



## Dakota Conference Celebrating 145 Years, 1874 - 2019

### Bowdle Church History

The following is from the Bowdle church file at the Dakota Conference Office. A booklet entitled *Bowdle Seventh-day Adventist Church Centennial 1890-1990* reads in part as follows: (Part 2 of 2)

The Bowdle Seventh-day Adventist Church is still located on the corner of Sixth Avenue and Fifth Street, (Bowdle, South Dakota).

Sabbath, May 24, 1947 the new building was dedicated to the Lord. Special services began on Friday night, May 23. Sabbath afternoon the dedicatory service was presented by the vice-president of the General Conference, Elder W. B. Ochs. Remarks were based on Genesis 28:17, 19. The dedicatory prayer was offered by Elder Rustad, president of the South Dakota Conference. Albert Eisenman of Mobridge sang, "Bless This House" and Elder C. A. Renschler gave a brief history of the church since its organization. Elders Paul Kemper and H. B. Davis were also in attendance.

Charter Members - 1890	
Adam Hagele, Sr.	Johanna Bitzer
Rosina Hagele	Phillip Dollinger
Katherina Hagele	Barbara Dollinger, Sr.
Adam Eisemann	Gottlieb Dollinger
Adam Hagele, Jr.	Barbara Dollinger, Jr.
Magdalena Eisemann	Johann Dollinger
Ferdinand Knecht	Jacob Dollinger
Katherina Knecht	Christian Dollinger
Emanuel Knecht	Katherina Dollinger
Karl Banick	Jacob Binder
Karolina Banick	Dorothea Binder
Simon Bitzer	Daniel Banick
Karl Richter	Elizabeth Banick
Christina Richter	Josephena Weber
Katherina Mertz	Paulina Furmann
Frederick Mertz	Maria Doering
Jacob Bitzer, Sr.	

The 60th anniversary of the church was held November 2, 3, 1951. The Friday night speaker was Elder McKinley. Elder Jere Smith, president of the Northern Union, presented the Sabbath morning sermon. The Sabbath afternoon speaker was Professor Hartman of Union College, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Since then the church has been remodeled with the installation of wall-to-wall carpeting, upholstered pews, and a complete kitchen in the basement area. A sliding door has also been added which makes it possible to convert the fellowship room into two separate classrooms. This was accomplished in 1985.

Twenty-five ministers have served the Bowdle congregation since its organization, namely: Elder Valentine Lehr, 1889; Elder Wall, 1910; Elder Oswald, 1921-1923; Elder Goede, 1917; Elder Wentland, 1918; Elder Schwindt, 1924-1928; Elder Hein, 1928-1933; Elder Beck 1933-1936; Elder Reile, 1936-1943; Elder Beck, 1943-1945; Elder C Renschler, 1945-1947; Elder A. Rudy, 1948-1951; Elder H. Schander, 1951-1955; Elder H. Turner, 1955 - 1958; Elder Allen, 1958-1959; Elder R. Kurth, 1959-1961; Elder H. Preston, 1961-1966; Elder Samograd, 1967-1969; Elder T. Robinson, 1969-1971; Elder F. C. Petty, 1971-1974; Elder A Mitchell, 1975-1978; Elder J. Moon, 1978-1979; Elder J. Clarkson, 1980-1984; Elder VanHorn, 1984-1987; Elder A Hiebert, 1987-

1989; Elder Dave Devnich, 1989.

Through the one-hundred years of its history, the Bowdle church has been one of the stronger churches of the South Dakota Conference. The membership includes the Bowdle territory with members coming in from Java, Eureka, Tolstoy, Greenway and Roscoe areas. The WELCOME mat is out for anyone wishing to worship here. A christian education may be obtained in Dakota Adventist Academy near Bismarck, North Dakota or Maplewood, SDA Academy in Hutchinson, Minnesota, and in Union College, Lincoln, Nebraska, for higher education.



## Club Retreats a Success

The end of the year is fast approaching, and students will head home for the summer. Before they leave, the school has a weekend of celebration. Girls' Club and Boys' Club Retreat weekend is a highlight for all of the students, the deans and those that help with the weekend.

This year the girls made a trip to Summit, South Dakota to spend the weekend at Darla Anderson's home. With the help of Char Merkel and Summer and Katie Struckman, the Girls' Club weekend was a relaxing, fun filled time diving into what character traits each has that makes them unique.



Boys' Club members headed to the beach for the weekend. Their camp had all the amenities they could ask for when camping. The rain may have dampened some tents, but in no way dampened the fun and bonding they experienced. Spending an evening at a Michael W Smith/Newsboys Concert was a great way to close the Sabbath.



Bonding students with each other, the deans and God makes the Boys' and Girls' Club weekends special. Renewed and refreshed, the students charge on to the end of the school year and finals week. Boys' and Girls' Club weekend 2019 was a success.

Article and photos by Tracy Peterson

## The Tiger

**Orange like a flame  
lean and stealthy like hunters  
claws slashing like knives**

Haiku poem written by Zorryn Erickson, age 12

Prairie Voyager Adventist Elementary

Grand Forks, North Dakota

## Brentwood Students Make a Difference



Finding joy in helping others is what teacher, Debra Eszler, is teaching her students at Brentwood Adventist Christian School. Eszler and Home & School leader, Traci Thingvold, have made it a priority to involve students in community service projects, but this year they have increased their efforts to twice a month.

Brentwood is located in a small, quiet neighborhood north of town with around forty houses. For years, Brentwood students have handed out cookie tins to its neighbors in December. This year the students visited the new neighbors who had just moved in across from Brentwood. After singing "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," the students shared a tin of cookies with the new neighbor. He was surprised and pleased and asked questions about the school. A couple days later the neighbor showed up at the front door of the school to donate a foosball table, telescope and guitar with amplifier. The students were excited about these unexpected gifts.

The local food pantry in town was low on food. Mrs. Eszler decided to have the students participate in a canned food drive. Students went around Brentwood's neighborhood and hung empty bags on doors with a note explaining what the school was doing. The next week they collected the bags of food. Neighbors saw the students at the door and were willing to give because "these are the students who always bring them cookies at Christmas." Eszler reported, "Neighbors are friendlier every year and are finding out that we are here." A neighbor brought his tractor and filled a hole in the school driveway, while another neighbor brought each student a homemade blanket for Christmas. Small acts of service are helping Brentwood make connections with their community. "Those who are the happiest are those who do the most for others." Booker

## T. Washington



To expand their service to twice a month Ezsler and Thingvold researched the area and discovered Heavens Helpers Soup Café where anyone can come and eat for free or give a donation. Older students took orders and served food. Younger students folded napkins, waited on tables, dipped soup and filled cups with juice. Heavens Helpers have asked the students to come back soon. One student said, “It was really sad to see people so hungry. I am so glad I got to help, and I am looking forward to going back soon.”



Another service project the students have really enjoyed is learning about greenhouse gardening. Mr. Dwight Duke, a farmer and member of the Mandan Seventh-day Adventist Church invited the students to help plant 1,000 onions, seeds, and package vegetables for the Farmer’s Market. The hands-on experiences have taught the students real world lessons about where our food comes from and the benefits of hard work.

Students at Brentwood are making a difference in their community. Are you making a difference in your community?



Pictured above top left: Rebekah Thingvold, Medgy Chapman, Madisen Nelson

Pictured above middle left: Abigail Brown, Kaya Buta

“I cannot do all the good that the world needs. But the world needs all the good that I can do.” Jana Stanfield

Article by Sue Nelson; Photos by Traci Thingvold

A variety of Vacation Bible School kits are available for your use at the Dakota Conference Office. These kits include the Director’s Manual, Planning Manual, Music and Promotional items. Please contact Sue Nelson to reserve your choice. They may be picked up at Campmeeting in June. 701-751-6177

## Gioni Gessele Shares Testimony at Regional

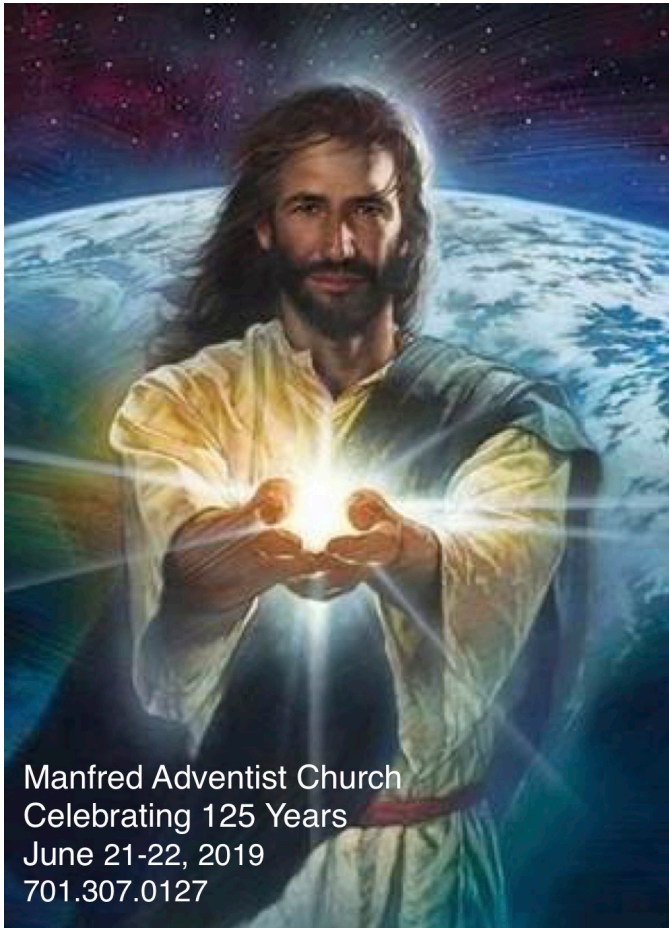
At the Jamestown Regional held April 27, 2019, Gioni Gessele gave a short testimony about how God has led in her life. Gioni is the wife of Todd Gessele of *Totally Inspired Media*. They were in the Dakotas filming for the constituency meeting to be held in June.

At five years of age, Gioni was evacuated, as a “half-breed - that is what they called us” from South Vietnam at the end of the Vietnam War during Operation Babylift. She was one of over 3,000 infants and children rescued by the American government and concerned citizens. Gioni ended up in an orphanage in Saigon, separated from her siblings, against her mother’s wishes. A German family living in the United States adopted her when she was six years old.

Years later, when she was about eleven, her stepsister became acquainted with an Adventist friend and suggest to her family that they should become Adventists, which they eventually did. Her parents sent her to Milo Adventist Academy in Oregon where she met Todd.

See the documentary at <https://www.vintag.es/2016/07/operation-babylift-historical-photos.html>

Article & Photo by Jacquie Biloff



Manfred Adventist Church  
Celebrating 125 Years  
June 21-22, 2019  
701.307.0127

The Dakota Conference is looking for people who would be willing to help in the kitchen at Campmeeting in June.  
Please contact Lynette Miller if you are interested. 701.751.6177

# Keeper of My Heart Presents

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*John Mathews*

**At Dakota  
Campmeeting 2019**

**Location: DAA Auditorium**

**Time: 7:00 pm**

**Date: June 15, 2019**



What kind of guitar is this? Come hear it played.



## **Music Concert**

John Mathews dreamed of becoming a country music singer but answered God's call to the gospel ministry. He has served the Seventh-day Adventist Church for forty-two years, most recently as Director of Stewardship for NAD.

Sabbath, May 11, 2019, the Mitchell Seventh-day Adventist Church in Mitchell, South Dakota, was rededicated after being closed for a couple of years. Pastor David Moench moved to the area following an evangelistic meeting by Elder Donavon Kack.

The church was full with Elder Neil Biloff presenting the message, Unity in Diversity. Elder Moench read a *Declaration of Dedication* after the closing prayer while all were still standing:

Pastor:

To the glory of God, our Father, by whose favor we are rededicating this house;  
To the honor of Jesus, the Son of the Living God, our Lord and Savior;  
To the work of the Holy Spirit Minister of life and light, we dedicate this house to God.

For worship in prayer and song,  
For the preaching and teaching of the Word,  
For the ministry of evangelism,  
For the comfort of those who mourn,  
For the strength to those who are tempted,  
For helping right living, we dedicate this house to God.

For sanctification of the family,  
For the guidance of children and youth,  
For the salvation of men and women,  
For the defense of liberty,  
For the training of conscience,  
For aggressive warfare against evil, we dedicate this house to God.

For the help of the needy,  
For the relief of the distressed,  
For the defense of all God's commandments, including the seventh-day Sabbath,  
For hastening the coming of Christ, we dedicate this house to God.

Congregation:

We..the people of this church and assembly consecrate ourselves today anew, as we participate in the dedication of this house to the cause of God.





**May 1-25, 2019**

Bismarck	Bismarck	Bismarck	Bismarck
Retail	Retail	<b>Special</b>	<b>Special</b>
<u>Case</u>	<u>Single</u>	<u>Case</u>	<u>Single</u>

**CANNED:**

Choplets	12/20 oz	\$71.73	\$6.58	\$66.73	\$6.43
Diced Chik	12/13 oz	61.49	5.64	12.00	1.00
Fried Chik'n	12/13 oz	61.49	5.64	68.33	6.43
Prime Stakes	12/13 oz	61.49	5.64	56.49	5.49
Redi Burger	12/19 oz	71.73	6.58	68.33	6.43
H VegeBurger	6/19 oz	36.02	6.64	32.02	6.19

**FOOD SERVICE:**

Swiss Stake	12/47 oz	153.69	14.10	146.89	13.75
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ABC hours in Bismarck, ND are:

- Tuesday - Thursday 3:00pm - 5:30pm

**May 16 Dispatch Photo**







Photo by Jacquie Biloff - Dakota's Mountains - in Bismarck, ND


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Dispatch Mission: To build a climate of encouragement and blessing through the sharing of witnessing and evangelism activities. If you have news to share or would like to be added to the **Dakota Dispatch** mailing list, please email Jacquie Biloff at [jbiloff@icloud.com](mailto:jbiloff@icloud.com). Bismarck Dispatch

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