

FoundationONE

CONNECTION

ONE MISSION. UCA STUDENTS.



FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

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President's Message

Upper Columbia's theme for this year is: "Each One, Reach One." I was struck by the profoundness of the theme as it relates to FoundationONE. The Foundation has a mantra that we put on our T-Shirts:

One Goal — Future Leaders

One School — Upper Columbia Academy

One Process — Grants/Scholarships

One Focus — UCA Students

One Method — Endowment

As we look forward to 2024 FoundationONE has reached a milestone. F1 will celebrate its 20th birthday! For 20 years, we have been working hard to help UCA students.

This 2023-2024 school year, FoundationONE will provide close to 150 students with nearly \$260,000 in scholarships and grants. That is amazing!

Do you have a desire to become part of a group that makes a difference in the lives of UCA students and their families? Do you have a desire to see God working in miraculous ways in the lives of others? Do you have a desire to see God work directly through you? Join our FoundationONE family! We are looking for ONE MORE DONOR so we can reach ONE MORE STUDENT today, tomorrow and until Jesus comes.



Mindy Weber



New Scholarship

ANNOUNCING THE DANIEL NEIL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Anybody who knew Daniel Neil knew that he was a fun-loving, adventuresome, “love the outdoors” kind of guy. He feared nothing. If he did, you would never know it. His goal when he was younger was to keep up with his older brother in spite of being 4 years his junior. Daniel was jeeping before he was born, tent camping at 6 weeks of age, snowmobiling on his own sled at age 5, and tearing down the trails on his mountain bike at age 10. There was no end to his outdoor adventures. Adventure was in his blood from the start.

But in addition to of his love for adventure, Daniel also had an incredible love for people. In the words of a friend, “Daniel’s unquenchable thirst for outdoor adventure was only surpassed by the kindness and compassion he had for people.” Daniel’s smile and laugh could light up a room, and he was a friend to all. As one of his fellow nurses said, “He will be remembered for his warm smile, big heart and adventurous spirit. He will be missed by all who were blessed to know him.”

Daniel was tragically killed in a motorcycle accident in Richland, WA, April 14, 2023, leaving behind his wife Alyssa and their daughter, who was born in September, 2023.

Out of their love for Daniel, some of his friends suggested that a scholarship in his honor be established at his alma mater, Upper Columbia Academy, where he graduated in 2012.



THE SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA ARE:

1. A passion for outdoor adventures,
2. A love for people.

Donations can be made at: FoundationOneUCA.org/give-now/

or mailed to:
FoundationONE,
PO Box 744,
Post Falls, ID 83877

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS





Imagine being from a town named “Valle de Angeles” – Valley of the Angels! Paola Gomez is a junior at Upper Columbia Academy and she is from this wonderfully named town in Honduras. How did Paola, all the way from Honduras, come to be at UCA? Here is her story!

Paola’s best friend invited her to come to UCA with her. Her best friend’s brother was attending UCA, and he wanted his sister to come and experience America while being a student. Paola’s best friend decided to go, but she wanted Paola to come with her. This was July of 2021 and Paola was already in the middle of her freshman year in Honduras. Her school year went from February to November. But Paola was interested in going. She and her parents contacted UCA only to find out the freshman class was full for the upcoming year. Paola thought, “well, it must not be God’s plan for me!”

One week prior to school starting, UCA reached out to Paola and told her there was an opening. One day before school was to begin, she was interviewed and accepted. Paola’s biggest challenge was getting her student visa from the Ameri-

can embassy in Honduras. She knew that normally it could easily take up to a year to even get an interview. When she called, they told her she could have an interview the following Monday – the day school started at UCA! During her interview, the man at the embassy asked Paola when her school started. She replied, “it is beginning today.” He looked at her surprised and said, “well we better move this along quickly.” He stamped her paperwork “emergency student visa”, and she received it prior to flying to the states that next Friday. She and her parents arrived in Spokane Friday evening and after attending a Spanish church in Spokane on Sabbath, they drove to UCA. That night happened to be class night. If you know anything about class night, you can understand why Paola thought, what have I done? She was both amazed and a bit confused. Monday, August 30, 2021, was

**JUST AS IN THE STORY OF ESTHER, GOD
CHOSE HER FOR A VERY SPECIAL PURPOSE
FOR SUCH A TIME, AND HE HAS CHOSEN
PAOLA TO BE A DIFFERENCE MAKER ON THE
CAMPUS OF UCA FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS.**

Paola's first day of school. One week following her initial visit to the embassy in Honduras. Just a coincidence? Probably not!

Another one of Paola's challenges was financing her education. She had received some money from her home church in Honduras. Mr. Hartman, VP for Academics at UCA, gave her several grants that she was completely unaware of, and she applied for a FoundationONE scholarship, along with the Eric Molstead Memorial Scholarship. She applied for this one because of her love for math and science. One of the blessings of this scholarship is it's renewable each year a student remains at UCA and maintains a 3.5 GPA. Paola has been able to qualify for this scholarship each year she's been at UCA.

That is the story of how a young girl stepped out in faith and walked through an open door, leaving her family and home to attend UCA. The story doesn't end here. Since arriving at UCA, Paola has been learning, sometimes daily,

why God brought her to this school for such a time as this. She of course felt God's hand guiding her but was unsure of why. She was told she needed to begin her freshman year over. She felt that was a blessing because she has been able to use what she had already learned at her school in Honduras to get straight A's and help other kids in her class. Making friends was a bit of a challenge because of her heavy accent. She wasn't always understood. She spoke English, but she described herself as quiet that first year. It wasn't always easy, but she persevered. She was raised a Seventh-day Adventist and knew God, but never really had a strong personal relationship with Him. It was in her Bible class, her freshman year, that she felt like she met God for the first time. Mr. Spano, her teacher, had them reading the Desire of Ages and it had a profound impact on her life. By the end of her freshman year, Paola knew she wanted to return to UCA.

Now as a sophomore, she had more confidence. She decided to try out for



the soccer team. Even though she had never played soccer, she made the team, and she loved it! Living in the dorm was fun and exciting for Paola. She also says it exhausted her. She continued to take as many math and science classes as the school would allow her. By the end of her sophomore year, her Resident Assistant (RA) told her she should run for ASB Chaplain. She prayed about it. She never imagined she would win, but she did! Following her victory, she wondered if this was all a part of God's plan for her while at UCA – spiritual leader and mentor. She knew she needed to set a good example, so she gave up social media and secular music and is more intentional about reading and studying her Bible. She continues to play soccer and this year, her junior year, she is a member of Choraliers – the select choir. She is taking physics this year (typically a senior class) and loves it, because unlike math, she learns the “why”. She still loves math. When I asked her about teachers that have helped her along the way she wanted

to especially thank Mrs. Castrejon – “Mrs. C”, and Mr. Gladding, both math/science teachers.

Paola says UCA has provided opportunities for her that she would not have had staying in Honduras. She is grateful for the growth experiences a boarding school has given her. She knows she will pursue a career in math or science in some capacity. Paola can now see how she lived in a “bubble” in her hometown of Valle de Angeles, and how coming to UCA has expanded her experience of life and faith and trust in God. She is very grateful to the Eric Molstead Memorial Scholarship for providing much-needed money for her to afford going to UCA. “Thank you FoundationONE for helping me with a grant and the many students who are blessed by the endowment you manage.” As an RA, Paola sees firsthand kids that struggle financially and the impact it has on them and their experience at UCA. The financial aid that is offered through FoundatioONE and the various Named Scholarships helps take away the worry many kids have. And she is grateful she can ease the burden placed on her mom and dad.

Just as God chose Esther for a special purpose; He has chosen Paola to be a difference-maker on the campus of UCA for such a time as this.



NAMED SCHOLARSHIP DESSERT EVENT

Celebrating UCA students is one of the many joys we have working at FoundationONE. There are many opportunities to do this, but one of the special ones is the named scholarship recipients. Why so special? First, many of the 20 named scholarships are in remembrance of a family member whose family would like their loved one to never be forgotten. These families both donate and raise funds to contribute to their scholarship. Second, named scholarships provide an additional way for UCA students to help with the cost of their Christian education.

In the past, FoundationONE has held assemblies throughout the school year to award the scholarships. This year – a year of change – a dessert reception will be held Thursday evening, April 25, 2024, in the school cafeteria. Why the change? It was decided an event, where more time was given for family agents to meet and get acquainted with the recipient of their scholarship, should replace the assemblies. We have learned, through meeting with some of the family agents, they enjoy the opportunity to get to know the student and start building a relationship with them. It is also important that the family be able to share with the recipient about the person the scholarship honors.

We are blessed to help carry on the legacy of these family members, friends and classes through the named scholarships. Thank you to our named scholarship fund agents, families, friends and donors who make these scholarships possible!

FOUNDATIONONE CURRENTLY HAS 20 NAMED SCHOLARSHIPS:

1. Olin Peach Memorial Scholarship
2. Eric Molstead Memorial Scholarship
3. Wayne Hooper Memorial Brass Scholarship
4. Faye (Prewitt) Kwapien Memorial Scholarship
5. Sheila Lynn Larson Memorial Scholarship
6. Nancy Driscoll Engle Memorial Scholarship
7. Tony Henneberg Memorial Scholarship
8. Londa Slawson (Raines) Memorial Scholarship
9. Anderson-Wilkens Family Scholarship
10. Littler Family Scholarship
11. Lamberton Family Scholarship
12. Leadbetter Family Scholarship
13. Roberts Family Scholarship
14. Bill & Judy Putnam Scholarship
15. Harvey & Verna Mohr Family Scholarship
16. Grandview Pioneer Memorial Scholarship
17. Dan Davis Family Scholarship
18. Class of 1985 Scholarship
19. Class of 2007 Scholarship
20. Daniel Neil ('13) Memorial Scholarship (*Just initiated*)

If you, or someone you know, are interested in starting a named scholarship fund in memory of a loved one, please contact:

dean.kravig@
foundationoneuca.org

or cheri.atwood@
foundationoneuca.org

509-939-1716



▲ Hailey Fischer and Ethan Hickok of the UCA Golf Team



▲ WINNING TEAM: (Pictured) Connor and Ross Simonds (Not present) Chase Sturgis, Richard Abbey

THE BOB LARRABEE MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT NETS **\$35K**

On Friday, September 29, 108 golfers woke up to a cold, foggy, and wet morning. Hardly the kind of day one would choose to play in a golf tournament! However, as golfers gathered at Indian Canyon Clubhouse for the Bob Larrabee Memorial Golf Tournament, spirits were high. After registering, players dispersed to the putting green or range to prepare for the 18 holes of play that lay ahead. UCA's Vocal Octet continued the beautiful tradition of opening the tournament with our national anthem, which was followed by prayer, and then 54 carts, loaded with players were off to their starting holes.

There were several contests with a variety of prizes ranging from a new car to gift cards and sleeves of golf balls. As one listened throughout the morning there could be heard many

yells of delight and surprise. "Ah, that must have been a birdie!" Or when the voices were especially intense, "that had to be an eagle!"

After play everyone enjoyed a delicious meal while reminiscing about the high and low points of the day. Thank you so much to all who participated as players, and to our planning committee for organizing a great tournament.

We are very grateful for the generosity of our tournament sponsors, who enabled us to make a \$35,000 profit for the Foundation.

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TOURNAMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Taylor Wilkens
Cheri Atwood
Mindy Weber
Linda Klinger
Dean Kravig

TOURNAMENT VOLUNTEERS:

Jaclin Smith
Daniel Engle
Teresa Reiswig
Al Schroetlin
UCA Vocal Octet: Susanna Olson,
Jade Frias, Sarah Cole, Alissa Stafford,
Daniel Wright, Tanner Duffy,
Jonathan Haeger, Spencer Rich,
Danerose Sanford
Micaiah Haugsted



▲ SUMMIT NW WOMEN'S TEAM: Kelli Debooy, Ericka Meager, Trisha Hay, Katie Henneberg



A UCA World Changer Story

A Tale of 2 Soils



In this feature we share the stories of UCA Alumni who are being used by God to change the world. Jeff ('80) and Terri ('79) Weijohn's story illustrates how the lessons God teaches in life can have an impact on lives far beyond our own.

Four generations of the Weijohn family have been farmers in the lower Yakima Valley of Washington State. Over their years in farming Jeff and Terri have learned that by caring for the soil as God, the Creator, intended – putting the heart into the soil - it will produce as God designed. This philosophy of “Heart & Soil” is what drives everything they do.

Alongside their farming, Jeff and Terri have also had a passion for reaching the community around them on the Yakama Nation Reservation. Through their own personal interactions, and the ministry of the All Nations Center, they have sought to implement Jesus’ methods of ministry. He mingled among people as one who desired their good. He sympathized with them and met their needs. By doing these things He won their confidence, and only then did He invite them to follow Him. The “Heart & Soil” principle that God taught Jeff and Terri also applies to working with people. As God enables us to meet people’s physical and emotional needs, it helps them become more open to the Creator’s principles, and they realize that they have a spiritual emptiness that only God can fill.

In the past 20 years Weijohn Farms has branched out into Blueberry Hill Farms, Sorbatto Fresh and Blue Cream, which is a 100% frozen fruit dessert. Jeff and Terri started Blueberry Hill Farms so that their own sons, (Brady-’08, Zach-’10, and Spencer-’12) and youth from the Yakima region would be able to have summer jobs and learn the life lessons that farming teaches so effectively. Jeff

relates how one of the most important tasks that workers need to learn is one of the most mundane – weeding. If weeding is not done correctly, then the weeds come back, along with the next generation of weeds, and eventually you just can’t keep up. Checking for comprehension, overseeing, and guiding as they learn to weed is essential in the process of training effective workers. Just so, with the soil of our hearts, we must learn how to keep out the weeds, or they will take over.

As Jeff and Terri’s three sons got married, their daughters-in-law learned about the Heart & Soil philosophy and how it shaped the Weijohn farming and business practices. One of their new daughters was convinced that Jeff would benefit from attending an Adventist Agricultural Association convention and worked together with family members to give it to him as a birthday present. It was at the AdAgra convention that Jeff and two of his sons learned about an organization called Farm Stew, which also implemented Biblical principles like Heart & Soil.

God inspired Joy Kauffman, MPH, to start Farm Stew while she was on a service trip in 2015 to Uganda with the USAID Farmer to Farmer program. Joy’s official assignment was to work with a farming cooperative whose members had decided they wanted assistance learning to process the soybeans they grew.

Once in Uganda, in partnership with local volunteers, Joy conducted hands-

on nutrition and cooking classes, featuring soy and vegetables, using the Bible as her primary text. She taught the basics of a whole-foods, plant-based diet, which is a critical aspect, as most participants are vegetarians by economic necessity. Child nutrition and the importance of soaking grains and legumes to increase the bioavailability of nutrients, were also taught. The community response was tremendously positive.

The Ugandan volunteers were particularly thrilled with the fact that Joy's team was bringing in nothing from outside the village except for the information that was practical and immediately applicable. As time progressed, it was wonderful to see the interaction and the skilled facilitation that happened naturally when they conducted classes in their local language. They captured the attention and the heart of class participants. It was then that Joy realized this training could save the lives of countless African children, where 5 children under the age of five die every minute! The seeds for Farm Stew had been planted.

Together with the locals, Joy and her team produced high-quality, simple instructional materials that could be given as a gift to the communities in which training took place. This way, from the beginning, they would be training locals and multiply the work. Instead of using the common approach of just giving everything to villages without



the education to be self-sufficient, Farm Stew gives the initial information and materials for gardening, and then asks that a family grows and maintains a garden with at least three different vegetables in it for a period of one year. At the end of the year, the home is then "certified." When 80% of the homes in a village become certified, the village is then certified, and becomes eligible for a well to be drilled.

Farm Stew is based on Jesus' words in John 10:10: "I have come that they may have life and have it more abundantly." The Farm Stew acronym spells this principle out in more specific and practical ways:


Farming: Faithfulness to principles revealed in God's Word and observed in nature.

Attitude: Choice to live God's way – be disciplined and have a positive outlook.

Rest: Restoration for body, soul, and soil.

Meals: Plant-based, whole foods diet using mainly what the family can grow themselves.

Sanitation: Around our homes, with our food, and in personal hygiene.



Temperance: Moderation in good things, abstaining from anything harmful.

Enterprise: Provide opportunity to pursue sustainable food and income.

Water: Fresh, detoxifying and in abundance for our bodies, and growing food.

Through these 8 key ingredients Farm Stew's training is giving the world's poor and vulnerable the skills needed to address the root causes of hunger, disease, and poverty. Entire regions have gone from starving to having plenty by learning how to grow food and utilize what has always been there.

Historically, many people in rural Africa have been forced to move to the cities where it is much easier to find consistent sources of food. However, Farm Stew has enabled people to move back out of the cities where they can produce their own food in abundance, and provide income for their families. As the word about Farm Stew spreads in rural Africa, it has opened doors to bring the gospel of Jesus Christ to remote regions where the majority of people are of the Muslim or traditional animist religions. As people experience the abundant and healthy life that Farm Stew teaches, they also hear of their Creator who loves them and wants them to have eternal life with Him. God uses the lessons they learn about working with the soil to teach them about the soil of their hearts, and how He can help it produce the fruits of His Spirit.

As Jeff and Terri learned more about Farm Stew and how its philosophy is so like Heart & Soil, they chose to get involved and become supporters. Jeff is currently on the board of Farm Stew, serving on the Marketing and Fundraising Committee. He has been able to share a unique perspective because of his background in farming and how God has used the different aspects of Weijohn Farms to help employees and customers live life more abundantly.

Jeff and Terri have found that the principles of Farm Stew have become increasingly relevant here in America. Helping people gain freedom from dependency by modeling a healthy lifestyle and teaching them to become more self-sufficient is more important than ever.

Through their own experiences in farming, God prepared Jeff and Terri to be involved on a much wider scale in the ministry of feeding the hungry people of the world. Farm Stew now operates in Zimbabwe, Uganda, South Sudan, Cuba, Panama, Nicaragua, Brazil and the Philippines.

We invite you to learn more about Farm Stew and Jeff and Terri's ongoing projects:

FARM STEW: FarmStew.org
SORBATTO: Sorbatto.com

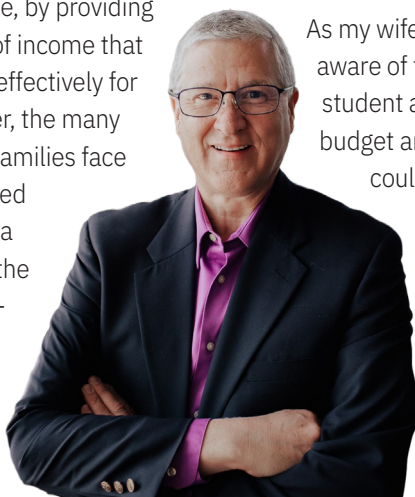
The Far-Reaching Impact of “Impact Partners”

By Dean Kravig

Although I’m not a UCA alumnus, over the years I have chosen to be a regular donor to FoundationONE and UCA because I have seen firsthand the positive life-long impact that UCA had on my wife, my own 4 children, and my students. During my 13 years on staff, I saw how God used UCA to transform students’ lives, and I want current and future students to be able to experience the spiritual, educational, and social growth UCA has to offer.

This is where FoundationONE has played an increasingly important role, by providing a steady, reliable source of income that allows UCA to plan more effectively for each school year. However, the many financial challenges that families face today have caused the need for student aid to grow at a rate which has outpaced the growth of the Foundation-

ONE endowment. As my wife and I became more aware of this increasing need for student aid, we looked at our budget and prayed about what we could do. Because Adventist Christian education has always been a priority for us, we chose to give like it is a priority, and



became monthly donors – **Impact Partners**. We invite all of our alumni to do the same. Why? Because if we all do our part, the combined effect would be incredible.

For the sake of illustration, I'll use a statistic from the larger world of fundraising: "From a recent study of Non-profits, they have found that the average monthly gift is \$51 for credit cards and \$60 for those given by Electronic Funds Transfer".

Now let's apply that to FoundationONE's situation. The monthly support from faithful donors ranges from \$10 to several hundred dollars, but when every donor does what they can, it adds up fast. So let's round the \$51 from the example above to a \$50 monthly average.

If all 7,000 living UCA alumni gave an average of \$50 each month, in just one year the endowment would be up to \$10 Million, and UCA's need for student aid would be completely met. This would ensure that students could continue to have the positive life-changing experiences that so many others have had in the past.

With even half of the living alumni giving an average of \$50 each month, it would provide over \$2 Million of yearly income to the endowment, and in just 2 years the endowment would be over \$10 Million. Great things can happen when we each do what we can!

Benefits to consider:

- 1.** FoundationONE would know how much is coming in each month and be able to budget more accurately. We know how important that is for our own budgets.
- 2.** Donors don't have to worry about taking the time or spending the postage to send in their donations each month – it happens automatically.
- 3.** Impact partners only receive one donation receipt in January of each year, instead of one for each gift, which saves time and money for FoundationONE.
- 4.** It's easy to sign up. Just go to foundationoneuca.org, click the "Give Now" button, and choose "Monthly Donation e-Check" or "Monthly Donation Credit/Debit Card."
- 5.** If Impact Partners choose the e-Check option it lowers the online donation fees, thus allowing more of every donation to go to the needs of UCA and its students.

I invite you to pray about becoming an Impact Partner and see how God blesses as you give to help build God's kingdom through the ministry of Upper Columbia Academy.

“Igniting the World” UPDATE

If you had been on the campus of Upper Columbia Academy between July 30 and August 10, you would have seen a group of volunteers from the Classes of 1966-71 who were giving of their time, energy, and skills to bless the current faculty and staff. The faculty home renovation initiative is part of the Igniting the World Campaign. Spearheaded by Wes Brown ('66) and Henry Lamberton ('68), the classes of '66-'71 raised more than \$35,000 to help with the many repairs and renovations needed for staff homes on campus.

PROJECTS THE TEAM TACKLED INCLUDED:

- Tearing down and replacing a backyard fence.
- Cleaning out and making repairs to gutters and downspouts on most of the staff houses.
- Demolition of two basement bathrooms and beginning the remodel process on one.

Thank you to each of the class members who donated funds to the project, and a special thank you to the volunteers who came to campus and worked so diligently. Your example is an inspiration and a blessing!

CLASSES OF '66-'71 VOLUNTEERS: Wes Brown, Dan Lamberton, Henry Lamberton, Mike Schwartz, Gary and Tabitha Gibson, Lee Canwell, Gordon and Nancy Tucker, Larry and Jan Petrie, and Bruce Dietrich.



▲ **Top:** Fence replacement: Before and after pictures.
▲ **Bottom:** Completed bathroom

▲ **Top:** Henry Lamberton & Wes Brown
▲ **Middle:** Gary Gibson and Mike Schwartz;
▲ **Bottom:** Lee Canwell and Bruce Dietrich



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One School
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One Method
Endowment

One Process
Grants/Scholarships

One Goal
Future Leaders

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