



Nothing to Fear

This is the twenty-seventh 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 8: To Effect An Organization - Part 1

Fargo - 1884, Hamlin (probably later called Hankinson) - 1885, Gayton (Bismarck) - 1887, Richville (Streeter) - 1890, Fessenden (Manfred)- 1894, Minnewaukan - 1895, Bowdon - 1898, Sykeston (New Home) - 1899, Kenmare - 1900, Lincoln Valley - 1900, Valley City - 1901, Jamestown - 1901, Wilton - by 1900, Harvey - by 1900, Sheyenne (8 miles southwest of Harvey) - by 1900, Cathay - by 1900, Langdon - about 1896, Grand Forks - 1894, St. John - 1897, Arvilla - by 1902, Lakota - about 1889, and Lisbon - 1887, the twenty-two charter churches of the North Dakota Conference - maybe.

The first twelve, Fargo through Jamestown, we can be quite sure of. There is definite evidence of their organization prior to 1902, and they appear in the first incomplete lists of the churches of North Dakota in the records after organization, dated 1905-1907.¹

The minutes of the 1902 organizational session contain an incidental reference to the "Wilton Church"; on this basis it is included in the charter list. Wilton is also on the first list of churches in the records of the 1905 conference session.²

Harvey is also included in the 1905 list, and in the 1902 session minutes, two delegates are identified as being from Harvey, though a church is not mentioned. The evidence seems strong enough to include Harvey.³

Its proximity to Harvey, the documented presence of Adventist homesteaders in the area, hints of organized work in the vicinity, and its sudden appearance, without comment in an early list of churches, determined the selection of Sheyenne as a charter church.⁴

(Sheyenne is not to be confused with the Sheyenne River Academy church, which was organized in December of 1911. A report in the *Review* by Henry Schultz mentions visiting the German church at Sheyenne in October of 1905; the name of the academy was Harvey Industrial School until the summer of 1906. We also know that the Sheyenne church was later built on the property of George Tebelius, an early member of the church, about eight miles southwest of Harvey, rather than at the site of the school, three miles north of town.⁵)

For similar reasons, the early presence of Adventist settlers, evidence of the church's work in the vicinity and the fact that it appears on an even earlier (1905) list of churches, Cathay has been included on the list, even though a specific organization date is not known.⁶

Langdon (Cavalier County) is central to Vang and Osnabrock, known to be organized churches by 1896, but it is Langdon, rather than the other two which is referred to in early lists of churches. We do know that George Carscallen, probably one of those baptized by W.B. Hill in 1893, lived at Osnabrock, and that Adventist believers at Langdon went to church with a family of Carscallens at Osnabrock in the 1890's. It seems likely that these early churches of seven members each, merged, and took the name "Langdon" at an early date.⁷

A 1911 report in the *Northern Union Reaper* says that there was a "small organization" in Grand Forks about "eight years ago."⁸ That would correspond to evangelistic meetings conducted in the area in 1894. Although this "organization" dwindled down to just two members, the fact that no later date of organization is given, seems to indicate that it remained an organized church from its beginning in 1894 until it was strengthened by the 1910-11 evangelistic meetings reported in the *Reaper*.

St. John was organized in 1897, but the only other mention of St. John is two years later, and that is a report of serious difficulties within the church. Even though by 1907 we have a report of a lone Sabbath-keeper at St. John, Mrs. Rudrud, who had accepted Adventist teachings from reading material "about three years ago",⁹ it seems quite possible that St. John was still in existence when the North Dakota Conference was organized.

Church records tell of work done in the Arvilla-Larimore-Emerado area, and of a local camp meeting that was held in Arvilla early in 1902.¹⁰ While the evidence is far from conclusive, Arvilla has been included because of the evidence and the church's sudden appearance in a 1906 list of churches.

1. *North Dakota Conference Session Record Book*, *op. cit.*, I,40,41,64,65, 78, 79. For documentation of organization of each church see notes on chapters 4 and 5.

2. *Ibid.*, 4, 40, 41.

3. *Ibid.*, 4.

4. *Ibid.*, 64, 65.

5. *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, November 30, 1905, 17, 18; *Northern Union Reaper*, August 7, 1906, 8; interview with Emmanuel Tebelius of Harvey, North Dakota, 1976.

6. *North Dakota Conference Session Record Book*, *op. cit.*, I, 40, 41. Emma Dietz Banik of Newbury Park, California, states in a letter dated October 5, 1977, to Ben and Louise Huff of the New Home area, that family records indicate that her parents, the Andrew Dietz's, who settled in the vicinity of Cathay, became Seventh-day Adventists in 1895. Mrs. Banik also lists several other families who became Adventists at the same time or a little later, who are known to have been members of the Cathay church.

7. *Northern Union Reaper*, April 2, 1907, 4; History of the Langdon church, compiled from church records and member recollections in 1975.

8. *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, August 7, 1894, 508; September 4, 1894, 573; *Northern Union Reaper*, April 11, 1911, 4, 5.

9. *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, September 24, 1889, 603; May 27, 1890, 330; *Northern Union Reaper*, March 5, 1907, 4.

10. *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, February 20, 1894, 123; August 7, 1894, 508; September 4, 1894, 573; June 3, 1902, 23.

Next time from *Nothing to Fear*:

Chapter 8, "To Effect an Organization" - Part 2 by Robert K. DuPuy

If you are a new subscriber or have missed the earlier installments, you can find all issues of the Dakota Dispatch on our website: <https://www.dakotaadventist.org/communiques/dakota-dispatch>

The first installment of *Nothing to Fear* starts in the October 22, 2020 issue.

OUTLOOK Magazine is Available Online

OUTLOOK magazine is the official journal of the Mid-America Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and has been providing news and inspiration to Adventists in Mid-America for more than a century. It is published and delivered to members' homes 10 times each year.

To access the online version, go to: issuu.com/outlookmag

Or visit outlookmag.org and sign up to receive MYOUTLOOK weekly in your inbox.



DAA Music Recital

NOVEMBER 20
DAA @ 7:30 - 8:30 P.M

Pianists: Kiera Vanwart, Celeste Gareau, Alyssa Boyko
Percussion: Caleb Tachenko
Singers: Alyssa Boyko, Ellisa Millirans, Emmeline Schaible
Strings: Noah Lee, Issac Kim

The graphic has a pink background. At the top, there is a line-art illustration of a band performing on stage. Below the illustration, the text 'DAA Music Recital' is written in large, bold, black letters. Underneath that, the date and time 'NOVEMBER 20 DAA @ 7:30 - 8:30 P.M' are listed. At the bottom, the names of the performers are listed in bold black text, grouped by instrument: Pianists, Percussion, Singers, and Strings.

Join Dakota Adventist Academy staff and students for a music recital on Saturday, November 20 at 7:30pm.

What is My Purpose?

Have you ever found yourself confused on what to do? Maybe it was a ministry opportunity or a personal endeavor? Maybe you felt too guilty to move because you saw someone else acting? Or maybe you felt overwhelmed at the specific task or amount of tasks before you.

The disciples found themselves in a similar situation. In the beginning of John chapter six, Jesus feeds the 5,000 and then walks on the sea. In awe, the disciples ask him in verse 28, "What shall we do to work the works of God?" I am sure we have all asked that question at some point in one way or another. What is it that you want from me God? What's my purpose? Which job should I take? Which decision should I make?

Jesus offers an answer that changed my life. In verse 29 He says, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom He sent." The work that God requires of us, the purpose of our being is to believe in the one He sent, Jesus Christ. In Jesus, we have a safe secret place that shelters us from the confusions of the world and life. We need to believe in Jesus and the promises that He fulfills. Out of that belief, true mission and purpose are born. Nothing we do should be out of duty or obligation but instead with the goodness of God as the center of why we live, and we can be open to the way he wants each individual to move!

Worship Thoughts by Pr. Marveen Gentillon, associate pastor of the Heromsa / Rapid City / Spearfish church district, in South Dakota.

A TASTE OF HEAVEN

DAA/SRA/PVA All School Reunion

OCTOBER 7 & 8 2022

If you are a former student, faculty member, or just a friend, make plans now to attend a special Alumni Weekend honoring ALL classes. Look forward to events like the Alumni vs. Student volleyball & basketball games, return of the Golf Scramble, and more!



Field Biologist Visits DAA's Biology Class

Brenda Jarksi-Weber works for an environmental consulting firm and shared with Dakota Adventist Academy's biology class what it has been like to be a field biologist for the past eleven years. Mrs. Weber works to do habitat assessments before a wind farm is built and then monitors wildlife impact after the farm has been put in place. She also has done habitat impact studies before oil pipelines were built, banded birds, and drawn blood from pelicans to monitor the West Nile virus. Currently, she does mostly bird and bat monitoring in wind farms all over the state as well as works with the University of North Dakota (UND) in a study with hopes of monitoring wind farm wildlife by use of drones.

Students learned that it is important not only to do pre-assessments before a wind farm is built, but also after it has been built. For example, an "anabat" or analog bat recorder is used pre-construction to record many bat sounds. If a high presence of bats is found in that area, then turbines are not allowed. Continuing to monitor the habitat after the wind farm is in place helps determine future changes. Previously, the blades on some wind turbines caused pressure changes which in turn caused bat lungs to explode. Vortex generators were then used, greatly reducing the number of bat deaths.

DAA students identified several types of bats which Ms. Weber had collected and frozen. The biology students measured the bats' forearms and compared their snouts, ears, and fur to determine their names. Some fun facts about bats: bats eat 700-1200 insects per night, and the vampire bat does not latch on and suck blood but rather "scratches" and then licks the blood.

An online bird identification quiz from birdingquiz.com was taken at the end of class and students did quite well!



Article and photos by Pam Fenton, science and health teacher at Dakota Adventist Academy.

Brentwood Students Present Church Program

The students at the Brentwood Adventist Christian School are amazing young people. I have seen them grow these past few years in their faith and dedication. When they were asked to have the church services in Bismarck, their eyes grew as big as saucers. They had previously done special music before, but to take charge of the whole church service was a new experience. Little by little, the jobs were divided up. Sabbath, October 30, was their day to shine for Jesus. From the announcements, choristers, children's story, special musics, offering appeal, and scripture to the prayers and sermonettes--they did it all. The upper graders each shared a story of a young person used by God in a special way. God used children in the Bible to accomplish big and mighty works. He is still using our children today. Are we not all children of God? Are we allowing Him to use us? Let us follow the example of our Brentwood students and let God lead us each and every day. He is not finished with us and is still working on each of us.

I believe our elementary church schools, academies, and colleges are important for young people. They are preparing our young adults to exist in this world and most importantly are leading them to Christ and eternal life with Him. Bible classes allow the students to memorize scripture that will help them through the difficult and challenging times this world throws their way.

Let us continue to pray that all our children have the opportunity to go to our schools. We need to fortify an army for the Lord.



Article by Debra Ezler, head teacher at Brentwood Adventist Christian School in Bismarck, ND. Photos by Ron Reese, teacher at Brentwood, and Traci Thingvold, member of the Bismarck Adventist Church.

Kid's Corner

A special Christmas manger craft video will be released soon. If families would like, Kelli will send a craft supply kit in time for the holiday season. Anyone interested should email or text a request to: dakotachildrensministries@gmail.com or 605.340.0180.

Remember to check out the [Dakota Conference YouTube](#) page just for kids!

Kelli Wasemiller is the Dakota Conference children's ministries coordinator.



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

Dakota Conference Calendar

Offering schedule is in purple.

Office preaching schedule is in blue.

November -

- 18: Dakotans Pray via Zoom (7pm)
- 20: Local Church Budget
- 20: Elder Mark Piotrowski preaching in New Home Church, ND
- 24-25: Office Closed for Thanksgiving
- 27: Dakota Challenge

December -

- 2: Dakotans Pray via Zoom (7pm)
- 4: [Local Church Budget](#)
- 4: [Elder Mark Piotrowski preaching in Bowdon Country Church, ND](#)
- 9: Dakotans Pray via Zoom (7pm)
- 11: [North American Division - Adventist Community Services](#)
- 11: [Elder Mark Piotrowski preaching in Minot Church, ND](#)
- 12: Dakota Executive Committee at Conference Office (10am)
- 13: Deadline for Church Nominating Committee Reports
- 16: Dakotans Pray via Zoom (7pm)
- 17-18: Celebration of Praise & Bismarck Regional at DAA

For more scheduled events, please see the calendar on the Dakota Conference website: www.dakotaadventist.org/events

Blessed & Kept

May your joy build.

Sabbath has come and gone. Five days remain between today and the next blessed rest.
May your anticipation for Sabbath grow with each passing day.

May your frustration with the struggles of the week be tempered because of the bliss of its final sunset.
May the joys of the week be amplified because of the rest that will allow you to more fully enjoy them.

May the longing of your heart for Sabbath guide you in your work.

May the Sabbath mentality give you a sense of enough.

May your response to stress be a shrug- it won't matter soon, Sabbath is coming.

May you receive courage to put down your work at the end of every day even when it isn't finished.

May the longing of your heart for Sabbath guide your choices in the precious hours between the end of your workday and when you go to sleep.

May you fill those hours with intentionality.

May you develop a need to 'warm-up' for the coming Sabbath.

May your week be filled with moments of fellowship, prayer, and service.

May you enter the Sabbath not as a wearied wanderer in need of a place to sleep, but as an exhilarated traveler eager to reflect on and share the stories of her journey.

Written by Casey Bartlett.

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

November 18 Dispatch Photo



Photo taken by Penny Gottfried in Stutsman County, 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

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. Bison [Copyright](#)

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