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

Friday, October 18, 2013

H.M.S. Richards students reach out to community » Brittany McLachlan and her students in grades 1–3 at H.M.S. Richard Elementary School made gift bags for community children, which included toys, cookies and homemade cards. The best part was for the students to be able to deliver the packages themselves!

Boulder Church has a new senior pastor » Japhet De Oliveira, currently the University Chaplain at Andrews University and senior pastor of the One Place community on campus, has accepted the invitation to become the senior pastor at the Boulder Church, beginning Jan. 1, 2014. Read further to learn more about Pastor Japhet and his family. Welcome to Rocky Mountain Conference!

Upcoming Events

Vista Ridge Academy Fall Festival
Nov. 2
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Pastor Rod Scherencel accepts call

Pastor Rod Scherencel and his wife, Lynne, have accepted a call to the Pittsburg District in the Kansas-Nebraska Conference. For the past two years, Pastor Rod has been pastor of the Durango District in Colorado. Before that, he was pastor of the Loveland-Estes Park District. Lynne has been the principal of the La Vida Mission School in New Mexico. Thank you for your service for the King in Rocky Mountain Conference, Rod and Lynne. We all wish you only God's richest blessings in your new ministry home.

Porter Adventist Hospital receives another award for excellence

The Heart and Vascular Institute at Porter Adventist Hospital was awarded the ACTION Registry-GWTC Performance Achievement Award. This is the highest level of recognition from American College of Cardiology for care of myocardial infarction. Read more.

Chaplain Barry Black continues to impact the country with his prayers

This week, Barry Black, chaplain of the U.S. Senate, gave a five-minute radio interview on WTOP-FM in Washington, D.C., where he responded to questions about his prayers and spiritual leadership, which he is providing in the Senate. I believe you will be blessed by the biblical approach he has taken and freely shares. Listen to the radio segment here.

The Cancer Center at Parker Adventist Hospital will open soon

Parker Adventist Hospital's 10,000 sq. ft. radiation therapy center will open Nov. 11. This will be a full-service advanced cancer care center.

Don’t forget October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

More and more studies reveal that being a pastor can be very hazardous to your health! These studies show that, across all denominational lines, pastors tend to have higher rates of obesity, hypertension and depression than other Americans. This is an amazing reversal of what used to be one of the healthiest professions one could be a part of.
While there is no easy answer as to why this change has occurred, most experts have identified two areas churches can be a blessing to their pastor.

1. Show appreciation, in a tangible way, for the love and care your pastor has shown the church.

2. Make sure your pastor takes the time off needed for his family and his health.

I encourage all to participate in Pastor Appreciation Month, and do something to bless your pastor and his family.

**On the road** This past Sabbath, it was a joy to worship with the Boulder Church in Colorado as we greeted Pastor Japhet De Oliveira and his family. I believe great things are in store for this church under Pastor Japhet’s leadership.

This weekend, I am in Berrien Springs, Mich., visiting our son, Justin, and will stay for the International Camporee Executive Committee Meeting on Tuesday. It is hard to believe, but the next camporee in Oshkosh, Wis., is only ten months away! I hope every church family will help their young people figure out how to go to this incredible, life-changing event. For more information, see [http://www.cye.org/camporee/](http://www.cye.org/camporee/).

Wherever you find yourself this Sabbath, I hope the strength and rest the Lord wants to give will bless you greatly!

Happy Sabbath to all!

**Elder Gary Thurber**

*Rocky Mountain Conference president*

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**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.

**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 keep up-to-date on what’s happening around the Rocky Mountain Conference.