

FoundationONE

C^{ONNECTION}

ONE MISSION. UCA STUDENTS.

Coming to America

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Founder's Message

BY CHERI ATWOOD

FoundationONE has just finished its' 20th year of providing grants to Upper Columbia Academy students through an endowment. The foundation is blessed to have one of its' founding members on the board and still very active today – Jaclin Smith. Jaclin, along with Terrance Finney, Tom Stayner, and Bob Larrabee, started what was then known as the UCA Foundation. In the beginning, they were approached by the Upper Columbia Conference and asked to develop an industry where UCA students could work to help pay for their education. However, Terrance, a supreme court justice at the time, knew with the ongoing regulations for student workers, it would not be feasible to develop that idea. He served on several higher edu-

cation boards and saw how effective a foundation could be. So, four UCA classmates created and developed what is known today as FoundationONE. With the help of a fifth classmate, they were able to begin with a one-million-dollar endowment. An endowment is a sum of money or property donated to an organization to be used for a specific purpose, in this case UCA students.

Today, Jaclin reflects on her time at UCA. “I entered a child and left as an adult,” Smith says. She believes the dorm experience is a unique one – living together 24/7 with others, creates what she has experienced as a “life-long bond”. Jaclin enjoys connections with many of her classmates that span the country.



◀ Jaclin Smith

She feels her experience at UCA was vital at such a transitional time in her life.

Jaclin benefited from the work-study program that UCA had. She thought she would head in the direction of becoming a doctor, but realized she enjoyed business more. The UCA registrar at the time gave Jaclin some career testing and it showed a propensity for business – Jaclin was a detail person. After two years in college at Walla Walla, she was invited to join her father-in-law in his senior care business. This is where Jaclin has committed her time and talent.

Being involved in education has been a large part of Jaclin's life. She didn't plan to focus on that, but because of numerous invitations to serve on various educational boards, that's how it turned out! Then, when her children were ready to go to high school, UCA was a natural choice. I asked her why, and she said, "I wanted my kids to have the same opportunities I had while attending UCA." Jaclin's desire has now transitioned to her grandkids. What a legacy! When I asked Jaclin what is it that keeps her committed to FoundationONE and UCA, she said, "I see FoundationONE making it possible for kids today to have what I had so many years ago." Jaclin appreciates how FoundationONE manages the funds so well, along with providing so many students a good Christian foundation. She is thrilled to see the "next generation" carrying on the goals of FoundationONE, and would like to thank Mindy Weber, Board President and Brent Featherston, Vice-President, along with each of the board members, for their commitment. Jaclin told me she hopes and prays FoundationONE can continue its' important work until Christ's return. Jaclin, thank you for your long-standing commitment to FoundationONE, but more importantly, to the students of UCA – our future!

A portrait of an elderly couple. The man on the left is balding with white hair on the sides, wearing glasses, a blue button-down shirt, and a grey and black argyle sweater. The woman on the right has short reddish-brown hair, wears glasses, and a black turtleneck sweater. They are both smiling. The background is a blurred interior with bookshelves.

Sandra Gibson Paulson

SCHOLARSHIP

By Rochelle Paulson – Unger

Sandy was fun-loving, kindhearted, and wanted the best in life for everyone she met. She had a terrific memory and often reminded friends of funny stories they'd forgotten. She loved to tease and create fun around her. She continually befriended new people. Their happiness was important to her.

Sandy was born on July 17, 1940, in Morton, Minnesota. At three years old, her parents divorced and she and her older brother and sister were sent to live on a farm in College Place, Washington. Two years later her father remar-

ried and they all moved to Newport, Washington, where another brother was added to the family. Eventually they moved to Spokane. Sandy and her older siblings would take train rides from Spokane to Portland to visit their mom and her husband, who eventually welcomed a son into their family. Through the years, Sandy was the glue that kept all her extended family connected.

Sandy made life-long friendships at Spokane Junior Academy



and Upper Columbia Academy. Even though her family lived in Spokane, she and her sister lived on campus and thoroughly enjoyed dorm life. She was very involved in school activities, played clarinet in the academy band, and sang

in school choirs, such as Senior Choir and Golden Chords. Sandy graduated from UCA in 1959 and then attended Walla Walla College where she met Donald Paulson, who was working at the college after recently earning his business degree. She was outgoing, he was shy. They were a perfect match and married in 1960. They set up their home in the Walla Walla Valley and soon had a son, Dean, and a daughter, Rochelle "Shelly." Sandy embraced a homemaker's life and became a member of the



▲ *Sandy's Family: Hayden, Harrison, Rhett, "Shelly", Don, Sandy, Dean.*

“Sandy loved all types of music. She'd often play classical music and opera on the radio, making up her own words and sound effects if she didn't know the lyrics.”

WSU Extension Homemakers Council, even serving as her chapter's president for a time. She sewed, crocheted, and became a breadmaking expert. Casseroles were often creative and not easily repeatable, which her family found humorous. She became famous at church potlucks for her rhubarb Jello.

Before she began her housecleaning business, Sandy was a babysitter and would often accumulate neighborhood children who thought her house was the most fun. (Who wouldn't love to punch rising bread, make cookies, or yell indoors while running and sliding across the hallway's wooden floor!) Her housecleaning business spanned over 50 years with her becoming part of her clients' families and vice versa. At one point she had over 17 clients. She had only recently retired from her few remaining clients a couple weeks before her cancer diagnosis in 2022. She was a dedicated worker and a loyal friend.

Over the years, Sandy volunteered in her church's cradle roll department, as a deaconess, and on the social committee. Sandy loved all types of music. She'd often play classical music and opera on the radio, making up her own words and sound effects if she didn't know the lyrics. She sang soprano in her church choir for many years. Christian songs, pop standards, country music, were all enjoyed.

Her children learned to play the piano as she had, and later they learned band instruments. She wanted her grandchildren, Hayden and Harrison, to appreciate music and encouraged them with music lessons throughout the years. Later, just for fun, she learned to play the trombone because a friend had given her one. Her favorite instrument, however, remained the clarinet. For over 30 years, the Walla Walla Valley Bands were an important part of her life and she enjoyed the friendships she

made there. She was the band's vice president for nine years and received the Ronald L. Ray Memorial Award in 2001 and the Director's Award for 2002-2003.

Sandy's love of music was nurtured during her time at Upper Columbia Academy. The memories created there were very special to her. She and Don looked forward to school reunions and connecting with old friends.

The Sandra Gibson Paulson Scholarship was established by her husband Don, her daughter Rochelle "Shelly," and son-in-law Rhett Unger, also an alumnus of UCA. The scholarship honors Sandy's love of music and her terrific memories of Upper Columbia Academy. To be eligible for this scholarship, students must meet the following criteria:

1. Is currently enrolled at Upper Columbia Academy.
2. Is involved in music at Upper Columbia Academy. For the purpose of this criteria, the student is not required to be in a music ensemble, but may be involved in other activities, such as playing an instrument or leading in singing during school worship services.
3. Has financial need.

Family and friends who wish to honor Sandy's life may do so by making a contribution to the Sandra Gibson Paulson Scholarship Fund. The scholarship is established through FoundationONE, and donations can be made at: FoundationONEUCA.org/give-now/ and choose the Sandra Gibson Paulson Scholarship Fund.

To donate through Venmo:

@FoundationONE and add a note that it's for the Sandra Gibson Paulson Fund.

Or use the Venmo QR Code ►

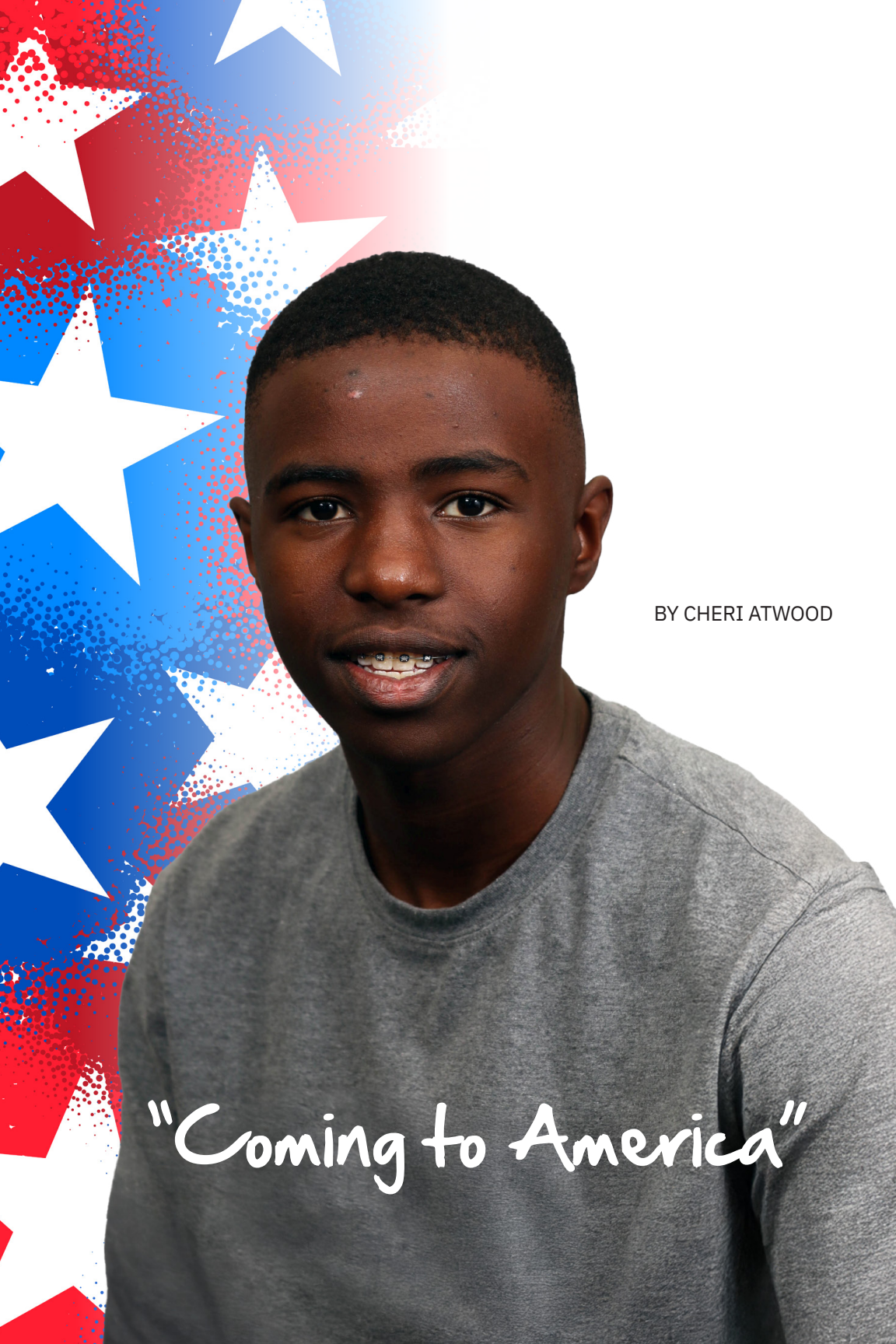
To Donate by Mail:

FoundationONE
PO Box 744
Post Falls, ID 83877

Make checks payable to FoundationONE and put Sandra Gibson Paulson Fund in the Memo Line.




venmo



BY CHERI ATWOOD

"Coming to America"



tha Madakiwe, a freshman at Upper Columbia Academy, was born in Zimbabwe, and has been in the United States for three years. He has seen and experienced several cultures before settling in Florence, OR.

Mtha lived in Zimbabwe for one year, then the family were missionaries in Egypt for six years where Mtha went to school for grades K-1st. They were there during the 2011 Arab Spring uprising, and saw God's protecting hand over their family. Navigating this uprising was even more challenging because the family didn't know the local language. From there they went to Lebanon, where Mtha attended 2nd - 5th grades at Adventist School Bouchrieh. His 6th-8th grade years were spent in Florence, OR. Each country brought experiences that have shaped Mtha and prepared him to be part of boarding school and the various cultures there. Because he faced new social and educational environments so often, he has learned adaptability, confidence, and a loving acceptance for people of all backgrounds. Having lived in warmer climates all his

life, he has found acclimating to the weather of the Pacific Northwest to be one of his bigger challenges.

UCA was introduced to him by Sarah and Simon Lasu – the aunt of Kinnon and Kendrick Saunders, who were students at UCA at that time. An Adventist education is important to both Mtha and his family. He wanted to be in a place where he could use his talents in music and sports to glorify God. Mtha plays the violin in the UCA orchestra and has participated in both soccer and basketball. He was excited that the soccer team went to the state finals and even though he was on the JV basketball team, he played "swing" on the varsity team. Most important to him though is God.

Arriving on campus, Mtha knew only one other person, but as the year has progressed, he has been open to



any opportunity for involvement that has come along and has made many friends. Despite being a new student, he was elected Chaplain of his class, which is a testament to how quickly students can be accepted into the UCA family, and to his desire to share God with others. He feels it is such a blessing to be able to lead out in various worships. He also serves as freshman representative on the Boy's Dorm Council. Mtha's level of involvement at UCA shows the kind of person God is shaping him to be.

The other aspect of boarding school Mtha loves is dorm life! He thoroughly enjoys meeting and getting to know everyone in the dorm. He is grateful for the freshman hall, because it provides an opportunity for him to really bond with his classmates. Being able to hang out in each other's rooms talking, playing guitars and singing brings him joy and a closeness he has not experienced. Mtha counts it such a blessing to be able to share about his love for God, because he desires to be a godly leader who leads others to know Jesus.

There have been challenges for Mtha and his family to overcome transitioning from one country to another. The ultimate challenge was getting here to America. They were unable to secure two work visas, which has made being here a financial challenge. Supporting a family of four on a single salary today is almost impossible, much less wanting to send Mtha and his sister to an SDA school. But "with God all things are possible." Mtha's parents were committed to providing a Christian education for their children, especially during the very formative teenage years. They know the importance establishing a lifelong relationship with Jesus, along with learning Bible ethics and values.

Mtha has always enjoyed learning about computers. He also enjoys helping with the operation of the church PA system, along with the software used in the church service. While attending his school in Florence, he helped with the computer program they used. He also helped raise funds to purchase a new PA system for his church.

When I asked Mtha what some of his most memorable events have been this year, he did not hesitate to say the Christmas concert at the Fox Theater was a favorite. "It is such a beautiful venue, and the stage is so big. It was a privilege to be a part of it all!"

Algebra is one of his favorite classes and it has a lot to do with Mr. Gladding and the way he emphasizes the point that making mistakes is alright. "We all make mistakes, but we learn by cor-

recting and learning from them,” says Gladding. Mtha resonates with that philosophy for life in general.

Mtha’s family describes how they have seen Mtha grow and change over this year, as he has become more confident in sharing his love for God with others. At the end of their family worship during Mtha’s first home leave in October, he willingly stood up and began relating a story of sharing God with his peers at UCA.

Mtha’s multicultural background has contributed significantly to his ability to focus on positive aspects in each person. This enables one to live more confidently and joyfully, looking out for the needs of others, and supporting them, as Paul says in Philippians 2:4. Mtha wants to be a doctor and what an important quality this is for that profession! He would like to continue to incorporate his love for IT into his life and future practice.

Because Mtha is on an R2 visa, he is unable to work on campus. Financial

aid is essential for the family. But it doesn’t mean Mtha sits idly by. During the summer of 2024, he volunteered at Milo Adventist Academy in their farm program, helped in the custodial department, and ran the PA system at the church. The family is so grateful and appreciative of the financial aid structure set up by UCA, along with the generous matching donations from their local church. Because of this support, the Madakiwe’s did not have to consider public school as an educational option for their children.

Nyasha, Mtha’s father said, “when I look at FoundationONE and the school at large, I’m impressed by their commitment to helping students grow in their walk with God, and doing it in such a structured way, that provides families with much-needed financial aid.” Mtha is grateful to FoundationONE for making it financially possible for him to continue in Christian education.

Mtha, may God continue to be your inspiration and guide as you live for Him each day.





HORSING AROUND

BY CHERI ATWOOD

Holly Haeger is the Equestrian Program's director for UCA and Camp Mivoden. She joined the staff in 2020 and splits her time between UCA and Mivoden. This partnership is beneficial to both the school and camp as it provides Camp Mivoden's horses the opportunity to have somewhere to go and something to do during the winter months and allows for horses to be available for the students when they do not own their own or have the means to bring their horse to school.



The program is beneficial to students for many reasons. Holly shared there are two students in the program who have been medically prescribed equine therapy as part of their educational program at UCA. Horses – like dogs, and other intelligent nonhuman creatures – are keenly tuned in to people and their emotions. In addition to emotional support, there are numerous physical benefits to horseback riding, including cardiovascular and core strength, reduced blood pressure, and stress, and increased balance and coordination. Currently, three students have their own horses boarded at the equestrian center though there have been as many as eight depending on enrollment. The barn/arena was built to attract students who live in rural areas or who want to work with horses as part of their educational experience. It is good for these students to have a little bit of home while they are away at school.

This current school year there are 20 students enrolled in the equestrian program. Of the 20, a high number are considered beginners – little to no experience with horses. Holly says, “many of the beginners have fully enjoyed learning about horses, how to work with them, communicate with them, and ride them.” The class gives the students consistent responsibility because they

learn to care for a horse’s daily needs. Some of the students enroll because they have an interest in becoming a veterinarian or working in the animal welfare industry, and this gives them some exposure to large animals. Some want to pursue Biology, and they can learn about the makeup, function, and delicate systems of a horse. Most, however, have had a childhood dream of having a horse, but because of the expense or lack of space are not able to. Whatever the reason, it is obvious that the equestrian program at UCA fills a need for the students who take the class.

Students who own a horse are encouraged to bring theirs for boarding. It is good for them to have their horse close by so they can continue to work with them regularly. Some compete during the summer months, so by having their horse close by, they can get them



competition ready. UCA usually gets 3-5 kids who live on farms in rural areas who are likely to bring their own horse with them to school, and 7-10 enroll specifically for the equestrian program. Two programs are currently offered: vaulting and riding. There are scholarships available to take the class for a full year. At least one semester is required for enrollment.

There are on-going needs for the equestrian program. The barn building itself was never completed in its initial construction. It needs to be insulated to prevent the rain and cold from getting in and protect the longevity of the building. In the winter months it should have a barn specific heater to regulate both moisture and extreme temperatures. Holly says it would be helpful to have a classroom where anatomy can be taught, along with a place where the students can clean the tack - horse equipment. There are ongoing annual financial needs like funds for feed, horse care and equipment, and large equipment needs including a large flat-bed trailer to haul hay, and a truck to haul



hay and horses. Donations to the scholarship program are appreciated. Holly specifically mentioned the need for donated tack that is in good condition.

Holly enjoys what she does, and she is especially blessed to see how horses can bring the joy of learning to the students who are or have been a part of UCA's Equestrian program. She sees the value of a very real, hands-on (non-computer-related) opportunity the kids get, along with building confidence they might not have received otherwise. The responsibility of taking care of a 1,200 lb. animal is immense. Holly expressed her appreciation to FoundationONE's donation that helped the initial barn be built. She also expressed how grateful she is for any funds that come to the equestrian program.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, MAY 18 — PORTLAND AREA UCA ALUMNI CONNECTION BRUNCH

10:00 a.m. — Monarch Hotel, 12566 SE 93rd Ave,
Clackamas, OR 97015

Enjoy a complimentary meal, be blessed by music performances from UCA students, reminisce with UCA friends, and hear what is currently happening at your alma mater.

TO RSVP: Cheri.Atwood@ucaa.org

MAY 23 — UCA SACRED CHORAL & INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT

7:30 p.m. — Spokane Valley SDA Church

MAY 24 — UCA ENSEMBLE CONCERT

7:30 p.m. — UCA Church

MAY 24 — UCA ACRO SOUL HOME SHOW

9:15 p.m. UCA Gymnasium

JUNE 6-8 — UPPER COLUMBIA ACADEMY GRADUATION WEEKEND

FRIDAY: 7:30 p.m. — *Consecration*

SABBATH: 11:00 a.m. — *Baccalaureate*

9:15 p.m. — *Class Night*

SUNDAY: 10:00 a.m. — *Commencement*

SEPTEMBER 26,27 — UCA ALUMNI WEEKEND



BY DEAN KRAVIG

CARL & TERESA WILKENS WORLD CHANGERS

“God, I’m just going to trust you with my life and my family, and you will be their husband and father if I’m killed.”

That prayer of surrender gave Carl Wilkens profound peace during the 100 days of the 1994 Rwandan Genocide against the Tutsi. This is the story of how Carl and Teresa came to Rwanda and how God used that horrific experience to bring healing and restoration to thousands around the world.

When Carl Wilkens graduated from Upper Columbia Academy in 1976,

he had no idea how dramatically his world would change or how God would use him and his wife, Teresa (Appley) Wilkens, 77, to impact the lives of so many.

Carl arrived at UCA his senior year from Pennsylvania, knowing no one. Yet, he quickly found a sense of belonging thanks to the open and welcoming spirit at UCA and in the Pacific Northwest.

One of Carl's most influential classes was Luke Fessenden's Bible class. Mr. Fessenden was real and authentic, Carl recalls. He made faith feel personal and practical. This authenticity planted seeds of a faith that would sustain Carl in unimaginable ways during his time in Rwanda.

Carl's memories of UCA are filled with vespers and afterglow, Saturday night activities, gymnastics, and service opportunities. One such event was a Christmas banquet, where disabled children were invited to share the feast and receive presents. Little did Carl know that Teresa Appley, his date for that banquet, would be one of the greatest gifts God has given him in life.

Outside of the classroom, Carl loved motorcycling and rebuilding vehicles. As a village student, he rode his motorcycle to school daily until the snow made it too dangerous. "Every morning when I arrived at Harris Pine Mills, I would stand in front of the large space heater to warm up my backside before going to work," he laughs.

In the campus shop, Carl spent countless hours with John Hamel, working on cars and soaking in life lessons. One day, as they pored over Chilton's manuals, struggling to diagnose a vehicle's problem, Mr. Hamel finally said, "you know Carl, sometimes I just kneel down and ask God for help." That simple act was one of many at UCA that Carl attributes to an unending faith

journey that's still full of questions and one truth - the unconditional love of God.

Carl Wilkens initially dreamed of running a fix-it shop but, encouraged by his parents, attended Walla Walla College, earning a degree in Industrial Arts, a minor in Business, and a Secondary Education Certification. Soon after marrying his high school sweetheart, Teresa, the couple began their first missionary journey to Africa, launching an industrial education program in Zimbabwe, where their first daughter, Mindy, was born. After political unrest forced them to leave, they served at Yuka Mission Hospital in Zambia, where their second daughter, Lisa, was born. Returning to the U.S., Carl earned an MBA from the University of Baltimore, and their son, Shaun, was born. By 1990, the family of five moved to Rwanda, where Carl became the ADRA director. Embraced by the warmth and hospitality of the Rwandan community, they quickly settled in, building connections and continuing their commitment to service.





A UCA World Changer Story

Then, on April 7, 1994, the presidents' plane was shot down and extremists launched a genocide against the Tutsi minority group that would claim more than one million lives. At the end of the first day, in the pitch dark, a gang gathered at the Wilkens' gate, intent on killing them. Unbeknownst to Carl and Teresa, neighbor women stopped these men by telling stories of kindness the Wilkens family had shown and how their children played together. When Carl and Teresa learned of this the next morning, they were humbled by how

**“I’LL NEVER FORGET
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CARL RECALLS.**

God had used their neighbor’s courage to save their lives.

Within days, the young Wilkens family faced a heart-wrenching decision: leave or risk staying. Two Tutsi employees who worked in their home would almost certainly be killed if abandoned. The embassies had made it clear that no Rwandans could leave with the American convoys. Together Teresa and Carl decided that he would stay and she would take their children to safety in Nairobi, Kenya.

“I’ll never forget standing with Teresa at our bedroom window, looking at the cityscape and thinking, ‘this is what it’s come to, and this is the right thing to do’”, Carl recalls. “In every situation, we have a choice. I was so blessed to have Teresa making that choice with me. In many ways, her decision to leave was even harder than mine.”

By April 10, Carl was the only American left in Kigali, Rwanda. He spent the next hundred days navigating militia checkpoints, negotiating for supplies, and working tirelessly with his ADRA co-workers to protect as many lives as possible. In those dark days, the seeds of faith planted at UCA and nurtured by experiences in Africa bore fruit.

One of the most powerful testimonies to Carl’s faith and courage came from Laura Lane, a U.S. Embassy officer in Rwanda at the time. “I remember talking on the open line back to European



Command and the State Department about Carl's decision, and many of the folks saying "did you accurately convey the situation? Does he truly understand the decision he's making?" And I remember saying back to them, "he does, and that is why he's staying. Because he believes that if he keeps a presence there, if he keeps that mission open, that he can make a difference." Lane went on to say, "I really wished, in hindsight that we would have done at the American Embassy, what Carl had done, at his home. It is probably my greatest regret that we didn't keep the embassy open. What a world of difference we could have made if we would have maintained that American presence."

The story of how God led and protected Carl and his family during the genocide is told beautifully in the documentary, "I'm Not Leaving": www.youtube.com/watch?v=P8diFeGD0FY

Please watch it to further understand the background for the rest of the Wilkens' story.

When they returned to the United States permanently in 1996, Carl took a position at Milo Academy as Chaplain. In 2004 the Wilkens's story reached wider audiences through the PBS Frontline documentary, "Ghosts of Rwanda". Invitations from schools around the country began to come in and by 2008 Carl and Teresa left Milo Academy after 11 rewarding years and founded World Outside My Shoes, an educational non-

profit dedicated to promoting empathy, understanding, and restorative thinking.

For 15 years Carl has been taking holocaust and genocide teachers from American public and private schools to Rwanda to see firsthand how they are building unity and sustainable peace.

As humans, our instinctive response to horrific acts like genocide is often punitive. However, punitive justice rarely leads to healing, much less break the cycles of violence. So how are the people of Rwanda breaking these powerful cycles of violence and finding healing? Carl shares both individual stories and government strategies, based on restorative justice. The government, in cooperation with local communities, restored a physically safe society after the genocide and the people continue to work for an emotionally safe society where harm can be unpacked. Harm of the past, the present, and potentially the future. Rwanda knows that ordinary people can be equipped and convinced to kill their neighbors. They are now showing the world that ordinary people can also be equipped and convinced to heal their neighborhoods. In many ways they are following Jesus' example of addressing the root causes of harm to bring true healing. Harm so often stems from pain, and it's ridiculous to think you could punish the pain out of someone. Restorative practices are our best chance at finding freedom from anger and resentment.



A UCA World Changer Story

The trauma of the genocide showed up personally for Carl in various ways and he is so grateful that he finally got past various stigma's 20 years ago and let God work through counseling to bring tools, strategies and healing. Counseling, journaling, and an incredibly supportive family and friend network are his big three on the journey out of trauma and grief.

Yet healing also came unexpectedly for Carl in the classrooms where he is sharing Rwanda's stories. Because Carl spends most of his time with non-religious groups, he has found God leading him to a new vocabulary in order to share Christ's teachings. For example, when students ask if he still believes in God, or where was God during the genocide, he responds with, "Great question! You know the three letter word – 'God' means so many different things to different people, what if we ask, 'can we find any evidence of love in the genocide stories?'" That often brings the conversation out of the theoretical seeking of God in the sky, to looking into the hearts of those who stood up for the victims. Carl then shares how "GOD" is his framework for love and invites people to explore what their framework might be. His "descriptive" approach, describing his own personal journey, has been far more relatable and positive than a prescriptive approach.

In recent months, when asked how neighbors could turn on neighbors, he shares the idea of a love-core in each person. And how that love-core gets buried by abuse and all forms of injustices to the point that many people are not even aware of its existence, and we create a false-self that we live out of. The conversations easily turn to exploring the possibility of a love-core in ourselves and others and with time even considering the love/God framework and what it might mean to be created in the unerasable image of God.

Rwanda 2019, several years before love-core was part of Carl's vocabulary, he was leading a group of educators visiting a reconciliation village. That day they met Maria and will undoubtedly never forget her story. Maria survived the genocide with her little girl and is often described as strong, courageous and resilient. With a beautiful smile she gracefully introduced everyone to Philbert, a man she called a valued family friend. Later they would learn he had participated in the murder of Maria's husband and sons. Yet Maria spoke of Philbert not as a monster, but as a changed man who had played a crucial role in her healing.

We all talk about reconciliation, but looking into the face of Philbert, and vividly remembering the 100 days of rape, torture, and murder was too much for Carl. He caught himself subconsciously countering every positive thing

Maria said about Philbert with a negative thought. When she spoke of how he helped in planting and harvesting, Carl was thinking, “That’s the least he could do.” And when she talked about Philbert doing things for her around the home like her sons would’ve done, Carl was thinking, “Yeah, well if he hadn’t killed them they would be here to do it for you.” It was only after journaling — code for prayer since he journals to God — that he realized he held a false subconscious belief that if you say something positive about someone who has committed a horrific crime, you are in some way diminishing the seriousness of the crime and the persons’ accountability. Once he actually wrote this out he could see just how twisted the idea was, it simply wasn’t true. But it was powerful as long as it remained subconscious.

After Maria finished telling her story, Carl had the opportunity to talk one-on-one with her. She could see he was struggling to see Philbert as anything other than a murderer. “The turning point with Philbert,” Maria said, “Actually came when he helped me find where my husband and sons were buried.” Now, when Maria sees Philbert, she sees more than a murderer, she sees someone who played a crucial role in her healing.

Then, in a final effort to help Carl see Philbert as more than one thing, more

than the worst thing he had ever done, Maria said, “It’s wonderful to be part of making someone beautiful again. And this man is beautiful.”

Although Carl didn’t know it then, he now sees how he was questioning whether someone like Philbert could have a “love core” — that God’s love through Maria could actually uncover the un-erasable image of God in this man.

Carl often begins his conversations with students by saying, “Genocides stem from the belief that my world would be better without you in it.” However, today in Rwanda we are seeing how “Trust stems from thinking that say my world is better with you in it.”

Through World Outside My Shoes, Carl and Teresa work to help people grapple with these ideas in their own lives and communities.

What kind of love stops killers at his gate, leads neighbors to risk their lives, and transforms murderers into agents of healing? The restorative love of Jesus Christ.

To invite Carl to speak at your school, church, or workplace, visit worldoutsidemyschools.org. If you feel moved to support their ministry, you can do so through the Donate link on their website.

“Igniting the World” Campaign UPDATE

The Igniting the World Campaign officially ended on December 31, 2024, and has been a great blessing to FoundationONE and Upper Columbia Academy. Thank you for your generosity that made these a reality. You are a blessing to UCA!

Final totals will be presented in the summer Connections, but here are a few statistics that tell the story of the campaign:

1. FoundationONE was blessed by over **three hundred new donors** during the Igniting the World Campaign, who gave a total of **\$903,794.92**.

2. The needs of the campaign inspired **224 donors to re-new their giving** to FoundationONE and UCA. They gave a total of **\$956,281.71**.

Especially in the current economic conditions, we say, Praise God from Whom all these blessings flow!

3. 4 New Named Scholarships were established:

- Nancy Driscoll Engle Memorial Scholarship

- Tony Henneberg Memorial Scholarship
- Daniel Neil Memorial Scholarship
- Sandra Gibson-Paulson Memorial Scholarship

4. FoundationONE’s working relationship with UCA and the Upper Columbia Conference has improved, and both UCA and FoundationONE have received more funding together than we have apart. The partnership has been excellent for both.

FoundationONE and UCA are both indebted to the UCC for their funding of various aspects of the campaign, and for their ongoing support of UCA.



Water Towers **UPDATE**

Thanks to our faithful alumni and donors, we have currently raised \$1,140,000.00 of the \$1.7 million for the new water system.

Construction will now begin after the spring thaw, and we should have the new water system up and running by the end of the summer.

In February the smaller, iconic water tower had to be drained because of an irreparable leak, which makes the urgency of the new towers even greater.

Please join us in giving what you can to help raise the final \$560,000 to complete the entire system. Our desire is to save UCA from the financial burden of borrowing money to fund the new water towers, and we are grateful for all who have chosen to give generously during this campaign.

SAVE THE DATE

2025 BOB LARRABEE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday, September 26, 2025

9:30 a.m. Shotgun Start

Latah Creek Golf Course

Field will be limited to the first 128 players.

NEW FOR 2025!

**A Women's Category with trophies for the Women's Teams
(Ladies, sign up and invite your friends!)**





EST 1969



LATAH CREEK

GOLF COURSE



Your Support Is Making A Difference!



Words of Gratitude from Student Recipients and Parents

"I'm grateful for FoundationONE because it has allowed me to experience something I never would have imagined before. I was able to go to a different country, get a higher education and learn more about God while getting to know more people with the same beliefs as I have. It has truly been a blessing for me and my parents, and without FoundationONE I would not be able to afford being at UCA. I know God works through this organization to help others experience the blessing of being at UCA."

"As a single parent whose former spouse does not help with Adventist education, the support from FoundationONE has been a gift from God. My children each stepped out in faith by declaring their desire and intention to attend Upper Columbia Academy, and I believe that God led them in that choice. Through FoundationONE, He also clearly provided the funds to make it happen. The generous support we've received has helped two four-year seniors journey through the wonderful, life-changing experience that is high school at UCA, and for that I am filled with gratitude. May God continue to bless and prosper FoundationONE, its staff, all the donors, and all the students and families who are blessed by its mission!"

"It is very important to me that my daughter attend not just a Christian School but an SDA Academy because the Sabbath is not just the LORDS day but a sign between us and God that we are his people and He our God and it is The Seal of God! It would not have even been a possibility for her to attend without the loving kindness of The LORD working through Foundation One to help us!! We will be eternally grateful to Upper Columbia Academy and Foundation One Grant support for the life changing opportunities that have opened up to my daughter a new world of possibilities to become a converted believer in Christ Jesus! I tell my daughter all the time that the most important education is getting to know Jesus as your best friend!"

As it is written in Jeremiah 9:23,24 – *"Thus says the LORD let not the wise man glory in his wisdom neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches, but let him who glories glory in this, that he knows and understands me, that I am the LORD which exercise loving kindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth: for in these things I delight, says the LORD.' Amen!"*

"FoundationONE has all of my gratitude; without them I would be a completely different person. Their support has allowed my family and I to have financial stability when it comes to my education. They have also allowed me to experience many forms of personal growth. I pray that future students who need FoundationONE's help are able to experience their kindness as well."

"FoundationONE is an amazing organization that has made it possible for me to explore my spiritual life at UCA. FoundationONE's altruistic motives changed my life, they have blessed my family and it has taught me that there are people to support us in our time of need."

"Last year I received a Bill and Judy Putnum scholarship for students from single-parent families, and a couple of other general scholarships. If I hadn't received these scholarships I would not have been able to continue with my education at Upper Columbia Academy. I am very grateful for these scholarships because I love attending UCA and being in classes with my friends and the teachers."

"I am very grateful for FoundationONE for all the help in making UCA a possibility for my kids! They have loved being at UCA. Their classes are fine, but they are not the main reason my kids like UCA. For them, the best part of UCA is the extra opportunities outside the regular classes: the friendships with fellow believers, extracurricular activities, Bible studies, class events, the music program, senior survival, godly teachers and staff who take a personal interest in them, and more. Without FoundationONE and all the financial help, my kids would not have been able to attend UCA. I am so grateful for generous donors who have helped to give my kids this opportunity of a lifetime to attend UCA and to make these lifelong memories. Thank you!"



FoundationONE
ONE MISSION. UCA STUDENTS.

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FoundationONE's Mission

One Dream
Enhancing UCA

One Focus
UCA Students

One School
Upper Columbia Academy

One Method
Endowment

One Process
Grants/Scholarships

One Goal
Future Leaders

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