

# President's Report

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JOHN MCVAY, PRESIDENT

## Planning for Growth in 2026

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You will hear the question being asked these days among the Oregon Conference sisterhood of churches, asked with some urgency: *How can we, should we, could we grow?* Pastors have been choreographing planning sessions to ask that central and significant question: *How is God calling us to grow in 2026?* Pastors themselves are asking how they should grow, both personally and professionally, in 2026. This report looks at the ways conference departments and staff members will come alongside churches and their pastors and schools and their staff members to help them grow in this year.

This report does not cover everything conference staff and departments will do. It is not a full strategic plan or operational plan. The focus here is on growth. What initiatives will we enact to encourage and nourish growth?

As you will see, the report is an outline. Many of these slides have pages of planning documents behind them. Our attempt here is not to gain comprehensive knowledge of all that is planned. Instead, we offer an overarching vision of robust plans to follow God's call to grow the Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

## Identified Areas of Growth

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As we took a look at our conference, we identified areas of needed growth across out conference. From there, we have worked appoint a champion of each of these areas. Someone who will work alongside those on the ground, supplying resources, guidance, mentorship, creating a system that will both empower and create accountability for our pastors, educators, and our conference office staff.

### Areas of Growth

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- Evangelism
- Church Planting
- Church Revitalization
- Pastoral Development
- Latino-Hispanic Church Growth
- Church Health & Spiritual Growth
- Youth
- Education
- Finances



## *Area of Growth: Evangelism*

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Nate Hellman will be our champion for the Evangelism area. He'll be mentoring and guiding spring and fall cycles of evangelism meetings and initiatives in local churches across the conference. He'll also be developing an updated vision for evangelism in the Oregon Conference.



### Area of Growth: Evangelism

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*Champion: Nate Hellman*

Spring & Fall cycles of local church evangelistic meetings and initiatives

- Each church receives coaching prior to event
- Visits by conference representatives during event
- Post-event reports/reflections/stories

Evangelism Advisory: Developing an updated vision for Oregon Conference evangelism



### Area of Growth: Evangelism

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- 1/26/26 **Meadow Glade - Alpha Project Bridge Event**
- 2/1/26 **Sweet Home - Reaping Meeting** - Andre Scalfani Preaching
- 2/8/26 **Cave Junction - Reaping Meeting** - Rob Knott Preaching
- 3/1/26 **Albany- Reaping Meeting** - Andre Scalfani Preaching
- 3/27/26 **Central Point- Reaping Meeting** - Tanner Martin Preaching
- 4/3/26 **Stayton- Reaping Meeting** - Rob Knott Preaching
- 4/17/26 **Adventist Community Church Vancouver - Reaping Meeting** - Roger Walter Preaching
- 4/27/26 **Storyline - Solidarity Wall at University of Oregon**



## *Area of Growth: Church Planting*

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Ben Lundquist will be the champion for Church Planting, connecting with church plant leaders and visiting church plant sites monthly. He also led a church planting conference this spring and will be leading the training of new church plant launch teams this fall.



### Area of Growth: Church Planting

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*Champion: Benjamin Lundquist*

#### Existing Plants:

- Monthly church plant site visits and quarterly advisory meetings

#### New Church Plants:

- Spring Church Planting Conference (March 17-19)
- Fall Training of New Launch Teams (October)



## *Area of Growth: Church Revitalization*

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Jana Lee and Jason Calvert will be leading the Church Revitalization area as its champions. They will host NextGen workshops across the conference this year, as well as providing ministry leader trainings, Ministry Kickstart Days, and developing and implementing church revitalization strategy.

### Area of Growth: Church Revitalization

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*Champions: Jana Lee and Jason Calvert*

NextGen Workshops (6; Metric: No. of churches participating)

#### Ministry Leader Training

- Elders Training
- Local Church Workshops
- Volunteer Lay Pastors (VLPs) Training

#### Ministry Kickstart Days

Development and implementation of a Comprehensive Church Revitalization Strategy



## *Area of Growth: Pastoral Development*

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Pastoral Development will be championed by Nate Hellman and Ben Lundquist, who will be providing a cycle of coaching and training opportunities for our pastors. They will also track pastoral development through Conversations About Mission, tracking selected metrics, and ordination-linked training and evaluation.



### Area of Growth: Pastoral Development

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*Champions:* Nate Hellman & Benjamin Lundquist

Annual cycle of coaching & training events  
(including a Future Focused Church seminar and  
a new Center for Community Change mentoring cohort)

Annual cycle of pastors' meetings  
(including "It's Beginning to Rain," Aug 19-22, 2026)

Tracking pastoral development through  
"Conversations about Mission," tracking selected metrics,  
and ordination-linked training and evaluation



## *Area of Growth: Latino-Hispanic Church Growth*

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David and Maricela Paczka will lead this area as its champions, guiding, mentoring, and supporting church plants, evangelism efforts, the training of lay pastors, youth leadership, and stewardship.

### Area of Growth: Latino-Hispanic Church Growth

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*Champions:* David & Maricela Paczka

Church Planting: Seaside (consolidation), Springfield (launch)

Evangelism with Six Evangelist-Pastors: 46 local series,  
1 conference-wide series, focus on retention

Volunteer Lay Pastors: Continued training & support

Youth: RED Youth 2026, "Rooted" Leadership Trip (Spain),  
Annual Retreat (Washington Family Ranch)

Stewardship: Training for local treasurers & stewardship  
directors; Pastor-accountant trainer; Monthly status reports



## *Area of Growth: Church Health & Spiritual Growth*

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Church Health and Spiritual Growth will be championed by Jana Lee. This area will look a little different, connecting directly with our church members through Oregon Prayer Retreat in March, Gladstone Camp Meeting in July, and Women's Ministry events throughout the year.



### Area of Growth: Church Health and Spiritual Growth

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Strengths Assessments (Metric, 20 churches; Champion: Jana Lee)

Camp Meeting:

- Celebrating 1526 (500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Willam Tyndale's NT)
- Theme: "The Word for All People"
- Camp Meeting workshops

Prayer Retreat at Twin Rocks  
(March 20-22; Champion: Tawny Sportsman)

Women's Ministry Events  
(Training Day, April 12; Retreat, Nov.; Champion: Tawny Sportsman)



## *Area of Growth: Youth*

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Youth is a big category to cover and will have several people championing different areas. Jackee Duvall, Jason Calvert, Jana Lee, and Les Zollbrecht will all work to guide, support, and mentor those working with our young people. In addition, they will lead several training events for youth leaders, as well as events for the young people, themselves.

### Area of Growth: Youth

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Adventurers & Pathfinders (Jackee Duvall)

Oregon Youth Bible Camps (Jason Calvert)

NextGen Weekends (6 regions; Metric, churches participating;  
Jana Lee and Jason Calvert)

The Launch Summit  
(Jan. 23-25; Jason Calvert & Les Zollbrecht)

Children & Family Training Webinars

The robust ministry of Big Lake Youth Camp  
(Les Zollbrecht)



## *Area of Growth: Education*

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Oregon Conference VP of Education, Ron Jacaban, and Associate Superintendents Stephanie Cooper and Kim Cornette will be championing our Education growth. They will be working with teachers, school treasurers, and education ambassadors to provide continuing education opportunities, stabilize school finances, and launch local marketing initiatives. They will also be working to establish sustainable funding to replace the “Every Child Deserves to Know Christ” fund from past years.



### **Area of Growth: Education**

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*Champions: Ron Jacaban, Stephanie Cooper & Kim Cornette*

**Training:** New-to-Oregon Teacher Inservice, Conference-Wide Teacher Inservice, PLCs

**Stabilizing Finances/Enrollment:** 90% retention rule; cost-effective decisions; local marketing initiatives; Ambassadors for Christian Education

**BHAG:** Sustainable funding to replace “Every Child Deserves to Know Christ”

**Metrics:** JHU School Culture 360 Surveys; NWEA MAP Scores



## *Area of Growth: Finances*

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Eric Davis and John McVay will be continuing to work hard to stabilize and grow the Oregon Conference’s financial footing as the champions for Finances. This year’s balanced budget is a good start. An aspirational budget has also been developed, looking to grow financial reserves, increase investment in evangelism and church growth, increase remuneration, and more. A series this fall is being developed with Dr. Erika Puni that will provide stewardship education for churches across the conference.

### **Area of Growth: Finances**

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*Champions: Eric Davis & John McVay*

**Balanced Budget**

**Aspirational Budget**

- Further increases to remuneration (via ERI)
- Growing reserves
- Increasing investment in evangelism and church growth
- Funding to ease burdens on local church budgets

**Stewardship Education with Dr. Erika Puni**



## *In Closing*

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Thank you for your part in helping to make our church communities, not only places of spiritual growth, but places of connection, support, and care. Together we can bring the message of God's love and sacrifice for us to all in our spheres of influence.



Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®

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