FoundationONE CONNECTION ONE MISSION. UCA STUDENTS

Rachel FINDSPEACE AND SAFETY ATUCA

July 2021 | Vol. 9 | Issue 2 PUBLISHED 3 TIMES PER YEAR

Thank You!

Dear colleagues,

In April FoundationONE reached an important milemarker. For 17 years we have been building endowment and distributing investment income to UCA students. Finally, this past April, our assets reached \$4 million. Praise God!

You truly have set in motion a wave of blessing that will continue far into the future. May God richly bless you!

At the same time, UCA is experiencing a large surge of students. As I write, UCA has already accepted 273 students for the 2021-2022 school year, and they have ten more applications, but only two more openings. Now, for the first time, UCA has a waiting list.

Without our faithful philanthropic partners and the \$4M endowment you have provided, UCA would not be the strong school it is today. The impact you have made in terms of changed lives is incalculable, but perhaps a few statistics will help you understand the importance of your philanthropic involvement:

- Since 2004, FoundationONE has distributed \$1.56 million dollars in student aid.
- Since 2004, we have awarded 1416 grants/scholarships.

Thank you, dear friends, for sharing the vision and sacrificing to bring UCA's extraordinary education within the reach of all hard-working families. You really are changing the world!

> Our donors are a very diverse group, but they share one thing in common: they believe that the best way to effect positive tranformation is by introducing young people to Jesus, and then inspiring and equipping them to become leaders.

Our youngest donor is a 30-year old UCA alumna and our oldest donors are a 94-year old couple. You won't want to miss their stories on page3 8-11. In this issue we are also including a list of everyone who has partnered with us the past 18 months. To each we say, from the depths of our hearts, *THANK YOU*! You truly have set in motion a wave of blessing that will continue far into the future. May God richly bless you!

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Mindy Weber

Sincerely, Mindy Weber

Rachel FINDSPEACE AND SAFETY AT UCA

achel Hare-Smith joined the UCA family this past fall, enrolling as a senior. The previous summer she'd worked at Camp Mi-Voden where she met many wonderful and welcoming UCA students. Needing a change in her life, with the help of camp director Jeff Wines and Principal Johnson, she decided to transfer to UCA.

A week prior to graduation, FoundationONE asked Rachel to describe, in one word, her time at UCA. Without hesitation she responded, "PEACE". Then she went on to say that her life, up to that point, had been a continuous whirlwind of chaos. She talked of friends who had been untrue and of leaders who had failed to represent Christ. Rachel's early experiences left her with a diagnosis of Post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, and depression.

Then Rachel brightened as she talked about her time at UCA. She recounted an interaction she'd had with Mr. Gladding, the math teacher. She was having difficulty with her math grade. "I went to talk to Mr. Gladding to explain why I was struggling. I told him about some of the things I had been through and why this part of school (math) was especially difficult for me. I expected the normal, 'I understand but you still need to figure out a way to get your homework done!' Instead, Mr. Gladding prayed with me and asked how he could help. After that he proved, over and over again, that he meant it—he truly showed me God, both by the way he related to me, and also through his Friday worships."

At UCA, Rachel worked in the English department for Mr. Lacey. "I am lucky that I get to work for the teacher who teaches my favorite class," she said. "Mr. Lacey is a very fun boss; he creates a fun work environment. I also get to work front desk in the dorms on the weekend. At both places I get to spend time with incredible staff who I always feel safe talking with."



▲ Rachel with friends, Hannah Thornton (left) and Carley Haeger (right)

"Before I came, I had had some worries about coming to a new school. I knew a few people but not all that many, and my previous school was much smaller. At UCA I would have all new teachers, be living in the dorm, and working at a new job. I worried about those things but there was one thing that worried me even more—the cost.

At the beginning of the school year, I was awarded a \$1,000 FoundationONE grant. I was grateful for it, and I was appreciative that my mother was paying what she could each month. Nevertheless, the bill was growing. And there was no way I could work it all off!

All year long I continued to pray. Now, here at the end of the school year, God opened someone's heart—someone I don't even know—to assist me. What a gift! Next week I will leave UCA with my bill fully paid. I can look to the future instead of working all summer to pay a back bill. I am beyond grateful, and I will never forget!"

When asked about a life-changing moment at UCA, Rachel responded, "No, there wasn't one big moment. But it was small moments every day. UCA is a safe Christian environment. A place I got to make friends for life, a place I got to be myself, a place I got to grow, a place that helped guide me to my future. Coming to UCA was like stepping into a new culture. It was one of the best decisions I ever made. I would remake this choice over and over again."

Rachel plans to work at Camp MiVoden this summer, then continue her education to become a travel trauma nurse. She says, "I will carry my time here at UCA with me forever."

New Board Member ANNOUNCEMENT



WELCOME DANA DOWNING, CPA

Dana attended Upper Columbia Academy 1983-1984 and graduated from Georgia Cumberland Academy in 1985. She has owned an accounting firm for 12 years and she specializes in individual and business income taxes. Dana replaces Dan Frickle, who served as the FoundationONE treasurer since 2014.

In her free time, Dana enjoys spending time with her husband, Jake, and their one year old chocolate Labrador, JB. She also enjoys taking care of her chickens and is working at becoming a successful beekeeper.



WELCOME MIKE STRATTE

Mike Stratte is a 2007 UCA graduate and a grateful recipient of FoundationONE scholarships. He is the first FoundationONE scholarship recipient to serve on the board! He says, "I've experienced how a great education can literally 'give one wings', and I am passionate about building a strong endowment to help other young people get a great education."

Mike earned a B.S. degree in Aviation Management at Walla Walla University. He currently flies the Boeing 737 for Delta Air Lines. Mike and his wife, Alyson, and their son, Theo, live near Spokane, WA.

Called to Share the Light THE STORY OF FOUNDATIONONE'S YOUNGEST DONOR

was so homesick! The first year and a half at UCA I called home most every night and cried," Says Tess (Lubke) Dudley, '09. "Then, in the middle of my junior year, I was nominated to be a Week of Prayer speaker, and that changed everything!" The text Tess chose for her "Week of Prayer" talk was Matthew 5:14-16, and the title was This Little Light of Mine. Little did Tess know, at the time, that sharing the light would become the theme of her life.

The "Week of Prayer" retreat-where a small group of students are mentored into becoming speakers-turned out to be a turning point for Tess. She bonded deeply with the other student speakers. "After that, my time at UCA was tremendously meaningful," she says.

"UCA provided me with a great education and a wonderful circle of friends, grounded me in the faith, and helped me connect to my purpose. That is why I wanted to support FoundationONE. I want every student who wants to be at UCA to be there!"

Tess's senior year her mother was able to come from Alaska for Parents' Weekend. While Mrs. Lubke was there, she gave Tess a letter that Tess cherishes to this day. In the letter Mrs. Lubke expressed her deep love for her daughter and compared herself to the biblical Hannah, who gave Samuel up to the Lord. She said, "It is just weird how much of your life that I gave up sharing with you." Even though it was hard to allow Tess to enroll at UCA, and give up those years together, Mrs. Lubke knew it was worth it because Tess came to know Jesus more deeply while at UCA.

The final weeks leading up to graduation, Tess says she felt sad. "UCA had been a utopia for me. The thought of leaving my classmates and friends was devastating."

After graduation Tess went back home and enrolled at the University of Alaska

Anchorage (UAA) as an elementary education major. She says, "As much as I looked forward to being home again, I wished in some ways that I had enrolled at an Adventist college with my classmates. I now realize that it was God's plan for me to be home in Anchorage. The following year, my mother was killed in an automobile accident. If I had been away at an Adventist college, I would have missed out on spending her last vear with her. It also would have been more difficult to be there for my family in the months and years following such

a profound loss."

Tess says, "When I left UCA, I was determined to be a light to the world, but I wasn't strong enough on my own. For many years I slowly strayed from the Lord and tried to navigate my own way. Then three years ago I met Shiloh, the man who is now my husband. He was a fine Christian gentleman, and he helped me reconnect with my spiritual foundation-the foundation that I had established when I was at UCA. While the utopia may not last forever, the positive effects do last!"

> Tess graduated from UAA in 2014 with a degree in elementary education. Then, after a short break, she decided to get a master's degree in speech therapy. This past spring Tess completed her first year as a speech therapist in the public schools in Anchorage.

▲ Tess (Lubke) Dudley, '09

Of course, one cannot talk about spiritual topics in public schools the same way one can in Christian schools, but Tess reminds herself that communication is more than words, that the most powerful witness is one's character. "I pray daily that God will allow His light to shine through me, and every day I am encouraged by the sweet moments that occur as I endeavor to help students with their communication needs," she says.

Thank you, Tess, for being a beacon of light there in Alaska. May God richly bless you!



A German & a Jankee Jeam Up for Service THE STORY OF FOUNDATIONONE'S

OLDEST DONOR COUPLE

athan Merkel and Phyllis Hickman met at Yakima Valley Academy (YVA)* their junior year. Nathan was of pure German stock, and Phyllis was "pure Yankee".

In the late 1800's the Merkel family migrated from Russia to North Dakota, then moved to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho where Nathan was born and raised. Nathan fondly remembers worshipping in the old Coeur d'Alene German Church. His mother died when he was 14 and his older sisters, realizing that he needed a new start, encouraged him to enroll at YVA.

In the late 1800's the Hickman family lived in North Carolina (a Confederate state), but they were sympathetic with the North. So, when they heard the stories about opportunities in the West, the Hickman family eagerly joined the wagon train to Oregon. Phyllis says, "My dad walked every step to Oregon, barefoot!" The family purchased a homestead in Weston, Oregon. As they moved their things into the house they found a copy of *The Great Controversy*, a book by Ellen G. White. This book started them on a journey that resulted in the family becoming members of the Seventhday Adventist church.

In the fall of 1942, this German bred gentleman and this Yankee girl enrolled as juniors at Yakima Valley Academy. Phyllis noticed Nathan first. She wanted to learn more about him so she talked with Barbara, a girl from Coeur d'Alene who had gone to school with Nathan. Then she mustered up her courage and talked with Jack Bergman, Nathan's roommate.

When Nathan learned that Phyllis—the young lady that worked in the business office—was attracted to him, he dropped the girl he had been spending time with and began seeking opportunities to talk with Phyllis. But in those days Adventist schools were very strict about dating. Phyllis and Nathan were thwarted at every turn. One time they were put on social for going out to eat with Barbara and her dad. Another time the principal asked them not to walk together. "But love finds a way," says Phyllis, "we would communicate, even if we had to resort to writing notes."

Nathan and Phyllis graduated from YVA in 1945. Four days following graduation Nathan was drafted into the army. That fall Phyllis started college as a Secretarial Science student. Then, after Nathan completed his year of military service he too enrolled at Walla Walla College. He pursued a double major: Theology and Education. They continued their courtship at Walla Walla and were married in 1947.

Nathan's first job was serving as the principal of Spokane Junior Academy; then he served the Upper Columbia Conference as a district pastor; and finally the couple received the long awaited call to mission service. Nathan served five years as president of the Bolivia Mission, and five years as president of the Ecuador Mission. Their final four years in South America were spent working to establish Ecuador Adventist College.

In the early 1960's the Ecuador Mission search committee had purchased some undeveloped land at the base of the Andes Mountains for a school. The new 12-grade school, with dormitories for the high school

students, would attract students from both the coast and the mountains. "But it was a lot of work. There was nothing there," says Phyllis. "In fact, the weeds on the property were so high that when Nathan tried to lay out the school, he got lost!"

After much hard work, in 1968, Ecuador Adventist College was ready to open its doors, and 120 students enrolled. Phyllis describes that first year: "We had no running water, no dining room or kitchen, no electricity. The food service director prepared meals in a tent. We had only two classrooms. But God blessed and the students learned. I remember preparing my lesson plans by lantern light."

After 14 years of mission service, Nathan and Phyllis returned to the United States and continued serving the church in the Pacific Northwest. They retired from full time service in the early 1990's, and at the present time are living in Tennessee near their daughter.

Nathan and Phyllis are 94 years old. Nathan is in a care center, but Phyllis is still living independently. "It's hard not being able to live together," she says, "But I get to spend every Sabbath with him, and I'm grateful for that. We have had a good life! Finances are not very flush anymore. We wish we could do more, but we do what we can."

Nathan and Phyllis, thank you for 76 years of faithful support to your alma mater. Your school family loves you, appreciates your loyalty, and is proud of your service! We can't wait to reconnect with you in Heaven, and meet all the people you were



influential in bringing to Jesus during your long lifetimes of service.

*Yakima Valley Academy was the precursor of Upper Columbia Academy

THANK YOU!

We wish to thank the following individuals and organizations who voluntarily supported FoundationONE between January 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

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▼ Thirty-two of the 68 graduates were able to participate in UCA's outstanding education because of the student aid provided by the FoundationONE endowment. Thank you for your partnership! YOU are changing lives!



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▲ On Sabbath evening of graduation weekend five students were to be baptized. As the service proceeded, the Spirit moved in an incredible way and by the time the church finally emptied at 11:30 p.m., 38 students, parents, alumni, and faculty had recommitted their hearts to Jesus! Class Night had to be postponed until the next day. Thank you for your many prayers for our campus during this Covid difficult, and yet spiritually alive, year at UCA.

Luke Hinshaw Nicolas Hinshaw Don & Linda Klinger Jack & Cathy Larrabee Carol McIntyre Gretchen Potschka Nadine Reneau Bev Roberts Ralph & Rita Roberts Rich Roberts Fred & Melinda Weber Doug & Diane Wells

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Every effort has been made to provide an accurate and complete listing of names. If we have missed anyone, please call 509-939-1716.

HOLARSHIP Gary Clenden uce Davis Janelle & Ror

Financial Summary

- ✓ Endowment assets now exceed \$4 million.
- During the 2020-2021 school year, FoundationONE awarded \$165,000 in scholarships and grants to 110 qualified UCA students.
- ✓ FoundationONE does not offer "free rides". The students and their families are challenged to work and fundraise to come up with as much money as possible, then if additional resources are still needed, students apply for a FoundationONE grant or named scholarship. FoundationONE also awards a few merit-based scholarships, which encourage students to strive for excellence.
- The FoundationONE Endowment is managed by the professional investment team at Washington Trust Bank.
- The funds are invested per the FoundationONE investment policy guidelines, which includes no sin stock.
- The investment objective: balanced growth; the investment horizon: long term.



Attention Golfers!

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR

The Bob Larrabee Memorial Golf Tournament

Friday, September 24, 2021; 9:30 a.m. Shotgun

MeadowWood Golf Course, Liberty Lake, WA

Registration fee: \$100 until Aug 20th \$110 Aug 21-Sep 17

Field limited to the first 120 players

For more information, call Debbie: 509-954-3683

www.foundationoneuca.org/events

UCA World Changer



▲ Tom & Jennifer Ish with their daughter, Melissa (center)

Jennifer (Matlack) Ish, '77

ennifer first learned to clearly distinguish God's voice when she was a student at Upper Columbia Academy. She has been following that voice for many years now, and it has led her to a very fulfilling career.

Growing up in Spokane, Jennifer visited the UCA campus often, so when it came time for her to go off to boarding school, it was an easy transition. "UCA provided me *many* opportunities to discover my talents and develop my skills," she says. Some of the leadership roles Jennifer filled were: Vice President of her junior class and Resident Assistant (RA) in the dormitory.

"But what was most impactful," she says, "was the exposure I got to the

writings of Ellen G. White. Often the RA's met at noon for worship. We read through *Steps to Christ, Desire of Ages,* and *Ministry of Healing*. All of these books touched my heart. But *Ministry of Healing* touched my heart the most.

"As we read, I began to feel a burning passion to help people. I wanted to benefit them, not just physically, but also spiritually. I remember sitting in my dorm room re-reading certain passages and praying. The idea of *whole* *person care* captivated my mind and thrilled me!"

Each summer Jennifer worked as the Nature Cabin Director at Camp Mi-Voden. As she taught the children about nature, she observed the calming effect it had on them. She also noted that when the children ate a lot of dessert, they struggled with illness, and when they didn't have so much refined sugar, the children stayed healthier. Every day, it seemed, Jennifer's passion for *whole person care* was growing.

Before she graduated from UCA, Jennifer told her school counselor that she wanted to be a "Medical Missionary", and asked what coursework she should take in college. Her counselor told her that there really wasn't a medical missionary degree, and suggested she consider becoming a nurse, a dietitian, or a Bible worker.

The following year Jennifer stayed home and enrolled in the nursing program at the local community college. That experience only reconfirmed that traditional nursing was not her calling. Every time she observed a doctor prescribing medicine without telling the patient about God's natural healing remedies, that also were available, it gave Jennifer a pit in her stomach. Later that school year Jennifer and a girlfriend drove to Walla Walla College (now University) to connect with UCA friends at a banquet. It just so happened that that very weekend a speaker was there in the Walla Walla area promoting Weimar Institute. "As I listened to him describe their whole person care, my heart nearly burst within me," says Jennifer.

Of course, Jennifer eagerly signed up to receive information about Weimar Institute, and the following year, she was a Weimar student. Four years later, Jennifer graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Health with a Minor in Religion. At last she was prepared to share preventive healthcare and spiritual enrichment!

Following college, Jennifer worked a few years as a health educator, first in the Spokane area and then at a lifestyle center in Norway. Then she returned to Weimar to work as a promoter of the NEWSTART Lifestyle Program. One of her new co-workers was Tom Ish, a journalist who was a new Seventh-day Adventist. Tom and Jennifer became best of friends, and eventually they got married.

When their daughter was born in 1992 the couple began to look for a ministry they could do jointly from home. They asked themselves, what is it people



▲ Tom & Jennifer Ish

need most in our fast-paced society? Stress relief was the obvious answer. Although Jennifer and Tom understood that the best stress relief is a trusting relationship with God, they didn't know how to appealingly and compellingly get that word out. And so they prayed. Eventually God answered, and *Creation Illustrated*, a 66-page quarterly journal, was born.

Creation Illustrated displays God's tender mercy through His creative handiwork and offers powerful life lessons for mental, spiritual, and physical health. Everyone loves nature! And the amazing photography and stories about God's creatures subtly draws readers in and inspires faith. Each quarter a fresh edition of *Creation Illustrated* is released to bless the hearts of young and old, believers and unbelievers. People in all 50 states and 35 countries enjoy *Creation Illustrated*. Their work has won three Angel Awards and readers call it, "The Christian answer to *National Geographic!*"

Recently Jennifer and Tom invited FoundationONE to become partners in ministry. We had a wonderful time getting acquainted and planning a win/ win. Today we enthusiastically invite our FoundationONE friends to subscribe to *Creation Illustrated*. We know you will be blessed, as we have been, by this inspirational journal.

For every new FoundationONE subscription, Tom and Jennifer will donate 30% of the fee back to the Foundation ONE endowment. If you wish to order multiple Gift Subscriptions, click "Give A Gift" at the top of the form. Your *Creation Illustrated* gift subscriptions will be a powerful outreach to your family, friends, coworkers, employees, and clients.

Jennifer, the world is a better place because of you—you have enhanced countless lives by your whole-person care and by *Creation Illustrated*. We proudly induct you into the UCA WORLD CHANGER family!

For more information about *Creation Illustrated*, or to subscribe, go to: https://simplecirc.com/subscribe/ creation-illustrated/A-FndONE30

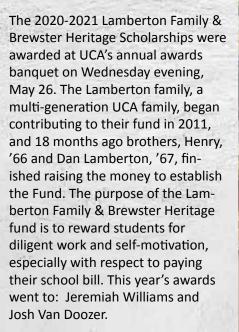


END OF SCHOOL AWARDS PRESENTATIONS

n Sabbath afternoon, May 22, FoundationONE distributed \$8,000 from its Wayne Hooper Brass Scholarship fund to five students who practiced diligently this past school year in order to better glorify God through music. The awards were presented at the Sacred Band Concert which this year was held in the camp meeting tent because of COVID.

The Wayne Hooper Brass Scholarship was established fourteen years ago by Wayne Hooper's daughter, Jan (Hooper) Lind. "It has been a thrill," she said, "to see how the fund has grown through the years, and to see my father's legacy live on."

L to R: Jan Lind, Luke Springer, Isaac Gessele, Paul Hartman. Tyler Parker, Kole GreyEyes, Dick Lind



► L to R: Jeremiah Williams, Josh Van Doozer, Linda Klinger (the FoundationONE representative)





FoundationONE also presented the Generosity of Spirit award, an award that has been provided by an anonymous family. The recipients are selected by the UCA faculty, and this year the faculty chose two brothers: Jonah and Micah Alvarado. "The Alvarado brothers are the epitome of generosity," says Pamela Lersbak, "they practice the golden rule and freely share their gifts with others, never expecting anything in return."

FoundationONE is eager to assist Individuals who are interested in creating a fund to memorialize an individual or to carry on the family's legacy. Call Linda today to learn how easy and meaningful a named scholarship fund can be (509-939-1716).

ONLY FOR THOSE WHO LOVE WIN-WINS!

Randy Randall, Principal Broker,

Preferred Realty, Inc. 2

his past February, FoundationONE received an email from Randy Randall, class of 1980. Here is what he said:

"I'd like to encourage FoundationONE to become a ShopWithScrip member. I am a businessman and I purchase between \$30,000 and \$40,000 per month from Home Depot. When I make my purchases, I use ShopWithScrip gift cards, and this is how I benefit my favorite charities. Home Depot gives 4% to charity every day, and sometimes they run specials at 7% or 8%. When they run specials, I buy two months ahead. If FoundationONE would sign up, I would occasionally make my Scrip purchase benefit the endowment for UCA students."

Of course, FoundationONE leaders immediately looked into the Shop-

WithScrip program, and after a little research, joined. In the first three months we added nearly \$4,000 to the FoundationONE endowment from the Scrip program... and that was with only two people using the program. Just imagine what would happen if we had dozens of alumni and friends using Scrip gift cards!

Thank you, Randy, for sharing this great idea!



HERE'S HOW TO GET STARTED:

- **1.** You buy gift cards, either physical or e-gift cards, at ShopWithScrip.com. More than 400 great brands to choose from!
- 2. You pay no extra for the cards, and when you spend the gift cards, you get the full value!
- **3.** The gift card brand gives a percentage to FoundationONE.
- 4. FoundationONE invests the money, and students get a Christian education!
- 5. To get the FoundationONE Scrip Enrollment Code contact Linda: 509-939-1716 or linda.klinger@foundationoneuca.org.

shop with scrip **t** com



Laurie (Griffin) Halversen, '98, is the person who inspired Randy to begin making purchases through Scrip. Laurie learned about ShopWithScrip more than a decade ago when her two older children were students at PUC Prep.

The PUC Preparatory School had been a member of Scrip for a while, but few people were using it. Laurie began pro-

moting the program. She started with her own family, and encouraged them to make as many purchases as possible using ShopWithScrip gift cards. At the time PUC Prep's policy allowed the Scrip rebates to be applied directly to individual student accounts. Once she got her family and friends on the program, Scrip covered 60+ percent of her children's school bills!

Laurie says, ""We have been very blessed keeping all four of our kids in Adventist Education. I encourage others to give it a try as it's a way to support without having to cost you anything but a little time and planning. If contractors or other businesses that do a lot of purchasing were to get behind it they could make a big difference."



| Sep 24 | Bob Larrabee Memorial Golf Tournament — MeadowWood Golf Course, Liberty Lake |
|-----------|---|
| Sep 24-25 | Alumni Weekend — UCA Gymnasium |
| Nov 7 | UCA Conversation — Virtual |
| Nov 14 | UCA Conversation — Southern California, at the home of Richard & Judy Hart |
| Nov 17 | Presentation of 2021-2022 Named Scholarships — UCA Assembly Hall |
| Nov 19 | Presentation of 2021-2022 Grants — UCA Cafeteria |
| Dec 16 | Christmas Concert — Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox, Spokane |
| Jan 30 | UCA Conversation — Phoenix, at Old Spaghetti Factory |
| Mar 6 | UCA Conversation — Portland, TBA |
| Apr 24 | UCA Gala — UCA Gymnasium |
| | |

FoundationONE

"The UCA experience was definitely the RIGHT door to knock on for a huge push towards a new future." Faith Montes, '21

You and I can create a better world. It's easier than you think.

UCA inspires great leaders ... which impact our homes, our communities, our church and the world!

The way to transform society: **INVEST** in **NEXT-GENERATION LEADERS!** Do it today—with a legacy gift through your will.

- Costs you nothing during your lifetime.
- Preserves your savings & cash flow.
- Can be changed or revoked as needed.
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Interested?

Don Klinger Certified Planned Giving Specialist

208-288-1260 st donald.a.klinger@gmail.com

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FoundationONE's Mission

One School

One Dream One Focus

One Method

One Process One Goal

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