Responding to Human Needs Essential to Spiritual Leadership  

During the month of October one-hundred and seventy-one years ago, a group of young people experienced a great disappointment. Their names are recognizable, but their ages are quite surprising. Ellen Harmon, founder of our church, was just 16; J.N. Andrews, who played a pivotal role in the establishment of Adventist theology, was 15; Uriah Smith, editor of the *Review and Herald*, was 13; George Butler, General Conference president, was 10. These young people, along with a number of others near their ages, became the backbone of the fledgling Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The church's youth today, many Seventh-day Adventist believers will attest, are no less talented and no less passionate than those of the 19th century. However, you will find that half of our young people are slipping out the back door. Although they may have a heart for God, they haven't found a place in the church where they belong, nor have they found a place where they can make a difference.

When Ron Whitehead was youth director for the Rocky Mountain Conference (1987-1996), he realized that the young adult ministry was not thriving despite his best efforts to build it up through programs such as Winterfest and international camporees. He began to envision churches of refuge where young people could feel safe and welcomed. He realized the youth department couldn't do it all and that the local church could do so much to encourage and build up their youth who could, indeed, carry leadership roles.

By 2005, he had designed a training program centered on nine values important for becoming a Church of Refuge (COR). These churches are congregations that welcome and empower youth and young adults for spiritual leadership. To date, there...
24 churches of refuge in North America and 130 in two divisions in Europe. Whitehead lists these COR values as essential to build the Church of Refuge:

- Sabbath: COR is committed to providing a meaningful Sabbath experience
- Discipleship: COR is committed to discipleship through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- Acceptance: COR is committed to accepting people just as Jesus did
- Community: COR is committed to building community
- Support: COR is committed to supporting young adults with their life challenges
- Service: COR is committed to demonstrating God's love through acts of service
- Leadership: COR is committed to young adult leadership
- Budget: COR is committed to investing financially in youth and young adult ministry
- Change: COR is committed to change that leads to improved senior youths and young adults ministry

The Brighton Church became the most recent Church of Refuge in North America when they hosted Ron Whitehead for the weekend of October 16 and 17. Through a Friday evening casual social, COR representatives, along with the pastor and elders of the church, had the opportunity to hear what the youth and young adults had to say and to become better acquainted.

The Friday night social was followed by a Sabbath message presented during the worship hour by the COR director, Ron Whitehead, who cast a vision for being a church of refuge.

The afternoon training session, presented by the COR team, explained the importance of incorporating the nine COR values in youth and young adult ministries, values that youth and young adults look for when they attend church.

"Young people want to go to a church that doesn't just talk, sing, and pray about the poor. They want to DO something for the poor," explains Ron Whitehead.

"Christ met people's felt needs," states Whitehead. "That's what we're trying to do for young adults."

"When I was in Minnesota at the Hutchison church," says Wayne Morrison, pastor of the Brighton Church, we became a church of refuge, so when we came here, I wanted to do the same. I hope to do that at every church I pastor," Morrison finishes.

"The responses I've gotten from our members [after the COR weekend] are extremely positive," Morrison explains. "They want to move ahead in being intentional about giving young adults power in the church."

The Brighton Church has young adults as elders, others leading in ministry, one as a finance chair, another as school board chair and several young adults on the nominating committee.

"Not only do we want them here, but we want to give them leadership roles. I'm very excited about where we are right now," exudes Morrison. "It will make a huge difference in the next three to four years."

For more information about churches of refuge, go to the Center for Youth Evangelism (cye) at http://www.cye.org/article/116/cye-ministries/church-of-refuge

[Carol Bolden with Heidi Littell]

"Own It" Youth Event Inspires RMC Young Adults to

Story Guidelines: We want to share your news! » News Nuggets is your publication. We strive to provide news and information that expresses 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@mcsda.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
Boulder Adventist Church hosted the Rocky Mountain Conference’s first Young Adult Day, October 24! About 50 Adventist young adults from numerous congregations of the conference joined activities and presentations throughout the day.

Reporting on the event, Jessyka Albert, young adult pastor from Boulder, said, “We worshiped and sang with one another, ate, and fellowshipped together. Consequently, we realized the importance of owning our church with one another.”

Paddy McCoy, our speaker for the day and lead chaplain at Walla Walla University, challenged the group to start owning their faith and owning their church by, “Being the church you wish to see in the world.” His message was a call to start being, start doing, and start living out our faith.

Throughout the day, young adults not only had time to listen, but also to respond.

After church, the young adults broke into groups of 5-7 and discussed the message and the challenge posed by Paddy. They were also able to voice their questions to a panel of leaders in the Rocky Mountain Conference that resulted in great discussion and ideas for how the conference can better connect with the young adults from around the conference.

Several participants said the event, co-hosted by the RMC Youth Department and the Boulder Church Young Adults Ministry, provided a valuable day for them as it provided time to reflect, connect with one another, and start showing their presence in the church. Commenting on the “Own It” gathering, one anonymous participant stated in a survey, that “the speaker made me really think about taking ownership in my church.”

Jessyka, commented on what inspired her most, “was what this day represented. On Saturday, I saw the church reaching out to its young people and the young people reaching out to their church. What we saw here at Boulder was the body of Christ exercising together.”

Organizers and participants expressed hope this was only the beginning of what is to come as they pull together as a church and as the body of Christ.

"It’s time to stop standing alone, and time to start standing together,” Jessyka stated. [Jessyka Albert; photos by Shannon Werner (top) and Heidi Littell]
Campion’s art department received a $3,500 donation from the Loveland Sculpture Group, October 27, enabling art teacher Jamie Autrey to design a student art installation in the school hallway. Victor Issa, a former Campion art teacher and current president of the group presented Autrey with a check during art class.

The gift was a surprise to Autrey. “I was flabbergasted. What a blessing from God!” he said. Besides paying for tools and materials, the money will go towards installing a ceramic tile installation in the hallway outside of the art classroom. His second semester clay class will begin working on the project.

The Loveland Sculpture Group sponsors the Loveland Sculpture Invitational Show and Sale, which has featured over 300 artists at a time. Over the years they have donated 25 sculptures to the city of Loveland and $200,000 to school district art programs. After 23 years, the group is disbanding. Their donation to Campion is one of their last actions. [Jenny Sigler; photo by Steve Eickmann. Pictured, Don Reeder, Victor Issa, president of the Loveland Sculpture, and Jamie Autrey]

**HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR SCHOOLS**

Spud-gleaning and fundraising have become part of the curriculum at **Sunshine Elementary School** in Alamosa. And the students have become adept at both.

To honor Childhood Cancer Awareness month in September, students held a 5K fun-run and designated 50 percent of their earnings to a local public school third grader, Peyton Sanchez, who is fighting a brain-stem tumor.

When the money came in, Sunshine School staff, along with the families of a few of the students were able to present Peyton with a check for $4,000 to help with his transportation costs to and from treatment. They also had the privilege of surrounding Peyton and praying for his journey through treatment and recovery.

**Sunshine Elementary** has been involved in other outreach projects as well. Now in its fourth year, spud-gleaning has
become a tradition at the school. Nearly 600 pounds of potatoes were gathered in early October by students, staff, parents, and homeschool friends at Sunny Valley Farms in Center, Colorado. This truckload of potatoes was then donated to the Alamosa Food Bank and La Puente Shelter. "Our kids really enjoy collecting the potatoes," says Sue Kanen, Sunshine supporter.

[photos by Jenn Heisey]

**Discover School** in Farmington, New Mexico, spent four days at the Crow Canyon Archeological Center in Cortez after they were given a grant for this learning experience. They were treated to four days of programming, along with food and an overnight stay, all included in the grant.

The archeological site is a 170-acre research center and living classroom offering experiential education programs for kids and adults interested in studying archeology and Native American cultures.

The 13 students who attended were able to stay in hogans, visit Indian ruins, handle ancient pottery, and experience their own archeological dig. They also learned about the ancestral puebloan people and heard some of the Native American folk stories. [photo by Les Neal]

**NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEB!**

![Mountain Views](image)

**NEW PASTOR**

Steve Nelson is the new pastor for the Worland, Ten Sleep, Cody and Powell churches in Wyoming and will begin his service December 1. Pastor Steve has served in Iowa-Missouri for the past four years in Council Bluff and New Bedford. Before his time in Iowa-Missouri, he...
served three years in the Illinois Conference. He brings unique skills in using technology and the web as an evangelistic tool.

He is also certified in counseling and as a family life professional.

Steve's wife, Samantha, directs Hope for Survivors Ministry that supports victims of clergy sexual abuse through biblical counseling and support services.

Welcome to Rocky Mountain Conference, Samantha and Steve!

---

**OCTOBER BAPTISMS**

**Aspen Park**: Randy Kuta  
**Campion**: Antonio Pastrana Jr.  
**Carbon Valley**: Mary Gonzalez, Theresa Varela  
**Chapel Haven**: Doug Ellis, Jeanie Ellis, Chuck Vanstromk, Marcia Mares, Frank Ricardo Pena, Rosalind Vanstrom  
**Colorado Springs Hispanic**: Alexander Eddy Alvarez, Silvia Gonzalez, Rosa Maria Hernandez, Patricia Valdez, Peter Ruiz  
**Denver Central Hispanic**: Rodolfo Viveros  
**Denver West**: Chris Alarcon, Noela Rivera  
**Eden Valley**: Aliesje Goldsberry  
**Franktown**: Janet Frazer Stotz, Stanley Marvin Stotz  
**Golden**: Alma Cecelia Acosta, Kimberly Escobar  
**Loveland**: Gilberto Nerio Duran, Marina Ortiz Gress  
**Twin Peaks**: Travis Boston  
**Vista Fellowship**: Tabata Arvelo, Eliezer Balbin, Gabriel Balbin, Megan Balbin, Norma Barron, Daniel Campello, Carlos Campos, Edward E. Cunningham III, Kenneth Alan Engelhard, Dayanara Gomez, Pamela Anderson Lima, Aracely Paramo, Martha Quinonez, Lilia Rascon

---

**RMC EVENTS**

---

**NAD Sabbath School Investment Program**

The Sabbath School Investment Program has gone through some changes that will be of interest to participating churches and church that may want to get involved.

- Kellogg's is no longer affiliated with the labels program. The new company in charge is Atlantic Natural Foods (ANF).
- NAD has voted that every conference that participates in this program will keep the funds generated and distribute them at its discretion.
- Every participating church should send the labels and required paperwork to its local conference. Each conference will then send the documents to ANF.

---

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**La Vida Mission**

In order to safely transport very young...
Navajo children, La Vida Mission needs ten booster and car seats for their vans at the cost of $50 each. If you would like to help with this need, mark your donation "Car Seat". Or, if you have questions or a new car seat you would like to donate, call 505-786-5539.

**Campion Academy Music Department**  »  Campion's music department presents their fall concert, A Sentimental Journey at 7:30 p.m. Saturday evening, October 31, in their gymnasium. The concert will feature favorites from throughout the decades, including hits from Gershwin, the Beatles, Billy Joel, and Simon and Garfunkel. All groups are participating and everyone is invited!

**Arvada Church**  »  Jaime Jorge will be in concert at 6 p.m. this Sabbath, October 31, at the Arvada Church at 7090 W 64th Avenue, Arvada, CO 80003. For more information, call 303-549-6217.

**Brighton Academy**  »  Come to a Christ-centered, family-friendly "Fall on the Farm" Fall Festival at 6:30 p.m. Saturday night, October 31 to enjoy food, games and other activities. A 5:30 p.m. vespers will take place at the Brighton Church with K-6 grades presenting the musical drama, "What's Up, Zak? -- A Musical Encounter with Jesus."

**Littleton Church**  »  Hear Jaime Jorge, violin virtuoso, in concert October 31 at Littleton Church during the worship service. He will captivate you with his story and music.

**Casper Church**  »  "Keep Calm and Be Prepared," is the title of the seminar being held at the Casper Church, from 6:30 - 7:45 p.m. Sunday, November 1 and continuing Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. This eye-opening seminar will teach why we are in this mess, what to expect next, and how to survive. Free seminar. Child care provided. The church is located at 2625 Casper Mountain Road, Casper WY 82601.

**Twin Peaks Fellowship (Louisville)**  »  A free concert with Jaime Jorge will take place at 5 p.m., November 1. Jaime has played in a high school setting as well as Carnegie Hall. He has played on six continents and in more than 40 countries. His music and personal story of God's leading will captivate.

**The Adventure Church**  »  The Breathe Free program will be offered for several days beginning at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 4, at The Adventure Church, 4100 W 20th Street, Greeley, CO 80634. If you know someone who could benefit from this potentially life-changing and life-saving event or if you want to register, contact Sheri Troedel at 970-238-0985 or sheritroedel@yahoo.com.

**Franktown Church**  »  David Asscherick will present an evangelistic series beginning at 7 pm. Thursday, November 5 and continuing through Sunday, November 15. Registration is recommended. To register or for questions, call 303-688-8687 or email wendy@franktownsda.org.
Vista Ridge Academy  »  The doors will be open from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. for the annual Fall Festival at Vista Ridge Academy on November 7. Enjoy festival games, activities and prizes in the gymnasium, along with festival food and other treats in the atrium. The academy is located at 3100 Ridgeview Drive, Erie 80516. For more information, call 303-828-4944.

Friday Night Live  »  Join this (FnL) grass-roots movement at 7 p.m. Friday night, November 13 for food, conversation and connecting with God through worship and small-group discussion. Bring friends and join their facebook page for more details -- Northern CO SDA Young Adults.

Mile High Academy  »  The first Fall Festival at their new home will be held from 6-9 p.m. November 14 with games, food, fun, prizes, and more. Join them at 1733 Dad Clark Drive, Highlands Ranch 80126. For more information, call 303-744-1069 or go to www.milehighacademy.org.

Campion Academy & HMS Richards School  »  A Fall Festival is coming to the two schools in Loveland. The community and churches are invited to join for a carnival of food, fun and games at 3-6 p.m. Sunday, November 15, at the Campion Academy gymnasium. Bronco fans have the opportunity of watching the game on a big screen -- new this year. If you would like to be involved, volunteers are needed for the event. For more information, contact hmsrichardselementary@gmail.com or 970-667-2427.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ACS Community LIFT is accepting applications for a part-time (32 hrs/wk, M-Th) Medical Assistant at its Denver location. Applicants must be certified as a Medical Assistant and have at least two years experience working in a medical clinic, hospital, doctor's office or other health care setting. For a complete job description and application, visit http://www.rmcsda.org/hr-medical-assistant.

The Rocky Mountain Conference is currently accepting applications for a part-time (20 hours per week, M-Th) Assistant to help out in its Treasury Department. To learn more about this position and how to apply, please visit: http://www.rmcsda.org/hr-treasury-assistant.

The Rocky Mountain Conference is currently accepting applications for a full-time (38 hours per week, M-Th) Administrative Assistant to support the conference's three officers: President, Vice President for Administration and Vice President for Finance. To learn more about this position and how to apply, go to http://www.rmcsda.org/hr-administrative-assistant-opening.

The Voice of Prophecy in Loveland, Colorado, is looking for a full-time departmental assistant, as well as a DISCOVER Bible School trainer. View the full job descriptions and apply at vop.com/jobs.

Global Health Initiatives  
Centura Health
Seeking **Trip Coordinator** for Global Health Initiatives health projects at Centura Health. Twenty hours per week. Experience in international travel arrangements necessary. Please contact GHI Director Greg Hodgson for more information (greghodgson@centura.org).

---

**NOTICE**

Notice of Constituent Church Meeting for the Denver Adventist Community Services Center (The Lift)

**DATE:** Sunday, November 1  
**TIME:** 9 a.m. to noon  
**LOCATION:** Porter Adventist Hospital, Twin Peaks Conference Room  

**REQUEST:** Each church to send delegates to participate in this important business meeting and to vote on the updated Constitution and Bylaws  

The Denver Adventist Community Services Center (now known as The Lift) is holding a Constituent Church business meeting. This meeting will focus on:  

- Providing important updates about operations and finances  
- Voting on a revised Constitution and Bylaws  
- Establishing stronger relationships with Constituent Churches  
- Helping the Board of Trustees and staff make decisions about the future of the organization  

The Lift has been undergoing an important transformation over the past few years to better meet the needs of the community and clients we are here to serve and to make Christ the visible reason and purpose for all we do. However, over this same time period, we also have experienced a “perfect storm” of events and circumstances that have resulted in a very serious financial situation. Additionally, our base of both institutional (church) and individual (church members and others) donors has declined substantially in numbers and in dollars contributed. Simultaneously with the drop in our income, we have continued to experience increases in client needs across all of our programs. If we are to remain a viable organization in our community, we must ensure more stable, steady and diversified sources of income. This includes rebuilding relationships with our Constituent Churches and their members, as well as partnerships with area hospitals, other community service organizations and foundations.  

We need each church in the Denver-Metro area to participate in our Constituent meeting on Sunday, November 1, from 9 a.m. to noon, in the Twin Peaks conference room at Porter Adventist Hospital. We are asking pastors and church boards to identify delegates to participate in a discussion and vote on important organizational business. Our current Constitution and Bylaws allow for churches to appoint one delegate for every 200 members or portion of 200. (For example, if a church has 250 members, it would appoint 2 delegates.)  

For questions related to the Constituent meeting or The Lift, or to get copies of the revised Constitution and Bylaws, please contact Executive Director Debbie Jackson () or Board Chair Stephanie Denning () or see linked documents below. We prayerfully request your engagement and look forward to meeting with you!

Stephanie Denning  
Amended and Restated Constitution and Bylaws
Submission deadline for stories, news, and announcements is at noon on every Wednesday. Please send all your submissions to nuggets@rmcsda.org.

– Editor

**Share the News Nuggets with your congregation** » Add a note to your church bulletin or newsletter with the following URL: [www.bit.ly/RMnews](http://www.bit.ly/RMnews)

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*