



# news nuggets

## **Executive Committee Concerned About "Unity in Mission" Document »**

On December 6, the Executive Committee of the Rocky Mountain Conference voted to affirm a response by the Mid-America Union Committee to a document entitled, "[Unity in Mission: Procedures in Church Reconciliation](#)," and approved by the recent Annual Council of the General Conference.

In this document, the world church body is calling church organizations to address compliance with church policies and in Part Two of the "Unity in Mission" document, a one-year process is identified for consultations at various levels of the church's structure. The document calls for the General Conference Administrative Committee to draft a proposal on the next course of action and submit it to the 2017 Annual Council for approval.

Ed Barnett, RMC president, presented the MAUC action for consideration by the committee. "We are living in interesting times in this tired old world," he commented.

"The voted document at the General Conference Annual Council meetings in October has caused some real concerns around the globe," he said.

"At it's recent Year-end Meeting, the Mid-American Union Conference Executive Committee expressed concern about the ramifications of the General Conference document, the committee spent considerable time drawing up a response which was voted with a request to be discussed by local conferences," Barnett added.

Several committee members also expressed concerns with potential implications of the "Unity in Mission" action, and following a discussion, the RMC Executive Committee voted to affirm the MAUC document. What follows is the voted action:

*The Mid-America Union Conference executive committee, after reviewing the "Unity in Mission" document voted by the General Conference executive committee at the 2016 Annual*

Friday, December 9, 2016



As we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus, may we reach out to our neighbors and those around us who are in need.

[NewsNuggets Archive](#)

[RMC Facebook](#)

[RMC Website](#)

[Tweet](#)

[Forward to Friend](#)

[Share](#)

Council, wishes to express the following thoughts about this action:

- *We share the need for and pray for worldwide unity and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.*
- *We affirm the document's call to mutual listening, consultation, and prayer as we work together over differences.*
- *We, as a protestant organization, believe the true authority of our church lies with the local members comprising our churches. Furthermore, we recognize our working policies delegate authority to our constituencies as voted by our church members.*
- *We believe all members and entities in the church should be held accountable when needed by the constituencies to which they are responsible, as has been outlined by our church's working policies. We see this as paramount, because to do otherwise would be a departure from our protestant heritage. By staying with and following our long-held policies for accountability, the appearance or threat of kingly power is held in check.*
- *We express grave concern with the Unit Document's establishing working policy as on par with our fundamental beliefs. Whereas policy is made for the organizing of our church for the purpose of mission, our fundamental beliefs speak to the Biblical truths we hold as a people.*

*We are alarmed by the "Unity in Mission" document and object to the direction it is taking our church. True unity will not be achieved based on voted policies, but rather through our spirit of "Christlike forbearance," as Ellen White counsels us to do.*

*"The church may pass resolution upon resolution to put down all disagreement of opinions, but we cannot force the mind and will and thus root out disagreement. These resolutions may conceal the discord, but they cannot quench it and establish a perfect agreement. Nothing can perfect unity in the church but the spirit of Christlike forbearance." (MS 24, 1892)*

The committee was also presented with information relating to its current financial situation. A year-to-date October 31 conference base tithe (excludes windfall tithes) is up by .67 percent. It was noted that, in the month of October, tithe



---

## Upcoming Events

---

**GVR Board**  
*CANCELLED*

---

**RMC Property & Trust Committee**  
*CANCELLED*

---

**Christmas Day -- Office Closed**  
*December 26*

---

**New Year's Day -- Office Closed**  
*January 2, 2017*

---

**Staff Meeting**  
*January 3, 8:00 a.m.*

---

**NAD Ministries Conference**  
*January 7 - 11*

---

**Pastor's Meetings**  
*January 28 - 30*

---

**Staff Meeting**  
*February 6, 8 a.m. - Noon*

---

**RMC Property & Trust Committee**  
*February 15, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.*

---

**President's Day -- Office Closed**

weakened, as did our Rocky Mountain Conference Advance offerings, which were down by 2.82 percent year-to-date. "Even though tithe has weakened, we are still tracking better than anticipated in our Conference Operating Budget," said George Crumley, VP for finance.

Crumley also presented the 2017 Preliminary Conference Operating Budget. "At this stage, we have a balanced budget for the coming year. After we receive the full financial data for 2016, we will prepare a revised budget to be presented at our February 2017 Executive Committee meeting," he stated.

Following an Audit Review Committee's review of the 2015 Audited Statement and Associated Reports, the conference was given a clean audit opinion, which was shared with the Executive Committee.

In other actions, the committee also invited Craig Carr, RMC ministerial director, to become the Wyoming Taskforce chairman, and DeeAnn Bragaw from Loveland, Colorado, to become the Prayer Coordinator for RMC. She will succeed Mitch Williams who now pastors in California. Among the plans and responsibilities identified to be undertaken in that role, DeeAnn Bragaw hopes to develop relationships with local church prayer coordinators and develop conference-wide prayer partnerships.

The committee was also informed that there are new positions currently being considered in eight church districts in Colorado and Wyoming.

[Rajmund Dabrowski]

---

### **Golden Pathfinders Hold Pathfinder Sabbath with Volunteers of America »**



The room grew quiet as the Golden Pathfinders began their opening ceremonies on Sabbath, November 26, marching into the sanctuary singing "We are the Pathfinders strong" in

February 15

---

### **Executive Committee**

February 21, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

---

### **GVR Board**

February 21, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

---

### **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 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



voices loud and clear.

Celebrating Pathfinder Sabbath in collaboration with Volunteers of America (VOA) and the International Church, Seventh-day Adventist church members and visitors alike filled the VOA mission located in Denver's downtown district. The mission feeds the homeless and destitute every day and church services are held during the week and on Sundays.

Michael, a homeless man in attendance, asked if he could sing during the service. Singing not once, but twice, he provided a real blessing to the congregation.

More than 230 meals were served following the church service and many conversations were shared on the Adventist faith. Voices were lifted up to God in prayer for those who requested it.

The director and manager of the VOA, local Seventh-day Adventist members, encourage other churches to participate by providing a church service, feeding the homeless, and donating clothing, personal hygiene items, computers and other electronics, and/or their time. For more information, call 303-295-2165.

[George Martinez and Diana Bucholtz]

---

### **A JaMerican Ministers at Colorado Springs Central »**

Working with Pastor Mike Maldonado as assistant for pastoral care, Marcia Armstead has become part of the fabric of the Colorado Springs Central Church tapestry.

For the past seven years, Marcia has blessed the church in this capacity, the first five, as a volunteer and the last two, as an employee of the Rocky Mountain Conference.

She was honored by her church on November 5 during what Pastor Maldonado called an "assistant pastoral appreciation" moment.



A graduate of Colorado Christian University with a B.S. in

church members.

**Please email your story to [nuggets@rmcsda.org](mailto: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.**

---

Organizational Management and Christian Leadership, Marcia is also an ordained elder of the church.

She was born in Jamaica, West Indies and migrated to the United States when she was 12. Her journey has been "very challenging and rewarding", but working with Pastor Mike and Brenda in nurturing members and attendees at Central Church has been "the hallmark of God's purpose for my life," Marcia explains.

"Marcia is a big part of our congregation," explains Pastor Mike Maldonado. "She is helping to raise the level of spirituality in our church through her work on the prayer team and through pastoral visitation. We thank God for the gifts she shares with our congregation."

The widow of Pastor Eugene Armstead, Sr., Marcia has worked in many institutions not directly connected with local church activities including administrative assistant for the General Conference Headquarters and for Adventist Health Systems. She also worked as ombudsman for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and retired from the State of Colorado Judicial System: Office of Dispute Resolution and Mediation. Marcia believes that "an integration of experiences in all these areas has helped [to provide] effective leadership and discipleship."

Since 1992, Marcia has spearheaded a motivational speaking group, doing several television interviews along with her consultants. She is the author of two books, *The Complete Wo/Man: An Index to the Heart* and *Fragrance of God's Love*, an autobiography, both published by Teach Services, Inc.

A radio and television host for *Fragrance of God's Love*, Marcia also served as chaplain for Memorial Hospital in Colorado Springs.

"My reward and joy now," Marcia declares with exuberance, "is watching Central Church grow spiritually and physically under the able leadership of Pastor Mike, who has taught me the ins and outs of practical Christian leadership."

[Mike Maldonado with Marcia Armstead; photo provided by Marcia Armstead: L-R Marcia Armstead, Brenda Maldonado, Pastor Mike Maldonado]

---

## **Daystar Students Win Awards in Pueblo Library Creative Writing Contest »**

"We're always excited to receive entries from Daystar Christian Schook, as your students always do such outstanding work," said Sara Schwartz, program and events manager for the Pueblo



Each of the five 5th through 7th grade students from Daystar were recently notified that they had won awards for the 2016 Youth Creative Writing Contest. Their work was chosen from more than 100 entries because of their excellent word choice, plot development, paragraphing, editing and proofreading.

Noah Tivis, Daystar 5th grader, exclaimed, "I felt very happy that I was able to achieve this award and win a prize in a writing contest."

Each winner received a certificate of achievement, a booklet containing all the winning entries, and a gift certificate to a local bookstore.

"My students enjoy writing and it is so nice when they are rewarded for their talents and hard work," said Michelle Velbis, principal and head teacher at Daystar Christian School.

[Text and photo by Michelle Velbis; Winners L-R: Bella Kilfoy, 2nd place/5th grade; Luke Velbis, 3rd place/6th grade; Noah Tivis, 3rd place/5th grade; Audra Bennett, 2nd place/6th grade; Collin Velbis 1st place/7th grade]

---

## **God Gives a Miracle to Greeley Adventist School »**



Greeley Adventist Christian School's music and Spanish teacher, Chaeli Ferguson, was sent to the emergency room by her physician with an irregular heart rhythm on Wednesday, November 30.

Worried that she would not be able to hold music practice for the Christmas program the following day, she called fellow teacher, Gayla Groeneweg, to inform her of the procedure she would need to regulate her heart. Her doctors were particularly

concerned that she was having these problems at such a young age.

Gayla assured her that the program was secondary to her health and promised that the school would be praying for a good outcome.

The following morning, Thursday, December 1, students and staff at the Greeley school gathered for a special time of prayer right after school began at 8:30 a.m.

During a morning break, Gayla texted Chaeli, wanting to send an encouraging thought after her procedure. To her surprise, Chaeli texted back almost immediately, saying that the procedure was cancelled. In the process of signing release forms for the anesthesiologist, her doctors rechecked her heart monitor and were perplexed to find that her heart had returned to a normal rhythm on its own.

"What time did the doctors discover your heart returned to its normal rhythm?" Gayla asked. The answer -- 8:30 a.m. -- the exact time students and staff at the school were praying for her.

It was an answer to prayer God gave, an unquestionable miracle that Thursday morning.

Greeley Adventist Christian School was established in 1916 and currently has 45 students.

[Gayla Groeneweg]

---

## **True Life Community Church Uses Hacksaw Ridge as Springboard to Connections »**

Ten boxes of the booklet, The Faith of Desmond Doss, were shipped to the home of Pastor Robert Reynolds well before the November 2 release date of Hacksaw Ridge, the film which tells the story of Desmond Doss who served during the Battle of Okinawa during WWII. The booklets were intended to be shared with the community, many of whom would learn about Doss' witness to his Seventh-day Adventist beliefs. Although Doss refused to carry a gun, he became the first man in American history to receive the Medal of Honor without firing a single shot.

"Most people don't know that the movie received a ten-minute standing ovation at its World Premiere in the 73rd Venice Film Festival," Reynolds explains.

Church members placed a sticker identifying their church and its contact information on the flyleaf of the booklet and gave out 1,000 books within just a few days. The response was overwhelming. People coming out of the movie were often



speechless and enthusiastically took the book. Some wanted more to give to friends. Several veterans were thrilled to receive the material and church members are interested in ordering more books.

The movie could well be in the spotlight longer as Mel Gibson may be nominated for an award as its director. "We think this is the optimal time," explains Reynolds, "to put material into the hands of people who may never have heard of Seventh-day Adventists."

[Pastor Robert Reynolds]

---

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

**Share Infographics From BibleInfo.com to Tell Story of Desmond Doss »** On November 4, Hacksaw Ridge was released on the big screen. In this film--which is based on true events--Desmond Doss, a medic in the U.S. Army, braves heavy enemy fire and saves an estimated 75 lives by lowering them down a cliff to safety. Even though Doss repeatedly risks his life to save his fellow soldiers, he is remarkably spared by the power of God and eventually receives the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions. Inspired by this amazing story, on the Voice of Prophecy's Bibleinfo.com website, you will find in-depth infographics that explain the true story of Hacksaw Ridge. These resources answer questions such as: \*Where is Hacksaw Ridge and what does it look like today?  
\*How would Doss compare with a modern-day soldier?  
\*How can the lessons from Doss' experience impact my life?  
Go to [www.bibleinfo.com/doss](http://www.bibleinfo.com/doss) for more information.

---



**Franktown Church »** Come celebrate the season at the Franktown Church. The Franktown Children's Choir presents



The Story of the Other Wise Man, 6:30 p.m. December 10,  
905 North Hwy 83, Franktown CO 80116.

---



---

### Mile High Academy »



---

**Parker Adventist Hospital »** Today's internet pornography is not yesterday's AOL or Compuserve. With access to free and unlimited broadband internet in the palm of their hands, today's teenagers face an almost unimaginable addictive drug in the form of free and unlimited pornography. Parker Adventist Hospital is offering a one-hour seminar from **6-7:30 p.m.** **Tuesday, December 13** in their Inspiration Conference Room which will equip parents to begin the conversation with their teens and share updated statistics, tools and resources to help fight back against this uniquely modern blight facing our children. Come to be equipped, learn something new and find hope.

---

## **RMC Youth Mission**

### **Trip to Waianae »**

Calling all teens! Join the Rocky Mountain Conference Youth Department for a mission trip to Waianae on the island of Oahu. Projects include evangelistic meetings, VBS, homeless/health ministry

and building projects at Camp Waianae. For more information and to register, visit [www.rmcyouth.org/mission-trip-2017](http://www.rmcyouth.org/mission-trip-2017) or call 303-282-3660. Registration deadline extended until December 31. Adults can join as a trip chaperone. Spots are limited, so contact Shannon Werner at [shannonw@rmcsda.org](mailto:shannonw@rmcsda.org) for more information and to register.



### **Copper Mountain Lift Tickets at**

**Discounted Rate »** Order your tickets from RMC's Youth Department:

Adult (ages 13+) \$65 each

\$2 off per ticket for purchases of 5-24

\$5 off per ticket for purchases of 25

Child (ages 6-12) \$58 each flat rate

Flat mailing fee of \$3 per order or pick up at the RMC

Conference office free!

Certified Copper Mountain Lift Tickets for the 2016-17 ski season are day passes.

**Ticket supply is limited, so order today!**

To purchase tickets, visit [www.rmcyouth.org/snowfun](http://www.rmcyouth.org/snowfun) or call 303-282-3664.

**Boulder Church »** The Boulder Adventist Church is actively building a "mental health" database of professionals. If you are currently licensed in the state of Colorado or know of a professional in the field you could recommend, please contact Pastor Japhet De Oliveira at [japhet@boulder.church](mailto:japhet@boulder.church). We have particular needs for Christian specialists, but are open to other affiliations.



**HELP US SPREAD THE WORD! »** We would like to break yet another record for attendance at a One project gathering. Our San Diego gathering (February 24-27, 2017) includes a two-day focus on the book of Revelation on Saturday and Sunday, as well as an evening of creative worship preceding the gathering and the one-day Create conference afterward. There are special programs for teens and children. If you haven't registered yet, do so now! Remember to book your accommodation early while rooms are still available. For information on the One project, contact Boulder Adventist Church pastor Japhet De Oliveira: t. 303-601-6349 e. [japhet@boulder.church](mailto:japhet@boulder.church)

**The Black Hills Lifestyle Medicine Center »** is pleased to announce their partnering with one of the most respected and current lifestyle outpatient educational programs globally. They now use the CHIP (Complete Health Improvement Program) materials for the core curriculum in this unique residential lifestyle treatment program. This partnership not only improves the Black Hills Lifestyle program, but also provides an upgrade toward a more research-driven and evidence-based program. Graduates will be both Black Hills Lifestyle alumni as well as CHIP alumni, giving them access to CHIP resources, including local CHIP chapters and online materials. CHIP alumni who sign up for a Black Hills session and bring their CHIP Kit with them will receive a \$100 reduction in program fee. This holiday season, give yourself or your loved one the gift of improved health. Our gift to you? A \$500 scholarship plus a generous transportation allowance. Our latest program runs from December 4-22. Call today for a

### **Christmas Wish List from Glacier View Ranch »**

Please choose one or more items that speak to your heart or join with someone else:

Naturalizing perennial **flower bulbs** (for around ranch, front entrance sign); **Garden hoses** for watering; **Bushes** for landscaping around buildings; **Grass seed** for lake front; **lamp shades** for lodge guest rooms; **Window treatments** for lodge guest rooms; **Furniture** for common area in lodge; **Paint** for inside lodge, exterior of summer camp cabins, pool meeting room, cafeteria, summer camp office, all building exteriors; **Stain** for exterior wood; **Heaters** for summer camp cabins; **Curtain rods and curtains** for summer camp cabins; **Insulation, sheet rock and installation** in breezeway; **Doors** in breezeway; **PA system** for lodge, auditorium, Long House and Campfire Bowl; **Fencing** to update and unify ranch fencing; **Road treatment** of gravel and/or solution for summertime dust; **Razor** for summer camp activity; **Razor Track** to prevent unnecessary accidents; **Pool repair** of paint and water to refill pool after repair; **Pool ceiling repair** and insulation; **De-Humidifier** in pool area; **Snow blower** to clear ranch roads in winter; **Man-lift** for maintenance in high areas; **Swings** for lake front, prayer garden and cafeteria areas; **Commercial washer** for laundry room; **Commercial dryer** for laundry room; **Benches** for Camp Fire Bowl and Wagon Camp; **Flooring** for cafeteria; New **kitchen equipment** for main kitchen and prep area; **Fridge, freezer, oven/range** for Long House kitchen; **Box truck, van/suburban, pick-up truck; RTV/Gator/Polaris; 60'x80' activity building** for use in bad weather; **New building** for Nature Center.

Check GVR website for updates at

<http://www.glacierviewranch.com/projects-donation-opportunities/>

---

**Financial Peace University »** The Littleton Church is hosting Financial Peace University beginning at 6:30 p.m. January 9. For more information, text Daniel at 720-668-6529. The church is located at 7400 S Windermere Street, Littleton CO 80120.

---

**Prison Ministries Training »** The Alliance of Prison Ministry Organizations & Affiliates (APMOA) announces its biennial prison ministry training convocation on July 27-29,



2017 in Crystal City, Virginia, just outside of Washington, D.C. Plan to attend and make it a family vacation. To get a training convocation brochure when it becomes available, email [laurieanne2011@hotmail.com](mailto:laurieanne2011@hotmail.com)

---

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

---



**Voice of Prophecy:** The Voice of Prophecy is looking to fill three positions: gift planning departmental assistant with accounting experience

and digital content specialist/webmaster. For more information, visit <http://vop.com/jobs>.

---

## NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEB!

---



## SIGN UP FOR *NewsNUGGETS*



[www.rmcsda.org](http://www.rmcsda.org)

---

***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](mailto: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](http://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*

---

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Rocky Mountain Conference of Seventh-day Adventists · 2520 S. Downing St. · Denver, CO 80210 · USA