

# DAKOTA DISPATCH

Sharing the unchanging love of Jesus in a changing world.



## Nothing to Fear

This is the fifteenth installment of a multi-part series taken from Bob DuPuy's book, *Nothing to Fear: The Story of Seventh-day Adventism in the Dakotas*, published in 1983.

### CHAPTER 5: The Work is Onward - Part 5

In 1893, from July 11-18, the first camp meeting in North Dakota was held in a grove of elm trees on the James River at Jamestown. It was also the first camp meeting for many new believers in the state who had never attended such a meeting.

Meetings began daily at 5:30 a.m. with a "social and praise meeting" and continued all day and evening with "Bible study, instruction, and preaching services." Campers had their choice of German meetings with Henry Schultz, Conrad Reiswig, and C.J. Kunkel; Scandinavian services with Elder Hoffman; or English language meetings by Andrew Meade and Minnesota Conference President N.W. Allee, with occasional help from Schultz and Hoffman. Nearly one half of the people attending that first meeting were Germans. Eleven people were baptized at the close.<sup>38</sup>

The following year's camp meeting was also held at Jamestown, June 26 - July 2, 1894, a decade after the work began in North Dakota. Of the nearly 200 attending, about half were Germans; meetings were also conducted in English and Swedish. Some traveled up to 150 miles over the dry prairies with their children to attend camp meeting. Some business was conducted, to more thoroughly organize churches, tract societies, and Sabbath Schools, but the emphasis of the meeting was on spiritual growth. Twenty-three were baptized.<sup>39</sup>

Also, during 1894, evangelistic meetings were held at Emerado (Grand Forks County) and possibly six miles west at Arvilla (Grand Forks), by Andrew Meade, in the early part of the year. Additional meetings were held in the area by T.S. Whitelock in the summer in connection with a tent effort in Grand Forks where he was assisted by E.A. Curtis and W.A. Sweany. A good interest was reported in both places, and when the meeting closed in August, seven individuals had "decided to obey God, and a number of others expressed themselves as being fully convinced of the truth, but are yet undecided."<sup>40</sup> Apparently a small church was organized at Grand Forks following the meetings.<sup>41</sup>

From the evangelists' report we gather that some of those who accepted the Adventist message as truth were rejected by friends and relatives and even lost jobs because of Sabbath-keeping.

While we have no specific record, it appears that from these efforts and possibly those at Larimore almost a decade earlier, a church was organized at Arvilla by the turn of the century.<sup>42</sup>

At the 1895 camp meeting, with over 200 present, the North Dakota Mission voted to join South Dakota in a new Dakota Conference.<sup>43</sup>

Just after that meeting, Dakota Conference President N.P. Nelson joined C.P. Frederickson in organizing the Minnewaukan church (Benson County) where Frederickson had worked during the spring.<sup>44</sup>

The year 1896 was one of substantial growth and activity for the northern portion of the newly united conference.

In that year, C.J. Kunkel gave one of the few reports we have of the German branch of the work in those first decades. He reported holding Sabbath services in a new field "about fifty miles from Bismarck", but unfortunately, he does not tell us in what direction.<sup>45</sup> Nelson and Frederickson worked in Grand Forks, and G.F. Watson, Lewis Proctor, and J.F. Gravelle held a tent effort in Jamestown (Stutsman County). Despite a worldly spirit, (Watson reported that ministers of other faiths agreed with him that it was the hardest place they had ever worked) a small company was raised up, which became an organized church in 1901.<sup>46</sup>

Elder M. Stremann, working among the Scandinavians in the northeast, organized churches of seven members each at Osnabrock and Vang (Cavalier County). At Vang, some Baptists had begun keeping the Sabbath before Stremann arrived, through literature supplied by Minnesota canvassers.<sup>47</sup>

Also in 1896, evangelist-to-the-French, Daniel T. Bordeau worked among French settlers at St. John (Rolette County). His work was continued the following year by his brother, Augustin C. Bordeau whose diary for 1897 tells of his missionary work at age 63 at St. John, at Rolla (Rolette County) and at Wakopa, Manitoba, on the Canadian side.

Bordeau was sent to the Dakota French by General Conference leaders but was advised that the church could not afford his train ticket. So he borrowed \$25 from his brother's family and set off for this new mission field.

The following account of Bordeau's labors, drawn from his diary by Emmett K. VandeVere gives valuable insights into a brief but colorful chapter in the multi-ethnic work of the Adventist Church in North Dakota.

"He (Bordeau) says: 'I pack(ed) up my goods. Bought of Food, paid for Telescope (valise), etc. \$2.00, and reached St. John's, 1,053 miles from home on July 3.'

"Providentially he found a lumber wagon to carry him to J.B. Guedesse's place on the 'mid-prairies'. There he found a scattering of ranchers: the French families such as the Allard, Bessett, Cowan, Guedesse, Lasonde, Messier and Quantain, and the non-French families: Beach, Hudson, McGill, McKay and White.

"To the west lay the Turtle Forest and Turtle Mountain Indian reservations containing 1,800 Indians and plenty of wolves and bear. It was a vast, new land claimed by highly individualistic homesteaders.

"In July Augustin confided: 'I see several here are undecided (as to Adventism) and need encouraging.' He traveled about on foot or horse, boarding around as invited, holding morning and evening worships and studies.

According to his entries, 'singing, reading and praying' flourished. Sabbath School and worship service met in schoolhouses, particularly in the one at Wakopa.

"He learned that the cottages on the prairies were something to write about: 'Last night my sleep was disturbed with bed bugs and fleas (sic). So I did not have much sleep.' On July 11: 'I sleep on four chairs. Try to rest.'

"Often rains brought misery to the ranchers and the minister. On July 20 and 21: 'It rains hard all day... It is too wet for me to attempt to go on foot through the prairies. It rained so hard that everything got wet in the house. The beds are in the middle of the room. Failed to go to Wakopa as I had planned to do.'

"Augustin realized that to win these earthy people to the faith he must become one of them, helping them with the chores, plowing, making hay, harvesting oats and potatoes, applying clapboards to the houses, pulling a tooth or two. One family, learning he was a cabinet maker by trade, got him to 'jetty' their house, that is, he added a lean-to.

"These prairie children, then, must have felt the Real Presence among them on Sabbath, as 21 of them, having joined in the service of foot washing, partook of the Lord's supper."

The "Wakopa and St. John" church, organized in 1897, comprised of half French and half English and Scotch passed through a "serious crisis" in 1899, necessitating the return of Daniel Bordeau. The crisis was apparently settled and Bordeau commended J.F. Gravelle for the work he was doing in the area.

Beyond these brief, sketchy references, we know nothing more of North Dakota's only French Seventh-day Adventist church.<sup>48</sup>

38. *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, August 1, 1893, 492-493.

39. *Ibid.*, July 24, 1894, 476.

40. *Ibid.*, February 20, 1894, 123; August 7, 1894, 508; September 4, 1894, 573.

41. *Northern Union Reaper*, April 11, 1911, 4,5.

42. See Chapter 7, for the reasons leading to this conclusion.

43. "North Dakota Conference," *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*, *op. cit.*, 879; *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, July 23, 1895, 474.

44. *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, August 6, 1895, 508.

45. *Ibid.*, February 4, 1896, 77. The most likely possibilities, based on what we know of the German work at this time, and on Kunkel's description of the events, are Lincoln Valley, Bowdon, or New Home (Sykeston), although each is farther than 50 miles, Wilton seems too close, but is also possible, if the group was located north of Wilton, and if Kunkel was speaking of fifty miles of travel, rather than Has the crow flies."

46. *Ibid.*, August 11, 1896, 509; December 8, 1896, 784.

47. *Ibid.*, December 8, 1896, 784.

48. *Ibid.*, June 6, 1889, 363; Emmett K. VandeVere, "A Preach from Battle Creek," *Lake Union Herald*, January 6, 1981,3.

**Next time from *Nothing to Fear*:**

**Chapter 5, "The Work is Onward" - Part 6 by Robert K. DuPuy**

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## No Regrets?

Think for a moment of how different life would be if men and women, if we ourselves, would have simply made different choices... Yet, there's a growing trend today of people saying, "I have no Regrets." No regrets? No regrets, in a society where the painful results of poor choices are seen everywhere? No regrets, when we ourselves have been personal contributors to that pain? How can anyone honestly say they have no regrets?

The road leading to eternal loss will include those who've had no regrets in life. Those unwilling to recognize and repent of their missteps and misdeeds are destined to repeat them. These work to ignore and justify their greatest crime against both man and God – their failure to love.

In Luke 16 a rich man's regrets are realized by him... too late. The parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus is meant to teach us that a man's eternal destiny is determined by the use he makes of the opportunities he has during this life. Which begs the question: Have we made the best use of the opportunities God has given us?

In the parable, the rich man's crime was not in having fine clothes, or because his living was extravagant (Lk. 16:19). Improving one's lot in life is not a crime. No; the rich man's crime was seen in the utter indifference he showed to a poor man who was laid at his doorstep every day.

Among Sodom's sins was that she was "arrogant, overfed, complacent [and] did not help the poor and needy" (Ezk. 16:49). However, Jesus during His earthly sojourn demonstrated His complete solidarity with these poor, marginalized ones. Said He, "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me" (Matt. 25:40).

Our lives are filled with opportunity! These opportunities, however, are better seen when we take our eyes off ourselves. How is it with you today? Any regrets? Has God laid someone on your doorstep? I'm not necessarily talking about the homeless. If He has, have you grown accustomed to simply stepping over them or have you seen, in the person of "the least of these," the opportunity to do for Jesus what the Rich Man failed to do?

*Worship Thoughts by Pr. Dave Moench, pastor of the Huron / Mitchell church district.*

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## Dakota Campmeeting: June 9-12, 2021

# Dakota Campmeeting 2021

Day / Time	Wednesday - 9th	Thursday - 10th	Friday - 11th	Sabbath - 12th
7:30 - 8:15		<b>Breakfast Served in Cafeteria</b>		<b>9:15 - 10:45</b> Sabbath School  <b>10:50 - 12:20</b> Church Service Dr. Chris Holland
8:30 - 9:45		Ed Dickerson	Elder Ron Carlson	
9:45 - 10:00		<b>15-Minute Break</b>		
10:00 - 11:15		Pr. Richie & Timi Brower	Ed Dickerson	
11:15 - 11:30		<b>15-Minute Break</b>		
11:30 - 12:40		Elder Ron Carlson	Pr. Richie & Timi Brower	
12:30 - 1:30	<b>Check-in Begins</b>	<b>Lunch Served in Cafeteria</b>		
2:00 - 3:15		Ed Dickerson	Elder Ron Carlson	<b>3:00 - 5:00</b> Round Table Richie Brower, Timi Brower, Ron Carlson, Ed Dickerson, Chris Holland, Mark Piotrowski, Facilitator, Mark Weir
3:15 - 3:30		<b>15-Minute Break</b>		
3:30 - 4:15		Pr. Richie & Timi Brower	Dr. Mark Piotrowski	
4:15 - 5:30		<b>Free Time</b>		
5:30 - 6:15	<b>Supper Served in Cafeteria</b>			
7:00 - 8:30	Dr. Chris Holland	Dr. Chris Holland	Dr. Chris Holland	<b>7:00 - 9:30</b> Hall of Remembrance Music Concert: The Emmanuel Quartet Closing Remarks
8:30 - 9:30	<b>Fellowship</b>			
Sabbath Schedule Differs; Sundown is 9:37; ABC opens 9:45				
Kindergarten, 0-5 years Primary, 6-9 years Juniors, 10-12 years Youth, 13-17 years Young Adults, 18-30 years* (*runs Fri evening - Sabbath)		Brienne Engelhart Roy Morris Darrel Lindensmith David Werner Kris de Bruin		

## Children & Youth Ministries 2021

Departments	Cradle Roll / Kindergarten	Primary	Juniors	Youth	Young Adults
<b>Leaders</b>	Brienne Engelhart	Roy Morris	Darrel Lindensmith	David Werner	Kris de Bruin
<b>Age Location</b>	Birth - 5 years History Room	Ages 6 - 9 Choir Room	Ages 10 - 12 Band Room	Ages 13 - 17 Upper Chapel	Ages 18 - 30 Girls' Dorm Chapel
<b>Wednesday Evening</b>	7:00 - 8:30	7:00 - 8:30	7:00 - 8:30	7:00 - 8:30	NA
<b>Thursday</b>	9:00 - 12:00 2:00 - 5:00 7:00 - 8:30	9:00 - 12:00 2:00 - 5:00 7:00 - 8:30	9:00 - 12:00 2:00 - 5:00 7:00 - 8:30	10:00 - 12:00 2:00 - 5:00 7:00 - 8:30	NA
<b>Friday</b>	9:00 - 12:00 2:00 - 5:00 7:00 - 8:30	9:00 - 12:00 2:00 - 5:00 7:00 - 8:30	9:00 - 12:00 2:00 - 5:00 7:00 - 8:30	10:00 - 12:00 2:00 - 5:00 7:00 - 8:30	7:00 - 8:30
<b>Sabbath</b>	9:15 - 12:15 3:00 - 5:00 7:00 - 9:00	9:15 - 12:15 3:00 - 5:00 7:00 - 9:00	9:15 - 12:15 3:00 - 5:00 7:00 - 9:00	10:00 - 12:15 3:00 - 5:00 7:00 - 9:00	9:15 - 12:15 3:00 - 5:00 7:00 - 9:00
Please pick up young children at close of meetings.					

To see speaker bios and register for a room online, visit: [www.dakotaadventist.org](http://www.dakotaadventist.org)

In 2021 all adult seminars and meetings will be held in the gymnasium. Because of the new wood floor, only the school-owned folding metal chairs can be used as they are capped to prevent scratches. Attendees may want to bring a chair cushion to enhance their experience.

## Hope in the Meantime

In the midst of uncertainty, fear, and disappointment, hope gives us the strength to endure. Hope gives us something to look forward to as we walk in the present. Jesus' second coming is such a hope; something that gives us strength to endure the struggles of this life. While the second coming is a great comfort, is it the only reason to hope? Are there things here and now that we can hope in as well? That was the question that "Hope In The Meantime" sought to answer.

The idea for this evangelist series was based on the idea of, "seeking hope in the here and now, and the soon to come." The goal was not necessarily baptisms or conversion to Seventh-day Adventist beliefs, but to show people in the Bowman community all the ways Scripture gives us reasons to hope, and how as Adventists we seek to be people rooted in said hope. This idea was received extremely positively by the members of the Bowman church, and was met with many hands willing to participate in the effort, some coming from as far as Hettinger (about 45 miles) to help and participate nightly.

The series took place every evening, April 11-17, and drew in a few members of the community. It was very well attended by the members of the Bowman church. Just a few of the topics presented each night were: Knowing that Jesus promises to be with us in suffering; understanding that despite the chaos in our world God remains in control; and ultimately how Jesus is the fulfillment of the hope of every age and that he is coming soon. The operative verse, benediction, and call to action was Romans 15:13, "May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and

peace in believing, so by the power of the Holy Spirit, you may abound in hope.”

The seeds of “Hope” were planted in this community and time will tell what will grow.



*Article and photo by Pr. David Werner - pastor of the Bison/Bowman/Dickinson church district.*

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## Last Events

This week is filled with last events for the school year. Friday was the last Faculty Family worship, Sabbath was the last church service with all of our students. Sabbath was also the Spring Concert and Acro Home show, plus many other events. It is such a happy, sad, happy, sad vibe on campus.

During Faculty Family worship, I asked my kids for a highlight of their school year. Each of the six students had a different answer, but all answers had a common theme: Two of the students said Faculty Family time was their highlight, two of the girls said hanging with Dean Maddie topped their list, and the other two mentioned something to do with hanging with their friends.

It is the relationships that our students have with their peers and the staff that make this place so special. I have often had parents talk with me about desire for their children to have quality friendships and positive mentoring relationships. Dakota Adventist Academy has a gold mine in that department.

As I write this note to you, I am getting ready to go outside to the year-end hand shake, the time where we say goodbye until next time. Even with the topsy-turvy world we live in, this has been a blessed year for our staff and students. Now is the perfect time to get your high school age student registered for next school year at DAA. All of us here desire to help our youth grow in “wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man” (Luke 2:52).



♥ DAA ✨



Go visit the [Dakota Adventist Academy website](#) and give Tracy a call with any questions: 701.258.9000 ext. 213.  
*Article by Tracy Peterson, DAA recruiter. Photos by Christine Taylor, DAA women's dean.*



# *DAA Perceptions Survey*

To gain a better understanding of why more Dakota families are not selecting Dakota Adventist Academy for their student's education, we need your help. To this end, we have created a survey in an attempt to discern perceptions regarding the current program. You are invited to add your voice by taking part in this anonymous survey. To participate, go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DAAperceptions>

To complete the survey with a smart phone or device:

- Open the camera app.
- Focus the camera on the QR code found to the right.
- Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the action.

Please share this information with anyone willing to participate; more information will help establish what can be done to provide a stable future. With your help, we can work toward a brighter future for Dakota Adventist Academy.



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**Children's Ministries Department**

# DAKOTA CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



SCAN ME

[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/QZZC2BYYS45PPT397](https://forms.gle/QZZC2BYYS45PPT397)

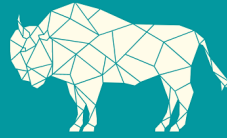
Please help us plan and better minister to the children of the Dakota Conference by taking this survey. Scan the QR code with your device or type the link in an internet browser.

On June 1, one survey participant's name will be drawn and awarded a \$20 ABC gift certificate.

In addition, the church who has had the most members complete this survey will receive a \$100 ABC gift certificate to be used for children's ministry materials.

## Youth & Young Adults

If your child would like to attend camp and has not yet registered, please get them registered as soon as possible. Our camps are filling up and we are anticipating a full and fun summer. Registration will remain open through June 9, 2021. If you need help with registration or with finances, please reach out to us at: [dakotayouthandyoungadults@gmail.com](mailto:dakotayouthandyoungadults@gmail.com). We want every child to have the chance to attend one of our beautiful camps!



# CAMP IS FILLING UP!

register your kids today

**15**

remaining spots at  
Flag Mountain **cub**  
camp

**11**

remaining spots at  
Flag Mountain **junior**  
camp

**8**

remaining spots at  
Flag Mountain **teen**  
retreat

**15**

remaining spots at  
Northern Lights **cub camp**

**17**

remaining spots at Northern  
Lights **junior camp**

**9**

remaining spots at Northern  
Lights **teen retreat**

**REGISTER ONLINE**

[dakotayouthandyoungadults.org](http://dakotayouthandyoungadults.org)

## Family Camp is Cancelled

Dear Constituents,

We are sad to announce that Family Camp for this summer will be cancelled due to a lack of staffing. Next year we will work hard to create a space for families to come together at our camp. Please be on the lookout for announcements regarding family camp next year as it is revamped for the future. Thank you!

*Message from Ricky & Brooke Melendez, Dakota Conference camp directors.*

# Adventist Virtual Global Campmeeting: May 19-23, 2021

Register now for the Adventist Virtual Global Campmeeting. The worldwide event features more than 400 programs/seminars, and 110+ exhibitors. Programming includes keynote presentations from global Adventist church leaders, other seminars on the main stage, and seminars on six different tracks. This campmeeting runs May 19-23. Click the link to register and check the schedule in your region: <https://www.campmeeting.com>



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## ABC Located at Dakota Conference in Bismarck

**Tuesday - Thursday: 3:00 - 5:30 pm** (If you happen to be in town during other hours, please stop by. We will try to accommodate.)

**Friday: ABC & office closed**

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## Dakota Conference Calendar

Offering schedule is in purple.

### May -

- 20: Brentwood 8th Grade Graduation (Bismarck Church - 6:30pm)
- 21-23: DAA Graduation Weekend
- 22: **Dakota Challenge**
- 22: Prairie Voyager 8th Grade Graduation (11am)
- 26: Invitation Hill 8th Grade Graduation (6:30pm)
- 26: Hillcrest 8th Grade Graduation (7pm)
- 27: Rapid City 8th Grade Graduation (6pm)
- 29: **Camp Development**
- 29: Sioux Falls 8th Grade Graduation (11am)
- 31: Conference Office Closed - Memorial Day

### June -

- 3: Dakotans Pray (7pm)
- 5: [Local Church Budget](#)
- 9-12: Dakota Campmeeting at DAA
- 12: [Dakota Evangelism](#)
- 13: Dirt Kicker Charity Run at DAA
- 14: Conference Office Closed - Recovery Day
- 16-20: Cub Camp (ages 8-10) at Flag Mountain
- 19: [Local Church Budget](#)
- 20-27: Junior Camp (ages 11-13) at Flag Mountain
- 26: [Worthy Student](#)
- 27: Dakota Executive Committee at Conference Office (10am)
- 27-Jul 4: Teen Retreat (ages 14-17) at Flag Mountain

For more scheduled events, please see the calendar on the Dakota Conference website: [www.dakotaadventist.org/events](http://www.dakotaadventist.org/events)

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## Blessed & Kept

May you experience grace.

Yesterday is gone.

Nothing you did yesterday has any bearing on who you are today.

May you forgive yourself for the sins that God has already cleansed you from.

May you set yourself free from the guilt and shame that keep you from truly seeking God.

May you know in your soul, may you feel it in your cells that God's love for you is infinite. It has never been any less than what it is right now.

May you stop trying to perform.

May you step into, even for just a moment, who you truly are.

You are a child of God.

May you hear the Spirit whisper the message of God for you today:

You are my beloved child. I am so pleased with you.

May you let this grace wash over you, filling every nook and cranny of your being.

May you enter the workplace a changed person.

May you begin your work firmly founded on your new identity.

You are a child of God. And God is so pleased with you.

*Written by Casey Bartlett.*

To follow Casey's Podcast *Blessed & Kept* click [here](#).

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## May 20 Dispatch Photo



*Photo taken by Arielle Seibold Galston at Lake Sakakawea (Government Bay) near Riverdale, North Dakota.*

If anyone has local church news or stories to share, please send event information, news suggestions and/or articles and pictures to: [j.dossenko@gmail.com](mailto:j.dossenko@gmail.com)

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 Jodi Dossenko at [j.dossenko@gmail.com](mailto:j.dossenko@gmail.com). Bison [Copyright](#)

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- [!\[\]\(a2c132b99b4fcf21fd2bcbbdcf2be642\_img.jpg\) Dakota Conference Education](#)
- [!\[\]\(5ec38675172d195694038a5f80a05d7e\_img.jpg\) Dakota Adventist Academy](#)
- [!\[\]\(6e5db9be9f6501972c386bc8b9567019\_img.jpg\) Dakota Youth and Young Adults / Camps](#)
- [!\[\]\(fde93ec981d89b92cd01f5b6a2a111a5\_img.jpg\) Dirt Kicker Charity Run](#)
- [!\[\]\(1239c315756aa530b61a30defc626f03\_img.jpg\) Dirt Kicker Run Facebook](#)

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