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News and inspiration from around the conference.

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Mile High Academy gets a helping hand from Champion Academy »

Since January, Toakase Vunileva, principal of Mile High Academy in



Denver, Colorado, has been working out the myriad of details involved in relocating the school from South Denver and updating the new building into which they were to move. Now, the time has arrived!

On August 10, the MHA staff began moving in to the elementary section of the building. Transferring more than 60 years’ worth of items from the “old” school and into the “new” school, is a huge undertaking. Luckily, the staff didn’t have to do it alone.

Don Reeder, principal of Champion Academy in Loveland, Colorado, brought his school down to help for the day on Tuesday. Reeder said that, “they [Champion staff] knew that we were in a push to get ready for school to start, but they figured that Mile High’s push was greater.”

The rivalry between the two academies has, at times, been fierce, but MHA and CA put that aside and had fun working together as a team.

“We have great teachers in both schools,” says Diane Harris, Associate Superintendent of Education for RMC, “and every single one is dedicated to educating the students and showing them Jesus. That’s the most important thing to any of us.”

The teachers shared more than just labor, though. During lunch, there was discussion of having the two schools work together on community service projects and social activities. It was made clear, however, that the goodwill between the schools will be put aside during the famed CA/MHA basketball games!

Friday, August 14, 2015

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Upcoming Events

Korean Camp Meeting

August 7 - 9

Contact: George Hahn
303-756-2809

Conference Staff Meeting

August 12, 8 am - 10:30 am

Vunileva was emotional as she thanked Reeder and the entire Champion delegation. “It means so much to us that you would take a day out of your prep time and come help us. I look forward to a time that we can repay the favor and help you,” she said.

“It was really great to have both schools working together,” said Amy Rasco, MHA alumnus and parent of a current MHA 7th grader. “Having Champion here today has made a big difference.”

MHA is working hard to prepare for the new school year. Thanks to Champion Academy, the load is a bit lighter.

You can join the Mile High Academy’s **Grand Opening** celebration on August 16, from 1 – 4 p.m.

Registration is planned for August 17 from 3 – 7 p.m.

MHA’s **new school year** begins on August 24 at 8 a.m. at 1733 Dad Clark Drive, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126. [Text and photo by Kelly Waller]



No Time for Vacation or Sleep » After 25 years of directing students in evangelizing the Rocky Mountain Conference, you’d think that Joe Martin would be ready for a rest. “I’ll sleep when I’m dead and take vacation in heaven,” is his comment. It’s

just that type of dedication and energy that is needed to run the student literature evangelism program.

Just finishing his 25th summer, Joe Martin talks about the 15 students who evangelized Aurora, Englewood, Lakewood, Wheat Ridge, Golden, Arvada and Northglenn in eight weeks this summer and left thousands of books in the hands of the people.

“The student literature evangelism program is more than just selling books,” explains Joe. “It’s about our young people having a personal experience with Jesus in ministry. And sales,” says Joe, “equal truth to the people about our God.”

Students came from Union College, Andrews University, Campion Academy, public schools and home schools to minister for God. And divine appointments were plentiful according to the stories the students are sharing.

Kelby went to a house where there was no answer. As she was leaving, a van with a woman and several children drove up, so she gave her canvas. The woman bought the cookbook as well as a book for the children who were excited about the pictures of Jesus. They’d been at a soccer game and, when it got cold, came home. Kelby believes it was a divine appointment. Thirty seconds later, she would have missed this family. [\[more\]](#)

Boulder 1:1 Presented Lessons From Jesus’ Encounters » If there was a scriptural reference that described the One



project gathering in Boulder, it was the words of Jesus Himself: “Without Me you can do nothing” (John 15:5). Jesus’ statement permeated eight presentations about “Relationships of Jesus,” the Boulder 1:1 theme.

Meeting at the Boulder Seventh-day Adventist Church, August 8-9, more than 160 participants came from as far as California, Florida, Maryland, and New Jersey, and joined fellow believers from

Grand Opening of Mile High Academy

August 16, 1 - 4 pm

GVR Board

August 18, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

RMC Property & Trust Committee

August 19, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Hispanic Camp Meeting

August 28

Contact: Pastor Ruben Rivera

Men's Advance

September 11

Contact: Wayne Oldham, 9970-209-7911

woldham170@gmail.com

Speaker: Tom Lemon

Women's Retreat: Garden Getaway

September 18

Contact: Ginger Bell

Find out more...

[Click here](#) for info on any of these events.



Story Guidelines: We want to share your news! »

News Nuggets is your publication. We strive to move away from promotion and towards interaction on all levels of 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

the areas in the general vicinity of Boulder and Denver.

This event was the 20th in the five-year history of the project, and “once again, as previously around the globe, we focused on Jesus,” said Alex Bryan, senior pastor of the Walla Walla University Church, and co-chair of the One project. The event’s program stated that “the demand for these gatherings has not waned and requests for new locations are increasing.”

The organizers explain that it is their “personal passion and love for local churches,” that prompted them to “develop 1:1 as a series of mini-gatherings in response to the needs expressed by so many,” De Oliveira explains. “We have chosen 1:1 (one to one) because mini-gatherings are primarily about connecting with the person next door or even in the next pew,” the organizers explained.

“We wanted to provide a healthy space for discovering and explaining how our Christian beliefs, culture and community intersect,” De Oliveira said. The Boulder 1:1 was the first of such events, and has received calls from the participants asking that it would be organized locally and everywhere. [\[more\]](#)

NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEB!



Former RMC President Gary Thurber Voted to Head Mid-America Union »

Meeting at a specially-convened session, the Mid-America Union Executive Committee voted Gary Thurber, current executive secretary of Lake Union Conference, as the

new MAUC president. Thurber will fill a vacancy created in July when Thomas Lemon accepted a vice presidential position with the General Conference.

Chaired by Dan Jackson, North American Division president, the committee, meeting in Lincoln, NE, on August 11, considered 18 names from which Thurber was elected. Prior to the vote, 27 committee members present discussed the qualities needed for the position of the top Mid-America Union leader.

Before considering the nine individuals on the short list, the committee, separated into groups of three to pray for those on the recommended list, and for the vote they were about to make. The committee voted four times using secret ballots.

Speaking to the MAUC *OUTLOOK Magazine*, Jackson commented after the vote that, “Gary is a deeply spiritual and effective leader for Christ. Mid-America Union has just voted a prince to be their president. I have every confidence in Gary.”

As the news reached the RMC office, the *NewsNuggets* contacted Ed Barnett in Lincoln, NE. He texted: "I am excited to be working with Gary again!" was his immediate reaction. Thurber was president of RMC between 2009-2013. "Election of Elder Gary Thurber last Tuesday means a great day for Rocky Mountain Conference. I know he has a special spot in his heart for our people throughout our conference. You cannot find a more kind and

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.

gracious leader than Gary. I know he will be a blessing for the whole Union," Barnett said after his return from Lincoln. "He loves Jesus and I know he will inspire us to get this work finished in our territory. It was obvious the Lord was leading the MAUC Executive Committee to come up with this choice," he added.

Thurber began his ministry as a teacher at Redwood Academy in the Northern California Conference. His church service also includes pastoral, departmental and administrative positions in several conferences, and until his present election at the Lake Union Conference in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

Born in Stoneham, Massachusetts, Thurber completed his bachelor's degree at Southern Adventist University and earned his master's degree in religion at Andrews University. He currently is enrolled in the PhD Leadership program at Andrews University.

Married to the former Diane Wynn, they have two adult sons, Ryan and Justin. Ryan is married to Baylie née Thompson. He is an attorney at Polsinelli law firm in Denver, Colo., and Baylie is an Intensive Care nurse at Littleton Hospital in Colorado. The Thurbers' son, Justin, is a senior at Andrews University where he is majoring in biology and minoring in religion and chemistry.

The Rocky Mountain Conference family congratulates Pastor and Mrs. Gary Thurber, wishing them God's wisdom and guidance as they undertake this new church assignment. We are delighted to have somebody next door whom we know. [Rajmund Dabrowski with additional information from the *OUTLOOK*]

Grand Opening at Mile High Academy »

Mile High Academy is inviting all *NewsNuggets* readers and their friends to a Grand Opening celebration of its new campus from 1-4 p.m., Sunday, August 16. The academy just moved to its new location, 1733 Dad Clark Drive, Highlands Ranch. Come and tour the new MHA campus, enjoy the festivities and share in the excitement! It's a day of fun for the whole family. For more information, please call 303-744-1069 or visit www.milehighacademy.org. [Photo: Agape Hammond]



Car Show is Coming to Arvada Church » A community outreach car show is planned from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, August 16, at the Arvada church compound, 7090 W 64th Avenue, Arvada. From timeless classics to revving muscles, we will enjoy one of America's favorite past times -- watching cars. If you have a car to put on display, bring it with friends in the back seat!

New School Year Kicks Off at Campion Academy » A new academic year will kick off at Campion Adventist Academy (CA) in Loveland on Sunday, August 16. It is their 111th year of providing quality Christian education. The school anticipates a higher enrollment in 2015, according to Don Reeder, CA principal. Registration day will begin with a parent and student **breakfast** at 8 a.m., followed by **registration** at 8:45 a.m. in the Chapel with a "This is Campion" welcome by Don Reeder and a registration packet pickup. At the end of the day, all students and parents are invited to join church members for a **picnic** hosted by the academy and church on the church lawn at 5 p.m. The day's formal activities will conclude at 6 p.m with a **Student Association Handshake** on center campus.

Prayer Vigil Planned in Golden Church » "7 Hours with Jesus," is the theme of the prayer vigil beginning at 2:30 p.m, Sabbath, August 15, at the Golden Seventh-day Adventist Church. According to Ruddy Vivanco, pastor, the seven-hour program will include presentations by 14 speakers with a main emphasis on prayer. "We plan to anoint persons in need and have a prayer walk in the area," Pastor Vivanco said.

Unleashing God's Power with Jerry and Janet Page at Littleton Church » The Littleton congregation welcomes Jerry and Janet Page as speakers at its services at 10 and 11:15 a.m., August 15. They will present on the theme of "Unleashing God's Power," with a special season of prayer. Pastor Page is a Colorado native and graduate of Mile High Academy. A ministerial director of the General Conference since 2010, Page was the president of the Central California Conference and the Pennsylvania Conference. Married to Janet, they have two grown sons and grandchildren. In their spare time, the Pages enjoy family vacations, hiking, camping four-wheeling and photography.

Janet Page is the General Conference associate ministerial secretary for Shepherdess International and Prayer Ministries. Often a speaker at weekend retreats, she loves sharing her favorite subject -- Jesus -- and spending time with Him. She also travels with her husband, Jerry, speaking at leadership events around the world. In their messages, they will recount God's leading in the world church while emphasizing the importance of prayer while we wait for Jesus to return.

Pianist Jerry Nelson in Concert at Littleton Church » Internationally-celebrated concert pianist, Jerry Nelson, is scheduled to perform during the worship hour at the Littleton Church on Sabbath, August 22. Wherever he has performed, he has richly blessed his audiences, sharing his faith, hope and music.

He has established himself as one of the world's premiere performers, having performed on all continents. As a composer, arranger, conductor and studio producer, he has conducted orchestra from London and Tel Aviv to Nashville and Los Angeles. His creative touch appears on more than 500 recorded projects. His passion is to convey with his fingers and voice the amazing grace of an incredible God who can change anyone from the inside out and to share words of encouragement and notes of inspiration that help rekindle the spark of joy and hope in these economic and political times.

Jerry's first "official" assignment was playing piano at age 10 in a small Minnesota church. He began his career in public school music also in Minnesota followed by more than three decades of arranging and directing orchestra at Denver First Nazarene Church.

Revival Event Coming to The Adventure » Are you longing to develop a deep and lasting relationship with God? **Shelley J Quinn**, author, broadcaster and Bible teacher, will be at The Adventure Church in Greeley, August 28-29, to present how to know who we are in Christ and how to develop an intimate personal relationship with the Lord. The program begins at 7 p.m. with a Friday vespers. The Sabbath presentations include a 2 p.m. meeting. For more information, call 970-686-2411.

Rocky Mountain Conference Mission Statement

Tagline:

Knowing Christ and Making Him Fully Known

We want to share your news! » If you have a ministry or evangelism story to tell, please email it 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 if possible, a photo and the name of the photographer. Please consider time constraints and send in stories that are fresh.

News Nuggets is your publication. Let us know what you think!

For changes of email or physical address, please send a note to nuggets@rmcsda.org so that you won't miss out on any Rocky Mountain Conference news.

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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.

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