



# news nuggets

Friday, July 28, 2017

## Rocky Mountain Conference leaders re-elected at Constituency Session »

The 2017 Constituency Session of the Rocky Mountain Conference of Seventh-day Adventists convened July 23 at Life Source Adventist Fellowship, Denver, Colorado. Delegates voted to re-elect Ed Barnett, Eric Nelson, and George Crumley, as president, vice president for administration, and vice president for finance, respectively, for the next quinquennium.



The Constituency Session convened under the theme “Living for His Return” and brought nearly 570 delegates from 130 churches in Colorado, Wyoming and part of New Mexico. In his opening devotional message, Barnett emphasized that as Adventists “we believe that Jesus is coming soon and we need to share Him with everyone who lives in our territory.”

The delegates accepted the reports on the state of the church in RMC. Responding to presentations by the RMC officers, delegates offered a commentary on issues, which they feel should be addressed by the church within the conference.

Lining up at the microphones, delegates emphasized a need to see a greater involvement of young church members in the work of the church, helping them understand how tithes and offerings are being spent. This was seen as a strategic area for the Conference to address.

“I encourage our administrative officers to look closely, in



[NewsNuggets Archive](#)

[RMC Facebook](#)

[RMC Website](#)

[Tweet](#)

[Forward to Friend](#)

[Share](#)

their strategic planning for the next five years, at our current use of church funds, the percentages that go to various line items, and the amount we send up the chain to the Union, Division and GC, and to include our younger, more financially savvy members, on the committees that decide how our funds are allocated,” said Mark Johnson, a delegate from Boulder.



Several delegates spoke about a need for a more active involvement of the church and its educational leaders in issues central to contemporary Adventist education, channeled through the K-12 Board with greater frequency and attention.

The RMC leaders were also asked to re-establish continuing financial support for the Student Literature Evangelism program. What was once supported from budgetary appropriations now relies on fundraising. Bob Kenison, a delegate from Cheyenne, proposed that the Conference consider re-funding the program. This proposal was approved by delegates.

The last agenda item of the Session included presentations by Alex Bryant, secretary of the North American Division, and Gary Thurber, president of Mid-America Union Conference, on the current world church discussion about the General Conference’s Unity of Mission document. In preparation for the Session, delegates were provided with documents commenting on the Unity in Mission document, which aims to address the question of policy compliance by church entities and procedures in church reconciliation when entities are out of step with policy.

A discussion centered on a motion proposed by Ed Reifsnnyder, a delegate from Campion, for the Session “take no action on the Unity in Mission document, and the Rocky Mountain Conference’s statement regarding it.” Several delegates expressed concerns about the potential implications of the adoption of the document by the upcoming Fall Council of the church in October.



## Upcoming Events

### **MAUC Pastor's Meeting (Omaha)**

*July 29 - July 31*

### **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.*

## **RMC CAMP MEETINGS**

### **Wyoming Camp Meeting**

*Mills Spring Ranch  
July 11-15  
Contact Jodie Gage 307-  
259-5301*

### **Western Slope Camp Meeting**

*Montrose, Colorado  
August 2-6  
Contact Fritz Krieger, 970-  
497-6175*

### **Hispanic Camp Meeting**



The Session also elected new membership for the RMC Executive Committee, Property and Trust Committee, By-Laws Committee and K-12 Board, and voted adjustments to the By-Laws of the Conference.

In his closing remarks, Ed Barnett thanked the delegates for their input and reminded them that as a church “we’ve got to be focused on the mission we’ve been entrusted with.” [RMCNews; photos by Rajmund Dabrowski]

**Watch Report by President Ed Barnett from RMC Constituency Session at [www.rmcsda.org](http://www.rmcsda.org)**

**Christian Effervescence Dominates Wyoming Camp Meeting »** The sound of the Sage Creek Gospel Band, a perennial feature of every Wyoming Camp Meeting, is a call for participants to be ready for another session of the annual spiritual convocation on Casper Mountain’s Mills Spring Ranch.

Smiles abound, and clapping is part of participating in a joyful Christian experience. And year after year, participants have had a chance to learn a new song, including the 2017 gathering of some 200. As before, the recently-held event featured “It’s Still Jesus,” a song-theme of the camp meeting written by Ron Hughes.



The music was so captivating that visiting speaker Dr Philip Samaan invited himself to join the band. Not proficient in any

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](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

instrument, unlike his wife Sheralyn, a harpist, he was given an egg shaker. Recognizing the challenge to keeping the rhythm, the band continued with smiles and raised brows, but stayed on course.

“I am not a drummer, but I am an egg shaker,” Samaan confessed. The use of salt became a theme for one of his presentations. “Salt takes the initiative. One does not put one’s food on salt, but salt on the food,” he said. “We are to live our lives so close to Jesus that we bring out the best in others.”

Before long, Samaan was officially invited to be part of the Sage Creek Band. To prove his place, he was presented with a cowboy shirt embroidered with the band’s name. Ed Barnett, RMC president, made the presentation.

The band’s leader, Dennis Pumford, who pastors the Casper congregation, said of Dr Samaan’s first performance that “it was an experience. It created a lot of good humor and rapport with the congregation. That’s the best we can say.

Ron Hughes, a guitarist and composer of theme songs for Wyoming camp meeting recollected that when Dennis came along, he changed everything, so we’ve had a lot of fun since he’s been here [in Casper] and they’ve asked me to write songs for each camp meeting and that’s what I’ve done.”



On writing songs, Ron explained that “usually, they give me the idea. They say, “This is the theme of the camp meeting. Can you write a song for it?” I say, “No, I can’t, but God can.”

He continued, “Gotta’ give it to God. I tried writing songs before I became a Christian and they were terrible. They were secular songs and nobody wanted to listen to them. When I became a Christian, I started writing about what I cared about -- Christian country music. [Actually] the genre of the music is country gospel, southern gospel. Yeah.”

Dr Samaan’s presentations included practical applications presented in the teachings of Jesus. “He put Jesus right into our daily life,” said one participant.

“Let us not be defined by the world, but let Jesus define

outdated ones. **Submission deadlines are Wednesdays by noon.**

---

us,” he said.

In an engaging Sabbath School presentation, Chuck Gadway, pastor from Sheridan, challenged the audience to stay on God’s mission. “We are so busy doing our mission that we forget about God’s mission,” he said. “What do people see and hear when they come to our churches?” Gadway asked.

Pastor Gadway is working on invitations to speakers for the next five years. Next year, Dick Stenbakken, a former director of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries, and a well-known presenter is scheduled to speak at the 2018 convocation.

We need to get the word out as “I am not sure everybody knows how good a camp meeting is,” Gadway commented. “The facilities have been improved to be more welcoming to visitors,” he added. The changes in the auditorium were coordinated by Dennis Pumford, a soon-retiring pastor of the Casper Church. He acknowledged the work done by many people to make the improvements.

Those who expressed their appreciation for the musical part of the Wyoming Camp meeting were also noting Pumford’s musical contributions to the “one and only Gospel band we have been enjoying over the years,” as stated by one of the participants.

Gadway did not hesitate to express his take-away from the event. “This was a great spiritual blessing to those who have been here.”



The Sabbath afternoon program included a celebration of Robert Walker’s baptism. He lives on the mountain and was baptized by Eric Nelson, RMC vice president for administration, a friend from school days.

Dr Samaan sensed that, for him, the camp meeting displayed “a spirit of fellowship and Christian comradery. People felt at home in associating with each other here. I believe that when Jesus is uplifted, He pulls people together as when the disciples were of one accord. Because of that, the Lord blessed them with one Spirit, and this is what I sensed about this camp meeting.”

## **RMC Executive Committee Apprised of the "Cleanest Audit Report" for the Conference »**

With the approach of the RMC 2017 Constituency Session, the outgoing RMC Executive Committee met on July 18. The committee members were apprised of the final preparations for the Session and also heard reports on the finances, including tithes and offerings. Reporting to the Committee, George Crumley, vice president for finance, informed that tithe income was running lower than last year at the same time.



“Some of this is the result of having one less Sabbath year-to-date this year than last year,” he said. But, even with tithe running lower, “we are tracking well from a budgetary perspective primarily because of expenses running under budget at this stage of the year,” he said. It was also reported that the RMC ABC is operating close to where they were last year at the same time.

A plan was shared for the utilization of funds from the sale of the Adventist Community Services (ACS) building and how eligible constituent churches from the Denver Metropolitan area can make a request for some of these funds to use for local community service needs in their area. These requests will be reviewed by the appropriate governing committee. The committee discussed guidelines on setting up a successful Community Service program at a local church and how to receive funding.

The chair of the Audit Review Committee provided a report regarding the 2016 fiscal year-end audit. The conference was issued a clean audit opinion, “the best opinion that can be received,” and the committee voted to accept the report. Chairperson Gary Ketchum shared that “this is the cleanest audit report that he has observed in all the years he has served in this position. “The auditors completed their review earlier than planned due to the good work of RMC staff,” he

said.

Several administrative actions were taken, including changing the name of the Worland School to Sonshine Academy, and of the Alamosa School to Cornerstone Christian Academy.

Since the committee meeting was the last for this quinquennium, its members expressed appreciation to their colleagues who faithfully served on the committee. Eight of them will not be returning to the Executive Committee for the next five-year term. Following are the names of those recognized, based on the Nominating Committee report to be voted at the constituency on July 23: Trina Folkenberg, Gary Ketchum, Jason Logan, Ricardo Melendez, Sam Miller, David Rodriguez, Steve Schwarz, and Carol Turk.

RMC president, Ed Barnett expressed appreciation for the “effective work of the Executive Committee. As we prepare ourselves for the upcoming Constituency Session, may we pray for God’s guidance and blessing,” he said.

[Text and photo by Rajmund Dabrowski]

---

### **Montrose Church Gifts First Responders »**

Montrose Church members treated first responders in their area with gift cards to show appreciation for their service.

Donations were accepted at Montrose Justice Center by representatives of the beneficiary agencies, including Montrose County Sheriff’s Office, City of Montrose Police Department, Montrose Fire Protection District, and Colorado State Patrol.



With increased attacks on police reported across the country, members at an outreach meeting at the Montrose Church, chose to “show the men and women of law enforcement in their community that they were cared for, appreciated, and prayed for,” according to W.D. Hess, a deacon of the church.

Well received by area eating establishments, they were able to collect enough \$10 - \$12 gift cards to hand them out to 230 employees, whether working in the departments or on

the front line for first response. “We had to include everyone,” Hess explained. “The Lord blessed us and it happened.”

[RMCNews; photo by Paul Hurschmann/Montrose Daily Press]

**Boulder Church Puts Teens to Work »** For the second summer in a row, Boulder Adventist Church has provided an internship program for teens (13–18). The four 2017 interns—Tommy Eickmann (17), Luke Leiden (14), Jonah De Oliveira (13), and Joshua De Oliveira (17)—have worked hard on a wide range of activities over the summer. They ran Café Sanitas, providing light snacks and drinks to hikers, cyclists, and passers-by, began an urban garden, refinished chairs, built a concrete cave, supervised games and activities at Vacation Bible School, and prepared the church for worship each week.



The internship was not all about physical labor. Pastor Jessyka Albert, coordinator of the program, places a high value on using the experience to help give the teens greater ownership of the church. “It really gives them a chance to learn more about themselves, about others, and about the world around them,” she said. The teens attended a church vision board meeting and learned about how their ideas and input can help shape church culture. They also had the freedom to take ownership of various projects, such as Café Sanitas, through strategizing about the effectiveness of different operating hours, developing menu items, and meeting with one local business about the possibility of partnership. They took vocational and personality tests, such as StrengthsQuest and Myers-Briggs, designed to help them learn more about how they can make a difference in the church and the world. They also devoted time each day to prayer and Bible study.

The summer program was rewarding in different ways for each of the teens. Jonah De Oliveira says, “I liked talking to people when we did the café. The internship was fun and I

learned how to mix concrete!” Luke Leiden particularly enjoyed the personality tests. “I found out a lot about myself, what I should do with my life, and how I can help the church.” Joshua De Oliveira recommends the internship as “a great summer job” that helped him gain new practical and social skills while doing useful work. Tommy Eickmann says, “It’s a great way to get involved in the local community and I think this is really important.”

Pastor Jessyka recalls some of her favorite moments: “Joshua was so excited when the CEO of Good Spread stopped by to offer us peanut butter to use in our café. Tommy would be reading a commentary in preparation for his upcoming sermon (August 5), and would often pause to share a new discovery with the group. Jonah reacted to his personality test results by exclaiming, ‘I’m going to [be] such a cool dad someday!’ Luke connected so well with his small group at Vacation Bible School, singing and dancing alongside them with such joy!”

Boulder Adventist Church is located in the heart of historic Boulder. It has a commitment to local engagement and strives for meaningful community outreach.

[Text and photo by Becky De Oliveira; L-R: Joshua De Oliveira, Tommy Eickmann, Jonah De Oliveira, Luke Leiden, and Pastor Jessyka Albert]

---

## **Union College: Physician Assistants Score 100 Percent at Board Certification Exam »**

The Union College Physician Assistant Class of 2017 has earned a 100 percent pass rate on the PANCE, the PA board certification exam, reports Vanita Sauder, president of Union College. “Our cohort PANCE rates have steadily increased over the past five years,” she says. The 2017 results are the first time since 2010 that a 100 percent pass rate has been obtained!

“Please join us in celebrating this great news which confirms the quality of our instruction and the strength of our student outcomes in the PA program,” Dr Sauder invites.

---

## **RMC CAMP MEETINGS**

**Western Slope Camp Meeting »** From **August 2-6**, at Mountaintop Retreat near Montrose, Colorado. Contact: Fritz Krieger at 970-497-6175 for more information.

**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 Nussy 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

---



**SUMMER  
FAMILY  
NIGHTS**

Mile High Academy

would like to invite you to come spend  
one night a week with us -  
enjoy soup, watermelon, games,  
and friends

Every Wednesday, May 31-Aug 9, at 6pm on the field!

1733 Dad Clark Drive, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126  
milehighacademy.org - 303.744.1069  
The fun is hosted by Littleton Seventh-day Adventist Church



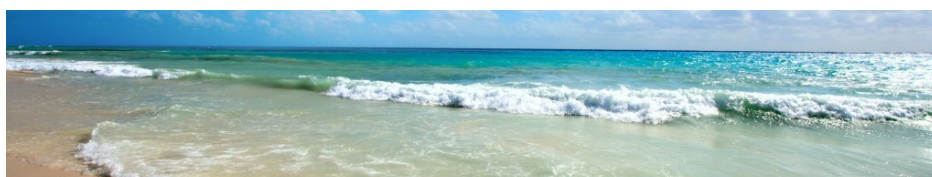
**SeaSide Escape »** Need a day at the beach? A time to slow down, wiggle your toes in the sand and bask in the warmth of God's presence? Join us at SeaSide Escape. a beach-themed retreat you won't want to miss!

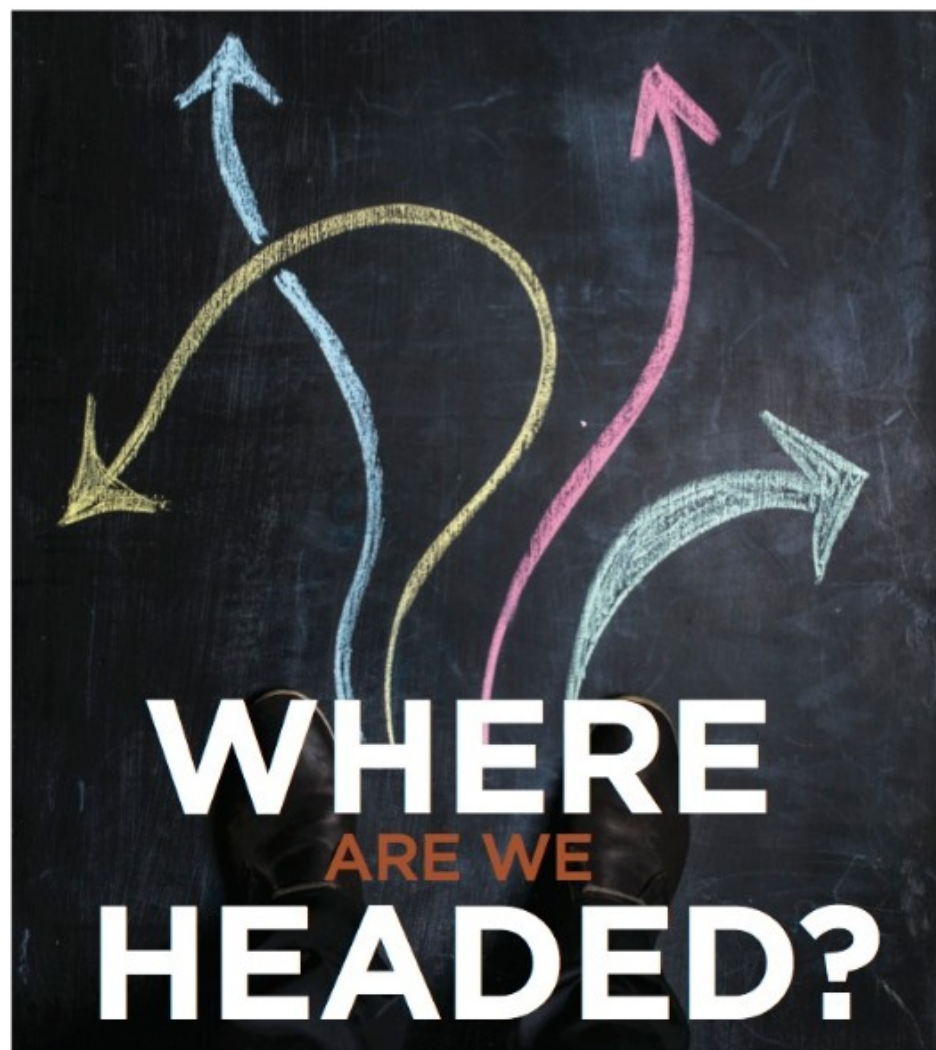
**Location:** Mills Spring Ranch, Casper Mountain, Casper WY

**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](http://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

---



Campion Academy Gym  
300 SW 42<sup>nd</sup> St.  
Loveland, CO 80537

**Campion Academy's  
1<sup>st</sup> Annual Volleyball  
Camp  
July 30-31, 2017**



**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!

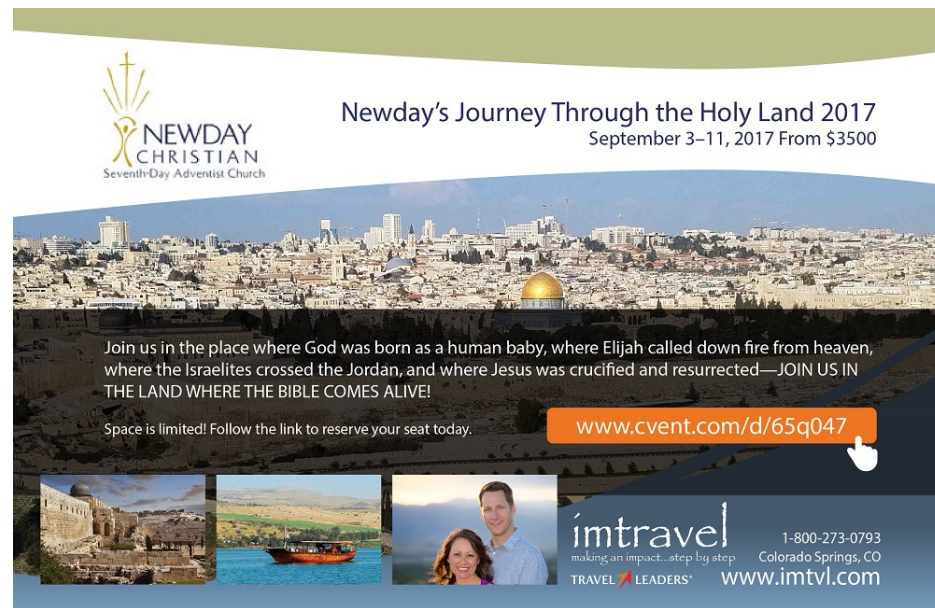
Call or email Matt Moreland, [661-805-](tel:661-805-6797)

[6797](tel:661-805-6797) [mattm@rmcsda.org](mailto: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](mailto:pastordave@newdaysda.com).



The banner features the Newday Christian logo on the left, which includes a stylized cross and the text "NEWDAY CHRISTIAN Seventh-Day Adventist Church". To the right of the logo, the text reads "Newday's Journey Through the Holy Land 2017" and "September 3-11, 2017 From \$3500". Below this, a wide-angle photograph of Jerusalem is shown, with the Dome of the Rock prominently featured in the center. Overlaid on the bottom half of the image is a dark, semi-transparent box containing white text: "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!" Below this text, it says "Space is limited! Follow the link to reserve your seat today." and provides the URL "www.cvent.com/d/65q047" in an orange button. At the bottom of the banner, there are three small images: a historical site, a boat on the water, and a couple smiling. To the right of these images is the "imtravel" logo with the tagline "making an impact...step by step" and "TRAVEL LEADERS". Further right, the contact information "1-800-273-0793", "Colorado Springs, CO", and "www.imtvl.com" is listed.

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.

[www.cvent.com/d/65q047](http://www.cvent.com/d/65q047)

imtravel  
making an impact...step by step  
TRAVEL LEADERS

1-800-273-0793  
Colorado Springs, CO  
[www.imtvl.com](http://www.imtvl.com)

---

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

---

**Mile High Academy »** has three positions 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](mailto: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](mailto: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-rmc-sda-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