Mile High Academy Opens with a Celebration of God's Goodness

"If you want this facility for your kids, you'll have to work out the details," prayed Toakase Vunileva, principal of Mile High Academy as she stood in the parking lot of Colorado Christian School, a facility for sale off the C-470 and University Avenue. That was November 2014.

Nine months later, on August 16, after maneuvering through the buying, renovating and moving processes, the new Mile High Academy held its grand opening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and praise to God. The ceremony involved representatives from the building committee, Centura Health leadership, RMC leadership, the school board, and the graduating class of 2017.

Relatives of Vunileva flew in from Tonga and sang a worship song to the God who has done great things, the MHA choir, under the direction of Leandro Bizama, lifted up their voices while representatives gathered to cut the ribbon and a string ensemble made up of children from Mile High Academy played.

Eric Nelson, VP for administration for Rocky Mountain Conference dedicated the building and staff to communicate Friday, August 21, 2015

Upcoming Events

Hispanic Camp Meeting
August 28
Contact: Pastor Ruben Rivera

Men's Advance
September 11
Contact: Wayne Oldham, 9970-
Jesus to the students and called it a day of "immense gratitude".

Parents, students and other visitors toured the school with its cutting-edge design – study rooms with walls that can be used for writing, stools that move according to the need of the kinesthetic learner, desks that fit together for group projects or move apart to work individually, Smart Boards that remember what is written on them or display information from the internet -- and so much more.

Seeing the bank of gray-painted lockers, I pictured myself back in school. How much better would I have done, how much more would I have learned with all these advantages?

Participating in the event, students wandered the school looking excited to see their friends and to start the school year in this new and wonderful place. Never before had they had a bright orange lounging chair that could be used on three sides. Nor had they enjoyed world-class photography on their walls.

Walking through the campus, the mood changed from one area to another -- serious and worshipful during the opening ceremony, a back-to-school-night feel as parents checked out rooms and talked to teachers, and joyful celebrating with small children riding the train in the parking lot, jumping in the bounce house and eating shave ice on what turned out to be a hot day. [more]
people have a place to go home to at night," Palmer continued. "The heartbreaking reality is that the biggest challenge he faces is keeping the hope of potential future tenants alive. I know that my heart was touched to get involved with volunteering and to get my Bible class involved as well." It's important," Palmer added, "that our kids get exposed to this so that they can be a part of changing the world right where they are."  

Second Youth Guatemala Building Trip Engages in Evangelism  

The last two weeks in July will not be forgotten by a group of young people from two Rifle churches, Spanish and English. Their trip followed an experience from 2014, when a group of nine daring and committed young people, led by Milton Rodas and his family, traveled to Guatemala to build a home for two needy families through what became known as Mision Caleb. The experience was so unique, that arrangements were made to visit La Blanca, a small town southwest of Guatemala city, about 6 miles east of the border with Mexico.

A new program was organized for July 16-31 and it aimed to tackle three projects -- help start the building process for three classrooms for the local Adventist school; sponsor tuition for 10 children, and hold an evangelistic series with all the churches in the district.

The members of both Rifle churches were able to donate enough money for the beginning phase of the construction with Mision Caleb assisting the local church to continue with the project. "We were also able to grant more than 10 scholarships to families in need to send their children to our Adventist school next year," reports Herbert Hernandez, pastor from Rifle.

While the building project was on its way, evangelistic meetings were organized and resulted in 25 people committing their life to Christ through baptism. "I will never forget this experience", expressed Trevor Gee, one of the eight young people who joined the Mision Caleb project this year.

"Our desire is to continue to put together more mission trips that allow our young people to be blessed while becoming a blessing to others. We feel God allowed us to accomplish these two goals with our group", said Milton Rodas.

New future mission trips are being considered and those who would like to take part in them or donate toward upcoming projects may contact the Rifle Seventh-day Adventist church at Rifle Seventh-day Adventist Church or by phone (970) 625-1215 [Herbert Hernandez; photo by Briseyda Rodas]
New Golden Member Baptized in Wheelchair

The first time Jennifer Blankenship attended the Golden Church was the day she was baptized. With multiple sclerosis, Jennifer cannot walk and uses a wheelchair to get around. She lives at home with help.

Six years ago, she had an Adventist caretaker who shared CDs and books with her on spiritual topics. Jennifer had studied many religions and felt that the message she was receiving was Bible truth.

Other Adventists entered her life when her caretaker moved to the Northwest. Pastor Ruddy Vivanco visited with her and they studied the Bible together. “Pastor Ruddy is a very powerful presenter and [he] draws us in,” enthuses Jennifer. “We can’t help but feel drawn to the Lord through his messages; he is so full of joy.”

Recently, she stated that she wanted to be baptized – somewhat of a challenge with a wheelchair involved, but they managed.

Because Jennifer was so welcomed into the Golden church, she asked Pastor Vivanco if she could talk to his boss. “[His name] is spelled L-O-R-D,” Vivanco explained. At her insistence, he finally gave the RMC conference number to Jennifer and she called the conference to share her story. [Eric Nelson with Carol Bolden; photo by Vivien Vasquez]

Ed Barnett Joins Evangelistic Outreach at Fruita Church

At the invitation of Michael Shannon, Fruita church pastor, Ed Barnett, RMC president, is conducting a series of evangelistic outreach meetings, August 15-23.

In a text message from Fruita, Barnett shared a short report with NewsNuggets: “Tonight [August 19] we had 25 people in attendance, more than any other night. Each night we start with a half-hour healthful cooking class followed by my 30 - 40 minute Bible lecture. We have a few visitors who are not members of our church. I make a call each night and the Lord is blessing!”

He continued that, “there is one couple who seem interested in the message. I am anxious to see how they will react to my call for baptism as tonight they raised their hands for the Sabbath. They have been attending the church for a couple of years. It would be nice to see them join.”

The outreach will conclude on Sabbath morning, August 23. [Photo by Michael Shannon]
Old Classic Car Lovers Display Cars at Arvada Church

It was a beautiful day and an exciting one for car lovers in Arvada when the Arvada church hosted a car show and barbecue party for their neighbors on August 16.

"More than sixty vintage cars, from almost century-old classics to 1400hp (yes, fourteen-hundred horse power) modern hot rods were on display," reported Milos Tomic, associate pastor. "The view was majestic," he adds.

More than four hundred burgers and hotdogs were served and new neighborhood connections were created. The event was organized by Rich and Stephanie Banfe and a group of church volunteers assisted with the day’s activities. "It was a blessed time for our neighbors and members alike," Tomic said. [Text and photo by Milos Tomic]

NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEB!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Franktown Church  » Dr. Art Chadwick, Research Professor of Biology and Geology from Southwestern Adventist University will present a three-meeting creation symposium on August 22. A nationally-recognized Christian Scientist in the field of geology and paleontology is currently directing the excavation of one of the largest dinosaur sites in the world. For more information, call 303-688-8687.

Golden Church » A special Sabbath of Health on August 22 will feature Daniel McKibben, president of Eden Valley. He will present a journey through the healing ministry of Jesus. For details call: 303-526-9112

Littleton Church » Internationally-celebrated concert pianist, Jerry Nelson, is scheduled to perform during the worship hour on August 22. Wherever he has performed, he has richly blessed his audiences, sharing his faith, hope and music. For more information, call 303-798-5648.

The Adventure in Greeley » Shelley J Quinn, author, broadcaster and Bible teacher, will present how to know who we are in Christ and how to develop a personal relationship with the Lord, August 28-29. For more information call: 970-686-2411.

Copper Mountain Summit Fellowship » Phillip Sizemore, known for his appearances in Adventist media, will be preaching on August 29 at Summit Fellowship of Seventh-day Adventists at Copper Mountain. For more information, call:
Boulder Church » Experiencing God Through Prayer, a special presentation from Jerry and Janet Page, will be held the afternoon of August 29. Jerry is Ministerial Association Secretary for the General Conference Ministerial Association, and his wife, Janet, is Ministerial Associate Secretary for Prayer, Pastoral Spouses and Families for the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. They will share their experience with prayer as a way to experience God's power; improve your relationships; enjoy private and united prayer; really know Jesus; see the Scriptures come alive; know daily victory in your life. For more information call: 303-442-1522

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.
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 News Nuggets with your congregation » Add a note to your church bulletin or newsletter with the following URL: www.bit.ly/RMCnews

Members can follow this 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