

In 1863, the Seventh-day Adventist Church became a formal organization with headquarters in Battle Creek, Michigan. The early members spread their faith by sending ministers into surrounding states where they preached in schoolhouses, homes and open-air meetings.

In 1888, O.A. Johnson became the first Adventist pastor to the Montana Territory and held evangelistic meetings in Livingston. The following year, Montana became the 41st state of the United States. By 1895, companies of believers were meeting regularly in eight cities across Montana including a group in Missoula which officially became the Missoula Seventh-day Adventist Church on February 8th, 1896. The earliest church documentation of the church school is from the year 1903. At the time, the church and school were located on Wolf Street (where the eastbound off-ramp from I-90 now exits onto Orange Street) in a building that had been a Chinese laundry. By 1918, the church and school moved to 345 South Fifth Street West into a church that had been the First Congregational Church. Classes were held in the basement of the church for several years until a nearby house was obtained and used as the schoolhouse.

Because of growing church membership, the Adventist congregation sold the church on 5th Street and in 1960, moved into the sanctuary it currently occupies on 800 South Ave West across the street from Sentinel High School. The school grew as well and church members built the facility on Clements Road in the Target Range neighborhood that Mountain View Elementary has called home since 1968.

We are proud to be part of the Seventh-day Adventist educational system which worldwide includes 113 colleges and universities, 1969 secondary schools (high schools) and 5714 elementary schools. In Montana, we join 11 other Adventist elementary schools and one secondary school - Mount Ellis Academy - in providing a well-rounded Christian education in a spiritual environment.