Teen Prayer Summit: Making Glacier View Ranch Home for the Weekend  » A record-breaking 144 teens, 39 sponsors, and 20 staff and volunteers trekked up to the snowy mountains last weekend to enjoy a Christ-filled retreat led by the Glacier View Ranch staff, and guest-speaker Tyler Morrison. Youth Department staff member, Shannon Werner, noted this was the largest Teen Prayer Summit she has seen in her four years working for the Conference.

The theme, “Home: finding our identity in Christ through His promises,” featured sessions containing two elements: “Gather” and “Engage”. As they "gathered," Tyler introduced the topic. Then they "engaged" in deeper discussion about how to apply the message to our lives.

Mikey Archibeque shared his thoughts on the “Gather” and “Engage” sessions saying, “Tyler’s message challenged and moved kids and sponsors at the event. The message of freedom in Christ and what it is to be His was powerful. The Engage sessions after the talks were great to debrief and internalize the message and see how it impacted them and then talk through what it could mean for our lives if what Jesus said about us was true.”

“The weekend of Teen Prayer Summit was a great experience for people with all different backgrounds to connect with God through through discussion of the Bible,” expressed Pastor Esequias, chaplain at Campion Academy.

"Be soft. Do not let the world make you hard. Do not let pain make you hate. Do not let the bitterness steal your sweetness."  
-- Unknown
We focused on the importance of basing our identity and self-worth on God’s truth instead of others’ opinions.

At every meeting, a praise team headed by Azriel Posthumus and Eddie Hall, along with students from both Campion and Mile High, led out in songs that prepared their hearts for the message. Campion senior Joe Philpott, one of the musicians, said, “I enjoyed showing people my age that you can praise God through music.”

Cameron Sellers transformed the Elk Room into a place of interactive prayer for teens and sponsors where they could pray and reflect in creative ways.

In addition to the spiritual growth, they also spent time enjoying each others’ company. Ashley Halvorson, who has attended Teen Prayer Summit for two years stated, “I enjoy going to GVR Teen Prayer Summit because it gives you a break from school and gives you a chance to hang out with friends and get to know God more.”

Jonah De Oliveira, a freshman from the Boulder Church group commented, “It was great! I really like the talks Tyler gave and hanging out with friends.”

On Sabbath afternoon, they engaged in giant Jenga, a game of physical skill, indoor dodgeball, tie-dye, and s’more-making. Some went jeeping on the snowy trails while others enjoyed a restful Sabbath nap. Later that evening, their options included swimming in the pool, playing card and board games, or watching *Lion King*.

“Every aspect of the weekend was intentional, pointing to this year’s theme: Home. By looking into the story of the prodigal son, they were given a deeper understanding of being at home with Jesus. The definition of prodigal is “having or giving something on a lavish scale.” We see the prodigal son not as prodigal because of the lavish life he [at first] lived when he was away, but because of the lavish love that was given by the father. Our prayer for each and every teen in this conference is that they understand the deep love God has for them and they experience the feeling of home wherever they go!” explains Jessyka Dooley, Assistant Youth
Teen Prayer Summit 2019 was filled with spiritual growth, friendships and memories, and we encourage students to plan on attending next January.

Check out our updated website to learn more about next year’s Teen Prayer Summit rmcyouth.org.

-- Josie Reeves with Jessyka Dooley; photos by Jessyka Dooley

**Prison Ministry Volunteers Work Faithfully to Share the Good News**

Brandon didn’t want to attend the weekly service held at Adams County Correctional Facility by prison ministry volunteers in the Rocky Mountain Conference, but another inmate dragged him there. Initially argumentative, he was on his face sobbing by his second visit. After that, he was a regular attendee, joining in the singing, even willing to provide solo music for the group. When Ted Williams told him Jesus would “rather die than live in heaven without you,” it so touched his heart that he wrote a song using the same phrase as his title: “I’d Rather Die Than Live in Heaven Without You.”

Williams, RMC prison ministry coordinator, had the song recorded by a friend and delivered it to Brandon’s grateful mother. Serving 50 years in prison, Brandon was eventually baptized into God’s family.

If Jesus were on earth today, we would undoubtedly find him in the prisons and other unthinkable places, talking and dining with criminals and outcasts. “I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners,” He said after being criticized for eating with tax collectors and sinners. His contempt was reserved for Pharisaical hearts, not for those who recognized...
their need of Him.

For the last five years, volunteers have been at Crowley County Correctional Facility. When the ministry first began, there were weeks when not one of the incarcerated men would show up. Instead of giving up and going home, they stayed to read the Bible and pray. Their prayers were rewarded. Now they often have 75 men attending. This month, 95 men showed up.

Because most church members don’t know anyone in jail, prisoners remain hidden from their lives. According to LifeWay Research in a new phone survey, 1,000 Protestant senior pastors say they “lack the training or finances to run an effective prison ministry.” Prison ministry work is primarily done informally by individuals in the congregation.

Williams wants to change that. His goal is to develop prison ministry leaders at each of the churches in the Rocky Mountain Conference. The Conference will help with the nuts and bolts and the legal aspect of being involved in prison ministries.

Like Chuck Colson, founder of Prison Fellowship, Williams believes that “even the most broken lives and situations can be restored and made whole when we respond to God’s call to serve men and women behind bars.”

-- Carol Bolden

Student Ambassadors Fill Vital Role at Vista Ridge Academy

“Welcome to Vista Ridge Academy. We are glad you are here” is the greeting you may receive as you enter the academy for an Open House. The greeting is from a Student Ambassador, a student from Grades 5 through 8, who can apply for the Student Ambassador program. If accepted, they become responsible for greeting, guiding and giving tours around the campus to visitors. Quick to respond to questions, ambassadors look you in the eye, shake hands, and speak out clearly. They are well informed about the school, what they are learning and where they are headed.

Please email your story to nuggets@rmcsda.org so we can share how God is working through His people in your territory. When submitting your story, please include the following: the Ws (who, what, where, when, why...also how), a personal quote, a photo and the name of the photographer. Please consider time constraints and always send in fresh new stories instead of outdated ones. Submission deadlines are Wednesdays by noon.
While Vice Principal Marsha Bartulec is available for questions posed to the students, she does not prep students on what to say. She wants the students to lead the tours.

The Student Ambassador program at Vista Ridge Academy reflects a Project Based Learning activity because as many as five student goals and essential project design elements are incorporated. Students have a voice and a choice. They have an authentic task, receive critique and feedback and reflect after the experience.

“We have more than 50 tours each year. Ambassadors support an authentic need. They are not just our students; they are our partners,” says Bartulec. Community Leaders are invited to speak with the Ambassadors once a month and cover topics including, effective communication, serving the community, customer service and leadership. This year, guest speakers include school resource officer Thoen, Boulder Church Senior Pastor Japhet De Oliveira, Chick-fil-A owner Barrie Goettsche and marketing director June Werner, and Avista CEO Jillyan McKinney. Student Ambassadors also participate in service projects throughout the school year.

--- Marsha Bartulec, text and photo

**Campion Cougars Play at Pepsi Center**

The Campion Varsity basketball teams played on a professional NBA basketball court at the Pepsi center against Mile High Academy after classes were let out early on Thursday, January 17, for this annual tradition. Although both Campion teams lost, they played their hardest, showed good sportsmanship, and suffered no injuries on any of the teams, an answer to prayer.

Campion Boys’ Varsity team player Richard Bass reflected, “It was a dream come true. Not many people can say they’ve played on an NBA court. The opportunity was amazing!”

After the game, everyone watched the Denver Nuggets play the Chicago Bulls, with the Nuggets winning the game.

From the Campion Lady Cougars’ Varsity team, Reagan Garman said, “I think it’s a great opportunity for us as high
school students to play on a professional NBA court and to experience the excitement of the arena. It was an experience that we will never forget.”
-- Ashley Herber; photo by Caleb Belleau and Amelia Zimmerman

CORRECTION

Last week’s article, "A Centenarian Looks Back at a Life of Passion," used the name "Darlene" instead of "Marcella" in two instances at the end of the article. We apologize to her and our readers.

UPCOMING ORDINATIONS/COMMISSIONING

Don Reeder               February 23           Campion Church
LeeLee Dart               March 9                 The Adventure
Daniel Birai                March 23                Fort Collins

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

Casper Church                               Sabbath, March 30
Denver South Church                     Sunday, March 31 (new)
Grand Junction Church                  Sabbath, April 6
Pinon Hills Church                           Sunday, April 7
Campion Church                              Sabbath, April 13 (new)
Colorado Springs Central Church    Sunday, April 14

All Town Hall meetings begin at 6 p.m.

CAMP MEETINGS

Native American -- La Vida Mission, April 26-28
NE Colorado -- June 7-8, Speaker: Dan Jackson
Cowboy -- Location TBA, July 10-14, Speaker: Ed Barnett
Wyoming -- Casper, July 16-20
Western Slope -- Montrose -- July 31-August 4, Speaker: Artur Stele of the Biblical Research Institute

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Twin Peaks Church » A music concert presented by Ryan Day will take place on Sabbath at 5 p.m., January 26 at Twin Peaks Church. The church is located at 9696 Paschal Drive, Louisville CO 80027.

Dwight Nelson at Campion » "Come Alive" is the title
of the seminar to be held at 6:30 p.m. on January 30 and 31 with Dr. Dwight Nelson. If you’re lost hope or feel lifeless, this seminar will teach you how Jesus can help you come alive. The church is located at 300 42nd Street SW, Loveland. Free refreshments and childcare.

Campion Church/Academy Snow Wheeling
Invitation » Northern Colorado off-road enthusiasts, come join us on January 27 for a family-friendly day of snow-wheeling in the mountains. We welcome those who may have never driven your 4x4 in the snow and seasoned off-roaders alike. We will meet at 8 a.m. in the Campion church parking lot for a driver briefing, worship, warm drinks, and donuts. Plan to leave Campion and head to the trail at 9 a.m. This event is an initiative to mentor and connect Campion Academy students with members of RMC. Bring a lunch to eat on the trail, dress warmly, and be ready for winter conditions. For more information, contact Esequias Perea (817) 944-5733.

Prison Ministry Convention » The 27th International Prison Ministry Convention will take place July 24-27 in Buffalo, New York. To register, go to www.Adventsource.org and click on "Events" and then "Event Registration.". You can also register by calling AdventSource at 800-732-7587. For more information, email dmcmanus7@live.com.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

AdventHealth University » The Denver site of AdventHealth University seeks a Nursing faculty member to teach full-time. Qualified person with an MSN, DNP/PhD in Nursing preferred. Simulation experience and Med/Surg practice background preferred. To apply, visit www.adventhealthcareersgreaterorlando.com and search for Job #274310. This position is located in Denver adjacent to Porter Adventist Hospital.

Mile High Academy » Immediate openings are available for substitute teachers for all grade levels at Mile High Academy. Applicants should have experience working with children and be able to maintain a positive classroom environment while carrying out the teacher’s lesson plans in classrooms as assigned. High school diploma required. Bachelors or some college preferred. Days/hours are on an as-needed basis. For more information, please contact Brenda Rodie at 303-744-1069. For an application, send an email request to HR@rmcsda.org.
HMS Richards Elementary  »  Part-time preschool teacher needed at HMS. We are growing and looking for an enthusiastic teacher to lead our preschool program. Must be ECE teacher certified. Do not need to be director certified. Please contact Davin Hammond or Kari Lange for more information @ (970) 667-2427.

ESL Teacher Needed for Mile High Academy Sister School China Campus  »  Mile High Academy still has a position available on their extended campus at the Guangdong Experimental Shunde - ESL Teacher Needed

This is a unique opportunity to serve as a teacher in Shunde China at Mile High Academy’s extended campus at the Guangdong Experimental Shunde. Please see link below to explore the school: http://www.gdsysd.com/Home/IndexEnglish

Contact Principal Toakase Vunileva at tvunileva@milehighacademy.org for questions or to submit your resume.

NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEB

NewsNuggets Archive Now Online  »  The NewsNuggets archive is now online, and can be found at https://www-rmcsda-org.netadvent.org/newsnuggets-archive.

FROM THE EDITOR

We want to share your news -- Change is a part of the communication age. With online media experiencing constant evolution, the NewsNuggets is also experiencing an increased access from our readers and contributors. We will continue to encourage news sharing from our churches, institutions, and individual church members.

In order to make our eNewsletter accommodate an increased volume of announcements, our editorial work proposes to present information in a more efficient approach, ensuring that all timely promotions and announcements be included in a weekly, Friday release of NewsNuggets. Submission deadline for stories, news, and announcements is at noon on every Wednesday. Please send all your submissions to nuggets@rmcsda.org.

Thank you for your contribution, but also comments, as NewsNuggets continues to serve the church in an efficient and effective way.

NOTE: Questions are being raised regarding guidelines for
The Announcement section of the RMC NewsNuggets newsletter. After a review of the guidelines, the following few points should be considered when sending announcements or promotional materials:
- The newsletter has been established primarily for news sharing within the conference, though selected general church news stories are also considered for publication.
- The primary readership of the newsletter are church members within the Rocky Mountain Conference.
- When submitting an announcement, consider that local Sabbath events may be drawing members from other local churches.
- Promoting evangelistic meetings in NewsNuggets is not attracting potential attendees for whom the meetings are primarily advertised.
- Due to space constraints, NewsNuggets will not publish posters and other large photos or images. However, information from the text will be used.
- Announcements will not be repeated more than twice, and they should be concise. Web page links or phone numbers should be provided for additional information.

We are inviting all correspondents and contributors to follow a general Adventist News Network Style Guide, including glossary. For guidelines, see: http://news.adventist.org/styleguide/

--Editor

**Share the NewsNuggets with your congregation** Add a note to your church bulletin or newsletter with the following URL: www.bit.ly/RMCnews

Members can follow the link to sign up for weekly news and to keep up-to-date on what's happening around the Rocky Mountain Conference.

**Rocky Mountain Conference Mission Statement**

**Tagline:**

*Knowing Christ and Making Him Fully Known*