



ROCKY MOUNTAIN MINISTRY NETWORK

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2022

# RMMN CONNECTION

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN MINISTRY  
NETWORK OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

## HIGHLIGHTS

**2022 NETWORK COUNCIL** PAGE 2

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**2022 SECTIONAL COUNCIL** PAGE 3

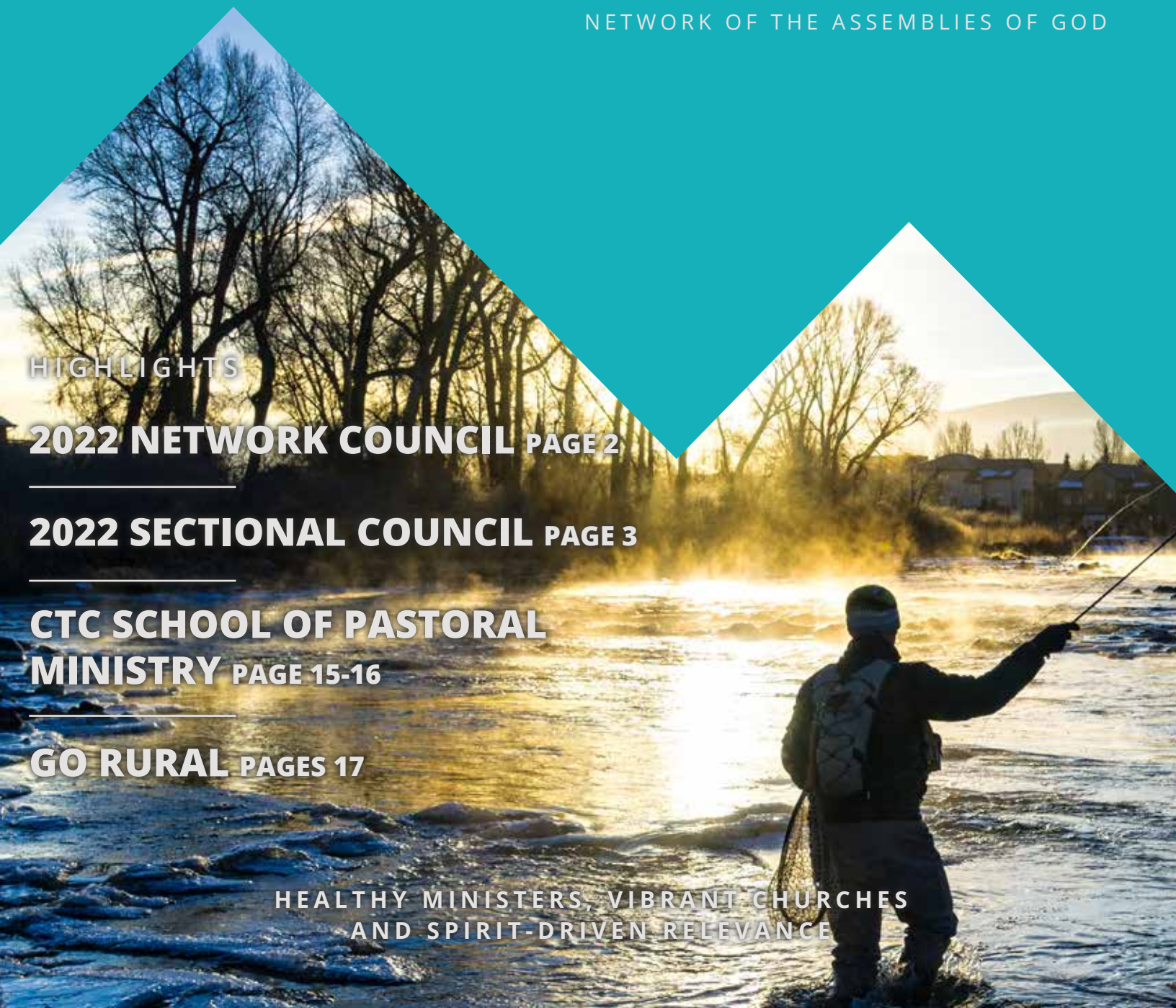
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**CTC SCHOOL OF PASTORAL  
MINISTRY** PAGE 15-16

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**GO RURAL** PAGES 17

HEALTHY MINISTERS, VIBRANT CHURCHES  
AND SPIRIT-DRIVEN RELEVANCE



# *Spirit-* **DRIVEN**

**POWER | RELEVANCE | CALLING**



**PETER  
REVES**



**GENE  
RONCONE**



**CHOCO  
DE JESUS**



**GLEN  
LUTJENS**



**CINDY  
GILLILAND**



**JOHN  
BRYANT**

**2022 NETWORK COUNCIL | APRIL 25-27, 2022**  
HIGHPOINT CHURCH | AURORA, COLORADO

Although the meal at your sectional meeting is FREE, we still need RSVP's ONLINE so our host church knows how many to plan for. To RSVP for the meeting, please go to the website listed below (by your section's name) and let us know how many you will be bringing, along with their names. We have created a simple online RSVP form, so please do not call your presbyter, as the online form will automatically inform our office of your response (we will keep all presbyters updated on the responses). We would love to have 100% participation this year. Bring your staff and spouses – will be a fun time!!

If you have any questions, please contact Rhonda at [rroncone@rmdc.org](mailto:rroncone@rmdc.org). We are really looking forward to our time with you!!

Rhonda Roncone

## **Monday, February 7, 2022**

11:00am – NORTHEAST SECTION (The Sanctuary, 14587 US Highway 34, Fort Morgan, CO 80701) –  
RSVP link: [www.rmmnnortheast.eventbrite.com](http://www.rmmnnortheast.eventbrite.com)

6:00pm – NORTHERN SECTION (Greeley First Assembly, 3000 W 16th Street, Greeley, CO 80634) –  
RSVP link: [www.rmmnnorthern.eventbrite.com](http://www.rmmnnorthern.eventbrite.com)

## **Tuesday, February 8, 2022**

11:00am – DENVER METRO NORTH & SOUTH SECTIONS (Go Church, Denver, 8230 Northfield Blvd, Suite 1350, Denver, CO 80238) – RSVP link: [www.rmmndenvermetronorthandsouth.eventbrite.com](http://www.rmmndenvermetronorthandsouth.eventbrite.com)

6:00pm – PIKES PEAK SECTION (Friendship Assembly, 3685 New Center Pt., Colorado Springs, CO 80922)  
RSVP link: [www.rmmnpikespeak.eventbrite.com](http://www.rmmnpikespeak.eventbrite.com)

## **Thursday, February 10, 2022**

11:00am – SOUTHEAST SECTION (West Assembly of God, 406 W Eugene Ave., Fowler, CO 81039) –  
RSVP link: [www.rmmnsoutheast.eventbrite.com](http://www.rmmnsoutheast.eventbrite.com)

6:00pm – SOUTHERN SECTION (Solid Rock Christian Fellowship, 4501 Bear Paw Dr. Florence, CO) –  
RSVP link: [www.rmmnsouthern.eventbrite.com](http://www.rmmnsouthern.eventbrite.com)

## **Friday, February 11, 2022**

12:00pm – MOUNTAIN SECTION (River of Life, 2602 Clark St., Alamosa, CO 81101) –  
RSVP link: [www.rmmnmountain.eventbrite.com](http://www.rmmnmountain.eventbrite.com)

## **Saturday, February 12, 2022**

12:00pm – SAN JUAN SECTION (Durango's Cowboy Church, 1867 Highway 172, Durango, CO 81303) –  
RSVP link: [www.rmmnsanjuan.eventbrite.com](http://www.rmmnsanjuan.eventbrite.com)

## **Tuesday, February 15, 2022**

11:00am – WEST CENTRAL SECTION (True Life Church, 1507 SW 9th St., Cedaredge, CO 81413) –  
RSVP link: [www.rmmnwestcentral.eventbrite.com](http://www.rmmnwestcentral.eventbrite.com)

6:00pm – NORTHWEST SECTION (Bethel Assembly of God, 2945 Orchard Ave., Grand Junction, CO 81504) –  
RSVP link: [www.rmmnnorthwest.eventbrite.com](http://www.rmmnnorthwest.eventbrite.com)

## **Thursday, February 17, 2022**

6:00pm – NORTH & SOUTH UTAH SECTIONS (Elevation Church, 375 S State St., Clearfield, UT 84015) –  
RSVP link: [www.rmmnutahnorthandsouth.eventbrite.com](http://www.rmmnutahnorthandsouth.eventbrite.com)



**GENE RONCONE**

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

COVID is shaking the tree and what's falling to the ground is not good. Barna Research Group recently reported in their November 2021 newsletter that 38% of U.S. pastors have thought about quitting full-time ministry in the past year. As a District Superintendent, that news is not shocking to me. In that same time period, I have assisted over three times the normal amount of churches experiencing a

pastoral transition. But what did surprise me about Barna's report is that younger ministers are struggling the most. Barna writes, "46 percent of pastors under the age of 45 say they are considering quitting full-time ministry, compared to 34 percent of pastors 45 and older. Other significant differences arise among gender, with female pastors being far more likely than male pastors to have considered giving up full-time ministry." It would seem, that the uncertainties of a post-COVID ministry context, an increasingly divided church and improvisational fatigue has brought many younger leaders to tap out. Some would rather work a secular job than push through the uphill climb of rebuilding lost momentum in a post-COVID world.

Barna's findings concern me greatly. Not only because we

need our younger ministers, but because they need what the present can bring to their future. So, if you are one of those younger pastors struggling over whether to continue, move on or quit, let me encourage your soul with three reasons why we need you.

1. Trials mature parts of our character that success can't reach. The New Testament affirms this saying, "We also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us." (Romans 5:3-5) Unfortunately, the landscape of ministry expectations over the last several years has been largely defined by ministerial celebrity, wild growth and

leaders who are experiencing twice the measurable success at half the age of previous generations. But suffering, difficulty and disappointment, not large crowds and book deals is what matures our character. Hang on young friend, COVID is bringing something to your life that success is incapable of delivering. Please don't leave before the package arrives.

2. Trials develop resiliency that any life you lead will demand. James waxed eloquent saying, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance." (James 1:2-3) Whether it's a secular job, your marriage, parenting or your own sense of purpose, any path you take will require perseverance. But there is no short cut or fast track to resiliency. It only comes through getting to the other side of quitting. Crisis teaches us to follow and trust God in the uncertain times. It gives us the patience to move forward and let the Holy Spirit fill in the blanks. It empowers you to grow, adjust and lean into the future God has for you. Perseverance is what enables you to thrive beyond the boundaries of your comfort zones, preferences, or infatuation with convenience. It is what enables you to serve

despite imperfect people and less than ideal contexts. It is what gave those listed in Hebrews 11 the capacity to live above the world of emotions, feelings, change and disappointment.

3. Trials nurture true greatness. They drag our faith out of the sterile laboratory of unrealistic expectations and drop them in the trenches of life. They teach us how to push through a miserable job, impossible situations and less than ideal circumstances. Simply said, it qualifies us for the future we're not ready for. Just ask Cy Young. Young is revered as perhaps the greatest pitcher of all time. One reason he was baseball's winningest pitcher was more because of his perseverance than ability. In Cy Young's day, there were no relief pitchers to bail a person out when the going got rough. That's right. There were no "closers," elaborate rotation plans, electric arm warmers or sports medicine gurus to lean on. Cy Young was a great pitcher because he had to hang in there and endure the "shelling." He had to pitch his way out of a jam. He was not born with that kind of perseverance, he had to develop it. That's how you and I develop character; when we must hang in there, stick to our values and trust that God will get us through. It is only during

those difficult and surrendering seasons of life that something supernatural is birthed in our spirits.

If you are reading this and are a younger minister, please listen to me. You may feel like quitting, but that temptation is from the darkest side of your nature not the best and brightest. It will only rob you of the only thing that can qualify you for the future you're not ready to reach. We need you! You are God's prophetic prescription for the future and all redemptive history has converged upon this one moment in time. You were born for this moment so please don't let discouragement rob you of your destiny. Pitch on, friend. Pitch on.

## 1 | 2022 NETWORK COUNCIL IS GOING TO BE AWESOME!

The Network staff has been working hard planning our 2022 Network Council. Recently we had our first off-site visit and combined staff planning meeting with Highpoint's team. Highpoint has been so generous, enthusiastic and empowering in helping us plan an unforgettable Network Council Monday, April 25 – Wednesday, April 27 at Highpoint Church, 6450 S. Southlands Parkway, Aurora, CO 80016. Our goal is to create an environment where God's Spirit will meet every need for every minister that walks through the doors. We have already created and started uploading information at <https://www.rmdc.org/council/>

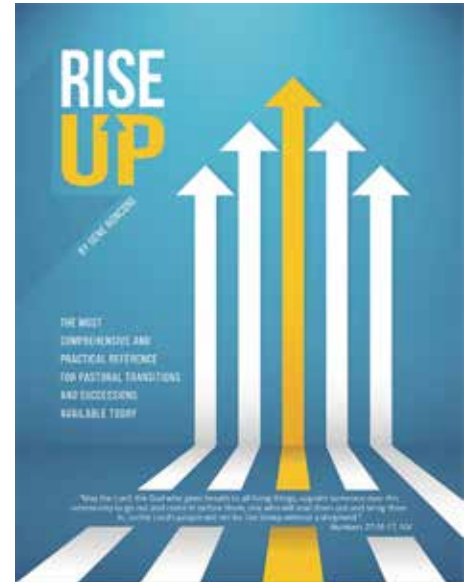


## 2 | CHI ALPHA BUILDING THE KINGDOM IN COLORADO

Rhonda and I had the opportunity to join the Colorado Chi Alpha leadership retreat. So honored to be given the opportunity to speak into their lives again. Nate and Lindsey Banke are bringing such good and visionary leadership to this growing ministry. We live and minister in a very difficult time. But whenever I leave the presence of these Chi Alpha missionaries I leave feeling more optimistic about the future!



**3 | GLAD TIDINGS, GREELEY COLORADO** is in pastoral transition and Rhonda and I are so blessed to help them. Chris Simms and I have teamed up to serve them in the interim as they walk through the Network's Rise Up pastoral transition and sustainability initiative. These three board members are doing an outstanding job working through our 13 stages of the pastoral search process. We are also thankful for pastor David and Beverly Meek who pastored this church for nearly 30 years. David resigned to be able to provide care for Beverly but still will be ministering as an evangelist. You can reach him via email for a service at [bdmeekranch@juno.com](mailto:bdmeekranch@juno.com)



## 4 | EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Each year each District's Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents and Secretary/Treasurers meet together for a time of inspiration, networking, prayer, training and worship. Rhonda and I so enjoyed this conference and the time we got to spend with John and Dawn Bryant and Alex and Donna Lucero as well as President Paul and Carol Alexander from Trinity Bible College and Graduate School.



## 5 | SOLID ROCK CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP WITH BILL & PAULA WOODS

What a refreshing morning of worship, ministry and fellowship in Florence, Colorado with Bill and Paula Woods. I could not help but feel a sense of health and community in the church. Bill and Paula have provided outstanding leadership through COVID, stayed engaged with their church through steady and healthy growth these last ten years and you can see and feel it all around. Bill and Paul are one of those amazing stories of a professional couple who received a call to ministry later in life. As an executive, Bill gave leadership to a team of over 300 engineers and has an outstanding mind and gift for strategic planning. After feeling God's call to ministry, he enrolled in a Bible College and has been pastoring ever since. Bill is one of the people I lean on when I need unbiased and logical feedback. They are both such a blessing to our Network and we are all stronger because of them.

While there we were blessed to enjoy a meal together and also see Darryl and Debbie Johnson who pastor in Fowler, Colorado but were enjoying a time of rest on sabbatical. We sure have some amazing ministers in the RMMN.



RHONDA & GENE RONCONE WITH BILL & PAULA WOODS



DARRYL & DEBBIE JOHNSON WITH RHONDA & GENE RONCONE



SOLID ROCK CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP



## 6 | NEW PASTORS IN CAÑON CITY, COLORADO

What an honor it was on November 14th to preach and install Bradley and Danette Buck as the new pastors of Bridge to Life church in Cañon, City, CO. Bridge to Life invited our team to do the Rise Up sustainability initiative and I sure appreciate Chris Simms who served as the Interim Pastor leading the sustainability initiative. Brad was a graduate of last years CTC School of Pastoral ministry and is making us proud!



BRADLEY BUCK



GENE RONCONE, BRADLEY & DANETTE BUCK

## 7 | DEDICATING OUR NEWEST GRANDCHILDREN

Rhonda and I were so blessed to have a Sunday off to worship at Highpoint's second service. Our daughter Nicole and son-in-law Gio tried for six years to have a child. They gave up but God heard their prayers and on November 14 Nicole gave birth to a baby boy named Geno. We dedicated our grandson little Geno Rafael Polanco and my new granddaughter Aubrielle Morgan to the Lord. Geno was named after our 23-year-old son Geno, who we lost to cancer in 2016. Then to see Pastor Caleb McNaughton leading so well and two packed services in the midst of COVID. Highpoint is thriving and I got to hold little Geno and Aubrielle in church. God is good, faithful and true!



GENO RAFAEL POLANCO



AUBRIELLE MORGAN

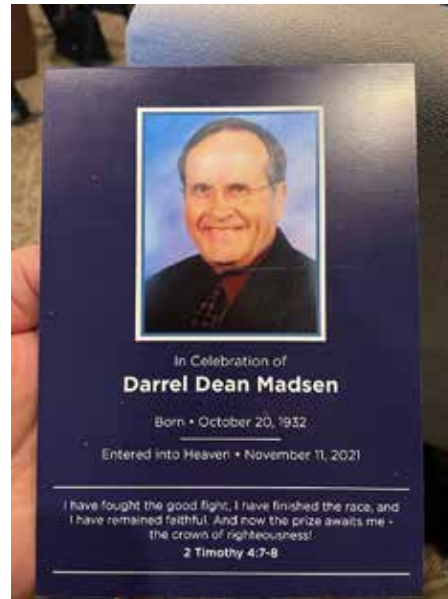


PASTOR CALEB MCNAUGHTON AT HIGHPOINT CHURCH, AURORA, CO



## 8 | LEGACY

The entire Network staff joined many others from the Network honoring the life and ministry of previous RMMN District Superintendent Darrel Madsen. Thank you, Barbara and family for sharing your husband with our fellowship. You made many sacrifices that we are unaware of and we are stronger because of your generous contribution.



BARBARA MADSEN WITH STEVE MADSEN



DARREL MADSEN'S FUNERAL AT PUEBLO CHRISTIAN CENTER

## 9 | THANK YOU RMMN FOR GIVING ME A WONDERFUL PRESBYTERY

One of the differences between being a local pastor and a Superintendent is you must trust the constituency to give you quality leaders (presbyters) who have a heart to follow and lead at the same time. I cannot thank the RMMN for giving me men and women who can both collaborate and lead concurrently. In July I was driven by God's Spirit to pray and meditate upon Matthew 9:37-38 where we see Jesus resolving the tension between profound need and limited resources.

"Jesus understood what an awesome task was before Him, so He said to His disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest to send more workers into His harvest field.'" Matthew 9:37-38

I was moved that Jesus' go to resource was prayer for divinely called and anointed harvesters and not strategy, money, or facilities. I sent a personal email to each of our 600 ministers and asked them to help me create a prayer list consisting of names of people in their ministries and relationships that God may be calling to ministry. The list ended up being just over 240 names. I took that list to our July presbytery meeting and as we called those names out to the Lord in prayer the Holy Spirit fell in such a powerful way. We received divine direction regarding prayer and our 2022 sectional tour. In our most recent

presbyter meeting the same Spirit met us. What a powerful time! We will be launching regional prayer meetings this January through February. We live in a time when no one can agree on much of anything. Thank you RMMN for giving me men and women who are ambidextrous leaders who are able to lead and follow at the same time.



## 10 | SUSTAINABILITY HAS NEVER BEEN SO AFFORDABLE

Have you been looking for an affordable way to make a major investment in your ministry? Help is on the way! Superintendent Gene Roncone recently announced a new partnership with Trinity Bible College and Graduate School. All ordained ministers in the Rocky Mountain Ministry Network now qualify to receive 50% off Trinity's Masters and PhD programs.

That means your church can finance or share costs with your



staff for an MA for only \$5,000 and a PhD for only \$20,000. This is not only an outstanding way to invest in your church's leadership but a

great bonus to offer staff you have recruited from outside the Network. More info at [www.agspe.org/trinityscholarship.pdf](http://www.agspe.org/trinityscholarship.pdf).

## 11 | WELCOME OUR NEWEST CHURCH!

We would like to give a warm welcome to our newest church, the Dwelling Place in Golden Colorado. Dwelling Place was an independent Pentecostal church that applied for and was granted affiliation with the Assemblies of God by our Presbytery. Stephanie Schureman is the pastor of The Dwelling Place and already had AG credentials. The ministry consists of a Saturday night church service, bookstore, prayer center and Thursday Bible Study. Dwelling Place shares a facility with our AG church, New Hope Community Church in Golden, Colorado. Stephanie is a fifth-generation female preacher on her father's side and fourth generation

Pentecostal preacher on her mother's side. Her grandmother, Lillian Alderson, was an iconic Kansas preacher who pastored Full Gospel Tabernacle in Wichita, Kansas until she died at age 79. What a deep and rich history of female leadership Stephanie comes from, and our Network is all the richer because of her contribution.



GENE & RHONDA RONCONE AND  
STEPHANIE SCHUREMAN



STEPHANIE SCHUREMAN



DWELLING PLACE MINISTRIES

## 12 | NOVEMBER 11th EVENING BREEZE: KEEPING THE CRAZY OUT OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas can get crazy for ministry families. It's the time of the year when everyone wants more of you when there is little to go around. Holiday services, staff and board parties, family

gatherings, shopping, cooking, out of town guests and functions for church, school and work can result in your family being overstressed and pushed to the back burner. In November's Evening Breeze, RMMN counselors George & Linda Stahnke interacted with our ministry couples and shared four practical tips to keeping the crazy out of Christmas in your parsonage. It was a time of

fun and laughter among those who participated.



## BETTER TOGETHER PART I

RMMN churches pulling together to relaunch ministries adversely effected by covid.

COVID hit all of our churches hard, and some did not survive. However, God has touched the hearts of selfless East Slope Pastors to save two of those churches in Walsenburg and Gunnison. I asked Pastor Steve Chavez from Pueblo Praise to join me as I toured the Walsenburg facility and met the six remaining people. What God did in that meeting was amazing and I asked Pastor Steve to share the story about how God led him to revitalize and relaunch our work 45 minutes south of them in Walsenburg, Colorado. Here is this inspirational story as Steve tells it. In our next issue we will hear about the amazing things God is doing through an East Slope church helping to revitalize a West Slope church in Gunnison, Colorado.

“Dear Superintendent Roncone; Christmas greetings to you! During this season when we celebrate the Light of the World, I am writing to report the wonderful work being done in Walsenburg, Colorado. Jesus is broadening the light He casts using our church, and we are so excited and grateful to be a part of what He is doing! You brought to our attention that the Lighthouse Church in Walsenburg was losing their only pastor. There were only eight families in the church, and being in such a small town provided little hope for the future of the church. Where would another



pastor arise? There were no funds for a pastor, no availability of a part-time pastor, and no other resources. What would happen to their church? Would it dissolve? Where would the eight families go? Where do people go in that small community to find Jesus? I remember the day we went together to visit Walsenburg, see the church and the eight people who remained. It makes me smile, because God always leaves a remnant. Always. This was the remnant. As God does with His servants, He set several paths in front of us. We could let the church close; let someone else worry about it; or step in and link arms with them to help them move forward. With unified support and commitment, the pastoral staff and board of Praise Church Pueblo decided to step in! God left a remnant and we stepped in to adopt it as a second campus. It is now called, Praise Church Walsenburg. It reminds me of

the parable of the talents. God has given us resources which we can either bury or multiply. We chose to multiply, and it has been amazing to see how God works through His people! The pastoral team toured the Walsenburg building, and met with the outgoing pastor, Pastor Albert. We witnessed infrastructure, sound, plumbing, and other issues within the church building. Pastor Albert helped us understand the needs of the community and people. While he was being called away to another area, God blessed us with the opportunity to employ God’s people to serve! I chose the words ‘blessed us with the opportunity’ because it truly is an opportunity serve God. Too often, the people we shepherd don’t know when or how to step into their calling, and our job is to help them find it. It’s truly a blessing and an opportunity. God called, gave the talents, and the church stepped forward

and multiplied! We developed a plan to employ a two-week rotation for pastors to preach and lead worship. This enabled the pastors and staff to not be away from their Pueblo Praise duties for too long, and all the staff would be able to meet the Walsenburg congregation. We didn't have a plan before we said yes. God provided the staff, structure, plan and flow after our yes. God was lifted up the very next Sunday; not one was missed. Pastor Danny preached and took a team of youth leaders with the youth worship team to lead worship. Pastor Jim took the following two weeks. He loaded up the 21-passenger shuttle, with a new worship team and twenty people from Pueblo, whose hearts were stirred by God. He was reaching His remnant by stirring the people from Pueblo Praise to reach for them too. While God was sending teams into the Walsenburg community, I continued to talk about the church in Walsenburg, and the people there who were waiting, and those who yet needed to see the light of Christ. I took my talent, used it, and watched God multiply more and send more people. Financial donations started coming in, and more people of Praise reached out to those in Walsenburg-whether it was door-to-door or people they knew. Their hearts were stirred for the remnant, and more was multiplied. Pastor Juanita stepped into Walsenburg next and took a team of women with her! God gifted Pastor Juanita with a desire to connect people together, and they redesigned the seating area.

More people were stirred to join in and create new pathways for brothers and sisters to connect with one another, as a true family. God also provided for the infrastructure; there is no detail He overlooks. Pastor Danny took a team to Walsenburg to clean up the worship center and sound system. A computer was donated, and on the very first week, the overhead projection and transparencies were upgraded to allow sermon slides and announcements. Pastor Juanita's son drew up designed plans to transform the platform area into a more welcoming area to pull people into God's heart through the word and worship. God sent donations to Pastor Steve for two large screen televisions that will replace the old dim projector. Praise sound and video tech will install the TVs. Even the outdoor sign is updated, and the voicemail and contact information and flow is updated. The children's rooms are being supplied with love and toys. The multiplication continues with an open house, to join people from Pueblo and Walsenburg Praise together as a family. Pastor Rob will be there next to bring his talents, and we will praise God, as we watch the way God multiplies again. The work will continue. The challenges will continue. And the joy will continue. I read a Facebook message from a Walsenburg church member that read, 'Today's sermon spoke directly to me in so many ways. I am still hearing the words in my head. God used Pastor Danny and his wife to awaken everything that been so quiet for

so long. I'm so happy for being a part of your church family'.

What if we would have turned away? What if we would have closed our eyes? What if we would have buried our talents? It makes me cringe to think of it. God is able. This past couple of years have been challenging and a struggle with uncharted waters and unsettling realities. As a church, we may be exhausted, frustrated, confused, and discouraged by the change in our ministries. But we must look up! God's light shines the brightest in the darkest of nights. And in this season where we celebrate the Light of the World, we remember that God is in complete control and is moving forward. His power and love are still reaching into our lives and into the darkness. He has left a remnant! He is breathing, moving, and multiplying. I can't wait to see what God will do next! Thank you for this opportunity, for helping us see this path, and for your faithful support."



<https://www.dropbox.com/s/up7wjron3ji69c2/Walsenburg%20Open%20House%20Welcome%20P%20Steve.mp4?dl=0>



**PASTOR LONNIE CAMPBELL**  
Guest Contributor  
[pstrlonnie@gmail.com](mailto:pstrlonnie@gmail.com)  
Lakeside Community Church  
A/G  
Clinton, Utah

October 15, 2021

As I read the RMMN Connection I received on July 1, 2021, I became excited because I began to see how I could enlarge our leadership team educationally without losing them to go to Bible school. I became even more excited as we talked about it at Presbyters meeting in July.

I picked up several copies of the book EXPLORE THE CALL, by Gene Roncone before I left Colorado Springs. When I got home, I read it and became convinced that this was a way I could move us forward in leadership.

I registered for the Pathway to Credentials Zoom meeting on July 27th and became

more convinced that I was on the right track.

On August 1st, I preached a message titled, "I Didn't Know" from Genesis 28:10-19. I began with a question of "where does God dwell," using Isaiah 15:15 as the answer being "I dwell in the high and holy place with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the contrite ones."

Many individuals are not in active ministry or leadership roles because they have become discouraged or put down when they express to others a desire for ministry, even by their pastors. Others are never offered the opportunity to explore through experience in ministry.

At the end of the message, I shared a bit of this opportunity and then met individually and gave the book to 7 people who expressed interest. We then met as a group on September 23rd. Several of them had already read the whole book and came primed with questions.

We are now scheduled to meet Sunday evenings every

other week to get more in depth in the discussion questions. Some are looking at the Pathways option and some are looking at the Trinity online option. The group is absolutely delighted for the opportunities ahead.

I encourage you as pastors to present this to your congregation. I think you will be surprised at the interest.

## 2022 CTC SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY ROSTER

Today Superintendent Gene Roncone announced those selected for the 2022 Charles T. Crabtree School of Pastoral Ministry. The school was created to prepare the next generation of lead pastors for excellence in ministry. District Superintendent Gene Roncone and Charles Crabtree teamed up to share wisdom that has been passed down through five generations of ministers in their family. This mentorship first existed as a notebook Crabtree wrote to help those in his family prepare for their first lead pastorate. Now it has been redesigned as a 15-week leadership cohort to prepare qualified associates for the modern demands of serving as a lead pastor. After Crabtree's death Superintendent Roncone invited Church Ministries Director Shawn Reine to join the mentoring team. Participants will learn...

- How to develop a life-giving devotional life
- How to know if you're ready for a lead pastorate
- How to explore God's will and interview with a search committee
- How to navigate your first

### CHARLES T. CRABTREE 2022 SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY

 <b>GENE RONCONE</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY	 <b>SHAWN REINE</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY	 <b>JOHANNA BARTSCH</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY
 <b>JUANITA BLEVINS</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY	 <b>BRANDON BORDELON</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY	 <b>JARED BUCHTA</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY
 <b>DAN GIBSON</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY	 <b>GINA GRAVES</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY	 <b>CHRISTEL GRIFFIN</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY
 <b>ROBERT GURULÉ</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY	 <b>SCOTT JAMES</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY	 <b>MICHELLE JENSEN</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY
 <b>ISAAC KING</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY	 <b>MARIA MONTESINO</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY	 <b>NICK ROGERS</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY
 <b>SARA RUTKOWSKI</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY	 <b>MEBRATU SHIBABAW</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY	 <b>CHRIS SIMMS</b> 2022 CHARLES T. CRABTREE SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY

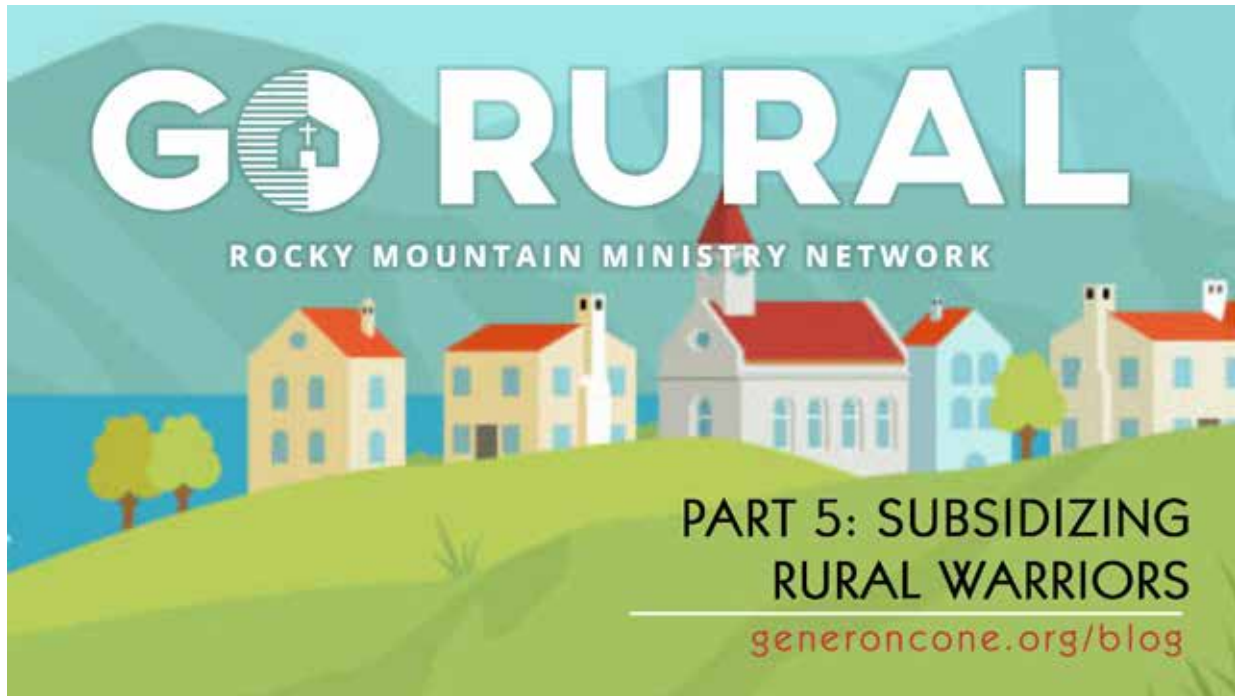
days as a new lead pastor

- Principles and dynamics of church administration
- How to develop office routines
- Budgets and church finances
- How to lead board and annual business meetings
- How to do water baptisms, communion and baby dedications
- How to master weddings, premarital counseling, funerals and graveside services
- How to know the role of a minister's spouse
- Ministerial ethics, etiquette and protocol
- Pastoral care, hospital visitation and pastoral counseling
- How to pastor expressions of the spiritual gifts

as past graduates and leaders with a commitment to ministry excellence. More information on the cohort can be accessed at [www.rmdc.org/spm/](http://www.rmdc.org/spm/)

The cohort will consist of weekly group Zoom meetings with Superintendent Gene Roncone and other members of the cohort, individual assignments, discussion huddles with their lead pastor and potential preaching assignments throughout the Rocky Mountain Ministry Network. Those who complete the cohort will be presented with a certificate of completion at the Rocky Mountain Ministry Network's annual District Council and listed on the Network website





Over the years, most of our rural church closures were in communities that could not provide sufficient employment opportunities for bivocational pastors. Other times, rural churches were unable to provide a suitable salary for a younger pastor with a family. More often than not, these churches become overly dependent on older ministers who already have retirement incomes but may also have health challenges.

There are several reasons why we must begin helping our rural pastors realize subsidized income from outside their local contexts. Let me mention just a few.

1. Maintain a gospel presence. Many of our rural churches are the only gospel and/or Spirit-filled witnesses in their communities.

2. Subsidize income. Provide a way to partner with the family and friends of rural pastors to subsidize their income on a monthly basis.

3. Increase longevity. Increase the likelihood and longevity of quality leadership in our rural communities.

4. Lighten the burden. Decrease stress, discouragement, and burnout due to excessive bivocational demands. Having two jobs is doable, but counting their church job, many rural pastors have three.

5. Foster dignity. Provide the opportunity for rural pastors to have dignity and value in being able to adequately provide for their families.

6. Embrace culture. With nearly 40 percent of our RMMN

churches being rural in nature, this strategy would help us embrace the rural culture and geographic obstacles of our Network.

7. Support churches. Assist churches that cannot presently support a lead pastor with a full-time salary.

To better sustain our gospel presence in Colorado and Utah's rural communities, we must assist our ministers, both young and old, by connecting them to financial partners who can subsidize their income.

## HEAD OF THE TABLE

Each Tuesday we eagerly relinquish the “head of the table” in the Network staff meeting to one of our ministers. This weekly highlight reminds us as a Network staff of why we are here and who we serve. It also gives our ministers the opportunity to speak into our lives and keep us grounded as well as maintains relational bridges to the field.

This past few weeks we were blessed to be ministered to by the following RMMN ministers.

- Chris Bechtel  
South Jordan, UT
- Andres Lara  
Colorado Springs, CO
- Tate Stephens  
Herriman, UT
- Steve Vergo  
Colorado Springs, CO
- Tierney Williamson  
Colorado Springs, CO

Thank you to these gifted and talented RMMN ministers who make us all stronger.



CHRIS BECHTEL



ANDRES LARA



TATE STEPHENS



STEVE VERGO



TIERNEY WILLIAMSON



## ITINERATING MISSIONARIES

Josh & Carolyn Jimenez  
Colombia  
[pastorjosh1984@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorjosh1984@yahoo.com)

Chad & Dargan Phillips  
Convoy of Hope  
[bwanachad@gmail.com](mailto:bwanachad@gmail.com)

Todd & Leslie Stamps  
Portugal  
[toddjstamps@gmail.com](mailto:toddjstamps@gmail.com)

David & Jeanie Wallace  
Eurasia  
[dwallace@eurasiaregion.com](mailto:dwallace@eurasiaregion.com)

Remember: Several sensitive country missionaries are usually home on furlough, too!

Contact the RMMN Missions Team for more information - [missions@rmdc.org](mailto:missions@rmdc.org).

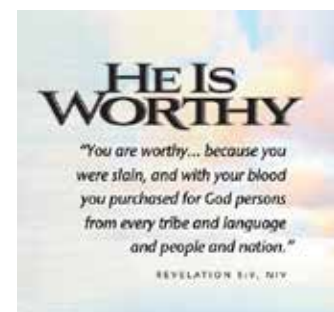
## NEW MISSIONARY EMAILS COMING

As of January 31, 2022, all AGWM missionaries will stop using their "@agmd.org" emails and begin using one of their choosing.

You may wish to contact your missionaries before the end of January

## MISSIONS PRAYER RESOURCES

For mission's prayer resources, prayer calendars, and missionary birthdays, go to <https://www.agwm.org/prayer/>



## ACMR

The Annual Church Ministries Report (ACMR) will be coming soon and is due February 1, 2022.

The ACMR Online System is scheduled to be available for reporting by January 3, 2022.

Is your church Live Streaming? Do you have an Online Congregation? You can count those watching in your ACMR. The criteria is 1.5 persons per IP address and 1.0 per mobile.

## CHURCH & CREDENTIAL ACTIVITY

Transferred since January 1, 2021

- Alex Arellano (L) – Nor Cal/Nevada
- Kevin Davis (O) - Wyoming
- Joshua Friday (L) – Wisconsin-No. Michigan
- Mark (O) & Amy (O) Renfro South Carolina
- Jonathan Smith (L) – North Texas



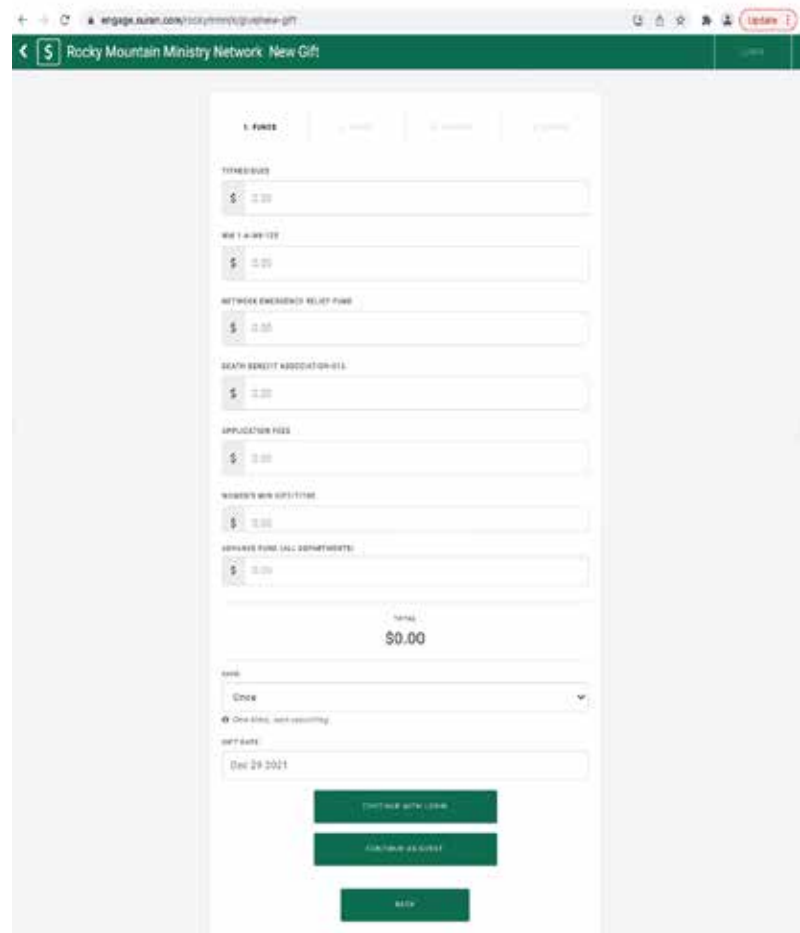
**JOHN BRYANT**  
Secretary/Treasurer  
[jbryant@rmdc.org](mailto:jbryant@rmdc.org)

## ONLINE GIVING

Online Giving is very easy. Go to our website, [www.rmdc.org](http://www.rmdc.org), click the Online Giving tab at the top. It will take you directly to Engage, the Rocky Mountain Ministry Network New Gift page. Click the Giving Funds green box.

A variety of giving options are available: once, weekly, bi-weekly, etc. It is easy to create an account - just make sure to use the email address we have in the RMMN database. If you already had an account, the login and password will be the same.

If you have any questions, give us a call at 719.522.0195.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [engage.rmdc.org/rockymtnnsg/new-gift](http://engage.rmdc.org/rockymtnnsg/new-gift). The page title is "Rocky Mountain Ministry Network New Gift". The form contains several input fields for different giving categories, each with a dollar sign icon and a "0.00" value:

- 5 FUNDS
- TITHES/GIVES
- WELFARE
- NETWORK EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND
- DEATH BENEFIT ASSOCIATION-BEL
- APPLICATION FEES
- WOMEN'S MINISTRY FUND
- ADVANCED FUND (ALL DEPARTMENTS)

Below these fields, a "TOTAL" of "\$0.00" is displayed. There are dropdown menus for "name" (set to "Once") and "frequency" (set to "One-time, non-recurring"). A "gift date" field is set to "Dec 29 2021". At the bottom, there are three green buttons: "CONTINUE WITH LOGIN", "CONTINUE AS GUEST", and "BACK".



**SHAWN REINE**  
Church Ministries Director  
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**LINDA BOTTOMS**  
Assistant Church Ministries  
Director  
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## THE CHURCH MINISTRIES TEAM IS WORKING FOR YOU!

### RECHARGE

60 kids and youth pastors attended this year at Recharge.



## PK/MK FORM

We want to know our PK's and MK's!!!  
Take three minutes to fill out the link.  
Thanks!  
<https://form.jotform.com/212355637005046>

PKMK Retreat – Save the Date  
July 22-24, 2022  
Steamboat Springs, CO



## FINE ARTS AND YOUTHCON22

Fine Arts and YouthCon22 will be held March 25-27, 2022, at Embassy Suites by Hilton Loveland Conference Center and Spa. Deadline for Fine Arts is March 1st.

<https://www.rmdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/2022-Fine-Arts-Packet-11.1.21-copy.pdf>



## ONGOING RESOURCES



### Church University -

The Rocky Mountain Ministry Network has partnered with Church University to provide excellent training resources for our church leaders. These resources come free to the local church with courses including Preaching, Church Board, Church Audio Track and Kids Ministry.

To get your church signed up, go to the Church University located under Church Ministries at our Network website.

## 2022 DATES

### JANUARY

January 13-15 RD Training

### FEBRUARY

February 1-4 AGLC  
February 12 JBQ (Delta, CO)  
February 7-18 Sectional Tour

### MARCH

March 11-12 West Slope Men's Event (Victory Life Church, Fruita)  
March 11-12 Royal Ranger Southwest Regional Conference  
March 12 JBQ  
March 14-16 NextGen Conference (Orlando, Florida)  
March 18-19 East Slope Men's Event (Praise AG, Pueblo)  
March 25-27 Fine Arts / Youth Conference

### APRIL

April 2 Utah Men's Event (Northview Church, Farr West)  
April 8-9 Royal Ranger Leader Conference  
April 25-28 Network Council (Highpoint Church, Aurora)

### JUNE

May 31-June 3 Youth Camp 1 (Daniel Young)  
June 7-10 Youth Camp 2 (Jacob Jester)  
June 9-12 the Frontiersman Camping Fellowship (FCF)  
June 14-17 Youth Camp 3 (Beau Dore)  
June 17-18 Royal Ranger Chimney Challenge  
June 21-24 Youth Camp 4 (Grace Ann Hector)  
June 28-July 1 Colorado Kids Camp

### JULY

July 10-15 Royal Ranger Camporama  
July 16-19 Utah Kids Camp  
July 22-24 PK/MK Retreat

### AUGUST

August 1-5 National Fine Arts (Orlando Florida)

### SEPTEMBER

September 2-5 Royal Ranger Family Camp

### SEPTEMBER (CONTINUED)

September 16-18 Rocky Mountain Bike for Missions  
September 23-24 National GM Sleepover

### OCTOBER

October 7-9 Colorado Ladies Retreat  
October 12-22 Youth/Kid One Day Event  
October 14-15 Utah Ladies Retreat (Life Church, Salt Lake City)

### NOVEMBER

November 10-12 One Conference  
November 18-20 Royal Rangers Navajo Missions Trip

### DECEMBER

December 4 Rocky Mountain Gives Day



**JACK MARSHALL**  
Royal Rangers  
[jack.marshall@live.com](mailto:jack.marshall@live.com)  
[www.rmdrr.org](http://www.rmdrr.org)



2022 Royal Rangers will be celebrating 60 years since its founding in 1962 as a ministry to boys in the local church. The goal was to reach, teach and keep boys for Jesus Christ. Semantics has changed the goal to evangelize, equip, and empower, but the goal to give every boy the opportunity to accept Jesus as their Savior and be discipled by men of God to become the same is still alive and well.

Camporama 2022 will be celebrating this birthday, when thousands of men and boys meet at Eagle Rock, MO. It's been 6 years since we have been able to meet at the National

Royal Rangers Campground for what we call the "Ultimate Event for Boys and Men". We are looking forward to this event. Registration is underway now at the National Camporama website -

<https://nationalcamporama.com>. It will be held July 10 -15. Check it out and join us!

March 11-12 will be the Southwest Regional Conference for all Royal Ranger leaders. A great time of updates, training, encouragement, and fellowship.

June 9-12, the Frontiersman Camping Fellowship (FCF) will put on their 1800's Mountainman outfits, grab their black powder rifles, pack their shelters and head to Trace for a time of fellowship, advancement, spiritual challenge and a whole lot of fun.

Just a note about Adventure

Camp. It will not be held this year because of Camporama. We want to expend our resources to get every available boy that wants to attend to Eagle Rock, MO. The biggest and best Camporama ever.

September 2-5th, Royal Rangers FCF will sponsor Frontier Family Camp for the entire family. Membership in Royal Rangers is not required for the camp. A relaxing time of family competitions, fellowship, feasting, and spiritual encouragement.

November 18-20, we are planning to return to the Navajo Reservation near Counselor, NM for a mission trip. Our hope is to continue the firewood and service projects for the elderly residents who so desperately need help. Due to Covid, we have not been able to make this trip for the last two years.



## FEED ONE

“If you can’t feed a hundred people, feed just one.”  
— Mother Teresa

This past November was “FeedOne” Month for Chi Alpha. FeedOne is a campaign that supports **Convoy of Hope’s** Children’s Feeding program. Currently serving more than 387,000 children in 17 different countries according their website.

One of the indicators we see in healthy disciples are students who are allowing the Lord to truly be Lord in every aspect of their life, including their finances. When challenged to give, a response often heard is “I’m just a poor college student!” The Kingdom of God is full of paradoxes, the last will be first, to receive you must give. We raise up disciples in Chi Alpha that give. When it comes to missions, every student *gives, goes, prays, and welcomes.*

It is true, that students don’t have a lot of money. However they often find ways to sacrifice the comforts of modern living when presented with the needs of “the least of these.” So as we presented the needs of hungry children around the world and how **Convoy of Hope** is making a difference, our students in Utah responded. I continue to be amazed at the generosity of these “poor college students.”

Prior to this year our Utah Chi Alpha fellowships were feeding 20 children a month at \$10 a month per child (\$200 total). This year again we presented **FeedOne** and asked our returning students to increase and new students to consider feeding “just one.” By the end of our campaign in Utah we more than doubled the number of children being feed. Utah Chi Alpha students are now feeding 44 children every month!

## FUTURE LEADERS

Every January as the start of the new semester begins we are already preparing for the following year. Some of the students that we are discipling now become small group leaders. Some begin to explore a full time call to ministry and becoming a Campus Missionary In Training (CMIT). Some begin to sense a calling to world missions. Would you pray specifically for these future missionaries and pastors during this season. The enemy would love to destroy these student before they even begin. It seems as students say yes to leadership, they become targets of the enemy. Cover our campuses and leaders in prayer during this season of preparation. We’d love to see this current crop of potential student leaders be the catalyst to a student awakening on the college campuses in our network.



**DARAN LEMON**  
Chi Alpha - Utah  
[daranlemon@gmail.com](mailto:daranlemon@gmail.com)



*Artist Outreach group on campus at UVU*





**GLENN JONES**  
Camp Cedaredge  
[campcedaredge@gmail.com](mailto:campcedaredge@gmail.com)



## HELLO RMMN!

First of all, thanks to all of you who showed up to help, who gave financially, and who have held us up in prayer in 2021. It was a roller coaster year, and early on we had no idea how it would go, but are so encouraged with how things ended up. We've had so much encouragement and support from so many of you, and are looking forward to sharing more with you about what we are up to at your campground!

We started talking about new beginnings at the end of 2021, and had to choose what our final improvement would be for the year on the campus. We knew that it would have to be an indoor project since the weather was turning bad, so we finally struck the entire main kitchen and resurfaced the floor and walls in there! It was a long time coming, and it will be nice to start a new year with what feels like a fresh new kitchen! Our crew worked hard, and we are reassembling the room right now after having finished the room! Check out some of these pics from that project.



We still have moving parts on the calendar, but please stay tuned for dates for our first ever Camp Prep Week that will be happening in late March/ early April! It will be a chance to enjoy some fellowship and fun and great food while we get some things ready around campus for a busy summer! Like our Camp Investment Week in the fall, this event will be open to any from our network who would like to join.

We're praying for a refreshing new year for you, and looking forward to the potential in 2022!

## HEALING MEMORIES

**Memories, we all have them.** They are the events of our past woven together that help form the foundation of our lives. For many they cripple attempts to find joy and significance. The healing of these traumatic memories is essential for physical, mental and spiritual health.

The goal of Renewal Ministries is to position people spiritually and emotionally to encounter the healing power of Jesus.

***Isaiah 53:4-5 Surely he took up our infirmities and***

***carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.***

Renewal Ministries offers Christian/Biblical counseling for individuals, premarital, marriage & family, pastors' families, and spiritual issues. Both in-office and Telehealth counseling are available.



**GEORGE STAHNKE**  
Ministry Enrichment  
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Renewal Ministries of  
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George Stahnke  
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[help@renewalcs.org](mailto:help@renewalcs.org)  
<https://renewalcs.org/counseling>

### Testimonies:

"I am writing you to thank you so much for all the wonderful help that you have been to us during these difficult times in our life. Your advice is so beneficial that it is hard to imagine what we would do in these times. . . I pray that God will continue using you as he has now."

"I knew that I needed to speak to someone as I was really hurting and needed to

talk but it was very difficult for me to admit that my marriage had sunk to an all-time low like it did. . . He hit me between the eyes with a statement that really caught my attention. It is a statement I will never forget as long as I live. This was my true wake up call, literally – George stated that "if you lose your family because of ministry, you have already disqualified yourself from

ministry." Wow! By now the tears were flowing from my eyes. . . The Lord used him to save the marriage and ministry of a front-line soldier who loves Jesus but is still trying to figure out how to balance it all with the daily challenges of leading God's people. . . In 13 years of marriage, my marriage with my beautiful bride, has never been better. "

## LEADERSHIP TEAM

Gene Roncone  
Superintendent/Network Pastor

Alex Lucero  
Assistant Superintendent

John Bryant  
Secretary/Treasurer

Steve Chavez  
Executive East Slope Presbyter

Kelly Preston  
Executive Utah Presbyter

Josh Cook  
Executive West Slope Presbyter

## SECTIONAL PRESBYTERS

Sam Scalf  
Denver Metro North

Jim Brummett  
Denver Metro South

Joe Archuleta  
Mountain

Paul Speicher  
Northeast

Rob Rocca  
Northern

Jason McManus  
Northwest

Phil Steiger  
Pikes Peak

Stan Formby  
San Juan

TBD  
Southeast

Josh Richardson  
Southern

Lonnie Campbell  
Utah North

Noreen Lemon  
Utah South

TBD  
West Central

## DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

Church Ministries Director  
Shawn Reine

Assistant Church Ministries Director  
Linda Bottoms

Church Multiplication  
Gene Roncone - Network Director

Ministry Enrichment Team  
George Stahnke - Director  
Linda Stahnke  
Steve & Bonnie Chavez  
Josh & Sara Jane Cook  
Matt & Leah Miller

## MINISTRY REPRESENTATIVES

Camp Cedaredge  
Glenn Jones - Director

Chi Alpha - Colorado  
Nate Banke

Chi Alpha - Utah  
Daran Lemon

Church Extension Plan  
Gene Roncone

Deaf Ministries  
James Banks

Missions  
Gene Roncone

Director - TBA