

# DAKOTA DISPATCH

Sharing the unchanging love of Jesus in a changing world.



## Nothing to Fear

**This is the twenty-ninth 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 6**

Camp meeting at Carrington in 1903 proved to be a monumental occasion in the history of North Dakota. A host of big Adventist names attended, including former and future General Conference presidents, George Butler and W. A. Spicer; Stephen N. Haskell, originator of the Tract and Missionary work; F. H. Westphal, pioneer missionary to South America; and Northern Union President C. W. Flaiz. The committee on plans and recommendations submitted a report on June 26, 1903, urging the conference to take immediate steps to establish an intermediate school in North Dakota. Voting privileges were extended to all in attendance at the camp meeting who then voted unanimously to approve the recommendation.<sup>39</sup> In little more than a year, the Harvey Industrial School was opened, and shortly thereafter, renamed Sheyenne River Academy. A later chapter will deal with the history of North Dakota's academy in greater detail.

Conference President John Walker, who was ordained and re-elected at this 1903 session, reported to the delegates that during the conference's first year existence the membership had increased to 700, that Sabbath Schools had been conducted in thirty-one locations, and church schools at three, plus one "family school." Walker also reported that twelve literature evangelists had sold \$4,454.81 worth of books and papers.<sup>40</sup>

At this session, steps were taken to legally incorporate, thus forming the North Dakota Conference Association, to hold conference property such as the Harvey Industrial School and the Fargo church (most of the early church buildings were owned by individuals or groups of members; many were later deeded over to the conference association.)<sup>41</sup>

The conference was divided into seven districts under the leadership of qualified laymen; they were given the responsibility for the care of the churches, freeing the ministerial force as much as possible for evangelistic work in new areas.

There are no records of the boundaries of these districts, but based on known locations of individuals in charge of the districts and a few other clues, it seems that District No. 1 included the northeastern portion of the state from the Canadian border to, probably, Grand Forks, and as far west as Rolette, perhaps Bottineau, County. District No. 2 apparently included areas west of District No.1 and as far south as the Missouri River. District No. 3 was divided into two parts by the Denhoff branch of the Northern Pacific Railroad and included the central part of the state where the German work was centered. District No. 4 was probably the east central part of the state between Grand Forks and Fargo and probably as far west as Jamestown. District No. 5 was probably the southwestern corner of the state, No. 6 the south-central, probably from Edgeley to the Missouri, and No. 7 the vast areas west and south of the Missouri.<sup>42</sup>

District No. 1 received a large share of the evangelistic attention during the new conference's first few years. By 1905, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Graham and Mr. E. Chase, isolated believers at Saginaw near Rocklake (Towner County) had stirred up considerable interest in the area by the use of literature and Bible studies. Elder A.E. Christian followed up the interest with six weeks of evangelistic meetings and organized a church with 21 members.<sup>43</sup>

39. North Dakota Conference Session Record Book, op. cit., I, 29.

40. Ibid., 26.

41. Ibid., 31, 59.

42. Generally speaking, these districts seem to be assigned to people who live in their territories. Since these same people are often delegates to conference sessions from local congregations, we have arrived at our speculations by comparing names, locations, and other intimations in the records.

43. *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, July 20, 1905, 13.

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

### **Chapter 8, "To Effect an Organization" - Part 7 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.

## **DAKOTA ADVENTIST ACADEMY WORK BEE**

Looking for a way to give back?

We are searching for volunteers of all skill levels to donate their time!

**When: Sunday, April 3, 2022**

**from 8:00a - 3:00p**

**Where: Dakota Adventist Academy**

Please register at: [dakotaconferenceeducation.org/daa-work-bee](http://dakotaconferenceeducation.org/daa-work-bee) and let us know what skills you can share.

Lunch will be provided.



[Click here to register.](#)

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## For Such a Time As This

“... And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this” (Esther 4:14 NIV).

Throughout my time as an educator, I found it prudent to read articles, newsletters, and other materials from teachers. I have studied views from many different walks of life, including government schools, private schools, and primary to post grad. If they claim to be a teacher, I have read their thoughts.

Though I have picked up different ideas, I've noticed an ever-growing trend - teacher burnout is real. Many teachers, veteran and novice alike, are throwing in the towel and quitting. Social media outlets such as Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok are becoming venues for teachers to announce their resignations and frustrations to the public. Their reasons are logical and stem from various problems such as high stress, a lack of respect from the community, financial strains, and even how COVID-19 is handled in the school systems.

In today's education, it is no secret that teaching is harder than it's ever been. Educators compete with so many problems and forces beyond their control that it seems there is always an uphill battle. Many are fatigued by the constant cycle of new education methods - as they become comfortable with a method, a new one is already on the rise. Just a decade ago, the dream was for students to have school laptops, attend online classes, and have access to information anytime and anywhere via a personal device. Most, if not all, students today have smartphones or tablets and are more competent with the machines than their teachers or even parents.

The vast unlimited access to information, which allows education to expand and grow in leaps and bounds, has created mass confusion for the students. The very core of our ministry in education is being shaken, disrupted, and challenged by Satan and his forces. So much so that children are no longer shielded from the adult controversies of our society. LGBT+ issues, racism, violence, and other immoral content are marketed for children's viewing programs and literature. Even in our churches, the polarized opinions of what is “sin” make it harder for teachers to give straight biblical answers. It is no wonder that students are angrier, more lost, and more confused than ever before.

However, as a Christian, God has given us the sacred duty to bring the children to Him and to teach them about Christ's love, acceptance, and justice. Some of you may already be “throwing in the towel” in your own lives. Perhaps amidst the chaos you are questioning the purpose and worth of your sweat and tears in God's ministries. Regardless of the reason, I urge you to remember what Mordecai said to Esther, you are here “for such a time as this.”

It is my prayer for you today, that God will restore you and help you be where He needs you to be. Through His love, mercy, and justice may you remember that perhaps you were placed in your current situation, “for such a time as this.”

*Worship Thoughts by Victor Villareal, upper grades teacher at Hillcrest Adventist Elementary School in Jamestown, ND.*

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## ENROLLING NEW STUDENTS!

The Dakota Conference Office of Education values bringing in new students and new families by offering year-round enrollment. Now is the time to enroll your new student. Money is often a barrier, but Dakota Adventist Academy is proactive about offering needs-based solutions for any family seeking a Christian education.

Remember, as you intentionally share DAA with others our enrollment will grow each year. DAA feels honored to teach more kids about Jesus. Thank you in advance for your support!

Are you ready? If so, it starts with you. Please contact Anthony Oucharek at: [anthony.oucharek@mydaa.org](mailto:anthony.oucharek@mydaa.org)  
701.258.9000

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## Dakota Pathfinder Clubs To Compete in Union Bible Experience

On January 29, nine teams across the Dakotas and Kansas/Nebraska competed in the Pathfinder Bible Experience. The two conferences worked together in a joint effort to provide a fun event for the Pathfinders in their areas.

Three teams in the Dakotas qualified to take part in the Mid-America Union Pathfinder Bible Experience. Certificates were provided by the Conference for each of their first place finishes. All qualifying teams will compete at the Union level on February 19, 2022.

## Prairie Trails Pathfinder Club from Cleveland, North Dakota



Pictured from left to right: Ally Erickson, Whitney Erickson, Natalie Erickson, Teddy Ray, Tori Ray, Charice Slaughter, (not pictured Cheridan Slaughter)

## Rushmore Mountaineers Pathfinder Club from Rapid City, South Dakota



Left to right: Lily Larson, Rayne Simmonds, Hadassah Dealy, Layla Mraz, Ryan Omari, Josiah Dealy is pictured on Zoom

## Black Hills Lightbearers Pathfinder Club from Hot Springs, South Dakota



Left to right: Sharylne Inyangala, Alain Rono, David Bohlman, Christina Bholman, Charis Ngaira, Elaine Rono, Henry Inyangala, and Ted

## Mad About Marriage

*Faith For Today* and *Mad About Marriage's* Pastor Mike Tucker presented a series of meetings in West Fargo on how to be "madly in love" about your marriage and family. Though the weather did not cooperate, about 70 people were in attendance.

Community people and church members enjoyed Pastor Tucker's engaging and practical insights from Scripture and sound principles of healthy communication. The church's youth served as hosts for the program, registered guests, and ran the daycare which allowed parents to attend the meeting while their children were entertained.

The Fargo Adventist Church plans to follow up with the attendees with a weekly study exploring the Biblical basis for love and relationship.



Article and photos by Pr. Darrel Lindensmith, senior pastor of the Fargo / Red River / Wahpeton church district in North Dakota.

## Turtle Lake Ordains Local Leaders

January 22, 2022, was a high Sabbath for the Turtle Lake Seventh-day Adventist Church. The baton of leadership was passed from Roger Boyko who has served as elder for the last 50 years to Mitch McLeod who was ordained as elder that very day. Joining Pastor Harold Chin in the ordination prayer was Mitch McLeod, Roger Boyko, and Darrin Kostenko. The congregation also officially welcomed into their church family Frans and

Trudy Uys (pictured to the left in the bottom photo) by profession of faith and Melvin and Jeannie Eichele (right) via transfer of membership.



*Photo by Eden McLeod, member of the Turtle Lake Seventh-day Adventist Church in North Dakota. Article by Pr. Harold Chin. Pastor Chin and his family have recently moved from the Goodrich / Mandan / McClusky / Turtle Lake to the Bowdon Country / Harvey / Manfred church district in North Dakota.*

## Job Opportunity

The Dakota Conference is pleased to introduce Pastor Ted Struntz as the new youth director! Pastor Ted and his family are transitioning to our Conference from Oregon where he has pastored for the past four years. The Struntz family is excited to get to know the kids and staff at summer camp and look forward to ministering to the youth across the Dakotas.

If there are any young adults (18 and older) who are interested in working at camp, please visit the camp website and fill out an application: [dakotayouthandyoungadults.org](http://dakotayouthandyoungadults.org).





# Camp Workers Needed



Contact Pastor Ted  
for more  
information:



dakotayouthandyoungadults@gmail.com

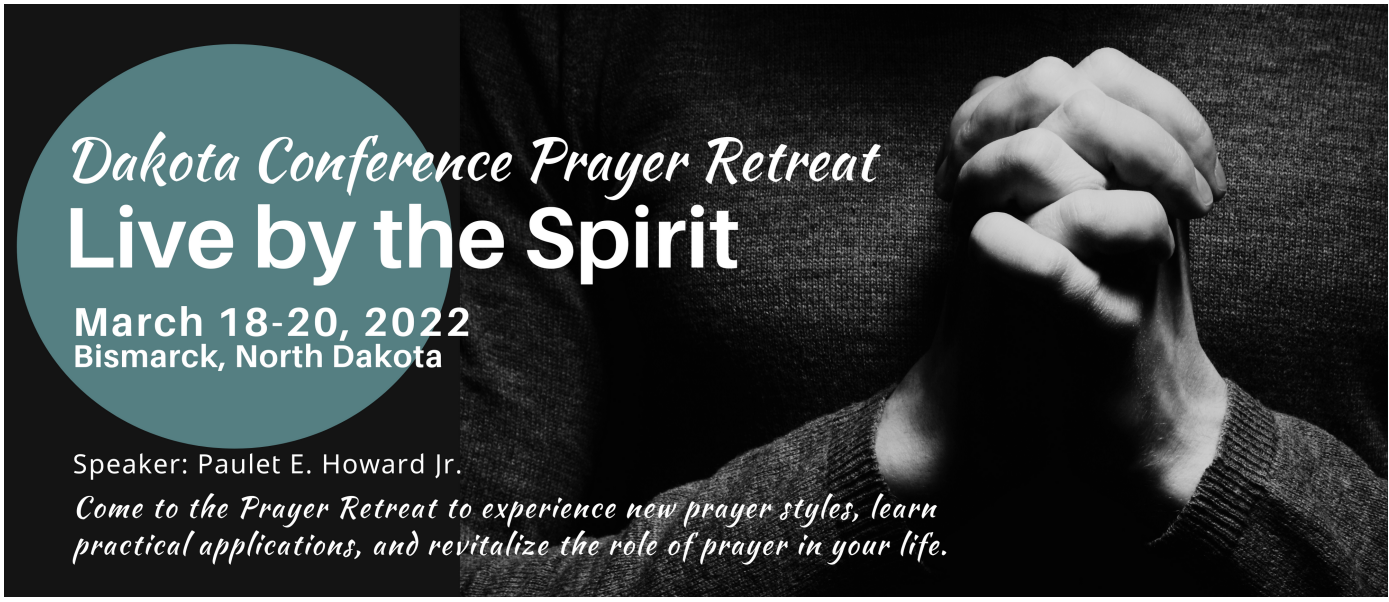
**Camp registration will open March 1, 2022.**

**FLAG MOUNTAIN**

- cub camp, ages 8-10 | June 15-19 | \$200
- junior camp, ages 11-13 | June 19-26 | \$275
- teen retreat, ages 14-17 | June 26-July 3 | \$275

**NORTHERN LIGHTS**

- cub camp, ages 8-10 | July 13-17 | \$200
- junior camp, ages 11-13 | July 17-24 | \$275
- teen retreat, ages 14-17 | July 24-31 | \$275



*Dakota Conference Prayer Retreat*  
**Live by the Spirit**  
**March 18-20, 2022**  
 Bismarck, North Dakota

Speaker: Paulet E. Howard Jr.  
*Come to the Prayer Retreat to experience new prayer styles, learn practical applications, and revitalize the role of prayer in your life.*

Make plans to attend the Dakota Conference Prayer Retreat to be held in Bismarck, North Dakota, on March 18-20. [Click here](#) to registration and for more information.

## Kid's Corner

**Fundamental February:** There are 28 days in February and 28 Fundamental Beliefs, a match made in heaven! Every day in February, a new kids devotional video will be posted on the Dakota SDA Kids YouTube channel. Dakota pastors and ministerial team have been hard at work preparing these materials and are excited to share them with our conference children. Visit [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search "Dakota SDA Kids."

Visit the Dakota Conference Children's Ministries YouTube channel "Dakota SDA Kids" and explore the many videos available for children. This month's craft corner is a heart: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMP-KZ0kTVI>



*Kelli Wasemiller is the Dakota Conference education superintendent and children's ministries coordinator.*

# DAA'S 2022 PREVIEW DAYS

**FEBRUARY 24TH - 27TH, 2022**

**CALLING ALL 8TH - 11TH GRADE STUDENTS**

**15905 SHEYENNE CIRCLE - BISMARCK**  
**register online at [www.mydaa.org](http://www.mydaa.org)**

## Dakota Conference Calendar

Offering schedule is in purple.

Office preaching schedule is in blue.

### February -

- 16-20: DAA Homeleave & UC Basketball Tournament
- 19: Elder Charlie O'Hare preaching at Ellendale Church, ND - afternoon trust seminar to follow
- 19: Local Church Budget
- 21: Office Closed - Presidents' Day
- 24: DAA Ski & Rec Day at Huff Hills, ND
- 25-27: DAA Academy Preview Days
- 26: Elder Mark Piotrowski preaching at Red River Church, ND
- 26: Elder Charlie O'Hare preaching at Pierre Church, SD - afternoon trust seminar to follow
- 26: Dakota Challenge

### March -

- 5: Elder Mark Piotrowski preaching at Williston Church, ND
- 5: Local Church Budget
- 6: Executive Committee at Dakota Conference Office (10am)
- 11-13: Men's Retreat in Medora, ND

- 11-20: DAA Spring Break
- [12: Adventist World Radio](#)
- 18-20: Dakota Prayer Retreat in Bismarck, ND
- [19: Local Church Budget](#)

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 be fruitful and multiply.

God created humanity, declared that we are very good, and bid us to be fruitful and multiply.

May you capture the whole of this blessing today.

May the goodness with which you were created plant seeds of goodness that will multiply 100 fold in the space you occupy.

May the joy you experience contaminate every soul you interact with

May you laugh together without quite knowing why

May you dance from compulsion of the moment without shame

May your inexplicable peace spread like wildfire.

May your workspace become an area palpably free of anxiety.

May your peace continue even when that space is broken.

May your response be a magnet that draws others back into a space of calm.

May you multiply the extraordinary gifts God offers you.

May you populate the world with goodness, joy, peace, and love.

*Written by Casey Bartlett.*

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

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## February 17 Dispatch Photo



*Photo taken by Elder Sam Thomas at Wind Cave Park in South 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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[!\[\]\(830769b31eeeaca920791081939ff8ba\_img.jpg\) Dakota Adventist Academy](#)

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