



Keene Adventist Church's History Part 2 of 3

In 1929 Marie and Alfred Haugen had church school in their home for Dan and Wilson Haugen, and the Wick's, Wheeler's and Tony Steimer's children. Anna Petersen was the teacher. Marie had taught Dan at home for a year so he started in the second grade. After four years they went to public school. Then in 1939, Clarence Haugen and Mary Ann Van Nurden, the two oldest children of John Dahl's and Arlene Boyko's sister were the pupils. Teachers were Arlene Boyko and Adeline Heitzmann. After five years or more, students attended public school.

In 1954, when the church was formally organized, the first elder was Paul Henderson; now his oldest son, James, holds that office.

Our largest church enrollment was in 1962. Besides the charter members (18 left then) Lawrence Peterson; Donald Lovaas; Judy Lovaas; Marlys Sivertson; Linda Lovaas; James Henderson; Merlyn Chambers; Lois Chambers; David Ritchie and Donna, Doris and David Jr.; Al and Julia Rikustad; Anna Peterson; Lyleen and Lyle Jr. Henderson; Gordon, David, Wayne and Laurie Foreman; Dixie Ritchie; Patsy, Penny, Donna and Dennis Henderson; Florence and Howard Bell - 46 souls. Since then these joined: Floyd, Elizabeth, Celia, Ellen and Nita Goss; Lance, Rita and Nita Foreman; Myrtis Bonner; Larry and Kimber Henderson; Darlene Jorgenson, now Young Bear; Frances Braaten; Jean Rindy; Kenneth (Mike) Schmidt and Loren Berwald.

Church school was started again on September 11, 1961. The Dorcas building at the

church site had been Grail District School near Keoghs, which was bought and moved. When the Henderson children needed church school, that building was moved again across the road from the Paul Henderson farm home and remodeled. The Suby house was bought and moved near for the teacher's house. School opened with nine pupils. The next year there were eleven. Raymond Weikum was the teacher. When he was called to Bismarck, his wife taught. In 1962, Merlin Chambers was the instructor. He became sick and Bertha Lovaas taught. Anna Peterson was substitute for two months. There were two Weikum children in school, Rocky, Lyleen, Herbert, James and Patsy Henderson, Roger Birdbear, and David, Doris and Dixie Ritchie.

Anna Petersen, one of the members taught school for forty years. She taught for eight years in public schools and thirty-two years in parochial Adventist schools. This has given her many children to love, although she has none of her own. During the years she boarded with the parents, the preschool children also shared her love. She used good psychology with preschool children too. She boarded with the Howard Bell family during the term she taught Liberty school in 1925 and 1926. They had a preschool girl who never allowed her to leave the supper table without a story-telling session. After a few stories she would say, "I will tell you a story about Jack O'Nery and now my story is begun: I'll tell you a story about his brother, and now my story is done." No amount of coaxing brought another story and soon the little girl would go about her play as soon as that story was told.

Former members who moved were: Josie Steiner Budd to Glendale, CA; Walter Mercer to Detroit Lakes, MI; Clive Mercer to Boulder, CO; Emmett Mercer to Gary, SD; Al and Julie Rikustad (David and Carol Ann) to Bozeman, MT; Lyle, Haziell, Lyleen and "Rocky" Henderson and other children to Gentry, AR; Floyd, Celia, Ellen and Nita Goss to Yuma, AZ; Judy and Linda Lovaas to Fargo, ND; Marlys Sivertson Jensen to Tecumseh, NE; Merlin and Lois Chambers to Lincoln, NE; Dan, Mary, Rosemary and Bobby Necker to Hamilton, MT; David, Donna, Doris, David, Jr. and Dixie Ritchie to South Dakota.

These died before we kept records: Leslie Van Allen at age 12 in 1924; Mathilda Peterson, year uncertain; Christ Peterson 1944; Viola Foreman in 1945.

Pearl Foreman Sivertson had much responsibility for years; on the church board, SS superintendent, secretary of different departments, treasurer, divisions, Dorcas, mission leader and Vacation Bible School. She has been unable to attend lately. Others we miss much are the Haugens, Dan, Wilson and Clarence; the Foremans, Nora, Earl, Vernon and Lenn.

It is such a small church nearly everyone fills an office. It is surprising what an ordinary mortal can do with God's help. Eight charter members are still here: Rose Peterson; Marie Haugen; Clarence Lovaas; Charles Mercer; Paul and Hazel Henderson; and Sally Foreman.

We are studying the architect's drawings for a new church in Watford City and have ambitions for a resident pastor to share with Grassy Butte. We hope to be able to have church in the basement before the year is out, by doing much of the labor to save on costs.

We are fortunate that the memory of Rose Henderson Peterson is keen and she has been able to fill us in on many names, events and dates of which we have no church records because we were not formally organized until lately.

This is the most sparsely populated but largest county in North Dakota. Here distances are long and work always hard. Members are still a long distance from one another.

Author unknown; date unknown. Possibly written circa late 1970s for the book *Nothing to Fear* by Bob Dupuy, published in 1983.

Graduation Memories at DAA



DAA'S ONLINE MUSIC FEST REMAKE 2020

submissions received
between June 12th & June
19th - Check out the prizes!

Music Fest 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19, but that doesn't mean that we can't find a fun way to make some beautiful music! So we are calling for musical submissions... voice, instrument, and all other elements that can be made into a musical selection (bottles, tubs, cans, rocks, wind). We are looking for unique and/or original music. All

participants will receive an official 2020 DAA Music Fest T-shirt as long as supplies last.

Rules for the contest

1. Contestants must be going into 6th -12th grade for the 2020/2021 school year.
2. All selections must be original or participant must show proof of legal use for making a cover of said song.
3. Submissions can be of a band or group, but only one prize will be awarded.
4. Submission must be at least 30 seconds long, but no more than three minutes long.
5. Submissions will be received between June 12th and June 19th, 2020.
6. List name, shirt size and address along with the video or audio submission.

Send submissions to tracyjo.peterson@mydaa.org or message Dakota Adventist Academy via Facebook or Instagram. By submitting music to this contest, you are giving DAA full rights to use your creation for marketing and promotion.

Prizes

Vocal - \$200 scholarship to Dakota Adventist Academy or \$20 Amazon gift card

Instrumental - \$200 scholarship to Dakota Adventist Academy or \$20 Amazon gift card

Grand Prize - \$500 scholarship to Dakota Adventist Academy or \$50 Amazon gift card

Our esteemed panel of judges

Jodi Dossenko – Vocal artist working for the Dakota Conference Office – has sung in many vocal groups

Quinell Oucharek – performing musician from Washington – plays guitar – composes his own music and cover songs

Article and photos by DAA Recruiter Tracy Peterson

Songs and Salads

Feeling it was time for a small social gathering, I planned an impromptu get together of a few of the ladies I knew might be available on a Friday afternoon for a little time together with each other and Jesus.

Being everyone is a bit concerned about others preparing their food during this pandemic time, I thought maybe we could have a BYOS (bring your own salad) lunch.

With that in mind, I watched the forecast for a nice afternoon, sent out the invitations via text message inviting a few ladies and encouraged them to invite one more. I wanted the group to be able to mingle in the beautiful North Dakota outdoors for fresh air and sunshine.



Following lunch, I brought out an old electric keyboard and was delighted when Julie Brude “offered” (well, was asked) to play!

We enjoyed a short devotional on how our hearts are like an overfilled glass, whatever is inside will spill out. Is your heart full of bitterness or joy? Whatever is in your heart “spills” over into other areas of your

life.

Mostly, we enjoyed our sisterhood in Christ. The gathering made us realize how much we need Jesus and each other.

Author and photo by Paulette Bullinger



Planned Giving and Trust

Services is a department of the Dakota Conference established to assist you and your family with estate planning. At your invitation we will visit with you to talk about your desire to provide for your family, while at the same time remembering God’s work.

We work with you to prepare the following documents: A Will, Durable

Power of Attorney, Health Care Directives, Charitable Gift Annuities, various kinds of Trusts and other documents as needed. Basic estate planning documents are done at no cost to you.

Please contact us with any questions or for help preparing these documents. We are here to serve you, to help you be a faithful steward of all that God has entrusted to you.

Things to consider:

- Who should be guardians of our children should something happen to me and my spouse?
- Who will make medical or financial decisions for me if I am unable to make them myself?
- How may I be faithful to God as He has been faithful me?
- What is a Medical Power of Attorney and how does it differ from an Advance Directive?

Contact information:

- 701.751.6177, ext. 202
- trust@dakotaadventist.org

Flag Mountain Camp Report

The directors, staff and volunteers were overwhelmed with the repairs which needed to be accomplished in the short time before Cub Camp begins June 17, 2020. The more they surveyed, the more they found. The more they cleaned, the more they found to clean. However, they tackled their Everest with prayer and a plan.





The cook stove, original to the camp in 1967 but having come prior to that from Sheyenne River Academy, is estimated to be 85 years old. It was spitting fire and replaced with a miraculously available refurbished 1990s circa propane stove with burners and grill that work. It is installed and operational. After much cleaning, it appears almost new.

A donated three-basin stainless sink has been installed. Waterproof board was mounted behind the sink and the plumbing for the entire kitchen was replaced as it was leaking, improperly installed and no longer up to code.

Ryan Peterson, vocational and maintenance assistant from Dakota Adventist Academy provided the knowledge, direction and skills necessary for much of what was done.

Trees that fell in the latest windstorm were logged by Ben Hobbs and Pastor Sam Thomas. The Steve Wilkins family and father-in-law, Chuck, who brought his mini excavator, were helpful in fixing the bridge, digging out and repairing leaking septic tanks.

“People are the biggest blessing,” says Director and Pastor Brooke Melendez. “Sam, Steve, Pete and Gloria dug up water lines and fixed them. Alea and Chantelle replanted the lodge entry flower beds adding some organization to the color display.



And to add insult to injury there was an incident with a skunk.

Director Ricky Melendez says there will still need to be a work bee in September and they, Ricky and Brooke, have established a three-year recovery plan for the camp.

Author Jacquie Biloff with Director Brooke Melendez. Photos by Sam Thomas, Caleb Haakenson, and Sam Dinzey

Dakota Conference Calendar

- June 13 **Local Church Budget**
- June 14 Executive Committee Meeting at the office at 10 am
- June 17-21 Cub Camp at Flag Mountain (ages 8-10)
- June 20 **Local Church Budget**
- June 21-28 Junior Camp at Flag Mountain (ages 11-13)
- June 27 **Dakota Challenge**
- June 28-05 Teen Camp at Flag Mountain (ages 14-17)

- July 6 Office Closed for Independence Day

July 8-12 Cub Camp at Flag Mountain (ages 8-10)
July 12-19 Junior Camp at Flag Mountain (ages 11-13)
July 19-26 Teen Camp at Flag Mountain (ages 14-17)
July 27-30 Pastors' Meetings combined with Camp Pitch at DAA
Jul 30-Aug 1 Campmeeting at DAA
Jul 30-Aug 2 Family Camp & Spiritual Feast at NLC - **cancelled**

Aug 2 Dirt Kicker Charity Run
Aug 3 Office Closed for Campmeeting Recovery Day
Aug 5-6 Teacher In-services at DAA
Aug 15 Spiritual Feast Weekend at FMC
Aug 16 Registration day at DAA for 2020/2021 School Year
Aug 30 K-12 Board Meeting (10 am)

June 11 Dispatch Photo



Photo by Chrystal Rittenbach

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. Bison [Copyright](#)

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