



news nuggets

Friday, August 4, 2017

Gary Thurber to Ministerial Convention: Be a minister to your family first »

Caring for minister's families became the chief feature at the Mid-American Union Conference ministerial gathering in Omaha, Nebraska, July 30-August 2.

On the opening day of the convention, Ted Williams, pastor of the Fortt Lupton church, would not list his take-away expectations from the gathering. Having attended many such events, he said, "I can only speak of my anticipation." There was a different tune he shared toward the end of the gathering. "I had no expectations, only anticipations. Now I have expectations that we'll be teaming together more efficiently to get the job done that God has called us to do," he commented.



Intentionality to focus the gathering on families - spouses and children alike - was visible from day one of the convention. "They are our first and greatest calling," Mic Thurber, MAUC ministerial director, stated. Ministers were invited to participate in a symbolic and serious commitment of recognizing the cross as the center of their ministry and attached photos of their families on a makeshift wooden cross on the stage. One by one, they came and presented themselves and their loved ones in re-commitment to Christ and the cross.

Nearly 20 breakout sessions ranged from "Creating a visitor-friendly culture in your church" and "Why pastors lose their jobs" and "What pastors (and their spouses) can do," to



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“Coping with crisis,” and “Preaching as a practice: giving our best.”

For Rex Bell, pastor at Fort Morgan and several area churches, the take-away was the inspiration the convention had and “reclaiming the things [of] why one is a minister.” He attended breakout sessions and singled out a presentation on the laws of leadership.

The participants frequently congratulated Mic Thurber for organizing a successful gathering. He said inviting local presenters from the MAUC territory was intentional and the theme was the result of listening to pastors and recognizing their needs. “We have quality professionals who are often overlooked. Here they are, leading in breakout sessions,” he commented.

In his closing and inspiring address, Gary Thurber, MAUC president, gave a take-away challenge to the ministers in attendance. “Number one, the church loves you, and number two, the church gives you permission to be a minister first to your families,” he stated. The “Children of the Promise” convention was attended by 750 ministers, their spouses and children, who could not but note the event’s emphasis on “looking after our families first, then everyone else in our churches. We cannot afford [to] continue losing them,” commented a participant from Lincoln, Nebraska.



Central to the pastor’s conference were three presentations by Mark Gungor, a well-known speaker on marriage and family. His candid and comedic approach in Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage® seminar had a full house of laughter and hearty alleluias. Adventist audiences are not accustomed to hearing public discourses about sex. Gungor argued that the relationship between a man and a woman needs a down-to-earth public hearing.

Gungor said that children are bombarded by sexually-laced messages everywhere and all the time. Christians must do a better job of communicating with each other and becoming role models to our children. Laughter syncopated Gungor’s quips about how differently we are wired, women and men. We



Upcoming Events

Staff Meeting

*August 9, 8:00 a.m. -
12:00 p.m.*

Hispanic Youth Camp

*August 11, 6:00 a.m. -
August 13, 6:00 p.m.*

Hispanic Pastor's Meeting

*(Glenwood Springs)
August 15, 6:00 a.m. -
August 17, 6:00 p.m.*

GVR Board

*August 15, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30
p.m.*

RMC Property & Trust Committee

*August 16, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30
p.m.*

Labor Day -- Office Closed

*September 4, 7:30 a.m. - 5:30
p.m.*

Staff Meeting

September 5, 8:00 a.m. - Noon

Executive Committee

*September 12, 8:00 a.m. -
12:30 p.m.*

RMC CAMP MEETINGS

Wyoming Camp Meeting

Mills Spring Ranch

July 11-15

Contact Jodie Gage 307-
259-5301

must recognize that we talk and listen to each other differently. As the audience filed out of the Embassy Suites ballroom session, one could hear such comments as “brilliant,” “finally we are not afraid to be frank and open about such matters,” or “I am so glad my children heard it, too.”

LeeLee Dart, lead pastor of The Adventure church in Greeley, said that the convention was “the best I’ve been to and I love how there’s a lot of comprehensive knowledge given and taught. I appreciate that they’ve brought in the psychological aspect of a relationship with God, teaching pastors here’s what it is. I appreciate that they’re teaching pastors to love holistically,” she commented.

On the conference’s dominant topic, Lee Lee said “Your ministry is first to your family -- that is the number one thing you need to do. Right now my kids are grown, so right now my husband and I, what we do first is, when we come together to set our schedule for the next couple of months, we put our connection time first. Everything else goes after that. If you don’t, that time will never come. That time is sacred. It will pay off if you consistently do that. When you have a good relationship with your husband and your husband has a good relationship with you, it will affect your ministry.”



The convention participants recognized the longest-serving ministers within the MAUC territories. Eric Nelson, RMC VP for administration, introduced Stephen Schwarz and his wife Judy, for their 33 years of service within the RMC, most recently in Cañon City. “I served in 12 different congregations. Seeing God’s transforming power in people’s lives was the most rewarding thing,” he told *NewsNuggets*.

[Text and photos by Rajmund Dabrowski]

Mission Field in Rocky Mountain Conference Needs Support »

The work on the Navajo Reservation between Farmington and Crown Point, New Mexico began in 1916 when Orno Follett was moved to do something for his Native American neighbors. Since the start of the work, many Navajo people have been introduced to the Savior.

Western Slope Camp Meeting

Montrose, Colorado

August 2-6

Contact Fritz Krieger, 970-497-6175

Hispanic Camp Meeting

Glacier View Ranch

September 1-3

Contact Ruben Rivera 303-910-1614



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,



Lilikai Julian Neal, the first Seventh-day Adventist convert among the great Navajo Indian tribe of the southwest United States received a vision in which she was told to “Go teach My children.” The circle of light Lily saw in her vision with moccasined feet pausing and coming into the circle propelled her to work with the Navajo children to bring them to the light.

La Vida Mission is the result of God’s leading through the decades. It is built on donations – every board, every nail, every piece of equipment, is donated, and the Mission continues to run on miracles.

Offering grades K-12 with a 10:1 student/teacher ratio, the school depends on volunteers to help them with the physical plant as well as with their financial needs.

Currently, La Vida Mission is borrowing from restricted funds to continue operating. The fund is set aside for emergency use, but the Mission cannot continue to use up these funds. If you are moved to help in this important work, mark your tithe envelope “La Vida Mission”.

The school is expecting about 20 students for the new school year who will need school supplies. If your heart is touched by this need, please plan to provide for these Navajo young people so they can start the new school year prepared to learn.

Watch for the yearly school supply drive list which will be sent to churches in early September after which you can drop off supplies at designated churches in time for the October 29 pick-up date. Or, you can make checks payable to La Vida Missions, Inc., PO Box 3308, Farmington NM 87499 or donate online at www.lavidamission.org Your donation is tax-deductible.

[RMCNews; photo by Google]

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.**

Akron Church Members » Akron church members distributed free bottles of water from two motorized golf carts during the parade held at their Eastern Colorado Round-Up: Rodeo and Carnival on the Washington County Fairgrounds. With Pastor Don Lopes and family in one cart and Colleen

Ross and Marta Wells in another, they handed the water bottles to groups in the parade as well as people watching the procession.

Water stations along the route supplying cold water were also sponsored by the church were water stations along the route with cold water available. Helping with these details were Carol Spahr, Flo Ashby and Grace Keller.

Attached to each bottle was a label containing a Scripture verse along with church information. "It was delightful fun," said Marta Wells. "We gave away 240 bottles." [RMCNews: photo by Colleen Ross]



RMC CAMP MEETINGS

Hispanic Camp Meeting » From **September 1-3**, Glacier View Ranch will host Hispanic Camp Meeting with the theme *Small Groups*. Guest speakers include Omar Grieve and Nessy Pittau-Grieve, both from the Hispanic Voice of Prophecy, and Julio Chazarreta from Pacific Press. Lourdes Chazarreta will present music through voice. Worship and activities will be held for the children. Glacier View Ranch is located at 8748 Overland Road, Ward CO 80481. For more information, contact Ruben Rivera at 303-910-1614.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



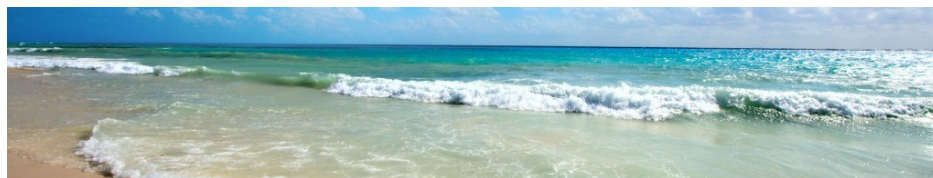
SeaSide Escape » Need a day at the beach? A time to slow down, wiggle your toes in the sand and bask in the warmth of God's presence? Join us at SeaSide Escape. a beach-themed retreat you won't want to miss!

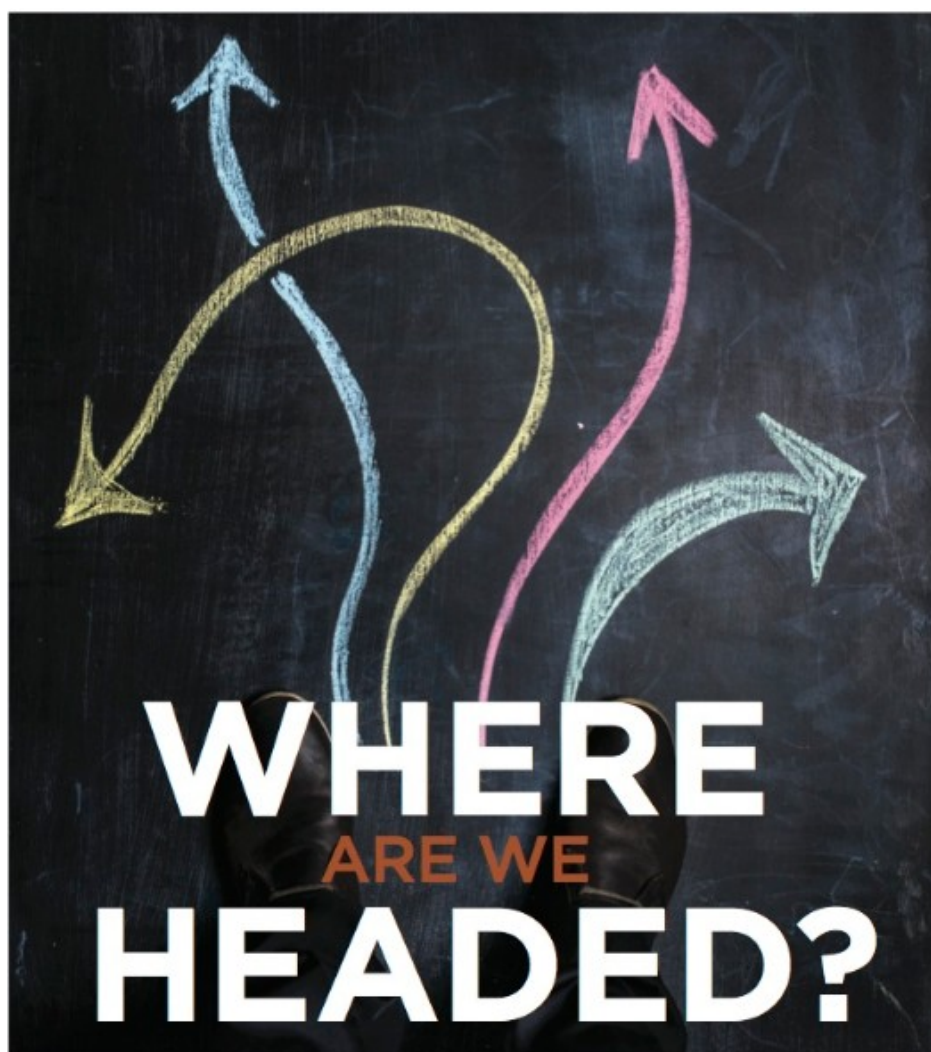
Location: Mills Spring Ranch, Casper Mountain, Casper WY

Date: August 26-27, 3 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Cost: \$50 for meals and activities. Lodging available for additional cost.

Contact: Rhonda McDonald at 307-259-8147 for information and registration.





Sanitas Lectureship » A special one-day event with William G. Johnsson will be held September 23 based on his recent book, *Where Are We Headed? Adventism After San Antonio*. Q & A after sessions:

9:30 a.m. -- It's All About Jesus

11:00 a.m. -- *Will the Women's Issue Split the Church?*

2:00 p.m. -- *The Promise of Adventism*

Boulder Church is located at 345 Mapleton Avenue, Boulder, Colorado 80304, www.boulder.church

The Sanitas Lectureship was established in 2016 to create a safe space for people to connect with God as presented through the lens of the Bible. The annual event includes presentations from world-renowned Old and New Testament scholars designed to demonstrate how the God of the Bible continues to work on the shared story of humanity.

Women's Ministry Retreats 2017 » RMC Women's Ministries is excited to announce the Area Women's Retreats for 2017:

Wyoming: *Seaside Escape—a study of Sarah and Hagar*

Mills Spring Ranch on Casper Mountain

August 26, 27

Contact: Rhonda McDonald: 307-259-8147

Colorado Western Slope: *Falling in Love Again*

Speaker: Darla Sherman

Mountain Top Retreat (15 miles from Montrose)

October 6-8

Contact: Linda Johnson: 970-245-2294

Colorado Metro, NE/SE: *The Best Is Yet To Come*

Speaker and Musician: Jaclynn Huse along with
her daughter Shelby, age 16

Begins Saturday night

September 16

with free concert

at Greeley Adventist Church

Everyone is invited! -- not just for women.

Followed by one-day Women's Retreat

Sunday, September 17

at Pinehurst Country Club in Littleton

Contact: Ginger Bell: 720-980-9006



The Heritage Singers » will be Live in Concert on
Saturday, **August 12** at 7 p.m. at LifeSource Adventist
Fellowship at 6200 West Hampden Avenue in Denver.
Admission is FREE.

SOLAR ECLIPSE AUGUST 21, 2017



MILLS SPRING RANCH CASPER, WYOMING

Full Solar Eclipse Coming in August » Come join us for an epic view of the full solar eclipse at Mills Spring Ranch in Casper, Wyoming! Casper is right in the middle of the solar eclipse path and you can get the best view on top of the mountain at Mills Spring Ranch.

Who: All churches, Pathfinders, and schools are welcome!

When: August 18-22, 2017

Where: Mills Spring Ranch in Casper, Wyoming

Prices:

Family Cabin of 4: \$50/night

Bunk House: \$10/person per night

RV Space (includes electricity): \$25/night

Tent Camping: \$15/night

Space is limited, so call to reserve your space!

Call or email Matt Moreland, [661-805-6797](tel:661-805-6797) mattm@rmcsda.org

Journey Through the Holy Land » You are invited on the trip of a lifetime! Join others from the RMC on September 3-11 as we explore the land where Jesus walked. This is a spiritual pilgrimage that is guaranteed to be deeply impactful to

your faith. A 4-day extension trip to Eilat and Petra is also being offered. The trip is limited to 30 people, so don't wait. For more information, [CLICK HERE](#), or email pastordave@newdaysda.com.



Newday's Journey Through the Holy Land 2017
September 3–11, 2017 From \$3500

Join us in the place where God was born as a human baby, where Elijah called down fire from heaven, where the Israelites crossed the Jordan, and where Jesus was crucified and resurrected—JOIN US IN THE LAND WHERE THE BIBLE COMES ALIVE!

Space is limited! Follow the link to reserve your seat today.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Mile High Academy » has immediate openings for the 2017-18 school year for two part-time bus drivers. Qualified candidates will be at least 21 years old, possess, or be able to obtain, a current Colorado driver's license (commercial driver's license preferred), have no more than two traffic citations and no at-fault accidents during the last three years. The candidate must also possess current U.S. work authorization. While maintaining the dignity and respect for all students, the bus driver's primary responsibility is the safety of students while transporting them to and from school. To request an application, send an email to vivienv@rmcsda.org or call 303-282-3653.

Three positions are also available on their extended campus at the Guangdong Experimental Shunde Campus. Room and board is provided, along with one round-trip ticket and insurance during stay. The science (1) and ESL (2) teachers will be using MHA's curriculum as well as their books and philosophy. For more information, go to <http://www.gdsysd.com/Home/IndexEnglish> and/or contact Toakase Vunileva at tvunileva@milehighacademy.org.

Campion Academy » is looking for a part-time English teacher with a master's degree and SDA certification. To apply, send your resume to Don Reeder at don.reeder@campion.net.

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->

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 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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