

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

# MISSION MATTERS

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we are **CALLED**  
to make disciples in our  
communities **SHARING**  
the distinctive, Christ-centered  
Seventh-day Adventist message  
of Hope and Wholeness.



to **EQUIP** and **EMPOWER**  
pastor-coached, lay-driven  
churches that reflect Jesus' love,  
passionately live the gospel and  
grow spiritually and numerically.





# Mission Matters

David Prest Jr., President, Idaho Conference

The world has changed since the arrival of COVID-19! We engage in social distancing at church, in stores, in restaurants and in other public places. We greet each other with a smile instead of a handshake or a hug. We wash our hands and use hand sanitizer more often than was our habit in the past. We have learned to conduct meetings utilizing Zoom video conferencing or other similar platforms. When our schools closed, our educators, students, and parents utilized distance learning. When our churches closed, we employed virtual worship. Our pastors, church leaders and members learned how to pursue mission and ministry creatively and technologically. As Seventh-day Adventist Christians, we concluded that we must respect and embrace the constitutional right every American has for good health and wholeness.

We grieve the 6.6 million people in the world who have acquired COVID-19, and the 1.85 million Americans who have tested positive with the virus. We mourn the 371,000 people in the world who have died from the disease, and the 107,000 Americans who have passed away from COVID-19<sup>1</sup>. We grieve the grandfathers and grandmothers, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, young people and children who now occupy a grave or cremation urn. They were real people who no longer live. We also grieve those who have lost their job and are now unemployed as the result of the pandemic.

The coronavirus did not catch God by surprise. He saw it from eternity. Why did He allow it to invade planet Earth? I do not know His reasons why, but I believe He has allowed it to serve as a spiritual wake-up call for His church and for people in secular society. People in the church and people outside of

the church are asking good questions. Their hearts are open to a relationship with Jesus, and to biblical truths.

Are there other positive results from this crisis? Some families have increased their quality time together. People have reached out to their neighbors with a helping hand and grown their friendship. New relationships have developed among neighbors. Some people have evaluated their lives and developed new priorities.

We are living in unprecedented times. I believe we are living in the last days of Earth's history. The times in which we live call for an unprecedented focus on mission.

You may recall that the Idaho Conference has a biblically bold mission. I quote, "We are called to make disciples in our communities, sharing the distinctive, Christ-centered Seventh-day Adventist message of hope and wholeness."

How does employing the above mission look for you individually? How does it look for your church family?

When it comes to mission we must press forward by God's grace and by His Spirit. We need to be Holy Spirit filled like never before, praying like never before, biblically bold like never before, creative like never before, passionate for lost souls like never before and growing God's Kingdom like never before! Let us join hearts and hands and be about our Father's business!

<sup>1</sup>Statistics were from 06/02/2020 COVID-19 (Coronavirus disease) alert.

“  
We are called to make disciples in our communities, sharing the distinctive, Christ-centered Seventh-day Adventist message of hope and wholeness.”  
”



# Attention K-Mart Shoppers

John Rogers, Vice President, Finance & Administration, Idaho Conference

As a child I remember that new store opening up across town; it had almost everything a person could want under one roof! It was an event when the family all went shopping at K-Mart, Mom could look at clothes, dad could browse the hardware section, and all the while we kids were amply entertained in the toy section. Periodically we would hear the sound system interrupt with the exciting announcement, "Attention K-Mart shoppers, we have a blue-light special going on in ..." some section of the store. They certainly had our attention.

In Amos chapter 4 God is holding His own blue-light special. He is telling the Israelites all the ways He has tried to get their attention. God mentions that He caused hunger in every city. He withheld the rain before the crops were ready. The Lord struck the gardens and vineyards with blight and mildew. Many times, He sent locust to devour. God sent plagues, killed the young men in war. Horses were captured. Cities were overthrown. And each time a calamity is mentioned Amos writes, "yet you have not returned to Me," declares the Lord."

The people thought they were doing all the right things because they were bringing their sacrifices, tithes, and offerings. They assumed all these calamities were just the way things go with nature and in life. Yet through the prophets and all these events, God was just trying to get their attention.

Towards the end of this chapter is the verse that probably inspired the phrase, "prepare to meet your maker." God is letting them know that if they aren't going to return to Him after all these attention getters, they better prepare after hearing His warnings through the prophet Amos. The chapter ends with the declaration that through the trials which, come

our way we will come to know that' "the Lord God Almighty is His name."

Isaiah 13:7 says, "Because of this, all hands will go limp, every heart will melt with fear." God allows things to happen in our lives that are designed to get our attention. There may be other reasons too, but even more than K-Mart, God wants our attention.

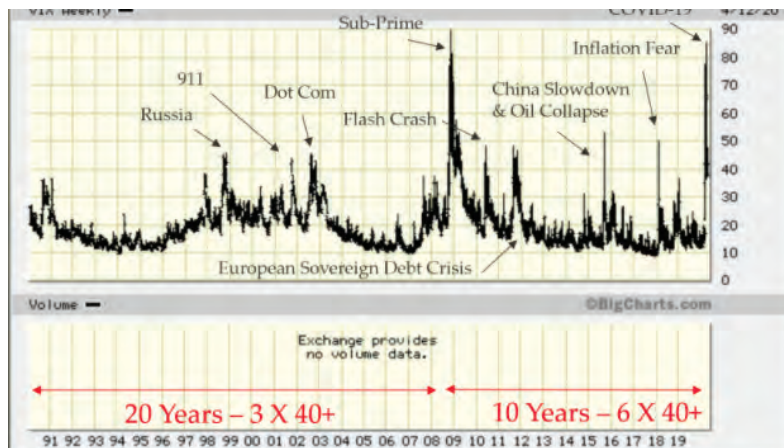
Is God still seeking our attention today? You don't have to look very far to see everything that is happening. Today, do we still just see these events as a part of life? Or is God trying to get our attention?

I'd like to focus for a bit on data from the financial markets and how they might be telling us that God is trying to get our attention. The graph below shows the last 30

years history of the Volatility Index (ticker symbol VIX). The index is also commonly known as the "Fear Index". This index tracks the volatility in U.S. financial markets. When investors are afraid of not being able to make

money in the near future they panic and sell their stocks, creating volatility. When things are humming along nicely and investors are confident in their ability to make money, the index hovers in the 10-15 range.

The graph shows that, in roughly the first 20 years of the time-period shown, investors only reached a fear level of 40 or higher on 3 occasions. However, in roughly the last



*continued on page 12*

# Distant Learning in Idaho Adventist Schools: The Good, the Hard and the Odd

Patrick Frey, Superintendent of Schools, Idaho Conference



The 2019-2020 School year has been one that a generation of students will not forget thanks to COVID-19. While most of the year was spent in classrooms, those days will not be the ones remembered. Instead it will be days under social distancing, a phrase most of us probably had not heard before.

It is easy to only focus on the negative events in 2020. But I want to share with you some of the good things that have come out the pandemic, as well some of the odd things and some hard things not mentioned.

One of the good things was that most of our schools were prepared for the shutdown and were online with in days the doors closed. Jessica Davidson, teacher at the Eagle Adventist School, commented, "we did not miss a single day of school because of this pandemic, and my students are still learning and working in the face of all the challenges." Boyde Hosey, head teacher of the Baker Adventist Christian School, had the students being taught and completing online assignments several weeks in the classroom before school shutdown. They took their books and desk items home the day school closed and were up and running the next day as if nothing had happened.

There were some challenges to be sure. Some students did not have a technology device to logon to the internet to attend classes. To solve this problem, many of schools sent home Chrome Books or iPads for students that needed them. Internet access was also a problem. "When we realized that three families didn't have internet," explained Bobi Crenshaw of the Hilltop Adventist School in Twin Falls, "a couple of board members got busy and helped figure it out." They were able to get free internet for one family, one family received funds to get online and the school provide a hotspot for the third.

As days rolled by, Ever Perez, Bible teacher and pastor at Gem State Adventist Academy, noticed some unusual behaviors in his students. He said, "I had a freshman who really didn't like having class at 8:00 a.m. so he would show up for class long enough for attendance and then would mysteriously disappear; never to be seen again that day.

"I had several that liked to eat during class, so all I would see for the first 30 minutes of class was food being shoveled into an open mouth followed by chewing, followed by shoveling, followed by chewing....

The freshmen were my most challenging class. I had kids

often show up wrapped in blankets, you could tell they had just opened their eyes because they weren't really open.

In several classes the Zoom view of my students could at times get very interesting. I had a sophomore who loved to walk around his house during class. He also preferred the up-nostril view while he walked around. Very disconcerting.

I also had several scalpers. They would set the camera so that all I could see was the very top of their heads. Enough to know they were there, but not enough to know what they were doing (which was clearly, not participating).

Then there were the "silhouette-ers." The students who would sit with a window or light behind them, making it impossible to see more than a silhouette. It was like a 45-minute shadow puppet show."

Bobi had "one child trying to focus in class while his baby brother is banging him on the head with a metal bowl. We've had dogs, a lot of cats and kittens, a baby quail, younger siblings, older siblings, parents and grandparents in our Zoom meetings."

There were also some cool things happening. Many teachers had parent volunteers help them with technology and other needs. One teacher made it to many of the students' 23 homes doing porch drop offs. Then students were driven by her house and would drop off treats for her such as crazy socks, yummy pastries and flowers. Now those are morale boosters!

There were also the challenges. Most of the teachers had to worked far longer hours per day doing Distance Learning teaching than teaching pre-COVID-19. Some children were having a hard time sleeping or were becoming depressed, many kids missed their classrooms and their friends. Not being in the classroom caused some students to lose motivation during the last weeks of school.

But through all this, every morning a great bunch of teachers turned on their computers, greeted their students and did their best to make learning interesting and meaningful for their students, no matter how tired they were or how long the day was. By the grace of God, they taught.

So, this summer thank the teachers that your children had.

# Save the Dates

## Events and News in the Idaho Conference

At this point, we are planning to hold the following events at Camp Ida-Haven this fall.

**September 11 – 13, 2020:** Women's Retreat

**October 2 – 4, 2020:** Elders Retreat

**November 13 – 15, 2020:** Idaho Conference Prayer Conference

We have all learned to be flexible this year! While we are hopeful that we will be able to hold each of these events in person, we are preparing for the possibility that we will need to postpone, cancel, or move to a digital format. We may even hold the event and offer it digitally. Watch our website <https://IdahoAdventist.org> and our social media @IdahoAdventist (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) for updates as the summer progresses.

### New Idaho Conference e-Newsletter!

Beginning in June 2020, the Idaho Conference launched a monthly e-newsletter, Mission Matters – in southern Idaho and eastern Oregon. The North Pacific Union has helped to facilitate signups for our newsletter, as well as the renamed Northwest Adventists weekly e-newsletter.

We were able to use the email addresses that existed in our membership system. Those addresses received an invitation to opt-in to both of these e-newsletters, as well as e-newsletters from other conferences in the Pacific Northwest.

If you did not receive an email invitation, visit the following page to sign up: <https://connect.nwadventists.com>.

## Introducing: The Class of 2020!

### Meet the graduates from Gem State Adventist Academy



# Anna Stone



**GSAA LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:** SA SECRETARY (17/18)  
SA SPIRITUAL VICE (19/20)  
**FUTURE COLLEGE:** SOULS WEST, THEN WALLA WALLA  
**AREA OF STUDY:** THEOLOGY/PSYCHOLOGY  
**HOW MANY YEARS AT GEM STATE:** 4 YEAR SENIOR



**WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IMPACTED YOU THE MOST?**  
MS. SIMMONS AND CHEF

**WHAT IS SOMETHING NEXT ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?**  
I'D LOVE A LITTLE ROAD TRIP

**FAVORITE QUOTE OR VERSE?**  
PSALM 14:5 (GOD IS WITHIN HER, SHE WILL NOT FALL; GOD WILL HELP HER AT BREAK OF DAY)

**WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST ABOUT GEM STATE?**  
I'M GOING TO MISS THE TRIPS TO IDA - HAVEN. THOSE WERE SOME OF MY BEST MEMORIES.

**WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE TO THE NEXT INCOMING FRESHMEN?**  
DEAR FRESHMEN: DON'T THINK ABOUT GRADUATION. DON'T BE EXCITED TO GET OUT OF HERE AND MOVE ON WITH YOUR LIFE. EVERY DAY HAS SOMETHING GOOD IN IT -- APPRECIATE THAT.



**FAVORITE MEMORY AT CSA?**  
MY FAVORITE MEMORY HAS TO BE SEATTLE TRIP FRESHMEN YEAR.



# Toby Reeve



**FUTURE COLLEGE:** YAVAPAI COLLEGE  
**AREA OF STUDY:** DIESEL MECHANICS  
**HOW MANY YEARS AT GEM STATE:** 4 YEARS



**WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IMPACTED YOU THE MOST?**  
MY DAD

**WHAT IS SOMETHING NEXT ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?**  
OBTAIN A CDL (COMMERCIAL DRIVERS LICENSE)

**FAVORITE QUOTE OR VERSE?**  
"IF YOU DO WHAT YOU LOVE, YOU'LL NEVER WORK A DAY IN YOUR LIFE."  
- MARC ANTHONY

**WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST ABOUT GEM STATE?**  
SENIOR TRIP

**WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE TO THE NEXT INCOMING FRESHMEN?**  
REMEMBER, DURING THE ROUGH TIMES YOUR OF LIFE, YOU HAVE TO STAY FOCUSED AND BE DETERMINED TO MAKE IT TO THE OTHER END.



**FAVORITE MEMORY AT CSA?**  
SENIOR SURVIVAL

# Bryan Mauricio



**FUTURE COLLEGE:** SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY  
**HOW MANY YEARS AT GEM STATE:** 4 YEARS



**WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IMPACTED YOU THE MOST?**  
LINDY

**WHAT IS SOMETHING NEXT ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?**  
GIVE A LOT OF MONEY TO MY PARENTS

**FAVORITE QUOTE OR VERSE?**  
JAMES 1:5, "BUT IF ANY OF YOU LACKS WISDOM, LET HIM ASK OF GOD, WHO GIVES TO ALL GENEROUSLY AND WITHOUT REPROACH, AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO HIM."

**WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST ABOUT GEM STATE?**  
THE PEOPLE.

**WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE TO THE NEXT INCOMING FRESHMEN?**  
DON'T SLACK OFF BECAUSE IT WILL BITE YOU LATER.

**FAVORITE MEMORY AT CSA?**  
SENIOR SURVIVAL



# Ricky Grande



**GSAA LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:** I WUZ A HISTORIAN  
**FUTURE COLLEGE:** CARRINGTON COLLEGE OR NORTHWEST NAZARENE UNIVERSITY  
**AREA OF STUDY:** DENTAL HYGIENIST  
**HOW MANY YEARS AT GEM STATE:** 4 YEARS  
**WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IMPACTED YOU THE MOST?**  
 MY DAD

**WHAT IS SOMETHING NEXT ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?**  
 GET A LICENSE

**FAVORITE QUOTE OR VERSE?**  
 IF YOU'RE ALWAYS TRYING TO BE NORMAL YOU WILL NEVER KNOW HOW AMAZING YOU CAN BE.  
 -MAYA ANGELOU

**WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST ABOUT GEM STATE?**  
 EVERYTHING.

**WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE TO THE NEXT INCOMING FRESHMEN?**  
 TURN HOMEWORK IN ON TIME SO YOU DON'T GET ON DFI

**FAVORITE MEMORY AT GSA?**  
 WWU TOURNAMENTS AND IOA -HAVEN



# Jenae Rogers



**GSAA LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:** SOPHOMORE, JUNIOR, & SENIOR TREASURER  
**FUTURE COLLEGE:** ANDREWS UNIVERSITY  
**AREA OF STUDY:** MATHEMATICS EDUCATION  
**HOW MANY YEARS AT GEM STATE:** 4 YEARS  
**WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IMPACTED YOU THE MOST?**  
 DURING MY TIME AT GSA, THE PERSON WHO HAS IMPACTED ME THE MOST WAS SUSI ACURRE.

**WHAT IS SOMETHING NEXT ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?**  
 TRAVEL SOMEWHERE IN SOUTH AMERICA

**FAVORITE QUOTE OR VERSE?**  
 PHILIPPIANS 4:6 - BE ANXIOUS FOR NOTHING, BUT IN EVERYTHING BY PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION, WITH THANKSGIVING, LET YOUR REQUESTS BE MADE KNOWN TO GOD

**WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST ABOUT GEM STATE?**  
 I WILL MISS THE PEOPLE I ENJOYED HANGING OUT WITH CLASSMATES AND FRIENDS AT GAMES AND OTHER EVENTS.

**WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE TO THE NEXT INCOMING FRESHMEN?**  
 I WOULD TELL INCOMING FRESHMEN TO GET INVOLVED IN THINGS AND FIND YOUR HOBBIES. HAVING ACTIVITIES THAT YOU DO OTHER THAN SCHOOL WORK WILL HELP INCREASE YOUR HAPPINESS AND MAKE HIGH SCHOOL EVEN MORE FUN.

**FAVORITE MEMORY AT GSA?**  
 ONE OF MY FAVORITE MEMORIES FROM MY TIME AT GEM STATE ADVENTIST ACADEMY WAS THE CHOIR FESTIVAL AT WWU



# Portia Kluchesky



**GSAA LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:** JUNIOR SA SOCIAL VICE PRESIDENT, SENIOR CLASS SOCIAL VICE PRESIDENT  
**FUTURE COLLEGE:** WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY  
**AREA OF STUDY:** MUSIC  
**HOW MANY YEARS AT GEM STATE:** 4 YEARS  
**WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IMPACTED YOU THE MOST?**  
 MS. SIMMONS

**WHAT IS SOMETHING NEXT ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?**  
 GO TO ANOTHER COUNTRY

**FAVORITE QUOTE OR VERSE?**  
 "YOU ARE ENOUGH. YOU ARE SO ENOUGH. IT'S UNBELIEVABLE HOW ENOUGH YOU ARE." -SIERRA BOGCESS

**WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST ABOUT GEM STATE?**  
 MY FRIENDS THAT I NOW CALL FAMILY.

**WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE TO THE NEXT INCOMING FRESHMEN?**  
 READ YOUR HISTORY SECTIONS. EVERY TIME YOU READ, THERE WON'T BE A QUIZ. EVERY TIME YOU DON'T READ THERE WILL JUST SO HAPPEN TO BE A QUIZ THAT ONE TIME...

**FAVORITE MEMORY AT GSA?**  
 THAT ONE TIME LINDY THOUGHT THAT MARIO'S BROTHER WAS NAMED LUWEENE.





## Jenna Franklin

**OSAA LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:** SOPHOMORE SOCIAL VICE, JUNIOR SA TREASURER, SENIOR SA PRESIDENT  
**FUTURE COLLEGE:** BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY  
**AREA OF STUDY:** NURSING  
**HOW MANY YEARS AT GEM STATE:** 3 YEARS  
**WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IMPACTED YOU THE MOST?**  
 MRS. DAVIES

**WHAT IS SOMETHING NEXT ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?**  
 GO ON A SAFARI IN AFRICA OR SNORKELING OUT OF THE COUNTRY.

**FAVORITE QUOTE OR VERSE?**  
 "IN 20 YEARS YOU WILL BE MORE DISAPPOINTED BY WHAT YOU DIDN'T DO THAN WHAT YOU DID."  
 -MARK TWAIN

**WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST ABOUT GEM STATE?**  
 I'M GOING TO MISS ALL THE TRIPS THAT WE TOOK AS A SCHOOL. ALTHOUGH THEY DON'T SEEM LIKE MUCH AT THE TIME, THEY'RE GREAT EXPERIENCES TO BOND CLOSER WITH YOUR CLASS AND FRIENDS, AND YOU'LL MAKE LIFELONG MEMORIES.

**WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE TO THE NEXT INCOMING FRESHMEN?**  
 BE PREPARED TO ADAPT TO ANY SITUATIONS, EVEN THOUGH THE CHANCE CAN BE HARD, YOU'LL LEARN A LOT OF GREAT THINGS FROM IT.

**FAVORITE MEMORY AT GSA?**  
 MY FAVORITE MEMORY BY FAR WAS MRS. FITTING'S WASHINGTON DC TRIP. EVERYONE WHO WENT GREW CLOSER TOGETHER AND WE ALL MADE GREAT MEMORIES.



## Tanner Cuellar



**OSAA LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:** N/A  
**FUTURE COLLEGE:** BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY  
**AREA OF STUDY:** CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT  
**HOW MANY YEARS AT GEM STATE:** 4 YEARS  
**WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IMPACTED YOU THE MOST?**  
 PASTOR EVER

**WHAT IS SOMETHING NEXT ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?**  
 SKYDIVING

**FAVORITE QUOTE OR VERSE?**  
 DO I NOT DESTROY MY ENEMIES WHEN I MAKE THEM MY FRIENDS?  
 - ABRAHAM LINCOLN

**WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST ABOUT GEM STATE?**  
 LAUGHING REALLY HARD WITH THE FRIENDS I MADE.

**WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE TO THE NEXT INCOMING FRESHMEN?**  
 BE COURAGEOUS AND NEVER FEEL LIKE YOU'RE NOT ENOUGH. SOME PEOPLE MIGHT LOOK DOWN ON YOU AS A FRESHMAN. JUST KNOW THAT THERE ARE TWO REASONS THEY MIGHT TREAT YOU UNFAIRLY. ONE, THEY FEEL A SENSE OF SUPERIORITY FOR BEING OLDER AND TWO, THEY MIGHT HAVE BEEN TREATED UNFAIRLY WHEN THEY WERE FRESHMEN. STOP THE CYCLE AND BE KIND TO THEM. SEE WHAT CAN HAPPEN WHEN YOU RESPOND WITH KINDNESS. CONFIDENCE IS KEY.

**FAVORITE MEMORY AT GSA?**  
 SEATTLE TRIP, FRESHMAN YEAR



## Sierra Bartlett



**OSAA LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:** SPIRITUAL VICE (SOPHOMORE YEAR)  
**FUTURE COLLEGE:** CARRINGTON COLLEGE  
**AREA OF STUDY:** NURSING  
**HOW MANY YEARS AT GEM STATE:** 4 YEARS  
**WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IMPACTED YOU THE MOST?**  
 MRS. HASTINGS HAS IMPACTED ME THE MOST. SHE IS SUCH A SWEET LADY AND IS SO ENCOURAGING AND UPLIFTING TO TALK TO. I WILL REALLY MISS HER NEXT YEAR.

**WHAT IS SOMETHING NEXT ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?**  
 I WANT TO GO TO THE CARIBBEAN ONE DAY AND GO SNORKELING.

**FAVORITE QUOTE OR VERSE?**  
 PSALM 91:1,2 - HE WHO DWELLS IN THE SHELTER OF THE MOST HIGH WILL REST IN THE SHADOW OF THE ALMIGHTY. I WILL SAY OF THE LORD, "HE IS MY REFUGE AND MY FORTRESS, MY GOD, IN WHOM I TRUST."

**WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST ABOUT GEM STATE?**  
 I WILL MISS THE TRIPS AND ALL THE FUN BONDING TIMES WITH MY FRIENDS.

**WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE TO THE NEXT INCOMING FRESHMEN?**  
 FRESHMEN ARE PREPARED FOR ANYTHING THEY MAY THROW OUT AT YOU. LEARN TO TAKE GOOD NOTES IN MRS. FITTING CLASS. YOU WILL DEFINITELY NEED TO BUILD THIS SKILL. GOOD LUCK!!! HAVE FUN AND ENJOY HIGH SCHOOL BECAUSE IT GOES WAY TOO FAST.

**FAVORITE MEMORY AT GSA?**  
 MY FAVORITE MEMORY WAS SEATTLE TRIP (FRESHMAN YEAR) WHEN WE WERE RUNNING WITH SIMMONS ALL OVER THE CITY LOOKING FOR HARD ROCK CAFE. WE ALSO BROKE AN ELEVATOR BECAUSE WE ALL TRIED TO FIT IN IT. LOL





# Linda Kirby



**GSAA LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:** SENIOR CLASS PRESIDENT  
**FUTURE COLLEGE:** SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY  
**AREA OF STUDY:** MUSIC EDUCATION  
**HOW MANY YEARS AT GEM STATE:** 4 YEARS

**WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IMPACTED YOU THE MOST?**  
MS. SIMMONS HAS IMPACTED ME THE MOST. SHE HELPED ME CHOOSE MY CAREER.

**WHAT IS SOMETHING NEXT ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?**  
TRAVEL ACROSS THE COUNTRY BY CAR. TO BE ACCOMPLISHED THIS SUMMER.

**FAVORITE QUOTE OR VERSE?**  
PROVERBS 19:21 MANY ARE THE PLANS IN THE MIND OF A MAN, BUT IT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE LORD THAT WILL STAND.

**WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST ABOUT GEM STATE?**  
I WILL MISS ALL OF MY FRIENDS AND THE TEACHERS FROM GEM STATE.

**WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE TO THE NEXT INCOMING FRESHMEN?**

THE TEACHERS WANT THE BEST FOR YOU SO DON'T BE AFRAID TO TALK TO THEM ABOUT ANYTHING.

**FAVORITE MEMORY AT GSA?**

MY FAVORITE MEMORY IS PROBABLY THE SEATTLE TRIP OUR CHOIR TOOK MY FRESHMAN YEAR. IT WAS PRETTY CRAZY BETWEEN OUR BUS BREAKING DOWN TWICE AND BEING LATE TO EVERYTHING.



# Ben Johnson



**GSAA LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:** N/A  
**FUTURE COLLEGE:** CWI  
**AREA OF STUDY:** DIESEL MECHANICS  
**HOW MANY YEARS AT GEM STATE:** 4 YEARS

**WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IMPACTED YOU THE MOST?**  
MR. WATERHOUSE

**WHAT IS SOMETHING NEXT ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?**  
SKYDIVING

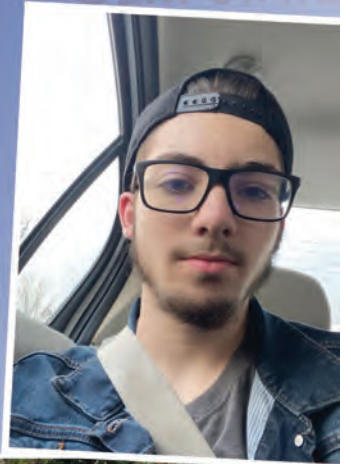
**FAVORITE QUOTE OR VERSE?**  
IF YOU CAN'T HAVE FUN, THERE'S NO SENSE IN DOING IT.  
- PAUL WALKER

**WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST ABOUT GEM STATE?**  
THE STUDENTS

**WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE TO THE NEXT INCOMING FRESHMEN?**

DON'T SPEND YOUR FRESHMAN YEAR STRESSING ABOUT THE AMOUNT OF WORK YOU HAVE. INSTEAD, RELAX YOUR FRESHMAN YEAR, AND SAVE THAT ENERGY FOR WHEN IT REALLY MATTERS.

**FAVORITE MEMORY AT GSA?**  
WINTER CAMP



# Madison Perkins



**GSAA LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:** SA SOCIAL VICE, WORSHIP TEAM LEADER, VOLLEYBALL CAPTAIN  
**FUTURE COLLEGE:** WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY  
**AREA OF STUDY:** NURSING  
**HOW MANY YEARS AT GEM STATE:** 2 YEARS

**WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IMPACTED YOU THE MOST?**  
MISS SIMMONS

**WHAT IS SOMETHING NEXT ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?**  
TRAVEL AROUND EUROPE

**FAVORITE QUOTE OR VERSE?**  
ISAIAH 43:2 - WHEN YOU PASS THROUGH THE WATERS, I WILL BE WITH YOU; AND WHEN YOU PASS THROUGH THE RIVERS, THEY WILL NOT SWEEP OVER YOU. WHEN YOU WALK THROUGH THE FIRE, YOU WILL NOT BE BURNED; THE FLAMES WILL NOT SET YOU ABLAZE.

**WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST ABOUT GEM STATE?**  
ALL OF THE PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY MY TEAMMATES

**WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE TO THE NEXT INCOMING FRESHMEN?**

ENJOY AS MUCH OF HIGH SCHOOL AS YOU CAN. IT GOES BY QUICK.

**FAVORITE MEMORY AT GSA?**

SENIOR SURVIVAL OR MUSIC TOUR JUNIOR YEAR.



# Madison Marquez

GSAA LEADERSHIP POSITIONS: YEARBOOK EDITOR  
FUTURE COLLEGE: LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY  
AREA OF STUDY: MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS  
HOW MANY YEARS AT GEM STATE: 1 YEAR

WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IMPACTED YOU THE MOST?  
MRS. FITTING

WHAT IS SOMETHING NEXT ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?  
PLAYING VOLLEYBALL FOR LA SIERRA THIS NEXT SEASON

FAVORITE QUOTE OR VERSE?  
PSALMS 23

WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST ABOUT GEM STATE?  
MY FRIENDS

WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE TO THE NEXT INCOMING FRESHMEN?  
DO YOUR HOMEWORK, BUT DON'T FORGET TO HAVE FUN

FAVORITE MEMORY AT GSAA?  
SENIOR SURVIVAL



*Students and close family celebrated graduation outside this year, with social distancing practices in place.*





*Thank you Mrs. Davies for 31 years of service to the students and families of Gem State Adventist Academy!*



## Tori Klemp

GSAA LEADERSHIP POSITIONS: HISTORIAN  
 FUTURE COLLEGE: WALLA WALLA  
 AREA OF STUDY: SPANISH AND MEDICINE  
 HOW MANY YEARS AT GEM STATE: 1 1/2 YEAR SENIOR

WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IMPACTED YOU THE MOST?  
 MY MOTHER

WHAT IS SOMETHING NEXT ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?  
 PASS EXAMS TO BECOME A PA.

FAVORITE QUOTE OR VERSE?  
 PSALMS 34:19-20 - THE RIGHTEOUS PERSON MAY HAVE MANY TROUBLES, BUT THE LORD DELIVERS HIM FROM THEM ALL. HE PROTECTS ALL HIS BONES. NOT ONE OF THEM WILL BE BROKEN.

WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST ABOUT GEM STATE?  
 WHAT I WILL MISS MOST ABOUT GEM STATE: THE RELATIONSHIPS I MADE.

WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE TO THE NEXT INCOMING FRESHMEN?  
 USE EVERY OPPORTUNITY OR MISTAKE TO BETTER YOURSELF- DO NOT COME OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL THE SAME PERSON YOU WERE WHEN YOU ENTERED.

FAVORITE MEMORY AT GSA?  
 SENIOR SURVIVAL



*(continued from page 3, Attention K-Mart Shoppers)*

10 years there have been 6 occasions where the fear level reached 40 or higher, with 2 of those hitting the 90 range.

The Bible tells us that as we get closer to the end of time people will become more and more afraid. This graph is showing us just that. In the last roughly 10 years we've had twice the number of fearful events as we had in the previous 20 years! Perhaps God is trying to get our attention.

As Christians, we know we do not have to be afraid. There are many texts like Psalm 46:2, which says, "Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea." When God is the center of our attention, we will know

who is in control of our lives and all that happens on this planet. We do not have to be afraid.

Yet through all that is happening to create fear, is God trying to get our attention? I'm sure God is trying to get the attention of those who are not Christians. And God is giving us the privilege of partnering with Him to reach them. God may be seeking your attention as well. Just because we profess to be His followers does not exempt us from just going through the motions. God wants more than the motions, He wants your heart, Please give Him your attention today.



*Congratulations to our 2020 graduates,, whether from k-8, high school, undergrad or graduate school, we could not be more proud!*