





For table sponsorship information,

contact Krista Phillips

krista.phillips@ucaa.org

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**UCA Alumni Office** Shelley Bacon, Director Kris Phillips, Incoming Director 509-245-3692



This year, UCA is blessed to have an increase in enrollment! With that blessing however, comes a need for additional support and financial aid. Over 60% of our students are here due to the generosity of churches, families, friends and alumni. Without your regular support of our worthy student fund, we simply would not be able to operate.

Your gift, no matter how small, directly impacts our students lives. I recently had a family come into my office and share with me that they were unable to make their tuition payment due to some unexpected medical bills. They were amazed to find out that a donor had just sent in a check



for \$1,000 with a note that instructed the school to use the funds to help a family in need. God is so good! Their daughter was able to stay in school due to the generosity of a donor who allowed God to use them.





It was 1974 at Maplewood Academy in Minnesota when as a 10th grader I experienced my first alumni weekend. As I watched "old" people arrive on campus, embrace old friends, walk around pointing and talking about "their" school, I was both impressed and inspired. I was loving my

academy experience, and I started dreaming of what my 10th reunion would be like. Who would be married? Who might have children? What degrees would we have chosen? I started looking forward to this first big reunion when it was still 13 years away. When my 10 year reunion rolled around, my family was getting ready to move to Malawi, Africa, to serve as missionaries. I sent my husband Barry on ahead of me and I stayed behind with our two young children because I wasn't going to miss this important date!

Fast forward to 2018, and I was given the awesome responsibility of planning an alumni weekend for another great school: UCA! I came to love this school as my four children walked through its doors and my family participated in all the activities and events an excellent boarding school like UCA has to offer.

For most of the past year and a half, I have had the privilege of serving here, either from my home in Colville or full-time on campus. Though I am transitioning back home, I will continue to be involved in various projects at UCA and will always support students through the hourly-work scholarship program and other scholarships. My time at UCA has been incredibly rewarding, first serving as the recruiter and then adding the alumni job to my recruiting tasks, and finally being the alumni director and the assistant to the recruiter. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know prospective students, current students, and former students. My life is richer because of all of you. I will stand ready to assist UCA when needed and will always love and support this great school.

I encourage you to reach out to our NEW alumni director, Krista Phillips, and give her a hearty UCA welcome! As you consider your year-end giving, I would encourage you to remember the students of Upper Columbia Academy. The gift you give truly changes lives! All gifts are tax deductible. If you wish to receive a tax deduction for 2109, please make sure your letter is postmarked December 31, 2019 or earlier.

#### UCA is so blessed by the generosity of our

**alumni!** Thank you for what you do to help kids be here at Upper Columbia Academy.



### An introduction to the incoming ALUMNI DIRECTOR Krista Phillips

It is with great pleasure that we introduce your new alumni director, Krista Phillips. Kris is no stranger to UCA. Though Kris didn't graduate from UCA, as many of her family members did before her, she did attend most of her freshman year before moving back east with her family. She continued her journey at UCA in 2004 as the janitor supervisor and transitioned to a contract piano teacher position in 2008. During her early years here, her two sons Tommy and Tyler Dalrymple attended Upper Columbia Academy Elementary School across the street from UCA. Later, they both enrolled at UCA and graduated in 2013 and 2016 respectively. Through her piano teaching experience as well as her positive interaction with students, Kris came to know and love many students who passed through the halls of UCA, and they loved her right back!

After spending 10 years as the piano teacher, Kris took on another challenging role, that of Administrative Assistant to the principal, Eric Johnson. In this role, she has had the opportunity to get better acquainted with all the students, not just primarily the ones involved in music or piano. Additionally, as the yearbook editor, she worked closely with the yearbook staff to produce the 2019 issue of The Echo Log.

Because UCA's relationship with its alumni is so important to the school, it was decided that the alumni director role should be a full-time position. So, along with



keeping the yearbook advisor position and taking on other roles as necessary, Kris has accepted this vital task of connecting with YOU, the alumni!

Kris says, "I look forward to connecting with the alumni, getting to know you, and serving you in this role."

Join us in welcoming Kris as your new Alumni Director!

### - UPPER COLUMBIA



If you ever attended UCA, you are sure to have memories of the girls' dorm chapel! Over the years, it has been the backdrop for countless worships, Sabbath School classes, and meetings. Now this space is getting a facelift. The ceiling and walls are freshly painted, and new carpet tiles are being installed. New chairs and a projector, screen, and sound system will also be added. The renovation will make this space much more versatile and welcoming. "Our hope is that the project will be finished in time for Family Weekend, right before Thanksgiving break," says Dani Rivera, Assistant Dean of Women. According to Rivera, the girls are meeting for worship each night in the dorm lobby, which is definitely not large enough to comfortably accommodate the 87 girls in residence.

Plans are coming together for renovating the entire girls' dorm, recently named Lacey Hall after our beloved Florence Lacey. Pledges for this project currently total \$500,000. The dorm will receive new carpets and fresh paint throughout, and all the bathrooms will be remodeled. The project will begin as soon as the funds become available. The oldest portion of the dorm was built in the mid-1940's, with additions coming in later years. Major updates are long overdue and will be greatly welcomed and appreciated.

**Krista Phillips** 



If you have visited UCA's campus and the UCA church in the past year, you may have seen some interesting cylindrical-shaped plastic things projecting from the ground around the creek. To learn more about these temporary additions to campus, a little background education is helpful.

As UCA made strides toward implementing a proven edu-

cational method called "Project-based Learning," an organization known as The Lands Council helped create an excellent opportunity for hands-on learning by offering biology students a chance to help the local environment. The Lands Council is a non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve and revitalize forests, water, and wildlife in the area.

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You've doubtless heard the saying, "The more the merrier." Back before 1945, however, the "more" at Yakima Valley Academy created a need to relocate the school to a larger facility. Pastor Mote, the head of the school, was able to find the current UCA location and miraculously be the only bidder, winning the land, the buildings, and a bonus 15 hogs that were sold to fund the school's first year, all for \$100,000!

Ever since 1945 when God gave the farm to Pastor Mote, He has been blessing the school as it grows. Fast forward 74 years to 2019 where we are welcoming the biggest freshman class in the history of UCA. This year the school is home to 234 students, 56 of which are in the freshman class. Kicking off the year with freshman retreat, UCA has been able to foster these kids' growth, as people, students, workers, and children of God.

Class night was a night to remember for the freshman dressed head to toe in green and holding their own in the rigorous challenges presented to all four classes. It created a sense of belonging and camaraderie early in the year. Creating the feeling of a team and working together since day one has been a crucial part in these kids adjusting to high school and dormitory life. Since then, they have been able to hone their skills in volleyball, soccer, band, choir, gymnastics, horsemanship, and lots of other



campus activities, along with receiving an outstanding education at one of the finest academies in the nation. As the year progresses, a family forms and UCA starts to be a home away from home - and here's hoping the school keeps on growing. It is really true what they say: "The more the merrier!"

Esther Bell



and shrubs along the banks of the creek, giving them names by writing on the plastic "sleeves" that would stay in place to protect the young plants from deer and rodents until they were established enough to stand on their own.

This year's biology class, picked up the torch and planted another 150 mountain alder, black cottonwood, dogwood, and red osier trees in October. "Even though it was only 40° outside," says teacher Donivan Andregg, "the kids enjoyed an opportunity to be outside the classroom doing something that didn't involved textbooks and paper."

It is the goal of The Lands Council, through this project, to stabilize the creek bank from erosion, provide a riparian buffer to lessen chemical runoff from farming, improve the overall quality of the creek for aquatic life, and engage the UCA students with hands-on efforts to improve the local environment. UCA is happy to partner with groups such as this as we move toward project-based education that helps students not only learn information, but also retain it far into the future because what they learned made a difference in the world.

### - ALUMNI HOMECOM



Marie (Merth) Martin, class of 1944, with Eric Johnson, principal.

*Impressions of alumni homecoming:* ""I really enjoyed seeing the smiles on people's faces when they were reunited with their old friends." Caitlin Krause 2023





# 1940'S - 50'S



*Left to right:* Ray Leadbetter, Betty (McGinnis) Wood, Dick Molstead, Phyllis (Jepson) Stanyer, Bud Weijohn.

### Honor Class of 1959

*First row, left to right:* Allis (Boyes) Rickey, Darlene (Momb) Hall, Verla (Olson) Bennett, Louise (Cowin) Bartholomewm, Sherlene (Gourley) Carr, Norma (Bolton) Wendt, Sandra (Gibson) Paulson, Sandra Ratliff, Charles Ainsworth. Second row, left to right: Alfred Pease, Billie (Fowler) Ferster, Georgene (Thompson) Bond, Carol (Cobb) Paulson, Cleon White, Dot (Steen) Schroeder, Jerry Schroeder, Millie (Durheim) Williams. Third row, left to right: Wally Mandigo, Ken Iblings, Dixie (Biggar) Plata, Lou (Rasmussen) Sample, Barbara (Jenicke) Morphis, Ann (Weinand) Schnibbe, Dan Knapp, William Judd, Lou Williams, John Fackenthall. Fourth row, left to right: Ron Turner, Alfred Schroetlin, Glenn Dutro, Robert Tapley.

### ING SPECIAL ISSUE -







Impressions of alumni homecoming: "It was awesome to see so many people who were in the same place that I am now, many years ago." Gabrielle Townsend 2023













Impressions of alumni homecoming: "When you are here the snow seems warm. When you are here I feel like I have a friend." Owen Officer 2023













**Honor Class of 1964** *Left to right:* Bill Cowin, Michael Pierce, Gayla (Matthews) Whitlock, Gail Clark, Harold Larson, Elaine (Gibson) Green..

### Honor Class of 1969

First row, left to right: (Anderson) Lynette Gordon, Beth (Ottman) Smith, Paula (Oss) Oltman, Kathleen (Klein) Spring, Jim Scholz, Michael Dunlop, Lynnette (Schoepflin) Malott, Carolee (Axford) Arslanian, Back row, left to right: Chuck Smith, Gary Gibson, Sylvia (Clark) Gibson, Sandy (Beck) Cramer, Ken Cramer, Ken Kyle, Robin Parks-Kyle, Raylene (Myers) Eilers, Kandy (Zolber) Nelson, Elaine (Angel) Huey.

**Impressions of alumni homecoming:** "The reunion was very nice, but the snow made it all the more interesting. The sermon was interesting and I really enjoyed the speaker." Katie Bunn 2023













Tamara Eiseman ♥♥♥ ♥ I love you dear classmates of 1979 from UCA! From being together, I feel that much closer to our Heavenly Father, who is Faithful! God Bless You All.. Until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His Hands! 𝔊 𝔊 𝔊

🔩 🤎 Hugs of love, Tamara 🤫 😂 😀 😀









# 1970'S



1 Comment Seen by 24

#### Honor Class of 1974

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AL MORANTS

*First row, left to right:* Barbara (Kyle) Gren, Judy (Smith) Trudeau, Dixie (Dorner) Hunt. *Second row, left to right:* Keith Owen, Laurie Cummings.

### Honor Class of 1979

First row, left to right: Rhonda (Harris) Irvine, Judy (Shearer) Heinrich, Celeste (Engstrom) Graves, Tamara Eiseman, Terri (Thomas) Weijohn, Dede (Elsom) Anderson, Twila (Threadgill) Brown, Ken Engeberg. Second row, left to right: Jefre Humbert, Elizabeth (Van Dorn) Juhl, Kelly (Allen) Cadwallader, Jim Helein, Janette (Turner) West, Kim Faber. Third row, left to right: Ken Rose, Albert Crook, David Makela, David Makela, Paul Easley, Angela (Schroetlin) Guinn, Harold Hessel, Valerie Harding-Hoe, Marty Knapp, Arlie Eastwood.



SAT, SEP 28 Class of '79 Dinner at Anthony's Anthony's at The Spokane Falls · Spokane



+ Join

























#### Honor Class of 1984

*Front row left to right:* Valerie Bass, Mark Mikkelson, Jennefier (Brown) Shearer. *Second row left to right:* Ronda (Livingston) Harrison, Rebecca Tiffany.

#### Honor Class of 1989

First row, left to right: Danelle (Threadgill) Clark, Angela (Denby) DeWitt, Paula (Story) Elsom, U'Lee Brown, Kathy (Bevins) Bordeaux, Ericka (Carpenter) Freeman, Kurstina (Webb) Mitchell, Elsa (Farver) Redberg, Jennifer (Schroetlin) Wintermeyer, Marty Mathison, Wendy (Rittenbach) Harris, Glee (Houston) Rogers. Second row, left to right: Kristy (Sue) Alm, Lacey (Knaff) Clark, Katie (Howard) Leavitt, Christine (Terwillegar) Haas, Bryan Entze, Karen (Dawes) Cote, Cherie (Kendall) Bevins, Benjamin Fenton. Third row, left to right: Nonie McCandless, Dean McConnachie, Jeff Nelson, Ed Parks, Karen (Brewer) Tarver, Joel Kromrei, Traci (Hoffman) Pope, Lolita (Pope) Fenton, Cheris (Hedrick) Lamberton.





















### Honor Class of 1999

Front row left to right: Courtney (Pellow) James, Jason Stewart, Jamie Miller, Jessica (Davis) Bailey, Loni (Rohloff) Stout, Jody (Straub) Bouma, Brooke (Cummings) Jordan, Brenda (Masters) Munson, (Ashlyn Jenks, class of 2036), Allison Bacon, Breanna (Mayne) Bork, Mike Bork, Kurt Meidinger, Hans Helmstetler, Eli Stanciu, Brandon White, (Hudson William White, 2032), Brad Soule. Second row left to right: Cameron Cook, Adriel (Sherwood) Cook, Sabrina Kiele, Rachelle (Sams) Janke, Angela (Larson) Carlson, Julie (Hogue) Schultz, Suzie (Laporte) Scherer, Julie Hernandez, Sarah (Bowman) Kellogg, Heather (Schultz) Janke, Tamara (Fischer) Helmstetler, Melanie Leiske, Janine Fetke Konomi, (Theodore Konomi, class of 2036), Jim Drake, Traci (Witcombe) Drake, David Lopez. Third row left to right: Jared Brophy, Chris Larsen, Jordan Dovich, (Jacob Dovich, 2036), Sydney Hager, David McNeill, Geoffrey Janke, Jim Wilson, Caleb Foss, Brian Hardin, Nathan Humbert, Daryl Hamilton, Robert George, Michael Kyle, Rex Wren.























Save the date! Mark your calendars for April 26, 2020, and plan to join the UCA Choraliers for a mini-production of Les Miserables. Curtis Anderson, Choral Director, will work with teachers

*and students to design the set and create the costumes. "We are excited to showcase our students and their talents at this year's Spring Gala," says Principal Eric Johnson.* 

- Les Miserables is a French historical novel by Victor Hugo, first published in 1862, that deals with
- the themes of law and grace. "It is an incredible story of redemption," says Anderson. "The Cho-
- raliers will be performing some of the most beautiful music from the play."
- $^{ullet}$  Staff and students alike get involved to help make the evening memorable for our guests. Each  $^{ullet}$
- year, student cafeteria supervisors work closely with our food service director to create the menu
- for the dinner. The food is served by the senior class. A dessert auction is another Gala tradition, ●
- and many of the delicious treats are prepared by our students.
- The Spring Gala is a benefit concert, and all funds raised will be used for students who need finan- •
- cial assistance in order to attend UCA. For more details on how to purchase a table, please contact •
- Krista Phillips by emailing krista.phillips@ucaa.org.

## 2000'S



### Honor Class of 2009:

Front row, left to right: David Gross, Stephen Boswell, Cassandra (Cantrell) Lizzi, Ryan Wilder, Courtney (Balmes) Timms, Devin Mc-Cann, Amy (Walker) Cebuhar. Back row, left to right: Braeden Shipowick, Logan Villarreal, Tess (Lubke) Dudley, Abby (Hochhalter) Lisboa, Jordan Harder, Laura Zenthoefer, Elizabeth (Wagner) Angasan.



As the leaves of autumn start to turn, mater, excitedly looking forward to seeing their classmates, their teachers, and their school again. Whether they have been apart for one year or 50 years, the connections surge back to life and grow stronger.

Alumni homecoming weekend 2019 didn't afford us the best weather (We had a very early dusting of snow!), but that didn't stop hundreds of UCA alums from heading to the wheat fields of Spangle, that they once called their second home, to connect with their friends.



The Friday night program's theme was "Vespers Through the Years." Alumni from a number of honor classes chose one of their favorite vespers songs and led out as the whole congregation joined in singing songs such as "In His Time," "Pass It On," and "Refiner's Fire." The final song brought everyone to their feet as we joined hands and sang "Side by Side," a favorite of decades of UCA grads.

Sabbath morning's program included a number family members as both past and current parents, children, cousins and other relatives all connected to UCA, participated in the program. Eldon David Lopez, class of 1999, shared thoughts on "Remembering the First Time" as he relayed stories both entertaining and meaningful, challenging the listeners to remember their first connection with Jesus.

A lunch of haystacks, complete with birthday cake and cupcakes honoring 105-year-old Dr. Earl Bolton, '30, was followed by the traditional class photos. Then, honor classes met around campus for a relaxing afternoon before going their separate ways to various locations for more socializing and connecting.

The UCA campus and school family waits expectantly for alumni homecoming weekend 2020 when once again all roads point toward Spangle and friends will once more embrace and reconnect.





Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists November 1 at 10:48 AM · 🚱

Congratulations, Laura Pascoe, on your new position with PACS! We will miss you, but we are excited for you as you pursue this calling.



Laura (Marsh) Pascoe, 1996 accepted the exec director position at Portland Adventist Community Services

### Announcement

We are excited to announce that Laura Pascoe has accepted an offer to become the next executive director!

#### Let's give her a BIG PACS Family Welcome!!

World Outside My Shoes Yesterday at 9:35 AM · 🕤

Today Carl Wilkens is in Kigali where he will receive the UNITY AWARD and be recognized as UMURINZI W'IGIHANGO at the national level in Rwanda.

This award is delivered by the Unity Club in collaboration with the National Unity and Reconciliation Commission to individual persons for their outstanding values and contribution to preserving unity of Rwandans.

Unity Club is the organization founded and chaired by Mme Jeannette Kagame, First Lady of Rwanda, and comprising current and former Cabinet Members with their spouses.

For more information about Unity Club, you can visit www.unity-club.org

The award is being presented during the 12th annual Forum of Unity Club be held on Friday 25th October 2019.

Watch live NOW via the links below (Carl will deliver a brief acceptance speech):

Carl Wilkens, 1976

https://www.rba.co.rw/tv https://youtu.be/Ftx\_BICGGrE

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Sorbatto November 5 at 9:01 AM · G

Our Frosty Blue line is nothing like you've ever tasted! All our flavors are packed with up to 90% real fruit, handpicked from our family farm in Yakima Valley, WA.

#familyfarm #yakimavalley #realfruit #heathlykids #familyphoto





Alumnus Erin Benzakein and her husband (also UCA Alumnus) Chris, run a small 2 acre flower farm in the Skagit Valley. The product of their hard work is found in flower markets in the Seattle area, AND caught Martha Stewarts' eye! Proud of you Erin and Chris!



Martha Stewart Living Feature + Meeting Martha + NYC - Floret Flowers

Chris, 1995 and Erin (Perry) Benzakein, 1998

Lisa (Emick) Noland, class of 1985, is the new Executive Director of CHOICES, Inc. Lisa writes, "CHOICES, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit located in Anchorage, Alaska. We serve people who experience mental illness, substance abuse disorder and co-occurring disorders with options such as peer lead groups, in-



Lisa Emick

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...

tensive case management and Lisa community outreach. The community outreach includes going into the homeless camps to offer assistance as we also provide low barrier entry into housing. The services are selected by consumer choice and peer led."



Bud Weijohn Jeff Weijohn Terri Thomas Jerrod Gabel Brady Weijohn Bethany Andrews Spencer Weijohn

Three generations of Weijohns work together on their four-generation family farm and create a fantastic new product, "Sorbatto." Pictured above, left to right: Bud Weijon, '54; Jeff Weijohn, '80; Terri (Thomas) Weijohn, '79; Jerrod Gabel (son of a Weijohn), '00; Brady Weijohn, '08; Bethany (Andrews) Weijohn, '08; and Spencer Weijohn, '12.

~18 ~



**Note from Melissa (Wickenberg) Berry, 2003:** I am the Director of Nutrition Services and Executive Chef. I oversee three programs that provide meals and education to women and children living with food insecurity in the Spokane community. This year we are on target to serve 90,000 meals.



#### Getting AHEAD of cancer: Three women, three stories

Oct 23, 2019

Brenda (Masters) Munson, 1999, was featured in a recent AdventistHealth blog.



☆ > Blog > 2019 > October > Getting AHEAD of cancer: Three

#### Tamara Thomas appointed dean of School of Medicine

By Ansel Oliver- June 26, 2019



f У in

The Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees has appointed Tamara Thomas, MD, to serve as executive vice president for Medical Affairs and dean of the <u>School of Medicine</u> effective July 1. Thomas, an emergency medicine physician, has served as the school's vice dean for academic affairs since 2011.

Thomas will step into the position that was vacated by Roger Hadley, MD, who <u>announced</u> his resignation from the role in March after serving for 16 years.

Thomas, a native of Spokane, Washington, is a professor of the School of Medicine's Department of Emergency Medicine and the department's interim chair. She graduated from the school in 1987 and served a three-year emergency medicine residency at Loma Linda University Medical Center. She is certified by the American Board of Emergency Medicine, and she also holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Walla Walla University in Washington. She has authored or co-authored numerous journal articles and served as a consultant and trainer worldwide.

"Dr. Thomas is a proven academician and clinician who has provided strong leadership to our School of Medicine and medical enterprise," said Richard Hart, MD, DrPH, president of Loma Linda University Health. "We look forward to working with her in this expanded role as executive vice president and dean."

Thomas said, "Loma Linda University School of Medicine has a special mission. I feel honored to step into this important role. I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to healthcare and research, as well as educating the next generation of physicians."

Loma Linda University School of Medicine was founded in 1909 and graduates over 180 medical doctors and research scientists each year.



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#### **CHAPTER** MEETINGS

You are invited to **BRUNCH** at 10:00 with Principal Eric Johnson! Come learn about what's new at UCA, reminisce about old times, and catch up with alum friends!

January 12: Portland Location: Gladstone Camp Meeting

January 26: Walla Walla Location: WWU Alaska Room

March 1: Loma Linda Location: LLU Drayson Center

Contact Krista Phillips for more information: krista.phillips@ucaa.org

ND



**Upper Columbia Academy** 

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Scan the QR code to update your address information and tell us how best to connect with you! Updating your contact information will help save the Alumni Association \$\$\$!