

# PRESIDENT'S

## Report

### MUSICIANS IN TUNE WITH GOD

The little fingers grasped the bow of his violin. With a deep breath, he braced himself and began to draw the bow across the strings.

Screech! Eeeeek! Screech! The sound that emanated could hardly be called music. Those in attendance discreetly covered their ears, but I wonder what he will sound like after much diligence and experience?

I watched a Youtube video the other day of the largest recorded orchestra to ever perform — 8,097 of the finest musicians in the world. What music! I watched the conductor as he led the orchestra. What it must take to have more than eight thousand individuals all working together in common purpose, hitting each note in perfect harmony. If the woodwind section was playing in a different key, or the horns playing from a different sheet of music, the orchestra wouldn't work. In fact, it wouldn't really be an orchestra at all, it would just be noise!

As I reflect on the past year and a half, we have been divided on several areas — masks, politics, vaccines, etc. However, Christ our conductor has given us all the same sheet of music to play from.

If we work together and keep our eyes on Him, oh what a joyful noise we would make!

In John 17, Jesus prays for all believers. He says, "I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

May we pursue that blessed unity. May we set aside our differences and work together. May we be so in tune with God that our music rings throughout the land — Christ is coming again soon!

Finally, let me take this moment to express my deepest appreciation to all of you. God has allowed me to serve here — I have seen miracles and answered prayers throughout. Evelyn and I experienced such kindness and collaboration from you. May we continue to reach one more and keep reaching one more until the Lord brings us all home.



M I N N E R   L A B R A D O R   J R .



27,150

total UCC members  
as of July 2021

%  
15

increase in tithe compared  
to second quarter 2020



40+

UCA student baptisms  
@ graduation weekend



## ACTIONS TAKEN AT 7.15.21 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Administration update**

- Minner Labrador, UCC president, shared a brief devotional and an update regarding his recent acceptance of a position with North American Division.
- Rodney Mills, UCC vice president for administration, shared the current conference membership statistical report.
- It was voted to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2021, Executive Committee.
- It was voted to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2021, Administrative and Finance Committee.

**Financial update**

- Allee Currier, UCC vice president for finance, presented an update on conference finances.
- It was voted to receive the April and May 2021 Finance Reports, subject to audit.
- It was voted to approve funding of \$254,000 from reserves for special missional evangelistic plans in local churches across the Upper Columbia Conference in 2021.
- Committee members signed and returned Conflict of Interest Statements for Conference Executive Committee and Corporation/Mission Society Board.

**Education update**

- Brian Harris, UCC vice president for education, gave an update from Office of Education. The 2021-2022 school year begins August 23, 2021.
- It was voted to elect the following individuals to fill the vacancies on the Upper Columbia Conference Board of Education: Kenton Gonzalez (pastor); Darla Shupe (instructional); Brooke Colburn (region 2); and Shawn Dietrich (region 3).
- It was voted to approve the following amendment to the UCA Constitution:  
*Article VII Section 7: Board Membership*  
The Board shall have **20** members or less, according

to the need.

- (a) Ex-officio members
  - (i) Conference President - Chair
  - (ii) School Principal – Secretary
  - (iii) School Vice Principal for Finance
  - (iv) Conference Educational Superintendent of Schools
  - (v) Conference Secretary
  - (vi) Conference Treasurer
  - (vii) North Pacific Union Conference Educational Representative
  - (viii) Walla Walla College Vice-President for Finance or designee

**(ix) Lake City Academy Principal**

- It was voted to appoint the 2019-2023 UCA Board: Dieter, Kimberley (lay); Gilliland, Richard (lay); Harbor, Chad (lay); Mitchell, Keeni (lay); Twigg Sr., George (lay); vacant (lay); Carter, Greg (pastor); Sharley, Harry (pastor); Shupe, Teddy (pastor); Bryant, Holly (teacher); and Wallen, Melissa (teacher).

**President Search Process**

- John Freedman, president of North Pacific Union Conference, will serve as chair for items pertaining to the conference president appointment process.
- It was voted to record that the committee acknowledges and will follow the UCC Constitution & Bylaws-mandated method to fill officer vacancies between sessions. Freedman shared with the committee the process that will be used by the North Pacific Union Conference to gather information from UCC constituents and the vetting of prospective candidates for the position of president.
- It was voted to elect the following individuals to fill the vacancies on the Upper Columbia Conference Nominating Committee: Greg Carter (pastor); Saul Dominguez (pastor); Luke Irvine (lay); and Hannah Stonas (lay).

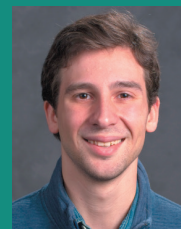
## INCOMING/TRANSFERRING PASTORS



**James Ash**  
Pastor  
Dayton/  
Stateline



**Stephen Farr**  
Pastor  
Pendleton/  
Pilot Rock



**Michael Smith**  
Pastor  
Goldendale/  
Condon

## ACTIVE PASTORAL SEARCHES

- Inchelium/Kettle Falls/Northport
- All Nations/Granger/Zillah

- Deary/Endicott/Troy

