

***Idaho Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc.**

Mission Focus 2019-2023

OUR MISSION

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.

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