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**GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION**  
**SPECIAL EDITION - #4 FINAL**

## Colors of the

## Session » Forget the

tension. Forget the arguments and the debates. Forget for a moment that the General Conference Session is a business



meeting. Instead think of this: there are thousands of people from all over the world meeting new friends and reuniting with old ones, exploring the many ministries the Seventh-day Adventist Church can boast of, and overall enjoying themselves.

Vararaj Dakkumalla and Dhyagaraj Dakkumalla are brothers from India. Dhyagaraj, who still lives in India with his wife, has been a pastor his entire life. Vararaj moved to California with his wife and currently lives in San Diego. Both couples arrived on Friday, ready to enjoy some family time together. "It's hotter and more humid in India than it is here," Vararaj said. "So it has been too cold for us in the dome!"

They unanimously agreed that their favorite day was the women's ordination. "It's what we came for," admitted Dhyagaraj. "We did get the result we wanted." They also enjoyed the Asian division program on Tuesday night, with the native costumes and the display of the various flags. "Seeing them all together as a mixture of cultures was very wonderful," Dhyagaraj said.

Della Clement-Nwaoha is originally from the West Indies, Grenada specifically. She attended Andrews University in 1986 before settling in New York. While at the GC, she has been searching through the convention center for a place to send her son for high school. “I don’t mind which school I send him to as long as

Thursday, July 10, 2015



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## Upcoming Events

## General Conference

July 1-12

## Concert - Christian Berdhal

July 11

Location: Woodland Park Church

Time: 2:30 p.m.

it's out of New York.” she said. “I know that the Adventist academies all have that emphasis on mission which is what I want for him.” [\[more\]](#) (photo by James Bokovoy)



**Millennials in Conversation: "Here to Vote, Not Kill Each Other!"** » Two young people, Katie Morrison and Maxwell Aka, sat down and had a conversation regarding the General Conference in session. Morrison, age 21 and a senior at Union College, works as a communication intern at the Rocky Mountain Conference. Aka, age 24,

works in the youth department at the Ontario Conference. This is the first General Conference either of them have ever attended. Here is an excerpt from their conversation.

Millennials talk about attending the business sessions:

KM: I’ve never been to a church or school board meeting so this huge version is my first experience. It’s very annoying. There are so many people and getting just a few people to agree is hard, let alone like 2500 people. And with something as important as this, a worldwide decision, I knew it was going to be hard but it’s REALLY hard. And all the point of orders? And motions? It has to be frustrating to those on the floor if I’m getting this frustrated.

MA: Yeah, it’s the bureaucracy of it. I’ve been in school board meetings before but I wasn’t sure what to expect here. It definitely is just a huge staff meeting. I’m amazed that they’re able to do anything at all because there are so many people! It’s impressive and staggering at the same time. It’s like, “Wow, look at what you’re able to do!” but also, “Wow, look at the difficulty of it.”

KM: I know I’m complaining right now but honestly I don’t have any better suggestions. Do you?

MA: Nope. Although I do think there are people that just want to say their piece, whether or not it actually helps. I think there could be less of that; but that’s not a structural process problem as much as it is people’s attitudes.

KM: And that’s something you can’t control.

MA: No matter how hard you try. [\[click here\]](#) for the entire conversation]

**"Treat the Church as a Home," Says Woman Pastor from China** »

“We love our women pastors!” Daniel Jackson, president of the North American Division, boomed

as he met Pastor Hau Yajie, the senior pastor of the Beiguan Church in Shenyang, in the People’s Republic of China, immediately following her interview on Friday, July 10, which was arranged by the NAD communication team at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas.

Although the hype and controversy surrounding the topic of women in ministry has been stifling both prior to and during the General Conference Session, here is a woman in China who has been working for decades, driven by an internal call from God to be involved in ministry. Pastor Hau Yajie both radiates and generates excitement and passion for the message and she is confident that her call goes beyond worldly recognition.



**Wyoming Camp Meeting**

July 14

Speaker: Jim Ayer, AWR

Contact: Pastor Don Barnt

**Wyoming Town Hall**

July 18, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

**Wyoming Taskforce**

July 19, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Finance Committee**

July 21, 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

**Executive Committee**

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

**Cowboy Camp Meeting**

July 22

Speakers:

Tom Lemon & Seth Coridan  
Begins 7:30 p.m. Wednesday  
Ends about 10:00 a.m. Sunday

**NE Colorado Camp Meeting**

July 24

Speaker:

Merlin Burt, White Estate  
Contact: Pastor Michael Goetz

**Christian Adventure Outpost**

July 29

Speakers:

Ed Barnett, Craig Carr  
Contact: Pastor Bruce Aalborg

**Teacher Convention**

August 3

**Korean Camp Meeting**

August 6

Contact: George Hahn, 303-756-2809

**Conference Staff Meeting**

August 11, 8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

**RMC Property & Trust Committee**

August 11, 8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

**Opening of Mile High Academy**

August 16, 1-4 p.m.

**GVR Board**

August 18, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**Hispanic Camp Meeting**

August 27-29, 8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

**Find out more...**

[Click here](#) for info on any of these events.

**Desperate for encouragement**

From childhood, Hau Yajie had admired the foreign missionaries who had traveled to China to work for God’s ministry. The missionaries were much older than she, most of them male. She was drawn in and wanted so much to join that path. “I longed to do that,” she said through a translator. When she studied the process to see what she must do, she was distressed. Everything seemed to tell her there was no chance. Yet she prayed and prayed to have the opportunity to join ministry due to the immense impression she felt to preach the cause. [\[more\]](#)



**Comments About the GC Session by RMC People You May Know**

» “When you look across the stadium you realize what a diverse church we have.

God is blessing the church in so many ways it is exciting to here all of the stories from around the globe. I am proud to be a Seventh-day Adventist!”

-- Ed Barnett, RMC president and delegate

“I have been impressed by how our church is indeed a world church with representation from all parts of the world. The evening video reports from the world divisions have left me inspired how God's mission is being advanced on this earth by many people of all classes and by using many different methods. I have also appreciated the transparency of the business of the church, where anyone is welcome to hear the debate that is taking place. And finally, I am proud of the quality of our media efforts that keep our people inspired and informed.”

--George Crumley, RMC vice president for finance

General Conference Sessions are about connecting. What a wonderful foretaste of heaven it has been to meet people from RMC, friends from distant divisions, friends from college days and seminary days who I may not have seen for 20 or more years, visiting with friends and colleagues who serve in other conferences or in GC positions. GC Sessions are also a personal spiritual blessing. The messages are always so inspiring. The mission reports are remarkable from each world field and area of our church work. These world meetings are also a reminder that we are a worldwide church. Although expected, when the delegates deliberate on issues facing the world church, it is such a challenge for those of us in the U.S., to understand their unique needs and perspectives. But these differences aside, we are all the body of Christ and we are all brothers and sisters in the church. God will and does use us to serve His church.”

--Eric Nelson, RMC vice president for administration [\[more\]](#)

**Clarification on the Role of Women in Ministry »**

General Conference President Elder Ted Wilson has requested that each division president of the 13 world regions, clarify the meaning of the vote taken on Wednesday, July 8, 2015.

North American Division (NAD) President Daniel Jackson would like to make the following statement:

Firstly, we want to acknowledge that we will comply with the vote of the world church.

Secondly, the vote prohibited the 13 world divisions of the church or any of their entities from making their own decisions regarding the consideration and potential implementation of women’s ordination to the gospel ministry.



Thirdly, it is important that we identify what the motion did not do:

1. It did not disallow women from serving as commissioned church pastors.
2. It did not disallow women to serve as ordained elders in the local church
3. It did not disallow the ordination of deaconesses.

Since the motion did not disallow these things, we therefore continue to encourage those who have been serving in these capacities to continue to do so. [\[more\]](#)

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**Other Stories from NAD NewsPoints »**

- [HaystackTV Attempts to Break World Record](#)
  - [Adventist Visitors a Mixed Blessing to San Antonio Restaurants](#)
  - [A Message of Hope and Wholeness - Report from NAD President](#)
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**Rocky Mountain Conference Mission Statement**  
**Tagline:**

*Knowing Christ and Making Him Fully Known*

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**We want to share your news! »** If you have a ministry or evangelism story to tell, please email it to [nuggets@rmcsda.org](mailto:nuggets@rmcsda.org) so we can share how God is working through His people in your territory.

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