

Idaho Conference Mission and Vision

Mission: The Why

We are called to make disciples in our communities, sharing the distinctive, Christ-centered Seventh-day Adventist message of Hope and Wholeness.

Our Vision

To equip and empower pastor-coached, lay-driven churches that reflect Jesus' love, passionately live the gospel and grow spiritually and numerically..

MISSION IDAHO UPDATE

CONNECT
WITH GOD



OUTREACH
TO YOUR COMMUNITY



UNITY
IN CHRIST



www.IdahoAdventist.org



*Idaho Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc.

Mission

Focus 2019-2023

The following Mission and Vision was voted by the Idaho Conference Board of Directors in June 2019. It serves as the pathway for Idaho Conference and its churches, schools and other entities to fulfill the Gospel Commission in Southern Idaho and Eastern Oregon. When we work together, in God's power, we can share the Good News of salvation to those in our communities and beyond.



**David Prest Jr. President,
Idaho Conference**

OUR MISSION

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OUR VISION

To equip and empower pastor-coached, lay-driven churches that reflect Jesus' love, passionately live the gospel and grow spiritually and numerically.

OUR CORE VALUES

- We will experience unity in Christ
- We will conduct Bible/Prayer-centered ministry

- We will be people of integrity
- We will collaborate
- We will strive for mission-driven excellence
- We will show love and respect for every person
- We will work to maintain financial stability in our churches and conference

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Facilitate exponential Christ-centered church growth—spiritual, discipleship, and numerical
- Recruit, grow, equip, and empower strong Christian leaders
- Engage youth and young adults in all aspects of ministry
- Strengthen and grow our Adventist schools

*A mission and vision that the churches, schools and other conference entities can adapt and apply in their context. The Conference staff is prepared to provide support in fulfilling this mission focus.

Action Steps for Strategic Priorities

Facilitate exponential Christ-centered church growth—spiritual, discipleship, and numerical

We will double our annual growth rate to 3% by:

- Encouraging traditional and contemporary initiatives for soul winning and evangelism
- Providing adequate finances to resource churches/pastors for ministry
- Providing lay training in key ministry areas
- Establishing accountability— between churches and conference
- Growing healthy churches



Recruit, grow, equip, and empower strong Christian leaders

We will encourage churches and members to participate in initiatives such as Partners for Growth and Mission Driven Churches to:

- Assist in personal spiritual growth
- Identify members' Spiritual Gifts
- Provide resources to help grow members' abilities
- Empower members to be active in using their Spiritual Gifts

Engage youth and young adults in all aspects of ministry

We will encourage young adult involvement by:

- Involving at least two churches a year in the Growing Young initiative
- Encouraging input and ideas from young adults
- Including young adults on the church board
- Providing time and space for young adults to converse with church leaders on a regular basis

Strengthen and Grow our Adventist Schools

Our schools will be viewed as schools of excellence. We will demonstrate an understanding of what parents view as excellence. We will also focus on activities we offer that other (larger) schools can't.

We will show parents, constituents and prospective students how and why the following activities connect with the curriculum:

- We provide individualized instruction/attention
- Small schools include a family feel
- We provide multi-grade differentiated learnings so that students can learn at their level in each of the subjects

- There are many opportunities for one-on-one communication with teachers
- We encourage community service on a regular basis
- There are opportunities for study tours, mission trips and focused field trips
- Some schools provide skiing programs
- The curriculum is based on a Seventh-day Adventist worldview
- We teach life skills through Project-based Learning
- Our teachers are equipped to lead students to Christ and focus on character growth as well as academic growth
- Our teachers love their students and show Christ's love through their teaching and action

Show how lives are changed:

We will:

- Convey the long-term benefits of Adventist education
- Employ Adventist-owned media ads to promote our schools
- Utilize millennials for promotion of schools through personal stories
- Encourage students to visit churches around the Conference to share their personal testimonies
- Produce brochures that focus not just on academics, but how lives are changed
- Foster strong church and family support for schools

Evaluate new trends in education and determine when to adopt them.

Offer online options for outlying areas to enhance the school's program.

Develop relationships with homeschoolers and their parents.



FINANCING A WORLD CHURCH

PART ONE

Over the next several issues of *Mission Idaho Update*, join me as we look at the Biblical principles upon which the financial system of the Seventh-day Adventist® Church is built—tithe and the basic types of offerings collected within the Adventist Church and how the church uses them.

The first part of giving does not even involve money, it involves the heart and our attitude. 2 Corinthians 9:7 says, "...God loves a cheerful giver." In 2 Corinthians 8:5 it says, "...they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will." These texts show us that God wants our giving, whether it is giving of our time, talents, or treasures, to flow out of the joy we experience in our relationship with Him. As we spend time getting to know our Creator and Redeemer, His Spirit fills our lives. Our walk with God gives us freedom from the condemnation sin and Satan want us to feel. Regardless of the path we are on, with Jesus in our lives we can experience hope and joy in the assurance of our salvation. It is out of this relationship and experience that God wants us to base our giving.

Texts such as Proverbs 3:9-10 and Acts 20:35 tell us there is a blessing in giving to God and our fellow mankind. I would like to share a few stories that have been shared with me about how God has blessed those who give. One time I shared at church how early on in my family, we returned tithe based on our gross income, then we decided maybe it would be OK to switch to returning tithe based on our take-home pay for a while. Certainly God would understand that we were a young family trying to get our home established. However, before long we realized that God was not blessing us as much as He had before the change and we made the choice to not only go back to the former

way, but to make up the difference. About a year after I shared that experience a building contractor pulled me aside. He told me he had heard what I shared and decided to try it with his business. Since he began the experiment his business had never had a lack for work and he decided never to go back to returning tithe only on his take-home amount.

Another individual once shared that while out of work he was to the point of only having the money he had set aside for tithe. He thought about whether he should return his tithe on Sabbath or if this was something he should use for his own needs since he had nothing left. After giving his tithe at church a friend called him to do a job. When the job was done the friend asked how much he wanted to be paid, he told the friend he trusted him to be fair.

When this individual looked at the check it was for the exact amount he had given in tithe.

I invite you to begin, renew, or take your relationship with God to the next level. He loves you and desires nothing more than to have a friendship with you.



**John Rogers CPA,
Vice President,
Idaho Conference**

10+10 FOR KIDS IS STILL ALIVE AND GROWING



Seven years ago, 10+10 for Kids was launched to provide a way for everyone to help keep Adventist Education strong in the Idaho Conference. Since its inception 10+10 for Kids has been able to distribute almost \$75,000 to our schools.

It has been exciting to see how these funds have helped our schools across the Idaho and Eastern Oregon. The funds have helped kids stay in school, purchased equipment for science, computers, iPads, robots, Physical Education equipment and more. One school was able to use the funds to finish a much-needed restroom upgrade. How cool is it for students to step into a bright bathroom that is nice and fresh looking and not something out the 1960s! It just makes the day seem a lot brighter.

For those who don't what 10+10 for Kids is, let me tell you a little about it. 10+10 is a program that provides schools with funds that can be used for whatever they need and is building an endowment fund to help schools in the long run. The first 10 of 10+10 is returning your tithe to God and He will bless in ways that you need, ways that will be more important than cash in your pocket. Blessings of His Spirit's leading to be a blessing to others. The second 10 is just \$10 per month in the tithe envelope marked for 10+10 for Kids.

The money that comes in is given to three areas. Half of it is put into the 10+10 endowment fund. The other half is split evenly between Gem State Adventist Academy and the conference's elementary schools. This system is a great way for church members to contribute to keep our schools thriving for students going to them. 10 + 10 for Kids allows members whose church does not have a church school to impact the life of a student, both here and eternally.

Our schools are important because they provide a great education to their students. They also provide spiritual education and an Adventist worldview to understanding what is happening in our world. We want our children to become the young men and women that God wants to help lead our church and share the Good News of God's love and Christ's soon return.

If everyone in the conference would take up this opportunity to support our schools, our schools would be blessed beyond measure.

Today you can become a blessing to the children in the Idaho Conference. 10+10, you can make a difference for our kids.

For more information feel to contact:
Patrick Frey at
Patrick.frey@idconf.org
208-375-7524, Ext 123

10+10 for KIDS





Camp Meeting 2019 Highlights



Camp Meeting 2019 is in the past. “Jesus, I’m All In!” provided a platform for speakers and division leaders to inspire and educate us at every age level. We had a wonderful, spiritual time with Elder Dan Jackson, president of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. Although we experienced some sound issues at the start, once those were rectified, we heard Biblical topics like “Up on the Roof” based on Mark 2:1 – 12 and “How Far Will God Go?” based on Luke 15:1 – 2.

We enjoyed music from the Oasis Church Victory Choir, harpist Lisa Evenson, cellist Krishawn Woodbury and the Curtis & McGuire quartet. Sabbath afternoon with pianist Kelly Mowrer was an inspiring experience.

Hyveth Williams shared with us each morning and in a seminar series. Fred Hardinge made us think more about our health and how to use health ministries to share the gospel. Tim Rosenberg brought prophecy to the forefront and Larry Blackmer shared why Adventist Christian education is an important evangelistic tool.





Camp Meeting 2019 Highlights

The annual Women's Tea had a record crowd! The Meridian Church brought out some of the furniture for the Messiah's Mansion they are working on building. Jerry Lankford, bi-vocational pastor of the Heyburn Church, dressed as a high priest on Sabbath.

Adults had fun having their picture taken in the photo frame. Kids from birth to teens enjoyed their division meetings, learning various aspects of Jesus and taking part in physical activity to use up their energy!

Next year, June 9 – 13, 2020, join us as Hyveth Williams anchors the evening and Sabbath worship meetings. Additional speakers are being added – watch the conference website (<http://IdahoAdventist.org>) and Facebook (<http://Facebook.com/IdahoCampMeeting>) for updates beginning in December 2019.

It is good when God's people get together to worship, to learn, to fellowship. Mark your calendars for 2020 camp meeting!





Camp Meeting 2019 Highlights

