



news nuggets

Friday, December 21, 2018



***May the joy of Christmas be
a gift you receive during this Season
when we are reminded
of Jesus' gift to each of us!
NewsNuggets Editors***

Increase in Tithing Reported to RMC Executive Committee »

At the last 2018 meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference, the Executive Committee heard the report that Conference gross tithe was up 7.74 percent. George Crumley, RMC VP for finance said that year-to-date over the prior year, tithe and RMC Advance offerings were down 2.79 percent when compared to 2017.

"RMC Advance offering has been trending down and we need to give emphasis to how that offering is utilized, which is to benefit the RMC exclusively in a number of areas, such as evangelism and education to name a few," Crumley reported.


The committee members received the 2017 audit report issued by our outside auditors. The report included a clean opinion in regards to RMC financial operations.

The Conference treasurer also presented the October year-to-date Financial Statement noted that our bottom line is tracking close to what we budgeted for 2018, which was positive news.

Crumley presented the 2019 preliminary budget for the Conference. "This allows us to look ahead before we end the

"Religion is at its best when it makes us ask hard questions of ourselves. It is at its worst when it deludes us into thinking we have all the answers for everybody else"


-- Archibald MacLeish

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year to help us get an idea of budget challenges and possibilities,” he said. A revised budget will be presented at a February Executive Committee meeting.

A stewardship theme was part of the President’s report. He recognized the faithfulness of church members within the Conference. “We must continue to emphasize the importance of our generosity and the difference it makes for the mission and ministry of the church. The importance of being faithful to God is the theme of the special edition of *Mountain Views* on giving, just sent to our church members,” said Ed Barnett.

The committee voted to close the Common Ground Church in Colorado Springs as of December 31. The committee recognized a formal request voted by the remaining church members due to a decline in membership. They will put their resources and energy to work with other area churches.

Personnel changes in the youth ministries department were presented and voted. As reported in the *NewsNuggets* last week, the RMC Executive Committee voted to invite assistant youth ministries director Kiefer Dooley to become the youth ministries director for the Conference. Kiefer joined RMC staff the summer of 2016 as assistant camp director and then filled the position of assistant youth director in July of that same year.

Jessyka Dooley, current associate pastor for the Boulder Church, focusing on children and youth, ages 0-17, will fill the assistant director position. Kiefer and Jessyka married in October.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is planned for February 20, 2019.

--RMCNews

David Rodriguez Ordained in Westminster » David Rodriguez was ordained to the gospel ministry on Sabbath, December 15, at the Westminster Hispanic Church with every Hispanic pastor in the conference flanking him on the platform.



In a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, Rodriguez and his wife of six months shared stories from their background in



Upcoming Events

Christmas Eve

Office Closed at Noon

New Year's Eve

Office Closed at Noon

Pastors Meetings

January 6 - 9

NAD Adventist Ministries Convention

*January 13 - 16,
Albuquerque, NM*

Wyoming Taskforce Meeting

February 10

RMC Staff Meeting

February 12

GVR Board

February 19

RMC Property and Trust

February 20

RMC Staff Meeting

March 5

NAD Treasurers Council

March 27-28



Story Guidelines: We want to share your

Columbia and from their journeys to ministry. Sometimes funny, sometimes inspiring, the stories included the loss of David's mother as a teenager and her "delicate and passionate work" as she nurtured him toward adulthood. Even in death, her influence lived on, influencing him to "bring Him all I am," and to attend Adventist University (UNAC) in Medellin Columbia when he was 19 where he took theology.

He talked also about his ministry in Columbia and in the Rocky Mountain Conference, expressing his appreciation to Pastors Gordon Anic, Eric Nelson, and Orlando Magaña for their contribution to his ministry and growth.

"It was evident from his testimony that God has had His hand in his life, supporting and sustaining him," said Eric Nelson, VP for Rocky Mountain Conference.

"I was pleased with the attendance from all the churches in Rodriguez' district, including Greeley Hispanic, Westminster Hispanic, and Pecos (Denver Hispanic)," said Ruben Rivera, "I felt the Holy Spirit was with us and sensed the support of the whole team with most of the Spanish pastors available to attend the ordination ceremony. It was nice to be able to express our feelings to him," concluded Rivera.

After the service, church members shared tostados and hot chocolate.

-- Carol Bolden; photo by Jerene Nelson

MHA Alumni Return for Traditional Christmas Breakfast »

At the Upper School traditional Christmas breakfast on the last day before Christmas break, MHA alumni returned for a visit and parent volunteers made hundreds of pancakes that were eaten as fast as they came off the griddle.

Current students welcomed them with big smiles and special handshakes as though they had never been gone. Sitting with teachers, alumni talked about their college classes and plans for the future. Easing back into the rhythm of MHA quickly and beautifully, no one could tell an alum from a current student from the outside.

"The teachers were a huge influence on my life, so I come



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

Campion Academy Students Enter into the Christmas Spirit »

In celebration of the twelve days of Christmas, Campion girls deans provided a series of treats for the girls who, in the midst of finals, needed a diversion. Junior student Beverly Onsoe said, "I love how they gave some nice complementary food which gave us the taste of Christmas."

For the ninth day of Christmas, the deans prepared an ornament decorating craft. Sophomore student Odalis Mata says, "It's been pretty fun! It's a good way to bond with the other girls as we were decorating ornaments together."



Junior student Adrianna Campbell said, "I loved being able to interact with the girls, especially since I'm new here. I also liked being creative, not only in the halls, but with the ornaments. It was a great way to get ready for Christmas."



Scrambling to clean their rooms for Open House, the boys were motivated by the thought that this is the one event where the girls are actually allowed into their rooms. Christmas music played as the girls toured

the rooms and, having never before seen the boys dorm rooms, they thought it was quite an experience. The boys had strung colored lights and mini Christmas trees and some offered candy.

Sydney Michalenko with Jessica Singon; photos supplied

Women of the Manger Highlighted at Grand Junction Christmas Program »

For weeks, women of the Grand Junction Seventh-day Adventist Church practiced in anticipation of the performances for *Women of the Manger*, a program highlighting the perspective of eight women surrounding the birth of Christ and how their experiences impacted their lives.



Featured were Elizabeth, the mother of John, the mother of Joseph, the mother of Mary, the wife of a Wiseman, the wife of a shepherd, a daughter of the innkeeper, the wife of the innkeeper, and, of course, Mary, the mother of Jesus. Many in attendance were brought to tears as they contemplated what it would have been like to be a part of the events surrounding Christ's birth.



Two performances, coordinated by Sandy Carosella and Sandi Adcox, both members of the Grand Junction Seventh-day Adventist Church, were held on Saturday, December 15 ,

one at the 11:00 a.m. worship service; the other at 7:00 .p.m. Some 355 people attended the two presentations, including many from the community.

-- Rachel Skaife with Sandi Adcox; photo by Ron Carrick

Heralds of Hope Chorale Will Hold Live Celebration of Bethlehem Story »

An international mixed-voice chamber choir, the Heralds of Hope Chorale, will hold a live performance of the Bethlehem story at 6 p.m.,

December 22 at the Colorado Springs Central Church.



Formed in 2004, the group brings together musicians from eight or nine states to perform classical and contemporary choral works in English, Spanish and Romanian.

Their Christmas Concert series, 13th Edition, will bring joyful worship to Prince Emmanuel, the One who more than 2000 years ago came as a baby to bring the Good news of Salvation to a lost humanity.

The Colorado Springs Central Church is located at 1305 N. Union Blvd., Colorado Springs.

Glacier View Ranch Given Norm Middag Award of Excellence »

The Norm Middag Award of Excellence for 2018 was given to Glacier View Ranch at the Adventist Association of Camp Professionals (AACP), held this year at Camp Kalaqua Retreat Center in Hot Springs, Florida on December 1. GVR was one of three camps this year to receive the award in recognition of their accreditations, summer camp program, year-round programming and facilities.



Dan Hansen, director of camp ministries at Glacier View Ranch, and his wife Julia, GVR guest services, accepted the award, one of three, during the ceremony. The North American Division has a total of 67

camps.

"I feel very honored and grateful for the opportunities that God gives us in the camp ministries," said Dan Hansen after a GVR board held at the Conference office.

-- Carol Bolden; photo by Rajmund Dabrowski

Daystar School: Lessons in History » What can we learn from history? This was the essential question for the recent Daystar Christian School's project-based learning (PBL) assignment. After months of research, benchmark assignments, peer edits, rough drafts, college history guest lecturers, and lots of hard work, the students presented their projects at the Pueblo Lamb Library on December 12.



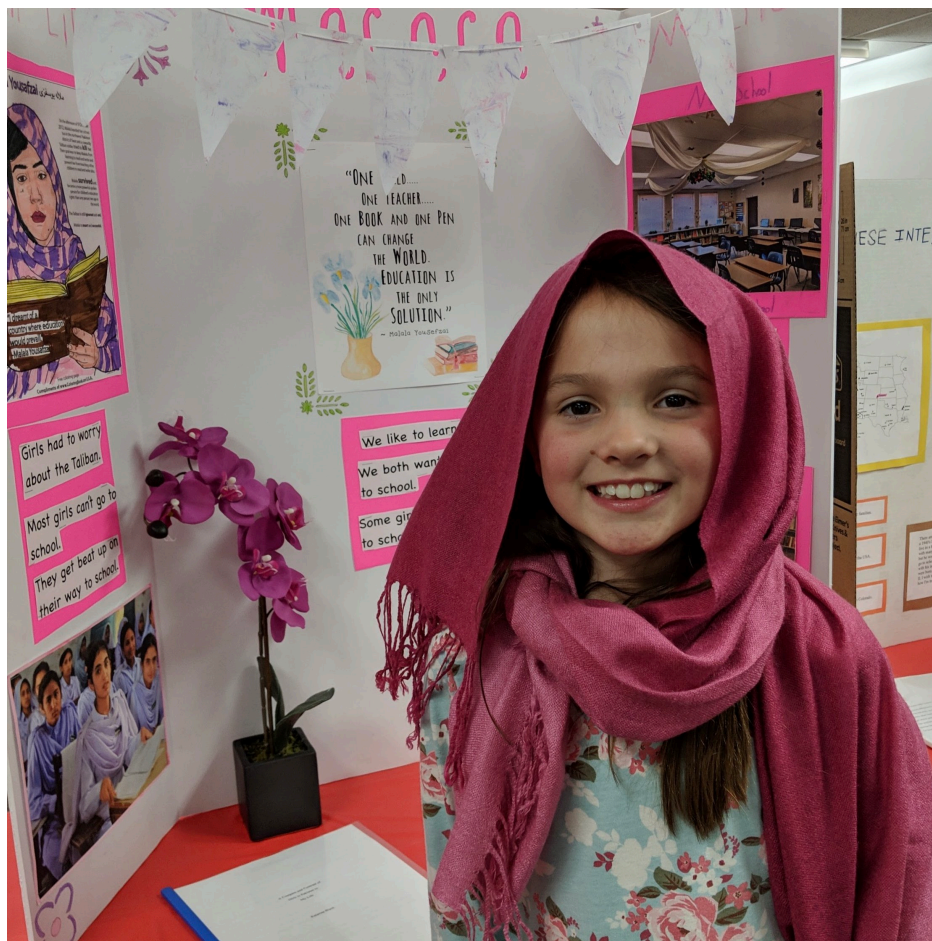
"I loved how we could learn about the past. It's good we're learning about the past so that we don't repeat it," said Katarina Black, 4th grader. Black did a project comparing her life to the life of girls in Pakistan. "I learned that we shouldn't judge people without getting to know them first."

The students presented their information on tri-folds and in essay form. Parents, church members, and community members came to support the students, but to also learn. They asked the students in-depth questions about their projects.

"The students all knew what they were talking about and presented the information very well. It was a pleasure seeing the students learn about the important history subjects that they picked out. They all seemed to enjoy presenting what they learned," said Janet Vasquez, Daystar parent.

Michelle Velbis, Principal of Daystar said, "The students learned to appreciate their freedoms from this project and are more aware of how to be agents of change in their communities now. As Martin Luther King Jr. said, 'History is a great teacher.'"

"I am so proud of these kids. Seeing them study a piece of history is so refreshing. They are learning how to better study



and question our history and how we can better our future,” said youth pastor of the Pueblo First Church, JJ Martinez.

Adelita Marquez, a 3rd grader who did a project on the Trail of Tears, summed it up very well, “I learned that even though we might be different from other people, we should show them our best respect.”

-- Michelle Velbis, text and photo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

25 Days of Christmas » Mile High Academy is counting down the 25 days of Christmas and inviting you to join. Each day, they will have a great idea for giving to Mile High Academy, but you can give toward anything you're passionate about -- student scholarships, teachers, classrooms, programs, etc. You can find out more by going to <https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/WebLink.aspx?name=E333258&id=2>

10 Days of Prayer » Plan now for j10 Days of Prayer. This is a global church event. You can find everything you need to host 10 Days of Prayer at YOUR church at www.tendaysofprayer.org. Want to join in but a bit hesitant about leading out? We'll be happy to coach you and pray together with you! (call DeeAnn at 303-243-1172) **RMC - LET'S PRAY!**

Another Prayer Conference Opportunity» In addition to our weekly RMC prayer call that takes place at 6:30 a.m. Wednesdays, you are welcome to join another prayer call at

8:30 a.m. Sundays with Tammy Romero, prayer ministry leader at True Life Community Church. To join, call 669-900-6833 and key in the pin 541451286#. "Feel free to just listen or to join in praying," invites Romero, "and let's come before the throne."

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Mile High Academy » Immediate openings are available for substitute teachers for all grade levels at Mile High Academy. Applicants should have experience working with children and be able to maintain a positive classroom environment while carrying out the teacher's lesson plans in classrooms as assigned. High school diploma required. Bachelors or some college preferred. Days/hours are on an as-needed basis. For more information, please contact Brenda Rodie at 303-744-1069. For an application, send an email request to HR@rmcsda.org.

HMS Richards Elementary » Part-time preschool teacher needed at HMS. We are growing and looking for an enthusiastic teacher to lead our preschool program. Must be ECE teacher certified. Do not need to be director certified. Please contact Davin Hammond or Kari Lange for more information @ (970) 667-2427.

ESL Teacher Needed for Mile High Academy Sister School China Campus » Mile High Academy still has a position available on their extended campus at the Guangdong Experimental Shunde - **ESL Teacher Needed**

This is a unique opportunity to serve as a teacher in Shunde China at Mile High Academy's extended campus at the Guangdong Experimental Shunde. Please see link below to explore the

school: <http://www.gdsysd.com/Home/IndexEnglish>

Contact Principal Toakase Vunileva at tvunileva@milehighacademy.org for questions or to submit your resume.

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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