



## WWVA Alumni Newsletter

This newsletter is to connect our Alumni and Friends, share what's happening on our campus and show the positive impact our community has on the world!

Thank you for tuning in.



### WWVA STUDENTS MAKE AN IMPACT

We are so proud of our WWVA students! This year, a group of our students spent their spring break in Garmona, Costa Rica, on our annual mission trip. Our students spent their time building, teaching and connecting with the locals.

One of our students wrote, "This mission trip was so impactful, and I caught so many glimpses of God through the people and nature we were surrounded by. I will not forget God's perfect timing on multiple occasions, like changing our bus stop so that we could find a lady at the next one that needed our prayers. I am so grateful for this opportunity to grow closer to God."

We are so proud of our students for spending their spring break helping others!



### ALUMNI WEEKEND: JUST 6 MONTHS AWAY

We're excited to share that Alumni Weekend is now just six months away—mark your calendars for **October 17-19!**

This year, we'll be honoring the following classes:

- 2015
- 2005
- 2000
- 1995
- 1985
- 1975 and all classes prior.

We're looking forward to another wonderful weekend of connection. We hope you can make it! To let us know you're coming, we invite you to click on the button below to register. Now, let the countdown begin!

[REGISTER](#)



### CATCHING UP WITH JESSICA ARNZEN, CLASS OF '12 ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT

At WWVA, we love hearing what our amazing alumni are up to! For this newsletter, we caught up with Jessica Arnzen, Class of 2012.

Jessica is currently living in Khobar, Saudi Arabia, where she has been teaching for the past eight years. At the end of this school year, she will be leaving Saudi Arabia to begin a new teaching position in Lusaka, Zambia.

In addition to her successful career as an elementary teacher, Jessica has also been active in athletics. She shared, "I have been very lucky to be living in Saudi during this massive transition around sports, but also around women's rights in the country!" Since moving to Saudi, she has witnessed a dramatic cultural shift—from no women exercising outdoors to the nation's ambitious Vision 2030 plan, which aims to increase female participation in sports. Today, women regularly cycle and run on the roads!

During COVID, Jessica was introduced to triathlon. With a strong background in swimming and running, she took to it quickly. As part of Vision 2030, the Saudi Games were created, featuring a triathlon format consisting of three continuous rounds of a 200m swim, a 5k bike ride, and a 1k run. Jessica competed in the second and third editions of the Saudi Games triathlon—taking first place in both! The event was inspired by Super Tri, a professional triathlon racing series for Olympic-level athletes.

Jessica has also completed two Ironman 70.3 events, placing in the top ten and top five in her age group. Her goal is to qualify for the World Championships and to "push myself to be the best I can be and hopefully get others to try triathlon."

Jessica has been married to Kyran, also a teacher, for three years. They love to travel—especially to South Africa, where Kyran is from. The couple owns a house in Cape Town and enjoys spending time at the beach, visiting farmers markets and watching rugby. They consider South Africa home.

Jessica reflects, "WWVA helped me get to where I am by pushing me to have a closer relationship with my faith." Her advice to others: "Always be open to where life and God lead you. Just be open and trust in Him."

To read the article about Jessica's race, [CLICK HERE](#).



### ALUMNI RAISE FUNDS

WWVA is grateful for having amazing and supportive alumni. We want to highlight one in particular, Thomas Thompson, Class of 1964. With Tom's leadership, the class of 1964 raised \$3,750 towards Seeds of Success, our fundraiser for WWVA and RAS student aid!

Thank you Tom and the class of 1964 for supporting our important fundraiser to provide a high-quality Adventist education to as many students as possible.

We are so thankful to have raised \$164,000 so far. If you'd like to help plant Seeds of Success, we invite you to donate today at the button below!

[Donate to Student Aid](#)



### AUDITORIUM PROGRESS

Pictured here are some of our students helping to hang and place trusses for the Auditorium Remodel project, which is now well underway.

The new chairs are scheduled to be installed in time for Alumni Weekend and we're looking forward to enjoying the updated space together.

Thank you to everyone who donated. It's exciting to see your generosity—and all the hard work from our crew—coming to life.

Thanks for reading! To connect with our Alumni Association, email [development@valleyadventistschools.org](mailto:development@valleyadventistschools.org).