

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

# MISSION MATTERS IDAHO

[www.IdahoAdventist.org](http://www.IdahoAdventist.org)



@IdahoAdventist

@IdahoCampMeeting

7777 W Fairview Ave | Boise, ID 83704  
208.375.7524

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.





# Our Great Commission

John Rogers, Vice President of Finance, Idaho Conference

Last evening I had a wonderful time celebrating my son's graduation from Caldwell Adventist Elementary School. The kids got to march, there were lots of speeches, plenty of accolades to go around, awards were handed out, and of course the diplomas. Afterward there were refreshments and enough pictures to last a lifetime for an 8th grader! Everyone had a great time rejoicing in the accomplishments of these fine young people.

The festivities of the evening reminded me of an old song by the Imperials called, "That's When The Angels Rejoice." The chorus says, "There's only one thing that we're sure about that will make those angels jump and shout. It's when a sinner makes the Lord his choice – that's when the angels rejoice."

I'm looking at a copy of the March 2021 financial statement for the Idaho Conference. It shows we now have over five dollars in assets for every dollar of liabilities, we have almost four dollars in cash for every dollar of liabilities, and if all sources of revenue stopped today we could continue to operate status quo (not that we would) for 116 days. Those are some excellent financial statistics for our conference. This is a huge turn around for us! It's not hard for me to remember about nine years ago when our cash position on the books was overdrawn for three months in a row. While these statistics

make it much easier for me to know we will be able to pay the bills and financial reports are much more pleasant to make, is this what we should be rejoicing about?

Having a very positive financial position is not our goal or purpose. In the great commission given in Matthew 28:18-20 we are told to make disciples, to baptize, and to teach.

That is the reason we have worked to achieve a good financial position. God has blessed our efforts and put the Idaho Conference in a unique position for these unique times to be able to pursue this commission with vigor. Your conference administration has been working together with the North Pacific Union Conference leadership to develop evangelism plans. We want to partner with you and your church to grow the number of souls prepared to meet Jesus soon return in meaningful ways.

“  
It's when a sinner makes the Lord his choice — that's when the angels rejoice  
”

*Operation Exponential Growth* has been launched as a way to encourage and empower our churches and members to do evangelism as it best fits in each community. If you haven't yet heard of Operation Exponential Growth I encourage you to talk with your pastor and find out how you can get involved. Let's see if we can make the angels rejoice about what is happening here in our conference.



# Now Is The Time

Don Klinger, Assistant to the President, Idaho Conference

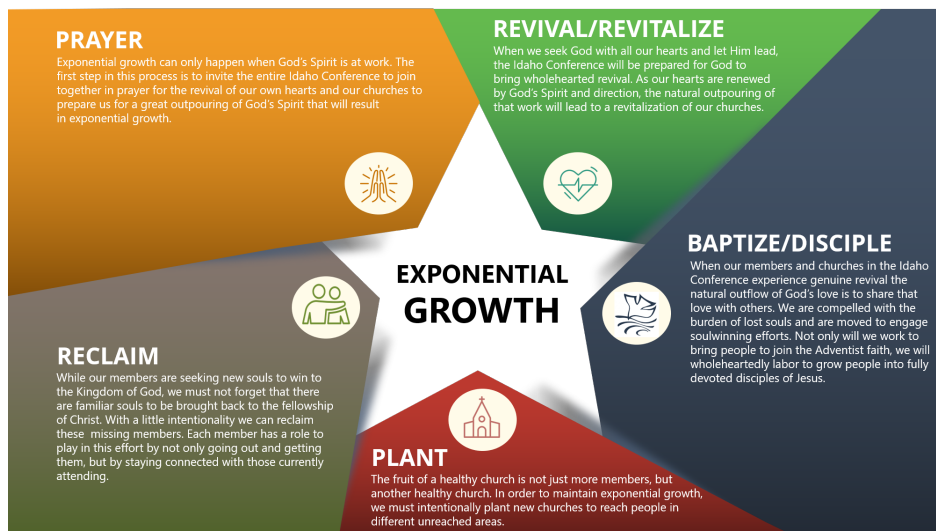
Our world is topsy turvy! We have been dealing with a pandemic for more than a year now. The political world seems out of control with accusations and counter accusations, and no sense of working together for common solutions. In many respects, our world is an unpredictable and scary place.

The lamb-like beast of Revelation 13 sounds more and more like a dragon every day. The end of the world may be closer than we think! This is a sobering thought. We recognize that there are many people in our communities that need to hear the everlasting gospel. Many are wondering what's coming next!

The Idaho Conference wants to capitalize on the current interest in spiritual things. Many wonder if there are answers to the perplexing questions they have. They may be open to considering Bible answers and Bible assurance. **NOW IS THE TIME TO SHARE THE GOSPEL LIKE NEVER BEFORE!**

The Evangelism and Church Planting Committee, the Idaho Conference pastors, and the Idaho Conference Board of Directors have initiated a plan to produce Exponential Growth in our territory. You may remember it was one of the strategic priorities that was discussed at the last quadrennial session in September of 2019.

Here is the plan for what we are calling *Operation Exponential Growth*. The graph below shows the five areas of emphasis that are needed:



**PRAYER IS THE FOUNDATION.** Without God leading by sending His Spirit to guide us, we won't experience the growth He wants us to have.

**PRAYER WILL LEAD TO REVIVAL.** When we look internally, we know we need revival. We need God's spirit to renew our hearts. Your church may need revitalizing as well. When God brings revival to individual members, He can also bring revival to your church.

**BAPTIZE AND DISCIPLE NEW BELIEVERS.** Revival leads to fulfilling the mission. We have set a goal for 2021 of adding 175 new members to the church. And even more next year! Not only do we envision new members, but members who become disciple makers themselves.

**PLANT NEW CHURCHES.** There are areas in our conference that need additional churches; some because of population growth, some for reaching specific demographics.

**RECLAIM FORMER ATTENDERS.** We need to include plans to reclaim members who have fallen away from church attendance. We can invite and encourage them to engage with the church once again.

The Idaho Conference is partnering with the North Pacific Union Conference to provide resources for this initiative – personnel, finances, resources for training and discipling.

Evangelistic meetings will be taking place throughout the

*continued on page 7*



# GSAA Senior Projects

Marta Stone, Gem State Adventist Academy

On March 12, 2021, the Gem State Adventist Academy student body and staff gathered for the presentations of Senior Projects, the culmination, for some, of over a year's worth of focus and hard work. And as in years past, those in attendance left inspired by the creativity, dedication, flexibility, evidence of learning, and most of all, the servant hearts of the presenters.

Senior Project is a required class at GSAA, and a requirement of the state of Idaho. The purpose, as stated in the syllabus, is "to help students **develop or improve** a skill or performance; **design or create** a product, service, system or event; and **investigate**

a career or a passionate interest to better prepare them for service to others, further studies, and/or employment after high school." All aspects of the project are meant to reflect and embody the GSAA mission statement (Engaging in Service. Training for Leadership. Preparing for Eternity.)

Under the instruction and guidance of teacher Kimberley Mitchell, by the time students approach the end of their Junior year, they have begun to

explore ideas for a project. Each student then presents to the Curriculum Committee a proposal for approval.

Both the classes of 2020 and 2021 faced challenges that previous classes have not, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Some found it difficult to accomplish what they planned to do. To their credit, each one persevered, and several found that their faith and dependence on God increased because



of these extra challenges. "This project tested me and made me realize that I will not always have control, but God does," commented Harli Tucker. "This is something that no matter what I am going through in life I can turn back to."

This year, thirteen seniors impacted the world both near and far. GSAA benefitted from projects that shared the beauty of the campus through photography and assisted with photographing events and producing content for the school's weekly e-newsletter. The basketball team received specially designed





shirts as a result of one student learning the screen-printing process, and campus safety was improved.

Several students reached out to sister schools, teaching guitar, ukulele, and art to elementary students, as well as exploring STEM through the Lego robotics program.

The local community benefitted from donations of men's necessities to local homeless shelters, and a bike was restored for a local homeless man. The playground at a foster care facility received improvements, and Project Impact, a



community service program at Boise Valley Adventist School was impacted itself by a senior.

Finally, two seniors went global. One, who had been greatly impacted by a mission trip to Thailand, collected supplies for



children in an orphanage there, then raised money to send the collected items. Another collected over 100 pairs of shoes and then coordinated a way to get them to an orphanage in Guatemala.

Despite the hard work of Senior Project, many seniors look back with gratitude at the opportunity. "I enjoyed having the opportunity to introduce the STEM of school in a creative way," explained Austin States, who worked with the robotics club. "If I was given the chance to do this project over again I would... because it was so enjoyable and made me learn things too."

When Ms. Mitchell introduced the presentations in March, she shared a quote from Rick Warren that reflects well the philosophy of this experience: "God did not put you on earth just to live for yourself. He wants you to make the world a better place." GSAA is proud of the senior class for doing just that. The challenge is for each of us to do the same.

# New Leadership in Women's Ministry

Cheri Gatton has "retired" as leader of Women's Ministries for the Idaho Conference. She is focusing more on her ministry with the Parma and Meridian churches as an assistant pastor. However, she has agreed to present a breakout session at the Women's Retreat this fall! The Idaho Conference Board of Directors voted on April 18, 2021 to invite Jody Burton to serve in this capacity for the remainder of the quadrennium.

Jody is a member of the Pocatello Adventist Church and serves as an elder and women's ministries leader there. She has a passion for helping women grow in ministry. Jody has been a part of the Women's Ministries Committee for many years. She recently retired and now has more time



Theological Seminary at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, MI. Although Dr. Williams will not be able to travel to be in person with us, we will be livestreaming her sessions. The livestream will be available for everyone to watch, whether in-person or at home. You may remember that she was the evening speaker for the English language camp meeting in



to dedicate to women's ministries.

Her first big event is the Women's Retreat at Camp Ida-Haven, September 10-12, 2021. This

will again be an in-person event, with reduced capacity and appropriate COVID-19 safety protocols will be in place. Our guest speaker is Hyveth Williams, professor at the



Cheri Gatton



Jody Burton

2020, which was completely virtual.

We are making plans for breakout sessions. Reservation information should be in your churches by the time this

article is printed. The theme for this year's retreat is "What's Your Serve: Finding Joy in Service."





## Prayer Conference 2021

Pavel Goia, Prayer Ministries, Idaho Conference

We are hopeful that this year's Prayer Conference at Camp Ida-Haven can be held in person at Camp Ida-Haven. Save the DATE: November 19 – 21, 2021! Dr. Pavel Goia currently serves as the editor of Ministry Magazine. He was born into communist Romania. From an early age on he knew clearly that God had called him to ministry. However, in a communist country following that calling was not an easy task. He promised to serve God and fulfill his calling. His faithfulness was tested often. The events that ensued are chronicled by the book *One Miracle After Another: The Pavel Goia Story*, by Gregg Budd.

He was trained in a variety of fields, from law to music, engineering, and business, until he finally ended up studying theology. After six years of pastoring in Romania he spent some time in Norway at the European Bible School, becoming certified in Organic Agriculture & Healthy Lifestyle. He then moved to the United States where he pursued a Bachelor of Theology from Southern

Adventist University, and later the M.Div and D.Min program at Andrews University.

Pavel pastored in Wisconsin for nine years and in Kentucky for seven years. He was a member of the Ministerial Advisory Committee for the North American Division and is now serving as an Associate Ministerial Director for the General Conference Ministerial Association as well as the Editor for Ministry Magazine.

Pavel is married to Daniela, they have two grown children, Gabriel and Ovidiu.

His life has been filled with powerful answers to prayer and continues to be one miracle after another.

Watch your church bulletins, IdahoAdventist.org and social media (@IdahoAdventist on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) for reservation information.

### *Now Is The Time (continued from page 3)*

conference this fall in both September and October.

The Nampa Church will host meetings with Elder Bill McClendon September 10-October 2, and the Caldwell Church will also host meetings with Elder McClendon October 8-30. In addition, Elder Tyler Long from the Washington Conference will be holding meetings in Meridian from September 10-October 2.

Some of our pastors will be holding their own meetings this fall while other churches will participate in a livestream of the meetings in Nampa.

A significant outreach will also take place among the Hispanic churches. Elders will be encouraged to conduct

meetings or small group Bible studies over the summer and then all eight churches and companies will hold meetings this fall with guest evangelists.

The fall initiative in our Anglo and Hispanic churches is only the beginning. In April 2022, a second season of meetings will take place. We hope every church will plan to be involved in spreading the everlasting gospel throughout our territory both this fall and next spring.

Jesus said to go and make disciples. Let's follow His command. Please join your pastor and your church as we move forward with *Operation Exponential Growth*.

# The Ways God Works

Gene Glaze grew up following the crops with his family. It was not an easy life and as a teenager he joined the Navy where early on he met and became friends with DeVere Crawford. This began a friendship that would last a lifetime.

DeVere had not had an easy life either and had joined the Navy out of desperation following the death of both of his parents. He was a Seventh-day Adventist (plus vegetarian), a lifestyle difficult to practice in the military.

Gene made poor choices over the years, ones that sent him to prison for a total of 18 years. He was cocky, arrogant and a very angry man. He married several times and had several children.

He was released from prison some 20 years ago. Soon after his release he gave his heart to the Lord. He began worshipping with a Pentecostal congregation. Then about five years later while working at the town dump he found a large family Bible and took it home. Another day he found a devotional book that was in pretty bad shape, the cover barely recognizable. It was called "Faith that Works" by Morris Venden. He took it home and has continued to read it over the years.

Several years ago on one of Gene's visits to the Crawford's he brought a book he had found at Goodwill called "The Desire of Ages". He highly recommended it and they told him it was a book they loved too.

Time passed and two years ago the Crawford's attended a seminar at their local SDA church. The weather had been wintry and the postal service did not send the brochures to the community consequently only a few people attended. Cynthia began to create a simple fill-in-the blank worksheet listing the Bible verses given each evening to help remember them. These worksheets she attached to the handouts given daily. Jonny Moor, associate Pastor for Hood View church worked with her, correcting them, helping her format and organize them. Upon completion of the seminar she put these lessons into packets,

attached personal notes to them and DeVere mailed them to 30 of their friends and family. A lesson packet went to Gene.

Two months later DeVere got a call. Gene told him that was the best gift anyone had ever given him next to his Bible and that he had completed the lessons.

Gene tells that about a month later he got a card notifying him that he had been signed up for Voice of Prophecy lessons. He thought the Crawford's had signed him up. They had not nor does Gene know to this day who did. When he had two lessons

of that series left to complete, the lady who corrected them wrote him a note at the bottom of his lesson inviting him to the local Seventh-day Adventist church. He began attending and continued studying, completing a Daniel and Revelation set of lessons. He was baptized into the Woodland, California Seventh-day Adventist church May 20, 2015.

In 2015 he joined his friends at Gladstone Camp Meeting for his very first camp meeting as a new Seventh-day Adventist where Lee Venden, the son of Morris Venden, was the evening speaker.

At the 2021 Idaho Conference Camp Meeting, Gene was able to present

Lee Venden with his father's devotional book. Cynthia, DeVere and Gene had made a special trip to Idaho Conference Camp Meeting to present the book to Venden.

A Navy friendship, many years in prison, a book on the life of Jesus found at Goodwill, another book that Gene calls an old friend, found at the garbage dump, to sitting as a new Seventh-day Adventist listening to the author of that very book's son, is evidence of God working in the life of one, struggling and failing, but with a heart to have a friendship with Jesus Christ.

God uses many ways to draw his children to Him if they are willing.

