

PRESIDENT'S

Report

A SPECIAL CALL TO PRAYER

One scene in the Bible that sticks out in my mind is the scene where we find the amazing story of Jesus and his disciples in the midst of a storm. Jesus had just finished feeding 5,000 men, not counting women and children, and then he asked the disciples to get into the boat as He dismissed the crowds. However, instead of going with the disciples in the boat, He chose instead to go up to the mountaintop by Himself to pray.

While the disciples were in the boat experiencing a storm, Jesus was on the mountaintop praying. Why? Because Jesus believed in the power of prayer. He realized that no matter the chaos and confusion of earth's problems we can find God's solution in prayer.

There is an incredibly powerful lesson for us here! Because we are in the midst of a storm right now too, but if we follow the example of Jesus then the wisest thing we can do in the midst of the chaos and confusion of our world is to seek our God in prayer.

All of us are aware of the conflict that has been taking place in Ukraine. Many in our community

have family and friends in Ukraine and have been directly affected by the turmoil that has resulted in the loss of many lives.

Upper Columbia Conference leadership, following the example of our Savior Jesus, is calling for each member of our conference to pray for all our brothers and sisters in this troubled part of the world, including the more than 43,000 members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, who are impacted by these acts of war.

We know that the church is powerless in its human ability to make any measurable changes in the current situation, but we know Someone who has the power to intervene and to put an immediate end to this violent incursion and to turn this situation from war toward peace.

We know that Jesus, the Blessed Hope, is coming again soon and that we can rest securely in His hands, especially when we turn to our Mighty God in prayer.



DAVID JAMIESON



1,917

total students currently
enrolled in our schools

%

10.30

increase in tithe December
YTD compared to 2021



26,849

total UCC members
as of December 2021



ACTIONS TAKEN AT 2.24.22 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Administration update

- David Jamieson, newly elected UCC president, shared his personal journey of serving the Lord and entering the ministry. A brief introduction of each executive committee member and a short devotional was then given. Jamieson shared how excited he was to be a part of the conference and is very much looking forward to seeing how God blesses the work here in a transformative way.
- Rodney Mills, UCC vice president for administration, shared the 2021 year-end conference membership statistical report. Mills included a story about a young single mother that began attending Spokane Central Church with her children. As a non-Adventist, she was very interested in the church and never missed a Sabbath. She began volunteering with Vacation Bible School and was eventually baptized.
- Darin Patzer, manager of Shine 104.9 (KEEH) gave a report about the work of his team in the Spokane area. Shine has been named the #1 station in Spokane for several of the past few months by Nielson. The radio ministry continues to create relationships in the Spokane community through local events and concerts. Shine has three major concert events happening this spring with a large event in the fall. Through its annual fundraisers, Shine is completely funded through listener support.
- Eric Brown gave a report from the ministerial, men's ministry, and family ministry department. Supporting our pastors through COVID has been his number one priority since starting at UCC in 2020. An evangelism fund and a way to disburse the funds has been developed to assist our pastors with community evangelism.
- It was voted that Spokane North View Adventist Company be accepted as a church and recommend

their acceptance into the sisterhood of churches at the next Constituency Session.

- It was voted to approve the establishment of the Hermiston Rekindle Adventist Group, planted by the Hermiston Spanish Adventist Church.

Financial update

- Allee Currier, UCC vice president for finance, presented an update on conference finances.
- Working capital continues to grow with 3.71 months saved. The conference goal is six months.
- The 2022 budget will be based on a 92% tithe basis.

Education update

- Brian Harris, UCC vice president for education, gave an update from office of education.
- UCC schools experienced a much higher rate of COVID during the months of January – late February, 2022. Cases are now stabilizing and dropping significantly. Masking requirements are expected to be released in the next month.
- The first spiritual retreat for Upper Columbia Conference educators is planned for April 1-3, 2022, at Camp MiVoden. The spiritual retreat, titled "Overflow: Being filled beyond the brim!," will focus on principals and teachers with an emphasis on purpose.
- By 2023, the office of education anticipates implementing standards-based learning to reinforce core elements and build capacity in our educators.
- Several critical issues are on the horizon for the office of education, including LGBTQ+ and mental health of our students. Addressing these needs will be of great importance to our schools and educators, as will providing them with the resources they need to address these challenges.

INCOMING/TRANSFERRING PASTORS



Matthew Burton
Intern
Otis Orchards

ACTIVE PASTORAL SEARCHES

- New Movement – Pasco
- Diamond Lake/Edgemere/Newport
- Otis Orchards/Post Falls
- Sandpoint

- Walla Walla University (associate)
- Osburn/Plummer/St. Maries
- Hermiston/Pendleton Spanish

