Awakening Wyomingite Unity at Mills Spring Ranch

Nestled in the shade of pines in the Casper Mountains of Wyoming, the Mills Spring Ranch (MSR) features a genuine campout feel, perfect for the Arise Wyoming Campout, held July 12 - 17. Arise Wyoming, a new installment of Awaken Wyoming, attracted a record 400 Seventh-day Adventists, young and old, from the cowboy state, said Rajmund Dabrowski, RMC communication director.

Arise Wyoming included musical talents, as Matt and Josie Winikus, the hometown Sage Creek Gospel Band, and the junior and state fiddle champs blessed the congregation with tunes inspired through love for Jesus Christ. Other festivities of the closing day included Al Williams’ retirement, the ordination of Jason Logan of the Wyoming southwest, and an inspirational, enthusiastic series on the Book of Acts by David Asscherick.

The tone of the whole event: peacefully down-to-earth. Dotting the campsite like sliced jalapeños on a pizza were...
handfuls of colorful tents and motorhomes. A few cabins could be found scattered in the forest. The end of the pine needle and cone laden path revealed a weathered, log-supported lean-to used as a storage facility. Gushes of wind occasionally wound through the small camp as worship music drifted from the chapel. People convened outdoors to enjoy the rustic scenery while eating with their friends and family.

A truly authentic Western camp, the 200-acre land acquired in 1964 through a donation by the Mills family to the Wyoming Conference of Seventh-day Adventists offers several hiking trails, meadows, an archery range and golf course. It was this year’s camp meeting that offered the participants a newly completed deck, where meals were served, with a “stunning view for miles and miles,” Dabrowski commented. Although simple, the camp offers a truly communal feel, just as would a family gathering.

“That’s Wyoming,” shared Jesse Evert, a Casper native. “As far as politically and spiritually, it’s very conservative and untouched. Casper is the biggest city in Wyoming, with about 75,000-80,000 people, including the surrounding areas.”

Jesse, entering her junior year of Language Arts Education with a minor in History Education, visited her hometown of Casper to recruit for Union College. “I love Mills Spring,” she passionately shared. “It might as well be my second home. I live right down the mountain and have been going to camp, camp meeting, Pathfinders, and church socials here every year of my life. I know it like the back of my hand.” MSR has not changed much—at least not in the 20 years she’s been frequenting the camp.

In a land as barren as The Cowboy State, the least populated in the nation, one can’t help but wonder why Wyoming? “Wyoming especially needs the summer camp program because in Wyoming there are not many Adventist schools. A lot of our kids don’t get a chance to go to our schools, and it’s an opportunity for them to spend a week learning about Jesus and fellowship with other young people with whom they can relate,” explained RMC president Ed Barnett. “This gives them a chance to get together. It’s powerful for the young people in developing their community during the youth week.”

Unlike Glacier View Ranch, all of MSR’s 50 kid campers are constituent members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Steve Hamilton, RMC youth ministries director, agrees with Jesse that MSR has been consistent over the last few years, the exception being a new outside deck attached to the cafeteria, added on by his father and others, such as Don Hill who works as a volunteer cook for RMC summer camps.

Camp meeting attendee Howard Bogue added that the campout offers opportunities for Adventist adults to encourage, thank, and pray for one another. A church member from Upton, Wyoming, he recognizes the importance of spiritual and social communion. He said, “Wyoming is special in the sense that the population is sparse, and you don’t get lost in the crowd. Everyone is family. Our congregations are fairly small, but coming together is the family spirit. This isn’t the easiest place to get to, but it’s the spirit of Wyoming.”

No matter who you talk to, it seems the best thing about Wyoming is the people. Grace Logan, wife of Jason Logan who was ordained in front of the congregation, shared that the camp meeting gave her and her family a chance to reconnect and
Through the attendees God also reaches other individuals in Wyoming who are absent from the camp meeting.

Howard, who doubles as a part-time electrical contractor, shared that the connection and support forged through MSR also aids in the spiritual development of inmates. For example, Howard meets with another Seventh-day Adventist Wyomingite at these meetings. As a part of prison ministries, he said he calls his friend, Scott, a native of Gillette, Wyoming, to see if he can help with finding jobs for Newcastle inmates. Now, thanks to the friendship forged between these two and the help they give, they are witnessing results from an inmate known as Brandon. “He is flourishing and we hope to baptize him,” enthused Howard, who claimed the story is an encouragement and a blessing, as he witnesses another individual begin walking the path with Jesus.

Wyoming offers Yellowstone National Park, Oregon trail wagon tracks, pioneer grave sites, numerous national landmarks, trademark bison burgers, and untouched prairie as far as the eye can see. Most importantly, it offers a place to unify in the Spirit of Christ.

[Stefani Leeper; photos by Rajmund Dabrowski: David Asscherick; Jason and Grace Logan surrounded by family and friends]
“You can drive on Highway 59 between Douglas and Gillette,” explains VP for administration Eric Nelson, “and, for more than an hour, see only one ranch.”

In other words, Wyoming members live in remote areas and are fairly isolated.

“There hadn’t been much happening in the state of Wyoming and churches were closing down,” Jason Logan, pastor for five churches in southwest Wyoming, explains about the condition of the churches before Awaken Wyoming. “There was a consensus that something needed to change.”

Enter Al Williams.

In tandem with retired pastor Gordon Henderson, Al birthed the idea of Awaken Wyoming, an evangelistic thrust for the state. The idea touched a courageous nerve in Wyoming members, and inspired giving to the tune of $250,000 in monies and pledges by the end of the 2013 camp meeting. “This is one of the most generous fundraising events per capita we’ve seen,” explains Eric.

And Al has, “given structure, organization, and boundaries for the use of these monies,” Eric continues. “He became the fundraiser himself and a director” for the program.

At an informal farewell held at 2016 Wyoming camp meeting, Gordon Henderson paid tribute. “Al led us through the good as well as the difficult times. He would often say, ‘I’m just making this up,’ and go on to make a point that was most often right on target.”

Al’s Awaken Wyoming brainchild has energized Wyoming members to be more mindful of evangelism. It “perked them up quite a bit,” says Eric, “and brought the enthusiasm to advance evangelism in Wyoming.”

“It has almost doubled the ministers in Wyoming,” says newly-ordained pastor Jason Logan, when looking at the “pastors and Bible workers,” that we now have.

“It has given Wyoming membership something to unite on and pull us together,” Jason continues. It provides a “motivation across the state for people to be active.”

“I’ve known Al for 16 years,” comments RMC president Ed Barnett, “and I’ve always appreciated working with him. He will be missed dearly.”

Al has filled many roles for the Rocky Mountain Conference, but his special passion is the people of Wyoming, whom he wants to continue serving in retirement. His third retirement includes “plans for service,” Al remarks when asked how many more times he would retire.

“T’ll continue to preach and hold spiritual growth seminars,” says Al, “and grow my marriage and family therapy ministry, which was cut to a couple of clients per week. And I’ll be raising funds for various Rocky Mountain Conference entities.”

[Carol Bolden; photo by Rajmund Dabrowski]

**Campion Alumna uses Engineering for Service**

For the last two years, Kathrin Klemm has been involved with Walla Walla’s chapter of Engineers Without Borders (EWB), taking the technical lead last year in the international project. Working with the mountain community in Pampachiri, Peru (elevation 14,500’), Kathrin and the rest of her engineering team designed and implemented a gravity-fed water system that ensures a clean water source for the entire community.

Kathrin graduated from Walla Walla University’s School of Engineering in June as one of seven females in a class of 44. Not only is she encouraging other girls to pursue engineering, she’s taking her passion for engineering and combining it with her desire to serve others.
Kathrin first decided to pursue civil engineering because she was interested in humanitarian work. “Campion’s emphasis on missions was a big thing for me. That helped me want to choose a career that I could use to make a tangible difference in the world,” she said. After her first mission trip to Belize with Joe Martin in 2009, she has continued to prioritize service to others.

Because of her experience with EWB, she has been invited to speak at Southern Adventist University’s TEAMS Forum (Transforming and Educating Ambassadors for Mission and Service). One of the goals of the forum is to encourage sustainability of the mission projects sponsored by the Adventist Church. “It’s something I’ve become really passionate about,” said Kathrin. “I’m excited to start sharing this with the Adventist community. It’s such a conscious approach to mission work.”

She credits Campion Academy, from which she graduated in the class of 2011, with not only inspiring her mission-mindedness, but also giving her confidence in her field. “I was in Joe Martin’s LE program, which taught me how to talk to strangers,” she explained. As a student grader for calculus, pre-calculus, and chemistry, she became comfortable in the world of science.

Kathrin also described Walla Walla as a haven, and reported mostly supportive attitudes from her male cohorts, yet the greater engineering field can be much less supportive of women. She remembers her first year in the engineering program was challenging, both because freshman year is a “weeding-out” year and because students questioned her choice of field. “I met people who would say, ‘You don’t look like an engineer. You don’t act like an engineer.’ I think a lot of people, when confronted with that kind of attitude, would start second-guessing themselves.”

In the United States, fewer than 20 percent of engineering bachelor’s degrees are earned by women, reported PBS Newshour.

Before graduating, Kathrin posted this appeal on her Facebook page: “Don’t tell your friends, daughters, or sisters that they don’t ‘seem’ like engineers. Tell them that their perspective and skills are invaluable and that they can do amazing things for their world. We need them.”

Kathrin will begin work in August as a naval architect with the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard where she’ll be working on barges that carry retired nuclear reactors to their disposal site.

Revelation Seminar Series Leads to 17 Baptisms

The Prophecy Seminars, led by Pastors Jim Stevens and Wayne Gayton, resulted in 17 baptisms at the Piñon Hills Seventh-day Adventist Church, May 18 - July 18. The seminar was an in-depth, chapter by chapter study of Revelation.

Pastor Jim Stevens and his wife Rita visited the Piñon Hills Church of Farmington, New Mexico, to lead a six-week series on Revelation called the Prophecy Seminars. The resulting baptisms brought 17 new members into the church.

Due to its success, the series was extended to cover another two months. The church’s pastor Wayne Gayton has led the Wednesday night and Sabbath morning Revelation studies.
Each attendee, if present for 25 or more of the meetings, received a new family Bible, a copy of Strong’s Concordance, and a box-set of the Conflict of Ages series by Ellen G. White. [Based on the Communicator newsletter, July 19, Farmington, NM.]

Two New Members Join Montrose Church »

Two brothers, Jacob and Gabriel Anaya, publicly demonstrated their commitment to Christ through baptism, June 18, at the Montrose Seventh-day Adventist Church.

After studying key biblical issues and what it means to live a life of walking with Jesus, Pastor Fritz Krieger asked them if baptism was something they wanted. The teenage brothers exclaimed, “Yes, we do!” before donning toothy grins. A unanimous vote from the congregation, along with enthusiastic applause and hearty amens, welcomed them to the local fellowship of believers and the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Many influences played a part in their decision, including family, a church-affiliated school, Sabbath school, Pathfinders, friends, church involvement—including participating in leading worship music and acting as junior deacons—and joining in social and outreach activities.

[Karyl Krieger; photo by Jeanna Tullio]

CORRECTION

The article “Camp Varieties Are Top of the Game at Glacier View Ranch” in last week’s NewsNuggets included a misspelling of tipi.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE CAMP MEETINGS

Western Slope Camp Meeting -- August 3 - 7
Mountain Top Retreat near Montrose, CO
Speakers: Ed Barnett/Eric Nelson
Contact: Linda and Ron Johnson -- 970-245-2294
Use Instructions: http://www.rmcsda.org/camp-facility-use-instructions
Directions: http://www.rmcsda.org/mountaintop-retreat-directions
Registration: http://www.rmcsda.org/western-slope-registration-form

Hispanic Camp Meeting -- September 2 - 4
Glacier View Ranch, Ward CO
Speaker: Omar Grieve
Youth Speaker: Dr. Oscar Carreon
Contact: Ruben Rivera -- 303-910-1614

Native Camp Meeting -- September 16 - 18
La Vida Mission, Crown Point NM
Speaker: Monte Church
Contact: Dorie Panganiban -- 505-215-6642

Host Family Needed » Mile High Academy is currently in need of a caring family willing to host an exchange student from China. As a host family you will:
* experience another culture in your own home
* open your children's eyes to the wider world
* share your traditions in a meaningful way with someone else
create a lasting relationship with someone from across the globe. If you are interested in this exciting opportunity, please contact us at info@milehighacademy.org or call 303.744.1069.

Black Hills Health & Education Center » An intensive residential lifestyle CHIP treatment program will take place July 17 through July 28 at Black Hills Lifestyle Center. For more information, call 605-255-4101.

Media on the Brain » Author Scott Ritsema will present at the Golden Seventh-day Adventist Church, at 7:00 p.m., July 22, and the Denver West Seventh-day Adventist Church, at 9:30 a.m., July 23. This seminar is LIVE. We see it all around us: Hollywood, popular music, TV, video gaming, e-relationships, and pornography are saturating the lives of God’s professed people. But what does the latest science say about the mind-altering effects of 21st-century media? And what is the spiritual agenda in the entertainment and advertising industries?

Wildfire II » Join us on July 29-31 as teens speak out with Bible predictions. Together we will explore the seedbed of terrorism, the placement of Islam in Bible predictions, and God’s honeymoon in search for good answers to today’s problems. There is no registration fee. Wildfire II will be held at the big tent at 4100 W 20th Street in Greeley, Colorado 80634.

Global Health Initiatives Inaugural Photo Gallery » Inaugural photo exhibit at Porter Adventist Hospital, July-August 2016. Coming to Adventist hospitals in Colorado, dates to be announced at https://www.centuraglobalhealth.org/CGH/10-Year-Anniversary/Special-Events/.

Global Health Initiatives
Caring Beyond Borders

Global Health Initiatives, a Colorado-based organization, focuses on changing lives through medical care and health-based education in underserved populations within Nepal, Peru and Rwanda.

Since its inception in 2006, Global Health Initiatives has completed 105 mission trips comprised of nearly 2,000 total volunteers and has impacted over 48,000 lives.

This exhibit tells our story.

About Healing Arts
Artwork displayed in the Healing Arts gallery seeks to provide a healing environment to help treat illness and provide an inspiration for living. Whether you’re a patient, visiting a loved one, or passing through the hospital, we invite you to experience the original artwork and stories by our local artists.

About photographer Cohan Zarnoch: I have had a camera in my hand since I was 12, which has allowed me to view the world through a different perspective. My naming career guided me toward the need to serve those less privileged, so traveling as both a nurse and a photographer gave me the opportunity to help those in need and share their story through the lens of my camera.

Mark Anthony’s Dinner and a Message » Come for a free, live vegetarian performing arts cooking show hosted by chef Mark Anthony, at 6 p.m. on August 8 at the Woodland Park Seventh-day Adventist Church, and again at 6 p.m. on August 9th, at the Fairplay Seventh-day Adventist Church. Learn about plant-based nutrition and other great topics, such as weight loss, lowering

**Boulder 1:1**  A 2016 gathering of a smaller-scale version of The One Project, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Sunday, August 14. Theme: "Jesus of Nazareth: His Message, His Passion." Based on the two-volume series Jesus of Nazareth, written by former Adventist Review editor William G. Johnsson and produced by the Biblical Research Institute, Boulder 1:1 will explore the message and passion of Jesus, helping participants to connect these concepts with their own discipleship journey. Scheduled presentations include: Alex Bryan - Why the Local Church Matters; Dena King - What Jesus taught about the Trinity; Paddy McCoy - What Jesus taught about the Kingdom of God; Diane Johnson - What Jesus taught about Grace; Jessyka Albert - What Jesus taught about Discipleship; Stacy Soapmann - What Jesus taught about the Sabbath; Terry Swenson - What Jesus taught about The End; Jannelle Fazio - What Jesus taught about Prayer; Sam Leonor - What Jesus taught about Power, Sex and Money.

The Boulder 1:1 gathering includes time for "recalibration," allowing participants to process their thoughts on the various reflections by noted speakers, and to begin engaging in practical applications that make a difference in their lives.

Location: Boulder Seventh-day Adventist Church, 345 Mapleton Ave., Boulder, CO 80304; Planning to attend? Register at https://the1project.org/gatherings/boulder-2016#reserve. Visit our website at visitwww.bouldser.church.

**Daughters of Grace Women’s Ministries Retreat**

The conference-wide women’s retreat at Glacier View, September 16-18, will feature Elizabeth Talbot, director of Jesus 101 Biblical Institute, and the author of several books. The retreat will include praise and worship music, inspiring skits, book giveaways, friendship circles, Saturday night activities, and a service project opportunity. The Adventist Book Center will feature a display of several publications by Elizabeth Talbot for sale. Registration and information brochures were sent to Women’s Ministries leaders in participating churches. Call or email Ginger Bell for more information, and to receive a brochure via email, at 720-980-9006 or rexngingerbell@msn.com. Registration deadline is September 1.

**2016 Western Colorado Men’s Advance**

Join us in Pitkin for our Jeep trip as we pray, study, fish, hike, and enjoy the colors in the mountains, September 16-18 (tentative, based on snow melt). Learn how to restore relationships with ourselves, others, and God. Study and prayer time held on Friday evening and Saturday. Bring your jeep, motorcycle, mountain bike, fishing pole, hiking shoes, and your Bible. Meals and rooms included in the flat fee of $170.00. To register or for more information, contact Wayne Oldham at 970-209-7911 or woldham170@gmail.com.

**Give Them Hope Health Summit**

Learn how to reflect God's character in health ministries through ongoing support at the Give Them Hope Health Summit, held October 13-16 in Breckenridge, Colorado. Through the acquired skills of ongoing support, you can bring hope to your
church and community through preventing and reversing diseases such as heart disease, cancer, Type II diabetes, and Alzheimer’s. For more information about this health summit visit our website at http://www.rmcsda.org/hope or call the RMC health ministry department at 303-282-3604.

**Mile High Academy** » The Summer Sports and Arts Camps program continues through the end of July, and is a great way to keep your child active and learning during the summer months. You can still choose from volleyball and art camps. See the Summer Camps page on our website, milehighacademy.org for details or call 303-744-1069 and see how you can register your child today.

**Mills Spring Ranch Summer Camp** » Watch our new Glacier View Ranch summer camp promo video at rmcyouth.org/gvrpromovideo. For more information, go to rmcyouth.org/camp or visit the new website at http://www.glacierviewranch.com/.

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### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Adventist University of Health Sciences’ Denver site is looking for a marketing and enrollment coordinator. If you love working with people, have a passion for Christian higher education, and are a self-starter, email your resume to Katie Shaw, ADU Denver executive director, at katie.shaw@adu.edu. Experience in marketing and/or college admissions is a plus!

**Mile High Academy** Positions are open at Mile High Academy as two part-time kindergarten aides, and as a part-time receptionist. The receptionist's weekly schedule will be Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Receptionist applicants should have a high school diploma and a minimum of three years of relevant experience. Interested individuals for any listed positions must be Seventh-day Adventist members in good standing, and possess current authorization to work in the U.S. Please send your resume to Jocelyn at jaalborg@milehighacademy.org, and visit our website at http://www.milehighacademy.org/employment-opportunities/ for more information on the requirements and qualifications for these positions.

**Daystar School** in Pueblo is looking for a part-time aide for K-3 for the 2016-17 school year. If you are interested in finding out more about this position, you can contact Michelle Velbis by email at michellevelbis@gmail.com or call 719-561-9120.

**Voice of Prophecy:** The Voice of Prophecy is looking to fill four positions: junior accountant, mailroom assistant supervisor, digital content specialist/webmaster, and a donor relations coordinator. For more information, visit http://vop.com/jobs.

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**NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEB!**
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