



NEWS NUGGETS

Friday, June 28, 2019

The Unlikely Prodigal, a Play, Adds Blessing to Summer Camp »

A contemporary version of a well-known parable of Jesus is adding a blessing to Glacier View Ranch's 2019 camp season. Performed by camp staff, it contributes to the spiritual side of camp.

When the prodigal son is mentioned, most tend to think of a biblical story, one that took place long ago where the son is unhappy and leaves everything he has ever known behind for what he believes is greater. As unfortunate as this story might seem, the end is what we all hope for--an ending filled with forgiveness, mercy and a celebration of home.

The story, created with a modern flavor, walks alongside Benjamin, a boy raised on a farm. Benjamin hates his way of life. Tending to a farm is unbearable to him and he wants out. The rest of his family all seem very content with their way of life, making Benjamin feel even more alone. At a town council (pictured) meeting, the two brothers attend with their father, Benjamin meets an unlikely traveler.

The traveler is made to seem extraordinary. He has a variety of stories that tell what life is like in the city. And with every word that leaves his mouth, Benjamin drifts farther and farther away from his home. In a heated moment, Benjamin makes the decision and asks for his inheritance. He leaves everything and everyone he has ever known to go on a journey alone, with the exception of his dog Lucky.

In a heated moment, Benjamin makes a decision and asks for his inheritance. The town council is furious and Sheriff Oak (pictured) tells him that he is no longer welcome and that they never want to see his face in the town again. Now, not only does he feel unwelcome in his family, but he is unwelcome in his town. He leaves everything and everyone he has ever known behind to go on a journey alone, with the exception of his dog Lucky. Benjamin and Lucky eventually find themselves in the city.

Benjamin and Lucky eventually find themselves in the city.

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same.""


-- Ronald Reagan



Healthy Nugget

"One of the most beautiful qualities of true friendship is to understand to be understood."

-- Lucius Annaeus Seneca

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The city amazes Benjamin, because it holds everything he has ever believed he wanted. His undoing begins when he wastes all his inheritance on material things.

He meets a few friends along the way and believes that they have his best interest in mind. Each night these “friends” change one thing after another about Benjamin, to the point where Benjamin isn’t even recognizable anymore. He is left by his friends and the only thing that remains is Lucky and a terrible longing to go home. Having nowhere else to turn, he goes home, but he is unaware of how physically and mentally wearing the journey would be.

At the end of the play, Benjamin sees his father and expects to be pushed away. However, he is met with more forgiveness and mercy than he could have ever hoped for. It is a humbling moment and has brought tears for many who have seen the play.




The creative staff at Glacier View Ranch produced this play, an amazing addition to the summer program.

This year's camp season at GVR registered 585 participants of different ages with a smaller attendance in some age groups from previous years in the enchanting nature of the Rocky Mountains of Colorado.

Kiefer Dooley, RMC youth director, also reported that “at this point Mills Spring Ranch in Casper has 22 campers registered, twice as many as signed up last year. This is a record.”

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Upcoming Events

Staff Meeting

July 2

Cowboy Camp Meeting

July 10-14

Hispanic Men's Retreat

July 12-14

Wyoming Camp Meeting

July 16-20

MSR Meeting

July 21, 8:30 a.m.

Wyoming Taskforce Meeting

July 21, 10 a.m.

Western Slope Camp Meeting

July 31 - August 3

INTEL Class

August 2 - 3

Staff Meeting

August 6

NAD Pathfinder Camporee -- Oshkosh

--RMC/News with Becca Brown; photos by Becca Brown (top) and Kip Dooley (bottom)

Lay Pastor Training Program Launched » A pastoral training program was launched June 25 at the Grand Junction Church which will provide members across the conference with skills for effective ministry. In partnership with the Rocky Mountain Conference Ministerial Department. Grand Junction pastor Nate Skaife began the program with the desire to help lay people grow healthy and active churches and to support their local pastor.

The program is based on training given by Skaife while pastoring in Wisconsin with training sessions featuring a theological focus as well as a ministry-based focus. It will supply lay people with the ability to grow healthy and active churches and to support their local pastor who likely does ministry alone and would welcome someone who could work along side them to help grow their church.

Skaife first shared his vision for this program with RMC president Ed Barnett and ministerial director Mickey Mallory during his yearly pastoral evaluation last year. Seeing the idea as a boon for pastors, especially those who serve more than one church, Barnett and Mallory were excited about the possibilities it promised.

The vision for this program was also shared with constituents at Town Hall Meetings earlier this year and a number of constituents responded positively.

If you want to take part in this program, you can apply by going to <https://www.rmcsda.org/lay-pastor-program>. Interested members need the endorsement of their local pastor to apply. Currently, 25 spots are available for the Denver group, which will begin on September 20 at the conference office and 30 spots are available for the Grand Junction group, which will begin October 4 at the Grand Junction Church.

According to one participant of the training, "The lay pastor program helped me to know more about ministry. I was exposed to different types of ministry and the realities of ministry. It helped set me on the path to minister wherever I can and to have the tools to do what God called me to do."

Another participant from Wisconsin said, "The lay pastor program gave me more confidence than I ever thought possible. It gave me wings. I was stuck in a cocoon never quite sure where I was going. I learned how to fly and to soar."

Before the launch, Grand Junction member Sandy Carosella said, "I'm looking forward to the program as a way to be more educated and prepared to share Jesus in any

August 12 - 17

GVR Board
August 20

Property & Trust Committee
August 21

Pastoral Couples Retreat
August 23 - 25

Executive Committee
August 27

Hispanic Camp Meeting
August 30 - September 1



Story Guidelines: We want to share your news! » News Nuggets is your publication. We strive to provide news and information expressing our church life. Every church, every family, every individual has a story to tell. We are inviting pastors and secretaries of churches and institutions within the Rocky Mountain Conference to share with us relevant information -- about developments, issues, notable events, as well as experiences of church members.

Please email your story to nuggets@rmcsda.org so we can share how God is working

situation and to comfort those in need."

If you have any questions about the program, feel free to email Pastor Nate at nates@rmcsda.org
RMCNews with Mickey Mallory and Nate Skaife

Campion Church Getting Bigger » The front of the Campion Church campus and the lawn in front of the church are a mess, but there is a plan. Where there was grass, there are now ditches and piles of dirt. In a few days, concrete footings will be set up and the outline of the newest addition to the campus, a wing on the church for children's ministry, pastoral offices, and a community welcome center, will be established.

The church has undertaken this vision of building and renovation as part of their mission for now and into the future of finishing the work of God. As a campus church, their impact is not just in the greater Loveland area, but as students engage and are trained to give their lives for the work of Jesus, this church will be a part of impacting the world.



For Campion, this is about *impact: impacting* students by training them to serve God. *Impacting* members in providing space for them to be disciples, to worship, and to be trained as missionaries. *Impacting* community with an attractive place to use and be invited into. Through this project Campion is creating an environment where they can interact with one of the fastest-growing communities in ways never imagined.

Kim Mehlenbacher, a member of the church and general contractor for the project, drew up the first plans about four years ago, and now outlines the next steps in the project--bringing in concrete to set-up the footings and the foundation. Because of the slope of the church's front lawn, more dirt will need to be imported to raise the foundation about 5-6 feet, making the addition the same height as the current structure. Volunteer labor will be used to frame the building, which will hopefully be done in September. Once the

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.

shell of the building is up, stucco, mechanics, insulation, drywall, heating, windows, doors, and many other aspects of the building will be put in.



Work will be continued as long and as often as weather permits. If all goes according to schedule, the addition will be completed in March of 2020, although Mr. Mehlenbacher says that many factors can delay the work, including weather, the use of volunteer labor, and the schedules of sub-contractors. Mr. Mehlenbacher adds that he "hopes to see things go up well and quickly," and that Campion Church is "thankful for all contributions, be it monetarily or by way of labor and talents, that have come together to make this happen."

Mid-June brought a blessing as the church neared the end of its fundraising for \$2 million. With \$150,000 left of that total, a generous local donor offered to match the remaining, 2-to-1, for a total of \$150,000. With this, the prayerful goal is to have the total (\$2 million) raised by the time fall semester begins in August.

-- Michael Goetz with Ashley Herber; photos supplied

Franktown Church Helps Change County Policy

» For the last three years, the Franktown Church has been working on their church sign project. "Working" included more than just raising the money. They actually had to change county policy to get the sign up. They wanted a digital sign that could be controlled remotely, big enough for the roughly 8,000 people that drive by Franktown Church every day to be able to read.

Pastor Jamey Houghton met with county planning committees multiple times, sometimes along with their attorney. The church held several well-attended, open town hall meetings where Franktown members spoke in favor of new regulations for digital signs in Douglas County. Finally, county commissioners voted in favor of Franktown's proposal to change sign requirements allowing them to proceed with installing their church sign!



The project was recently completed and church staff has been trained by the sign company in its operation. Church events can now be shared with the

community, including evangelistic meetings and church services. Our goal is that this sign will connect church members with neighbors and provide more opportunities to share the hope we have in Jesus.

An especially significant for Pastor Jamey was the opportunity for him to baptize his two oldest children--Callie and Josh. Both had taken several of the kids baptismal classes over the last two years and recently decided that it was time to be baptized and commit their lives to Jesus. "There is no greater wish for a parent than to see their children follow Jesus and it was one of the highest privileges of my life to be able to baptize my kids," expressed Houghton.

-- RMCNews with Jamey Houghton; photo by Jamey Houghton

Church Goes Whitewater Rafting » On a true late-Spring activity, 15 members of the Grand Junction and Palisade churches and their friends rafted the Moab Daily River, June 7. The trip was in support of the training of college-age kids for mission. What was the church's fourth annual trip down the river, the adventure was coordinated by Michael and Susan Duerrhsen and the participants went on the recreational outing under their new rafting company, Way to Moab.



"We floated from Hittle Bottom to Take out Beach and had a

great time on the water," said Brian Montag. The water was as high as it has been since 2011, making for a faster trip and some really challenging rapids. Montag added that floating down the slower sections of the river still offered opportunities to have a good time relaxing.

The participants enjoyed seeing the beautiful vistas of Fischer Tower, the LaSal mountain range, Castle Rock, multiple other canyons and mesas, as well as the back side of Arches National Park.

Way to Moab is a supporting ministry of the non-profit company Radical Rescue which aims to train college-age kids for mission.

--Brian Montag for Grand Junction Newsletter; photo supplied

CAMP MEETINGS

Cowboy -- Uncompahgre National Forest near Silver Jack Reservoir, July 10-14, Speakers: Ron Price/Ed Barnett

Wyoming -- Casper, July 16-20; Speakers: Ron Halvorsen Jr. (adults); Joe Martin (youth).

Western Slope -- Montrose -- July 31-August 4, Speaker: Pastor Rodney Palmer, undergrad teacher at Andrews University

Hispanic Camp Meeting--Glacier View Ranch --August 30-September 2.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HMS Richards Elementary » HMS Richards is hosting a HUGE garage sale. We are selling hundreds of school supplies, book shelves, file cabinets, props, beautiful wooden picture frames in all sizes, clothing, furniture, and more. Check it out from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., July 11 and 12 at HMS Richards Elementary, 342 42nd Street, SW, Loveland CO 80537.

Help Needed! » Wyoming Camp Meeting needs your help. Because of last-minute cancellations, we need the following staff for **July 16-20**:

Cradle Roll Leader

Kindergarten Leader

Kitchen helpers

There is a limited budget for teacher supplies for the classes and for travel expenses. Kitchen helpers will be assisting the chef, however needed.

If you are interested, please contact Pastor Steve Nelson as soon as possible at steve@unlockingtruth.com. Thank you!

RMC Youth Department Summer Hours » The

Youth Department will be out of the office during the following dates this summer:

GVR Summer Camp: June 1-August 2

Vacation: August 5-10

Oshkosh: August 11-18

Please feel free to reach out to them through email.

Kiefer Dooley: kieferd@rmcsda.org

Jessyka Dooley: jessykad@rmcsda.org

Brent Learned: brentl@rmcsda.org

Their phones forward to summer camp and they check their voicemail on a regular basis.

Longmont Thunder Pathfinder and Adventurer Club »

Volunteers are needed to teach a wide variety of honors to our Pathfinders/Adventurers during the club year beginning this fall. We want to book as many new themes as possible. With a church family composed of unique and talented people, we would love for you to share your expertise in the field/hobby you love. Your mileage and materials will be covered. Please contact Cinthya at 626-372-7030.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Vista Ridge Academy » is hiring for the 2019-2020 school year. We need a **Part-time ECE Aide** (20-24 hours/week) to assist in our Preschool and PreK/Kindergarten classrooms. State licensing requirements a must; however, we are willing to help update the employee with the necessary classwork/paperwork.

Part time Extended Care Supervisor (10-12 hours/week) to supervise students, ages 5-15, after school Monday-Friday. Candidate must be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and possess current U.S work authorization. For additional information regarding duties, expectations and how to apply, please contact Sandy Hodgson at shodgson@vistaridge.org.

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

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