

EDITORIAL
The Healing of the Nations

FEATURE
Caring Heart Awards

PERSPECTIVE
Election Year

gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION

Stories That Shape Us

Great Healthcare,
a Better Way to Live and
Hope for a Better Life

JULY/AUG
2024
VOL.119, N°4



*The counsel of the Lord stands forever,
the plans of His heart to all generations.
Psalm 33:11*

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JULY/AUG 2024

THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS

HAVE YOU NOTICED the divide between nations, religious groups, families and political groups? We need the “eye salve” of the Holy Spirit to grant us spiritual insight and biblical truth.

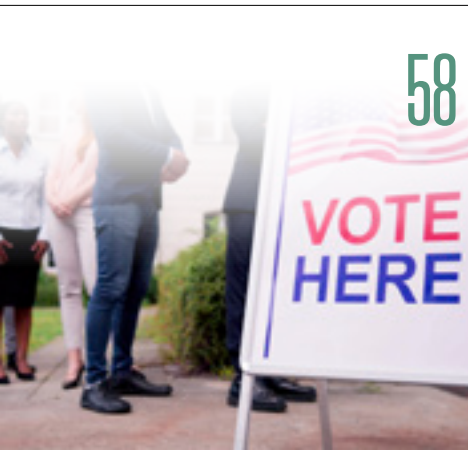
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6 MEET SEVEN INDIVIDUALS representing more than 37,000 employees and volunteers at Adventist Health who dispense hope daily in the way of Jesus, providing great healthcare, a better way to live and hope for a better life.

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58 Election Year

IN OUR CULTURE, we have been taught to avoid talking about politics and religion, but this has led to a lack of understanding of politics and religion.

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THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS

HAVE YOU NOTICED THE DIVIDE BETWEEN NATIONS, RELIGIOUS GROUPS, FAMILIES AND POLITICAL GROUPS? OUR WORLD IS POLARIZED, FILLED WITH FEAR AND ANXIETY, AND BROKEN. SPIRITUAL BATTLES RAGE AROUND US, UNSEEN BY OUR PHYSICAL EYES.



JOHN FREEDMAN
North Pacific Union president

We need the “eye salve” of the Holy Spirit from Rev. 3:18 to grant us spiritual insight and biblical truth.

The Bible reveals in Ephesians that we fight not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, powers, the rulers of the darkness of this age and spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places.

Eph. 6 advises us to “put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” Here, “wiles” means “cons.” The devil, like a con man, seeks to deceive with lies that destroy. What cons and lies is Satan, the ruler of this world, spreading today?

Again, the Bible gives us awareness: “In the last days, perilous times will come. For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!” (2 Tim. 3:1-5).

Why turn away from them? Because they deceive us with the lies of the ruler of this world. Paul warns in 2 Tim. 4:4 that listening to them leads to turning away from the truth and embracing fables.

God sent Jesus to heal the nations. As the Great Physician, Jesus alone has the remedy for sin and division. He is the way, the truth and the life. The remedy for our brokenness in nation, politics, churches and homes is to focus on Jesus Christ – the pure, unadulterated truth. Truth matters.

In Mark 7:20-23, Jesus is essentially in the operating room doing spiritual surgery upon His disciples. He explains this truth: “What comes out of a man is what makes him ‘unclean.’ For from within, out of men’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man ‘unclean.’”

What is wrong with the world? Why is there so much strife between nations, races, tribes and peoples? Why do relationships splinter and fall apart?

Jesus is saying: *We are what’s wrong.* It’s what comes out from the inside. It’s the self-centeredness of the human heart. It’s sin.

In fact, sin is like an unquenchable fire that will burn the whole house down and completely ruin individuals



As Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, Nobel Prize recipient, said, “The line between good and evil passes not through states, nor between classes, nor between political parties either, but right through every human heart and through all human hearts.”

and families. Sin will split and make ineffective churches and destroy nations.

As Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, Nobel Prize recipient, said, “The line between good and evil passes not through states, nor between classes, nor between political parties either, but right through every human heart and through all human hearts.”

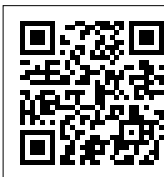
The Bible shows that the world isn’t divided into “good guys and bad guys.” There are “better” and “worse” people but no clear line between good and bad. Due to our sin and self-centeredness, we all contribute to the world’s brokenness. The only remedy is the Great Physician, Jesus Christ, who alone can remove the cancer of sin and bring healing.

The blood of Jesus is the only remedy for sin, and the cross reveals God’s eternal love. If I were the only sinner, Christ would have died for me – what glorious love! This restoration points to the blessed hope and glorious appearing of Jesus Christ, when He will fully restore humanity and creation, fulfilling Titus 2:13.

God’s glorious love must be shared with our broken world. Our lives can reflect the healing Jesus brings within us and our voices can testify to His love. We can live out God’s love for all to see and be instruments of healing for our nation.

This issue of the *Gleaner* highlights the incredible work of Adventist Health employees in our hospitals and clinics. Their mission is “living God’s love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope.”

Each year, Adventist healthcare in North America serves more than a million Americans, mirroring Jesus’ compassion and healing. I trust you will be inspired by the stories of compassion, healing and love from our Adventist doctors, nurses and staff.



JOHN FREEDMAN
North Pacific Union president

More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-3-EDT-40

gleaner

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IMAGES OF CREATION, P. 2



“Short-Eared Owl Sentinel,” in Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, Ridgefield, Washington, by Roger Windemuth, of Brush Prairie, Washington.



Stories That Shape Us

Great Healthcare,
a Better Way to Live and
Hope for a Better Life

Healthcare is more than prescriptions, procedures and treatment plans. It's more than hospitals, clinics, cancer centers, pharmacies and labs. Great healthcare is a team effort. It's people — everyone from physicians and nurses to chaplains and housekeepers — putting patients first and working together to inspire health, wholeness and hope. Adventist Health celebrates the skills and dedication of each person that helps our mission come to life.

Meet seven individuals representing more than 37,000 employees and volunteers at Adventist Health who dispense hope daily in the way of Jesus, providing great healthcare, a better way to live and hope for a better life.

Terry Johnson

ADVENTIST HEALTH OREGON NETWORK

Vice president for community and mission integration

8 years with Adventist Health



When Terry Johnson was 15, he liked a girl who worked as a candy striper. “I decided to be a candy striper so I could hang out with her,” Johnson said. “As a result, I became the first male candy striper at an Adventist Health hospital.”

Later in high school, he job shadowed Beulah Stevens in the hospital chaplain’s office. When he returned to Portland as a youth pastor, Stevens encouraged him to pursue chaplaincy. When Johnson went to Loma Linda University to complete a master’s degree, he also did chaplaincy training and became a licensed chaplain.

Now Johnson’s role at Adventist Health is twofold. First, he works to connect the hospitals with resources and partnerships in the community. Second, he ensures spiritual care and mission are integrated throughout the hospitals.

What is your best habit?

JOHNSON: I love giving gifts. I’m the one in the office making sure everyone’s birthday is celebrated.

Who has had the biggest influence on your life?

My mom. She met a lady at a bus stop who told her about this place called Portland, Oregon, and that they were hiring people regardless of their color. On faith, Mom moved to Oregon in 1948, leaving Dad with five kids. Within six months, she had a job, got a car and brought the entire family. My mother is my hero.

How do you unplug after a hard day?

Coming home to my wife and our 3-year-old boxer dog, Lucille Ball, brings me back to reality. Lucy brings lots of fun, and she forces me to exercise because I have to walk her. I also enjoy riding my motorcycle on Sundays on country roads.

Do you have a favorite book or podcast?

My favorite book is *The Power of Positive Thinking* by Norman Vincent Peale. I was flunking English class at Portland Adventist Academy. My teacher, Thelma Winters, saw potential in me. She said, “Terry, I’m going to give you a book to read, and I want you to write a report after every chapter.” That book changed my life.

What advice would you give your younger self?

Never give up. Just keep moving forward.

What do you do when you’re creatively stuck?

My leadership style is like King Arthur and the Round Table. If we can’t figure something out, I bring in people, sit around a table, bounce around ideas and say, “We’re not leaving here until we think of a creative way to deal with this.”

What one word describes your experience at Adventist Health?

Hope, because that’s what we deliver. The mere fact that a person came to a hospital shows there’s some bit of hope that their situation is going to change.

Do you have a favorite Bible character?

Blind Bartimaeus. When everyone was telling him to give up and not bother Jesus, scripture says he cried all the more. Bartimaeus never gave up until he received his blessings.

What motivates you?

Remembering that every day of life is a gift. Even on our worst days, patients who are dying would do anything to change places with you or me.

Haley Pacholec

ADVENTIST HEALTH PORTLAND
Interventional cardiology nurse practitioner
8 years with Adventist Health

Haley Pacholec knows firsthand about heart problems. During college, she had a pacemaker placed after experiencing complete heart block. Now, Pacholec's pacemaker helps her heart's electrical system work properly.

"When I was in the hospital, I saw how much time nurses spend with patients, and I changed my major to nursing," she said. While working in the ICU, Pacholec realized she was seeing patients after many things had already gone wrong with their health. "I wanted to focus more on preventing those situations and on improving health to keep people out of the hospital," she said. Now, as an interventional cardiology nurse practitioner, Pacholec is giving hope to heart patients she can relate to.



Who has had the biggest influence on your life?

PACHOLEC: My mother showed me what being a working mother looks like. She was a great role model as far as finding a passion, pursuing it and then balancing that with family.

What advice would you give your younger self?

Be patient. When you're young, there's this big push to figure out what you want to do and what direction to go. We have more time than we realize at the moment.

I didn't figure out what I wanted to do until I was almost through college. To figure out what you're passionate about, just be patient and let things unfold. When you're in your early 20s, you have a lot more time than you think.

What brought you to Adventist Health?

I went to nursing school at Walla Walla University and we did a lot of clinical rotations in Portland. Doing clinicals here and seeing the hospital and the staff—especially staff members who've been at Adventist Health Portland for many years and still enjoyed working here—pointed me in this direction. Once I came, I never wanted to leave.

What's your favorite part of your job?

There are a lot of aspects I enjoy, but I would say getting to see the same patients, establishing professional relationships with them and then helping them manage their conditions over time is my favorite part. I enjoy doing a deep dive into whatever they have going on and being able to help in as many aspects as I can.

How do you unplug after a hard day?

I have a wonderful husband and a German shepherd at home, so I spend time with them and the rest of my family. I do outdoor activities as well.

What gives you hope?

Seeing patients do better over time always gives me hope, especially when they're someone I've seen for a long time and worked with a lot. Maybe they came back to see me after having a stent placed and their symptoms are so much better and they have a new outlook on life. Having a perspective of hope is very helpful, especially when you are dealing with people who aren't doing well.

Treshawna “Tre” Turner

ADVENTIST HEALTH PORTLAND

*General manager for environmental services
6 years with Adventist Health*

“My life hasn’t always been easy, but when I started working and just kept working, I knew I was doing the right thing,” said Treshawna “Tre” Turner.

Turner manages a team of 50 people. “Fifty different attitudes, emotions and characteristics,” she said. “I always tell my team our differences are what make everyone in the world unique and amazing. There’s only one you and only one me.”



What is your best habit?

TURNER: I love hiking and anything peaceful that brings me a breath of fresh air. I started horseback riding two years ago. It’s one of my favorite things because you get to ride on the beach, smell the fresh air and sometimes catch the sunset.

Who has had the biggest influence on your life?

The biggest influence on my life has been my daughter. I want to show her what a positive, active, working parent is like. Having my daughter in my life, I know I have someone to live for. I have someone to nurture, to grow with and, most of all, to love.

What advice would you give your younger self?

You are worthy of being loved. Don’t let anyone influence you. Hard work pays off. Just keep going. God gives His battles to His strongest soldiers.

What brought you to Adventist Health?

I love that we can talk about God at Adventist Health and you can be comfortable enough to be yourself and speak up when something’s not right. We have an amazing team here at Adventist Health.

Do you have an Adventist Health colleague you admire in particular?

I admire our president, Kyle King. I don’t just admire him; I have faith in him that he’s going to lead this organization to success.

He’s the reason I’m in this seat today because he believed in me when I was unsure of myself. I’ve always seen him handle things with dignity, care and compassion. He loves us and cares for us and goes above and beyond for our organization. I’ve never seen someone in leadership who cares with such respect for others and respect for himself.

What is your favorite part about your job?

My favorite part about my job is leading a team of individuals who depend on me and look to me for advice. I also really like giving my patients a clean environment, because a clean environment is a healing environment.

Do you have a favorite Bible verse?

Isaiah 54:17. “No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is from Me,” says the Lord.” Even when it’s dark or I feel bad, no weapon formed against me shall prosper.

Why do you choose to work in healthcare?

I was born to be one of God’s servants. I’m here to take care of His children. I feel my calling in this life is to serve and take care of others and do His mission – which is to never judge but love His children as He loves us.

Larry Hamilton

ADVENTIST HEALTH TILLAMOOK
Employee health and case manager
41 years with Adventist Health

Larry Hamilton is the Swiss Army knife friend you don't want to leave home without. Whether helping subdue an unruly patient or teaching someone recently diagnosed with diabetes how to use an insulin pen, he's someone who always seems to know how to solve a problem.

At one point during the pandemic, he administered a COVID-19 vaccine every 3 1/2 minutes for 10 hours straight. His life is full of adventure, and he has all the amazing stories to tell that come with those adventures — and he's a registered nurse too!

What is your best habit?

HAMILTON: I enjoy cabinet work, so my habit when I go home from work is to chat with my wife, enjoy dinner and then spend the rest of the evening in my wood shop.

Who has had the biggest influence on your life?

George Hodgkin started an organization in this community called Men for Christ. That organization helped expand my religious and spiritual experience. With that group, I've worked on building projects in Mexico many times. I've also been a member of medical teams around the world including in Honduras, Uganda, Congo, Indonesia, Haiti and Mozambique.

What advice would you give your younger self?

Don't wait until some devastating thing comes along to do all the things you want to do. Do it now. God says, "I'll give you life and I'll give it to you more abundantly if you'll just trust in Me."

What brought you to Adventist Health?

In the '80s, a couple in Colorado hired me to work on their farm. One day, the wife said to me, "Larry, pick a college, any college, and we will make sure you graduate." My parents had both been nurses, and I thought, why not get a nursing degree? After I graduated as a nurse, my wife and I drew a circle on the map of everywhere we could drive a U-Haul truck, and Tillamook was right on the edge.

What do you love about working at Adventist Health?

I appreciate the culture here. You can share your faith and you can practice your faith. Since becoming a nurse, I've never worked anywhere else.

What motivates you?

I went on a medical mission trip to Mozambique. One day, I met a woman who came in for help with athlete's foot. I was talking with her and gave her gummy bears like we did all the patients — so they could taste the sweetness of what it feels like to be a friend of Jesus. When I first met her, she didn't want to hear about Jesus, but, by the time we left, she had given her heart to Him. That's the kind of thing that motivates me.

What gives you hope?

I've heard the voice of God enough to know there's a future beyond this world. My goal is to get out of bed every morning and say, "OK Lord, here I am. Point the way." He points the way and takes care of every little detail.

Jasmin Huila Flores

ADVENTIST HEALTH COLUMBIA GORGE
*Program manager for diversity,
equity and inclusion*
2 years with Adventist Health

At the new Adventist Health location in The Dalles, Jasmin Huila Flores is part of a team helping patients know how to access and use healthcare resources. Her team also works with community partners to implement strategies for addressing community health needs and identify opportunities for access to healthcare for people who haven't traditionally had options.



What is your best habit?

FLORES: Listening and remembering what people tell me. The small details matter. People are sometimes shocked that I remember, but when you're a good listener and care about the person, it's really easy to do.

Who has had the biggest influence on your life?

My dad. He has been a farm worker for more than 30 years in the Columbia Gorge region. When I think about him getting up for work every morning, it makes me feel very dedicated to my job. I want to put quality into what I do.

What advice would you give your younger self?

Don't sell yourself short. When you have an opportunity, take it and create opportunities for yourself by networking and asking questions. I was the first one who went to college in my family, to a four-year university, and I didn't even think I would make it. Sometimes I sold myself short. I don't want people to feel like they're not good enough to do something.

What brought you to Adventist Health?

I was born and raised in The Dalles. I could see the fear in my community of going to the hospital or emergency room. I wanted to influence change and make care more accessible and equitable and help my community navigate our healthcare system.

How do you unplug after a hard day?

I like to be around people, like my family and parents, and talk to them.

Do you have a favorite book or podcast?

Lately I've been learning about financial literacy. I recommend the book *Cultura and Cash* by Giovanna Gonzalez.

What do you do when you're creatively stuck?

I'm learning to take time off, even if it is just a day to do whatever I want. It helps because it makes me do something I wouldn't normally do and it refreshes me.

Why do you choose to work in healthcare?

There's so much that goes into health care, and sometimes specific populations get missed. I don't want those populations to be missed. Who will ask the questions that people don't think about?

For example, in our area, we have a lot of people who come from Mexico or South America to work in agriculture. Would they qualify for financial assistance? If not, why not? I get to ask those questions and influence change.

What gives you hope?

When I see that my work is fruitful, that gives me hope. When somebody tells me, "I'm really happy I found you. You're helping me," that gives me hope things will be better.

What one word describes your experience at Adventist Health Columbia Gorge?

Growth.

Pam Strachan

ADVENTIST HEALTH TILLAMOOK
Mission and spiritual care leader
18 years with Adventist Health

Pam Strachan had just completed training to be a respiratory therapist when she felt God calling her to ministry. She left her home in Syracuse, New York, and headed to Andrews University.

After her seminary training, doors began to open for clinical chaplaincy. An interview with Adventist Health Portland led to an in-person visit. “When I visited Portland, it rained so hard I said, ‘Lord, close this door, but let Your will be done,’” she said. Strachan worked in Portland for 14 years and now leads chaplaincy and hospice services for Adventist Health Tillamook.



What is your best habit?

STRACHAN: My best habit is being in the kitchen. I love to take raw materials, put them together and create something delightful and tasty.

Who has had the biggest influence on your life?

The biggest influence on my life has been God. I'm in awe every time He brings something to me. Every week I have a theme. This week's theme is “Taller” from Samuel's experience of growing taller in the presence of God. I'm inspired to grow taller and not just stay where I am.

What advice would you give your younger self?

Take it easy, girl. Breathe. Stop rushing. Things will work out.

What do you love about working at Adventist Health?

The people. It fills my soul to listen to people, to provide space for them to share their story and to be a supportive presence.

How do you unplug after a hard day?

I have a big dog named PeeNutt and a little dog named Gizmo. I unplug by playing with them.

What do you do when you're creatively stuck?

When I find myself stuck, I just stop and sit in that space of being stuck. I journal: What's the challenge here for me? Why am I stuck? When I write what I'm feeling, I'm able to move through it.

Why do you work in healthcare?

When God called me to ministry, I didn't know exactly what He was calling me to. When He guided me to chaplaincy, it started to make sense why He moved me out of respiratory therapy.

What one word describes your experience at Adventist Health?

Transformation. I have been transformed by the service I provide people. I have discovered the value in humanity – the God-spark within all of us.

What motivates you?

Hope – for myself and hope for others. No matter how dark things may look or seem, there is always hope. What gives me hope is love – loving people, loving the unlovable and bringing God's love to people who don't feel love. I also receive hope from translating that love into a message for myself when at times I don't feel loved.



Adam Lee

ADVENTIST HEALTH PORTLAND
Operations executive
13 years with Adventist Health

From rehabilitation to laboratory services to volunteer staffing to organizational strategy, Adam Lee works to ensure that departments at Adventist Health Portland have what they need to do their jobs well.

When he isn't helping manage unexpected situations, Lee works with his team to provide a clear picture of organizational goals and what needs to happen to be successful. "The way to make strategy successful is to help everybody in the organization understand their part in that strategy," said Lee.

What is your best habit?

LEE: My best habit is regular check-ins with my team, making sure I'm staying connected to the leaders I support so they have what they need and I know when issues arise.

What advice would you give your younger self?

Don't worry so much about each career choice. Early on we stress about picking a major in college and our first job out of college – or at least I certainly did. If you work hard and build good relationships, then you get to go wherever you want to go.

What do you love about working at Adventist Health?

I love the people and the culture. There is a certain culture at Adventist Health Portland that feels like a small town. It's small enough that you feel like you know the people around you, but it's not so small that you can't do some amazing things.

Do you have an Adventist Health colleague you admire?

Something about Terry Johnsson and the way he builds relationships and gets things done impresses me. He's so great at doing difficult work while building deep and meaningful connections.

How do you unplug after a hard day?

I have a commute, which allows me to sit and listen to an audiobook or podcast. By the time I get home, I'm ready to hang out with my family and put work behind me.

What do you do when you're creatively stuck?

I usually find it's best to just step away – whether that's just calling it quits for the day, going out to talk to people or going for a walk. I don't try to force through it most of the time because that doesn't usually work for me.

What one word describes your experience working at Adventist Health Portland?

Fulfilling.

Why do you choose to work in healthcare?

I feel that every day in some way I'm contributing to helping the community around me. Healthcare is super hard, and that's appealing to me. I don't like easy. I like the combination of hard work and getting to do it for the right reasons.

What gives you hope?

It gives me hope knowing that experiences are being created here that are special and unique to the work we're doing – because it's healthcare, but also because there's something special here at Adventist Health Portland.



Find more Adventist Health stories at AdventistHealthStory.org.

KIM STROBEL
*Adventist Health program manager
for religion, faith and mission*

More online at
NWADVENT.ST/119-4-FT-12



2024

CARING HEART AWARDS

Fourteen Northwest academy students received the \$500 Caring Heart Award scholarship, made possible through three-way funding from North Pacific Union, local conferences and academies.

Students were selected by their schools for exemplifying the spirit of the Caring Heart — a willingness to serve others. Each student is gifted with a plaque and an engraved Bible, courtesy of North American Division. The scholarship funds may be used toward tuition at an Adventist school or on a short-term mission trip.



JARED BEAUBIEN

Amazing Grace Academy

Jared Beaubien has been an AGA student for eight years. He has grown as a leader among his peers. Jared has been a student association officer for three years, working with a small team to plan activities and events for students.

His thoughtfulness and leadership shine through as he works with younger students in his family group, leads worship music for chapel and cleans the halls of the school. Jared is part of the audiovisual team at church and frequently steps in when needed.

This year, Jared was the student coach of the volleyball team and the captain of his competitive rock climbing team.

AGA looks forward to seeing how God continues to work in Jared's life and how He will continue to lead him to impact others positively. Jared plans to attend Walla Walla University this fall to study in the engineering field.



MELISSA PONS

Auburn Adventist Academy

Melissa Pons, AAA junior, is an example of compassion and diligence. Her innate sweetness and intelligence became evident to her work supervisor, Mata Ioane.

In academics, Melissa's commitment to excellence is equally apparent. Kilikina Vega-Richards, AAA English and drama teacher, spoke of her dependability and work ethic. According to Vega-Richards, Melissa is one of the most dependable, hard-working students she has encountered. Her punctuality, consistent effort and attention to detail make Melissa an exceptional student.

Melissa's spiritual intuition shines as a member of the campus ministries team. She crafted a week of prayer for Buena Vista Adventist School, blending storytelling, interactive activities and music to foster a connection with Jesus.

Her adaptability and dedication to studies and extracurricular activities highlight her multifaceted talents and commitment.

AAA faculty and staff proudly select Melissa for the Caring Heart Award, as she embodies the characteristics the award represents.



MEGHAN DAVIS

Cascade Christian Academy

If you've spent time with Meghan Davis, you likely know her contagious laugh. Not only does Meghan show care and interest in her classmates daily, but she also demonstrates her concern through leadership roles.

"The senior class president position opened, and Meghan jumped right in and took over seamlessly," said Greg Ringering, CCA history teacher and senior sponsor. "There was no class chaplain, so she took on that responsibility as well. These selfless acts of leadership are a small example of why she deserves the Caring Heart Award this year."

As president of her senior class, she helped plan a graduation trip that all could enjoy. Her role as chaplain has inspired her to write and deliver sermons to two different churches.

"Meghan has been a positive light on our campus. Her care towards others creates a contagious culture that's wonderful to watch," said Stephanie Gates, CCA principal.



RYELLE "EVA" ALWAY

Columbia Adventist Academy

Ryelle "Eva" Alway is a diligent student in the classroom, a leader as a school officer and a team player in her athletics. She is also a quick learner dedicated to her studies.

Eva carries this discipline into her spiritual life as well. After coming from a Daoist background, Eva has learned of God's love, embracing it fully and sharing her experience with others publicly. She points out that God has been with her every step of her journey, even when she didn't know Him.

Eva shares God's love with others by making sure everyone around her feels included. She has a heart for service that has grown through her experiences as a literature evangelist and time spent on mission trips.

CAA is a better place because of Eva. People around the world will be blessed through her life as she prepares to use her gifts in the field of medicine.



BRINLEY KENDALL

Gem State Adventist Academy

Brinley Kendall, GSAA junior, is genuine, kind and always willing to go the extra mile. Whether in friendships, school or leadership, Brinley is genuine. When asked to do something, she always follows through. She is a responsible and dependable worker and student.

Brinley has blessed GSAA students and staff each Christmas with handwritten personal letters. Brinley currently serves as student association president, which makes two years of holding multiple offices, both for her class and for student association.

She also enjoys playing on the volleyball team, where she is a captain and is motivated to be her best so that she can help others be their best.

Brinley recently gave her heart to Jesus publicly, choosing to be baptized the same day. With this decision and a continued walk with Jesus, her capacity to share His love will only increase.

Brinley is looking toward studying nursing or a related medical path after graduating.



SHAINA HEINRICH

Livingstone Adventist Academy

Shaina Heinrich, LAA junior, makes you feel at home. She brings a warm and caring spirit to those around her, often sharing smiles and jokes. She can be found singing "Never Gonna Give You Up" just to bring a smile to others' faces.

Shaina is secretary-treasurer for the associated students of LAA. This year, she helped the team welcome students on the first day of school, served pancakes after Christmas break and facilitated pen pals between the elementary and high school students.

She rings in the handbell group and always shows up with vitality and energy when she rings. She often volunteers to help with other parts of the church services like reading, playing piano and more.

At her home church, Shaina is a greeter and often helps with VBS, helping people feel welcome. She has a generous spirit, sharing freely with everyone around her.

CARING HEART AWARDS



KAROLINA KIMBROUGH

Milo Adventist Academy

Karolina Kimbrough, MAA senior, came to MAA her junior year and immediately jumped to work at sharing her skills and desire to serve others through being a class officer and a praise team member.

These traits carried over to Karolina's senior year as she continued serving her class as an officer and took on the role of dorm chaplain, where she nightly visits girls in the dorm and listens to their needs. She also helped plan Sunday evening dorm worship and inspired the girls with short devotional thoughts.

Karolina's impact on helping others grew even beyond MAA in summer 2023 when she led a special robotics camp at Big Lake. Karolina was the head of the program, and the campers who went through the program experienced her kind gentleness as she assisted people.

As Karolina finalizes her plans beyond MAA, she will likely attend WWU to study physical therapy.



GRACE CARTER

Mount Ellis Academy

Grace Carter, MEA senior, has an infectious smile and exuberance for life that she can't help but share with those around her.

Through serving young people as ASB president, part of the school chaplaincy group, a class officer, team captain on the soccer field and basketball court, and on her mission trip to Belize, she demonstrates quiet leadership and a capacity for encouragement and loving others.

One of her greatest desires is to offer encouragement to those around her. As a counselor at Camp Paxson, she developed a special relationship with her cabin and continued to encourage the girls with phone calls, texts and Bible study long after camp ended.

Her passion for Jesus and encouraging others was channeled into her senior project. She created mini-sermons, a video worship talk and a full sermon that she will be preaching at Mount Ellis Academy Church.

She plans to attend WWU next year to study theology.



ROGER ORTIZ

Portland Adventist Academy

Roger Ortiz lives the Christ-centered and character-driven motto of PAA. Staff noted that Roger is one of the happiest and kindest students to walk the halls of PAA. He is incredibly fun, helpful, positive and enjoyable to be around.

Roger has contagious joy and is a people magnet. He's not only a gifted conversationalist but also a non-judgmental listener. He puts everyone he interacts with at ease and makes them feel important and special. Roger is a friend to everyone.

In every area Roger becomes involved in, he is the caretaker. Roger finds ways to serve without ever being asked. He takes on responsibilities that ease the burden of others.

Roger exemplifies tenacity and willingness to learn and work through challenges. Deeply intelligent and thoughtful, his comments and contributions to discussions are valued.

Roger lives every day seeking opportunities to connect with others and be Jesus' hands and feet to lighten their loads.



VASILY BENTSA

Puget Sound Adventist Academy

Vasily Bentsa, PSAA senior, is a respected leader on campus and carries a lot of influence among his peers. He is a thoughtful and reflective person. He is an enjoyable person to be around and takes the opportunity to make others feel welcome.

As ASB president, he has been effective at involving other students in the activities. You can tell that Vasily wants people to feel like they belong.

Throughout his four years on campus, he has demonstrated a heart of service countless times. Staff and students have often witnessed these acts of service. He takes the initiative to ask staff and students if help is needed.

Vasily stands out as a student who truly cares about his school and community. He has made a noticeable impact on PSAA, and he will continue to do so wherever he goes.

For these reasons, PSAA recognizes Vasily as this year's Caring Heart Award recipient.



KESLYN BENNETT

Rogue Valley Adventist Academy

Keslyn Bennett has been part of RVAA her whole life. With her parents, Brad and Yasmin Bennett, devoting their lives to education, she and her sisters, Madelyn and Lauren, have seen firsthand the importance of helping others.

Keslyn participated in the RVAA high school mission trip to India during her junior year and has witnessed to others how that experience changed her life. Seeing those with so little be so happy and joyful in Jesus impacted her.

She has spent her summers working at Big Lake Youth Camp and is a part of her church praise team. Keslyn has also participated in many community service activities with high school students and helps out at Medford Church community service center.

Keslyn will be missed as she moves on to her college life experiences, but no matter where she ends up, others will be blessed just by being helped by her.



TAYLAN SCHWARCK

Skagit Adventist Academy

SAA is pleased to select Taylan Schwarck, SAA senior, as the 2024 recipient of the Caring Heart Award.

Taylan is the person most likely to hold the door open and greet you as you come on campus. He has a heart for service. Any time something needs to be moved or put away, he is the first to offer a hand. During all-school activities, he mixes with the elementary students and encourages their participation.

Last year on the 2023 mission trip to Belize, Taylan helped by painting the new lunch room, moving blocks and interacting with the local students.

Another way Taylan shares with staff and students alike is with his cheerful, upbeat spirit. Taylan is a sunny optimist who sees the best in every situation and every person.

Thank you, Taylan, for your unique leadership and for letting God use you.

CARING HEART AWARDS



ANGIE BUURSMAN

Upper Columbia Academy

Angie Buursma, UCA senior, is the epitome of kindness and care, with a heart that gives generously to everyone around her.

Over her four years at UCA, she has not only shared her incredible vocal and musical talents but has also emerged as a beacon of leadership and compassion. Angie embodies the values of empathy and kindness that define UCA.

In her role as a resident assistant at Lacey Hall, Angie has been a constant source of support for her residents, always ready to lend a listening ear and offer a comforting presence.

When asked what she appreciates most about UCA, Angie's answer is simple yet profound: "the people." Her genuine concern for others shines through in every interaction, making her a trusted confidante and friend to her fellow students.



CLARA SCULLY

Walla Walla Valley Academy

Clara Scully, WVVA four-year senior, attended Rogers Adventist School since kindergarten, so she has spent all of her scholastic endeavors at Walla Walla Valley Adventist Schools. Clara is always found with a smile and a warm greeting to whomever she comes in contact with.

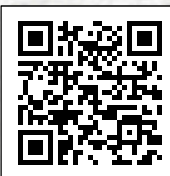
Clara also has a keen eye to see where she can help others. She works in the maintenance department and her infectious smile is seen all over campus as she helps to keep the WVVA campus clean and in order.

Clara plans to attend WWU but doesn't know yet what plan God has for her. She only knows that it will be something involving people. She wants to be a mover and to make a difference while helping others.

Clara's love for people shows in her relationships with her classmates and teachers. One of her teachers describes Clara as one of the most selfless and consistently kind people they know.

Adventist schools across the Northwest create active opportunities for Christian growth.

Find a Northwest Adventist school near you at npuc.org/schools.



More online at npuc.org/schools +
NWADVENT.ST/119-4-FT-81

AAA Forges New International Academic Agreement

AUBURN ADVENTIST ACADEMY IS ADVANCING ITS ACADEMIC AND LINGUISTIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH A NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH MONTEMORELOS UNIVERSITY AND ITS HIGH SCHOOL, ESCUELA PREPARATORIA IGANCIO CARRILLO FRANCO, LOCATED IN MONTEMORELOS, MEXICO.



This agreement marks a significant milestone for both institutions, with AAA solidifying its sixth academic partnership with an international country and ICF embarking on its inaugural international collaboration.

The initiative, which began in January, progressed with a visit to Montemorelos in April to further define plans for future collaboration.

The Mexican education system includes six years of elementary school, three years of middle school—grades seven through nine—and three years of high school—grades 10 through 12.

Montemorelos has devised a unique program enabling students to condense their three high school years into two, allowing for a year of study abroad—a feature that aligns perfectly with the agreement with AAA.

During the April visit, representatives from both institutions discussed two potential programs. The first involves

offering a year-long English as a Second Language experience, complete with specialized classes and workshops.

The second plan centers on providing a high school diploma option, allowing students to pursue specific subjects and transfer credits as applicable. Each program carries its own financial considerations.

Additional partnership collaboration and cultural exchange opportunities may arise if Montemorelos chooses to implement bilingual programs for their theology and education departments.

Montemorelos representatives expressed a keen interest in AAA's academic assessment tools, such as those provided by the Northwest Evaluation Association and their Measures of Academic Progress resources. There are discussions about extending these assessment tools to both middle and high school students.

Following these discussions, the group from Washington visited classrooms

• With an international agreement between AAA and Montemorelos University's high school, students will have an opportunity for cultural and academic exchanges.

Con un convenio internacional entre AAA y la preparatoria de Universidad de Montemorelos, los estudiantes tendrán la oportunidad de realizar intercambios culturales y académicos.

at the high school, made presentations and engaged with students individually. The following day, they met with middle school administrators to further explore educational systems and professional development opportunities.

The visit concluded with the formal signing of an agreement between AAA, ICF and Montemorelos University, marking a significant step in academic collaboration.

The partnership between AAA and ICF signifies a commitment to fostering academic growth and cross-cultural exchange, providing students with enriching educational experiences.

LIZZETTE MATTSON

Washington Conference educator

HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

North Pacific Union communication director and Gleaner editor



• Montemorelos University and AAA representatives sign an agreement for academic exchange.

Representantes de Universidad de Montemorelos y AAA firman convenio de intercambio académico.

AAA Firma un Nuevo Acuerdo Académico Internacional

LA ACADEMIA ADVENTISTA DE AUBURN ESTÁ AVANZANDO EN SU DESARROLLO ACADÉMICO Y LINGÜÍSTICO A TRAVÉS DE UNA NUEVA ALIANZA CON UNIVERSIDAD DE MONTEMORELOS Y SU PREPARATORIA, ESCUELA PREPARATORIA IGNACIO CARRILLO FRANCO, UBICADAS EN MONTEMORELOS, MÉXICO.

Este acuerdo marca un momento histórico para ambas instituciones, ya que AAA consolida su sexto acuerdo académico con un país extranjero, mientras que ICF se inaugura en los acuerdos académicos internacionales.

La iniciativa, que comenzó en enero, avanzó con una visita a Montemorelos en abril para definir con más detalle los planes para las dos instituciones.

El sistema educativo mexicano incluye seis años de escuela primaria, tres años de escuela secundaria – grados 7 a 9 – y tres años de escuela preparatoria – grados 10 a 12.

Montemorelos ha diseñado un programa único que permite a los estudiantes condensar sus tres años de estudio de preparatoria en dos cursos escolares, lo que permite un año de estudio en el extranjero, una característica que se alinea perfectamente con el acuerdo académico pactado.

Durante la visita de abril, representantes de ambas instituciones dialogaron sobre dos programas potenciales. La primera implica ofrecer una experiencia de inglés como segundo idioma, de un año de duración completo con capacitación especializada a través de clases y talleres.

AAA now has six international agreements with sister schools.

AAA tiene seis acuerdos internacionales con escuelas hermanas.

El segundo plan se centra en brindar una opción de diploma de escuela preparatoria, lo que permite a los estudiantes transferir créditos y/o materias, así como seguir carreras específicas según corresponda. Cada programa conlleva sus propios costos financieros.

Existe la posibilidad de incrementar oportunidades adicionales de colaboración e intercambio cultural si Montemorelos elige implementar programas bilingües para sus departamentos de teología y educación.

Los representantes de Montemorelos expresaron un gran interés en las herramientas de evaluación académica de AAA, como los proporcionados por la Asociación de Evaluación del Noroeste (NWEA) y sus recursos de Medidas de Progreso Académico (MAP).

Después de estos diálogos, los representantes de AAA, visitaron las aulas de la escuela preparatoria, hicieron presentaciones y entablaron conversaciones individuales con los estudiantes que lo solicitaron. Al día siguiente, se reunieron

con administradores de la escuela secundaria para explorar más a fondo los sistemas educativos y las oportunidades de desarrollo profesional.

La visita concluyó con la firma oficial de un convenio entre AAA, ICF y Universidad de Montemorelos, marcando un paso significativo en la colaboración académica.

El acuerdo académico entre AAA e ICF significa un compromiso para fomentar el crecimiento académico y la interrelación.

LIZZETTE MATTON

Educadora de la Conferencia de Washington

HEIDI BAUMGARTNER

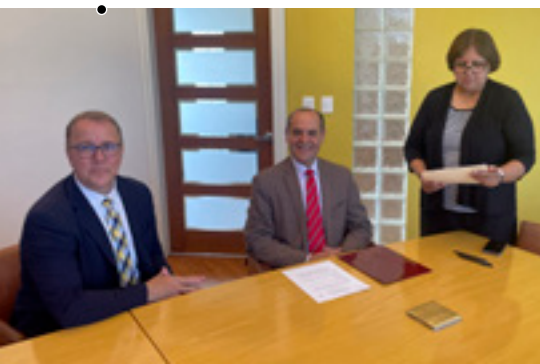
Director de comunicación de la Unión del Pacífico Norte y editora de Gleaner



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/119-4-HSP-58](https://www.nwadventist.org/119-4-HSP-58)

Peter and Joy Fackenthall, AAA representatives, visit a high school classroom to answer student questions.

Peter y Joy Fackenthall, representantes de AAA, visitan un aula de secundaria para responder a las preguntas de los estudiantes.



Siblings Discover Truth in Bible Study Together

SIBLINGS RUTH (ABRAHAM) NANALOOK AND BRIAN ABRAHAM WERE RAISED IN A CHRISTIAN HOME BY THEIR FATHER, A DEVOUT CATHOLIC, AND THEIR MOTHER, WHO FOLLOWED THE MORAVIAN FAITH. THEREFORE, THEY WERE FAMILIAR WITH THE BIBLE, RELIGION AND JESUS FROM AN EARLY AGE.

While Abraham was baptized into the Catholic faith as a baby and later into the Pentecostal church, he never felt a strong spiritual connection. However, God had other plans. Abraham knew of the Sabbath, but it wasn't until Nanalook talked about her spiritual journey that Abraham felt the connection he had been missing.

In October 2023, Nanalook, Abraham and Aaron Dasher, Arctic Mission Adventure worker for the Dillingham and Togiak district, were brought together by what seemed to be a divine plan.

Todd Parker, Dillingham and Togiak district pastor, introduced Nanalook to Dasher as a potential Bible study student, which she enthusiastically accepted. Over several months, Nanalook and Dasher delved into Bible study over the phone, given Nanalook's location in Togiak and Dasher's in Dillingham.

Sometimes, they studied in person when Dasher visited Togiak. During those visits, Dasher had the opportunity to meet Abraham as Nanalook sought prayers for her brother's spiritual journey. It wasn't until April, during the statewide Hope For Humanity evangelism series, that Dasher and Abraham grew closer as Abraham joined the Bible studies.

Alaska Conference collaborated with It Is Written to bring the Hope for Humanity series to the state. The meetings took place in Anchorage in person and also streamed to churches across Alaska.

Abraham actively participated in the meetings, expressing his enjoyment and appreciation for the truth being shared and his beliefs confirmed during the nightly topics. When John Bradshaw, It Is Written president, made an appeal for baptism, Abraham eagerly responded with a "yes" on the interest card.

Following the seminar, Parker, Dasher and Abraham had a heartfelt discussion about Abraham's baptism request. Abraham faithfully continued attending meetings and Bible studies, eventually becoming a dedicated follower of Christ.

The Holy Spirit had been at work in Abraham's life for a long time, leading him to recommit his life to Jesus and join a church family that he believes holds the truth. Abraham's journey is a testament to how God has continuously spoken to him, and anyone visiting Togiak can inquire about Abraham. He will joyfully share his story of God's transformative work in his life.

AARON DASHER
Arctic Mission Adventure worker

Todd Parker, Dillingham and Togiak district pastor, baptizes Brian Abraham.



More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-AK-01



MISSION AND OUTREACH

AGA Volunteers Build a Church in the Dominican Republic

IN MARCH, A GROUP FROM AMAZING GRACE ACADEMY SPENT TWO WEEKS ON A PROJECT WITH MARANATHA VOLUNTEERS INTERNATIONAL.

The group laid block walls for La Caleta 6's new church building in the Dominican Republic. Richard Jordan, project coordinator, visited the congregation's meeting space in November 2023, which at the time was just a backyard. He recalled, "You had to walk through a house to get to the backyard, and it was just an unideal situation."

The volunteer team was eager to remedy this situation, but Jordan wasn't sure if they had enough manpower to finish the project. Volunteers exceeded their construction goal. Not only did they finish the building's exterior walls, but they also completed a sizable portion of the interior walls.

"This is, hands down, the hardest-working group I've ever worked with," said Jordan. "Everybody showed up ready to work."

In addition to construction work, the group's eight student volunteers led Vacation Bible School at a public school. Each weekday, they presented the same program to a different class, tailoring the content for each age group. The VBS team was thrilled when several public school students joined them for church on Sabbath.

Maranatha mobilizes volunteers to build churches, schools, water wells and other urgently needed structures around the world. Since 1969, Maranatha volunteers and crews have constructed more than 14,000 structures and more than 3,000 water wells in nearly 90 countries.

SIDNEY NEEDLES

Maranatha communication specialist



The AGA team stands in front of the church walls they built.



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/119-4-AK-94](https://www.nwadvent.org/st/119-4-AK-94) 

ALASKA CONFERENCE LEGAL NOTICE 19TH REGULAR CONSTITUENCY SESSION

Notice is hereby given that the 19th Regular Constituency Session of the Alaska Conference will be held in the Palmer Church located at 2238 Inner Springer Loop, Palmer Alaska on September 22, 2024 at 8:30 am.

The purpose of the Constituency Session is to receive reports of conference activities for the quadrennial ending September 22, 2024, to elect Officers, Departmental Directors, Conference Executive Committee, Constitution & Bylaws Committee, conduct strategic planning and to transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates in session.

Kevin Miller, President

Ashwin Somasundram, Vice-President of Administration

EDUCATION

GSAA Students Express God-Given Creativity

EACH YEAR, GEM STATE ADVENTIST ACADEMY'S STUDENT BODY INCLUDES MANY WHO ARE EXCEPTIONALLY TALENTED IN CREATIVE ENDEAVORS.

Whether it's an interest and ability in music, graphic design, art or writing, students take advantage of opportunities to be mentored and to expand their God-given talents during their course of study. In turn, when they have opportunities to showcase those developing skills, their community is blessed.

Kimberley Mitchell, GSAA teacher, has a front-row seat for creative learning and growth as she guides all students in their respective English classes and those who choose to enroll in art class.

For the majority of her time teaching at GSAA, Mitchell has shared writing contest opportunities with her students. Each year, several students receive awards for their submissions and/or are included in a publication.

This year, 16 GSAA students were selected by Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence's

writing challenge, Love Languages in Healthy Relationships. Hundreds of Idaho students submitted short works in multiple languages, and GSAA students were among those chosen for publication and awards.

Those who wrote were reminded by the challenge's introduction that "through self-reflection and writing, we can begin to understand how to recognize the characteristics of healthy relationships and engage in practices and build skills to foster healthy relationships."

Per the submission requirements, each piece had to be 100 words or fewer and an original work by an Idaho student in middle through high school. All selected pieces will be published by the Coalition in a book.

The winning GSAA students each received a \$25 Amazon gift card and Brinley Kendall, GSAA junior, received a \$250 cash award for being selected as one of the top 10. In addition, Mitchell was awarded gift cards based on how many students submitted and how many were chosen.

The annual Art Show in conjunction with the music department's final concert served as another opportunity for students to showcase creativity. Students in art class displayed portfolios and paintings developed throughout the year, and



Alivia Thomas presents her painting, "The Scarlet Lady."

the exhibit was full of work showing great passion and talent.

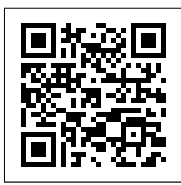
Several students in particular completed exceptional paintings and art pieces. Abrianna Drake's painting, "Helping Hands," stood out, as did Grace Mirra's, "Passion's Summer Breeze." Alivia Thomas' portrait, "The Scarlet Lady," was truly stunning and took untold hours to complete.

GSAA is eager to see how God is going to use these talents as the young artists continue to express themselves creatively and grow in their abilities.

Whether through thoughtful and well-chosen words, drawing and painting, or other expressions of art, the hope and goal is that all will bring honor to God, the true Creator and Artist.



GSAA student authors pose for a group photo.



MARTA STONE
Gem State Adventist Academy teacher and campus communication assistant

More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-ID-52

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awr.org/rebels

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Taking a Bold Stand

awr.org/wisam

Wisam's own family tried to stone and stab him for his belief in God, but today he is an Adventist pastor in the Middle East!

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NO WALLS. NO BORDERS. NO LIMITS.

TCAS Seeks Partners for New Campus

TROUT CREEK ADVENTIST SCHOOL IN MONTANA IS EXPERIENCING SIGNIFICANT GROWTH, WITH 15 NEW LEARNERS ENROLLED AND A WAITING LIST FOR THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR. TO ACCOMMODATE THIS GROWTH, THE SCHOOL HIRED A SECOND FULL-TIME TEACHER AND INITIATED PLANS FOR A NEW BUILDING.

For the past 14 years, TCAS has operated in temporary spaces, including the fellowship hall in a church basement. The school also leased a former Mennonite school/church. However, the limitations of the current lease have prompted the school to pursue a permanent solution.

The church and school boards committed to developing a dedicated school campus and initiated a \$50,000 matching fund campaign, which was successfully matched. Currently, the school has \$142,000 – and counting – raised toward a \$500,000 goal for their new campus.

“Trout Creek, Montana, may be a small community, but our vision for the school and its impact on our community is vast,” said Maurita Crew, TCAS teaching principal. “We believe our school is a

mission opportunity in our community. We are excited to see how God provides a way for this school to be built.”

“I believe God is stirring up that ministry right now. Ever since the school started many years ago, the enrollment was a steady 10–12 students,” said Renae Young, former Montana Conference education superintendent and current North Pacific Union early childhood education director. “However, the interest and inquiry about the school from the community has been significantly picking up this year as parents are choosing a school for next year. The growth is tremendous.”

The TCAS family is specifically looking for support, whether through prayers and financial contributions, along with skilled services and experience. All the

ways to contribute and get involved with “Help Build a New Home for Our Students” are detailed at troutcreekschool.com.

MAURITA CREW
Trout Creek Adventist School teaching principal

HEIDI BAUMGARTNER
North Pacific Union communication director and Gleaner editor



More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-MT-88



TCAS is developing a school campus to accommodate their growing student body.

Havre Church Implements Unique Evangelism Approach

MICHAEL HOPE, HAVRE CHURCH PASTOR, AND HIS WIFE, SARAH, RECENTLY HELD THEIR SECOND EVANGELISTIC SERIES AT THEIR CHURCH. THE SERIES INVOLVES TWO 30-MINUTE PRESENTATIONS WITH A 10-MINUTE BREAK FOR BEVERAGES AND SNACKS IN BETWEEN. IT'S SHORT AND PERFECT, LASTING ONLY EIGHT NIGHTS.



The easy-to-use evangelistic series has led to seven new attendees, six of whom are now taking Bible studies.

Ken Norton, Montana Conference president, created this evangelistic series and made it free to use and completely customizable. Norton and his wife, Julie, explained that anyone could do this series because it was like telling bedtime stories to children. "People are glued to the screen and the focus is not on the presenter," she said.

With this calming information, the Hopes held a trial run, only having their church members hand out flyers and invite friends. The small church had an average nightly attendance of 11 with four visitors. The visitors are still attending, three of whom are doing Bible studies.

The second evangelistic series had an average attendance of 17 per night with six visitors. This time, flyers were mailed out and banners were made, yet it was the personal touch of church members like

Michael Marks, Ron and Patty Harmon, Lisa Taplin and Gretchen Heinz that brought people in. The major responses came from friends of church members with personal invites. Now they have three more who are doing Bible studies and want to join the church.

One of the advantages of having a local ministry team hold evangelistic series such as these is that the excitement doesn't end when the evangelist leaves. Instead, people form attachments to the ministry team and church members.

There is also an advantage to holding the meetings at the church because the local people are already used to going there and new people become acquainted with the church environment.

The series is short, lasting only eight days – including one day off. Any

dedicated church member could do this. The total cost was well below \$4,000 – including advertising.

You can do this too. Why not do a trial run and invite your friends and community to hear wonderful bedtime stories of salvation?

We're so excited about the potential the series has for reaching communities. We can't wait to start sharing it with our other churches and nearby towns that don't have a church.



SARAH HOPE
Havre Church writer

More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-MT-51 

TVA Fifth-Graders Learn Money Management Skills

KIMBERLY CLIFTON, TUALATIN VALLEY ACADEMY FIFTH-GRADE TEACHER, FOUND AN EFFECTIVE WAY TO MOTIVATE STUDENTS AND ENFORCE CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT THROUGH WHAT SHE CALLS "CLIFTON CASH."

Clifton found the idea of creating a classroom economy with play money in 2018 and has adapted it over the past few years to fit her style.

Clifton has job assignments for each student that rotate each month, including teacher's assistant, lunchroom table washer, whiteboard cleaners and more. Her students fill out job applications at the end of each month with their top three job choices and why they'd be good at those jobs. The pay scale ranges from \$60 to \$100 depending on the frequency the job must be completed.

Once she assigns students to their jobs, she gives them their pay. Then they must use some of their money to pay monthly rent for their desks.

Clifton has them pay rent in the form of a check – along with the physical Clifton



TVA fifth-graders are motivated by Clifton Cash to follow rules and keep an orderly classroom.

Cash – and she explains terms to them like “deposit” and “withdrawal.” She also asks students to maintain a check register that they keep in the plastic wallet she gives them to store their money.

While students can earn money through their jobs and random bonuses Clifton distributes at times, they can incur fees. There are penalties for late rent, not writing their name on their paper, having a messy desk and not adhering to classroom rules after receiving a warning.

Students can save their money for a class auction or spend it on items like candy or stickers. They can also buy

top-tier experiences, such as a movie day or a popcorn party.

Students in the lower grades have heard about Clifton Cash and have begun to anticipate using it in fifth grade. Clifton commented, “It’s been so nice because the fourth-graders somehow know about it and it’s motivating for them.”



MCKENZIE WALLACE
Tualatin Valley Academy
English teacher

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/119-4-OR-17](https://nwadvent.st/119-4-OR-17)

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Churches Celebrate Spring Baptisms

IN MARCH, BAPTISMS WERE CELEBRATED IN SEVERAL CHURCHES ACROSS OREGON CONFERENCE.

In Scio, Oregon, members and friends of Vivid Church stepped into chilly river water as they readied themselves to baptize four young adults who had long been preparing for their special day.

“March 9 was a high Sabbath full of joy and blessings,” shared Pochy Montes, Vivid Church pastor. “We had four young adults ready for baptism that afternoon, but then two more jumped into the water! These decisions were largely the fruit of organic friendship and consistent study of the Word. For four of them, this had been a journey of a year.”

“At the end of the service that day, we called for a prayer of dedication and one more young man, Gavin, decided to be baptized,” continued Montes. “I made another call for anyone who wanted to take a step of faith and Jasmine, the older sister of two of the young men being baptized that day, came running down to the water in her church clothes.”

With laughter, joy and tears, the six young adults celebrated the next step in their journey of faith.

Meanwhile, up in Battle Ground, Washington, Rosemary Andrykanus, Meadow Glade Church pastor, waded into the baptismal tank alongside 13-year-old Arrianna Rapisarda. “Arrianna is one of the friendliest young women you’ll ever meet,” shared Andrykanus as they stood together.

“Arrianna’s eagerness to learn, the depth of her understanding of God’s Word,

With joy, six young adults celebrated the next step in their journey of faith.

her love for Jesus, her love for her family and the deep care she has for her friends became evident as we studied week after week,” Andrykanus continued. “It’s been a joy getting to know her as a person and I’m just really excited for the plans I know God has for her.”

Down in Vancouver, Washington, the church family at Oasis Christian Center celebrated the decisions of six people to give their lives to Jesus. Jose St. Phard and Rachel Swanston, Oasis Christian Center pastors, stood alongside Bernie, Gloria, Michael, Jerry, Austin and Kathy as they prayed over their decisions and the lives ahead of each of them.

When each had gone under the water, St. Phard closed with prayer, “The best decision I ever made at the age of 17 was to say yes to You. You’ve completely changed and shifted my life.”

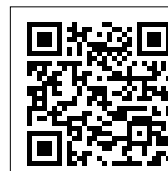
At Meadow Glade Church, Rosemary Andrykanus, pastor, baptized 13-year-old Arrianna Rapisarda.



MEADOW GLADE CHURCH

“My prayer now is that You would speak to the heart of the person You are calling into Your eternal family. Show up for them now. Help them say yes and bless their journey. Let the six people who gave their lives to Jesus today show up in this community and transform this world and bless our church,” prayed St. Phard.

No matter location or circumstance, God continues powerful work in every life. Let’s celebrate the many decisions still being made for Jesus.



KALEB EISELE
*Oregon Conference
digital content specialist*

More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-OR-39



PATRICIA BUCK

NAD Young Adult LIFE Tour Comes to the PNW

WHO ARE YOUR PEOPLE? WHAT IS GOOD NEWS TO THEM? WHERE DO MY PEOPLE NEED ME TO SHOW UP FOR THEM? THESE ARE THE QUESTIONS THAT ATTENDEES WERE CHALLENGED TO ANSWER AT NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION YOUNG ADULT LIFE TOUR'S LATEST STOP AT PLEASANT VALLEY CHURCH, HELD APRIL 19-20.

Young adults, church leaders, mentors and parents gathered to learn about the unique challenges emerging adults face and how churches can help meet their needs.

On Friday night, Steven Argue, Fuller Theological Seminary professor and Fuller Youth Institute applied research strategist, shared his burden for young adults, especially as they face challenges with mental health, finding a career, navigating relationships and negotiating questions and doubts.

Unfortunately, many young adults feel that they are not being ministered to by the church as they experience these challenges and that the church is not concerned with the issues that matter to them.

In panel discussions on Sabbath morning, young adult participants shared their perception that the church too often views them as rebellious or worldly and not interested in matters of faith or ministry, leading to suspicion and distrust between young adults and older generations.

However, these young adult participants reassured attendees that this doesn't have to be the reality in the church. Panelists shared about church leaders who opened their doors to young adults to offer them a free meal and a place to hang out during the week; mentors who were willing to listen to young adults' struggles and empower them to be leaders in the church; and parents who loved their children amid doubts, questioning and uncertainty.

"Young adults are at a vulnerable point in their development where they are learning how to be adults while also wrestling with deep questions of identity, belonging and purpose," Argue shared on Sabbath afternoon. "But emerging generations of young adults have faced unique challenges because of the coronavirus pandemic, social media and difficult economic conditions."

Argue told attendees he believes this creates an opportunity for churches

to bring good news to young adults and build stronger intergenerational faith communities. He said the good news doesn't always have to be in the form of a gospel message, because for many young people, good news can sometimes take the form of a free meal, a ride to work or church or an empathetic ear.

He also challenged attendees to embrace young adults, even if they don't attend church regularly, because they may be progressing toward a faith that is better able to navigate a rapidly changing and increasingly complex world. Ultimately, Argue said, "God is for young adults, He is with young adults, He believes in young adults and He is calling us to do the same."

RUBÉN LÓPEZ
Salem Central Church member



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/119-4-OR-37](https://www.nwadvent.org/st/119-4-or-37)



At NAD Young Adult LIFE Tour, young adults and church leaders discussed how to support young adults' unique challenges and foster intergenerational faith communities.

Linrud Resigns from Presidency



DAN LINRUD, OREGON CONFERENCE PRESIDENT, AFTER MUCH PRAYER, INITIATED AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING IN WHICH HE OFFERED HIS RESIGNATION ON THURSDAY, MAY 23. THIS ACTION WAS ACCEPTED BY THE OREGON CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The resignation was effective immediately and initiated a four-month sabbatical for Linrud. Following his sabbatical, Linrud will be eligible to seek employment as a pastor within Oregon Conference, within North Pacific Union or elsewhere.

The search for a new Oregon Conference president began immediately, facilitated by John Freedman, NPUC president.

In the interim, Kara Johnsson, Oregon Conference vice president for administration, is serving as the ranking leader in the absence of a president. All

other conference personnel will maintain their current roles.

Oregon Conference is grateful to Linrud for his hard work and contributions to ministry during his tenure.



OREGON CONFERENCE
COMMUNICATION
DEPARTMENT

More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-OR-63

Davis Announces Departure



IN MARCH, ERIC DAVIS, OREGON CONFERENCE VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE, ANNOUNCED HE WOULD DEPART OREGON CONFERENCE EFFECTIVE APRIL 11.

In his time with the administrative team, his leadership has been invaluable in identifying the need for significant financial adjustments and helping the conference begin navigating the path toward stabilization.

It will take some time to fully achieve the goal, but many of the difficult yet necessary changes to reach a balanced budget are underway thanks to Davis' astute financial guidance.

"I'm grateful for the experience and relationships my family has formed across Oregon Conference, and I now feel God is calling us to new opportunities," shared Davis. "I thank the conference administrative team for placing confidence in me to help chart a course toward improved fiscal health for the conference going forward."

The search for a new vice president for finance began immediately. Oregon Conference bylaws require that a recommendation for a treasurer/vice president for finance be brought to a joint nominating committee and executive committee to be elected for the remainder of the current five-year term.

In the interim, treasury functions will be maintained by the present treasury team with support from North Pacific Union.



OREGON CONFERENCE
COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-OR-28



CAMP MEETING 2024 SUSPENDED

AS CONFERENCE administration and executive committee continue to work diligently under God's leadership to restore Oregon Conference to sound financial footing, several difficult decisions continue to be considered.

A guiding principle is that no significantly costly expenses — no matter how longstanding and beloved — can be completely off limits as the leadership team conducts a cost-benefit analysis.

In that vein, on April 18, Oregon Conference executive committee, with prayerful consideration, made the difficult decision to suspend Spanish and English camp meetings at Gladstone for 2024, with plans to fully reinstate this Spirit-filled event for 2025.

As one can likely guess, camp meeting is one of the most expensive line items in the Oregon Conference budget every year. Producing it this year would've required the conference to borrow nearly \$400,000. As important as camp meeting is to everyone, taking on that much debt as the conference works to bring the budget back into balance just couldn't be justified.

Thank you for your ongoing prayers as the work continues to achieve a balanced budget in the coming months.

OREGON CONFERENCE
COMMUNICATION
DEPARTMENT



MORE ONLINE AT
NWADVENT.ST/119-4-OR-33

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Creators Lab Hosted in Gladstone

THE FIRST CREATORS LAB WAS HELD MARCH 22-24 AND BROUGHT TOGETHER PODCASTERS, YOUTUBERS, SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT CREATORS, WRITERS AND OTHER DIGITAL CREATIVES OF FAITH FROM THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST AND BEYOND.



This year's Creators Lab featured a variety of digital creative leaders who shared their experiences to inspire and elevate digital artistry and outreach.



Kevin Wilson integrated chai-making into his presentation Friday evening. The evening ended with a chance to mingle and connect while drinking chai.

Over the past decade, the online world has rapidly become an embedded aspect of our culture, bringing with it a flood of new ways to communicate and connect with our neighbors.

Under the Adventist umbrella, there are still relatively few occasions for digital creators to connect in person. With this in mind, Oregon Conference communication staff, Washington Conference media and communication teams, North Pacific Union, Oregon young adults and others put their heads together to create such an event.

Creators Lab refers to both our Creator and those using their creative abilities to point to Him. This year featured a variety of digital creative leaders including TikTok's Kevin Wilson, @crossculturekev; Seth Pierce, *Beast & Bible* podcast host; Evelin Velinova, documentary filmmaker; Kaleb Eisele, Oregon Conference digital media specialist and host for *Bridges Over Walls*, *How the Church Works* and *Humans of Adventism*; Ernesto Hernandez, Washington Conference media director; and Nicole Dominguez, *Faith, Reconstructed* podcast host.

While many of the attendees call the Northwest home, others flew in from as far as New York, Chicago and Chile. Kristin Ward, member of Church of the Advent Hope in New York City, was one such person.

"This event was so much more than I imagined! Not only were there engaging, incredibly knowledgeable speakers, but I also got to meet such a diverse group of creatives in the Adventist community – from beginners to seasoned pros, representing so many different fields," Ward said.

"Everyone shared the same passion for creating things and believed their talents were contributing to something greater," Ward added. "I never expected something of this scale and absolutely loved learning and connecting with like-minded people! There were so many great quotes from the weekend, but I won't forget Pierce's speech: 'If God created us and we are made in His image, is the ability to create not also in us?'"

Though presentations were an integral part of Creators Lab, the planning team worked hard to create time and space for the development of community connections and new friendships.

Eunice Reyes, who manages the award-winning platform @ratedvfood, shared, "Creators Lab is something I personally believe every Adventist conference has been missing. I truly enjoyed how relatable it was as a content creator myself."

"There are many questions we have when we begin or when we start considering starting a platform, so being able to hear the stories and journeys of others is inspiring and refreshing to know you can learn from them," Reyes continued. "With media now being one of the largest types of expression and many young people using it, it's a way to connect with others and helps bridge a gap. I look forward to seeing this event next year grow even bigger."



KALEB EISELE
Oregon Conference
digital content specialist

More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-OR-38

BIBLE READINGS
for
July
2024

Follow the daily reading plan and you will read the entire Bible in a year.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1 1Chron. 11–19	2 1Chron. 20–29	3 Psalm 1–5	4 Psalm 15, 20, 55	5 Psalm 28–30	6
7 Psalm 36–42, 47	8 2Sam. 5–13	9 2Sam. 14–19	10 2Sam. 20–24	11 Psalm 50–51, 53	12 Psalm 57–58	13
14 Psalm 64–72	15 Psalm 75, 86, 89	16 Psalm 122, 127	17 Psalm 131–133	18 Psalm 143–145	19 Psalm 12–13	20
21 Psalm 60–62	22 Psalm 94–101	23 Psalm 32–33	24 Psalm 105–110	25 Psalm 22–26	26 Psalm 138–139	27
28 Psalm 111–118	29 1Kings 1–4	30 Psalm 119:1–88	31 2Chron. 1			

Our Bible reading plan leaves Sabbath as a time to share and reflect on your readings for the week. Find creative ways each Sabbath to share your reflections with others on what God is teaching you from your Bible reading time!

Follow us @NWAdventists on Instagram and Facebook.

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/119-1-BLE-93](https://www.nwadvent.org/resources/bible-reading-plan)



Whitehead Named Associate Director for Young Adult, Youth and Club Ministries

AFTER AN EXHAUSTIVE SEARCH, RYAN WHITEHEAD HAS BEEN SELECTED AS UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR YOUNG ADULT, YOUTH AND CLUB MINISTRIES. WHITEHEAD IS CURRENTLY SERVING AS THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR ADVENTIST COMMUNITY CHURCH IN VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON.

“Over the last few months, as I have gotten to know Whitehead and his wife, Bridget, I have been more and more impressed,” said Jeff Wines, UCC director of young adult, youth and club ministries. “It’s evident that Whitehead is passionate about young people knowing Jesus, and his excitement to be part of the youth and young adult team is wonderful.”

Whitehead has more than seven years of experience working on a church team with young people and three years of experience as a district pastor in Washington Conference. He recently graduated from Andrews University with a doctoral degree in ministry with a focus on discipleship. His master’s degree in divinity is also from Andrews University, with his undergraduate degree from Southern Adventist University.

Prior to his work at the three-church district, Whitehead was assistant pastor at Auburn Academy

Church. Whitehead and his wife, Bridget, have one young daughter, Brynna.

“The value I bring to this position, in addition to a life lived in ministry to youth and young adults, is my full-time ministry experience involved with this same age group,” said Whitehead. “My ability to connect with youth and adults allows me to support both well as we journey together toward the kingdom.”

Whitehead replaces Richie Brower, who served in the position for several years. Late last year, Brower was named as associate director of the new Serve One More initiative.

Wines is already looking ahead to see what kinds of plans Whitehead will be initiating. “Both Whitehead and Bridget are kind and engaging people,” said Wines. “Our department can’t wait for his family to move to the Inland Northwest. We are very much looking forward to seeing what they will do in this conference.”



HEARTSFOTO



DUSTIN JONES
*Upper Columbia
Conference
communications
director*

More online at 
NWADVENT.ST/119-4-UC-48

YOUTH

Pathfinders Introduce New Honors

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED HOW PATHFINDER HONORS ARE CREATED? UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE CLUB MINISTRIES WONDERED THE SAME THING AND BEGAN RESEARCHING AND CREATING THEIR OWN HONORS.

Their guiding question was, “How do we keep introducing our kids to new crafts, activities, career options and ways of serving in ministry?” The answer – Pathfinder honors.

“Over the last several years, coordinators in UCC, led by Luke Torquato, have created an astonishing number of new honors,” shared Richie Brower, outgoing UCC associate director for young adult, youth and club ministries. “This August at the International Camporee in Gillette, Wyoming, UCC will introduce more than 25 brand new conference-developed honors.”

The team, called Activity Outpost, began the process of piloting honors because they noticed some holes in the honor options. The team first needed approval from the North American Division honors task force to begin piloting honors. Once they were approved, they realized several problems.

“First, a piloted honor can take years to go through the piloting stage before it is available to purchase at AdventSource,” shared Torquato. “Second, Pathfinders who pilot a new honor may never receive the patch they earned if they don’t stay in Pathfinders long enough. Lastly, club directors and instructors are less likely to teach a piloted honor if there are published honors with all the resources available.”

Although they recognized these problems, Activity Outpost felt it was extremely important to continue creating honors.

“I hope Pathfinders around the world can benefit from the work our team is doing,” said Torquato. “In addition, the money received from the sale of piloting patches is given to Hope Builders, our conference’s service-oriented organization for Pathfinders to serve in our communities.”

Activity Outpost has taught a series of honor pilots at the North Pacific Union Camporee and has large-scale presentations of new regional honor pilots like Palouse, Explorers of the West, Oregon Trail and Pony Express at the 2024 International Camporee.

“These honors are the result of young and energetic team members who invest their creative energies into creating exciting learning opportunities for our kids,” said Brower.

Many of these honor pilots created will grow up to become full-fledged NAD honors over the next several years. In Gillette, the UCC team, along with their partners, will introduce thousands of Pathfinders to the new honors, eventually passing them on to the NAD honors task force to refine into official NAD Pathfinder honors.

“The reason I have become involved with writing new honors is because of my

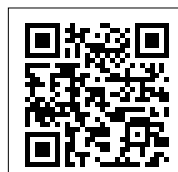


own experience. I believe Pathfinder honors are a great tool, helping Pathfinders learn new skills or knowledge that they use for the rest of their lives,” shared Torquato.

“Even more importantly, each honor must have a way to connect the Pathfinder spiritually with Christ,” Torquato continued. “Without this, earning honors is essentially pointless. I hope that for every activity that Pathfinders choose to do, there is an associated honor that draws them a step closer to Christ.”

If you’re heading to Gillette this summer, stop by the honors building to take a class on one of the 25 pilot honors created right here in NPUC.

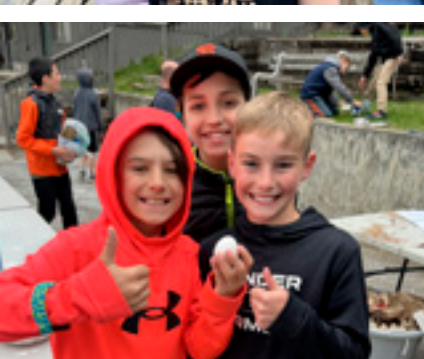
AUTUMN DUNZWEILER
Upper Columbia Conference communications coordinator



More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-UC-49 

Camp MiVoden Hosts Outdoor School

OOBLECK, EGG DROPS, POTATO LAUNCHERS, CHEMICAL REACTIONS, EXPLOSIONS, ELECTROCUTING PICKLES, WELDING LESSONS, HIGH ROPES COURSE, BUILDING AND COOKING OVER A FIRE, NEW SONGS, NEW FRIENDS AND NEW EXPERIENCES — SOUNDS LIKE TOO MUCH FUN TO BE SCHOOL!



Those were just a few of the experiences that fifth- and sixth-graders were able to have when they attended outdoor school at Camp MiVoden. Students spent the week participating in an activity-based curriculum that provided many unique opportunities for learning.

“When we leave a class, the students say, ‘That was epic – definitely the best class!’” remarked one fifth-grade teacher. “Then we attend the next one and they say, ‘Wait, that was epic! That one was the best class.’”

Camp MiVoden’s outdoor school program emphasizes connections between teachers/ sponsors and students. It’s a

fun way for teachers to engage with their students in such an exciting learning environment.

“When we created the states of matter curriculum, our goal was to provide opportunities for teachers and sponsors from each school to connect with and mentor their students,” said Caleb Foss, Camp MiVoden director of programming. “By using volunteers and MiVoden staff to run the classes and activities instead of teachers, we provide numerous opportunities for these connections.”

Teachers and sponsors from the schools agreed, with one reporting that it was so nice to be able to focus on bonding with her students instead of running a program.

Students also took part in an engaging worship program throughout the week. Jeremiah Smart, Coeur d’Alene Church pastor, spoke every morning and evening, sharing many stories illustrating God’s love and desire for a friendship with each person.

Each class that students attended during the day included biblical applications of the concepts they were learning and had a chance for them to journal in response.

The focus of MiVoden’s outdoor school is connecting with God, nature and each other, and there were numerous opportunities for all three.

The MiVoden outdoor school program has been steadily growing, maxing out this year with 278 participants from all across Upper Columbia Conference. Jeff Wines, UCC director of young adult, youth and club ministries, was able to come and talk about summer camp ministry and even offered a discount for outdoor school students to come experience MiVoden’s summer program for the first time.

Coming together in this setting has been a great way for UCC schools and teachers to collaborate. “Not every classroom has four walls,” said Steve Whewell, education specialist. This was certainly evident for all in attendance at the 2024 Camp MiVoden outdoor school program.



LAURA SILVA
Camp
MiVoden
social media
coordinator

More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-UC-45

Outdoor school students spent a week at Camp MiVoden participating in an activity-based curriculum that provided many unique opportunities for learning.

YOUTH

Young Adults Start a Conversation

IN APRIL, YOUNG ADULTS FROM AROUND UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE GATHERED AT WALLA WALLA EASTGATE CHURCH FOR THE SECOND ANNUAL LET'S START A CONVERSATION.

This event, hosted by David Jamieson, UCC president, and Jeff Wines, UCC director of young adult, youth and club ministries, allows young adults to mingle, eat together and discuss tough conversations. This year the group doubled with 40 young adults in attendance.

"We had a really good group come together to eat and discuss with each other," shared Wines. "There were good conversations that touched on a number of topics that our young adults are concerned with."

The evening began with a meal and mingling. About half the young adults in attendance were currently in college and the other half were just out of college. Jamieson shared a short devotional to end the Sabbath about his personal walk with God and his choice to follow Jesus as a young adult.

The conversations began after the meal, with Jamieson and Wines facilitating the conversation. Several topics were discussed, including the desire for community, friendlier churches, LGBTQ+, mental health and the need for intergenerational relationships and worship. The conversations were honest, authentic and Bible-based.

Many of the young adults expressed their appreciation of the Q&A format. "It was cool being a part of a conversation like this and brainstorming with people who think similarly," said one attendee.

Community, friendlier churches and intergenerational relationships were a

reoccurring desire among young adults. Many wish to attend churches that are more open and engaging with young adults. They want multiple generations to come together to create a community. At the core of their desire is a need to have intergenerational relationships – relationships that provide mentorship, guidance and a safe space for learning.

A common response among the group was that they want to learn from older generations. They want to see a handoff in church responsibilities but still want to be supported. At the same time, they don't want the older generations to leave or feel pushed out. The young adults expressed a yearning to work together and for every group to feel included.

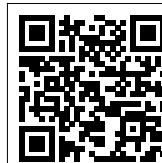
"They don't like the us versus them mentality," shared Wines. "They don't want it to be boomers against Gen Z. They feel like there's been a lot of segregation in churches and it's unhealthy."

Jamieson asked the group their thoughts on worship style and how it can set the tone. The young adults shared that style is not that important if worship is intentionally between them and God.

Overall, the young adults reported that they are looking for authentic community. They want to discuss tough topics and have a deep relationship with God. Many crave community but don't feel welcomed because of judgment or not feeling needed. They don't want to show up, they want to be involved at church and in the community.



If you know a young adult or wish to be included in the next event—a young adult retreat this fall—email Wines at jeffw@uccsda.org to be added to the group text.



AUTUMN DUNZWEILER
Upper Columbia
Conference
communications
coordinator

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/119-4-UC-47](https://www.uppercolumbia.org/NWADVENT.ST/119-4-UC-47) 

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Shine 104.9 Welcomes New Chaplain

SPOKANE'S SHINE 104.9 (KEEH) WELCOMES TYLER KERN AS ITS NEW CHAPLAIN. KERN IS A FIFTH-GENERATION ADVENTIST WHO GREW UP IN THE MIDWEST.

After experiencing a lot of heartache early on in his life, Kern worked to overcome his life challenges and made it his mission to share God's word and minister to the community.

"We're excited to welcome Kern and his young family," shared Darin Patzer, Shine 104.9 general manager. "Our goal in hiring a chaplain is to serve our radio audience more deeply."

Kern went to Illinois State University and majored in mass communications and video production. While there,

Kern met his wife, Amelia. Although Kern had strayed away from the church, he and his wife knew it was important to have a church community to raise their children in. They both began baptismal studies and committed their lives to God in 2018. They now have five children.

"I have a heart for reaching people who have strayed away because I've lived that life and I know what it's like," shared Kern. "For me, growing up in the

church, I feel like I'm a living example of training up a child. I understand the rareness it is for somebody to come back."

Feeling moved by the Holy Spirit, Kern applied in 2019 and was accepted to attend seminary at Andrews University. During the 2020 pandemic, Kern realized his background in videography was an asset and began assisting churches by integrating livestreaming and Zoom into their services. After graduation, Kern began his doctor of media ministry at Andrews University.

"Today in our city, we see so many who aren't connected to a Christian community," shared Patzer. "Ultimately, the aim is to provide a spiritually-led community of healthy activities, service projects and worship gatherings."

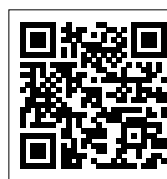
As chaplain, Kern has plans to reach listeners through the radio station and in the community. His goal is to minister to those who have been turned off by the church or burned by church members—the "nones and dones" who still have faith in Jesus and want a personal relationship with Him but

are no longer interested in traditional church.

"After praying about it, it's clear that I felt called to this ministry and unique opportunity—through Shine 104.9, Serve One More, Simple Acts of Kindness and Renew Spokane—and to build a faith community," explained Kern. "As a millennial, I'm the bridge between the generations. I want to incorporate intergenerational ministry and show authenticity. While hurt people hurt people, healed people heal people. That's where I want to be."

If you are interested in sharing your input or being a part of this new outreach, reach out to Kern at chaplain@shine1049.org.

AUTUMN DUNZWEILER
Upper Columbia Conference
communications coordinator



More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-UC-46



BIBLE READINGS

for

August

2024

Follow the daily reading plan and you will read the entire Bible in a year.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1 Psalm 119:89-176	2 Song of Sol. 1-4	3
4 Prov. 1-9	5 Prov. 10-17	6 Prov. 18-26	7 2 Chron. 2-4	8 2 Chron. 5-7	9 2 Chron. 8-12	10
11 2 Chron. 13-18	12 Ecc. 1-6	13 Ecc. 7-12	14 Psalm 134	15 Psalm 146-150	16 1 Kings 5-9	17
18 Prov. 27-29	19 1 Kings 10-11	20 Prov. 30-31	21 1 Kings 12-14	22 1 Kings 15-19	23 1 Kings 20-22	24
25 Obadiah	26 Psalm 82-83	27 Song of Sol. 5-8	28 Psalm 136	29 2 Chron. 19-20	30 2 Chron. 21-23	31

Our Bible reading plan leaves Sabbath as a time to share and reflect on your readings for the week. Find creative ways each Sabbath to share your reflections with others on what God is teaching you from your Bible reading time!

Follow us @NWAdventists on Instagram and Facebook.

More online at [NWADVENT.ST/119-1-BLE-94](https://www.nwadvent.org/resources/119-1-ble-94)





Mission Blessings Highlight Constituency Session

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE'S 61ST CONSTITUENCY SESSION ON MAY 5 SERVED AS A DAY OF REFLECTING ON GOD'S BLESSINGS FROM THE LAST FIVE YEARS AND FITTINGLY BEGAN WITH 280 DELEGATES SINGING "GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS."

Constituency sessions are important times for church representatives to gather and listen to ministry reports, observe trends, ask good questions, elect leaders, select committee representatives, process church business decisions and reflect on ministry and mission milestones.

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

Living through and emerging from a global pandemic era influenced ministry innovation, creativity and collaboration, along with a deeper calling to pray to God for "Greater Things."

Washington Conference leaders prepared for worst-case scenarios in the initial days of the pandemic. With church doors closed for a time, donations for tithe and offerings were expected to go down significantly.

They didn't. In fact, they grew.

"We didn't have to lay off a single employee for financial reasons during the pandemic," said Jerry Russell, Washington Conference vice president for finance. "Thank you for your incredible generosity to the cause of Christ."

Tithe over a 10-year time span increased by 18.9% in just the last five years. Tithe per capita in the last five years averaged out to \$1,153.70.

Russell shared, "Because of your generosity in the last five years, we have 2,321 new members; 1,284 students enrolled (on average); \$3.5 million in subsidy for Walla Walla University and Oakwood University; 32,500 church services in more than 120 locations; and 2,573 Sunset Lake campers where 1,292 young people accepted Jesus for the first time."

MINISTRY INVESTMENTS

Washington Conference's leadership team decided in the pandemic era to intentionally invest in ministry and grow the mission, particularly through children's ministry, media ministry, health ministry, outreach ministries and public campus ministries.

"God uses different methods to reach people," said Doug Bing, Washington Conference president. "We planted 12 new churches in five languages in the last five years, and we saw a 24% increase in attendance at our revitalization churches. Yet, we are still asking God for victories as 47% of our churches are still in declining growth."

Washington's focus on church planting and church revitalization led to the seating of eight new churches at the session: Auburn Hispanic, Everson Spanish, Gig Harbor, LifeBridge, Lynnwood Spanish, New Life Samoan Puyallup, Refuge and Ukrainian churches.



PHOTOS BY LACEY STECKER

HEDI BAUMGARTNER

• Washington Conference's newly re-elected executive team and their spouses are invested in growing God's kingdom to Greater Things throughout western Washington and beyond.



Membership in this quinquennium surpassed 24,000. Baptisms between pre-pandemic and post-pandemic times grew from 509 baptisms in 2018 to 598 baptisms in 2023.

In 2023, 13 churches had 12 or more baptisms; 4 churches had 9–11 baptisms; 15 churches had 6–8 baptisms; 29 churches had 3–5 baptisms; 21 churches had 1–2 baptisms; and 34 churches had zero baptisms.

Additional ministry reports highlighted how Washington’s education system is growing and experiencing a six-year enrollment increase. Most schools in the conference now have waitlists, and the system has hired 10 new teachers to accommodate more students.

Sunset Lake Camp received national recognition from *Newsweek* as one of the top 500 camps in 2023. Camp leaders are continuing to prepare for long-needed infrastructure updates for renovated hillside cabins, a new dining hall and a new family village—investments that are expected to cost \$4–5 million long-term and that will require significant fundraising.

CHURCH BUSINESS

Delegates processed constitution and bylaw updates such as virtual attendance and proxy voting provisions. Multiple clarifications were added to governing documents, including further definition of “for cause” related to the removal of committee members; type of officer duties; and two typos in an article reference and in a word meaning.

Delegates voted for the disbandment of North Creek Christian Fellowship, a church in Snohomish that experienced good community engagement for many years before facing decline.

With a focused and fast-paced agenda, Washington Conference’s 61st constituency session concluded at 1:14 p.m. Delegates represented a nearly equal number of first-time delegates (49.6%) versus returning delegates (50.4%).

Earlier in the day, session delegates honored a key local leader, Bob Paulsen, who served multiple terms on many levels of executive committees, by singing his favorite song “Blessed Assurance.”

ELECTING LEADERS

Delegates strongly supported the leadership team with John Freedman, North Pacific Union president and nominating committee chair, noting how this was one of his best nominating committee experiences.

Washington’s re-elected executive team members are Douglas L. Bing, president; Randyle S. Maxwell, vice president for administration; Gerald S. Russell, vice president for finance; and Michelle D. Wachter, vice president for education.

Delegates also re-elected the following ministry directors and associates: Wilma Bing, associate superintendent; Pam Scott, associate treasurer; José Jerez, trust services and planned giving director; Bob Moore, trust services associate and stewardship director; Abishai Aiolupotea, human resources director; Heather Brueske, human resources associate director; Derek Lane, Adventist Community Services and outreach ministries director; Bill Roberts, ministerial director;

David Yeagley, Sunset Lake and young adult ministry director; Nestor Osman, youth ministries director; John Leis, public campus ministries director; Elida Jerez, health ministries director; and Ernesto Hernandez, media ministries director.

“God’s mission for His church is always more,” said Bing. “Our mission is to take the gospel to all the world. Greater things come as we are faithful in oppressive times. Greater things happen when we stay the course to the end.”

HEIDI BAUMGARTNER
*North Pacific Union
communication director and
Gleaner editor*



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/119-4-WA-19](https://www.nwadventist.org/st/119-4-wa-19) 

Empower the Church Provides One-On-One Training

EMPOWER THE CHURCH STANDS AS A TRANSFORMATIVE INITIATIVE AIMED AT EQUIPPING CHURCH LEADERS WITH THE ESSENTIAL SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND TOOLS VITAL FOR EXCELLING IN THEIR ROLES AND FOSTERING THE GROWTH OF LOCAL CHURCHES.

Spearheaded by Elida Jerez, Washington Conference health ministries director, this program addresses a crucial need to help leaders identify a ministry they are passionate about and provide them with the necessary tools to begin.

Jerez's realization stemmed from a genuine desire to catalyze action among church members passionate about initiating a health ministry. However, their enthusiasm often waned in the face of uncertainty regarding how to kick-start such a venture.

Recognizing this common obstacle, Jerez rallied Derek Lane, Washington Conference outreach director, and Jennifer Bullion, Washington Conference children's ministries director. Together they took the initiative to develop a comprehensive training program aimed at guiding interested members through the process of establishing new ministries.

As the program developed, other departments were added to the training sessions. "Our role is to be influencers and to equip leaders to create disciples," Jerez stated. Each Empower the Church training does just that. By strengthening the church at a local level, churches can grow.

Tyler Long, Washington Conference evangelism director, emphasized the necessity of reevaluating existing church structures to facilitate growth effectively. His insight underscores the program's overarching goal of instigating systemic change within local churches to provide better outreach.

Through innovative training seminars, participants are equipped with the tools and knowledge needed to navigate the complexities of starting new ministries at the local church level. A recent seminar at North Cascade Church in Burlington, which drew 36 attendees, exemplified the program's impact, with 14 individuals undergoing specialized training in grief support.

Local churches have recognized the impact the seminar has already had. "Thank you for this much-needed guidance," said a Lighthouse Church attendee. With one-on-one guidance, Empower the Church has enabled people at the local level to create effective programs to spread the Word in areas that interest them.

Looking ahead, Empower the Church remains committed to facilitating the growth and success of local churches through a series of scheduled training sessions taking place all year. For those interested in learning more about this initiative, further details can be found at washingtonconference.org/empower. All members are encouraged to attend.



LACEY STECKER
Washington Conference
communication intern

More online at
NWADVENT.ST/119-4-WA-97



ELIDA JEREZ

Empower the Church provides members with one-on-one training with Washington Conference directors.



KHLOE BUCKNOR

Empower the Church trainings will take place for the rest of the year.



KHLOE BUCKNOR

Jennifer Bullion (pictured), children's ministries director, and Derek Lane, outreach ministries director, joined Elida Jerez program to develop the comprehensive training program.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Northwest Member Pioneers New Online Church Experience

DOUGLAS LAUGHLIN, A LEADER FROM OPEN DOOR FELLOWSHIP IN NORTHWESTERN WASHINGTON AND A LIFELONG CHURCH PLANTER, FELT CALLED BY GOD TO FIND A BETTER WAY TO DO ONLINE CHURCH.

Following the pandemic, half of the members of closed churches didn't return. Now, a large portion of the population builds their social circles online, rather than seeking connections in person.

The implications are staggering. Though living all around us, many people are non-responsive to entering a local church or coming and responding to traditional evangelism.

Deeply troubled by this disconnect, Laughlin, felt compelled to bridge this gap.

He assembled a team composed of Darla, his wife; Sharon, his sister who is a retired pastor's wife; Daryl Crouch, his long-time friend; and Philana, Crouch's seminary-trained daughter.

They rejected the notion of passive online worship, aptly termed "lonely worship," and instead crafted Worship Connection—a fellowship-based model for online church.

Worship Connection, the newest addition to the Adventist family of churches, has a unique focus on reaching those who feel most at home online. This fully online church is here to spread the gospel in the digital age.

A Sabbath School wing fosters interactive study and sharing, mirroring the experience of local churches.

Additionally, Worship Connection boasts an inviting online lobby where members can video chat and share laughter at virtual tables.

Of course, there's a sanctuary—a digital space where worshipers greet and interact with others in their virtual pew while united in the shared worship experience.

Attendees can text chat with fellow worshipers or even take the stage to share their thoughts with the entire congregation.

A man from Washington sits in a virtual row with his girlfriend from Canada, sometimes joined by his mother from Florida. They've found a sense of belonging and connection through Worship Connection that transcends geographical boundaries. It's a whole new way of doing church, and they wouldn't have it any other way.

If you're enthusiastic about joining this inspiring online ministry or becoming a charter member of Worship Connection, visit worshipconnection.church and explore the possibilities. To reach out directly, email Laughlin at douglas@worshipconnection.church.

PROVIDED BY DOUGLAS LAUGHLIN



Co-hosts greet attendees in the Worship Connection digital environment.



A musician from Poulsbo, Washington, joins the online worship environment through Worship Connection to share special music.



The digital worship environment can host workshops and seminars on a variety of topics.



OPEN DOOR FELLOWSHIP MEMBERS

More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-WA-63 

CHURCH

Bellingham Spanish Church Burns Mortgage

IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF GREAT JOY FULL OF GRATITUDE AND PRAISE, THE HARD-WORKING COMMUNITY OF BELLINGHAM SPANISH CHURCH CELEBRATED A SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE: THE ACQUISITION AND FULL PAYMENT OF THEIR CHURCH BUILDING. THE BUILDING HAS SERVED FOR NEARLY 20 YEARS AS A REFUGE FOR HUNDREDS OF FAMILIES AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE A PLACE OF LIGHT AND PEACE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.



Juan Cancino Castillo, North Hispanic district pastor, speaks at the service.

Juan Cancino Castillo, pastor del distrito hispano del Norte, habla en el servicio.

The celebration remembered the courage, faith and effort of the Hispanic pioneers who planted this church and dreamed of a place to congregate, worship and grow together in faith.

Wagner Cilio, Washington Conference Hispanic ministries director, along with community members, rededicated the building in a responsive reading to never forget the church's purpose by saying:

"For the glory of God, for prayer and the teaching of the Word, we dedicate this house to God. For the comfort of those who mourn and the strength of those who are tempted, we dedicate this house to God.



Conference representatives celebrate with the church.

Representantes de la conferencia celebran con la iglesia.

For the sanctification of the family and the salvation of men and women, we dedicate this house to God."

"For the defense of freedom and the defense to instruct the conscience to fight evil, we dedicate this house to God. To help the needy, to help the afflicted and to preach the coming of Jesus, we dedicate this house to God. And as an offering of love and gratitude, for all the blessings received, we give and dedicate this house to God and to the service of the people."

During the celebration, Juan Cancino Castillo, North Hispanic district pastor, symbolically burned the letters, debt

commitments and mortgage of the church, reminding everyone that while the mortgage and the debt that lasted nearly 20 years is canceled, their commitment to God and the mission of the church continues until Christ comes.

In Bellingham Spanish Church's new chapter, members will continue to write a story of faith, hope, service and love, reminding everyone who enters that God can make all things possible.

JUAN CANCINO CASTILLO
Washington Conference North Hispanic district pastor

IGLESIA

La Iglesia Hispana de Bellingham Quema su Deuda

EN UN AMBIENTE DE GRAN ALEGRÍA LLENO DE GRATITUD Y ALABANZA, LA TRABAJADORA COMUNIDAD DE LA IGLESIA HISPANA DE BELLINGHAM CELEBRÓ UN HITO SIGNIFICATIVO: LA ADQUISICIÓN Y EL PAGO TOTAL DEL EDIFICIO DE LA IGLESIA. EL EDIFICIO HA SERVIDO DURANTE CASI 20 AÑOS COMO UN REFUGIO PARA CIENTOS DE FAMILIAS Y SEGUIRÁ SIENDO UN LUGAR DE LUZ Y PAZ PARA LAS GENERACIONES VENIDERAS.



DOUG BING

Juan Cancino Castillo burns the church mortgage.

Juan Cancino Castillo quema la hipoteca de la iglesia.

La celebración recordó el valor, la fe y el esfuerzo de los pioneros hispanos que plantaron esta iglesia y soñaron con un lugar para congregarse, adorar y crecer juntos en la fe.

Wagner Cilio, director de ministerios hispanos de la Conferencia de Washington, junto con todos los miembros de la comunidad, rededicaron el edificio en una lectura responsiva, para nunca olvidar el propósito del templo en ese lugar:

“Para la gloria de Dios, para la oración y la enseñanza de la palabra, dedicamos esta casa a Dios. Para el consuelo de los que lloran, para la fortaleza de los que son tentados, dedicamos esta casa a Dios. Para la santificación de la familia, para la



CARLA CANCINO

Bellingham Spanish Church continues to be a place of light and peace.

Iglesia Hispana de Bellingham sigue siendo un lugar de luz y paz.

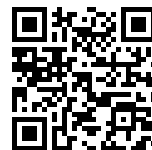
salvación de hombres y mujeres, dedicamos esta casa a Dios.”

“Para la defensa de la libertad, para la defensa de instruir la conciencia, para luchar contra el mal, dedicamos esta casa a Dios. Para ayudar a los necesitados, para ayudar a los afligidos, y para predicar la venida de Jesús, dedicamos esta casa a Dios. Y como una ofrenda de amor y gratitud, por todas las bendiciones recibidas, damos y dedicamos esta casa a Dios y al servicio de las personas.”

Juan Cancino Castillo, pastor del distrito hispano del Norte, simbólicamente quemó las letras de la deuda, los compromisos de deuda y la hipoteca de la iglesia, recordando a todos que aunque la

hipoteca y la deuda que duró casi 20 años están canceladas, nuestro compromiso con Dios y la misión de la iglesia continúa hasta que Cristo venga.

En el nuevo capítulo de la Iglesia Hispana de Bellingham, los miembros continuarán escribiendo una historia de fe, esperanza, servicio y amor, recordando a todos los que entren que Dios puede hacer posible todas las cosas.



JUAN CANCINO CASTILLO
Pastor del distrito hispano del Norte de la Conferencia de Washington

More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-WA-14 +

Bryan Begins as WWU's 24th President

ON JULY 1, ALEX BRYAN, FORMER PASTOR AND HEALTHCARE EXECUTIVE, BEGAN HIS TENURE AS WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT AFTER BEING UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED BY THE WWU BOARD OF TRUSTEES IN MAY.



Alex Bryan accepted an invitation to serve as the next WWU president.

For 13 years, Bryan served as a pastor in Georgia and Tennessee before joining Walla Walla University Church as senior pastor in 2009. In 2013, he became president of Kettering College for one year and then returned to Walla Walla University Church to serve as senior pastor for another four years.

In 2018, Bryan joined Adventist Health, where he served as senior vice president and chief mission officer, leading strategy and discourse about ethics, alignment to mission, spiritual care, relationship to faith communities, global mission, theological foundations of healthcare, as well as philanthropy and grants initiatives.

"We are excited Bryan accepted our invitation to serve as WWU president,"

said John Freedman, North Pacific Union president and board of trustees chair. "He has a deep love for and walk with God and His Son, Jesus Christ, which will bless our university students, faculty and staff. He is committed to our Adventist beliefs and mission, and I and our church members across the Pacific Northwest will lift him up in prayer as he takes this responsibility at WWU."

Bryan was appointed to the new role unanimously by the WWU board of trustees on May 6. "I am honored to be called to serve such a special place — one that is dedicated to God and to His glory and to His purposes in the world," Bryan said. "I believe the Christ-centered university is the hope of the world, and my family and I are excited to contribute to this bold venture."

Bryan earned bachelor of arts degrees in history and religion from Southern Adventist University, a master of divinity degree from Andrews University, a master of science degree in bioethics from Albany Medical College and a doctor of ministry degree from George Fox University.

"WWU enjoys a rich legacy. This institution is well-known for high-quality education, preparing students for productive, professional lives. This work is done with one grand purpose in mind: living out the peerless ministry of Jesus in our world," said Bryan.

"I'm looking forward to continuing this important work. WWU must continue to be positioned as a place where Jesus is the inspiration for quality education and Jesus and His purposes are the ultimate

outcome," Bryan continued. "The university serves no greater purpose but to amplify God's vision for humanity as articulated in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. This is God's school, through and through."

Bryan replaces John McVay, who retired after serving as WWU president for 18 years. Bryan and his wife, Nicole, WWU alumna, have two children.



WWU UNIVERSITY
RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-WWU-95



Bryan looks forward to continuing WWU's mission of providing Christ-centered education.

EDUCATION

Rosario Beach to Offer Oceanfront Learning for All Students

BEGINNING IN 2025, WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY WILL OFFER A 16-CREDIT GENERAL STUDIES SPRING QUARTER AT ROSARIO BEACH MARINE LABORATORY TO STUDENTS FROM ANY MAJOR. THE SPRING TIDE PROGRAM WILL HAVE LIMITED SEATS, WITH APPLICATIONS FOR THE FIRST COHORT NOW BEING ACCEPTED.

Students participating in the Spring Tide program will spend a spring quarter at Rosario Beach Marine Laboratory, which is located next to Deception Pass State Park about an hour and a half north of Seattle. Studying at the oceanfront location will allow professors to include activities such as boat rides, hikes and nature observation into their curriculum.

“One thing we do extremely well at Rosario is hands-on learning,” said Kirt Onthank, WWU associate professor of biology and Rosario Beach Marine Laboratory director. Non-traditional class schedules will also make more outdoor learning opportunities possible.

Spring Tide will feature four carefully crafted two-week courses, each designed to utilize the unique learning environment of Rosario and to integrate with one another.

“While remaining broad in subject matter, Spring Tide courses are built on a foundation of exploring how the ocean plays a crucial role in human society,” Onthank said. Class topics will include ocean and society, religion and ecology, writing and the Salish Sea, and the art of natural history.

Spring Tide is a valuable program for students pursuing any major. Each course within the Spring Tide program

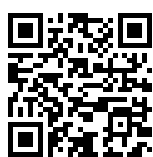
counts for general studies credit, making it an excellent opportunity for students to explore new disciplines, fulfill degree requirements and learn in a setting integrated with the outdoors.

In keeping with the theme of accessibility, the Spring Tide term is designed to be financially accessible, allowing students to apply their existing financial aid to the quarter at Rosario.

Spring Tide offers a tight-knit community, time spent in a beautiful environment and a uniquely structured learning environment that has previously only been available to students taking biology courses.

“Many students returning from Rosario say it was one of the most impactful experiences they had at WWU,” said Onthank. “Everyone deserves to have the chance to study at Rosario.”

Learn more about Spring Tide by visiting wallawalla.edu/springtide.



EMMALANI DODDS
WWU university relations
student writer

More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-WWU-23

EDEN KIM



Spring Tide features four two-week courses that apply to students' general studies requirements.

CHRIS DRAKE



This new program allows students of all majors to experience immersive oceanfront courses.

ABIGAIL LOMBARD



Spring Tide students will explore the ocean's role in human society.

ADVERTISEMENTS

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EMPLOYMENT

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qualified Adventists who may fill open roles in fulfilling our mission to seek knowledge, affirm faith and change the world. If this is of interest to you, please check out our current openings at andrews.edu/jobs.

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

School of Nursing seeks a full-time family nurse practitioner faculty to join a mission-focused team. Responsibilities at the graduate level may include

assessment and primary case courses, clinical oversight and advisement. An earned doctorate is preferred. Requisite qualities include successful teaching experience, a strong NP clinical background, flexibility, teamwork and commitment to Adventist nursing education. The candidate must be a member of good and regular standing in the Adventist Church.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

School of Religion seeks a full-time faculty member to begin fall semester 2024. Must be an active member of the Adventist Church in regular standing and should have a Ph.D. (or be near completion) in New Testament. Positive experience in pastoral ministry and teaching is helpful. Must demonstrate contagious love for Jesus, strong commitment to authority of scripture and deep passion for Adventist message and mission. Good people skills and ability to engage students in a positive, faith-building manner in the classroom are essential. To apply, please visit our job board at sau.catsone.com/careers.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST

UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time program director to launch a new doctor of physical therapy degree program. The ideal candidate will be proficient in managing the CAPTE accreditation process, new program development and teaching graduate physical therapy courses as well as clinical practice. In addition, the successful candidate will be committed to mentoring advisees, nurturing student learning both in and out of the classroom and disciplining students in Jesus. For a full job description and desired qualifications, please visit southern.edu/jobs.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST

UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time faculty in the area of counseling for the School of Education/Psychology. A doctoral degree in counselor education from a CACREP-accredited program is required. Doctoral degrees in clinical or counseling psychology from APA-accredited program could be considered if applicant has been employed as full-time faculty member in a counselor education program for a minimum of one full academic year before July 1, 2013. For a full job description and desired qualifications, please visit southern.edu/jobs.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

seeks a full-time teaching faculty member for the School of Journalism and Communication. Master's degree in communication or a sub-field of communication required, Ph.D. preferred. The successful candidate will have teaching and/or industry experience and be able to teach a variety of courses in digital and social media, communication, writing, public speaking, and/or photography. Candidate must be capable of inspiring students, have a strong commitment to Christ and be a strong team player. For more information, please visit sau.catsone.com/careers.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

seeks a full-time teaching faculty member in the department of applied technology, specifically in the area of construction management. Master's degree in construction management-related field is required. The successful candidate will demonstrate competency in the varied trade areas relevant to course content and, ideally, have experience in commercial construction. Candidate must be capable of mentoring university

students and have a strong commitment to Christ. For more information, please visit sau.catsone.com/careers.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

seeks full-time teaching faculty in the School of Business in the area of human resource management. Candidates should have a graduate degree (minimum). Doctorate in business-related field preferred. Ideal candidates will have professional work experience in specified area. Candidates will be committed to student learning, engagement and spiritual well-being. For more information, please visit our job board at sau.catsone.com/careers.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

seeks qualified candidates for the following salaried position: chaplain — office of ministry and missions. For more information, go to sau.catsone.com/careers.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST

UNIVERSITY seeks qualified candidates for the following hourly positions: automotive technician; lunch cook/supervisor — village market deli; carpentry technician; S.A.L.T. outreach coordinator for School of Religion; alarm technician; dispatch officer — campus safety. For more information, please visit sau.catsone.com/careers.

WE ARE SEEKING CERTIFIED TEACHERS

to join us at Sycamore Academy, an online school serving grades K-12. Work part-time from home, providing live teaching and tutoring sessions in a Zoom environment. For more information, call 817-645-0895.

EVENTS

CENTRAL OREGON CAMP

MEETING — Meetings begin on Thursday at 9 a.m. Aug. 15-17.

Speakers include Ryan Day, C.A. Murray, Charles Byrd and more. Free food, dry camping. Location: Cascade Church, 60670 Brookwood Blvd, Bend, Oregon 97702. For more information, call 541-223-8984 or email centraoregoncampmeetingcv@gmail.com. Register online at centraloregoncampmeeting.com.

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ADVENTIST REAL ESTATE APPRAISER Estate/probate settlement appraisal? Buying/selling a home? Marital appraisal? Investment property appraisal? Trust Integrous Appraisals. Serving western Washington with integrity. Hablamos Español. Visit integrousuppraisals.com, and mention NPUC for discount.

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VACATIONS

EXPLORE ARMENIA AND GEORGIA this September with Carl Cosaert, Walla Walla University School of Theology dean. Discover enchanting towns, historic churches and breathtaking views in countries boasting a profound Christian legacy of nearly two millennia. Visit adventtours.org or email info@adventtours.org for more information.

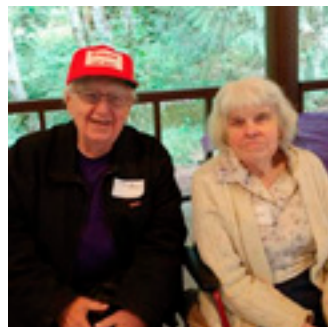
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ONLINE

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Aaron 60th



Tom and Mary Aaron

Tom and Mary (Richards) Aaron celebrated 60 years of marriage on May 5, 2024 with a private reception at their home in Shelton, Washington.

They were married on May 24, 1964 at Grays Harbor Church, in Hoquiam, Washington. They were the first couple to be married at the new Grays Harbor Church.

They later moved to Shelton, Washington, where they were both employed by Shelton school district. Mary stopped teaching to raise their family when their oldest child was born. She later worked as a caregiver for senior citizens. Both Tom and Mary were active members of Shelton Church.

The Aaron family includes Robert Aaron of Shelton, Washington; Ann Marie (Aaron) of Lacey, Washington; Marilyn Aaron of Shelton, Washington; 5 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

SEPT./OCT. JULY 22
NOV./DEC. SEPT. 16

ABDELFADI — Adel Moussa, 87; born July 5, 1936, Cairo, Egypt; died Feb. 7, 2024, Astoria, Oregon. Surviving: daughters, Esther Stamos, Nancy Banek and Margaret Abdelfadi-Ramberg; 2 grandchildren.

BERRY — Norma Lee (Cotten), 91; born April 19, 1932, Compton, California; died March 9, 2024, Puyallup, Washington. Surviving: son, Stanley; daughter, Kathey (Berry) Bailey; 7 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and 4 step-great-grandchildren.

BLAHAK — Leona Fae (Bigelow), 96; born Nov. 26, 1927, Sheridan, Oregon; died May 14, 2024, Auburn, Washington. Surviving: daughters, Della Blahak, Debbie (Blahak) Fogelquist and Denise Blahak; 3 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

BOHLMAN — Don Keith, 88; born Nov. 19, 1935, Walla Walla, Washington; died April 26, 2024, College Place, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Carolyn (Owen); son, Brock; daughter, Lori (Bohlman) Marcoff; brother, Ted; sister, Glenna (Bohlman) Korrenny; 6 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

CAMPBELL — Ruth (Reed), 91; born Nov. 4, 1932, Sodaville, Nevada; died April 12, 2024, Post Falls, Idaho. Surviving: sons, Brett, Victor and Bruce; daughter, Jackie Davis; brother, Floyd Reed; 9 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

CARPENTER — George Lynn, 73; born Oct. 6, 1950, Denver, Colorado; died April

2, 2024, Zephyrhills, Florida. Surviving: spouse, Rose Carpenter; mother, Wilma (Ellerman) Stuvenga; daughters, Kathy (Carpenter) Smith and Kristy (Carpenter) Huffman; stepsons, Steve Cavanaugh and Brice Cavanaugh; brothers, Dean Carpenter and Edwin Wilde; sister, Jeannetta (Wilde) Fridd; 5 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

DAVIS — Betty Jean (Pope), previously Betty Wood, Betty Connell, 79; born Sept. 19, 1944, Brigham City, Utah; died March 14, 2024, Longview, Washington. Surviving: sons, Kerry Wood, Joshua Connell and Chris Connell; brother, Jim Pope; 3 grandchildren.

ELLETT — G. Elden, 89; born May 7, 1932, The Dalles, Oregon; died July 10, 2021, The Dalles, Oregon. Surviving: son, Douglas; daughter, Loreli Ellett; 2 grandchildren. *(This is a reprint with corrected information from May/June 2024.)*

ELLIS — Christa (Gilgen), 82; born March 11, 1939, Basel, Switzerland; died March 7, 2022, Auburn, Washington. Surviving: sons, Andreas, David, Peter and Erik; 6 grandchildren.

ELLIS — Gareth I., 88; born Oct. 9, 1935, Dannevirke, New Zealand; died April 16, 2024, Papakura, New Zealand. Surviving: sons, Andreas, David, Peter and Erik; 6 grandchildren.

FARR — Patsye Ruythe (Mooney), 96; born Feb. 11, 1928, Dodge City, Kansas; died March 18, 2024, Ridgefield, Washington. Surviving: son, William “Skip” Jr.; daughter, Lynda (Farr) Skau; 3 grandchildren.

HARLAN — Bonnie Kathleen (Brinkler), 76; born Dec. 17, 1947, Walla Walla, Washington; died Feb. 22, 2024, Nampa, Idaho. Surviving: son, Jason; daughters, Amber and Kaylene; 6 grandchildren.

HORTON — Gaylord LeRoy, 89; born Oct. 12, 1934, Quinn, South Dakota; died Feb. 24, 2024, Rogue River, Oregon. Surviving: spouse: Marlene (Towner) Horton; son, Ken Horton; daughters, Patricia (Horton) Carlson and Linda (Horton) Briscoe; stepsons, Ted Childress and Rick Childress; stepdaughters, Leslie Sands and Penny Dionne; brother, Gene; 7 grandchildren, 5 step-grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and 5 step-great-grandchildren.

HUBBARD — Rhodene Marie, 73; born Jan. 14, 1951; died June 27, 2024, Yakima, Washington. Surviving: brother, Dean Hubbard.

KHRAPOVA — Nina Konstantinovna (Zubova), 84; born April 24, 1939, Gissar, Tajikistan; died March 25, 2024, Walla Walla, Washington. Surviving: sons, Alexey Khrapov, Vassilli Khrapov and Pavel Khrapov; daughters, Liubov (Khrapova) Brunton, Vera (Khrapova) Shevtsova, Elena (Khrapova) Mann and Marina (Khrapova) Jones; brothers, Alexander Zubkov, Konstantin Zubkov and Pavel Zubkov; sister, Liliya (Zubkova) Bulkina; 14 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

KREUDER-MCCLENDON — Nichole Heather (Kreuder), previously Nicole Franklin, Nicole Doering, 46; born Aug. 30, 1977, Royal Oak, Michigan; died March 19, 2024, Meridian, Idaho. Surviving:

mother, Marilyn Kreuder; son, Connor Franklin; daughter, Jenna Franklin; sister, Angela Lowman.

LAKE — Helen M. (Faubion), 99; born April 12, 1923, Buffalo, Wyoming; died Nov. 2, 2022, Lewiston, Idaho. Surviving: daughters, Karen (Lake) Vixie and Barbara (Lake) Hill; 7 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

LARGE — Esther Ramona (Carlson), previously Esther Starr, 94; born Nov. 21, 1929, Troy, Idaho; died April 2, 2024, Walla Walla, Washington. Surviving: daughters, Monica (Large) Kivett, Kathy (Large) Brown and Becky (Large) Wilson; 7 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

LEGORE — Sandra Kay (Adkins), 74; born Sept. 13, 1949, Walla Walla, Washington; died March 2, 2024, Hillsboro, Oregon. Surviving: daughter, Kimberly Legore Rauda; brother, Kenny Adkins; 1 grandchild.

LUCAS — Virgil Merrill, 88; born March 5, 1935, Woodburn, Oregon; died June 30, 2023, Salem, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Shirley; son, Rod; daughter, Kathy Hendricks-Harwood; 4 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

MERTH — Duane Sylvester, 77; born Oct. 20, 1946, Walla Walla, Washington; died March 29, 2024, Walla Walla, Washington.

MOULTON — Lauren I., 92; born Oct. 21, 1931, Emmett, Idaho; died March 31, 2024, Washougal, Washington.

Surviving: spouse, Cheryl; son, Don; daughter, Cathy Enberg; 8 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and 7 great-great-grandchildren.

OPITZ – Carol Ann (Whitehouse), previously Carol Roy, Carol Jones, 74; born March 14, 1950, Portland, Oregon; died April 10, 2024, Walla Walla, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Duwayne Opitz; son, Cecil Roy; daughter, Carrie Ann (Roy) Bergherm; brothers, Daniel Whitehouse and Timothy Whitehouse; sisters, Kathleen (Whitehouse) Hudson and Joanne (Whitehouse) Hall; 4 grandchildren.

PARKER – Donald Eugene, 91; born Nov. 11, 1932, Kim, Colorado; died Feb. 21, 2024, Otis, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Sherry Pope Parker; sons, John, Ron, Don and Roy; daughter, Wanda Parker Briggs; 9 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

QUALLS – Janet Irene (Stringer), 85; born Dec. 3, 1937, Twin Falls, Idaho; died Oct. 18, 2023, Puyallup, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Donald; sons, Donald and Randall; sister, Ethel Wilson; 5 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

RADU – Phyllis Lee (Park), previously Phyllis Beasley, 74; born June 20, 1949, Artesia, California; died March 19, 2024, Lexington, South Carolina. Surviving: son, Eric Beasley; daughter, Stephanie (Beasley) Gates; brother, Geofry Park; sister, Cheri Park; 10 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

SCHAFFER – Glenda Jeane (Gimbel), 87; born March 19, 1937, Calgary, Alberta, Canada; died May 12, 2024, College Place, Washington. Surviving: sons,

Don and Curtis; daughter, Jacqueline (Schafer) Zuill; brother, Howard Gimbel; sisters, Elaine (Gimbel) Skoretz and Naida (Gimbel) Oliver; 4 grandchildren.

SEELY – Sydney Mae, 78; born Sept. 28, 1945, Lincoln, Nebraska; died Feb. 3, 2024, Walla Walla, Washington. Surviving: brothers, Warren Witt and Zane Seely; sister, Cathy (Seely) Kahn.

SEIBOLD – David Delton, 64; born April 8, 1959, Walla Walla, Washington; died March 23, 2024, Dayton, Tennessee. Surviving: spouse, Doryce; mother, Leta; son, Erich; daughters, Kendra Danner and Gretchen Bicknell; brother, Kelvin; 4 grandchildren and 1 step-grandchild.

SHELDEN – Laurel Lea (Niderost), 65; born Nov. 6, 1958, Ukiah, California; died March 26, 2024, Richland, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Neil; mother, Ethel “Lou” Niderost; son, Hart; daughter, Holly (Shelden) Gastin; sisters, Cherie (Niderost) Rogers and Jennette (Niderost) Anderson; 2 grandchildren and 4 step-great-grandchildren.

SMART – Richard “Jake” Joseph, 82; born May 27, 1941, Ironville, Ohio; died March 13, 2024, West Richland, Washington. Surviving: spouse, Judy (Anderson); sons, John and Henry; daughters, Jennifer (Smart) Page and Michal (Anderson) McCamman; stepson, Gregory Anderson; 6 grandchildren, 3 step-great-grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

North Pacific Union Directory

5709 N. 20th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642
360-857-7000 • fax 360-857-7001 • npuc.org
Monday–Thursday 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

President John Freedman	Hispanic Ministries and Ministerial Peter Simpson
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Local Conference Directory

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6100 O’Malley Rd.
Anchorage, AK 99507-7200
907-346-1004 • alaskaconference.org
Kevin Miller, president; Ashwin Somasundram, v.p. administration; _____, v.p. finance

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208-375-7524 • idahoadventist.org
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MONTANA CONFERENCE
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Bozeman, MT 59715
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503-850-3500 • oregonadventist.org
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509-838-2761 • uccsda.org
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Federal Way, WA 98001
253-681-6008 • washingtonconference.org
Doug Bing, president; Randy Maxwell, v.p. administration; Jerry S. Russell, v.p. finance; Michelle Wachter, v.p. education

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College Place, WA 99324-1198
509-527-2656 • wallawalla.edu
Alex Bryan, president; Pamela Cress, v.p. for academic administration; Prakash Ramoutar, v.p. for financial administration; Darren Wilkens, v.p. for student life; Jodi Wagner, v.p. for university relations and advancement

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503-850-3300
M–Th 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
F 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Sun 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

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COLLEGE PLACE ABC
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509-529-0723
T–Th 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

AUBURN ABC
5100 32nd St., Auburn, WA 98092-7024
253-833-6707
M, Tu, Th 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
W, F 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m.
Sun 11 a.m.–3 p.m.



Sunset times:
nwadventists.com/sunset

family AT REST

STRATTON—Herbert W., 83; born April 1, 1941, National City, California; died May 11, 2024, Caldwell, Idaho. Surviving: spouse, Marie (Logan); daughters, Marta (Stratton) Stone and Jill (Stratton) Granberry; sister, Norma (Stratton) Green; 4 grandchildren.

STRUTZ—Arlene Alice (Bighouse), 96; born April 2, 1928, Butte, North Dakota; died April 4, 2024, Rockaway Beach, Oregon. Surviving: daughters, Patty Edwards, Becky Louder and Kathy Cline; 3 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild.

SWARM—Beverly Anne (Crum), 85; born May 28, 1938, Redding, California; died

March 30, 2024, Gresham, Oregon. Surviving: daughter, Bonnie Kist; brothers, Melvin Crum and Don Crum; sister, Barbara Joiner; 2 grandchildren.

WALSH—Michael Thomas, 61; born June 16, 1961, Tacoma, Washington; died March 30, 2023, Gaston, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Cherry; stepmom, Janet Walsh; son, Cody; brother, Jim; sisters, Cindy Walsh and Christine Schorno; 1 grandchild.

WEBER—Dorothy Lea (Cornwell), 87; born Jan. 18, 1936, Merced, California; died Sept. 27, 2023, Rossville, Georgia. Surviving: spouse, LeRoy; daughters, Marlene Moore, Cherie Cowin and two additional

daughters; 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

WELKLIN—Claire Iyone (Lundquist), 94; born Aug. 9, 1929, Lima, Peru; died Dec. 28, 2023, Medford, Oregon. Surviving: spouse, Philip; daughter, Lynda Montgomery; 1 grandchild.

WOOD—Kerry Robert, 58; born July 19, 1965, Pendleton, Oregon; died March 28, 2024, Longview, Washington. Surviving: daughter, Chantal Bates; brothers, Joshua Connell and Chris Connell; 5 great-grandchildren.

Correction from May/June 2024: The year range at the top of Patricia "Patti" (Barrett) Kluchesky's expanded obituary

should have been printed as 1949–2023, not 1942–2023. All other information was correct.

All family announcements are published online at [NWAdventists.com/family](https://www.nwadventists.com/family). To submit family announcements, go to [NWAdventists.com/contribute](https://www.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.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NORTH PACIFIC UNION

Offering

- July 6—Local Church Budget
- July 13—World Budget (GC)
- July 20—Local Church Budget
- July 27—Local Conference Advance
- Aug. 3—Local Church Budget
- Aug. 10—Christian Record Services (NAD)
- Aug. 17—Local Church Budget
- Aug. 24—Local Conference Advance
- Aug. 31—Local Church Budget

ALASKA CONFERENCE

Alaska Conference 19th Regular Constituency Session

Notice is hereby given that the 19th Regular Constituency Session of Alaska Conference will be held in Palmer Church located at 2238 Inner Springer Loop, Palmer, Alaska on Sept. 22, 2024 at 8:30 a.m.

The purpose of the constituency session is to receive reports of conference activities for the quadrennial ending Sept. 22, 2024; elect officers, departmental directors, conference executive committee, constitution and bylaws committee; conduct strategic planning and transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates in session.

Kevin Miller, president
Ashwin Somasundram, vice president of administration

OREGON CONFERENCE

Central Oregon Camp Meeting

Meetings begin on Thursday at 9 a.m. Aug. 15–17. Speakers include Ryan Day, C.A. Murray, Charles Byrdand more. Free food, dry camping. Location: Cascade Church, 60670 Brookwood Blvd, Bend, Oregon 97702. For more information, call 541-223-8984 or email centraloregoncampmeetingcv@gmail.com. Register online at [centraloregoncampmeeting.com](https://www.centraloregoncampmeeting.com).

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

Monroe Church Seeks Missing Members

Monroe Church in Monroe, Washington, is looking for the following missing members: Jonathan Anderson; John French; Roger A. Johnson Jr.; Douglas Lake; Melody Leong; Laurie Lindsay; Jessica Mann Martinez; Michele Mich; Paty Mich; Samuel Perea; Chuck Roybal; Mindy Smith; Rachel Smith; Heather Sturm; Victor E. Tessaro; Michael VanderVeer; Victoria Worsham; Lynda Ralston; Michael Ralston; Robert Boggan; Sarah Lester; E. Joan Sygitowicz; Elizabeth Nelon; Marescha Schmakeit Swartz; Julie Bradford; Barry Crewse; Melodee Dealy; Rick Markgraf; Deanna Norman; Dylan Norman; DezRae Oster; Jorge Perez; Christopher Simpson. If you have any information about these people, please email the church office at office@monroesda.org.

Bremerton Christian Church

We are excited to celebrate 30 years in our new church building. All friends and former members of Bremerton Christian Church are cordially invited to come and meet with us on Aug. 24 for a special Sabbath celebration. Our Sabbath service begins at 10 a.m. and is followed by a fellowship dinner. We hope that you will be part of this celebration. 4949 NW Taylor Road, Bremerton, Washington, 98312.

CENTRAL OREGON CAMP MEETING HEAVEN IN ONE GIFT

August 15,16,17,2024



C. A Murray



Ryan Day



Stephanie Dawn



Danny Thornton



Charles Byrd

Meetings begin on Thursday at 9:00am.
Location: 60670 Brookwood Blvd. Bend OR. 97702 (Cascade SDA Church)
Mobile: 541-223-8984 /Email : centraloregoncampmeetingcv@gmail.com
Facebook/YouTube: Central Oregon Camp Meeting
www.centraloregoncampmeeting.com.

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JUST FOR KIDS



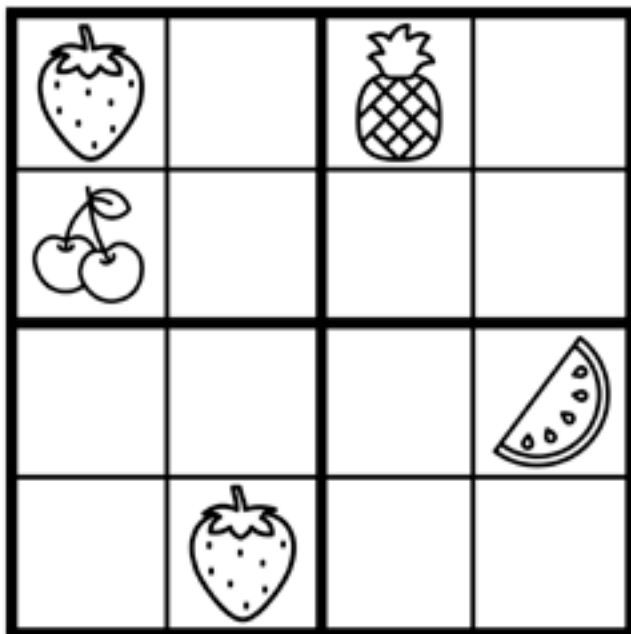
SUMMER FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT PUZZLES



The fruit of the Spirit is like a special kind of fruit that grows inside you when you love and follow Jesus.

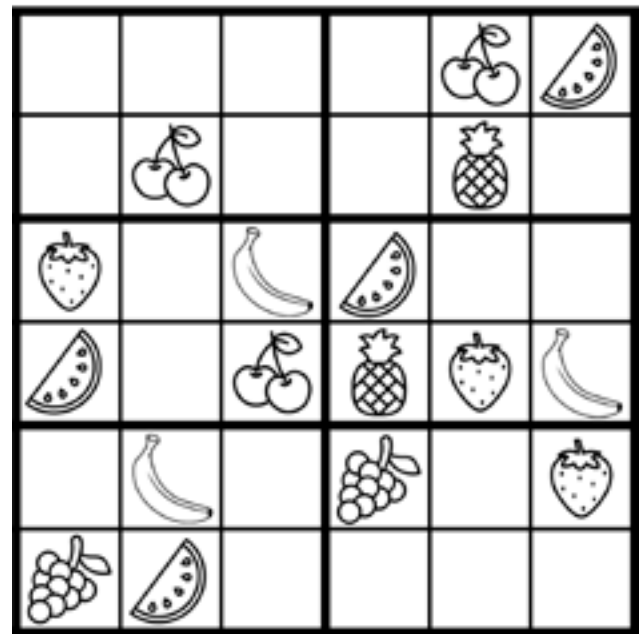
This fruit isn't like apples or oranges. Instead, it's made of good things like love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. When you let the Holy Spirit help you, these good things show up in how you treat others and they make you more like Jesus. Complete these fun puzzles while thinking about how you can show the fruit of the Spirit to your friends and family.

LEVEL 1



Draw strawberries, cherries, pineapples and watermelon slices in the empty squares to complete the sudoku puzzle. Each row, column and bolded box can only have one of each fruit without any repeats. Use a pencil so you can erase mistakes.

LEVEL 2



Draw strawberries, cherries, pineapples, watermelon slices, bananas and grapes in the empty squares to complete the sudoku puzzle. Remember, each row, column and bolded box must have all the fruits without any repeats.

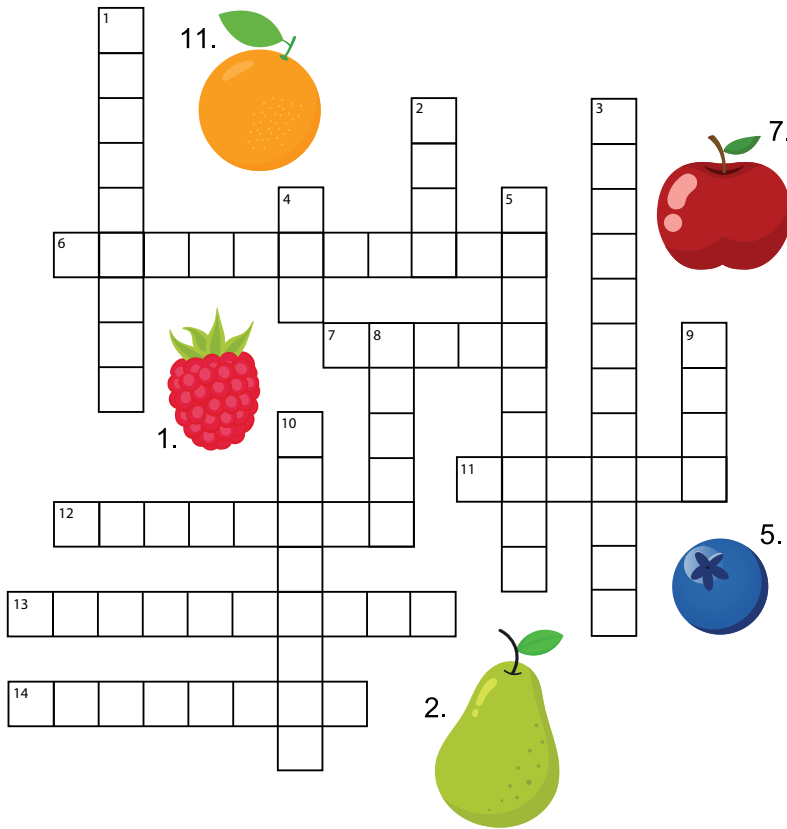
FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Down:

- 3. Found in Lam. 3:23 (NIV)
- 4. Found in Psalm 66:1 (NIV)
- 8. Found in John 14:27 (NIV)
- 9. Found in 1 Cor. 16:14 (NIV)

Across:

- 6. Found in Prov. 25:28 (NIV)
- 12. Found in Eccl. 7:8 (NIV)
- 13. Found in Phil. 4:5 (NIV)
- 14. Found in Psalm 23:6 (NIV)

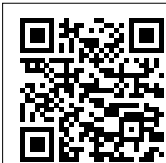


FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT WORD SEARCH

AWLLOVEQVIFHFYW
 UGLWYLHUPUYTPBJ
 PSELFCONTROLNWO
 EKBOXOLJKQYWQLQY
 AIPFAITHFULNESS
 CNLFWLOYLTEIPKG
 EDUBSTIUMWNXAFO
 CNMCEXMYAMXZTFO
 OEGENTLENESSIZD
 CSAPRTPEGWIIETN
 OSLEMONDOVHKNBE
 NPEACHCEPUFICGS
 UHNDHTKRAISWEMS
 TQORSCKAHGJIYIO
 ZCGTGRAPEFRUITK

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| faithfulness | self-control |
| grapefruit | patience |
| goodness | coconut |
| lemon | peach |
| gentleness | love |
| kindness | kiwi |
| peace | plum |
| mango | joy |

To check your answers or to print more puzzle copies, scan the QR Code.



SIENNA HUBIN
Gleaner copy editor

More online at
NWADVENT.ST/119-4-KIDS-09

Summer Health Challenge for the Whole Family

We're in the midst of summer and in our family we love visiting the community pool and beach, buying fresh produce at our local organic farm and bringing kayaks out on a nearby lake.

Summer in the Pacific Northwest is beautiful and we try to get outside as often as possible. This summer, let's do a health challenge together – as a family. Keep in mind, health is not just physical, so let's focus on all areas of healthy living.

John tells us, "Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul" (3 John 1:2).

Here is a 25-day summer health challenge for the whole family!

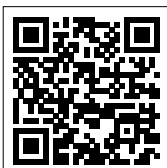


AUTHOR

Lavonne Long

1. Get a new family devotional to read together – take turns reading scripture out loud.
2. Do a water drinking challenge together – it's always great to drink more water.
3. Have a water gun fight.
4. Get a great night's sleep.
5. Host a "No Complaint" day – no one can complain all day.
6. Check in with your kids daily. See how they are doing, what they are into and what they are thinking about.
7. Plant a vegetable or herb garden – kids love gardening; you can start small.
8. Visit the local library and pick out books to read.
9. Make a large fruit salad together.
10. Have a water balloon fight.
11. Play with bubbles – see how many you can pop.
12. Use a fitness app together as a family.
13. Commit to hugging each other at least once every day.
14. Make a family prayer jar and add to it all summer – see what prayers have been answered.
15. Have a large salad bar for dinner. Let everyone pick out ingredients and help cut.
16. Take a family walk.
17. Host Thankful Thursdays where everyone shares what they're thankful for with no repeats.
18. Learn a new sport – like pickleball or spikeball.
19. Let the kids choose a healthy dinner recipe they'll cook – if they cook, offer to clean up.
20. Do an outdoor service project together – sandwiches for the homeless, yard work for an elderly neighbor, etc.
21. Train for a 5K walk or run together.
22. Visit a local splash pad or public park.
23. Try new fruits and vegetables. Make rating cards and see what new ones you like.
24. Set 30 minutes per day for no technology. Instead, read, write, draw, do puzzles, paint, etc.
25. Set "play dates" for the whole family. Go visit friends or meet them at a local park, lake or beach.

Be joyful together this summer as a family!



More online at NWADVENT.ST/119-4-POV-41

What would you add to this Summer Challenge list? Head to the [#NWAdventists](https://www.nwadventists.com) website or social media channels to comment and share.

Proverbs 17:22 says, "A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones." Be joyful together this summer as a family! God wants to bless you abundantly. He is so crazy in love with you! And remember, when you're outside, wear sunscreen and pack your water.

LAVONNE LONG
Northwest Adventists family columnist



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Walla Walla
University
SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
HIGHER
EDUCATION

Election Year

“Put not your trust in princes.”

PSALM 146



T

his year, Americans will go through another presidential election cycle; as a pastor and a citizen, I am apprehensive.

I am worried because political seasons seem to commodify fear and spark division. I am exhausted from endless debates that never seem to settle anything.

Nonetheless, I am hopeful that, this time around, we as a church can collectively decide to love our neighbor across political divides. I am committed to doing my part to spark conversations that connect instead of polarize.

Our differences matter, but our commitment to love one another matters more. I believe the church is the place to put this into practice. I visited a leader in our church recently who gave me hope that this is possible. In our visit, he brought up his respect for one of his good friends who is very politically different from himself. I know both of these men. They are both long-time leaders in the church, and they work well together.

Their differences in the way that they think complement one

AUTHOR

Kevin McGill

another. One is meticulous in

detail and processes on a systemic level, while the other is a bulldozer that values expediency and getting things done.

Both mindsets are needed. They do have conflict but their commitment to respect enables resolution through the challenges. In our culture, we have been taught to avoid talking about politics and religion, but this has led to a lack of understanding of politics and religion. What we should be taught

is how to have a civil conversation about a difficult topic. These conversations rarely happen on Facebook. The algorithm incentivizes polarization instead of meaningful dialogue.

Mark Witas, a pastor/chaplain friend of mine who works for Adventist Health, recently made a post about this that resonated with me. He gave his permission to reshare his social post here. He asked, “Has anyone ever changed their political affiliations/leanings because of Facebook posts? Me neither.”

During this coming intense political season, how about we litter Facebook with positive posts about the things that bring us joy, the God appointments we keep with our fellow humans and the positive people who have made a difference in our lives?

Jesus says, “Seek first the kingdom.” What’s the kingdom? It’s right in front of you. It’s all the beautifully flawed human beings He’s placed around you at work and school. Seek their good. Seek to bless them. Seek blessings from them.

As you do, if you are inclined to share on social media, bless us all with your experiences.

Resist investing your posts on how right you think your side of the political aisle is. Remember, the empire is *not* the kingdom, and it never will be. Invest in the kingdom and you will not be disappointed.

As I look back on posts I have made during previous political seasons, I realize I can do better at this. I am committed to spending



More online at
NWADVENT.ST/119-4-POV-40



In our culture, we have been taught to avoid talking about politics and religion, but this has led to a lack of understanding of politics and religion. What we should be taught is how to have a civil conversation about a difficult topic.

time connecting with others rather than correcting them. I am committed to placing my trust in the only leader who never fails. Placing trust in presidents and political parties is a path to disappointment.

In this election cycle, may we as a church give our allegiance to the Leader who united men from all ends of the political/religious spectrum and prayed that His followers would be one. As I have been reflecting on this, I have been meditating on Psalm 146. Read it in context for yourself, but I want to leave you with my 2024 paraphrase for this election season.

Psalm 146:3-9 (Kevin's Presidential Election paraphrase)

Put not your trust in presidents, in mere mortals, in whom there is no salvation.

With their breath they make promises that they cannot keep, after four years; when they leave, their plans and projects leave with them.

Instead of looking to a president to find real hope, put your hope in God and know real blessing!

The God who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. God frees prisoners.

He gives sight to the blind, He lifts up the humble and the fallen. God loves justice and those who speak up for righteousness,

The Lord watches over refugees and strangers, He takes the side of orphans and widows, the arc of the moral universe may be long, but it bends towards justice!

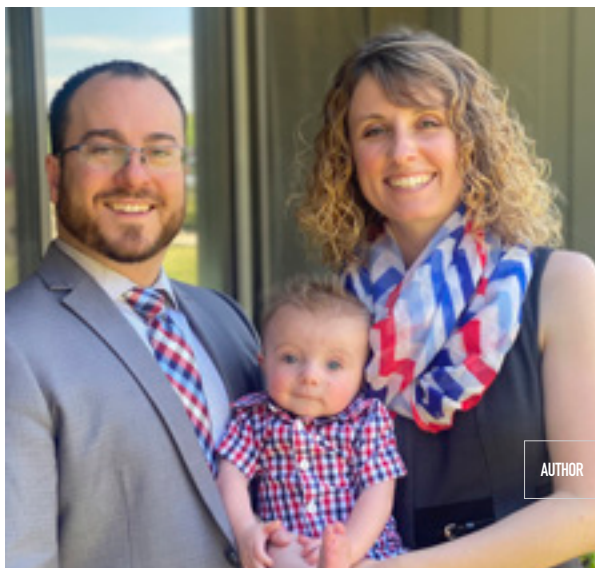
KEVIN MCGILL

Green Lake Church senior pastor



Lost

While in college, I spent a year serving as a student missionary in Australia.



AUTHOR

Natashia McVay

I was a pastor at Gateway Church and an assistant school chaplain at the Avondale pre-K through 12th-grade school. Among my

many duties, one requirement of all student missionaries was to go work at the Adventist summer camp in Yarrahapinni, New South Wales.

Among the student missionaries there that year, I had the nicest car, so I was elected to be the driver to get us to summer camp. I quite enjoy driving and relish a challenge. I had been to the camp once before, so I felt I knew how to get us there. I looked at a map beforehand and planned out the trip.

However, other than a crude printed-out map, I was at the mercy of my memory, as this was before smartphones. We began early in the morning so we could arrive with plenty of time to get settled before dark. The trip was going great until we reached the halfway mark and stopped for lunch at a park. I didn't realize the road by the park split into a Y, so when we hopped back into the car, I thought I knew the right way to go.

Unfortunately, I was very wrong. The road we took quickly turned into a narrow, one-lane dirt road. It took us swiftly into the Australian jungle. We went up and over passes that I should not have taken my car on. The road was a mess with potholes, washed-out sections and terrible washboard. This was clearly not a well-traveled road. What was

supposed to take three hours quickly turned into a much longer trip.

After driving for almost four hours, we came upon a farm. There was a man out front mowing his lawn. I pulled over and asked him how to get to the town of Kempsey, which was near the camp. He responded by laughing and saying that I was clearly American and very lost! He told me how to get there, but it took us another three hours of driving on a narrow, very unpleasant road in the middle of nowhere to finally get to a paved, regularly traveled road.

What was meant to be a relatively easy day of driving had turned into a nightmare for myself and a very long day for my passengers. All the danger, exhaustion, stress and irritation could have been avoided if I had simply paid closer attention to the map and been more willing to admit I didn't really know where I was going and needed to do more studying beforehand.

I use this story to illustrate the dangerous spiritual reality that it's easy to become lost, disoriented and turned around when we think we can go through life by ourselves. We become lost when we ignore the divinely given map and do not seek God for our directions in life.

As Christians, God has given us a very clear map. God clearly gives us instructions on how to be saved and live dedicated to Him. It's through Bible study, prayer and seeking God's Spirit in our



PERSPECTIVE

When we live our lives only based on ourselves and our own understandings instead of focusing on Jesus and the clear truths laid out in scripture, we get distracted by the false narrative that is offered to us in the world and become lost.

lives that we are connected with the life-giving map. Our biggest problem is that we think we can do it on our own, without God's help.

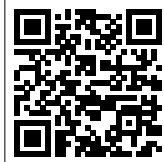
When we live our lives only based on ourselves and our own understandings instead of focusing on Jesus and the clear truths laid out in scripture, we get distracted by the false narrative that is offered to us in the world and become lost.

Rather than following the confusing false directions the world offers, Jesus offers us

a simple way to be safe as we journey in this life. In John 14:6, Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

Relying on Jesus is the only true way to be saved. It's only through following Jesus and His words to us that we are able to plot a clear, direct and true track through this world. Jesus freely offers us the ability to remain on the straight and narrow path, to follow His directions and to arrive safely.

I have learned through my own experience that I don't want to become lost because of my pride and ignorance. I sincerely desire to remain in Jesus and let Him lead me into truth and the safety of His salvation.



NATASHIA MCVAY
Moscow and
Pullman Church
associate pastor

Move online at [NWADVENT.ST/119-4-POV-42](https://www.nwadvent.org/st/119-4-pov-42)



Dwelling in Community

MY HEART'S DESIRE IS TO BE A COMMUNITY BUILDER AND DWELLER. HERE'S HOW IT BEGAN.



AUTHOR Heidi Baumgartner



More online at [NWADVENT.ST/119-4-TT-43](https://www.nwadventists.com/st/119-4-tt-43)

Community has been a cornerstone of my life's narrative, shaping my experiences and relationships in profound ways.

My first job was in healthcare marketing at a former Adventist Health facility in Southern California. I had a lot to navigate in my new adult life.

With family and friends primarily on the East Coast, I struggled to find spaces where I could build authentic and healthy friendships. I wasn't into coffee, didn't ever plan to visit a bar, didn't think about joining a gym and never did find the local library.

My initial attempts to find a church family failed miserably. Before long, my room rental situation turned difficult with a closet alcoholic landlady and her new beau. I desperately needed a community network.

That summer, I filled in for a patient resource coordinator named Kate, who was on medical leave.

Kate and her husband, Tom, heard about my housing situation and invited me into their home, their lives and even a family gathering – providing my first welcoming community that summer. Their generosity and friendship provided a safe place for me to live, be and grow.

Nearly 20 years later, Kate and Tom once again extended hospitality when I brought my family to meet them at their home in Hawaii. They continue to practice generosity and kindness in their home and around their table.

As I advanced into adulthood in western Washington, I found increasingly more community connections where I formed meaningful relationships with fifth-graders, young adults my own age, a few newly married couples, families with children and grandparent-like figures.

It still took a while, and it required a lot of give-and-take grace. Eventually, church did become a welcoming space and gave me opportunities to become my own community builder.

One of my favorite community builders in the Bible is the Shunamite woman in 2 Kings 4. Whenever Elisha traveled nearby, she invited him in for food and a place to stay.

When he wanted to do something nice to bless her for her kindness, she affirmed that she

desired to dwell, to be together, with her community as she cared for her neighbors. She ultimately did receive extra blessings.

Community building takes intentional, but not impossible, effort, and may look like a smile or a wave, a remembered name, an interested conversation, a shared meal or a bonding experience through a service project, Bible study, prayer time or social interaction.

Together, may we embrace God's invitation to be community builders and dwellers. It will enrich our lives and the lives of those around us with blessing after blessing.

HEIDI BAUMGARTNER
North Pacific Union communication director and Gleaner editor

TABLE TALK PROMPT

Think about a time when you felt a deep sense of belonging and connection. What made that experience special? How can you intentionally create similar moments of community in your life?

Let's keep the conversation going. Share highlights of your table talk stories and reflections by emailing talk@nwadventists.com.

JONATHAN BAUMGARTNER



Heidi Baumgartner discovered the transformative power of community building through the generous hearts of Kate and Tom.

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Date: Sabbath, August 17, 2024

Location: Brandt Center, Northwest Nazarene University campus

Address: 707 Fern Street, Nampa, Idaho

Time: 9:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

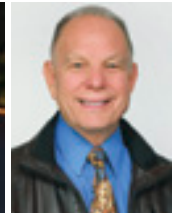
Master of Ceremonies: Dan Matthews



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