Campion Academy Implements Spiritual Program to Keep Young People in Church

Campion Academy began the school year with a new spiritual program, intending to make students an integral part of local churches now. This program is the result of ongoing visioning by Campion’s chaplain Nick Clark, other teachers, Campion church pastors, and students who were tasked with analyzing and improving the current program. Remington Hill (pictured below), a sophomore at Campion who sat on the committee, explained “Our goal was to make sure kids were building a relationship with Jesus while they were at Campion.”

Campion has not been immune to the nationwide trend of dipping enrollment, though the 2015 numbers are slightly above last academic year with 135 registered students, but neither are they passively waiting for change. Principal Don Reeder stated, “We’ve been given the opportunity to question why we exist. We’ve reminded ourselves that we’re here to support the mission of the church.”

In turn, Campion church, located on the school campus, is ready to support the academy. Lead pastor Micheal Goetz believes that a campus church is a training church. When students graduate and “spread out across the churches, they will be prepared for service and leadership. If we don’t train them, who will? And if we don’t do it now, then when will be the better time?” he said.

The plan? Make students an integral part of our church now. Chaplain Nick Clark said that, “after taking inventory of our current spiritual programs, we realized that the majority of what we do...
includes a large group of students gathering to watch someone up front. We’ve decided to balance that type of worship with interactive study, leadership, and service.”

To get students to watch less and participate more, Campion’s Bible teachers are intentionally including real-world experience in their curriculums. Freshman Bible class focuses on introducing students to Jesus and His character, and the following years add responsibility as students are trained to give their testimonies, serve as junior deacons and deaconesses, give Bible studies, and preach.

Senior Chezney Barry, the student chaplain (pictured above), said that, “it’s good to have speakers talk, but when you have small groups it helps students engage more. We’re going to choose student leaders who will lead Bible studies for Sabbath School. We want to get kids more involved spiritually.”

Other leadership opportunities include SWAT teams (Students With A Testimony), which for the past two years have led the worship services at other churches. In addition, midweek programming includes Sparks, a joint worship service for the guys’ and girls’ dorms, and Fusion, small groups designed to put faith into action.

Since the spiritual program is a priority, Campion has taken a bold step in blocking out Wednesday evenings for spiritual growth, a decision that doesn’t sit well with some students involved in sports. With no games or practices scheduled, student athletes are worried their team performance will suffer. Barry, a dedicated athlete, thinks God is pushing students out of their spiritual comfort zones. “It’s a huge sacrifice because sports mean so much to people,” she said. “I prayed about it a lot, and I began to realize how I need to be able to set aside time for spirituality.”

Fusion is a small group program where students interact with staff or church members as they combine action with faith. For one hour, students can study Bible topics, work on outreach projects like cooking meals for new mothers, or train to lead Sabbath School groups. Students can choose to not go to any group at all, but the first week of school revealed students’ interest in prayer time and praise, and staff members are excited about continued participation.

Campion believes their plan will not only encourage authentic Christianity in their students, but also lead to lifelong commitment as community and church members. [Jenny Sigler]
Peru  »  After her return from Peru in mid-August, Allegra Nelson, a team leader for Centura’s Global Health Initiatives sent the following report: “I was blessed to travel with Centura Global Health Initiatives and Littleton Adventist Hospital to Iquitos, Peru as team leader for the medical mission project, July 31-August 10.

A multi-project group of 42-participants, we were able to do close to 30 surgeries at Clinica Ana Stahl, attend to 1,000 patients in the river and city clinics, teach 40 healthcare professionals newborn resuscitation through Centura’s Helping Babies Breath program, and build a classroom addition with the partnership of the New Day Seventh-day Adventist church and a local village.

Often we are being asked: ‘how was your trip?’, and it is hard to capture the feeling of seeing great need, making a human connection with those in need, attempting to help, and the overall sense of purpose the trip encompasses.

The project included Dave Kennedy, pastor of New Day in Parker, who offered reflections each morning of the trip. In his Monday morning reflection he asked us to let our hearts be broken by the things that break God’s heart. My heart was broken by poverty and by lack of opportunity the people living in the margins of life experience. But, I was also encouraged by seeing the partnership that is continually forged between the hospitals, the churches, and the community with the purpose of helping those in need.

So, when people ask ‘how was your trip?’, I say my heart was broken, my spirit was inspired, and I feel more connected to our mission at Littleton Adventist Hospital of ‘…extending the healing ministry of Christ.’” [Allegra Nelson is Project Lead for Clinical Transitions, Centura Health Physician Group]
go to a women's shelter where we'll bless them with a free spa day! You will love the Scripture, music, laughter, and fun at this retreat for women of all ages, reminding us that God is with us and for us in every season of life!" Sign up at www.rmcsda.org/women. If you plan to stay at the hotel, make your own reservation separate from the retreat registration. For questions, contact Ginger Bell at 720-980-9006.

A similar event is planned for women from the Western Slope on October 3 in Grand Junction.

ARME Bible Camp Returns to Colorado! Back by popular demand, ARME Bible Camp is returning to Glacier View Ranch September 23-27! ARME focuses on teaching how to study the Bible and personally experience the power of God's Word. Are you looking for genuine spiritual revival in your life? Come and learn more about mining the rich treasures from God's Word and develop a more meaningful prayer life. Speakers include: Ivor Myers, Peter Gregory, Martin Kim and Carissa McSherry. ARME also includes a kids program. Watch a video on ARME: https://youtu.be/665ie9lAy6s and eRegister by September 6 and get the early-bird discount at armeministries.org.

Coronary Health Improvement Project Training is Coming to Campion Rick Mautz, RMC health director remembers when Cheri caught him by surprise with a question, “Tell me what I need to do to join your church”. It was at a graduation celebration of an eight-week long CHIP (Coronary Health Improvement Project) program. We all had made new friends and were feeling healthier every week,” he recalls.

Many, like Cheri, had gained more than just health information. Their lives were fuller and they wanted whatever these Adventists had to give. It wasn't long before Cheri was studying with her new friends, then baptized and seen on the front row of the church for years to come.

Health programs like CHIP can be powerful for health as well as life changing. The program is offered by RMC Health Department for churches throughout the conference. As church members experience changed lives and see their health improve, they will also find their congregations become more welcoming, friendly and growing.

For more information about the CHIP program or how to run one in your church or community, contact Rick Mautz at rickm@rmcsda.org or call 530-521-7429. Watch CHIP video at: https://vimeo.com/78279692 or at www.chiphealth.com.

For the next facilitator training for CHIP, contact Kathy at 970-308-2716 or chip@skybeam.com. The training workshop in the Denver-Loveland area will take place October 17-18 at the Campion Seventh-day Adventist Church. Training to run a CHIP program is required through an approved CHIP facilitator workshop.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Denver South Church Gospel singer, Michael Harris, will give a concert at 7:30 p.m., August 29.

Franktown Church John Bradshaw, speaker-director of It Is Written, will be the guest speaker at Franktown Church on
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: 970-513-7242.

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/

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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 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