

My name is Gina Ross. I have a Bachelors of Science in Elementary Education. Over the past 30 years I have taught 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grades for both the Upper Columbia Conference and the Oregon Conference.

Exploring the world through travel fuels my curiosity and provides opportunity to share with students. I enjoy planting flowers and growing a small garden. Cooking for and spending time with friends and family are days I look forward too. Playing with my pets—a dog and cats provide me with endless laughter and entertainment. I enjoy life with my husband, Dean Ross, who is a computer programmer. Our son is completing a degree in Industrial Design at Walla Walla University.

### **My Classroom Philosophy:**

Incorporated throughout my teaching are a variety of brain-based teaching strategies—such as hands on learning, question-based experimentation and project based learning to increase student engagement. These multi-sensory learning strategies incorporate STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) concepts into the curriculum, which develop critical thinking skills for the twenty-first century. Watching students achieve goals and gain confidence are highly rewarding for me. My desire is to model love for God in the classroom, while teaching students essential skills to achieve academic benchmarks. Students are encouraged to give each other appreciation and never use putdowns. Teaching my students life skills and problem solving helps them give a lifetime of personal best.



### **Why I choose to work in Christian Education:**

I believe it is my calling and privilege to invest in Christian education—helping students experience God’s love, grow in their faith and encourage developing leadership skills. My greatest joy is witnessing students answer His call to their lives and reflect love to those they come in contact with. To be part of helping students see what God can do in and through them is very worthwhile

