



NEWS NUGGETS

Friday, May 10, 2019

Youth Leaders Speak at Easter Event in Australia

» During a speaking engagement for the One Project in Perth, Australia In 2016, Pastor Jessyka Albert was asked by the Western Australia Youth Department to return in 2019 to speak for their young adults Youth Shed at their annual Easter Camp meeting. She readily agreed, thinking, "Three years seems like forever away." Life seemed so easy. Yet, before she knew it, not only was she boarding a plane to Australia for Easter Camp as Pastor Jessyka Dooley, but she was also worried about finding an isle seat for her husband Kiefer and locating a boarding situation at home for their dog Paddie.

After a smooth 26-hour journey, Jessyka and Kiefer arrived in Perth, Western Australia (WA), ready to drive on the left side of the road and to present five evening messages and three morning worships.

"Coming from a Conference with six different camp meetings, we weren't quite sure what to expect," said Kiefer, "it was really cool to see members in the WA Conference drive as far as 18 hours to attend the marquee event of the year -- Easter Camp!"



With more than 3,000 in attendance and more than 350 young adults in the Youth Shed, the WA Easter Camp is truly a beloved event. Jessyka's evening messages, centered around the theme "Tribe," encouraged the audience to build

"The most God-honoring, most Jesus-reflecting act is to err on the side of loving people.."

-- John Pavlovitz



Healthy Nugget

"The first step toward success is taken when you refuse to be a captive of the environment in which you first find yourself."


-- Mark Caine

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communities modeled after the example of Jesus. At the morning worship cafe, an experience crafted by the Kulikup Church, Kiefer presented short thoughts and curriculum designed to engage the audience more deeply into the ideas presented by Jessyka.

Over the course of the five-day camp, Jessyka and Kiefer developed close relationships with a core of young adults and youth leaders in the WA Conference. "We're very excited to see where these relationships lead," Kiefer noted. "We anticipate that we'll have five or six GVR camp staff in 2020 from the WA Conference, and potentially made connections for the year-long Youth Internship program that we'll be launching in the RMC soon."

At the fifth and final presentation, led by the Holy Spirit, Pastor Jessyka engaged the Youth Shed leadership team in a communion service in celebration of Jesus and the community that He created for us. The special moment deeply impacted the leaders and audience alike and was a capstone to the Easter Camp experience.

When asked about the trip, Jessyka commented, "It was incredible to fly half-way across the world and still feel so connected. The Western Australia Conference welcomed us with open arms and we loved getting to know the young adults, pastors, and church leadership. Kiefer and I returned to Denver exhausted and a little roughed up from Customs and Homeland Security, but energized in our hearts and minds."

-- Jessyka and Kiefer Dooley; photo supplied

Women Taste "Living Water" at Retreat » The stories of Hagar and Rizpah came alive at the *Anchored in Christ* women's retreat held at Glacier View Ranch the weekend of April 26-28 as speaker Beverly Sedlacek revealed that God often takes us to the "wilderness" to find a place of healing. Throughout the weekend, the women sang, prayed, laughed, and learned more about "The God Who Sees," and three licensed counselors shared practical, biblical ways to cope with life and to minister to other women in difficult situations. Additionally, the women enjoyed breakout sessions on Bible study, Sabbath rest for the brain, mentoring, and more!



Upcoming Events

Hispanic Music Festival -- FEJA

May 18

Mile High Academy Graduation

May 25, 8:30 p.m.

Campion Academy Graduation

May 26, 10 a.m.

INTEL Class

May 31 - June 1

Staff Meeting

June 4

NE Camp Meeting

June 7-8

Hispanic Pastors Meeting

June 10

GVR Board

June 18

Property & Trust Committee

June 19

Staff Meeting

July 2

Cowboy Camp Meeting

July 10-14

Hispanic Men's Retreat

July 12-14

Wyoming Camp Meeting



Vanessa Rivera provided fun and engaging gatherings for our teens. From the beautiful prayer room to the incredible music led by Debbie Miranda and her team to the “RMC’s Got Talent” show Saturday night, this year’s GVR women’s retreat was one to remember!

Sunday morning, the women assembled “Blessing Bags” to share with women in need and prayed over “cancer aprons” which will be going to Avista Hospital.

Thanks to Chef Cory, we dined like we were on a cruise ship, even better than a cruise ship.

Even during the challenging water issue, women rose to the occasion with grace and laughter. Many women shared their thanks and affirmation to the leadership team, summed up by this comment: “I know you’ve been carrying a burden for us this weekend because of the water pipe bursting, but please don’t worry. We didn’t come here for water. We came for *living water* and we’re going home filled and overflowing!”

Couldn’t attend this retreat? Be watching for details about other women’s ministries gatherings and our Mountain Top Retreat, “Prayer, Praise, and Promises” September 13-15 in Montrose.

-- DeAnn Bragaw, text and photo

Daystar School Holds Another PIE Night » Micah Black, a 3rd grader at Daystar Christian School in Pueblo, Colorado knows what an arch, whorl, and loop have in common. Do you?



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 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

Participants at the May PIE (Parents Involved in Education) Night conducted a fingerprint experiment to learn the different types of fingerprints and how we are all uniquely made.

"The fingerprints were my favorite part," said Janessa Bobian, a 7-year-old from Walsenburg. "I learned that we are all different."

"Thank you to Daystar for hosting this community event that allowed the Girl Scouts to come in and show how everyone is uniquely made," said Brandi Martinez, Girl Scout state-wide training manager.

Also in attendance were representatives of the Pueblo County Lamb library with books and crafts on the human body, the Pueblo Pathfinders demonstrating a first-aid station, and the Daystar art department with a human body art project. Daystar also had information and blue pinwheels available to educate the public on Colorado's National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Pueblo First youth pastor, JJ Martinez said, "It was so great seeing all of the children making art and being creative."

With pie crumbs still on her face, Delilah Christenson, a local 9-year-old said, "I really enjoy creating things and eating pie." Because at PIE night there, of course, has to be pie!

"I love seeing the parents and students walking from room to room, engaging and learning together. Parent involvement is key to student success and Daystar is happy to provide as many of those experiences as we can," said Michelle Velbis, principal.

-- Michelle Velbis; text and photos

MHA's Exhibition Night Showed Off Real World Learning Projects »

During Mile High Academy's annual Exhibition Night, the school community came together to see samples of Real World Learning (RWL) projects MHA students have worked on throughout the year. This annual event gives students the opportunity to present their projects to a live and authentic audience and RWL engages students in meaningful projects that demonstrate mastery of learning, a deep understanding of their subject and of how the project relates to them and to their community.

Highlights of the event included Middle School yearbook, where students took the observer on a journey through the writing process, and photography lessons. Some work was displayed on the walls of a hallway and observers walked the hallway to see the projects. The Upper School held an exhibit showing graphic novels, "Hero in Your Own Story," written about fifth graders and illustrated by upper school students. In the Lower School, third graders walked guests through "5 Loaves" displays. Here, visitors could see

fresh new stories instead of outdated ones. Submission deadlines are Wednesdays by noon.



yeast in action, taste bread, and hear the story of Jesus' miracle of feeding the 5000.

Many more exhibits were displayed, but you have to come see for yourself next year!

-- Agape Hammond, text and photo

Adventurers Hold Fun Day 2019 » "We're from Agape Haitian and we're pumped to be goin' to the zoo!" said one young Adventurer, eagerly awaiting the trip from Springs Adventist Academy to Cheyenne Mountain Zoo.

More than 300 Adventurers and Adventurer Club staff met at Springs Adventist Academy for the annual Fun Day experience on Sunday, May 5. In a short worship before leaving the school, Kiefer Dooley told the story of the prodigal son, highlighting the joy Jesus experiences when we choose to be with Him, and the celebration that He has waiting for us



in His home.

During the pre-trip gathering, Adventurer leaders were recognized for outstanding service and commitment toward providing quality children's

ministry in their respective communities. Clubs were also recognized for achieving 2,000 points during the year, taking home special trophies that were crafted by executive coordinators for club ministries, Chris and Don Hill.

Once at the zoo, the Adventurer clubs scattered to spend the day enjoying this elevation zoo with its giraffes, bears, rhinos, and elephants. Catching up with a group from

Grand Junction, Dooley watched while Adventurers fed the giraffes, which was "quite the experience,." "Who knew," asked Dooley, "that giraffes had such long tongues?"

With clubs from all over the conference in attendance for a day of worship, fellowship, recognition, education, and fun, staff and kids alike agreed that Fun Day 2019 was a tremendous success.

-- Kiefer Dooley; text and photo

Fort Morgan Church Holds First International Food Fair »

On April 28, Lighthouse Seventh-day Adventist Christian School had an international Food Fair at the Nazarene Gym in Fort Morgan Colorado. We had food from several different countries like the Philippines, Germany, Mexico, El Salvador, and Rwanda. All the food was wonderful and everyone that came left very satisfied. Some of the most popular food was pancit and chicken adobo from the Philippines; cabbage pockets and cinnamon rolls from Germany; tamales from Mexico; papusas from El Salvador; and sweet deep fried bread from Rwanda. It was very fitting that we have an international food fair in Fort Morgan because it is one of the most diverse towns in all of Colorado

Most of those who attended were members from the Fort Morgan Seventh-day Adventist Church. We did have a few people come from the community as well. This was an awesome event for our school and was a great blessing seeing so many working together to prepare food, setup, and serve the food. "I want to give a special thank you to all those that helped out in this special event. We hope to make this an annual fundraiser for our school," said church pastor, Don Lopes.

-- Don Lopes

Two Churches Hold Spa Days for Their

Communities » "You'll never know how much I needed this!" said one woman who attended Ladies Spa Day put on by one of two churches--Denver West and Brighton--who wanted to serve their communities last week.



Several stations were designed to bless the women in physical ways through facials, massage therapy by a licensed therapist, delicious food and more. Many of the church members prayed over the women they served.

Expressions of appreciation included, "WOW! Thank you for doing this for me!" "Will you do this every year?" "I'm homeless, so this really means a lot to me!"

"I just LOVE this church!" said one woman who attended one of the Spa Days. "Thank you so much for all the things you do!", a comment that opened the door to a spiritual conversation.

If your church women's ministries would like to hold a similar community event, you can borrow supplies from RMC Women's Ministries. Check with DeAnn Bragaw at deannb@rmcsda.org.

-- DeAnn Bragaw, text and photo

Vista Ridge Academy Holds Fun Run 2019 » The Home and School Organization of Vista Ridge Academy hosted their annual Fun Run on Friday, May 3, at the Vista Ridge Academy track. The one-hour timed walk, jog or run event is a fundraiser for the school, designed for all ages and all fitness abilities.



Students ask family and friends to sponsor quarter-mile laps, resulting in more than \$13,000 in pledges to date.. Students ran a total of 1,077 laps or 269.25 miles. To date, the school has received over \$13,000 in pledges.

During the event, participants passed through pool noodles, bubbles, water blasters, tires and a waterfall sprinkler. Each participant received a T-shirt and students received a medal at the finish line. Avista Adventist Hospital provided a healthy snack--granola bars and bananas--following the run.

The Home and School Organization is looking forward to hosting next year's event on Friday, May 1, 2020.

-- Marsha Bartulec; photos by Kenya Sanchez

HMS School Commemorates National Day of Prayer »

During an awards dinner on National Day of Prayer, May 2, HMS Richards students prayed blessings over their parents, and then joined with their families to pray over their communities and our country.

Prior to the awards dinner, students met to discuss what it means to think bigger than our own lives and to brainstorm specific ways we *can* pray over our local communities, over our country and over those



in leadership, focusing on the National Day of Prayer 2019 theme, "Love One Another."

Several parents expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to pray together.

-- DeeAnn Bragaw; text and photo

NN COMMENTARY

When Goodness Stands Up to Evil » Colorado was hit again this week by evil. You can't call gunning down innocent students anything other than evil. But in the midst of the evil, goodness took a stand.

At Colorado STEM School in Highlands Ranch, in the middle of a British Literature class, a shooter opened fire. Without hesitation, Kendrick Castillo, a senior three days from graduation, tackled the gunman, giving other students an opportunity to flee. Several others joined Castillo in subduing the gunman and wresting the gun from his grasp. Castillo ultimately gave his life.

In press reports, we learn that Castillo was raised to be a

good person. While his father had talked with him about what to do if ever confronted by a gunman, telling him he didn't have to be a hero, Castillo told his dad he wouldn't think twice about acting to save others.

Amid the heart-wrenching stories that have emerged from that dreadful day, comes the realization that evil exists in this world. Along with that realization comes the conviction that our contribution to the world can combat the evil. We can offer goodness.

Meeting a friend at a Starbucks near her church a couple days after the shooting, Cindy Nash of LifeSource Fellowship, looked up to see two sheriff's officers entering. They were, in fact, the very officers she had watched for hours on television the day of the STEM school horror. "I have to buy their coffee," she said to her friend as she walked over to greet them and thank them for their composure during the reporting that day.

Touched by her gesture, the officers explained why they were so far outside their district. "We just visited the Castillo family," they said, "and learned that Kendrick was an only child. Their anguish has become our anguish."

Had we ever imagined that the students themselves would be the first responders? More and more, we see heroes emerging in the midst of evil intent. At the end of April, Riley Howell, a student at the University of North Carolina, died while attempting to stop a gunman at his school, an action that likely prevented other deaths.

What do we do in the face of evil? If we want to combat it, we, like Castillo, like Howell, like Jesus stand up to it. We offer goodness.

-- Carol Bolden with Rajmund Dabrowski

CAMP MEETINGS

NE Colorado -- June 7-8, Speaker: Dan Jackson

Cowboy -- Location: Uncompaghre 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

Arvada Church » A benefit concert to empower underserved youth and children will be held at 7 p.m., **May 11** at the Arvada Church, featuring RENEWED, a contemporary Christian band featuring Faith Rush, ASDAU A Capella band, Melissa, Edwina Maben and more. Admission is FREE, including snacks and drinks. The church is located at 7090 W 64th Avenue, Arvada, CO 80003. All donations will support Home of Refuge and Ambassadors for Youth programs.

Golden Church Bible and Health Evangelism

Training » Dwayne and Alexandra Lemon of Preaching, Teaching, Healing Ministries will present Bible and Health Evangelism Training at the Golden Church **May 6-19**, Monday through Thursday from 6-9 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The training includes a cooking class on May 19.

Learn how to effectively proclaim the Three Angel's Messages, how to study the Bible, how to give Bible studies and more.

The natural healing sciences address the physical as well as emotional and spiritual needs of humanity.

For more information regarding registration and cost options and what each includes, go to goldencosda.org or contact jdburr66@msn.com or tenlovely78@gmail.com or DeEtta Burr at 303-526-9112, leaving a message with your number.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Rocky Mountain Conference » The Rocky Mountain Conference has an immediate opening for a part-time Human Resources Assistant. Qualified candidates will have exceptional computer and organizational skills and the ability to process highly complex and detail-oriented information. The HR Assistant understands the importance of process and follow through and has the highest levels of ethical integrity. Candidates must be members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and possess current U.S work authorization. For additional information regarding duties, expectations and how to apply, please visit the RMC website at: <https://www.rmcsda.org/hr-human-resources-assistant>.

La Vida Mission Openings » La Vida Mission has staff needs for next school year. Do you want to be a missionary for Jesus? Are you a retired teacher and wanting to use your talents for the Lord? La Vida Mission, right here in your own backyard in New Mexico on the Navajo Nation will have the following openings: teacher for grades 5-8, a married couple for girls' dorm parents, student missionary, student teacher,

etc. Please send an email to steve@lavidamission.org if you are interested or know someone who is.

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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