Agape Haitian Pastor, Esteb Pierre, Ordained to Gospel Ministry » In a full sanctuary, Esteb Pierre, pastor of the Agape Haitian Church, was ordained to the gospel ministry the afternoon of February 24. Held in the Aurora Church sanctuary, the ordination was attended by members of the Aurora Church, his own Agape Haitian church members who came in support of their pastor, and others from around Denver. The atmosphere was welcoming and enthusiastic.

A native of Petit-Goave in the south of Haiti, Pierre immigrated to the United States, along with his family, in 2006. His daughter, Stephania (early 20s), provided a vocal solo for the ordination with son Stebenson (13) accompanying on piano. Later, Pierre sang an a capella piece in a quartet composed of his brother and two uncles who all traveled from New York to be present for this event.

Working with the Rocky Mountain Conference since 2015, Pierre contributed to doubling the attendance at the Agape Haitian Church. Baptisms in his church reached 17 in 2017, a large number for a small church. Commenting during the Ministry Affirmation portion of the ordination, Eric Nelson, VP for RMC administration said, "I see in you, dedication, consecration, hard work, passion, and evangelistic outreach."

With numerous degrees in Commercial Administration, Business Administration, and Master of Divinity, among others, Pierre comes to the Rocky Mountain Conference well qualified as a pastor. He is a native Creole speaker and also
speaks English, French, and Spanish. His professional experience includes substitute teacher, chauffeur, maintenance supervisor, Spanish teacher, accountant, and project coordinator for ADRA.

During the Ministry Charge, Lonnie Hetterle, RMC Education Director, challenged Pierre’s church family to support him. Then he said, “Pierre you have a beautiful family. Take care of them.”

“I loved seeing your kids do music,” said Mid-America Union Ministerial Director, Mic Thurber. “My parents made room for me to do ministry through music. We see Jesus in you and invite you to be a pastor to the world,” he added. “We’re ‘lashing you fast’ or tying you down securely as an ordained pastor” which Thurber portrayed as a “way of life; not a temporary job assignment.”

“We are honored to have you,” said RMC president, Ed Barnett, during his Ordination Address.”

With his wife, Junia, a registered nurse at his side, Pierre was surrounded by ordained pastors who gave him “God’s touch” through the laying on of hands during the Ordination Prayer. “We dedicate and consecrate you to lifelong ministry,” said Nelson during the prayer.

Both the Aurora Church and the Agape Haitian Church celebrated his ordination during a Haitian meal served in Aurora’s beautifully-decorated gymnasium.

-- Carol Bolden photo by Lisanette Vargas

**First Orientation Meeting of K-12 Board of Education**

The state of education in the Rocky Mountain Conference, its progress and challenges was on the agenda of the first meeting of the newly delegated RMC K-12 Board of Education. As this was the first assembly of this group, most of the meeting time, February 26, was spent in receiving reports from several conference institutions and departments. There are 23 schools operated throughout the Rocky Mountain Conference.

Setting the tone for the meeting, Eric Nelson, Rocky Mountain Conference vice-president of administration, emphasized “the benefits of the cooperative working by the school, church, and home in the [student’s] development, and Adventist nurturing for our children and young people.”

As with each new board, Ed Barnett, RMC president and Board chair, provided a brief orientation as to the role and function of the committee, a primary feature of the new Board meeting. He stated “how blessed [he feels] that the number of students attending Adventist schools has increased in both RMC Conference and in Mid-American Union. “We can be proud of our schools, our students and teachers,” he said.
First in a series of reports, Campion Academy principal, Don Reeder presented the school’s master plan developed through a cooperative effort among Campion Academy, Campion Church, and HMS Richards Elementary School. His report included encouraging spiritual and outreach activities such as Wildfire, SWAT Teams, and various other programs. Reeder also presented information about the sale of the Industrial complex as well as the latest efforts in assisting in the transition of the L.E. program, necessitated by the upcoming retirement of Joe Martin who coordinated the program over the last 26 years.

Against the background of the RMC Education core values known as CHERISH, presented by Diane Harris, associate superintendent of education, Mile High Academy’s principal, Kase Vunileva, shared the advances MHA is making through different programs, among them 21st Century Learning, the 5 “C’s”, Real World Learning, and Project-based Learning. The MHA students are known for excelling in test scores, she said, also listing the community involvement through service projects by the students and teachers. Vunileva also reported on the progress of Mile High Shunde campus in China and the blessing that endeavor involves.

Barnett informed the Board members about the potential cooperation between Adventist Hospital System and its Adventist University of Health Science (ADU), and Mile High Academy. A joint venture to provide further education on a combined campus at MHA is in the works, though nothing concrete has been decided. “It is exciting and healthy to dream of possibilities. More information about this will be forthcoming as opportunities are further explored,” Barnett said.

Funding of Adventist Education and the blessing of a faithful, tithe-paying constituency was shared by George Crumley, RMC vice-president of finance. Crumley addressed the challenges of the funding of our school as well as all other programs taking place in the Conference. Against the background of the funding of education ministry for the church, the Board members heard many details of how the dollars are spent.

Presenting issues and challenges of hiring only Adventist employees, Danielle Toddy, director of human resources, and her team, addressed the legal ramifications that are involved on several levels with potential employment issues. “It was eye-opening to hear that over the course of a year, RMC

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**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 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.
employs upward of 1,000 individuals in the churches, schools, conference office, and camps, throughout the Conference,” said Lonnie Hetterle, RMC education superintendent.

The committee, whose membership includes individuals with unique connections to Adventist education and a passion for making a difference in the lives of students and their families in Rocky Mountain Conference, also received information from Gerry Ban, new associate director of education at the Mid-America Union Office about a variety of sources of information available to the committee members concerning Adventist Education. The business portion concluded with information presented by Diane Harris, about the quality of curriculum that is being provided for our students and teachers in RMC schools.

Commenting on the first meeting, Hetterle said that the Board’s agenda was planned “to mainly provide orientation. Hearing reports from both the educators and church administrators, the 22-member committee will now have a comprehensive background against which proposals and discussions will take place.”

According to Hetterle, future meetings will discuss a vision and explore the various issues that are facing Adventist education not only in Rocky Mountain Conference, but across the North-American Division. Examples of these issues are school safety, financial affordability, technology and 21st Century Learning that will enable our students to be successful in the world they inhabit.

Describing the meeting’s “great spirit,” he expressed his confidence that the “expertise represented by the Board members will benefit the schools, teachers and students throughout the conference in the coming months and years.”

--RMCNews with Lonnie Hetterle

The Great Pancake Palooza Held at Campion Academy » Cooking teams went spatula to spatula to win the title of The Best Pancake Makers at Campion this past Saturday night. Student Association broke out the pancake griddles and hosted a cook-off dubbed The Pancake Palooza.

Contestants were given some tough secret ingredients to work with, such as potato chips and grapefruit, and were judged by things such as presentation and taste. Hannah P. and Rachel M., two Student Association members who
helped out with the event, said how awesome it was to see the team members learning to work together through the process.

There were both winners and losers in this competition, but it was all done with great sportsmanship. Many people, including Principal Reeder who was one of the five judges, commented on the amazing flavors and creativity that the students were able to produce.

A spectator, Ricky C. said, “It was fascinating to watch how they made the ingredients taste good together!” The Student Association is planning to host more cook-offs in the future.

--- Text and photo by Devaney Bright

**Campion Senior Chosen for National Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizens Program**

Three Campion Seniors were chosen to receive recognition in the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizens Program.

Intended to encourage and reward the qualities of good citizenship, the student selected must demonstrate the qualities of dependability, which includes truthfulness, loyalty, and punctuality; service, which includes cooperation, courtesy, and consideration of others; leadership, which includes personality, self-control, and ability to assume responsibility; and patriotism, which includes unselfish interest in family, school, community and nation to an outstanding degree.

From the three students chosen, the senior class selected one student who had submitted a resume, a transcript, and two letters of recommendation. Kelby, the final choice, received a DAR Good Citizen pin, a certificate and a wallet recognition card.

Kelby, along with her family and school representatives, attended a tea honoring her and six other students chosen from the local high schools.

--- Sherry Hay; photo by Don Reeder
Welcoming Statements to Help Your Local Church » The Seventh-day Adventist Church has officially published many encouraging statements, from *Church Manual* to Fundamental Beliefs, welcoming all people.

In practice, however, Adventist churches at times have been exclusive and repellant. We have closed doors to people who didn’t behave like us or think like us or look like us. We have cared more about being right than about being kind. We have confused acceptance with agreement. We have been too motivated by fear. We have turned away thirsty seekers of the free water of life.

Now is the time to be more intentional concerning the openness and warmth of our local church climates. As important as a mission or vision, a welcoming statement gives the church a face.

Visit [AdventistChurchWelcomingStatements.org](http://AdventistChurchWelcomingStatements.org) to find biblical inspiration for creating a welcoming statement, a list of actual welcoming statements, and tips for creating a welcoming statement for your church.

In this time of authentic revival and reformation, when the fresh wind of the Holy Spirit blows where it will, any movement by Seventh-day Adventist congregations toward hospitality is something to celebrate!

**How You Can Help Spread the Word**

**Sample Email Announcement**

Is your congregation happily open to having all people attend worship services, Bible studies, Sabbath School classes, potlucks, and prayer meetings? Does this invitation include people of every race, appearance, belief system, sexual orientation, nation, gender, economic level, age, and ability? If the answer is Yes, now is the time to craft a welcoming statement to show that your church is a safe space for everyone. Visit [AdventistChurchWelcomingStatements.org](http://AdventistChurchWelcomingStatements.org) to get started.

**Sample Facebook Post**

Is your congregation happily open to having all people attend? Does this invitation include people of every race,
appearance, belief system, sexual orientation, nation, gender, economic level, age, and ability? If the answer is Yes, now is the time to craft a welcoming statement to show that your church is a safe space for everyone. Visit AdventistChurchWelcomingStatements.org to get started.

Sample Tweet
Is your church a safe space for everyone? If the answer is Yes, now is the time to craft a welcoming statement. Visit AdventistChurchWelcomingStatements.org to get started.

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**PRAYER CORNER**

It hardly seems possible that MARCH begins this week! We'd love to have you join in our weekly Wednesday morning call, 6:30-7:30am! **You’re invited!**

To join, call: 605-468-8026, and use the access code 1010801#

**March 3 -- Women's Day of Prayer --** The North American Division hosts an all night prayer call the first Thursday of each month from 8 pm - 3 am Colorado time. It's always a blessing to join in for awhile on that call. The number is 404-891-6338, access code 772937#

**2nd Quarter Day of Prayer and Fasting Sabbath, April 7**
The first Sabbath of each quarter is designated as a day of prayer and fasting. This coming quarter the focus is “Interceding for our Marriages” and resources can be found here: https://www.revivalandreformation.org/resources/all/prayer-and-fasting-days Please choose a different Sabbath if the first Sabbath doesn’t work for you. Let's PRAY!

**Opportunities for Prayer:**
*Denver West Church* is hosting 7 hours of prayer this Sabbath 2:30-9:30 pm in preparation for Fire Rekindled. You are invited to join in!

*Aurora First Church* just finished 10 days of prayer. They chose to do the 10 days after the Revelation Speaks Peace meetings ended. YOUR church is cordially invited to do 10 days of prayer as well! Why not plan for sometime this year? Resources can be found at tendaysofprayer.org.

*The Gillette Church* is hosting a prayer weekend March 9-10. Topics include:
- Transforming Your Friends and Family Through Intercessory Prayer, Friday 7 pm
- Transforming Your Personal Life Through Prayer, Church Service, 11 am
- Transforming Your Community Through Prayer, Sabbath, afternoon 2:30 pm
Friday night and Sabbath afternoon sessions will be held in the community room at South Fork Apartments, 4500 Running W Drive, Gillette. Sabbath morning will be held at the church.

- "Prayer is the breath of the soul. It is the secret of spiritual power." PR 12

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**CAMP MEETINGS 2018**

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**TOWN HALLS 2018**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Summer Ministry Opportunity at Glacier View Ranch Summer Camp »**

College age young adults (18-25) are invited to apply for an opportunity to join our summer staff at Glacier View Ranch from **June 3 through July 31**. GVR staff commit the summer to fantastic ministry in the heart of the Rocky Mountains as they work with a team of more than 60 young adults to make it easy for kids to know God. Available positions around camp
Include everything from lifeguarding to rock climbing, counseling, or cooking in the kitchen. A full list of available positions and job descriptions is available online at rmcyouth.org/summerstaff.
Ready to apply? Visit rmcyouth.org/apply

Yellowstone National Park Sabbath Services  » Join us for worship at Yellowstone National Park every Sabbath from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Led by Rocky Mountain Conference pastors, the services begin at 10 a.m. in Old Faithful Lodge.

Follow-up meetings for Revelation Speaks Peace will take place at various churches around the Denver-metro area:

**Bible marking classes** continue at True Life Community Church (720-312-7962); Chapel Haven Church (303-451-1800); Brighton Church (303-659-1999); and Fort Lupton Church (303-887-9197).

**Bible study groups** continue at Newday Denver Church (pastored@newdaysda.com); Chapel Haven Church (303-451-1800); and Denver South Church (303-744-1271).

**Health seminars** are available on March 7 at True Life Community Church (720-312-7962); and cooking classes will be scheduled at the Fort Lupton Church depending on demand (303-887-9197).

**Other events** include “All About Jesus Revival” at True Life Community Church (720-312-7962); “Discover Newday” on February 16 (720-312-7962); “Fire Rekindled” at the Golden Church (970-485-3613); “Jesus 201” at the Golden Church (970-485-3613); “Grace Link” at the Littleton Church (303-798-5648); adult and youth Bible study at Agape Haitian Church (720-809-9588).

Join a new church plant that meets at 4 p.m. every Saturday, 2222 N Marion Street, Denver CO 80205.

Boulder Church Guest Speaker  » Boulder Adventist Church welcomes special guest speaker Tim Gillespie this Sabbath, March 3. He will preach during the worship service at 9:30 a.m., and provide an afternoon lecture at 2:30
p.m. Space will be provided for those wishing to bring their own lunch and there will be haystacks as an additional supplement.

Tim is lead pastor of Crosswalk Church in Redlands, California, where he has served since 2014. He has been involved in innovative ministry for the past twenty years, and has also worked in healthcare. Read the Daily Walk, a Bible study produced by Boulder Church, in preparation for the sermon.

Tim will also join the men’s ministry, Called, in the evening at Gordon Biersch at Flatiron Crossing. If you would like to join us, see our website for further details and registration information (https://boulder.church/ministries/called). The suggested donation for the event, which includes a three-course meal, is $26.

For more information about any of our events, contact Senior Pastor Japhet De Oliveira (japhet@boulder.church).

Franktown Women’s Ministries » The Franktown women's ministries group wants to bless new parents and their babies at Castle Rock and Parker hospitals by presenting them with care packages for their babies. If you want to contribute, drop off onesies and sleepers for ages 0-3 months, A&D ointment, baby wash and shampoo, newborn diapers and flannel for making blankets at the conference office before the deadline of March 2. For questions, call Franktown women's ministries coordinator, Selma Wolfswinkle at 303-330-2267.

Become Certified in Donations Management » When a disaster happens, will you be ready to assist? Why not become certified in Donations Management? Recognized by FEMA and the State of Colorado Emergency Management, this training will take place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 4 at the Alamosa Church Fellowship Hall. The cost of $25 covers the class manual, lunch, and a photo ID.

Instructor Cathy Kissner is the Community Service Director and Disaster Response Coordinator for the Rocky Mountain Conference and is certified by NAD, ACSDR, FEMA and Colorado Division of Emergency Management as a training instructor in Donations Management. To register, email Cathy Kissner at cathyk@rmcsda.org
True Life Community Church » The 8-week Diabetes Undone series will begin on Wednesday evening, March 7 at True Life Community Church., 6054 S. Kipling Parkway. This program can change lives dramatically. Some attendees have been taken completely off diabetes medications or the amount of medication has been reduced.

TLC ladies are hosting "Fit To A Tea" at 1 p.m., Sabbath, March 10 right after the praise service. Women's Ministry leader, Tammy Romero, asks ladies who attend to bring purses, either loaded or unloaded with toiletries. Optionally, bring just a purse or just a gallon zip-lock bag loaded with toiletries. These purses and toiletries will be taken to a women's shelter in the area. She is looking for junior volunteers (young ladies 18 or younger). Contact Tammy at 720-364-8339.

Fire Rekindled 2018 » The Golden, Lakewood, and Denver West churches join together to present Fire Rekindled 2018. These meetings begin March 16 and continue through April 27. For more information about speakers and dates, call or text 970-485-3613 or visit www.goldencosda.org

Denver West Church: 290 S Quitman Street, Denver 80219.
Lakewood Church: 8001 W 23rd Ave, Lakewood 80214.
Golden Church: 3101 S Golden Rd, Golden 80401.

Save these dates for a diabetes prevention and reversal program presented at the Twin Peaks Adventist Church 9696 Paschal Drive, Louisville CO 80027.

Sunday, March 25, 8:30 a.m. to Noon
Monday, March 26 through April 23, 5:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
The $149 registration fee includes:

- Media presentations by Dr. Wes Youngberg, author of *Goodbye Diabetes*, and dietician Brenda Davis, author of *Defeating Diabetes*
- *Plant to Plate* cookbook
- Workbook and handouts
- Online extended education
- Glucometer and Hemoglobin A1C test
- Plant-based food recipes and sampling
- 8 Laws to a Better, Longer Life DVD

*Early bird registration fee is $139 if completed by March 11. Registration closes March 18. Program size is limited to 10 persons and their spouses. Contact Rosemary Cook 303-465-4010 for more information and to reserve your spot for a new lease on life.

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**Children's Ministries Certification and VBX Training in Brighton . . . in Grand Junction**

Join us for Child Evangelism Track held at 6:45 - 8:45 p.m. Friday, March 16 and 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday, March 17.

This will be a weekend filled with learning and so much Jesus. Tracks will be taught in both Spanish and English at Brighton Church, 567 E Bromley Lane, Brighton CO 80601-3249. Register at rmcyouth.org/children or email Patty Rivera at pattyr@rmcsda.org, 303-910-1614. Registration deadline is March 7.

Join us for Children's Ministry Certification Track 2 held from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, April 28 at the Grand Junction Church, Taught in both English and Spanish, this training will cover Track 2 of the Children's Ministries certification. Grand Junction Church is located at 550 25 1/2 Road, Grand Junction CO 81505-6122. Register at rmcyouth.org/children or email Patty Rivera at pattyr@rmcsda.org, 303-910-1614. Registration deadline, April 19.

**The Journey to the Cross and Beyond** Coming March 31 from 1 to 6 p.m., The Journey to the Cross and Beyond is an important outreach which will lead into evangelistic meetings. Our community is waiting to be invited to know more about Jesus. You can do three things to help make this major event a success:
Pray for its success and that people will be drawn closer to Jesus.
Bring your neighbors, family, and friends. It will not be an effective outreach without guests.
Get involved yourself. There are still plenty of positions that need to be filled. Some are behind the scenes and some up-front where the fun is. To get involved, contact Dick Stenbakken at 970-667-0866 or any of the Campion Church pastoral staff.

**Denver South Church Spring Concert**  » Denver South Church will present a spring concert on **April 21**. This dynamic and biblical choir/orchestra/drama program is an outreach to the community. Singers, instrumentalists, dramatists, ushers, greeters, prayer-givers and others are welcome to participate, Contact Missy Wherley at 720-985-8949 or branchofthevine@gmail.com to get involved.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

**Fort Collins Christian School**  » The Fort Collins Christian School will start a state-licensed Preschool (ages 3-5) and is seeking a part-time preschool teacher for the 2018-2019 school year. Candidates with a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Special Education, Family and Child Development, Child Psychology, or an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education will be considered. If you are interested in this position, please contact Keiko Breese at keikonagasawa821@gmail.com or call her at 970-222-6347 for more information.

**Mile High Academy ESL Teacher Needed at China Campus**  » Mile High Academy still has a position available on their extended campus at the Guangdong Experimental Shunde - ESL Teacher Needed

This is a unique opportunity to serve as a teacher in Shunde China at Mile High Academy’s extended campus at the Guangdong Experimental Shunde. Please see link below to explore the school: [http://www.gdsysd.com/Home/IndexEnglish](http://www.gdsysd.com/Home/IndexEnglish)

Contact Principal Toakase Vunileva at tvunileva@milehighacademy.org for questions or to submit your resume.

**Student Literature Evangelist Coordinator**  » Joe Martin has announced that he will be retiring this June.
"We're sorry Joe is retiring," said RMC President Ed Barnett. "He has big shoes to fill and we are looking for someone to fill them. If you or someone you know is interested, please
contact our office at 303-282-3635 and ask for Human Resources.

Glacier View Ranch » has the following employment opportunity available:  

Support Personnel position. This is a part-time (28 hours/week) position with housing provided on site. The employee will perform a variety of tasks, assisting in multiple operational functions around the Ranch. For a full description of duties, including physical demands and working conditions, please review the job description on our website at http://www.rmcsda.org/hr-gvrsupportpersonnel where you will also find information on how to apply.

NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEB

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.

Thank you for your contribution, but also comments, as NewsNuggets continues to serve the church in an efficient and effective way.

NOTE: Questions are being raised regarding guidelines for the Announcement section of the RMC NewsNuggets newsletter. After a review of the guidelines, the following few points should be considered when sending announcements or promotional materials:

- The newsletter has been established primarily for news sharing within the conference, though selected general church news stories are also considered for publication.
- The primary readership of the newsletter are church members within the Rocky Mountain Conference.
- When submitting an announcement, consider that local Sabbath events may be drawing members from other local churches.
- Promoting evangelistic meetings in NewsNuggets is not attracting potential attendees for whom the meetings are primarily advertised.
- Announcements will not be repeated more than twice, and they should be concise. Web page links or phone numbers should be provided for additional information.

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