

# Rocky Mountain Conference

Second Quinquennial Constituency Session | August 21, 2022



Longing  
Loving  
Leading

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# 2022 Constituency Session

AGENDA | SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2022

9:00 a.m. | Registration of Delegates

9:45 a.m. | Praise in Song

10:00 a.m. | Session Begins

## Devotional Message

Mic Thurber, RMC President

## Opening Prayer

Patty Rivera, RMC Hispanic Women's Ministries Coordinator

## Call to Order

- | Recognition of Official Notice
- | Recognition of Quorum
- | Motion to Seat Delegates
- | Motion to Approve Agenda
- | Motion to Approve Parliamentarian  
Darrell Huenergardt, MAUC Legal Counsel
- | Motion to Approve Prayer Advisor  
Patty Rivera, RMC Hispanic Women's Ministries Coordinator
- | Motion to Approve Session Minutes: July 23, 2017
- | Motion to Accept New Churches

## Auditor's Report

## Feedback on Reports

## Nominating Committee Report

Mid-America Union Conference Administration

## Recommendations from the RMC By-Laws Committee

## Discussion and Action

- | Ordination in the Rocky Mountain Conference

## Shared Vision for the Future

## Adjournment and Prayer

## Lunch

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Dear Rocky Mountain Conference family,

It has been a joy and privilege to call this our home since October of 2021! Jana and I are so grateful to serve the Lord here in this beautiful territory. It didn't take us long to see what your previous presidents have said about you—that you are a wonderful, loving group of Adventist Christians who love the Lord deeply and are anxious for His return. It is truly a privilege to work with the extraordinary office staff family here in Rocky Mountain. I know first-hand how hard they work to serve you and I am grateful for each one.

I want to extend my thanks and gratitude to my predecessor, Ed Barnett, for all he did for this conference during his time here, particularly during this last quinquennium. His leadership and spiritual heart were a great gift to this conference. He retired while COVID still had a grip on our territory, and I know he would be pleased to see our schools and churches fully open again.

## COVID'S Impact

All have felt COVID's impact to one degree or another. However, there is a bright spot within it that bears highlighting. Before COVID, only a few of our churches had the capability to stream services and to help members stay connected. I watched with amazement at how quickly our pastors across the Union got online. While a streamed meeting doesn't quite compare to being present in person, the result has been that some people are now connected with our churches that likely weren't before. Some churches even report that their online views outnumber those in physical attendance at services.

The enemy's hoped-for impact against our churches has worked against him! We have much for which to praise the Lord in that this pandemic only served to connect more people to Christ.

I also realize that some have drifted away during this time, and some have grown accustomed to watching

services at home rather than coming back to church. I encourage everyone to remember what Paul said in Hebrews 10 to "not give up meeting together."

While I'm grateful for the tools we can use to stay connected, I believe something powerful and special happens when we gather in Jesus' name.

## Our Schools

I'm pleased to report that our schools are doing well. You'll see a more thorough report by our education department leaders, Diane Harris, and Paul Negrete. I do want to mention how deeply joyful it makes me to see such a firm commitment by the members to do all we can for our schools and to help them grow whenever possible. Christian education has always been and always will be a priority in my heart and thinking.

## *Longing ...*

A strong feeling of need or desire to be home with Christ.

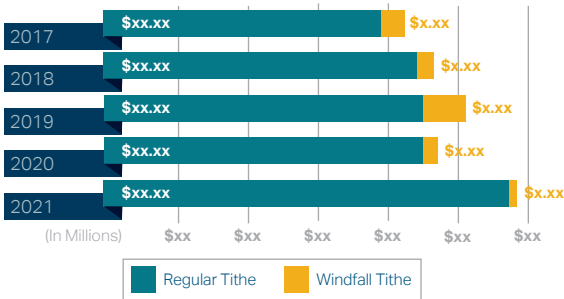
## *Loving ...*

A feeling or showing of deep affection or great care as shown by Christ.

## *Leading ...*

An action of providing guidance and direction to be with Christ.

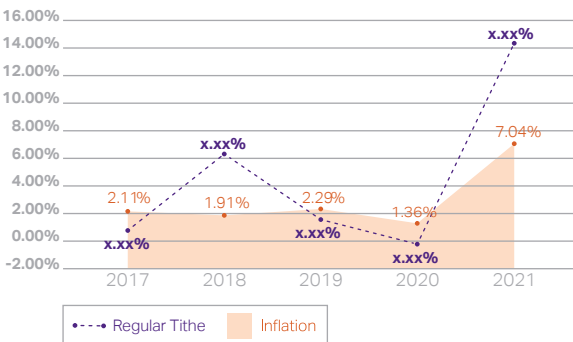
## Annual Tithe



Annual Tithe is the primary source of funding for the world church. We budget on regular tithe, which excludes what we call “windfall tithe.” Windfalls are normally amounts of tithe more than \$xx from an individual and are non-recurring, as when someone sells a business and has an increase on which they pay tithe. Regular tithe has shown an average annual growth of x.xx% over the past five years compared to the previous session average of x.xx%.

## Tithe and Inflation

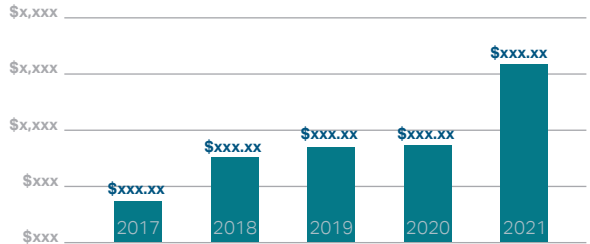
Percent Changes



Tithe percent changes show the regular tithe and inflation percent changes from year to year.

## Tithe Per Capita

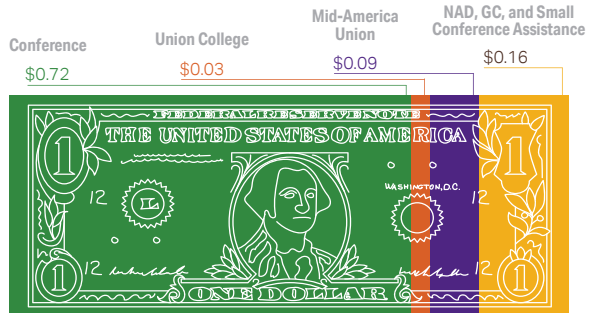
Excludes Windfall Tithes



Tithe per capita results from taking the total regular tithe per year and dividing it by the total membership.

## Tithe Usage

Rocky Mountain Conference



Tithe Usage shows how the average tithe dollar is distributed. The Union/Division/GC sends back to us approximately 4 cents in appropriations, primarily for education and evangelism. The lower portion shows, on average, how the 72.4 cents is used within the annual budget.

# COMMUNICATION



The communication mantra over the outgoing quinquennium was: If you are a Seventh-day Adventist, you are a communicator of Hope.

Our activities were coupled with Rocky Mountain Conference's quinquennial theme of Living For His Return to inspire, encourage, and foster conversation within the church on being united in Jesus and His daily walk with us until He returns.

Our communication brief from leadership was to focus our activities on information sharing with our church members. Informing the congregations, pastors, and institutions about church developments, challenges, and missional needs made our communication efforts a credible tool in the church's overall ministry. News and information was published regularly through the weekly newsletter *NewsNuggets* and through social media. We express our gratitude to our authors and contributors from dozens of churches, to ministers, and institutions. It is encouraging to welcome new and young communicators throughout the Rocky Mountain Chapter (RMC).

With the arrival of Jon Roberts as media assistant, who joined our department a day after the pandemic temporarily disrupted our regular activities, information sharing increased in volume and output. We also wish to express our gratitude for the ministry of Carol Bolden, who retired in 2019.

Our publications and media productions were moved to an online presence with new designs. In August 2019, the RMC website was launched, and *NewsNuggets* was redesigned a month later. The newsletter has a subscription base of 2,400, and the average open rate is 35-40% (in comparison to other conferences who have an average of 10-20%). Since August 2019, we have published more than 1,250 articles. Access to *NewsNuggets* increased as all materials are published on [www.rmcsda.org](http://www.rmcsda.org)

Equally impressive is our presence on social media. Since September 2019, RMC Facebook posts have reached an estimated 114K individuals and have been visited by an estimated 9,200 users. Currently, our Instagram account has 224 followers. Our RMC stories have also been shared and published in Mid-America's *OUTLOOK* magazine and by North American Division *NewsPoints*, *Adventist Review*, and Adventist News Network.

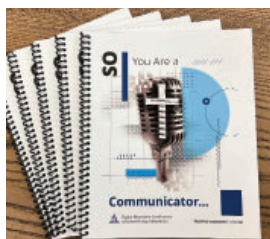
A popular feature of our department continues to be the publishing of *Mountain Views*, a quarterly magazine sent out to the homes of all church members in Colorado, Wyoming, and part of New Mexico. Aiming to encourage conversation on issues and challenges facing the church, the magazine has gained subscribers both in North America and internationally.

Making our stories more visible, several media projects were produced, including the RMC President's messages and video production of the 2020 Town Hall meeting during the pandemic. To further improve the communication skills of our churches, we published the *You Are a Communicator Handbook*. We also increased awareness of the church's corporate identity, including a logo. The full name of the church is part of our worldwide interest to raise awareness of our message and mission.

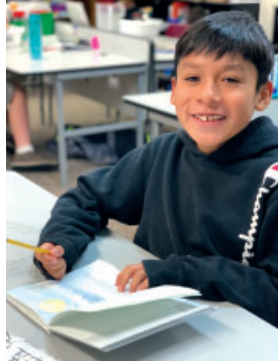
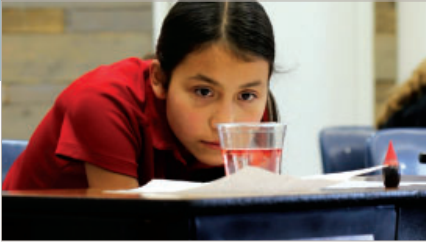
The new quinquennial theme of *Longing, Loving, and Leading* will aim to put a continued focus on the present and the future of the Seventh-day Adventist mission in RMC. Sharing the Good News of the gospel is not done yet!

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Rajmund Dabrowski is the RMC communication director.









# Seventh-day Adventist® Church

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