

# PRESIDENT'S

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## Report

### FOR A TIME SUCH AS THIS

Much has changed since the last President's Report. Though it was only two short months ago, it seems like years have passed. New words have entered our daily lives, such as social distancing, PPE, and stay-at-home orders.

No part of our world has been unaffected by this pandemic. We have learned of church members who have fallen ill. While most have recovered, some of our brothers and sisters have been laid to rest in Jesus. They will be missed and we will pray for their families, but how we yearn for that great day we will be reunited!

I am very proud of how our pastors, teachers, and administrative staff have met these challenges with resolve and creativity. Our churches, schools, and offices have not closed, they have simply moved into each of our homes. The Church as a whole has been deployed.

It is my hope and prayer that you have been able to use this time to grow closer to God — that this time has been a blessing to you and your family spiritually.

We now face another growing threat. As businesses close and layoffs mount, our members and communities are facing dire economic circumstances. As with everywhere else, this is impacting our churches, schools, and conference office. We have plans in place to address these threats head-on, but the decisions are painful, though necessary.

Never has it been more important for us to understand and trust — God will provide. He will be faithful to us as we have been faithful to Him.

We have all been called for such a time as this. Take this time to reach out to your community, your church, your family and neighbors. Give comfort and give hope. You will be a blessing to others, and it may give God an opportunity to open the door to win just one more for Him. You are in our prayers constantly. May God bless you!



M I N N E R   L A B R A D O R   J R .



1,702

students learning  
online



95

churches with online  
giving accounts



44

churches offering  
online prayer meetings



## ACTIONS TAKEN AT 4.30.20 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### Cyber attack update

• Minner Labrador, UCC president, gave an update on the malicious cyber-attack that affected UCC network servers earlier this month. The attack affected office email, telephones, website, and network files. Art Lenz, his colleagues and associate, Tim Shafer, have been working diligently to make the server operational again.

### Hope Awakens update

• President Labrador announced that the Hope Awakens seminars from It Is Written have so far resulted in more than 40,000 that have pre-registered. Twenty-eight UCC congregations are participating in this exciting, unprecedented series.

### Virtual campmeeting

• President Labrador gave an update on plans for a virtual campmeeting to be hosted at Spokane Valley Adventist Church. Details will be forthcoming.

### Financial contingency plans

• Allee Currier, UCC vice president for finance, reported on a tithe increase this quarter. Jan and Feb were record high months for tithe. March however, showed a 20% decrease. A financial contingency plan was presented from the administration and finance committee to meet a potential tithe drop up to 10% for 2020. Unemployment is at record high and may impact UCC families.

#### *Immediate implementation*

In anticipation of a 3% annual tithe loss, the following steps were recommended:

- Move camp meeting to virtual environment
- Defer 1.6 percent pay increase
- Postpone evangelism director position
- Summer events cancelled or rescheduled

(Reduction in travel and lodging costs)

- Lower mileage reimbursement rate
  - Fill open vacancies, freeze hiring on new positions
- Immediate savings: \$400,000*

#### *Phase 1 implementation*

In anticipation of a 3 - 6% annual tithe loss (budget loss up to \$1,000,000), the following steps were recommended:

- Defer ERI increase
- 20% reduction in departmental programs
- Voluntary retirements/attrition
- Office work force reassignments and reductions
- Redraw districts/Follow ministerial staffing guidelines
- Additional administrative cuts, while still maintaining mission excellence and services to churches and schools of UCC.

*Phase 1 savings: \$575,000*  
*Total savings: \$975,000*

• It was voted to approve the immediate implementations and Phase 1 of the financial contingency plan. Should the tithe shortfall be greater than 6%, a Phase 2 contingency plan is under development and will be revisited at a later date.

### Education update

• Brian Harris, UCC vice president for education, gave a report on the implementation of remote learning. Resources are being provided to teachers, families and students. Progress continues with Vision 2020, and a survey will be sent to pastors for sharing with constituents this spring.

• The impact of COVID-19 on our UCC schools has resulted in an average loss of almost 2 students per school.

## INCOMING/TRANSFERRING PASTORS



**Jeremy Foss**  
Associate Pastor  
Walla Walla University



**Kevin Wilfley**  
Pastor  
Upper Columbia Academy

## ACTIVE PASTORAL SEARCHES

- Athol/Spokane Multi-Cultural
- Coeur D'Alene
- Selah/Yakima Fairview

