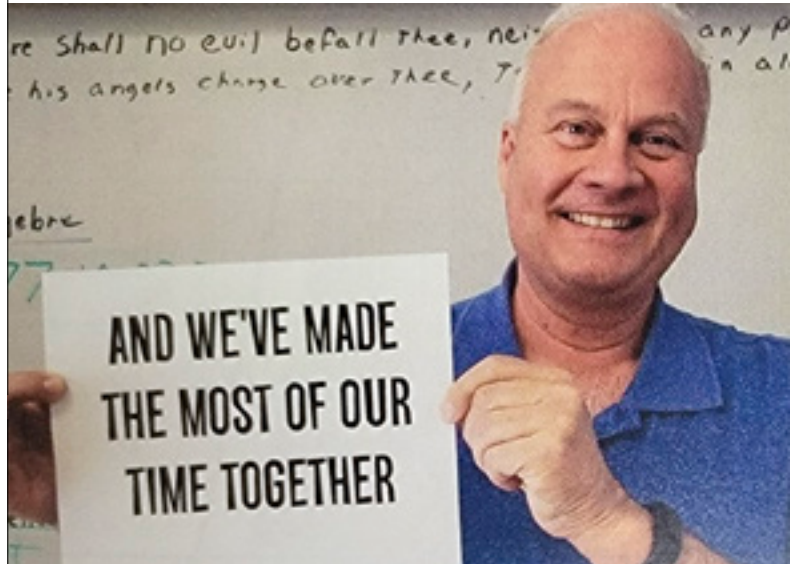
Karen Wasiczko, school board chair and retired YACS teacher, along with her husband Wayne, retired YACS principal and teacher, stepped up to provide leadership as a temporary principal team until a more permanent solution



could be found.

In late October, Delmar Wolfkill, 9-10th grade teacher, was selected to fill the role as principal for the remainder of the school year.

As Wolfkill transitioned to principal, YACS needed a replacement teacher for second semester. Once again, God already had a solution. During



the December break, Rick Blumenschein moved from Wisconsin to Yakima to finish the school year as the 9-10th grade teacher.

As Christians, we are called to God's service. When God calls us to serve, we may feel unqualified or unsure of our abilities. When God called Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, Moses initially questioned God's call. "Moses said to the Lord, 'Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue'" (Exodus 4:10, NIV). Moses told the

Lord he was unqualified to complete the task God was calling him to do.

The Lord responded to Moses' excuse, and said, "... Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say" (Exodus 4:11-12, NIV).

Although we may not always feel capable to answer God's call, may we remember God is always faithful to provide the tools necessary to for us to complete His mission for such a time as this.



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-1-UC-97](https://www.nwadventist.org/st/117-1-uc-97)

ANDREW BIGELOW
Yakima Adventist Christian
School correspondent



EDUCATION



Rogers School Surpasses Goal by 100%

• Left to right: Jackson Bryant, Micah Lopez, Sofie Edwards ran the most miles in two hours.

ROGERS ADVENTIST SCHOOL organizers were at the Martin Field Track setting up for a fundraising jog-a-thon on a beautiful fall morning in College Place, Washington. But the students were nowhere to be found.

Ironically, students were missing because of the very same problem the fundraiser would help to solve. The school's bus had broken down again.

Every year, RAS students choose a fundraising goal, then participate in a jog-a-thon to reach their goal. In past years, they've raised money for picnic tables and computers. This year, they set their hopes high to raise money for a transit vehicle for field trips, music tours, athletic games and more.

The students wanted to try to raise the \$40,000 needed to fund the new vehicle. They invited friends and family members to sponsor them for the jog-a-thon and donate funds for the miles they would run. When the bus broke down on the day of the event, students and donors alike felt extra motivated to meet the goal.

Transportation rescue options eventually brought all the students to the track, where they ran and walked for two hours. Three students won the highest lap count in the school. Sofie Edwards ran 12 miles, while Jackson Bryant and Micah Lopez both ran 13.5 miles.

At the end of the day, and after all their hard work, students more than doubled their goal! Contributions from generous RAS donors came to \$80,500 allowing RAS to purchase not one, but two transit vehicles! God blessed RAS through the school community's hard work and generosity.

HOLLEY BRYANT
Rogers Adventist School
principal

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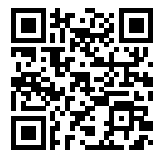
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EDUCATION


UCAES EXERCISES RESOURCEFULNESS

The past couple of years have been a long exercise in persistence and resourcefulness for Upper Columbia Academy Elementary School. Read the full story online to discover the valuable insights they learned.

Talula Tippet, grade 2
reading her Bible.

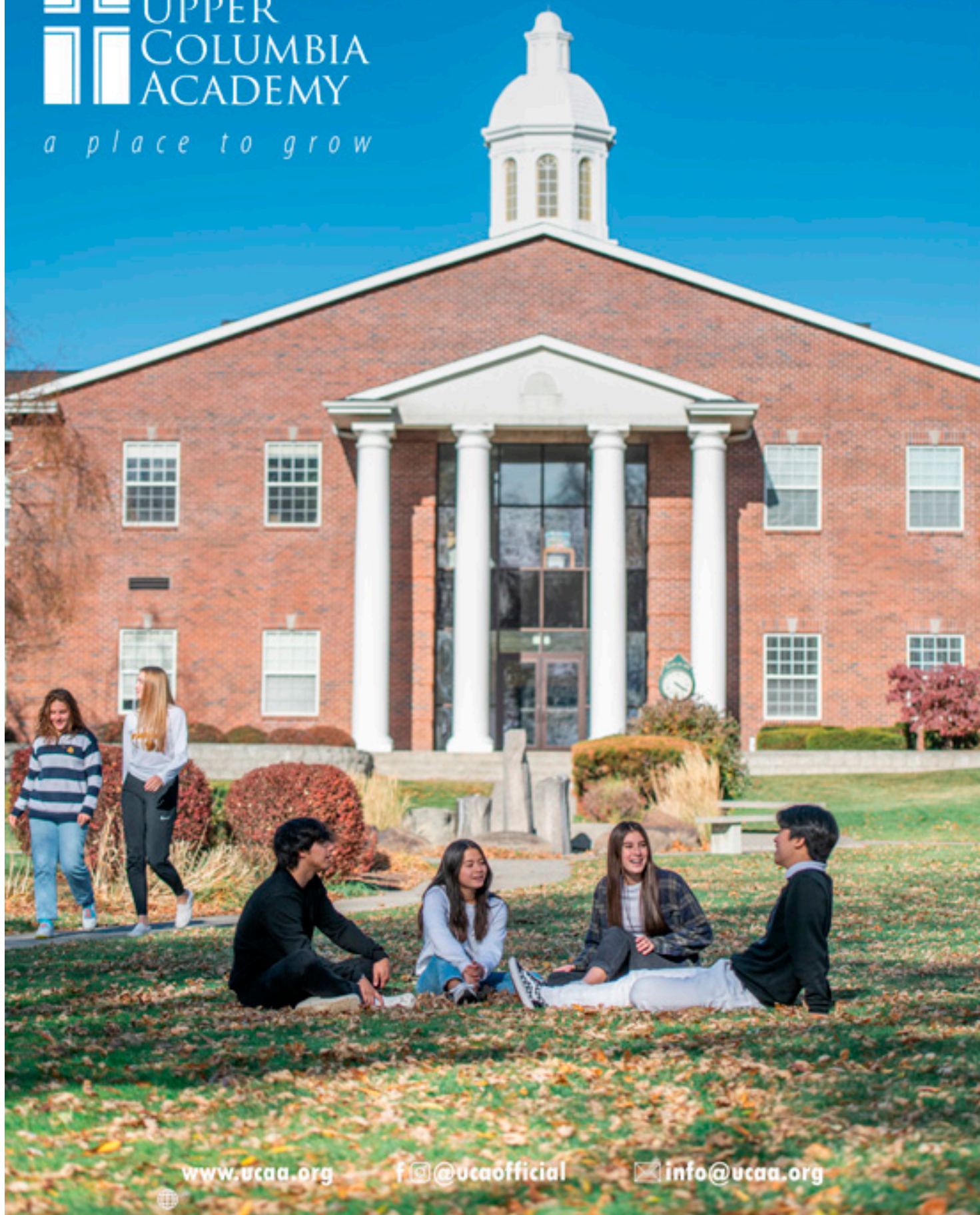


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EDUCATION

PSAA Re-Engages Two Value Pillars

SINCE THE BEGINNING of the pandemic in March 2020, Puget Sound Adventist Academy, in Kirkland, Washington, did what all schools had to do—adjust. The new uncertain reality forced everyone, especially educators and administrators, to postpone parts of their programs to maintain safety.

Preserving a consistent quality education during the pandemic was a challenge. For PSAA, it meant cutting back the sports programs, extracurricular activities, trips and more. While the adjusted program was a disappointment to students and staff alike, changes were necessary to keep the doors open for in-person learning.

Now that the pandemic is under better control and society has adjusted to new realities, PSAA is enjoying a school year with more possibilities. Students have finally been able to participate in an adjusted sports season, as well as extracurriculars and most annual trips.

The ability to participate in community services has been one of the most exciting things to return to the program this

school year.

During PSAA's annual fall Connect Trip to Rosario Beach Marine Laboratory, students experienced two of the school's pillar values—compassionate service and Christianity in action. The event was coordinated by Troy Ahrens, chaplain and Bible teacher, in collaboration with Brian Combs, supervisor at Fort Lawton Military Cemetery.

After a brief conversation about paying respect to military members and their families, students and staff got to work cleaning the gravestones of U.S. service members and their families. Combs supplied the brushes and buckets, while PSAA students and staff brought their energy.

"[Service projects are] important because it helps our students see outside themselves and to see how others take care of people," Ahrens said.

"It was a really eye-opening experience," said Sam Mesfin, junior. "... A lot of people are affected by the tragedy [of] war. It was just really humbling."

With the prospect of a COVID-safe future on the horizon, Ron Jacaban, PSAA principal, looks forward to more opportunities to demonstrate the school's mission. Jacaban said, "Showing Christ's love through service is what the Adventist educational experience is all about."

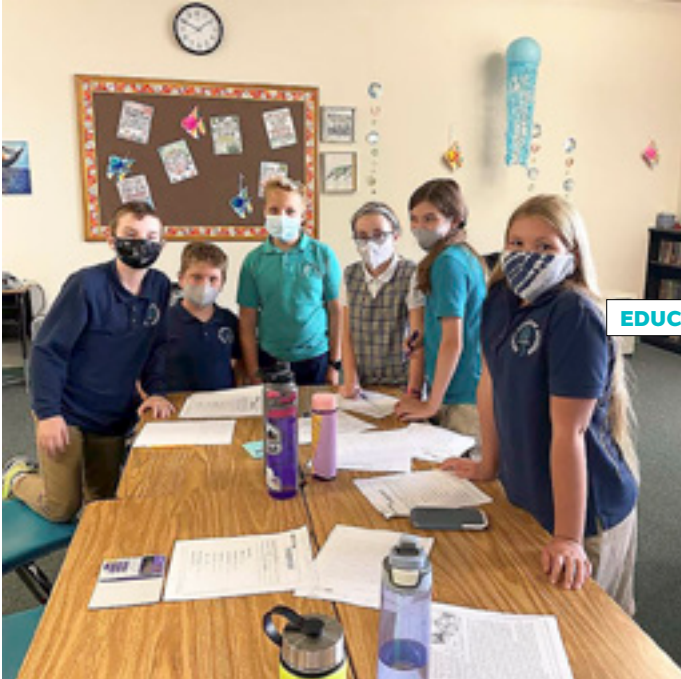
To learn more about what PSAA is doing, go to [PSAA.org](https://psaa.org).

JOSEPHINE BAIRD
*Puget Sound Adventist
Academy correspondent*

- PSAA senior, Taikianna, works hard to beautify a veteran's gravestone.



More online at
NWADVENT.ST/117-1-WA-99



EDUCATION

• The fifth and sixth grade students at Skagit Adventist Academy love doing group projects this year after a pandemic-related hiatus.

Skagit Adventist Academy “Tests to Stay”

IT'S ALREADY THE THIRD SCHOOL YEAR DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. IT'S NOT BEEN EASY. IN FACT, IT HAS BEEN STRESSFUL. DESPITE THE PRESSURE ON TEACHERS, PARENTS AND STUDENTS, SKAGIT ADVENTIST ACADEMY IN BURLINGTON, WASHINGTON, HAS BEEN ABLE TO OFFER IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION SINCE SEPTEMBER 2020.

Teachers and staff say they are grateful the 20-21 school year ended without a single positive case on campus. That was such good news! With all the pandemic guidelines—distancing, cohorting, health screening and more—it was a great feeling to finish the year with healthy students.

Early on in the pandemic, Tami Rowe, SAA vice principal, said, “It’s the unknown that’s

so stressful.” And she was right. Along the way, educators haven’t known exactly what school would look like. Besides the understandable fear of contracting the virus, teachers were also worried about going back and forth between in-person and virtual teaching.

But the SAA team committed themselves to providing a quality faith-based Adventist education, despite the

unknowns. With prayer and resilience, they pressed on and laid their fears, burdens and stress at the feet of Jesus—every single day.

This school year, as the coronavirus delta variant began to infect parents, students and church members, SAA team’s strength began to wane. But God opened a door to further enable quality education.

That opportunity allowed the school to partner with the local health department. The program, Test to Stay, administers rapid COVID-19 tests to students who are exposed to the virus. As long as

Serving as an approved lab test site is a blessing.

Educators have felt alone many times; parents and volunteers haven’t spent time in the school, events have been



• Ron Halvorsen, North Cascade Church pastor, presents a Week of Worship for Skagit Adventist Academy students.

canceled, Zoom meetings have become the norm and waiting for continued guidance and answers feels isolating.

Through it all, SAA staff are thankful for more than 30 new students who have been introduced to Christ for the first time. The joy helps offset the fatigue and stress brought on by the pandemic.

Please join the SAA community in praying for its students, teachers and all Adventist schools and educators this winter.

LAVONNE LONG
Skagit Adventist Academy secretary



• Third and fourth grade students at Skagit Adventist Academy enjoy an apple variety taste test.

the students test negative, they can stay in the classroom and continue learning. Though they are in a modified quarantine, education for our students is

not disrupted the way it is in other schools.



More online at NWADVENT.ST/117-1-WA-29 +



EDUCATION

highlights of the morning.

Teachers came to each table to share a prayer of blessing over the meal, then dismissed the group to get their breakfast. Grandparents were amazed at the variety of food served. There were vegetarian sausages, eggs, fruit, pastries and juice.

One grandparent said, “We can’t thank you enough for the wonderful grandparents brunch! We will never forget

Forest Park School Builds a Family

RECENTLY, A CLASS FROM THE FOREST PARK ADVENTIST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL WALKED TO A NEARBY CITY PLAYGROUND IN EVERETT, WASH. A FAMILY THERE BEGAN TO INTERACT WITH THE KIDS AND STARTED ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SCHOOL. THE NEXT WEEK, THEIR SON WAS ENROLLED AT FPACS.

The mom’s reason? “This doesn’t seem like a school, it’s more like a family.”

One of the advantages of a small- or medium-sized Adventist school is that relationships developed there become connected like family. With 52 students and three teachers, FPACS is a place where everyone knows everyone.

The community prays for each other, give thanks

for friends and write notes of encouragement. Every student has a “buddy”—they sit together in chapel, work together on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) projects and become special friends. The school family has fun together, too.

Earlier this school year, the FPACS held a grandparents’ breakfast event. Invitations were sent and grandparents

responded positively. Some drove across the state, and one set of grandparents even flew in from California! They didn’t want to miss this opportunity to attend their first-ever school grandparent event! Some students had family that were not able to attend, so members of the Forest Park Church were invited as surrogate grandparents.

The pandemic meant that most of the event had to be held outdoors, but all was well because God provided a miracle—great weather!

The event was a feast for the senses. The tables were decorated with student-created place mats and fall decorations. Families and groups of friends took pictures at a hay bale photo-booth. The K-1 students performed two songs with their hand bells; both their music and cuteness were



that special time with you all, and the awesome food, decorations and music. One of the best highlights was when [a teacher] came and personally prayed at our table with us.”

At Forest Park Adventist Christian School, God is the Father and the school community is family.

LUCILLE NELSON
Forest Park
Adventist
Christian School
principal



More online at
NWADVENT.ST/117-1-WA-23

EDUCATION

Lewis County School Intentionally Grows its Ministry

LEWIS COUNTY ADVENTIST SCHOOL, in Chehalis, Washington, has had a 20% enrollment increase since last school year.

“We are seeing remarkable growth in 15 of our 20 Adventist schools in western Washington,” said Craig Mattson, Washington Conference vice president

can be a ministry. Teresa has successfully worked with numerous Christian schools of varying sizes to equip them with tools to maintain or increase enrollment.

The marketing-as-ministry training workshop was held at LCAS in November 2021. The workshop was attended by school board members, teachers, school administrative staff and pastors as well as ministry leaders and members from Centralia and Chehalis constituent churches.

To begin the workshop, Kelchner provided background context and evidence supporting the value of Christian education. She also presented insightful information showing the changing characteristics of different generations through the 20th century. She showed them the increasing secularization of society, then challenged attendees to raise ‘Daniels’ in today’s world through three core environments—the home, the church and the Christian school.

Kelchner then spent time providing numerous examples of how thriving Christian schools are reaching their market. She emphasized the need to be intentional about

retaining existing students. She explained the value of outreach to both families already enrolled in the school and to families who might someday enroll their children. Kelchner pointed out what makes LCAS different from others and provided examples of how the school could share its brand.

The day after the workshop, Kelchner worked with the principal and school board chair, Dan Patton, to identify the short term (1–2 years) and longer term (3–5 years) marketing plans and activities.

Kelchner will continue to work with LCAS to

help implement the plans. The selected activities will be presented to the school board and ultimately to the constituency, who are critical partners in implementing the work.

Parents, church members and school board members look forward to working with each other as they strive to fulfill the great commission through Adventist education.

MERCY MVUNDURA
Lewis County Adventist School board member



More online at NWADVENT.ST/117-1-WA-86



KELLY GENNICK

• Teresa Kelchner and Kelly Gennick

for education. “Parents in the community are looking for values-based learning for their scholars.”

As part of the school’s continued focus on growing its enrollment, Kelly Gennick, LCAS principal, and the school board invited Teresa Kelchner of Christian Education Matters, to provide training on how marketing the school



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LEWIS COUNTY ADVENTIST SCHOOL
Chehalis, WA

EDUCATION

Baker View Grows Volunteer Network

BAKER VIEW CHRISTIAN SCHOOL IN BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON IS EXPERIENCING AN INCREDIBLE DOWNPOUR OF BLESSINGS.

After a temporary three-year closure, BVCS reopened in August 2021 with eleven students. It serves the academic needs of a diverse group of families in Whatcom County.

One of the biggest challenges in reopening the school was reestablishing a network of volunteers. But God's love for BVCS is abundantly shared by the hands and feet of His people.

The school's many needs continue to be fulfilled by faithful members of the Bellingham Church. One member volunteered to lay the new flooring for the school hallways while a Sabbath school teacher has become known as the "Friday story lady."

Volunteers teach Spanish, guitar, percussion and woodworking. Others provide and prepare food for hot lunches.

Today's pressures can



More online at NWADVENT.ST/117-1-WA-87



• Kathy Owen, reading volunteer and Primary Sabbath School teacher.

overwhelm young families, and sometimes, in the morning rush, a lunch is forgotten at home. So, the Bellingham Adventist Community Services leader planned a food drive for the school, inspiring the school's first food pantry—one that is never empty.

Transportation issues impacted the attendance of a significant number of students. The school van wasn't operational yet, so a family stepped up and offered the use of their car. Someone else volunteered to drive students each day.

Day after day, BVCS is blessed by a close, involved church family. With a heart for Adventist Christian education, the Bellingham members are living and breathing showers of blessings.

MARY ANN BARRETT
Baker View Christian School principal

CHURCH

LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

WASHINGTON Conference is pleased to welcome to new ministry leaders.

Pastor Derek Lane brings 30 years of nonprofit, fundraising and ministry experience to his new role as Outreach Ministries director focusing on Adventist community services, prison ministry and community engagement. He will continue pastoring Maranatha Church in Seattle.

Pastor Bob Moore brings nearly 28 years of pastoral experience, leadership and life coaching, prayer ministry and emotional and spiritual support care to his new role as Trust Services officer and Stewardship director. He will be working with the Trust Services team led by Jose Jerez and replaces Rita Gruesbeck who is retiring.

Get to know Derek Lane and Bob Moore through their online bios.



• Pastor Derek Lane is the new Washington Conference Outreach Ministries director.



• Bob Moore is the new Washington Conference Trust Services officer and stewardship director.



MORE ONLINE AT NWADVENT.ST/117-1-WA-03

CHURCH

Historic Ministry Boot Camps Focus on Growth

HAVE YOU NOTICED THAT ATTENDANCE IS SIGNIFICANTLY DOWN IN YOUR LOCAL CHURCH? YOU AREN'T ALONE.

In fact, according to research by eAdventist Membership Services, church attendance is down 72% during the pandemic (virtual and in-person) in North America.

Church leaders say it's time to take a refreshed look at the local church's ministry, mission and purpose through one of two approaches: church planting or church revitalization.

In November 2021, the North American Division Ministerial Association hosted an inaugural Church Revitalization Boot Camp in Washington state. It was followed by a Church Planting Boot Camp. The events identified best practices for churches to evaluate their current status, pray through a new vision, find renewed growth and be equipped to start a new church.

"Every church in the North America Division needs some type of revitalization," said Ivan Williams, NAD

"For many years we were told to tell the world, but not touch the world. We shouldn't be afraid of touching the world. This is a shift in thinking that needs to happen in the church and in the classroom," says Ivan Williams, NAD ministerial director.

ministerial director. "Some churches love their history, but don't have much to look forward to with their future. We are really focusing on revitalizing churches, not just in attendance, not just in tithe, but also in multiplication growth of people, because Jesus loves people."

The difference between a declining church and a growing church is often a slight shift in thinking from the "what" of ministry to the "why." This thought process – examining why we do specific aspects of ministry – helps church leaders refocus on their God-given mission. It helps realign ministries based on the church's purpose and engage

in growth-driven ministries such as evangelism, first impressions, worship services, children's ministry, prayer and Bible study.

"In Washington Conference, the vision is to see every church a growing church," said Doug Bing, president. "We want to see our

disciple-makers, serving the community, creating a new church culture, meeting weekly and seeking a pathway to becoming a multiplying church.

"Church planters are pioneers; they have a certain drive and tenacity to explore new territory," reflected Bill Roberts, Washington



HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

churches growing, thriving and multiplying, so we invested in these boot camps by sponsoring any interested pastor and up to five local leaders from each church."

Because the response to both boot camp events was positive, the Adventist Learning Community is working to make the curriculum available for additional leaders to receive training.

Churches who choose a church planting approach have a blank slate for equipping



More online at NWADVENT.ST/117-1-WA-02

Conference ministerial director. "We need church planters and church revitalizers to [help] our church grow."

"Church planting opens up more missional lanes for more disciples," said Jose Cortes, Jr., NAD ministerial associate director. "If we are not praying, visioning, planning and working to multiply, we are planning to die. If our church can only reach people who think, dress, eat and worship like us, we will never be able to reach those who are different from us. Jesus came to save them too."

HEIDI BAUMGARTNER
Washington Conference
communication director



HEALTH



Adventist Health Appoints Kerry Heinrich as Next CEO

ADVENTIST HEALTH BOARD CHAIR JOHN FREEDMAN ANNOUNCED IN OCTOBER 2021 THAT KERRY HEINRICH WILL SERVE AS THE NEXT CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR ADVENTIST HEALTH.

Heinrich brings a deep understanding of the Adventist Health mission and culture to his new role. He previously led Loma Linda University Health hospitals as CEO for more than seven years and served as the organization's legal counsel for more than 20 years. During his tenure at Loma Linda University Health, Heinrich helped guide construction of the new 16-story hospital and the nine-story children's hospital tower that opened in August 2021. He was named

the Adventist Health 2030 strategic vision to grow the organization's care, health and well-being services.

"I have always loved Adventist Health's mission of living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope," said Heinrich. "I'm honored to have been selected to lead and support this incredible team in this high calling."

Heinrich has a bachelor's degree from Walla Walla University with a major in history and a minor in business, with emphasis in finance and management. He earned a juris doctor degree from the University of Oregon School of Law.

Heinrich will replace Scott Reiner who announced his resignation in July 2021 to establish a family foundation focused on global health and well-being.

KIM STROBEL
Adventist Health project manager: religion, faith and mission

one of the "135 Nonprofit Hospital and Health System CEOs to Know" by Becker's Hospital Review in 2017.

"Kerry is an exceptional leader who brings a wealth of experience to our organization. He is passionate about Adventist Health's mission and our 2030 strategic vision," said Freedman, who, in addition to his role as Adventist Health board chair, is also president of the North Pacific Union.

Heinrich has served on the board of Adventist Health for seven years and was very involved in development of



More online at
[NWADVENT.ST/117-1-AH-93](https://www.nwadventist.org/st/117-1-AH-93)



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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 Job 33-36	2 Job 37:1-40:5 Psalm 19	3 Job 40:6-42:17 Psalm 29	4 Exodus 1-4	5
6 Exodus 5-9	7 Exodus 10-13	8 Exodus 14-18	9 Exodus 19-21	10 Exodus 22-24	11 Exodus 25-28	12
13 Exodus 29-32	14 Exodus 33-36	15 Exodus 37-40	16 Leviticus 1-4	17 Leviticus 5-7	18 Leviticus 8-10	19
20 Leviticus 11-14	21 Leviticus 15-18	22 Leviticus 19-22	23 Leviticus 23-25	24 Leviticus 26-27 Numbers 1-2	25 Numbers 3-5	26
27 Numbers 6-9	28 Numbers 10-13 Psalm 90					

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.



PRICE — Roy and Christina (Lewis) Price celebrated 65 years of marriage on Sept. 11, 2021. They were married on Sept. 8, 1956 in Reno Nevada. They have 4 children, 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

family WEDDINGS

MAGID-GOLTZ — Mackenzie Taylor Magid and Daniel Ehren Goltz were married Sept. 12, 2021, in Telluride, Colorado. Mackenzie is the daughter of Tucker and Cindy Magid. Daniel is the son of Theo and Marianne Goltz.

family AT REST

ARONSON — Edward J., 84; born Jul. 11, 1936 Auburn, Washington; died Feb. 2, 2021 Desert Hot Springs, California. Surviving: spouse, Dorene (Weseman); daughters, Cindy Brooks, Jannell Johnston and Cheri Hopkins; son, Jeffrey; brother, Alfred; sister, Evelyn Smith; 8 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

ANDERSON — Fred, 93; born Dec. 9, 1927 Hillsboro, Oregon; died June 6, 2021 Coos Bay, Oregon. Surviving: daughter, Cathy; 1 grandchild and 2 great-grandchildren.

BAIN — Marshall Bruce, 87; born Aug. 28, 1933 Hutchinson, Minnesota; died June 7, 2021 Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Surviving: spouse, Melba; daughters, Anita Jepson, Marsha Spengler and Kathy Boutell; and 2 grandchildren.

BLAKELY — Frederick Thomas, 98; born Feb. 28, 1923 National City, California; died Sept. 11, 2021 Vancouver, Washington. Surviving: daughter, Carole Anderson (Dick); son, Wayne; daughter-in-law, Rosemary Blakely; 4 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchildren.

BROCK — George Walton, 93; born Jan. 29, 1928 Milton-Freewater, Oregon; died Sept. 9, 2021 Walla Walla, Washington. Surviving: daughters, Carolyn Karlstrom (Rick) and Susie Ratcliff (Bob); sister, Jan Brock Carlson (Doug); and grandson, Brock Purvis.

BROWER — Paul Albert, 69; born Oct. 11, 1952 Seattle, Washington; died Oct. 31, 2021 Everett, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Bernice May (Myers); sons Jonathan and Dustin; step-sons Andrew Kinney and Jonathan Kinney; 3 grandchildren and 4 step-grandchildren.

CASPER — Joyce Elaine (Lewis), 91; born Jul. 19, 1930 Fresno, California; died Oct. 28, 2021 Medford, Oregon. Surviving: sons, Phillip

Kisunzu (Cheryl), Dennis Casper (Marjo), and Martin Casper (Judy); 5 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild, 2 step-grandchildren and 3 step-great-grandchildren.

CLEWELL — Lenora, 81; born Jan. 20, 1940 Lebanon, Oregon; died Oct. 1, 2021 Jefferson, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, James E.; daughters, Sharlene Serjeant, Diann Shiver, Jennifer Serjeant; step-son, Jimmy Clewell; brother, Louie White; 1 grandchild and 1 great-grandchild.

COLLIER — Washington Everett Jr., 87; born Feb. 7, 1934 Crescent City, California; died July 30, 2021 Battle Ground, Washington. Surviving: daughters, Bonnie McDougall, Cindee Horsch (Lynn) and Gail Corn; son, Dean Collier; sister, Donna Mae Dingus; 11 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchildren.

CORY — Lawrence (Larry) Allen, 68; born Sept. 20, 1952 Medford, Oregon; died July 28, 2021 Medford, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Billie (Davis); daughters, Crystal (Cory) Ehlig and Carmen (Cory) West; brothers, Robert Cory and Scott Henry; and 6 grandchildren.

DAVIS — Evelyn Nadine (Nagunst), 84; born May 25, 1935 Table Rock, Nebraska; died March 28, 2021 Kennewick, Washington. Surviving: daughter, Brenda (Davis) Preddie; sister, Wilma Nagunst; and sister-in-law, Suzanne Nagunst.

DELEON — Jesus Garcia, 93; born March 25, 1928 Pleasanton, Texas; died Oct.

8, 2021 Albany, Oregon. Surviving: daughters, RoseMary Milne, Jesusita Cleary, Rosario Fuller, Dolores Martinez, Rebecca Hernandez, and Paulina Pitzer; sons, Jose, Juan, Gonzalo, Ricardo, and Jesus Jr.; brothers, Valentine DeLeon, Jr. and Manuel DeLeon, Sr.; sisters, Esperanza DeLeon, Prudencia DeLeon and Maria DeLeon; 32 grandchildren, 59 great-grandchildren and 18 great-great-grandchildren.

DUNHAM — Phillip Winfield, 93; born May 13, 1928 Detroit, Michigan; died Oct. 14, 2021 Salem, Oregon. Surviving: daughter, Diane (Dunham) Eyserebeck; son, Dennis; 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

EMORI — Hiroshi Walter, 80; born Aug. 13, 1940 Stockton, California; died March 21, 2021 Los Angeles, California. Surviving: spouse, Rosemarie; daughters, Nory and Sarah; sons, Peter and Andrew; sisters, Helen (Emori) King and Grace (Emori) Elder; brother, David; and 5 grandchildren.

FRANCISCO — Margie Marie, 99; born April 20, 1922, Klamath Falls, Oregon; died Sept. 27, 2021, Loma Linda, California. Surviving: sons, Kelly and Patrick.

GUGLIOTTO — Lee Jack Jr., 75; born Aug. 7, 1946 Brooklyn, New York; died Oct. 17, 2021 Walla Walla, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Jolynn (Atwood); daughters, Jessica, Gina Clifton and Wendi Moulli; 9 grandchildren and 1 great-grandson.

HABERLY — Leroy George, 90; born Dec. 8, 1930 Bremerton

Washington; died Aug. 15, 2021 Mount Vernon, Washington. Surviving: daughter, Gail Hagen; sons, Gary, Les, Loren and Glen; 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

HANSON – Virgil D., 76; born March 26, 1945 Silverton, Oregon; died Nov. 7, 2021 Albany, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Sharon; sons, Jeff and Craig; brother, Curtis; sisters, Johanna Teal, Charlotte Hiebert and Geri Paley; 7 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

HILDE – James Vernon, 81; born Jan. 21, 1940 Auburn, Washington; died Sept. 8, 2021 Portland, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Karen (Gratias); sons, Jeffrey, Steven, Ronald and Jonathan; 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

HOAG – Carol June (Wiss), 78; born Sept. 17, 1943 Hillsboro, Oregon; died Nov. 9, 2021 Colton, California. Surviving: spouse, Harold; daughters, Peggy Hoag and Dana Rosa; sons, Daniel and David; 7 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

HOERSTER – Laura “Anna” (Butterfield), 99; born Aug. 13, 1920 in South Dakota; died Aug. 1, 2020, Grants Pass, Oregon.

HOWIE – Myrna Marlene (Moore), 81; born Apr. 17, 1940 Gas City, Kansas; died Sept. 26, 2021 Boise, Idaho. Surviving: spouse, David Howie; daughters, Lisa (Ferguson) Shaffer and Heather (Ferguson) Shurtliff; son, Thomas Ferguson; sister, Charlotte (Moore) Clegg; brothers, Robert Moore and Donald Moore; and 10 grandchildren.

Jaurige – Elizabeth Diana (Blum), 60; born Nov. 12, 1960 Long Beach, California; died Oct. 1, 2021 Rogue River, Oregon. Surviving: mother, Linda Brashear; daughters, Lorallyne Darlen, Lucy Del Ferraro, Lisa Cisario, and Julie Neely, Jimi Lee Burkhardt; and 2 grandchildren.

JORGENSEN – Marilyn Jean (Anderson), 92; born Dec. 20, 1928 Janesville, Wisconsin; died Oct. 7, 2021 Irvine, California. Surviving: daughter, Barbara (Jorgensen) Thomason; son-in-law, Cary Thomason; and 2 grandchildren.

KISSEE – Theodore “Ted” Roosevelt Jr., 89; born Dec. 1, 1931 Paramount California; died Oct. 11, 2021 Rogue River, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Helen (Peterson); daughter, Kim Phillip; sons, Brian, Ted III, and James; 9 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

KOHN – Edward, 92; born Sept. 10, 1928 Waldheim, Ukraine; died June 27, 2021 Eugene, Oregon. Surviving: daughters, Alice (Kohn) Kenyon, Dorothy (Kohn) Syfert, Heidi Kohn, and Rhonda (Kohn) Barklow; 9 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

MAAS – Myrna Ruth (Parish), 92; born Dec. 4, 1928 Peck, Michigan; died Apr. 28, 2021 College Place, Washington. Surviving: sons, Randy and Reg; 5 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

MARTIN – Henry Calbick, 86; born Sept. 30, 1935 Glendale, California; died Oct. 7, 2021 Grants Pass, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Robin (Wampler); daughter, Heidi

(Martin) Wiggers; son, Brent; and 5 grandchildren.

MAYER – Linda M., 73; born Nov. 16, 1946 Stoneham, Massachusetts; died Oct. 4, 2021, Roseburg, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Andrew; son, Jason Richter; and sister, Debbie Trude.

MILLER – BettyLou (Schlader), 86; born June 12, 1934 Fargo, North Dakota; died Jan. 6, 2021 Tacoma, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Roy; daughter, Jenny Squire (Greg); son, Jerry Smith (Kim); sister, JaneAnn Bennett; 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

MITCHELL – Eugene Frank, 95; born May 18, 1926 Ukiah, California; died Oct. 12, 2021 Medford, Oregon. Surviving: daughter, Kathleen Mitchell; sons, Clinton Mitchell, Ray Mitchell and Walter Graham; 9 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

OGILVIE – Donald, 85; born Sept. 12, 1935 Bulowyo, Zimbabwe; died Sept. 8, 2021 College Place, Washington; Surviving: spouse, Margaret; daughter, Elizabeth; sons, Robert and Andrew; sisters, Elizabeth Ogilvie and Sandra Ogilvie Malahias; and 4 grandchildren.

PEAK – H. Maxwell Jr., 92; born Mar. 24, 1929 Lodi, California; died Sept. 23, 2021 Medford, Oregon. Surviving: daughters, Ginnie (Peak) Kim and Julie Peak; 3 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

PHILLIPS – Charlotte “Carlota” (Lease, Sizemore), 72; born Sept. 2, 1948 San Diego,

California; died Aug. 23, 2021 Corvallis, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Don; sons, Victor Lease, James Sizemore and Raymond Sizemore; 10 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

PHILLIPS – Ruth Elizabeth (Tym), 89; born Feb. 17, 1932 Beauvallon, Alberta; died Aug. 8, 2021 Walla Walla, Washington. Surviving: brother, William Tym.

REYNOLDS – EMIL Arden, 95; born Dec. 7, 1925 Philomath, Oregon; died Oct. 9, 2021 College Place, Washington. Surviving: daughter, Cheryl (Reynolds) Weis; sons, Ronald and Dean; and 1 grandchild.

PLACE – Ernest, 73; born Nov. 25, 1947 Pasco, Washington; died Sept. 3, 2021 Pasco, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Margo (Hinsley); sister, Cheryl (Place) Barron; brother-in-law, Martin Barron; niece, Jenne (Wannamaker) Page; and nephew-in-law, Lance Page.

RINGERING – Elmer Charles, 85; born Aug. 14, 1935, Brainerd, Minnesota; died Dec. 31, 2020, Pendleton, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Marilyn (Morris); sons, Jeff, Brent; daughter, Brenda Salsbery; brothers, Floyd and Don Ringering; sisters, Elma Trodell, Irene Aldred and Viola Pflugrad; 10 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

ROHLF – Earl Everett (Blondie) Jr., 90; born Aug. 7, 1930 Duluth, Minnesota; died June 24, 2021 Eagle Point, Oregon. Surviving: daughters, Irlene Rohlf, Connie (Rohlf) Dunks and Sharon (Rohlf) Westergard; 5 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

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ROLLINS – Paul Dean, 78; born Oct. 28, 1942 Gasville, Arkansas; died Sept. 4, 2021 Coos Bay, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Barbara; nieces, Sheila Rollins and Dora Rollins; nephew, Roger Rollins Jr.; great-nieces, RaeAnne, Rishona and Raziella; and great-nephew, Rylan.

ROBERTS – Michael A., 52; born Apr. 14, 1969 Puyallup, Washington; died Oct. 10, 2021 Moses Lake, Washington; Surviving: father, Nick; brother, Matthew Roberts (Love); nephews, Timothy and Titus.

ROUSE – Charlotte Rae (Shilleto), 87; born Jan. 20, 1934 Bellingham, Washington; died Sept. 28, 2021 Walla Walla, Washington. Surviving: son, Craig; daughters, Konnie Mountain and Charell Pester; sister, Claudia Unruh; 12 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

SCHLAMMAN – Barbara Lynne (Thacker), 84; born Aug. 29, 1936 Maricopa Country, Arizona; died Aug. 16, 2021 Nipomo, California. Surviving: son, Don; daughter, Terri Behrens; 4 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren and 3 step-great-grandchildren.

SEIBEL – Eva (Nelson), 95; born Apr. 21, 1926 Mt. View,

California; died Nov. 7, 2021 Milton-Freewater, Oregon. Surviving: daughters, Marlene Lovenguth and Wendy Williams; son, Doug; 6 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

SHEPPARD – Edward R., 70; born Dec. 15, 1950 Tacoma, Washington; died Nov. 11, 2021 Buckley, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Christy (Ryckman); daughters Becky Colin and Lori Suprunowski; stepson, Jim Ryckman; sister, Carol Frederick; and 5 grandchildren.

SHIELDS – Lisa K. (Randolph), 57; born Apr. 1, 1964 Downers Grove, Illinois; died Sept. 21, 2021 Springfield, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Verle; sons, Jamie Leach, David Leach, Eric Leach; father, Ronald Randolph; sisters, Teresa Randolph and Michele Toll; brother, Donald Toll and 8 grandchildren.

SPENCER – Racheal Lucille, 79; born Feb. 9, 1942, Seattle, Washington; died Oct. 26, 2021, Mesa, Arizona. Surviving: spouse, Leonard; daughters, Barbara (Spencer) Frohne, Karen (Spencer) Roane and Teresa (Spencer) Greene; and 4 grandchildren.

TANNER – Lew N., 97; born July 19, 1924 Los Angeles,

California; died Sept. 5, 2021 Pleasant Hill, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Freida (Brunner); daughters Jeanne (Tanner) Henriksen and Carol Henriksen; 2 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

TAYLOR – Kenneth V., 93; born Nov. 16, 1928 North Bend, Oregon; died Dec. 20, 2020 Salem, Oregon. Surviving: daughter, Mindy Hersey; sons, Jeff, Bryan and Shaun; 9 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

WASHINGTON – Booker T., 76; born Nov. 4, 1944 Fort Worth, Texas; died July 4, 2021 Seattle, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Jacquie; son, Booker Troy; surrogate

children: Tonya Blair (Samuel Sales), Venus Mollette/Glenn, & Ronald Lewis; brothers: Cliff Ellis (Althelia), Willie Washington (Charlotte); uncles: Phillip Jackson (Nancy), and Lewis Jackson; sisters-in-law: Regena Bethea (Joseph), Betty Chambers, Gena Burkley, Gilda Jasmine; brothers-in-law: Michael Bethea (Virginia), Robert Bethea, Jr. (Debra), Marion Chambers, Jr. (Joyce).

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

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Jan. 1 – Local Church Budget;
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Jan. 15 – Local Church Budget;
Jan. 22 – Local Conference Advance;
Jan. 29 – Local Church Budget;
Feb. 5 – Local Church Budget;
Feb. 12 – Adventist Television Ministries Evangelism (NAD);
Feb. 19 – Local Church Budget;
Feb. 26 – Local Conference Advance.

MORE EVENTS LISTED AT NWADVENTISTS.COM/EVENTS.

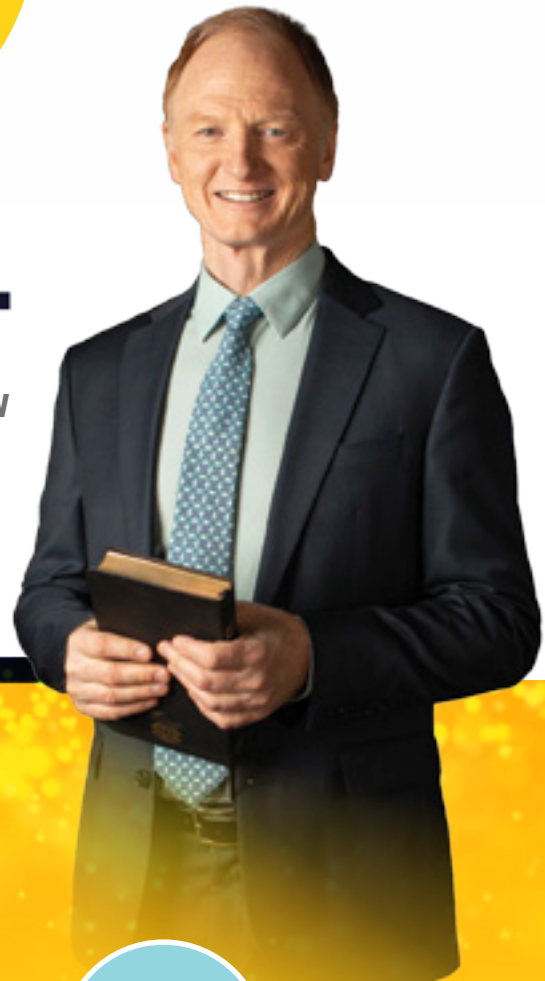


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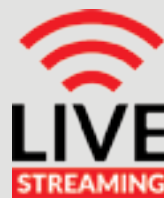
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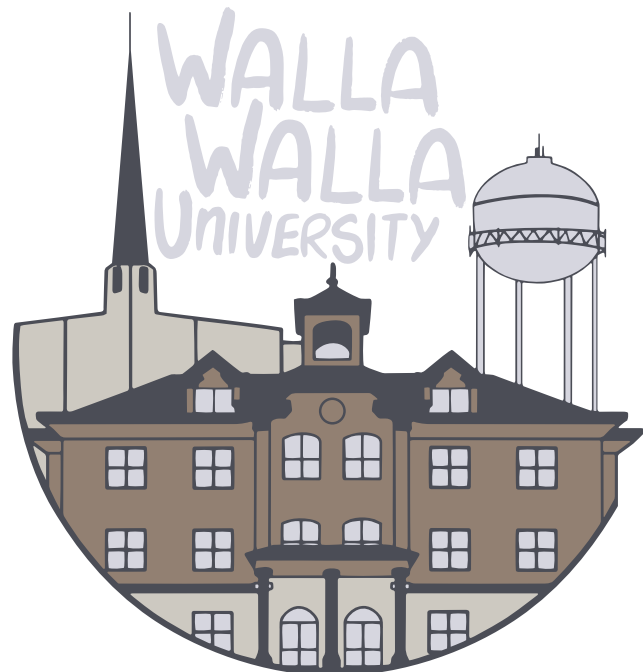
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Habits of Successful Students



AUTHOR | LaVonne Long

Adventist education is very special to me and my family. Honestly, it changed my family tree. I am extremely thankful for its influence on my life as a student.

Now, as a parent, it's important to me that my kids also succeed in school. While embracing academic success, I am also trying to balance the importance of my kids' mental health during the pandemic. That's one reason I love Adventist education. It has always focused on whole-person education. Together, parents and educators are working to raise healthy students.

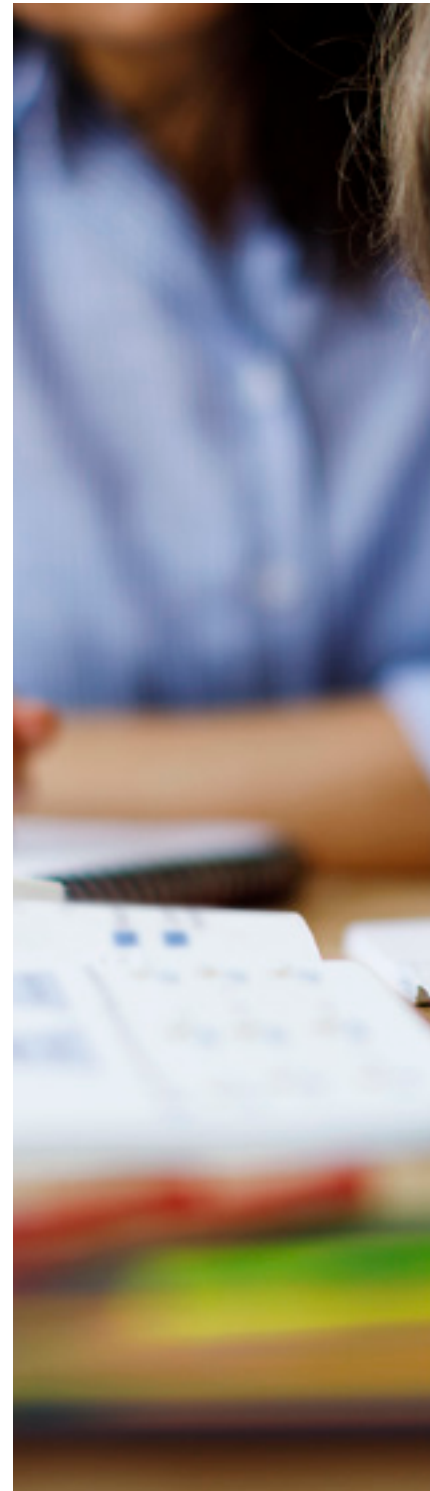
In our home, we have worked to develop a consistent practice of the following four habits to support our kids in becoming successful students.

SLEEP

Both of my kids have a set bedtime that they stick to every night. It's very rare if they deviate from this bedtime. When my kids get plenty of great sleep, they wake up happier and more likely to do well in school. Kids need adequate sleep—it's a fact.

SCHEDULE

We encourage our kids to do all the work they can in school. But if they do have homework, it gets done before any free time at home. We have an after-school schedule that includes time for chores, homework, dinner, free time, bath





Helping kids succeed in school means finding a balance between their academic success and mental health.



time and devotions. Working with a schedule has made life so much easier. We can keep up with homework and the kids don't feel as stressed. My kids really function better on a schedule—and so do I.

COOPERATION

My husband and I work cooperatively with our kids. We help them study, we stay involved in their education, we Google a lot of math questions and we give them plenty of grace when grades don't reflect their effort. Shifting away from letter grades as a standard of success has not been easy for me. But in this pandemic, I've begun to realize even more, that a letter grade doesn't represent the entire picture of my child's effort. When my kids know that they are valued and supported no matter what, they are more successful in their hard work.

ASK

We encourage our kids to ask for what they need because, usually, when you ask for something, you get it. Our kids know that it's okay to ask for help from their teachers, their classmates and from us, their parents. We encourage open communication, especially

when they don't understand something, or when they would benefit from more time to work on an assignment or when they want extra credit to bring up a grade. I am glad my kids are learning this at a young age because they'll benefit from their willingness to reach out for help for the rest of their lives.

These are just four things we're consistently doing to raise our children to be successful students. My kids are not perfect, and I am not a perfect parent, but that's okay. With heaps of grace covering these years, we have faith that the habits we maintain will provide the foundation they need to be successful, both now, as students, and someday, as adults.

LAVONNE LONG
Northwest Adventists family columnist

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-1-POV-82](https://www.nwadventists.org/st/117-1-POV-82) 

Bad Religion

H

He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them, He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name” (John 1:11-12).

Have you ever thought about why Jesus was rejected by the religious leaders of His day? He didn't meet their expectations, He didn't share their prejudices, He hung out with the wrong crowd. He appeared to break all their laws. God's people were looking for a warrior king to fight their enemies, but Jesus came as the Prince of Peace. They were looking for a day of vengeance, and they missed the glorious appearing of the virgin child. Jesus came as one of us, and He had compassion. It was not what they were expecting.

Jesus touched the untouchables. He embraced lepers, the ceremonially unclean, He called women to be His disciples. He was a friend of tax collectors and sinners. Not only that, but He drew close to the people who were shunned

by society, and it was His willingness to come close to people that the Pharisees feared most.

To the religious rulers of His day, Jesus would have seemed like a heretic. Jesus challenged their conception of religion, status and privilege. The liberation He offered was an existential threat. They came from Abraham's seed. They thought they were insiders. They thought they were saved by virtue of being Jewish. But

by society, and it was His willingness

AUTHOR

Kevin McGill



Jesus said Abraham was not their father – their father was the devil. He told Nicodemus that his Jewish identity wasn't enough. He had to be born again.

Being a wealthy, healthy, religious Jew had no bearing on salvation. The religion of Christ brought liberation for every tribe, tongue, nation and people. It wasn't about being male or female, Jew or Gentile, all were one under Christ.

But when you are accustomed to privilege, equality looks like



PERSPECTIVE



Bad religion is worse than no religion. When religious people misrepresent Christ, they lay heavy burdens on people.

needs to be confronted because it seeks political power under a religious disguise. It may claim to represent Christ, but it is against everything Jesus was for.

True religious liberty protects the atheist just as much as the believer. It speaks up against the oppression of a gay person, just as it would speak up against the oppression of a straight person. It is committed to the ideal that all men and women are created equal.

So be careful of political and religious figures that invoke the name of God but curse minorities and the vulnerable with their actions. Be careful of people who lead in national days of prayer but are actually hypocrites. Jesus called such leaders snakes (Matt. 23).

You can't be a Christian and a nationalist at the same time. Christianity can't be forced into a box based on privilege, exclusion and prejudice. Christian nationalism isn't about protecting the rights of the other, it is all about self-preservation. In that way, it is anti-Christ.

Christ was rejected the

first time He came to His own people. How will it be the second time around? If you have been rejected by religious people, take heart, Jesus was rejected as well.

When religious people misrepresent Christ, they lay heavy burdens on people.

"For they preach, but do not practice. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger" (Matt. 23:3-4).

Bad religion is worse than no religion. Where bad religion is exclusive, Jesus is inclusive. Where bad religion restricts, Jesus sets free. He says, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matt. 11:28-30).

KEVIN MCGILL
Green Lake Church senior pastor

oppression. The religious rulers thought that embracing "others" would lead to contamination and the loss of religious purity, but Jesus did not share that mindset. So, He was despised and rejected by religious men.

In his book *What Jesus Meant*, author and historian Garry Wills says, "The most striking, resented and dangerous of Jesus' activities were His opposition to religion,

relevant to His time. This is what led to His death. Religion killed Him."

Religion killed Christ. Or, I might add, religion, partnered with power-driven politics, killed Christ. History shows that when religious and political establishments come together for a cause, it often involves violence, war and death.

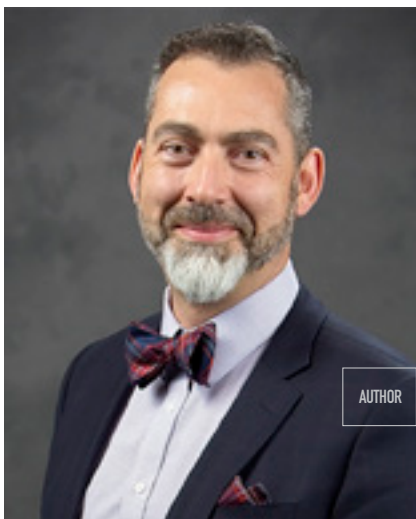
There is a rise of Christian nationalism around the globe. It

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/117-1-POV-27](https://www.nwadventist.org/st/117-1-POV-27)



THERE'S A FINE LINE

FROM WHERE I *Stand*



AUTHOR

Jay Wintermeyer



“The limits of my language mean the limits of my world,” said Austrian-British philosopher Ludwig Josef Johann Wittgenstein.

I’ve been thinking about this rather profound statement and how it applies to my life as I start another lap around the sun. In 2022, what are the shortcomings in my vocabulary? What language-limits curtail my spheres of influence?

So many people are afraid of others – “those people.” Those people are the ones ruining life, destroying the planet and wrecking society.

No matter where I look, fear seems to be dividing our country. It’s not just the rational fear surrounding COVID-19 that is isolating people. It’s the irrational fears about each other. Fewer and fewer real-life interactions are happening. Online, we’ve cut our language to 140 characters or less, and one-liner slurs abound. With a few strokes of a keyboard, we relegate people to one camp or another. One click, and we’ve dehumanized “those people.”

I was listening to a podcast this week. The guest, sociologist Brené Brown, said, “Anxiety and excitement present exactly the same neurophysiologically. In studies, people who labeled it excitement had

positive experiences. Those who labeled it as anxiety had negative experiences.”

Brown went on to say, “Language gives us a neurobiological handle on what feels too amorphous and fuzzy to grab.”

If the line between anxiety and excitement are neurophysiologically indistinguishable, how fine is the line between fear and friendship?

While I don’t have Brown’s scientific research to back my hypothesis, my guess is this: The line between fear and friendship is much closer than we might think.

The simple act of sitting down and listening to people moves me out of the fear zone to one where I can see humanity. I may not agree with everything you have to say, but when I give myself permission to listen to you, something happens. A door opens in my heart. I feel confident in your humanity, and that enables my compassion and understanding.

The inverse is also true. When I’m so convinced I am right and refuse to interact with you, a door shuts. My compassion for you is short-circuited. You’re no longer you; you’re “those people.”

Ellen G. White, a prolific Christian author, wrote, “How many of the wandering ones have you, reader, sought for and brought back to the fold? When you turn from those who seem unpromising and unattractive, do you realize that you are neglecting the souls for whom Christ is seeking? At the very time when you turn from them, they may be in the greatest need of your compassion” (Christ’s Object Lessons, p. 191).

Consider joining my prayer for 2022: Lord of my heart, create more open doors where You can work. Help me seek out more opportunities to listen. Allow me to be an instrument of Your compassion.

JAY WINTERMEYER
Gleaner editor

More online at NWADVENT.ST/117-1-POV-26 

Discover the Possible

Matthew 19:26



"Now I have the assurance that God is with me and that I am here for a purpose. I realized how much I needed God in my life. I finally recognized that by myself everything is impossible for me to accomplish, but with God all things are possible."

-Carlos Lopez, Class of 2018

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