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News and updates from the president of the Rocky Mountain Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

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Rex Bell announces retirement » Rex Bell, who has been pastoring the **Brighton** (Colo.) **Church**, recently announced his plans to retire. He will only semi-retire, however, since he has accepted an invitation to pastor the northeast Colorado district on a part-time basis. This district includes the **Akron, Burlington, Fort Morgan, Sterling, and Yuma** churches.



Rex is dearly loved at Brighton and will be missed very much. I asked him what his thoughts were about this transition after pastoring at Brighton for 23 years, and he said, “Our time at Brighton has provided cherished experiences and precious memories for **Ginger** [his wife] and me as we served God’s people there. I only wish every pastor could have the opportunity to experience pastoring this church as I have had.”

Rex is known as a pastor who strongly supports Adventist education, serves his community, loves leading people to Jesus, and is a great shepherd of the flock. There is no doubt that he will continue to pursue those passions as he serves the northeast Colorado churches. Let’s keep the Bells in our prayers during this transition.

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Upcoming Events

RMC Camp Meetings

- Cowboy Camp Meeting**
July 11 – 15
Silver Jack Reservoir
Near Cimarron, CO 81220
Contact: Pastor Steve Gillham
sdgillham@hotmail.com
970.560.3030
- Wyoming Camp Meeting**
July 17 – 21
Mills Spring Ranch
8000 Tower Hill Road
Casper, WY 82601
Contact: Pastor Weldon Treat
wtreat@bresnan.net
303.277.5733

NE Colorado Camp Meeting
July 27 – 28

RMC family grows again! » Ericsson Ryder Aakko (who will be called “Ryder”) was born last week to **Jodie** and **Eric Aakko**. Jodie, a teacher for Rocky Mountain Conference for a number of years, is currently teaching part-time at **H.M.S Elementary School** in Campion, Colo. By the way, Jodie is the daughter of **Ginger** and **Rex Bell** (mentioned above) who, I must say, are very proud and grateful grandparents!



Campion Academy
300 42nd Street SW
Loveland, CO 80537
Contact: Pastor Rex Bell
rexngingerbell@msn.com
303.886.3099

Hispanic Camp Meeting
Aug. 31 – Sept. 3
Glacier View Ranch
8748 Overland Road
Ward, CO 80481
Contact: Pastor Ruben Rivera
Rivera.ruben710@comcast.net
303.910.1614

Students enjoy heavenly banquet »

A heavenly banquet celebration was held on the last day of school, May 24, in **Sandy Hawkins'** third- and fourth-grade classroom at **Mile High Academy**



in Denver. **Lonnie Hetterle**, education superintendent for the Rocky Mountain Conference, read some Bible verses about heaven. He also read of the glorious vision that portrays the wonders of heaven, written by Ellen White in the book *Early Writings*. The students were enthralled and thrilled with anticipation at the thought of going to heaven and joining Jesus at the real heavenly banquet!

ACS DR team joins High Park fire response efforts »

As many of you are aware, the fire in High Park, Colo., has continued to grow and cause much damage as it spreads. As a conference, we can be thankful and proud of the good work of our Adventist Community Services Disaster Response team as they have stepped up to help those affected by the fire.



Because of ACS DR's reputation, county and state officials have asked our team to be in charge of donations management. On Friday, the team opened a distribution center for the fire victims.

Cathy Kissner, our ACS DR director, shared, “I would like to thank **Michael Bright** and **June Spaulding** for all the work they have put into the relief work.”

Many are asking if they can be of help to the ACS DR team. The answer is “Yes!” **Chris Hill**, from **ACS Community L.I.F.T.**, tells us how we can be involved. [Click here](#) to read her statement.



Glacier View Ranch summer camps going strong »

Some have asked if the fire in High Park, Colo., is affecting our youth camp, **Glacier View Ranch**, in Ward, Colo. The answer is, “No!” The camp is having a great summer with many campers! Here is a note from **Benjie Maxson**, our summer camp director: “Glacier View Ranch has not been evacuated, and we are not near the fire. We do not have smoke even. God is good, and we have about 92 cubbies up here having a blast, and we just had a great rodeo.”



2012 Town Halls completed » This past weekend, we held the final town hall meeting for 2012. It was hosted at the **Denver South Church** for the Denver Metro area delegates. The next milestone is for the Nominating Committee to meet to prepare for the **September 16 Constituency Session**.

The **Nominating Committee** will meet on **July 15** at the conference office. **Tom Lemon**, president of the **Mid-America Union Conference**, will chair the meeting. The Nominating Committee will pray together and then decide on names for: 1) the officers of the Rocky Mountain Conference; 2) the conference Executive Committee; 3) the conference Board of Education; 4) the conference Constitution and By-laws Committee, and 5) the conference Trust Services Board.

Please join me in praying for the Nominating Committee as they seek to understand God’s leading and undertake this important work for our conference family.

On the road » This weekend, my wife, Diane, and I will travel to Wyoming to worship with the **Worland** and **Ten Sleep** church families. We very much look forward to fellowshiping with these church families!



I wish you God’s richest blessings, and pray you’ll have a wonderful Sabbath rest with our Savior!

Blessings,

Pastor Gary Thurber, President
Rocky Mountain Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists

Share Good News » If you have a ministry / evangelism story to tell, please email it to nuggets@rmcsda.org so we can share how God is working through His people in your territory.