

PRESIDENT'S

Report

CONTINUING THE PRAYER JOURNEY

What an amazing experience this Vertical: 40 Days of Prayer has been for me personally. Though Vertical has concluded, your journey with Jesus is only going to get better as you keep seeking Him. As you've been part of this 40 Days of Prayer journey, it is my prayer that you have truly experienced the power of God in your life each day, and that you've sensed the Holy Spirit bringing a little bit more of a revival and ongoing reformation into your heart and life.

I also hope that as you paged through the Book of Acts that you were thrilled to see the miraculous power of the Holy Spirit at work in, and through, the disciples to empower them to spread the good news of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ throughout the entire world. Truth be told the Book of Acts, often referred to as the Acts of the Apostles, is better titled the Acts of the Holy Spirit. Why? Because it sheds light on how in only three decades, a small group of frightened rag-tagged believers in Jerusalem were transformed into an empire-wide movement of people who through the outpouring, and the indwelling, of the Holy Spirit became Christ's witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the uttermost part of the earth.

In virtually every chapter, apostles such as Peter, Paul, and others prayerfully and tearfully testified to the power of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to individuals and large crowds of people throughout many of the major cities of the then-known world. In fact, these apostles portrayed in the Book of Acts who were shining with evangelistic zeal and preaching with power, were in striking contrast to the often-misguided disciples before they received the promised power of the Holy Spirit in answer to their persistent prayers in the upper room. Clearly

the power of the Holy Spirit had produced a noticeable change in the apostles' faith in the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

But, my friend, where the Book of Acts ends, we must begin. **The mission of Jesus continues with us, as we, through the power of the Holy Spirit also accept the call of God to fulfill the Great Commission in our day.**

That is why I believe that the precious experience that we've had shouldn't stop at the end of the Vertical: 40 Days of Prayer, but should continue until Jesus comes. I encourage you to continue journeying with God each day and to join with the many others across Upper Columbia Conference who have a sincere desire to continue praying together to ask God to show us His vision as to how to reach One More lost man, woman, boy and girl for His kingdom.

Continue the journey of reading a daily devotional that will lead you into the presence of Jesus each day. Let's continue the journey!

Let's praise God for what He has done in your life over these past 40 Days of Prayer. Let's praise God for what He is going to do in you and through you in the future. Let's praise God for how He's working, and going to work, in the lives of those you've been praying for during Vertical: 40 Days of Prayer.

Let's be persistent in prayer until He answers our prayers through the power of His Holy Spirit or until Jesus comes through the clouds of glory to take us home.



DAVID JAMIESON



ACTIONS TAKEN AT 9.22.22 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Administration update

- David Jamieson, UCC president, presented a devotional about the importance of prayer and the upcoming Vertical: Vision Summit Weekend.
- Jeff Wines, UCC director of club, youth, and young adults, presented a report from his department. During the recent Union Pathfinder Camporee, registration soared with more than 1,600 Pathfinders registered. This year the department led the planning for the camporee and registered around 600 Pathfinders from UCC. Wines also shared an update regarding Camp MiVoden. The camp went from a five-day week (due to COVID-19 in 2020, 2021) to a seven-day week in 2022. The camp hosted 1,710 campers and 142 summer staff over the summer, breaking an all-time record. More than 460 campers said they wanted to live ready for Jesus while another 181 campers wanted to learn more about Jesus. 130 campers recommitted their life to Jesus and 329 indicated an interest in baptism. 60 Campers want to be baptized and 130 said they are already baptized.
- Rodney Mills, UCC vice president for administration, shared a conference membership report.
- Membership year-to-date stands at 26,899, with 221 baptisms/professions of faith. Of those new members, 111 are young adult, teens, and children.
- Several baptisms have occurred recently at Hermiston Spanish church.
- It was voted to approve a recommendation to the North Pacific Union Conference Executive Committee for the ordination of Florencio Bueno.

Financial update

- Joy Rogers, UCC associate treasurer, presented an

update on conference finances.

- The August year-to-date comparison for tithe has dropped 3.15% as compared to 2021, but is still at 107% of budget.
- As of July 31, 2022, total expenses are well within budget.
- Working capital has increased to 3.57 months on-hand.
- Administration gave an update on the Adventist Book Center. The Administrative & Finance Committee established a sub-committee to study the finances and provide a report to executive committee.
- The Washington Salary Threshold continues to be a challenge. It was voted to reduce the budgeted pastoral staff positions for Spokane Central Church to one FTE by December 31, 2022.

Education update

- Brian Harris, UCC vice president for education, gave an update from the office of education.
- UCC hosted an education fall retreat for educators from across the conference at Camp MiVoden. The weekend offered a time for fellowship and worship together.
- Enrollment has increased for the third consecutive year and now stands at 1,954 students.
- Next spring the education department will host a conference on critical issues affecting schools in UCC, including LGBTQ+. All teachers and pastors are invited to Camp MiVoden for this training.

Executive session

The executive committee went into executive session to discuss personnel matters.

INCOMING/TRANSFERRING PASTORS



Troy Fitzgerald
Pastor
Wenatchee



Huascar Rodriguez
Pastor
College Place/
Milton/Walla
Walla Spanish



Howard Tello
Pastor
Blue Mt. Valley/
Milton-
Freewater

ACTIVE PASTORAL SEARCHES

- New Movement – Pasco
- Diamond Lake/Edgemere/Newport
- Otis Orchards/Post Falls
- Osburn/Plummer/St. Maries
- Fairfield/Farmington/Cheney
- Chewelah/Deer Park
- Grand Coulee/Orient/Republic
- Walla Walla University Associate
- Yakima New Faith/Three Angels Spanish
- Touchet/Umapine/Walla Walla Northside

