



SEVENTH-DAY  
ADVENTIST® CHURCH

IDAHO CONFERENCE SERVING  
SOUTHERN IDAHO AND EASTERN OREGON



2019

**CONSTITUENCY**  
**REPORT**  
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## YOUR IDAHO CONFERENCE STAFF

Back Row, left to right: Jeannie Leno, David Prest Jr,  
Pat Frey, Connie Williams

Front Row, left to right: Eve Rusk, Leanne Strickland,  
John Rogers, Jo Ann Miller

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# President's Report 2015-2018 Quadrennium

The prophet Habakkuk recorded the following words of the Lord, "Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told." (Hab. 1:5, ESV). God is writing a BIG story. It is a story that spans the centuries of time. The Idaho Conference enjoys a slice of that story. Our mission and vision are part of God's eternal perspective.

God is writing the story of the Idaho Conference, a story that includes His activities and His miracles in His church and in the lives of His people in the Idaho Conference. I am thrilled that we can share with you another chapter of the story, what God has done in Southern Idaho and Eastern Oregon during the 2015 – 2018 quadrennium.

The following has served as our mission and vision statements during the last four years:

## Our Mission

Raise up people across Southern Idaho and Eastern Oregon who are so in love with Jesus that they share the fullness of His love as expressed in the Three Angels' Messages of Revelation 14.

## Our Vision

In the next 3 – 5 years move the focus of the Idaho Conference from a top-down leadership style to a cutting-edge, equipping, lay-driven, pastor-coached conference that is growing in personal spirituality and soul

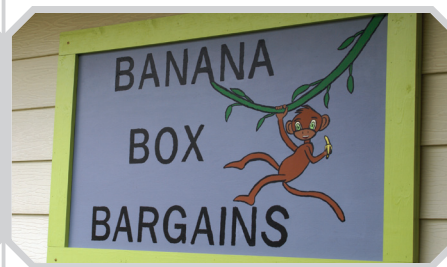


winning, with financial stability to fund mission and ministry.

The booklet you hold in your hands tells the stories of God's blessings as we have endeavored to fulfill our mission and realize our vision. We have conducted an array of spiritually nurturing training opportunities to equip and empower our members for mission and ministry: children's ministries workshops, elders' retreats, prayer ministries retreats, *Transformed for Ministry* Sabbaths and women's ministries retreats. On occasion, we have offered training opportunities at our annual camp meeting.

The Idaho Conference is comprised of forty-three churches and seven companies. All our churches and companies are now in a district with pastoral leadership and oversight.

Supporting our mission and vision, our pastors and members have worked together to engage with their communities in a variety of evangelism, outreach, and soul winning ministries during the quadrennium. Some churches in our conference have enjoyed the fruits of a guest evangelist, pastors, or lay members conducting a series of evangelistic meetings.



While the Idaho Conference did not initiate or lead the AMEN Clinics held in Boise, a significant number of our

members served in the clinics in 2017 and 2018. Each year, more than a thousand people received medical,

dental and vision care. Many also received spiritual guidance.

The Payette Church launched a new thrift store ministry for the church and community named Banana Box Bargains. The dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony was held in December 2018.

The Meridian Church paid off their mortgage and held a special dedication service for their church in June 2016. The Long Creek Church built a new edifice, without incurring any debt. It was dedicated debt free on the same weekend in which they held their first services in the new building in September 2018, about two years after the building process began.



God has blessed us with a membership net growth of six percent during the last four years. That translates to an average of one and one-half percent net growth each year.

Hispanic Ministries has grown during the last quadrennium. The Caldwell Hispanic Company was organized in January 2015, and the Boise Hispanic Company was organized in May 2017.

God has blessed the Idaho Conference financially. We praise God for the faithfulness of His people in returning tithe to the biblical storehouse. We have almost reached a full financial recovery, nearing 100% of working capital. Praise God!

God has trusted us with ten elementary schools and Gem State Adventist Academy (GSAA). The teachers of our elementary schools provide a strong academic curriculum and solid spiritual program that gives our

students a high-quality Adventist Christian education. Our teachers love their students.

GSAA features a first-class administration, faculty and staff. It continues to offer the best in Adventist Christian secondary education. It provides a balanced program of high-quality academics, strong spirituality, and purpose-driven athletics. GSAA ranks high academically, when compared with the other Seventh-day Adventist academies in the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC).

For the first time ever, our Pathfinder and Adventurer Ministries hosted the NPUC Camporee in September 2017. More than fourteen hundred Pathfinders, Adventurers, and staff from the NPUC territory converged on the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds for the memorable convocation. More than eight hundred responded to an invitation to accept Jesus Christ as their Savior, including many expressing a desire to prepare for baptism.

Camp Ida-Haven is our first-class camp on beautiful Payette Lake in McCall, ID. The camp features an excellent team of leaders and staff. It is an integral part of the ministry of the Idaho Conference. Camp Ida-Haven helps fulfill our mission by providing a spiritually transformative experience for both campers and staff. The new maintenance shop and Terrace were built during the last quadrennium. The Terrace provides additional comfortable housing for guests visiting the campus. The building was done under the supervision of Russ Mayer. Many volunteers assisted with the project, saving the church one million dollars.

Barefoot Media Ministries impacts the lives of thousands of people across our conference through a contemporary music format and internet streaming. This unique ministry is reaching people with the love of God that may not be reached by more traditional evangelistic methodologies. Barefoot Media Ministries is funded by its listening audience and community partners. During the last four years, Barefoot Media Ministries celebrated the 25th anniversary of KTSY,

launched Project 88.7, and celebrated the 10th anniversary of The Bridge in Twin Falls.

In 2017, we were convinced that we needed to do something significant to fulfill our mission. With much prayer, the support of our pastors, local churches, and the NPUC, we proceeded with a plan.

We engaged the services of the NPUC evangelist team of Brian and Heidi McMahon to conduct a series of evangelistic meetings in Boise, *Prophecy Unsealed*. The Cloverdale Church served as the host site. Our Idaho Conference churches were invited to live-stream the series of meetings. The Kuna and Meridian churches assisted and supported the meetings at the host site. Five churches – Eagle, Elgin, Heyburn, Middleton and Nampa served as live-streaming sites. The meetings were held January 11 – February 9, 2019.



As a part of the preparation for the series of meetings, we hired Michael Gee to serve as a Bible worker trainer. He conducted Bible Worker Training schools in churches participating in *Prophecy Unsealed*. More than 150 people attended the Bible Worker Training schools. Eleven precious souls were baptized as the result of church members giving Bible studies. Most of those were baptized before the *Prophecy Unsealed* meetings took place.

Mr. Gee also presented seminars at participating churches on Biblical hospitality. Churches needed to create a culture of warm friendship and generous hospitality for guests attending the meetings and new members who would be baptized as the result of the series of



meetings. More than forty precious souls have joined God's last-day church through baptism or profession of faith

as the result of this initiative. Praise the Lord! Some churches are continuing to follow-up with interests. Please enjoy the following sampling of stories from *Prophecy Unsealed* that have come to us.

- A lady came to the Love Heals Amen Clinic in Boise in 2018 for free health services. When she saw the flyer come through the mail advertising *Prophecy Unsealed*, she said that she had to come to the meetings. She attended faithfully every night and was baptized at the end of the series. Praise the Lord!
- A Cloverdale Church couple invited their neighbors to *Prophecy Unsealed*. They came, and at the end of the series, the adult son was baptized, and his mother joined by profession of faith. Praise the Lord!
- The pastor of the Heyburn Church encouraged his members to step out in faith and live-stream the *Prophecy Unsealed* series of meetings. On opening night, six members and 26 guests were in attendance. At the time of this writing, four to six precious souls are preparing for baptism. Praise the Lord!
- Some years ago, a certain family lived in California. They felt a need to connect with a church, so they began attending one of the Christian churches in their community. However, they never felt accepted by the church family, and they eventually ceased attending that church. In time, circumstances led them to move to the Treasure Valley. One day, prior to the *Prophecy Unsealed* series of meetings, the lady of the house saw a billboard advertising the meetings. She arrived home and announced that they needed to attend

the series of meetings. When they arrived at the Nampa Church, they walked into the foyer and she says that she knew they had arrived home. They attended the meetings faithfully each night. They were baptized at the end of the series of meetings. Praise the Lord!

What if we had not launched the *Prophecy Unsealed* initiative? What would we tell the 40+ precious souls who joined God's remnant church through baptism or profession of faith? We want this to be just the beginning! We believe that there is much, much more to come!

I love the Seventh-day Adventist Church! It is God's prophetic last-day church! I treasure the following statement written by Ellen White:

"I testify to my brethren and sisters that the church of Christ, enfeebled and defective as it may be, is the only object on earth on which He bestows His supreme regard. While He extends to all the world His invitation to come to Him and be saved, He commissions His angels to render divine help to every soul that cometh to Him in repentance and contrition, and He comes personally by His Holy Spirit into the midst of His church." *Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 15.

We are living in exciting and momentous times. It is exhilarating to be a part of a worldwide movement that God is empowering to faithfully and boldly proclaim the Three Angels' Messages of Revelation 14. I invite you to join me in fulfilling the mission God has given us, in the Idaho Conference and beyond.

David Prest, Jr.  
President



## Treasury Report

When we are faithful to God, He has promised that He will bless us. And God has blessed the Idaho Conference during the last four years. Three out of the four years we had positive tithe growth and 2018 was the first time in twelve years we experienced two consecutive years of growth.

Through the faithfulness of our members and God's goodness some of the blessings and highlights of the quadrennium include:

- The number of churches without a pastor was reduced from three to zero.
- Several of our larger churches need associate pastors; we have been able to begin giving those churches subsidies to assist with that need and have hired a full-time associate pastor as of July 1, 2019.
- Employee pay levels are now back to the same level as others across the North American Division. This will help us to attract and retain quality employees.
- Internships have been developed to provide assistance in several areas and encourage young adults to consider a career of ministry within the church.
- A significant estate gift was added to an endowment set up many years ago by the Board of Directors. This endowment is now large enough to begin providing income to support ministries within the conference.

Gem State Adventist Academy has made significant financial progress as well. GSAA now has a positive net worth and the highest level of cash reserves in at least the last fifteen years. GSAA has made a software transition to the same accounting software the conference uses, allowing us to

work together better.

The state required GSAA to bring its lagoons up to current codes or connect to city services. Initial estimates to connect to city services for the project were \$1.4 million or higher. However, we were able to complete the project for about \$450,000. With the addition of a development director there has been an increase in donor support for the school.

Barefoot Media Ministries (BFMM) has nearly doubled its net worth during the quadrennium. At the same time its long-term debt has been eliminated. BFMM now has a deposit with the conference to cover a portion of its monthly charges in advance.

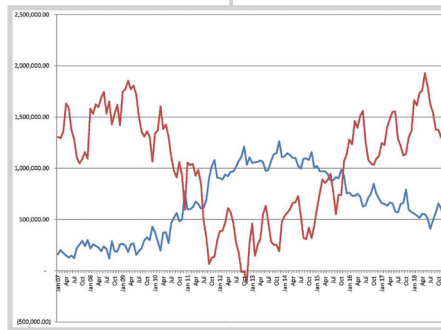
Our elementary schools have reduced their combined debt to the conference by nearly \$160,000. Several of our schools have benefited from material donations to reduce debt, purchase equipment, or for general operations. 10 + 10 for Kids has blessed our schools as well. The conference has worked to help keep the cost of Adventist Education as low as possible by keeping the charges to the schools for their teachers below the 2013 level.

One particularly heartwarming story is of an individual who began purchasing extra rooms at camp meeting and asking the conference to give them away to someone who may not otherwise be able to attend. The recipients of these gifts were very thankful for the thoughtfulness of the donor.

Each year of the quadrennium the conference adopted a balanced budget. By God's grace our actual performance exceeded budget every year. Through those increases we were able to accomplish our major financial goal for the quadrennium: to increase our reserves. We ended the last quadrennium with reserves at about 63% of our desired levels and ended the current quadrennium at about 92%, a 46% increase in reserves. The graph above shows where our reserves have been over the last three quadrenniums.

The graph below shows where our cash and receivables have been over the last 12

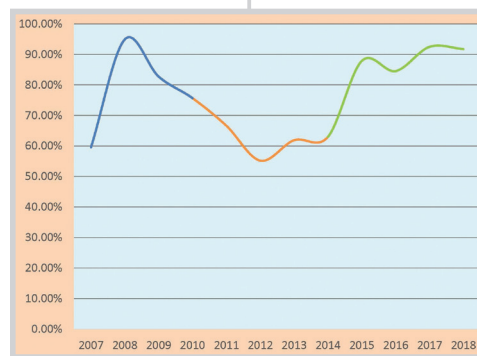
years and how they are related. In about the last six years our receivables have decreased by about \$800,000 and our cash has increased by about \$1,600,000.



Accounts Receivable vs Cash

I would like to express my appreciation to Jeannie Leno and Leanne Strickland for their assistance to me in the Treasury Department, as well as their direct support of churches and schools.

Treasury Department, as well as their direct support of churches and schools.



Working Capital

As you can see, there is much to be thankful for. Our members have been faithful to God and God has blessed this conference in many ways. But our mission is not a financial mission, the gains in finances are only a means to the real mission. A strong financial position puts us in a place where we can again be aggressive about ministry. The conference has begun to leverage our financial position to this end by:

- Hiring a Bible Worker Trainer to mentor our members in giving Bible studies and leading people to Jesus.
- Putting on the recent *Prophecy Unsealed* evangelism series that was available to all our churches.
- Beginning an effort to focus resources on revitalizing some of our rural churches.
- Providing church growth resources to churches who want to be intentional about growth.

I am excited about the possibilities for ministry as we head into the next quadrennium. As we all work together under God's leadership, we can be Partners for Heaven.

John Rogers  
Vice President

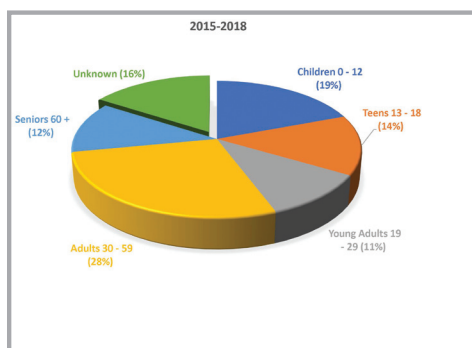
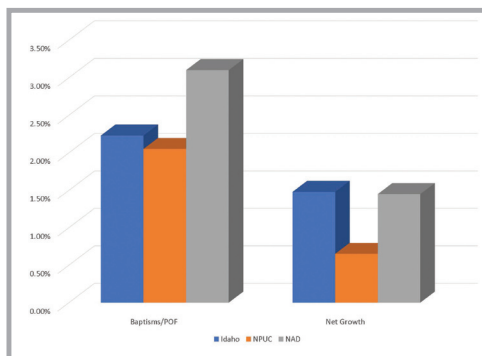


# Vice President's Report

During the past four years 592 individuals have joined our conference through baptism or profession of faith (POF). In addition, we have experienced a net transfer growth of 224. During this time period 255 members have passed away and 171 were removed as missing or for other reasons. Taking these factors into consideration, during the quadrennium our conference membership grew by 390 members to 6,927.

The bar graph shows that in baptisms and POF, as a percentage of membership, Idaho Conference was slightly higher than the NPUC average but below the average for the NAD.

Looking at total or net growth, the graph shows Idaho Conference exceeded both the NPUC and NAD.



Another encouraging statistic is illustrated by the pie chart. This shows our baptisms and POF by age.

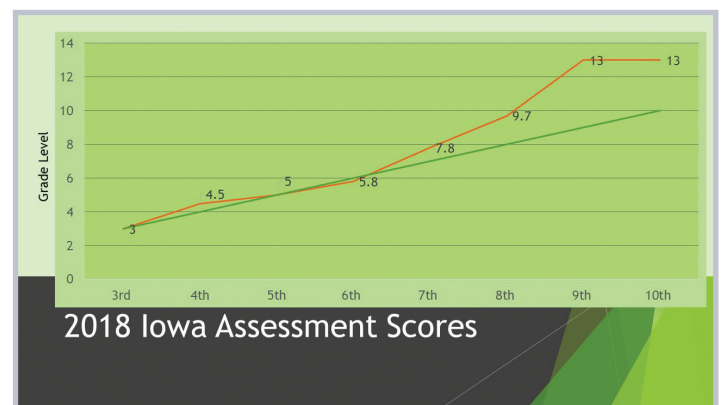
Removing the slice representing those for whom we have no age, over half of our baptisms and POF were under the age of 30.

**John Rogers**  
Vice President

# Education Report

During the last four years Adventist Christian schools in the Idaho Conference have continued to provide a quality education for their students. Our teachers employ new methods of instruction, incorporate new technologies and provide new experiences for learning.

Our students have continued to perform above the national average on Iowa Assessments, formerly known as the Iowa Basic Skills Test. The longer students are in our system, the more their scores increase over the preceding years. By the time they are in the 9th and 10th grades, on average they score two and a half to three grade levels higher than the average student across the United States.

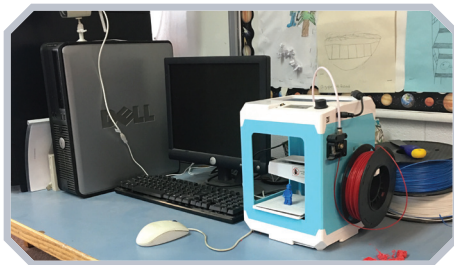


However, high test scores are not what make Adventist Christian education unique. The goal of our teachers and staff is to help our children come to know and love God and experience His saving grace through faith in Jesus Christ. In doing this they strive to teach Biblical truths from an Adventist worldview, not just in Bible class but in all areas of the curriculum.

Because our teacher to student ratios in the classroom are low, there are more opportunities for students to interact with their teachers. This also allows for a great differentiation of learning in the classroom so students can progress at their level. This is especially true in multi-grade classrooms.

## Technology in the classrooms

Since 2015, there has been a growth of the use of technology in the classrooms. While desktop computers are still the workhorse in the classrooms, the use of Chromebooks,



tablets and mobile technology has grown. These tools have been combined with robotics to help students learn coding, logic and problem-solving skills, using Lego and Sphero robotics and educational apps. Students in several schools are learning to use 3D printers and CAD-like (Computer Aided Drawing) programs to build products to be used to solve real world needs.

In Stewart Lewis' class at the Hilltop Adventist School (Lewis has moved to the Hawaii Conference), he worked with an MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) educational outreach project to use 3D printers to make solar powered lights. These were for students in Africa so that they could study at night in homes without power. The students also had overseas sister schools that they sent video projects and other communications using their iPads and Chromebooks. Over the next four years we will be working to increase more real-world connections in the curriculum to improve learning by the students.

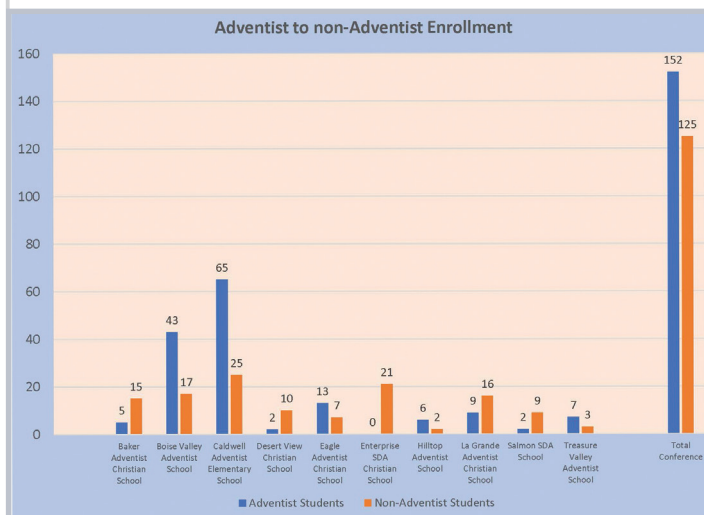
One way to do this is integrating Project-Based Learning (PBL) into the curriculum. PBL is learning by solving a question that deals with real world issues that matter to the students. Students will do research, conduct experiments, survey people, observe events, and/or interview experts. Then they will develop a way to communicate their findings to an audience. The project incorporates two or three major standards from the North American Division Education Key Learnings that can be taught outside of the traditional classroom methods. PBL helps students improve their collaboration,

creativity, communication and research skills. These are skills needed in the 21st Century workplace.

In February of this year, our two-day teacher in-service was dedicated to PBL. The goal for next year is that each teacher will develop one or two projects to incorporate into their curriculum.

## Student Demographics

Student demographics have been changing during the last four years. This year there was a 10% increase of enrollment over last year's numbers, from 291 to 322. Most of this growth has been in the Treasure Valley area. The schools outside of the Treasure Valley have maintained, for the most part, a steady enrollment. The



one exception was the Idaho Falls Adventist School. Two years ago, the school was faced with having only three students after several years of decline. They determined that the church could not financially sustain the school and voted to close it.

The schools that are holding a steady enrollment in Eastern Oregon and Eastern Idaho have 50% or more community students. This has provided some unique opportunities for the schools and churches to minister to these families. Some of the pastors of these churches have become the "pastors"

for some community families. At the Enterprise SDA Christian School, two of the parents of students at the school are attending the Adventist church. On the previous page is a chart showing the ratios of students at the schools.

### Enterprise Miracle

Last spring the Enterprise SDA Christian School's projected enrollment was 12 students. This would mean that the school would have to drop a teacher. Principal Julie Corson shared how they reacted. "We prayed for more students, so that we could remain a two teacher school (the other teacher had five students at the time). The students prayed, the teachers prayed, the church family prayed, the conference prayed, friends prayed, and the families prayed. Then on registration night for this school year, 21 wonderful students registered. Now I have 13 fabulous personalities in my classroom." The second teacher was rehired and has eight students in his classroom.

### Student Outreach

Providing opportunities for service to the community is a part of the curriculum of all our schools. These range from visiting retirement homes to providing toys to children and volunteering at local thrift stores and Adventist Community Services Centers. The Enterprise SDA Christian School students raise funds each year to pay for gifts to families in third world countries. Not gifts of toys but of goats or other livestock that the families can use to provide an income for themselves. Each of these outreach events help to develop in our students an understanding that they can make a difference in their communities and beyond.

### Education Adventures

While much of our students' learning occurs in the classroom, there is a good portion

that is happening outside of the classroom. All our schools take their students on field trips to provide fun educational opportunities. There are learning adventures that take them even farther than the local museum.

During the last four years our fifth through eighth grade students have gone on some unique adventures. Here are a few:

- In 2018 the Salmon SDA School's fifth through eighth graders went on a five-day creation trip to Yellowstone National Park to study geological evidence of flood activity and fossil deposits and post-flood geological volcanic activity. They also went on a wilderness backpacking and orienteering trip.
- Caldwell Adventist Elementary School fifth and sixth graders won a five-day trip to Yellowstone National Park for a ranger-led outdoor school studying Yellowstone's ecosystems.
- The Boise Valley Adventist School had a five-day Outdoor School for their fifth through eighth graders at Camp Ida-Haven developed in conjunction with the Camp's staff.
- The Eagle Adventist Christian School has taken trips to Yellowstone National Park, marine biology trips to the Puget Sound and more.
- Enterprise SDA Christian School students have also been on marine biology trips, wilderness backpack/ecology trips and more.
- Most of the schools also have several ski days at ski hills near their schools.

All these trips help to develop lifelong learning outside of school, which is truly a 21st Century skill needed for this generation.

### 10+10 for Kids

Over the last four years, the 10+10 for Kids program has helped our schools by providing thousands of unrestricted dollars to the schools. This last year was our most successful yet. Nearly \$50,000 was donated to 10+10 for Kids during the 2017 – 2018 school year. The 10+10 for Kids endowment fund is just under \$100,000. This endowment will help provide additional long-term funding for our schools. The amounts listed below were awarded to our schools.

School	Amount
Gem State Adventist Academy	\$12,280.36
Baker Adventist Christian	\$1,095.60
Boise Valley Adventist	\$1,816.97
Caldwell Adventist Elementary	\$2,730.97
Desert View Christian	\$902.97
Eagle Adventist Christian	\$902.97
Enterprise SDA Christian	\$1,047.44
Hilltop Adventist	\$806.66
La Grande Adventist Christian	\$1,218.99
Salmon SDA	\$878.90
Treasure Valley Adventist	\$878.90
<b>Total Disbursed 2018-2019</b>	<b>\$24,560.73</b>

These funds were used to help students attend school, purchase technology, purchase books and remodel restrooms.

Adventist Christian education continues to impact the lives our young people for today, tomorrow and eternity. Many of our present and future church leaders, teachers in our schools and members of our churches were or are students of our Adventist Christian schools.

Patrick Frey  
Superintendent of  
Schools

## Gem State Adventist Academy Report

**G**em State Adventist Academy: God's Miracle School

An old riddle posed the question, "How far can a dog run into the woods?" The answer: Only halfway, because after that it is running out of the woods. I would like to share evidence that, by the grace of God, Gem State Adventist Academy (GSAA) is running out of the woods.

As indicated in the graph below it is evident that GSAA has struggled financially for a number of years. During my first year of principalship at Gem State there were times when I had more money in my personal bank account than the academy had in its. For at least ten years Gem State had been hovering between \$10,000 and \$50,000 cash on hand. Agency funds and restricted dollars were mostly numbers on paper. I can remember the time during my second year at the academy that my Vice Principal for Finance came into my office and said, "If we don't get a check for \$20,000 today, we won't be able to pay our bills!" We had a season of prayer and then went on with our day. A few hours later she excitedly came into my office and produced a check for \$20,000 that had just come in the mail. Through prayerful budgeting, frugal spending and the blessing of God, we are currently operating with about \$400,000 of cash on hand.



Four years ago, our debt ratio was over 275%. That meant for every dollar we had in the bank, we owed \$2.75. We currently have a debt ratio of 75%. For every dollar we have in the bank, we owe \$0.75, which means we have a positive networth. This is the result of paying down nearly \$300,000 of debt to the Idaho Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

We have also been able to accomplish over \$300,000 of funded capital improvements. The following is a list of some of them.

#### Music Department - \$30,000

- Instruments
- Sound shells
- Technology for classroom

#### Science Department - \$25,000

- Lab equipment
- Technology for classroom
- Classroom upgrades

#### Math Department - \$10,000

- Robotic equipment

#### English Department - \$500

- Technology for classroom

#### Bible Department - \$500

- Technology for classroom

#### Athletic Department - \$75,000

- Little gym upgrade
- Gym scoreboard, score table and team chairs

#### Dormitory - \$79,000

- Upgrade dorm showers
- Upgrade dorm security

#### Cafeteria - \$10,000

- Walk-in refrigerator/freezer upgrade

#### Transportation - \$31,000

- 50-passenger coach
- UTV for maintenance

#### Computer labs - \$40,000

#### General building upgrades - \$50,000

God's providence in providing the dollars for these upgrades has been amazing to watch. One story I like is the story of our 50-passenger coach. This past fall we received donations to purchase a coach. After

three months of looking we found a good deal in Las Vegas, NV. It was a 50-passenger coach on sale for \$24,000. The engine had under 300,000 miles on it. We purchased two one-way tickets to Las Vegas and checked out the bus.

We were told there were two issues with the coach. First, the floor squeaked; second, the hydraulics of the door did not work. After prayerful consideration I put down a \$24,000 check and we drove off with the bus proving that what happens in Vegas doesn't stay in Vegas. Three hours out of Vegas, we ran into a small rainstorm. We pulled off at a rest stop and when I got out of the bus, I found it was parked under a double rainbow. It just seemed to be a promise from God that everything would be okay.



When we pulled back on the freeway, we discovered that the squeak was gone. It was not a squeaky floor. It was a rubber bushing that needed lubrication, provided by the rainstorm. Then the first time we used the bus with the school, Dean Fitting pulled a bypass lever on the dash and the door worked. God provided a perfectly good coach for \$24,000 when it would normally have cost \$120,000. Two miracles, one for each rainbow.

#### To sum up the miracle working power of God in four years we:

- Yearly operated in the black.
- Improved our cash on hand by \$400,000.
- Paid down the debt to the conference by

nearly \$300,000.

- Funded over \$300,000 of capital improvements.
- Hired an Alumni Development director.
- Acquired a contract maintenance person.
- Absorbed an 8% increase in salaries.
- Reduced our student debt ratio by 200%.
- Provided an average tuition assistance of \$3,000 per student.
- All done without raising tuition in five years.

God has been amazingly faithful!

Our recent SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analyses and surveys revealed that our key stakeholders overwhelmingly agree that the top three priorities of Gem State Adventist Academy should be a strong academic program, a spiritually nurturing environment and a quality music program.

The recent accreditation process revealed that one of our main strengths is our mission statement and its implementation. We firmly believe in our mission statement, *Engaging in Service, Training in Leadership and Preparing for Eternity*. If we are not fulfilling our mission, then there is no reason for Gem State Adventist Academy to exist.

One of my favorite stories of engaging our students in service happened during the 2018 AMEN clinic in Boise. The whole school was scheduled to participate from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day of the clinic. The option is given to students to stay on site from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. each evening. About 14 chose to do so. The first evening one of the students was placed in a situation that she did not work well in and people suggested that she shouldn't be able to stay for the second evening. During the day she was part of the group that ran the food bank truck. They were doing an incredible job and the food bank personnel loved their work. I asked the director if she could stay working with them in the evening. He happily said yes, and they were thrilled with the work she did for them in the optional time. Sometimes we just need to find the right job for young people to serve, that meets their gifts.

The pen of inspiration (Ellen G. White) once wrote, "We have nothing to fear for the future except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and

His teaching in our past history." I am thankful for the evidence of God's providential leading. It gives me hope that He is leading to a brighter future.

As we look to the future, we are seeking ways to make improvements. We have evaluated the data from the surveys to define key areas on which we can focus. After prayerful consideration we have identified five key initiatives for a Continuous School Improvement Plan. The most often mentioned concern was for improved marketing and recruiting. We have listened to our stakeholders' concerns, and in response, we have hired a Director of Marketing and Recruiting for 2019-2020 school year. The following is a quick summary of our Continuous School Improvement Plan.

#### Goal #1

Marketing: Develop and implement a stronger marketing and recruiting program.

#### Goal #2

Spiritual Emphasis: Grow Treasure Valley-wide weekend spiritual programs for our youth in conjunction with the area churches.

#### Goal #3

Technology: Develop and implement a Technology Master Plan to enhance student learning.

#### Goal #4

Physical Plant: Develop and implement a Capital Improvement/Maintenance Master Plan.

#### Goal #5

Volunteerism: Grow a coordinated volunteer program.

Please keep Gem State Adventist Academy in your prayers as we continue seeking God's guidance for a brighter future.

Marvin Thorman,  
GSAA Principal

## Camp Ida-Haven Report

Camp Ida-Haven's (Camp) summer camp program continues to fill within seconds of registration opening. In fact, 2018 saw new records set for sign-up time. Our camper demographics consist of three large groups—about 27% Adventist, 26% Catholic, 25% unchurched—and the remaining are a long list of other denominations. We value the trust that our community has given to us. With the high demand for summer camp, we make every attempt to ensure that constituent children are able to attend. Additionally, our scholarship program (funded online) has never turned away any child. Camp

gives a Bible to any camper who does not have their own. During the summer of 2018, 96 Bibles were given to campers.

If you have visited recently, you may have seen the newest building. The Terrace has two staff apartments, four luxury hotel rooms with two queen beds,

and two luxury hotel rooms with one king bed.

This lodging facility has allowed us to reach a new demographic and provides a new source of income. The lower floor houses the shop and serves many new functions such as a dry meeting place for summer camp programs when it rains and equipment and vehicle storage in the winter season.

Beginning in October 2018, Daniel Jenks began his full-time work as a camp intern. He has spent 10 years as summer staff and is now learning what it takes to run a year-round camp. He and his wife Jaci (eight years as summer staff) have a love for the camp ministry and bring youth and enthusiasm to Camp. With Daniel's help, we will be better able to handle the many responsibili-

ties of running Camp. We can also add programs, such as outdoor school opportunities for the conference, and ensure the services and quality of Camp for years to come. There are many plans in the pipeline and great potential.

As a year-round ministry, Camp Ida-Haven serves the Adventist Church community (20% of the yearly customers), as well as interacting and developing relationships with fellow Christians and other community members. There are many stories that testify to the true nature of this ministry, whether from the shoulder seasons (those leading up to and following the prime season) or the summer camper season. One example of Camp's wide reach is NeXt Camp, a weekend for special needs families, provided free of charge thanks to grants from Versacare for the past 10+ seasons.



The ministry of Camp Ida-Haven can also be advanced using social media and new technologies. For the 2019 summer, we are trying something new: Waldo is a program that provides pictures of a camper to his/her parents. Daily photos will be posted to a secure site and Waldo notifies parents and enables them to view their child involved in the fun activities at Camp.

Another aspect of Ida-Haven's ministry is the hiring and training of our summer staff. We continue to recruit from Gem State Adventist Academy. Many of our staff were campers themselves. They know, firsthand, the influence that Camp staff have on the campers. What a blessing to be able to train the leaders of the Idaho Conference ministry team.

Camp Ida-Haven continues to be one of the front lines of ministry of the Idaho Conference. There are always new ideas and expenses to balance with the need for innovation and maintenance. Your continued involvement in the ministry we call Camp is appreciated.

# Barefoot Media Ministries

**89.5**  
KTSY

**88.1**  
The BRIDGE

**PROJECT 88.7**

## Overview

In 2020, Barefoot Media Ministries (89.5 KTSY, 88.1 The Bridge, and Project 88.7) will celebrate 30 years of God bringing people to Himself.

Our mission is simple: Experience Jesus. Impact Lives.



We are passionate to reach as many people as possible with the hope Jesus brings. Over the past four years, we have pursued this growth relentlessly.

- First, we paid off all our debt to the Idaho Conference and the North Pacific Union Revolving Fund, a total that at its peak was close to \$300,000.
- Second, we launched a new positive pop/hip-hop music station called Project 88.7. This has been an incredible new ministry that is reaching 18 – 34 age group.
- Finally, we have seen great numerical growth with our three stations. In the last year alone, KTSY has increased its listenership by 13%, and 88.1 The Bridge (Twin Falls) and Project 88.7 have increased their listenership by 16%.

In that time, the radio station families have contributed enough money to cure thousands of children of water-borne parasites and to feed thousands of children in third world countries. Listeners have not ignored local needs; they have provided hope through meals and supplies distributed by the Boise Rescue Mission, connecting our community in service. Lives are impacted.

Our God-given mission compels us to seek continued



growth. We are in the beginning phases of a building campaign, and we are reaching out farther and farther to impact more people. Time is short; Christ urges us to:

**“Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.”**  
**Luke 14:23**

### Stories from 88.1 The Bridge:

#### Tammy

“I found The Bridge when I was searching on the dial for a station. I heard about Parktacular and went. I realized that it was sponsored by a radio station with a local presence, and thought, “Wow, that’s awesome.” Without a local presence, it’s more difficult for us to speak God’s word into our valley. If we believe God will follow through with what he promises, then we need to support programming like this.”

#### Rachel

“Four years ago, my two-year old son was found lifeless in a pool. We had been swimming at Thousand Springs and were preparing to leave when my husband and I noticed our son wasn’t with us. Upon turning and scanning the pool, we saw a lifeguard laying a child down on the deck. It was our son. I ran to my boy. He was not breathing and had no heart-beat. The only thing that came to my mind was to say “Lord, touch my son” and to begin CPR. His heart started beating and he was breathing when he was Life Flighted to Boise. On my husband’s and my drive to Boise, the radio was on your station. The words said “When you’re on your knees and the answer seems so far away... Just be held.” Our

son is now seven years old and beginning first grade in just a couple of weeks. He has a slight learning delay but is healthy. We were blessed to witness a miracle.”

### Stories from 89.5 KTSY:

#### Carol

“The song *Even If* has become my new favorite. I first heard it when I was “discussing” with God a hurt in a friend’s life and asking why He couldn’t just fix this one thing for this one person. The words, “I know you’re able and I know you can, save through the fire with your mighty hand”, expressed what I was feeling. The next line, “But even if you don’t, my hope is you alone”, expressed where I needed to go with my prayer. Then the words, “I know the sorrow and I know the hurt would all go away if You’d just say the word,” reinforced that my feelings were OK as long as I got to that next line: “But even if you don’t my hope is You alone.” That song that day helped me leave it all in the Lord’s hands. I still pray every day for the hurt to go away but even if it doesn’t, my hope and the hope of the person I am praying for remains “in Him alone.”

#### Renee

“My son was murdered. I struggled with faith. My furnace broke. The furnace guys turned the radio on to KTSY and I never turned it back. You bless me and I want to be a blessing.”



### Crystal

"I'm the single mom of a sweet little boy who has special needs. I've listened to KTSY for five years and have always loved it. These past few months there have been a lot of things going on in my life. I was wondering where God was and why He wasn't answering me. I was getting angry and wondering what I believed. Recently, after I dropped my son off at school, I turned on KTSY and the song *King of the World* came on. As it played, I just cried and asked God to forgive me for being so selfish. I told him I know that he has never left me and that he was holding me through all the problems. I now know that He has a plan and a purpose for my son and me. Thank you for all that you do. I love this radio station."



### Pamela

"Twenty-five years ago, my 19-year-old daughter called me from college to let me know that she was pregnant. She and the father decided not to get married. It was a devastating time for both of us as I am a single mother and she would be too. Long story short, God connected us with an amazing couple who adopted that baby boy. My KTSY story is that while I was hurting for my daughter and for myself and for that unborn baby and its future, I was anxious, sad, and distressed. While driving in my car one afternoon in Boise, KTSY played *The Anchor Holds*. I wept and wept and wept. I knew then, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that my Anchor, the Lord Jesus Christ, would hold us all."

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wept. I knew then, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that my Anchor, the Lord Jesus Christ, would hold us all."

### Stories from Project 88.7:

### Becky

"I was raised as an atheist. When I was 22 I met my husband. I knew he was a Christian, but I didn't know much about Christianity. One day on my way to work, I was listening to the radio. I wanted to hear some music, so I was scanning the channels and I came across Third Day's song *You Are So Good to Me*. I knew my soon-to-be husband loved Third Day so I listened to it. By the end of the song I was a blubbering mess! Anyway, 15 years later, I am a Christian and it all started that day with that song. To this day I love hearing Third Day and listening to your station. Thanks!



### Andrew

"I am a Native American and all my life believed in a higher power. But nobody had ever talked to me about Jesus, so I was skeptical. When my best friend started going to church, he turned me on to a Christian hip hop station that really hit home. It was Trip Lee's song *Sweet Victory* that really hit me with the reality of what Jesus has done for us. I started to preset my stations to anything Christian to listen to all things positive. 88.7 is now one of my top favorites. In November of last year, I completely gave my life to Christ, never to deny Him again."

### Anonymous

"I'm 17 years old. My little brother is 13. My friends and I are seniors in high school. When Project 88.7 was first announced, I remember I couldn't contain my excitement. I was literally counting down the days till it came on the air. Since then I have adored Project 88.7. My friends and I love Jesus and have Project as a preset in our car. I get the chance to share Jesus through Project 88.7 because it's always on in my car. I wanted to give so others could have the opportunity to be a part of that."



I don't exactly remember how we got to talking about it, but I found out that he listens to Project 88.7 too! It made me feel not so alone.

Since then, I don't hide that I listen to "Jesus music." I blast it with the windows down! Project 88.7 literally changed my life and reminds me that Christ is there for me. It also gave me my first friend who honestly seems like one I'll keep for life, and it's a healthy friendship because his values align with mine."

### Anonymous Mother

### Anonymous 17-year old

"I moved to Idaho in July last year and, honestly, had turned my back on God. I'm a junior in high school and had just struggled to fit in. In Idaho, I set out to fit in with others, so I went searching for a radio station that played hip hop/rap music. I found Project 88.7. When I actually started listening to the lyrics of the songs, I realized they were about Jesus. The messages of these songs make me feel good. And so, I continued to listen to Project. For a while I kept it a secret. I thought, listening to rap music will make me cool... but listening to Christian music will get me pegged as that religious Bible freak.

Project 88.7 was my secret best friend for those first few months here in Idaho. Pornography wasn't as much of a temptation anymore. Being cool started to matter less. I became happier with who I am. Then I met this guy. He's an amazing human being and he professes his faith almost openly.



"My son is 17 and is coming home when he is 18. I'm scared I will push him away now that he has decided he is gay. I really feel like this radio station has kept me going. I am a Jesus freak who has been a victim of domestic violence. I raised my son Christian but fell backwards into a meth addiction and another relationship with a person who almost killed me.

I'm trying to lead my boy back to the Lord without pushing him away. I'm desperate to keep him safe; he has tried to give himself to a pedophile who he thinks is the love of his life. I'm so scared for his safety and salvation. We need your prayers.

I feel that your station's non-judgmental attitude along with your passion for Christ is a link, an actual bridge to bring people over to Christ. This is exactly the kind of radio station we need here so thank you so much for all that you do! God bless."

Brian Yeager,  
Barefoot Media Ministries  
President/General Manager

# Bible Work and Training

## What will they say?

“What will they say?” This simple little four-word question is familiar to all of us. Time and time again it has been brought up by our supposedly “helpful” inner voice. *“I know my intentions are awesome, but I can only do so much, and what will happen to our friendship if they say no?”* Hazel decided to trust in the Holy Spirit and to choose the positive perspective when answering this question for herself.



As the Bible Work Coordinator I've had the privilege to meet many of our church members in the greater Treasure Valley area through teaching one of our Bible Worker Training schools. So far over 160 church members have come through one of the trainings to learn how to give Bible studies.

I have found that there are roughly four different reasons people come to the trainings. The reasons are as follows: 1) they have been actively giving Bible studies throughout their life and want to grow, 2) they are curious and want to learn how to give a Bible study, 3) they come just because they love to learn, and lastly 4) they are married to one of these people. By far, the majority come because they are curious and want to learn how to give a Bible study. Hazel found herself at home in this group.

In the fall of 2018, the Nampa Adventist Church was busy getting ready for the upcoming evangelistic series. Nampa hosted a Bible Worker Training school as part of their preparation. At 85 and with a tremble in her voice, Hazel wondered if she would ever be able to lead a Bible study. As she attended one class after another, she began to see that giving a Bible study is something everyone can do because we rely on God to do the heavy lifting. The concluding topic of the weekend covered the question on how we can invite our friends to study with us. Hazel now was praying for who God might want her to study with, and the answer was clear.

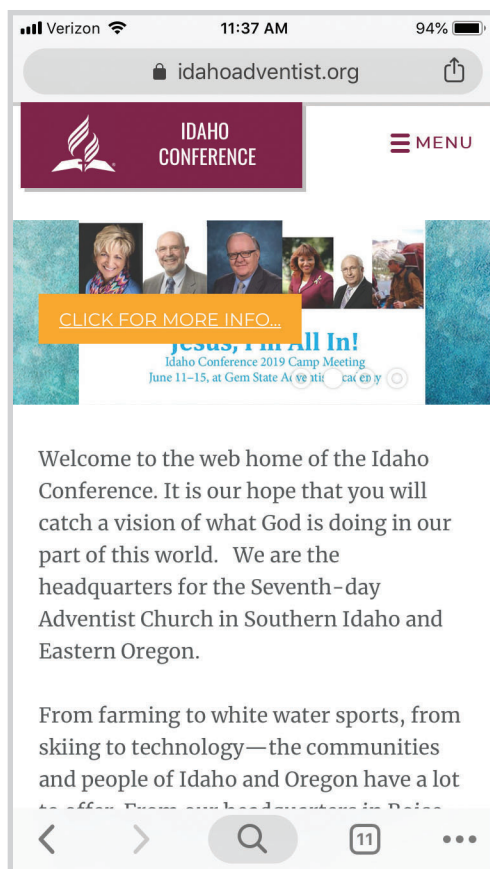
Rounding the track on her early morning walk, Hazel used a technique from the training when she talked with her walking friend. With an English accent and a slight shake in her voice she said, “I recently went through a class on how to give Bible studies, would you mind if I practiced with you?” to which her friend happily agreed. One study led to another and when Hazel invited her friend to the *Prophecy Unsealed* Seminar by Brian McMahon, which was live streamed at the Nampa Church, she again said yes.

Hazel's friend is still studying with her and said she wants to be baptized! She is currently one of two individuals Hazel is studying with who have made the decision to be baptized. When worried about our abilities, always remember what God said to Moses in Exodus 4:11 when Moses expressed doubt in himself, “The LORD said to him, ‘Who has made man's mouth?’” All this goes to show that Jesus is still in the business of working with and through us, even at 85 with a shaky voice.

Michael Gee  
Bible Work Coordinator

# Communications Report

In the past four years, Idaho Conference Communications has expanded the ability to reach our members and guests. Our website, <http://IdahoAdventist.org>, received a makeover during 2018, as part of Adventist Church Connect's upgraded platform. The site is now mobile-friendly. We have integrated a Google calendar into the site and have invited churches and schools to share their Google calendars with us,



so their events will show up on the conference calendar. This gives the churches and schools additional web exposure. Many thanks to Kimberly Miljatovic, our webmaster!

Our conference newsletter, *Mission Idaho Update*, has been inserted quarterly in the *Gleaner*. With the *Gleaner*

moving to bi-monthly issues, *Mission Idaho Update* will be published tri-annually, in the March/April, September/October, and November/December issues of the *Gleaner*. Each issue will be 12 pages.



The conference Facebook page continues to grow. Here you will find conference events, inspiration, and tools you can use in your personal ministry. Did you know that It Is Written has a new Bible study series for children? You can find that, and more at our Facebook page. We have recently contracted with Samantha Schnell, Gem State Adventist Academy and Walla Walla University graduate, to grow the social media presence of the conference and Camp Ida-Haven. She has set up Instagram and Twitter accounts and has begun engaging with many across these three platforms.



Camp meeting has its own Facebook page: <http://Facebook.com/>

[idahocampmeeting](#). It is becoming the source for camp meeting information.

Churches and schools can submit stories/news items for publication on <http://GleanerNow.com> and from these, stories/news will be chosen for print in the print edition of the *Gleaner*. This also includes Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs, Barefoot Media Ministries, and Camp Ida-Haven. Please understand that not every story can be in print; however, <http://GleanerNow.com> is available 24/7.

Plans for our website include a “Connecting to Our Communities” feature. This page will feature ways in which our organizations and individuals reach out to serve the community. It can serve as a resource for ideas and as inspiration. More details will be sent to pastors, teachers, and others as the page develops.

One might wonder at the time and expense involved in having an online presence, is it worth it? More and more of our young adults and youth connect online. If we are to reach them, we need to go where they are. We are utilizing Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to accomplish our goal of engaging a larger part of our membership.

The North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists has a department dedicated to assisting conferences, churches and schools with best practices for online presence. Go to <http://sdadata.org> for training resources. They have provided Social Media Guidelines <https://www.sdadata.org/social-media-guidelines.html> to help us be most effective in our online outreach.

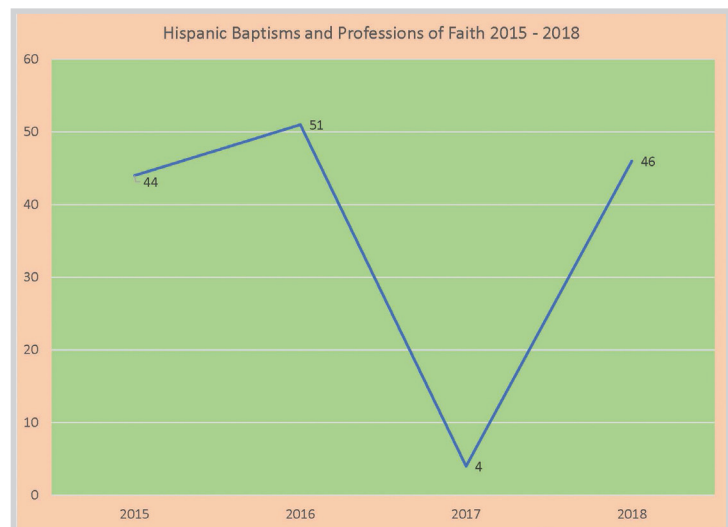
If you have any questions, please contact:

Eve Rusk,  
Communications Director,  
at [eve.rusk@idconf.org](mailto:eve.rusk@idconf.org)

## Hispanic Ministries Report

### English Version

Hispanic Ministries has seen incredible growth over the 2015 – 2018 quadrennium. We began 2015 with four active churches and companies: Idaho Falls Hispanic Company, Jerome Hispanic Company, Nampa Hispanic Church, Payette Hispanic Church, and a small group meeting in Homedale. A small group in Heyburn continues to meet. In January 2015, the Caldwell Hispanic Company was organized as a church plant of the Nampa Hispanic Church. In their first year, there were 16 baptisms and professions of faith. Another eighteen people were added by baptism and profession of faith in 2016.



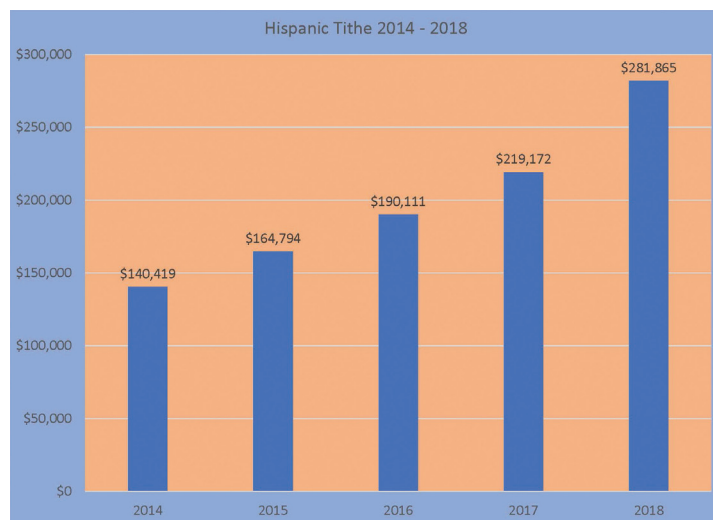
In 2017, the Boise Hispanic Company was organized. They currently meet in the former Adventist Book Center space at the Idaho Conference office. Within their first two years, six people became members through baptism and profession of faith. This small company is set on growing! They are reaching out to former Adventists. From the beginnings of the group in 2016, their annual tithe has increased from \$16,826 to \$43,993 in 2018. The Hispanic population in the greater Boise area is over 15,000.

At the end of 2018, there were nine churches, companies and groups meeting throughout the conference. In addition to the churches and companies listed

above, groups are meeting in Twin Falls and Garnet (in Wilder, Idaho). Over the 2015 – 2018 quadrennium, there were 145 baptisms and professions of faith, representing 24% of the total conference baptisms and professions of faith for the period.

Two pastors cover the nine congregations: Pastor Francisco Altamirano, also the Hispanic Ministries Coordinator, pastors the Treasure Valley congregations in Boise, Caldwell, Nampa, Garnet and Payette. The Southeastern Idaho Hispanic district, led by Pastor Gerald Margil, has congregations in Heyburn, Idaho Falls, Jerome and Twin Falls.

During the past four years, as our membership has grown, so has tithe. From a total of \$140,419 at the end of 2014 to \$281,865 at the end of 2018, it is evident that evangelism is working among our Spanish language brothers and sisters. That is an increase over four years of 101 percent, more than doubling in that time.

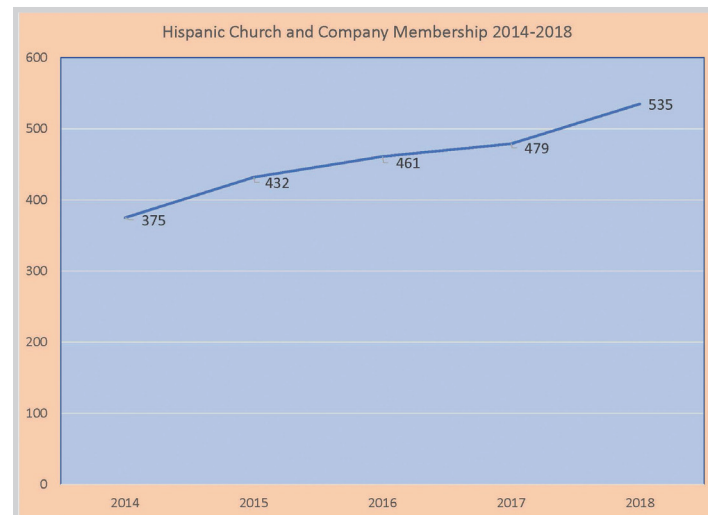


For 2018, the 46 who joined the Hispanic Adventist churches, companies and groups were the result of 14 small groups led by church members. Evangelism in many forms is becoming a lifestyle in the Idaho Conference Hispanic culture. There have been two training events for Hispanic youth held over the past four years, teaching them how to “be the sermon.” The youth have presented evangelistic series and baptisms have resulted.

The North Pacific Union Hispanic Ministries has developed a shared evangelism vision. Seven pastors from other conferences in our union came to the Idaho

Conference to present evangelistic series. Our two pastors will participate in similar series in other conferences in our union.

From 375 members (plus members in other congregations that meet as groups) at the end of 2014, the membership of the Hispanic churches and companies has grown to 535, a 43% increase. Add in the 72 members who worship in groups in other churches, and the total becomes 607, about 9% of the total conference membership. Kingdom growth is happening!

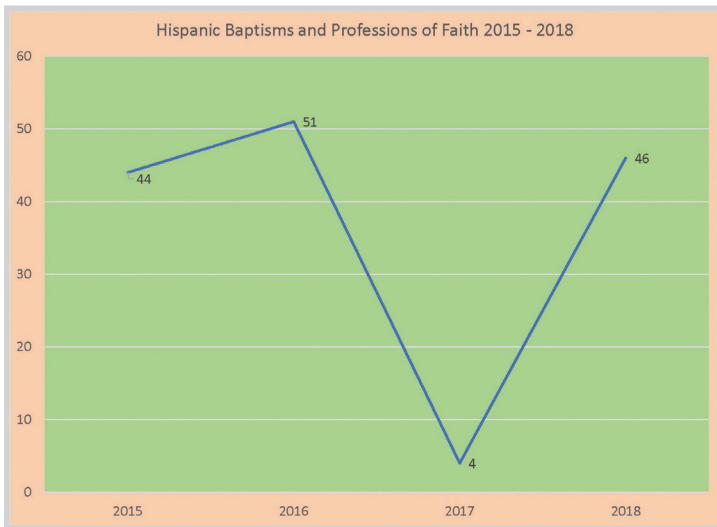


Hispanic Ministries is committed to planting new churches. When there was just one Hispanic church in the Treasure Valley, average attendance was 90. Now that there are three congregations – Caldwell, Nampa and Boise – average attendance is over 200. When a church is planted, its membership grows beyond members joining by transfer. People are baptized. Evangelism happens. Lives are changed when people meet Jesus as their Savior.

As we think about the challenges of our field, we see cities ready to plant new Hispanic churches. We have Meridian and Ontario, cities with more than 5,000 Hispanics ready to know the eternal gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Pocatello has more than 4,000 Spanish-speaking inhabitants. Like Jesus, seeing these crowds “harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd,” we want to make His words ours: “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field” (Matthew 9:36-38).

### Spanish Version

Los Ministerios Hispanos han experimentado un crecimiento increíble durante el cuatrienio 2015-2018. Comenzamos en el 2015 con cuatro iglesias y compañías activas: Idaho Falls Hispanic Company, Jerome Hispanic Company, Nampa Hispanic Church y Payette Hispanic Church. Un pequeño grupo en Heyburn sigue reuniéndose. En enero de 2015, la Compañía Hispana de Caldwell se organizó como plantación de la Iglesia Hispana de Nampa. En el primer año, hubo 16 bautismos y profesiones de fe. Dieciocho personas fueron agregadas por bautismo y profesión de fe en el 2016.



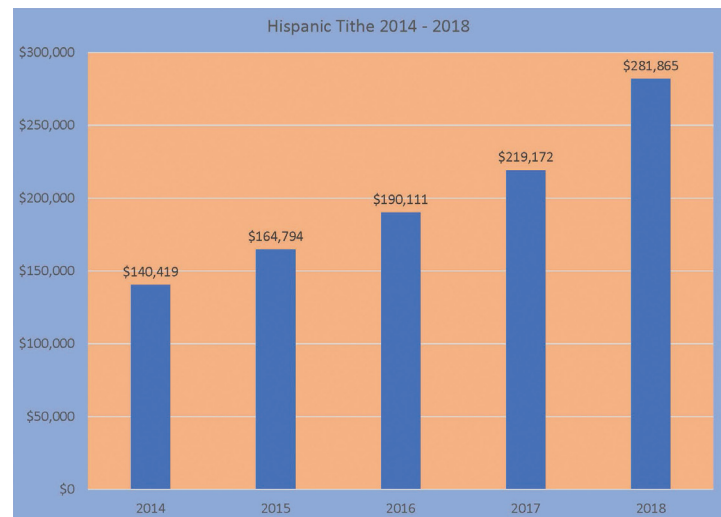
En el 2017, se organizó el grupo de Boise como Compañía. Actualmente se reúnen en el antiguo espacio del Adventist Book Center (ABC) en la oficina de la Asociación de Idaho. En sus primeros dos años, seis personas se unieron a través del bautismo y profesión de fe. ¡Esta congregación está preparada para crecer! Ellos están llegando a los ex adventistas. Desde los inicios del grupo en 2016, su diezmo anual ha aumentado de \$16,826 a \$ 43,993 en 2018. La población hispana en el área de Boise es más de 15,000.

A fines de 2018, hubo nueve iglesias, compañías y grupos que se reunieron a lo largo de la conferencia. Además de las iglesias y compañías mencionadas anteriormente, los grupos se reúnen en Twin Falls y Garnet (en Wilder, Idaho). Durante el cuatrienio 2015-2018, hubo 145 bautismos y profesiones de fe, representando el 24% del total de bautismos y profesiones

de fe en la conferencia para dicho período.

Dos pastores cubren las nueve congregaciones: el pastor Francisco Altamirano, también Coordinador de los Ministerios Hispanos, pastorea las congregaciones de Treasure Valley en Boise, Caldwell, Nampa, Garnet y Payette. El distrito hispano del sudeste de Idaho, dirigido por el pastor Gerald Margil, tiene congregaciones en Heyburn, Idaho Falls, Jerome y Twin Falls.

Durante los últimos cuatro años, a medida que nuestra membresía creció, también lo hizo el diezmo. Desde un total de \$140,419 a fines de 2014 a \$281,865 a fines de 2018, es evidente que el evangelismo está funcionando entre nuestros hermanos y hermanas de habla castellana. Eso es un aumento en más de cuatro años del 101 por ciento, más del doble en los últimos cuatro años.

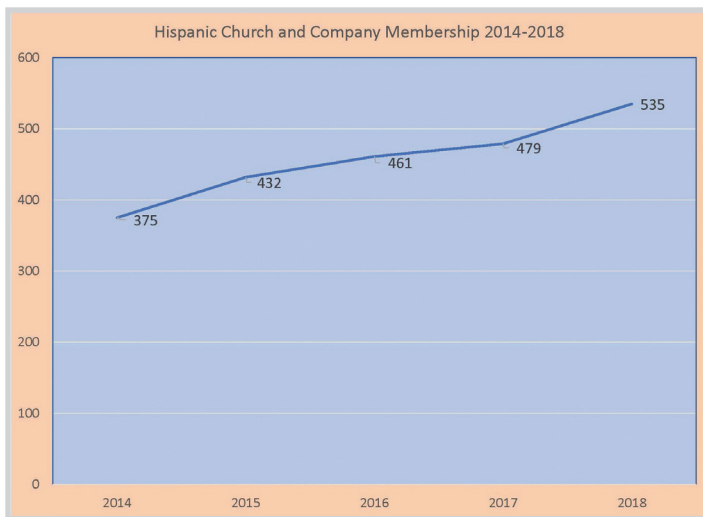


Para 2018, los 46 que se unieron a las iglesias, compañías y grupos adventistas hispanos fueron el resultado de 14 Grupos Pequeños dirigidos por miembros de la iglesia. El evangelismo en muchas formas se está convirtiendo en un estilo de vida en la cultura hispana de la Asociación de Idaho. Se han realizado dos eventos de capacitación para jóvenes hispanos durante los últimos cuatro años, enseñándoles cómo "ser el sermón". Los jóvenes han presentado series de evangelización y se han producido bautismos.



Los Ministerios Hispánicos de la Unión del Pacífico Norte han desarrollado una visión de evangelización compartida. Siete pastores de otras Asociaciones de nuestra Unión vinieron a la Asociación de Idaho para presentar una serie de evangelización. Nuestros dos pastores participarán en series similares en otras Asociaciones en nuestra Unión.

De los 375 miembros (más los miembros de otras congregaciones que se reúnen en grupos) a fines de 2014, la membresía de las iglesias y compañías hispanas ha aumentado a 535, un 43% más. Agregue a los 72 miembros que adoran en grupos en otras iglesias, y el total se convierte en 607, aproximadamente el 9% del total de miembros de la conferencia. ¡El crecimiento del reino está en marcha!



Los Ministerios hispanos están comprometidos a plantar nuevas iglesias. Cuando solo había una iglesia hispana en el Valle del Tesoro, la asistencia promedio era de 90. Ahora que hay tres congregaciones: Caldwell, Nampa y Boise, la asistencia promedio es de más de 200. Cuando se establece una iglesia, su membresía va más allá de la adhesión de los miembros. Las personas son bautizadas. El evangelismo sucede. Las vidas cambian cuando las personas se encuentran con Jesús como su Salvador.

Al pensar en los desafíos de nuestro campo, vemos ciudades listas para plantarse nuevas iglesias hispanas.

Tenemos a Meridian y a Ontario, ciudades con más de 5,000 hispanos listos para conocer el evangelio eterno de nuestro Señor Jesucristo. También a Pocatello con más de 4,000 habitantes de habla hispana. Como Jesús, al ver a estas multitudes “agobiadas y desamparadas, como ovejas sin pastor”, queremos hacer nuestras sus palabras: “La cosecha es abundante, pero son pocos los obreros —les dijo a sus discípulos—. Pídanle, por tanto, al Señor de la cosecha que envíe obreros a su campo” (Mateo 9: 36-38).

## J Francisco Altamirano, Hispanic Ministries Coordinator



## Pathfinder & Adventurer Report

Pathfinders and Adventurers have had a busy time over the last few years. In 2016 we hosted the first Joint Camporee with the Montana Conference. We camped at Steel Creek Campground in eastern Idaho about an hour from Yellowstone National Park. The speaker for the weekend was Chaplain Barry Curtis from Mt. Ellis Academy. The theme was, "If Paul had Twitter." The Pathfinders were asked, "If Paul had Twitter, what would he tweet?"

The Pathfinders spent Friday at Yellowstone National Park where they worked on a new Idaho Conference honor that was created just for the Camporee. The Geyser honor had them exploring the various geysers and pools in Yellowstone, getting them out exploring and learning, rather than sitting in the car and taking pictures. Sabbath was spent exploring the area around the campground while working on the Geocaching and Orienteering honors. Everyone had a good time, made new friends and worshiped God in His cathedral.

The Joint Camporee was a trial run for a much bigger event coming the next year. In 2017 we hosted the



North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) Camporee for the first time. It was held at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds in Filer. The theme was "Pray like Daniel!" Clubs from all the conferences in the union participated, even a club from Juneau, AK. The speaker for the camporee was Dr. Bill Kilgore from Southwestern Adventist University. He talked to the Pathfinders about how important prayer was to Daniel and to each of us. Henry Davis, a blacksmith, joined us from Michigan to teach the Pathfinders life skills at the anvil. Many Pathfinders had the opportunity to earn the Blacksmithing honor from the creator of the honor.

Friday night a special speaker gave her testimony. Dorothy Stiegler, a renowned blacksmith, talked about how God has led in her life. Her passion is to help young ladies become mature, self-confident ladies who love God. We found out afterward that she had never shared her testimony before in public, that she had not been allowed to because she had tattoos on her arms. When she was done, Pastor Bill announced that he was just going to close the meeting as the Word of God had already been preached!



Tracy Wood and Armando Miranda from the North American Division (NAD) were special guests as well as Pastor Ron Whitehead from the Center for Youth Evangelism (CYE), the organizers of the Oshkosh International Pathfinder Camporee. Pathfinders spent time exploring the Hagerman Fossil Beds and the Minidoka Internment Camp as well as visiting the Herret Museum for Arts and Sciences on the Campus of the College of Southern Idaho.

They also had the chance to experience the thrill of flying through the Snake River Canyon on wires, courtesy of Zip the Snake. The owner, who recently had found Christ, was thrilled that we wanted to have kids come and zip the Snake. When we went to finalize the de-

tails, we asked him how much it would cost per Pathfinder. The normal cost was \$65.00 per person. Dave, the owner, thought about it for a moment and told us \$35.00 per person. I asked, "Dave are you sure, we don't want you to cheat yourself." He was insistent. "It's for the kids who love Jesus, so it will work out." Over 300 Pathfinders, parents and staff got to "Zip the Snake" that Friday.

Dave also reserved one of four special event permits he had so the teens got to go zip lining after dark on Saturday night. Dave commented to one of the Pathfinders about how well behaved, polite and respectful all the kids were. The Pathfinder replied, "We are Pathfinders!" Because Dave was so impressed they all got to go a second time that night! The teens didn't return to the fairgrounds until well after midnight. They all had a blast and couldn't stop talking about it the next day as they packed up to go home.

As we closed the Sabbath, Pastor Bill made a call for all those who wanted to give their hearts to Jesus or re-commit to Him. The stands emptied – there were over 1,400 Pathfinders, staff and parents attending. Very few were left in the stands. Each one was given a card to fill out with their commitment to Jesus. Counselors and directors prayed with their Pathfinders. The cards were sorted and sent to the local pastors to follow up.

We closed out the camporee with a flag retirement ceremony. This is something we in Idaho Conference have done for the past eight years. All current, former and retired military, fire and police were invited to come down. We give them special recognition for their service and they act as the Honor Guard as we retire the flag. This is done per the Flag Code protocol as listed in US Code 36 section K. There was not a dry eye in the stadium. What a way to kick off the Pathfinder year!

Idaho Conference also hosted the NPUC Pathfinder Bi-

ble Experience (PBE) the following March at the Cloverdale Church

and Boise Valley Adventist School. The NPUC Coordinators Convention was held that same weekend. Many thanks to the Boise Pathfinder club for providing wonderful meals and to the school and church for hosting the event. There

were 16 teams from across the NPUC. The Idaho Conference was represented at the event by the team from the Boise Ponderosa Pathfinders. So you can see 2016, 2017 and 2018 were busy years for Pathfinder and Adventurer ministries in the Idaho Conference!

This year (2019) we are gearing up for Oshkosh, WI (the International Pathfinder Camporee is held in Oshkosh), where we have been asked to teach a new honor, Pewter Casting. We are working with Henry Davis again on the creation of the honor

and our Pathfinders got to test it at the Pathfinder Fair this past April. In the last three years, we have grown from ten clubs to fifteen Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs. There is a possibility of at least two more clubs joining us in the next year. We have had fifteen baptisms over the last three years and are expecting several more in the coming year!

Our teens have been involved with activities. They joined Upper Columbia Conference teens one summer and went rock climbing. Last summer they spent a weekend backpacking in the Eagle Cap Wilderness. This past March some of them joined Upper Columbia Conference for their Teen Mission Adventure. In 2020 Idaho Conference will be



hosting a Teen Mission Adventure, so stay tuned for that! Any teen is welcome to participate in the Teen Mission Adventure. If they want to join our Extreme Teen program they do need to be a Pathfinder. We are also training several teens to be leaders with our Teen Leadership Training Program. This program is for the express purpose of teaching teens to be leaders in the church and life in general.

Earlier this year a couple in northern Idaho donated a 2004 Ford F250 pickup and a 25' camp trailer to the Pathfinders. The couple was having health issues and weren't able to use them anymore. They contacted their niece who happens to be on the Idaho Conference Pathfinder staff and asked if Pathfinders could use them. Of course, we said yes! When I went to pick up the truck and trailer (thank you Don Klinger for picking me up from the airport and driving me to Wallace that night), I got to talking to Gerry. As Gerry put it, he was "an Adventist in a prior life" and he remembered Pathfinders and the impact it had on him and wanted to give back to Pathfinders. I ask that you all pray for Gerry and his wife.



The weekend of February 16 & 17, 2019 we held our conference PBE event and Pinewood Derby. Ten teams participated in the PBE event. Two teams, Boise Ponderosa Team A and the team from the Nampa Zephyrs, placed 1st and were invited to the NPUC event in Portland, OR. On the following Sunday, we had over 280 racers registered to race in the Pinewood Derby, the most in recent memory! All the kids had a blast racing and bonding with other Pathfinders and Adventurers.

As you can see Pathfinders and Adventurers are vibrant and growing ministries. These Pathfinders and Adventurers are the NOW of the church. If we don't guide and nurture them, we will lose them to the world. The Idaho Conference Pathfinder and Adventurer ministries have been blessed and we can see God

working miracles in the lives of the young people.

In closing, I would like to share one more story about the NPUC Camporee. We looked for Pastor Bill after the evening meeting on Sabbath. We looked everywhere for him, finally finding him in the bleachers surrounded by kids, talking and sharing.

## Dan Gilbert, Idaho Conference Pathfinder Director

The Adventurers are one of the fastest growing youth ministries in the Idaho Conference. There are over 110 Adventurers in 13 clubs. We are looking to potentially add two or three more clubs in the next year.

Our Adventurers have gone camping, learned about potatoes and most importantly, learned about Jesus. This year will be the third annual Adventurer Family Campout with a weekend full of fun activities for the Adventurers and their families.

Last year they learned about Daniel and the lions' den and how pioneers lived. They participated in activities like making butter and making toys like the pioneer children did.

This year at the campout they learned about Luke and to "Do Something!" Over the last few years we have had at least 10 Adventurer baptisms and we look forward to many more. Adventurers is a ministry for children preschool age through fourth grade and their families.

## Kathy Knuth, Adventurer Director

# Planned Giving Report



**P**lanned Giving and Trust Services. What exactly is it? This department of the Idaho Conference serves to provide estate planning services for church members who have charitable intent toward the conference or its entities (churches, schools, Camp Ida-Haven, Barefoot Media Ministries). Our guideline for charitable intent is 10% for those who have wills and 25% for those who have trusts. We work with attorneys who prepare the documents. The conference covers the cost of the documents and future changes to those documents.

In addition to a will or trust which designates how your estate will be distributed, our attorneys recommend a Living Will (or Advance Directive for those in Oregon) with a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care and a Durable Power of Attorney for your financial life. These documents help you be a better steward of the blessings God has placed under your management.

Over the 2015 – 2018 quadrennium, the Idaho Conference, when acting as trustee of a matured trust or personal representative/executor of a person’s will estate, has distributed over \$663,000 to family members. These funds help families move forward after a loved one’s passing. Over the same period of time, the Idaho Conference and its entities received over \$195,000 from trusts and estates in which individuals had set up their plans through the conference. Adventist entities outside of the Idaho Conference received over \$105,000.

During the same time period, more than \$2 million came as either outright gifts or as distributions from individuals who remembered the conference and its entities in their private estate plans. We praise the Lord for His

blessings!

The funds which came to the conference and its entities are put to work on the mission that God has given to us here in Southern Idaho and Eastern Oregon. A large part of the \$2 million was added to the conference endowment. This brings us to a point where we can begin to use the interest from it for a greater emphasis on mission in the conference.

Aside from the financial benefits to family and God’s work, having an estate plan is vital. It’s part of being an adult! Think of having a plan as a gift to your family. Whether you make your plans through a will, a trust, or other methods (beneficiary designations are a big one), making a plan can give your family peace of mind. It sets an example of how you manage the blessings God has given you. Your family can spend more time in memories, rather than stressing about how you wanted them to care for your estate.

People respond to grief in different ways. Give them the gift of less stress.

Idaho Conference Planned Giving and Trust Services is accredited through the Seventh-day Adventist Church and is subject to audit every three years as an A-level department. Having an A-level accreditation, the highest level, means that we are following the 47 required standards and working to achieve a high level of excellence. These standards were set by the Seventh-day Adventist Church to establish a high level of trust and professionalism. Each certified individual is required to have a minimum of 16 hours of continuing education each year. Our department has two certified individuals, Eve Rusk and John Rogers.

We look forward to serving the estate planning needs of our church members, to assist them in caring for both their families and for God’s work in the Idaho Conference and beyond.

**3 Opportunities Estate Planning Affords**

- 
Bestow Blessings
- 
Serve Loved Ones
- 
Demonstrate Values



*Eve Rusk, Planned Giving/Trust Services Director*

## Prayer Ministries Report

## Women's Ministries Report

Prayer Ministries in the Idaho Conference saw its first prayer conference in November 2015, when Kevin Wilfley was invited to speak to an enthusiastic group gathered at Camp Ida-Haven. Randy Maxwell spearheaded the initial conference and over the years we've been blessed to have Melody Mason, John Freedman, and Micheal Goetz as guest speakers.



In June 2018, Paul Coneff gave a three-day training session in the Treasure Valley at the Meridian Adventist Church and presented material from his Straight 2 the Heart Ministries program. Attendees included members from several conference churches across the valley.

Prayer Ministries has played an important role during camp meetings with the inclusion of a well-staffed prayer room where many people have come for special prayer. Hudson Logan has served effectively as the coordinator of this endeavor and has seen an increase in both the number of those asking for prayer, and volunteers to staff the prayer room.

Karen Pearson,  
Prayer Ministries Coordinator

Women doing ministry in the Idaho Conference isn't an uncommon thing. After all, they represent a large percentage of the gifted and active membership in each of our churches. How, when and where they are doing ministry is not always noticed, but they are busy! Church socials, community outreach, or personal ministries are areas in which they excel, along with serving as an integral part of the fabric of fellowship among members.

Why have a specific ministry for women? One good reason is that women like to bond, or flock, and be personally encouraged in the Words of Jesus! We do two major conference events per year: a Christian Women's Retreat at Camp Ida-Haven in McCall and a Friday afternoon Camp Meeting Tea.



The weekend at Camp Ida-Haven is an opportunity to come apart and rest for a while! No cooking or cleaning necessary, just soak in the quiet, or chatter all night like a schoolgirl. It's a renewal time, and highly spiritual – a weekend where marriage, family and God are honored.

We have been blessed with wonderful weather, outdoor activities and fellowship year after year. Tamyra Horst, Cheri Corder, Karen Pearson and Cheri Gatton were our keynote speakers for the past four years with Marilyn Armayor scheduled for 2019. There have also been many workshop presenters and musical talent from our local congregations and beyond.

Our retreat attendance numbers have gone up year by year with an average of 100 ladies. A high attendance of 128 was reached last year with author Tamyra Horst

as our guest speaker. Douglas and Darla Roe, camp directors, along with the women's ministries decorations team, made the theme "Come to the Wedding!" an extraordinary experience.

The average cost for two nights of lodging and five amazing vegetarian meals has been \$125 with 10 to 20 scholarships offered each year. We have included young ladies too! A special late-teen/early-college age track was well attended in 2017 as the North American Division Women's Ministries assistant director Erica Jones delivered a powerful message of God's love for them.

Our Sabbath offerings have been generously used for scholarships and donations to Camp Ida-Haven for blinds and curtains for their various remodel projects. Last year, we began a new scholarship fund that will benefit young ladies that attend one of our Idaho Conference schools. We hope to grow this fund so that one student per year will be awarded \$500 towards their tuition for an essay on why they want to attend their school. More details about this scholarship will be presented at retreat this year!

The annual Friday afternoon Camp Meeting Tea has blessed an average of 50 women each year over the past five years. Whether doing community service at a local family shelter or performing a Spa Day for each other and the community, we have had great fellowship! The past two years we have especially enjoyed a speaker while having tea. Our conference is blessed with talented and generous ladies who have made this possible. We had a special guest at the 2019 tea. Elder Dan Jackson, North American Division president, shared his heart with the ladies. There is no charge (donations are accepted) for this chance to be pampered and bond with our sisters in the conference! Be sure to join us next year at camp meeting.



Cheri Gatton,  
Women's Ministries  
Leader

## Youth Report

During the last four years, the Idaho Conference Youth Department has partnered with local churches to develop conference-wide youth events. The Cloverdale Church and Gem State Adventist Academy (GSAA) organized a winter teen event called ID Youth Conference which is held at GSAA. Thanks to Pastors Troy Haagenon and Geoff Starr, this event has provided a relevant and fun opportunity for teens across the conference to hear inspiring speakers, go on an outreach activity and meet new friends.



In 2018 a second conference-wide teen event was added by the Caldwell Adventist Church. This event was led by Pastors Lou Fitting and Catrina LeSure and held at the Caldwell Church.

Every other year there is an out-of-country mission trip. Four years ago, the mission trip was to a small village near San Luis in Guatemala where a church was built, a Vacation Bible School (VBS) was conducted and an evangelistic series was held. The group was able to build a concrete block, metal-roofed church in just seven workdays. Most of the group had never laid concrete block. By the end they were pretty good at it. The cement mixing team, made up of mostly females, had a couple of days when they mixed so much cement and mortar that they could hardly lift their arms. But there were no complaints from any of them. One older gentleman commented that our teens had restored his faith in

the future of the Adventist Church.

This year the mission trip was to the New Life Orphanage and School near Kanchanaburi, Thailand. Twenty-eight teens and adults left the Boise airport on the morning of March 20, 2019 with a temperature of 52 degrees. They arrived in Bangkok to 105-degree heat and 98% humidity. To say this was a shock to their bodies would be an understatement. During the trip they did maintenance work at the orphanage facilities. They also built a boundary fence on property donated



for a new teen orphanage center and hung out with a wonderful group of orphans during VBS, worships and free time. Because of the heat and humidity, they swam every chance they could. If you would like to see more about the trip go to the Facebook page: Idaho Conference Youth Mission Trips and see the work projects and the team riding elephants!

Some people have wondered if the funds expended to send groups overseas is worth it. Just ask any teen that has gone on one of these trips and they will tell you, "Yes!" Teens that go on these trips are always changed, both in their worldview and in their understanding of service for others.

Patrick Frey,  
Senior Youth Director

# CONSTITUENCY REPORT 2019



SEVENTH-DAY  
ADVENTIST CHURCH  
IDAHO CONFERENCE SERVING  
SOUTHERN IDAHO AND EASTERN OREGON

Partners for Heaven

