

September/October 2020

# RMMN CONNECTION

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God



**Show me your ways, Lord, teach me  
your paths. Psalm 25:4**



## Leadership Team

Gene Roncone  
Superintendent/Network Pastor

Alex Lucero  
Assistant Superintendent

Randy Popineau  
Secretary/Treasurer

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Dane Wead  
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Utah South

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Linda Stahnke

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Alex Lucero - Utah Director

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Glenn Jones - Director

Missions  
Bradley Williamson - Lead

Chi Alpha - Colorado  
Nate Banke

Daran Lemon - US

Steve Livingston - World

Chi Alpha - Utah  
Daran Lemon

David Nicholson

Bryan Sederwall

Church Extension Plan  
Gene Roncone

Rich & Shellie Wooton

Deaf Ministries  
James Banks

Teen Challenge  
Daniel Petruska

## Parachurch Ministries

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Bryan Sederwall

Ravens  
Phil & Cheryl Neely

Utah Dream Center  
Alfred Murillo

Eagle's Nest Counseling  
John Gowins

Royal Family Kids  
Wayne Tesch

YES! Young Enough  
to Serve  
Wes & Judy Wick

First Responders Marriage  
Ministry  
Larry Selman

Sarah's Home  
Vicki Proffitt

Harvest Field Corners  
Jerry Tuttle

Sox Place  
Doyle Robinson

## NETWORK CALENDAR

Sept 4-7	RR FCF Frontier Family Camp
Sept 6-30	Superintendent's West Slope Tour
Sept 7	Network Office Closed
Sept 8	Kids Leaders Video Conf
Sept 12	DSOM
Sept 16	Presbytery Meeting - Zoom
Oct 10	DSOM
Oct 13	Youth Leaders Video Conf
Oct 16-17	RR - National Early Education Conf
Oct 21	Presbytery Meeting - Zoom
Oct 29	Missions Team Meeting - Zoom

YOUR

VISION

IS

OUR

FOCUS



Church Extension Plan

PARTNERS *in* MINISTRY®



6295 Lehman Dr., Suite 202, Colorado Springs, CO 80918-8434  
719-522-0195 [www.rmmdc.org](http://www.rmmdc.org)

September/October Vol. 26, No. 5

# 10 THINGS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



**Gene Roncone**  
Superintendent/Network Pastor  
[gene@rmdc.org](mailto:gene@rmdc.org)

## 1 DESTINY CALLS: A MESSAGE TO PASTORS



Pastoring has never been harder than it is today. I can hear the whisper of weariness, discouragement and crisis fatigue calling our pastors to complacency. Knowing kites rise highest when they are against the wind, I fear some may miss the prophetic moment for which they have been born. If I could sit down face to face with every minister, I would say four words of encouragement.

**Firstly, God is honored by your efforts not just the outcome.** Between COVID-19 and the chaos of social unrest you have never canceled, rescheduled or scrapped so many ministry activities. Programs you prayed over and planned have been canceled. Major initiatives and precious momentum have been lost. It is important to remember that God is just as pleased, honored and glorified by your motives and sacrifice than the outcome. Our western culture can at times be so results oriented that we forget it is our offering to the Lord and not the visible outcome that as Paul said to the Philippians is a “fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God” (Philippians 4:18).

**Secondly, COVID-19, social unrest and a stalled economy have not taken anything God can’t restore.** In the Old Testament, Amaziah spent a considerable amount of money trying to protect his nation’s borders. God called him to abandon these costly efforts and trust in a supernatural solution. Disappointed by the prospect of wasted resources he asked God, “But what about the hundred talents I paid for these Israelite troops?” The man of God replied, “The LORD can give you much more than that”

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### 1 DESTINY CALLS: A MESSAGE TO PASTORS (continued)

(2 Chronicles 25:9). In the New Testament Paul assured the Ephesian believers, “Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us” (Ephesians 3:20). The take-away is that nothing has been taken from us that God can’t restore. Whether that is the momentum your church lost, the staff conflict that robbed your team of unity, the opportunities that disappeared into thin air or the Easter, Mother’s Day, Father’s Day or fall outreaches that rang hollow, God can “give you much more than that”.

**Thirdly, now is the time to recommit to community.** By that I mean your ministerial community and peers in our Network. Being created in the image of God means you were hard-wired for community. It’s part of your spiritual DNA. That also means that if we were made for community then we are most incongruent, inconsistent and unnatural when we exist in isolation. When we deprive ourselves of relationships, we can’t function as the people God created us to be. I think that’s what God meant when he said, “It is not good for man to be alone” (Genesis 2:18). Paul taught that being part of Christ is inseparable from being a member of the community of faith. Paul said, “Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ” (1 Corinthians 12:12). By this we know that relationships are the channel God uses to grow and mature us into the people He wants us to be. This crisis will chew you up and spit you out if you try to tackle it alone. Proverbs 17:17 says, “A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a difficult time.” There is no other time in our movement’s history that peer relationships, sectional meetings and face-to-face peer relationships are more needed.

**Lastly, you were born for this moment!** God is not surprised by COVID, riots, racial tension or these perilous times. He created, called and commissioned you to take your place in this divine intersection. Psalm 139:16 tells us all the days of your life “were written in his book before one of them came to be.” You have a rendezvous with destiny, and you are God’s man or woman for the moment. Like Esther of old, “You have come to the kingdom for such a time as this.” (Esther 4:14)

So, take heart, my friend. Shake off disappointment, steel your spirit and lead well. You are of the tribe of Issachar and history must find you ready and prepared for what can be your finest hour.





## 2 PREPARING FOR POST-ELECTION MINISTRY IN AN AGE OF CHAOS

The Church is facing perilous times. Our nation is being torn apart by political Armageddon, civil unrest, social violence, an international pandemic, and economic meltdown. The 2020 election results will only worsen our situation no matter what the outcome. Like Israel in the wake of a national, political, and social crisis, we will need men and women like the sons of Issachar “who understood the times and knew what Israel should do” (1 Chronicles 12:32 NIV).

What will ministry look like in the wake of postelection chaos? If conservatives keep the White House, what can we expect? If progressives seize control, how will ministry be different and what obstacles will present themselves? How should wise leaders prepare for different scenarios?

In order to answer these questions and help our RMMN churches “hope for the best and prepare for worst,” we reached out to a few “sons of Issachar” living in our own time and asked them what they saw. We then compiled their thoughts, identified common denominators, took note of visionary insights, and summarized their observations in this report that addresses the following topics:

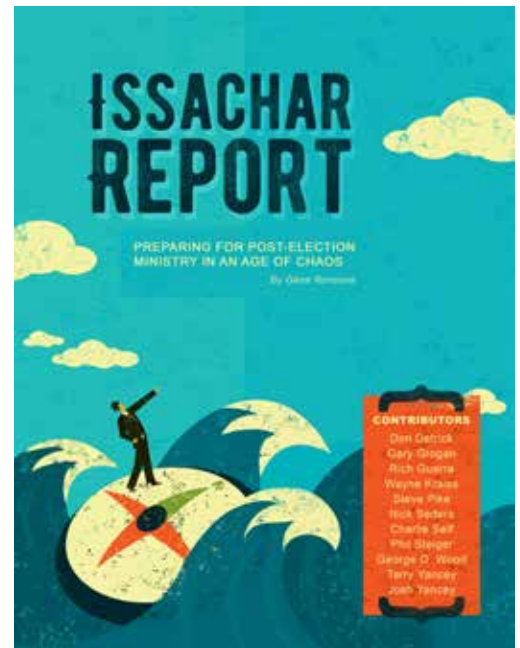
- **Values and Night Vision:** Seven postelection values you can expect from your Network.
- **Forecasting the Future:** What leaders see emerging on the cultural horizon.
- **Preemptive Preparation:** Five intentional ways to prepare your church.
- **Discussion questions:** Practical sections entitled “Making it Real” that includes group discussion questions. These questions can be used in your leadership huddles to discuss potential impact points, team strategy, and action items.

Anticipating the future and preparing for different scenarios are practices exemplified in biblical leaders. **Noah** did it (Genesis 7-9), **King David** did it (2 Samuel 7; 1 Kings 5:2-3), and **King David’s most effective generals** did it as well (2 Samuel 10:11). **Solomon** asked God to empower him to do it with excellence (2 Chronicles 1:10), **Nehemiah** did it (Nehemiah 1-5), and **Jesus** even emphasized this need in four of his parables (Matthew 7:24-27; Luke 14:28-30; Luke 14:31-32; and Luke 16:1-8).

It is our hope that this work will help you as a spiritual leader to prepare for the future and lead well in difficult times. At the very least, we pray it ignites the fires of Spirit-driven creativity in your own ministry.

You can download the PDF version of the report the following three ways:

1. My blog at this link: <https://generoncone.org/issachar-report>
2. Text the word “HELPER” to 74574. A link to the report will be sent to your phone in seconds.
3. Home page [www.generoncone.org](http://www.generoncone.org). A link is on the home page.



## 3 WHY THE CHURCH IS DIVIDED



**I can't recall a time in recent history when the evangelical church has allowed culture to divide them more than now.**

The Coronavirus, social unrest and politics have fractured the church into a million islands of unyielding conviction. Overnight pastors and churches are expected to be Hollywood producers, social justice gurus, community leaders, real time commentators and a spiritual version of the CDC. Expectations are hyper-charged by people

with unyielding convictions, passion and logical sentiments. As independent expectations these beliefs seem reasonable. However, their convergence upon the local church is causing polarizing division, mission creep and irrational expectations.

Jesus taught us saying, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you." (Matthew 6:33). But the church seems to lack the single-mindedness that Jesus required of his followers. Why?

**Patriots want the church to lead them in civic dissent.** In addition to their faith, these honorable believers bleed red, white and blue. Their passion is driven by all the noble things that have made America one of the most righteous and prosperous nations on earth. They fear our civil rights are being trampled upon and the Coronavirus is being leveraged to silence the church. However, they usually can't be found voicing their opinions in city hall, to their county supervisors or even state or federal representatives. If you track the history of their passion, they are more prone to being fully briefed on ballot initiatives than Scripture, soul winning, community outreach or serious discipleship. Because they are patriots first and Christ-followers second, they have subconsciously subcontracted their civic duty to their local church and are waiting for their pastor to lead the charge. Fear makes them expect their church to provide the civic leadership they are unwilling to demonstrate themselves. They have forgotten that even scripture recognized that faith and government can't exist in seamless harmony. It was Jesus who said, "Give back to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's." (Mark 12:17) Their prevailing passion seems to suggest they would prefer Matthew 6:33 to read, "seek ye first patriotic conquest and all these other things will be added unto you."

**Activists want the church to lead them in social justice.** Their prevailing passion is focused on red hot social topics like racial equality, human rights, and the resistance of oppression. Their hearts are rightly broken over the injustice that exists in our communities, nation and world. Yet, they seem to have forgotten, or at least minimized the fact, that without spiritual salvation, redemption and transformation of the human heart through Jesus Christ, social justice is merely a band-aid in a nuclear blast zone. The sheer volume of their voice for social justice drowns out the message of salvation, weeping for lost people, evangelism, the mission of the local church

(continued on Page 7)





### 3 WHY THE CHURCH IS DIVIDED (continued)

and Kingdom building. To them, soul winning, evangelism and spiritual warfare cannot be relevant until social justice is achieved. Their time, social media posts, conversations and focus are more likely to be spent on the need for political reform than on the spiritual hope of mankind. Because they are activists first and disciples second, they have sold their soul to making earth better instead of heaven more populated. They have forgotten that “the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.” (James 1:20) To them Matthew 6:33 is better understood as, “seek ye first social justice and all these other things will be added unto you.”



**Medical professionals want the church to lead them in public safety.** These individuals have learned first-hand that the contagion of COVID-19 is a real and present danger. Their work in the medical field or experience with infected loved ones has brought them face to face with the realities of this international pandemic. They know all too well that people die, and that this kind of death is most often lonely, hopeless and horrible. In the light of their own experiences, any suggestion that this crisis is a hoax is offensive and arrogant. Because they are health professionals first and Christ-followers second, their fear has blinded them from the power of God and made them willing to suspend the mission of the church. They want their pastor to be as knowledgeable as doctors, their church as sanitary as a lab and life as risk-free as a fixed interest rate. They have lost sight of sovereignty, miracles, faith and the fact that we live in a broken and imperfect world. They have forgotten that Jesus, the disciples and Christ-followers have healed the sick, engaged human suffering and been boots on the ground in pandemics for centuries. As a result, their prevailing passion seems to suggest that Matthew 6:33 should read, “seek ye first a vaccine and all these other things will be added unto you.”

**The indifferent want the church to lead them back to normalcy.** For the apathetic, their sense of balance, security and peace are found in predictability and comfort. They long for the church to “get back to normal” and have forgotten that the Bible promises us that this world is broken and will only get worse, and not better, the closer we come to the second coming of Christ. They have forgotten that the book of Revelation shows us the world will change and this change will require extreme faith, resiliency and perseverance. For them, faith is more like an extreme hobby than a world view. As a result, they are frustrated and even angry with their church, pastor and life in general for depriving them of normalcy, predictability and a life absent of inconvenience. They have forgotten the parable of the unwise virgins (Matthew 25:1-13) and would prefer that Matthew 6:33 read, “seek ye first convenience and all these other things will be added unto you.”

However, as oversimplistic as these observations may seem, the disunity they have created unearths one alarming truth. God’s people seem to lack a prevailing perspective that enables them to discern the difference between better and best and navigate the spiritual realities of a world rotting from the inside out. Jesus taught us that one

(continued on Page 8)



## 10 THINGS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT<sup>(continued)</sup>

### 3 WHY THE CHURCH IS DIVIDED <sup>(continued)</sup>

prevailing priority must overshadow all our passions saying, “Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you.” (Matthew 6:33)

But as a Christ-follower, I am not a Republican, Democrat or Independent. I am a child of the living God and citizen of an eternal Kingdom. That means my passion for patriotism, social justice, social health and normalcy must pale in comparison to my passion for the Kingdom. That means when I leave

the presence of others they should be able to unequivocally and undeniably come to the conclusion that I am a Christ-follower more than be able to recall my political affiliation, social convictions or patriotic lean.



A more focused pursuit of a **“Kingdom first”** perspective should lead us to more productive questions.

1. Are there other good but competing passions that are overshadowing my pursuit of things more strategically aligned with “seeking first the Kingdom”?
2. What unique opportunities does our culture of social unrest provide for evangelism in our local communities?
3. How might the political gridlock in our nation give Christ-followers an opportunity to make Christianity more inviting to non-believers?
4. How can ethnic division and conflict provide an opportunity to present Christianity as a faith that unites instead of divides (Galatians 3:28-29)?
5. We live in a world full of conflict, unrest and division. How might the peace of God (Philippians 4:7, Romans 5:1) give us an opportunity to make Jesus more inviting as the provider of real peace, eternal hope and true joy?
6. In Acts chapter 11 a prophet named Agabus prophesied that a severe famine would spread over the Roman empire. As a result of that prophecy, the early church began to mobilize relief efforts before the famine ever arrived. When the famine came, they were immediately relevant. Not because they were smart, woke or popular. They were relevant because the Spirit led them to be a preemptive solution. How might the Holy Spirit lead us to our own cultural relevance in these troubled times?
7. How has Christianity’s history of compassion during pandemics, famines and suffering given us direction in our current crisis?
8. If my time, talents, conversations, finances and energy could be quantitatively measured, would “seeking the Kingdom” (evangelism, discipleship, service and worship) outweigh all other options?

“Seeking first the Kingdom” means there is no honor before the Lord in me allowing my patriotism, political affiliation, social wokeness or traditions to judge a brother or sister in Christ. It means my prevailing passion, my entire focus and my overarching world view is Christ-centered, Kingdom-focused and salvation-driven. Anything less is a departure from goodness.





## 4 MINISTER'S EMERGENCY HOTLINE

**“The work is extensive and spread out, and we are widely separated from each other along the wall. Whenever you hear the sound of the trumpet, join us there. Our God will fight for us!” Nehemiah 4:20**



Network Pastor Gene Roncone and the Presbytery created an emergency response system exclusively for RMMN ministers and immediate family members. If you are a credentialed minister and you, an immediate family member or a fellow minister have experienced severe illness, hospitalization or death, or just need prayer support, please call 1-888-814-2623 and leave a detailed message after the tone. Within minutes, the system records your message, turns it into an audio mp3 file and then emails it to the District Superintendent, Secretary/Treasurer and every member of the Presbytery.

Please put this number in your contacts as  
“RMMN Emergency Line” 1-888-814-2623.

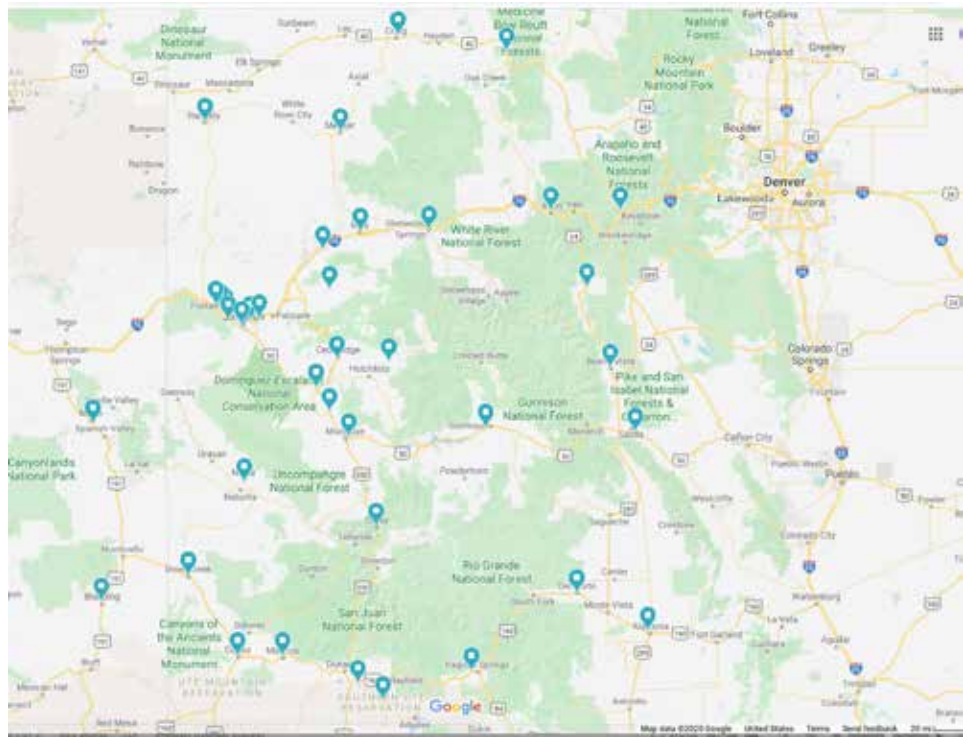


# 10 THINGS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT(continued)

## 5 RONCONE'S PLAN WEST SLOPE TOUR

Gene and Rhonda Roncone have cleared their calendar for a three-week tour of every Assembly of God church and parachurch ministry on the West Slope. The ambitious plan was born out of a desire to interact with our ministers, experience ministries and pray onsite at every West Slope location. From September 5 – September 28th the Roncone's will be pulling their camper and establishing six different base camps. They will then use their truck to make day trips to visit churches and ministries at 49 different locations.

“We are totally excited to do this and will be doing a daily trip blog on the Network’s Facebook page to share the journey. Even if some of the pastors are on vacation, we can ask for staff to show us around. We are eager to stand in each worship location and pray for their pastors and leaders. We really don’t want to preach. We just want to take it all in, share meals, fellowship and experience God’s Kingdom on the West Slope,” said Superintendent Roncone. The Roncone’s will be publishing a daily route to each location and calling West Slope pastors, Chi Alpha leaders, ministers and para-church ministries to join in on the fellowship.





## 6 NETWORK CALL TO PRAYER

Pastor Bill Woods is one of our team members, pastoring Solid Rock Christian Fellowship in Florence, Colorado. Bill recently sent me this email that I think was God-inspired and I felt led to call the entire Network to join him in this effort. I think the perilous times we live in warrant every church doing this. Just imagine.

I believe it would please the Lord if we joined Solid Rock Christian Fellowship by calling our people to pray for our Nation the morning of September 13th. Dedicating a few minutes to congregational prayer that morning is a wonderful way for us to not only talk about national problems but for us to “be the solution”.

**A Solemn Assembly – Joel 1:14**  
Sunday, September 13, 2020 @ 10:30

*Consecrate a fast, Proclaim a solemn assembly; Gather the elders And all the inhabitants of the land To the house of the LORD your God, And cry out to the LORD.*

Joel 1:14 (NASB95)



**SOLIDROCK**  
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP



# 10 THINGS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT<sub>(continued)</sub>

## 7 MUST LISTEN PODCASTS

### EP. 99 The Issachar Report: Preparing for Post-Election Ministry in an Age of Chaos



In this Podcast Shawn Reine interviews Superintendent Gene Roncone about the newly released ISSACHAR REPORT. The Issachar Report is a collaborative effort of forward-thinking leaders to help local churches stay focused on Kingdom priorities during the coming electoral tsunami. Gene asked these leaders to look into the future and tell him what they saw. He then compiled their thoughts, identified common denominators, took note of visionary insights, and summarized their observations to address the following topics:

- **Values and Night Vision:** Seven postelection values you can expect from your Network.

- **Forecasting the Future:** What leaders see emerging on the cultural horizon.
- **Preemptive Preparation:** Five intentional ways to prepare your church.
- **Discussion Questions:** Practical sections entitled “Making it Real” that include group discussion questions. These questions can be used in your leadership huddles to discuss potential impact points, team strategy, and action items.

Listen to this podcast and get a 30,000-foot view of the report. You can also get a free PDF version of the 15 page report at <https://soundcloud.com/generoncone/c99>

### EP. 94 Why We’re Divided

I can’t recall a time in recent history when the evangelical church has allowed culture to divide them more than now. The Coronavirus, social unrest and politics has fractured the church into a million islands of unyielding conviction. Overnight pastors and churches are expected to be Hollywood producers, social justice gurus, community leaders, real time commentators and a spiritual version of the CDC. Expectations are hyper-charged by people with unyielding convictions, passion and logical sentiments. As independent expectations these beliefs seem reasonable. However, their convergence upon the local church is causing polarizing division, mission creep and irrational expectations. In this episode Gene addresses the reasons we are divided and proposes as solution.



The podcast can be found at: <https://soundcloud.com/generoncone/c94>





# 8 MINISTER APPRECIATION MONTH

October is a month set aside nationally to recognize and show appreciation for your pastor. Although that seems a long way off, it's always good to plan early. Whether it is a small way or large, is not the point. The point is the Bible instructs communities of faith to express appreciation to those who feed our souls saying,

“Brothers and sisters, we ask you to show appreciation to those who are working hard among you and those who are your leaders as they guide and instruct you in the Lord—they are priceless. When you think about them, let it be with great love in your heart because of all the work they have done.”  
1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

“Give your leaders reason to be joyful and not to regret their duty, for that will be of no good to you.” Hebrews 13:17

“Leaders who are leading well should be admired and valued. Double up on the honor shown them; care for them well—especially those constantly and consistently teaching the word and preaching.” 1 Timothy 5:17

One of the reasons churches fail to participate in Pastor Appreciation Day is that everyone thinks someone else will take care of it. Pastors can even feel awkward bringing it up. That is why we would hope you would consider passing on the letter found at this link to your church board on our behalf.

[www.agspe.org/20200804\\_PastorAppreciation.pdf](http://www.agspe.org/20200804_PastorAppreciation.pdf)

The District Presbytery dedicated one entire meeting to brainstorming and providing a short list of practical ways you can bless your pastor and/or pastoral staff. Thank you for helping us encourage the spiritual water carriers of our Network.

Would you consider downloading the document at the link below and volunteering to coordinate an appropriate expression of appreciation for your pastor and our staff.

[www.agspe.org/20200804\\_PastorAppreciation.pdf](http://www.agspe.org/20200804_PastorAppreciation.pdf)

Thank you for encouraging the spiritual water carriers of our Network.



### 9 TEAMING UP TO COACH FUTURE LEADERS

One of our goals this year is to invest in the advanced leadership skills of our Sectional Committees and Network Presbytery. This year will be a historic year of mentoring for the RMMN Network. I am thrilled to announce that three previous RMMN Superintendents will be partnering with me to mentor our Presbytery in advanced credentialing matters. Thank you Don Steiger, Bob Cook and Phil Neely for investing in our Network's Leadership Pipeline and future leaders.



*Superintendents Gene Roncone, Phil Neely, Don Steiger and Bob Cook*

PS - I must admit that the grin on my face in this shot was the thought that entered my mind while taking this picture. I could not help but feel like we were all posing for an old SNL X-Presidents cartoon.





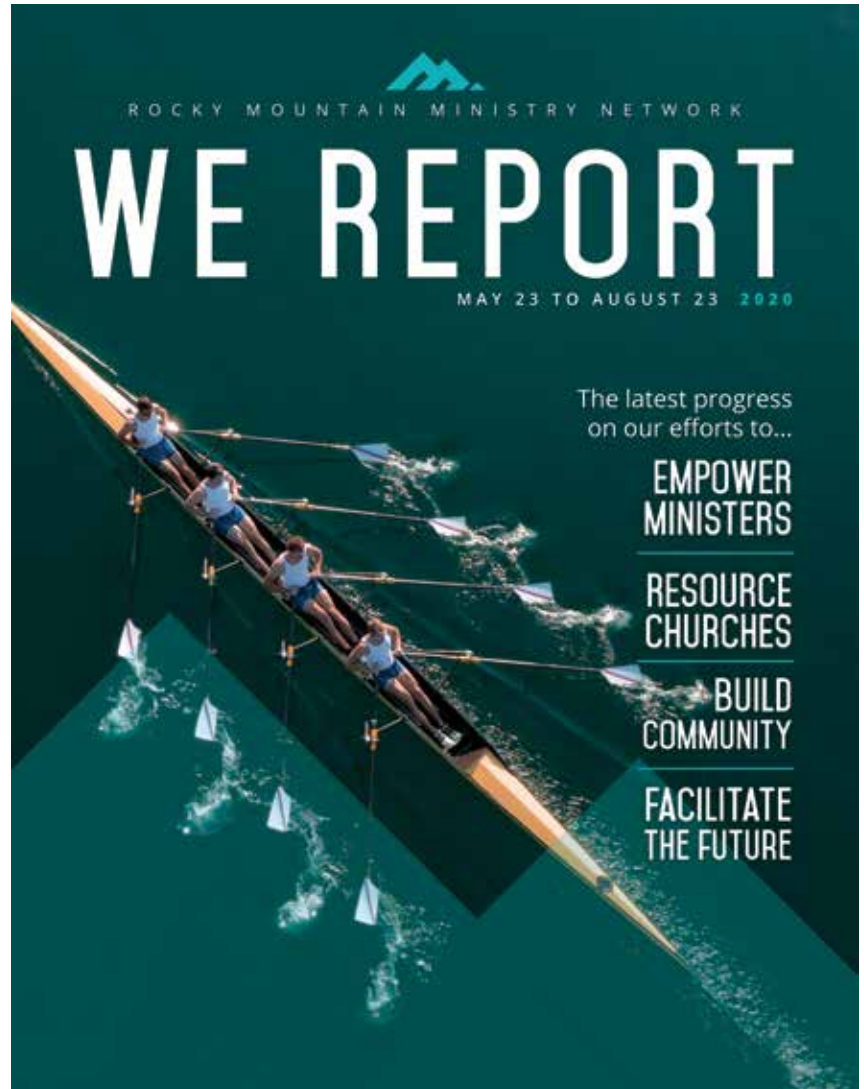
# 10 UPDATED WE REPORT:

**Year 2: May 23, 2020 to August 23, 2020**

As a leader I welcome the question, “What has the Network done for me or my church?” Ministers rightfully want to know how their tithes are being mobilized to serve them and their churches. Local church board members need to be exposed to the benefits of our cooperative fellowship. Staff members and volunteers may not even know the arsenal of spiritual resources the Network has provided for them.

That is why the “WE REPORT” documents our quarterly progress in the following four strategic initiatives:

- **Empower ministers:**  
Credential, equip, and resource ministers.
- **Resource churches:**  
Resource, train, and network churches.
- **Build community:**  
Connecting, including, and collaborating.
- **Facilitate the future:**  
Creating opportunities for the Assemblies of God in Colorado and Utah by establishing long-term vision, new and innovative income streams, and church multiplication.



Feel free to read it, ask questions or pass the PDF version on to your own leadership community. The report can always be accessed at [www.generationone.org/we](http://www.generationone.org/we).





**Randy Popineau**  
Secretary/Treasurer  
[randy@rmdc.org](mailto:randy@rmdc.org)

# Congratulations

to the following  
**2020 Brethouwer Scholarship Recipients:**

- Aiden Wead - Trinity Bible College
- Annalise Wilkinson - Evangel University
- Victoria Rocca - Evangel University

Each will receive a \$1,000 Scholarship

### **ORDINATION UPDATE:**

Since Network Council I have had the privilege of participating or bestowing ordination to several of our 24 ministers recognized at our Network Council. The General Council made a rare exception this year that the “laying on of hands” component of ordination could take place before Thanksgiving 2020. Ordination becomes official with the laying on of hands ceremony. I consider ordination a most high honor to be a part of and look forward to the ordination ceremony for next year’s Network Council at Life Church in Salt Lake City.

It’s not too late to put your name into the queue for the 2021 ordination class! If you have held your license for a minimum of two years (at the time of 2021 Network Council, Wednesday, April 28, 2021) then I would like to encourage you to consider advancing your credential to ordination. As your Secretary/Treasurer, I would be honored to walk you through the ordination process.



**George Acheampong**



**Doug Eddy**



**Tim and Cindy Dudley**



**Cipriano Marrujo Sr**



**Paul Simmons**



**Carolyn Garrett and Wilma Lee**





# EXPLORE

## THE CALL

**DO YOU FEEL “THE CALL”  
EXPLORE IT WITH DSOM THIS FALL!**

The Rocky Mountain District School of Ministry (RMDSOM) exists to provide training for those sensing a call to ministry, whether as credentialed ministers of the Assemblies of God or as equipped lay persons within the local church.

### HOW TO REGISTER

- Register online at: [www.rmdsom.org](http://www.rmdsom.org)
- Tuition: \$100/per course + Internship (all students seeking credentials must complete the internship)
- Additional student costs include textbook, travel, food and lodging
- RMDSOM is open to any person age 16 or older who has made a profession of faith in Jesus Christ

### CLASSES

Each course requires a minimum of 10-15 hours of home study combined with 6 hours of classroom instruction. Classes take place once a month on Saturdays, 8:30 am - 2:30 pm, with lunch provided.

### LOCATIONS

#### Colorado Springs, CO

Friendship Church

#### Grand Junction, CO

Victory Life Church

#### Salt Lake City, UT

Life Church

#### Virtual Classrom

Available if you are 45 minutes or more from the nearest location

### FALL DATES

	LEVEL 1 CERTIFIED	LEVEL 2 MINISTRY LICENSE	LEVEL 3 ORDAINED
9/12/20	Introduction to Pentecostal Doctrine	New Testament Survey	Corinthians
10/10/20	Acts	Old Testament Survey	Poetic Books
11/14/20	Prisons Epistles	Romans	Prayer & Worship





# The **CHURCH MINISTRIES TEAM**

*is still working for you!*

**Shawn Reine**  
Church Ministries  
Director  
[shawn@rmdc.org](mailto:shawn@rmdc.org)

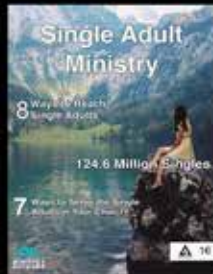


**Linda Bottoms**  
Assistant Church  
Ministries Director  
[lbottoms@rmdc.org](mailto:lbottoms@rmdc.org)



# NEW RESOURCES

## DOWNLDADABLE PDF RESOURCES



## THE TABLE PODCAST



[www.rmdc.org/churchministries](http://www.rmdc.org/churchministries)





*Emboldened*

You made me bold with strength in my soul  
Psalms 138:3

## 2020 Colorado Ladies Retreat Cancelled

Make plans to attend the 2021 Retreat October 1-3, 2021.

2021 Theme and One A Week Reveal on YouTube and Facebook  
October 3rd - 10:00 am

NOVEMBER 5TH - 7TH

# RECHARGE

AT CAMP CEDAREGE, CO

QUEST SPEAKERS  
ERIC AND LIZ HOFFMAN

### The Top 5 Questions Kid's Leaders Are Asking

September 10th at 6:30  
Email [CMD@rmdc.org](mailto:CMD@rmdc.org) to sign up and receive your Zoom link.

**Kelly Presson**  
National AG Kids Minister

WORSHIP, SPEED THE LIGHT CHALLENGE, AFTER PARTY, FOOD, & BIVOUACS

# ONE NIGHT

7 CITIES, 10 DAYS, 1 POWERFUL MESSAGE

- AURORA OCT 6
- PUEBLO OCT 7
- DELTA OCT 9
- FRUITA OCT 10
- FARR WEST OCT 11
- THORNTON OCT 14
- COLORADO SPRINGS OCT 16



# in God's economy

**In God's economy, problems, pains, and disruptions often have a positive effect on us. I expect this season to be no different.**



**Daran Lemon**  
Chi Alpha - Utah  
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We just came back from our annual student leadership retreat for Utah Chi Alpha. Student leaders from Utah Valley University and the University of Utah came together to plan like it depended on us and pray like it depended on God for this fall startup.

As they listed the difficulties for our students this year, they quickly saw that these difficulties, if turned around, would be a testament to the power of God.

**Anxiety could become Peace.**  
**Exhaustion could become Stamina.**  
**Scarcity could become Abundance.**

I don't wish to write another COVID 19 disruption article. What I can tell you is that your Chi Alpha missionaries in the network are continuing to pray for the Greatest Student Awakening the world has ever seen. Perhaps because of COVID-19 and the social unrest we've experienced, God is stirring in this generation a hunger for something more than this world can offer.

For Chi Alpha in Utah we have a sense of the the Lord preparing for a harvest as our full-time staff team ballooned in size this year. We have three CMIT's (campus missionaries in training), with two staff dedicated to the University of Utah, and five staff at Utah Valley University.



of opposites. One outcome is expected, the other is received. Scarcity is expected, abundance is received. Obstacles are expected, open doors are received.

Pray for us as we navigate this semester in a different, but possibly, better way. Pray for our staff and student leaders as they invade the campus via every avenue possible (in person, zoom, fb live, social media, etc.)

**Would it not be a testament to the power of God if this was the year that the Greatest Student Awakening began, and that it began in Utah - one of the most unexpected, impossible, points of origin ever?**



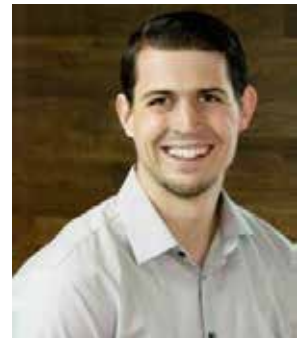
With the uncertainty of "the how" things are done we are encouraging our student leaders to "fish with a pole rather than nets." To partner with the Holy Spirit to lead us supernaturally to those that are open and perhaps ready to start a relationship with Christ. We always did this. Now more than ever, since we can't rely on large outreaches and collecting names from being on campus, we need every ounce of determination and grit from student leaders.

I find more and more that God is the master





# What is **GOD** up to around us right now?



**Bradley Williamson**  
Missions  
[missions@rmdc.org](mailto:missions@rmdc.org)

**Guest article by Rich Wooten, Lead Pastor of Life Church Utah**

As the day dawned in Timna, Romania, I sat with our team on the last day of our missions trip. It had been 12 days of fantastic work, building relationships, and being challenged by the reality we came in contact with of those that had far less than we, yet were filled with joy. The opportunity presented itself to hear from the group. As happens in a setting like that, the conversation was full of story and wonder. It was also a beautiful expression of God's love for his creation. We had witnessed the transformation brought by a partnership between us and our God.

Theology can be dry and boring. Or it can be powerfully pictured when it is in the context of the heart of God at work. As Michael Gorman says, "[God], as creator and redeemer of the world, is already on a mission. Indeed, God is by nature a missional God, who is seeking not just to save 'souls' to take to heaven some day, but to restore and save the created order" individuals, communities, nations...[calling] the people of God assembled in the name of Christ – who was the incarnation of the divine mission – to participate in the mission of God and to join in." (Becoming the Gospel, pg. 53) The beauty of the moment above is that the team that was assembled recognized that we were partakers of the heart of God while doing what God was already up to!

So, as Pastors, we have a challenge. What is God up to around us right now? While a mission trip may be a distant plan (and tentative at best), we must not miss the mission that God is revealing to us that may be closer to home. In this season, may we challenge our people in mission, to participate with Christ wherever he is at work among us. Lord willing, our participation now is simply preparing for a great, radically generous outpouring of opportunity that awaits us in the near future. But we, as pastors, must keep the vision of mission clear - not a dry and boring interpretation of giving, but a powerful expression of faith that results in God's people stepping up to the challenge to give, to pray, and perhaps, someday, to go! Let us lead the way with a passion for mission that is revealed in our messages.

## Itinerating Missionaries

Bob & Shirleen Cillo	Compacare Ministries - Foster Care	<a href="mailto:robertjcillo@gmail.com">robertjcillo@gmail.com</a>
Josh & Carolyn Jimenez	Columbia	<a href="mailto:pastorjosh1984@yahoo.com">pastorjosh1984@yahoo.com</a>
Jim & Ester Mazurek	Chile	<a href="mailto:jim.mazurek@agmd.org">jim.mazurek@agmd.org</a>
Jay & Debbie Risner	KidLink International	<a href="mailto:jaydrisner@gmail.com">jaydrisner@gmail.com</a>
Cody & Amy Van Pelt	Dominican Republic	<a href="mailto:cody.m.vanpelt@gmail.com">cody.m.vanpelt@gmail.com</a>

Remember: Several sensitive country missionaries are usually home on furlough, too!  
Contact the Network Office for more information - 719-522-0195.





**Glenn Jones**

Camp Cedaredge  
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**THANK YOU!**

We are sure thankful to those of you who have chosen to give and support Camp Cedaredge during this season! It's been a real encouragement to us as a team, and every last bit counts in a season like this, so many, many thanks to you for your help in that way.

**Prayers for you as Pastors:**

We continue to pray for you as Pastors who will be navigating some interesting waters ahead. We have prayed as a team at the start of our workdays by section for every church and pastoral staff, and in the weeks ahead we will be using Gene Roncone's excellent "Issachar Report" as a framework to continue in prayer for you.

**Fund Raising:**

We have had to be choosy about what maintenance work we do at camp based on the expense of that work. So we decided we would get out and spread some summer cheer for a few days a week, and set up our kettle corn stand as a fund raiser. We were given an opportunity to use a perfectly located lot in Delta, CO and after our first week of action we



have pulled in over \$3,000! We plan to run 3 days per week for the next 3 weeks (hopefully the temperatures start to drop below 100 degrees!) and then we will need to focus back in at camp full time. But our goal is to see \$10,000 from this endeavor before we close it up. Could you pray with us for that?



Another incredible blessing in the area of fund raising was an opportunity given to us by Britton Cottrell, one of our district ministers who has served at camp in so many ways over the years. This time Britton took time in the middle of his duties with TNT fireworks and helped our crew of only 4 run a fireworks location on a single big day - July 4th - that brought in around \$15,000 in profits...it was wild and crazy! We had a line of people 150 long waiting to buy fireworks all day long even through a huge rainstorm! What a blessing to be able to put those funds toward the camp - thanks again Britton!



**Camp Status:**

Our facility at camp is still able to remain open now under our new health department regulations, and we ask that you would pray with us that those groups scheduled to attend in the fall and their leaders will be able to come to camp and see their ministry events through. Many are grappling with the same issues that everybody is today, and have several considerations related to COVID-19 that they must work through in their context to feel confident taking groups of people on a trip of any kind. Our prayer is that they will get the clarity they need to know what the possible issues and barriers are to following through with their event, and that they will find the solutions to those obstacles so that camp ministry can happen here this fall. We appreciate you partnering with us in prayer for this as well!

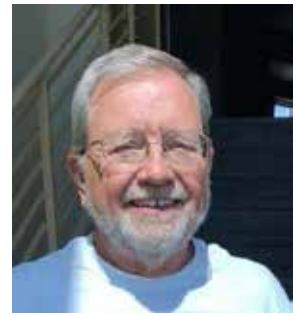






Many of our outposts are in different stages of operating. Some are waiting for the schools to start. Some are meeting with restrictions.

Now is a great time to take inventory of what is important, what is essential and what we need to do to redeem the time to be the best mentors we can be. It's time to take inventory of our skill set and determine to improve where we may be lacking.



**Jack Marshall**  
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### **A New Royal Ranger Online Safety Course**

<https://nationalroyalrangers.eleapcourses.com>

One of the things that has been brought to the forefront during this pandemic is safety. How do we safely do the ministry we have been called to do?

We need to be aware of ways that we can provide mentoring to our boys in the safest way possible. To do no harm. One of the tools we have is the 'Safety' course offered online through the National Royal Ranger website.

### **This course costs \$15 but is free to you!**

For all the Rocky Mountain Royal Ranger Leaders who will enroll and complete the online 'Safety' course, the Rocky Mountain Royal Rangers will reimburse you the \$15 that it cost to take the course.

Once you have completed the course, send me a copy of your certificate of completion and a reimbursement will be sent to you.



### **A National Royal Ranger Training Event**

**Date: October 16-17, 2020**

**Location: The Rock Church  
2170 Broadway  
Grand Junction, CO 81507**

The National Elementary Education Conference (NEEC) is a great conference that is developed to provide training for working with the Ranger Kids, (Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd graders). Although geared for Royal Rangers, the learning and experience is great for all kids of this age group. Girls Ministry and Children's workers will benefit from this conference. NEEC is an interactive event that gives leaders, men and women, training in various techniques and methods to effectively teach and mentor boys. Leaders will explore the development and needs of the elementary age group, with Ranger Kids as the focus. Attendees will gain a better understanding of the needs and characteristics of boys so you can better relate and connect with them.

We need a minimum of 24 participants to hold this event, so please get your registrations in now. You can register online at <https://royalrangers.com/training/events>.

Register before September 11, 2020 to receive an early registration discount. Registration does not include food and lodging.





**George Stahnke**

Ministry Enrichment  
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## MINISTRY ENRICHMENT RESOURCES

### What Churches Can and Cannot Do During an Election Season

Posted by Bruce Hausknecht | Mar 12, 2020 | Election 2020

People of faith tend to show great interest in political issues that impact life, families and freedom. During every election cycle, church leaders typically ask the same types of questions: Can we talk about political issues? Can we hold “get out the vote” campaigns? Do churches and pastors have to stay silent and completely out of the election season?

Many churches in America typically receive “friendly” letters from secular organizations like the American Civil Liberties Union gently reminding them that they can forfeit their tax-exempt status if they make a mistake in complying with IRS rules. The letters are civil enough, but the underlying implied threat is “keep quiet or else.”

Rather than being frightened into staying out of election year issues completely, our friends at Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) have made available a 2020 election guide titled “Five Things to Know: A Legal Guide for Churches,” which they offer as a free download.

ADF has been working with churches for years, and sponsors a Pulpit Freedom Sunday every year to encourage pastors to preach fearlessly from the pulpit about any issues, including political ones, in order to challenge the “Johnson Amendment” that threatens churches with revocation of their tax-exempt status for speaking about subjects that may affect candidates or legislation. The IRS has never taken the bait and gone after any participating churches.

The election year guide is part and parcel of ADF’s ongoing goal of gaining back the right of churches and pastors to speak freely on any subject without fear of government punishment.

Admittedly, some of the IRS rules about elections can be tricky, and ADF invites churches to consult with their attorneys about specific questions. But there are some easy rules to remember.

First, pastors as individuals retain all their First Amendment free speech rights. So long as they act as individuals and not in their official capacity, they can speak, campaign for, contribute to candidates, etc. Everything that the rest of us take for granted. But things change when a pastor speaks for their church.

Second, churches can participate freely in nonpartisan election year activities such as voter registration and “get-out-the-vote” activities.

Third, there are numerous grey areas for churches like “lobbying” for or against legislation that are governed by vague IRS rules, for example, that lobbying cannot exceed “an insignificant amount” of the church’s time, activities or budget. Plus, there might be state laws regarding registering as a lobbyist. That’s when it’s time to get legal advice.

Finally, one clear line that churches can easily remember and comply with: No contributing to political candidates and their campaigns on the church’s dime. Pastors may, of course, continue to contribute out of their own pocket.

The guide contains other helpful information, including a handy checklist with yes/no answers on various election issues that instantly gives church leaders the quick answers they may be looking for.