



## Nothing to Fear

This is the 49th 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 11: The Good Work - Part 1

Near the close of 1911, academy student Ira Evenson of Sarles (on the Towner/Cavalier County line) became the first of a long line of SRA alumni to enter the foreign mission service of the church when he left for Europe to take up literature evangelism work. About two years later the *Reaper* reported that he was a "missionary teacher in central Africa." Evenson was soon followed by SRA alumni John Schmidt of Bowdon, who left for Brazil in 1912, and Jacob H. Peters "of Stutsman County", who also went to Brazil the following year.<sup>47</sup>

The cost of an academy education (room and board apparently included) evidently remained fairly constant throughout most of the period under consideration. In 1910, the tuition was reduced from \$15.50 per month to \$15.00, with each student being required to devote one hour of labor per day as part of his or her tuition. By 1918 tuition was \$18.00 per month paid monthly in advance, with forty-two hours of work required each month. Subsequently, tuition, room, and board were charged as separate items averaging a total monthly charge of \$24.00 for the balance of the school's second decade, with the work requirement increased to forty-eight hours per month.<sup>48</sup>

Two events during this period heralded the “coming-of-age” of Sheyenne River Academy, indications of stability that would lend permanence to the institution. The first was the beginning of regular graduating classes with the completion of the four-year academic curriculum by Regina Litwinenco in 1912 and Marian Edwards in 1913. Although there were no graduates in 1914, the next graduating class consisted of five members and the school produced graduates for every remaining year of its existence. Graduation services were conducted in connection with camp meetings, the graduates being addressed by such notables as General Conference President A.G. Daniells.<sup>49</sup>

The other indication of permanence and stability was the efforts of students, faculty, and administrators to bring the school up to the standards required to achieve denominational accreditation. In late 1915 the English classes of the academy under the direction of their teacher, Emily Johnson, and a student, Clara McClelland, organized to solicit donations of money and books to increase the number of books in SRA's library from 500 to the 1,500 required for accreditation. The campaign succeeded in increasing the size of the library to 1,200 books which, by the following year were supplemented by enough additional volumes to reach the required level. Additional grants of money during several years went for the purchase of science laboratory equipment also necessary to meet standards for accreditation, which Principal Schmidt predicted would be conferred in the fall of the 1917-1918 school year.<sup>50</sup>

Schmidt served as principal from 1911 to 1913 and again from 1916 to 1919. H. Haughy filled in for Schmidt when health problems caused him to have to lay down his responsibilities between his two terms as principal. A.G. Goude (1919-1922) and J.C. Harder (1922-1924) complete the list of administrators of Sheyenne River Academy's first twenty years.<sup>51</sup>

Community living on the open prairie was not without its hazards; Conference Treasurer E.L. Spencer, visiting the academy in 1910 encountered for the first time a Dakota prairie fire, and as the *Reaper* drolly reported, “had an occasion to take his coat off.”<sup>52</sup>

Disease, however, was one of the most frequently encountered hazards of the closely knit school “home”, with each new illness making its way through a substantial segment of both faculty and students. An outbreak of measles in June of 1913 caused an early end of the school year and apparently contributed to such an extended delay in the start of the following school year that Christmas vacation was cancelled and nine months of continuous schoolwork was scheduled to help catch

up.<sup>53</sup>

Health problems at the academy also provide a sad footnote to a worldwide health crisis, the influenza epidemic of 1918-1919 that claimed the lives of 500,000 Americans and twenty million people worldwide. Shortly after opening for the 1918-1919 school year, the academy was forced to close down when about fifty of the seventy students enrolled contracted influenza. Two of those students, Martha Peetz and John Miller, died from the disease and its complications. A lonely undesignated grave in a small cemetery on the abandoned Sheyenne River Academy campus probably marks the resting place of, at least, Martha Peetz, an orphan who was working her own way through the academy.<sup>54</sup>

Another victim of the epidemic was Dr. R.C. Reimche of Harvey. Reimche, an Adventist physician, had gained control of the Harvey Hospital in early 1916 and had transformed it into a "Sanitarium and Hospital" run on the basis of Adventist health principles and operated as a missionary outreach endeavor. The institution was enjoying increasing success and a growing reputation when Reimche succumbed to the disease following a visit to the academy to treat its ailing students.<sup>55</sup>

By far the greatest hazards that Sheyenne River Academy was to face, however, in the years to come, were a pair of periodic nemeses that were to dog the academy throughout its existence, the fickle agricultural economy on which both state and conference were based, and the fickle loyalty of North Dakotans to their academy. The symptoms began to be evident during the 1921-1922 school year when economic conditions left SRA with \$6,000 in unpaid school accounts and a student body of only about sixty. Contributing to the enrollment decline was a vigorous recruiting program by the German Seminary, now renamed Clinton Theological Seminary, in an attempt to bolster its shaky college-level program by attracting academy-age students from heavily German ethnic areas such as North Dakota. Academy and conference administrators implored church members to be loyal to SRA, and not to be persuaded by the "special inducements and superior advantages which might be offered by the larger schools."<sup>56</sup>

Like many new converts to Adventism through the years, Gottlieb Roedel faced a choice between his faith and his livelihood.

Roedel, who worked for a merchant in the central North Dakota town of Goodrich (Sheridan County), attended Adventist evangelistic meetings in the local schoolhouse late in 1907.

Convinced that he should become a Seventh-day Adventist, but unable to resolve

with his employer the problem of working on the Sabbath, Roedel bought a building in town, opened his own general store, and joined the Seventh-day Adventist church.

Local townsfolk however, unhappy about the competition from both the new church and the new store, largely boycotted Roedel's business venture.

Roedel resolved the problem, as many under similar circumstances have done before and since his time, by combining his desire to share his new-found faith and his need to make a living, becoming a salesman of Adventist books - a literature evangelist or "colporteur". Roedel sold his store building to the members of the newly organized Goodrich church, who moved it out of town and remodeled it into the congregation's first church home.<sup>1</sup>

About ten years later, "the good work", as literature evangelism was popularly called at the time, brought Roedel to the prosperous North Dakota frontier town of Diesem (La Moure County).

The town of Diesem consisted of a few homes, a depot, an eight-grade, one-room schoolhouse, three grain elevators, two stores and a post office. The village was served by a branch line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, thoroughfare for a daily round trip between Streeter and Edgeley.

Diesem had no churches; a Sunday School was conducted in the school house for children who cared to come. Sunday-go-to-meeting fare for the men of Diesem consisted of dressing up and spending the day talking farming, exchanging stories, and snacking from the well-supplied barrels at the general store operated by Guy Searle, an avowed atheist.

One Sunday morning, Gottlieb Roedel went into Searle's store to buy a newspaper. Baited by the men in the store, Searle asked the colporteur why he wanted the newspaper when he had his Bible to read. Roedel replied that he read the fulfillment of Bible prophecies "between the lines" of the newspaper.

When the store owner spoke strongly against the Bible, Roedel declared that he could prove that the Bible was the Word of God. The ensuing debate began about ten in the morning, continued all day and into the night. Men came and went, eating cheese, crackers and pickles as they listened to the colporteur present his case. Roedel asked only that the men not smoke or swear while he was reading the Scriptures.



This initial encounter stirred up such an interest that it led to other, similar discussions in the general store, attracting people from all over the county. At the close of one of these sessions, about two o'clock in the morning, Searle excitedly awakened his family to inform them of his decision to become a Christian and a Seventh-day Adventist.<sup>2</sup>

An urgent call for help brought evangelist R.T. Nash to Diesem to follow up the interest generated by the dramatic events in Guy Searle's general store.

Nash arrived on February 6, 1918, and began meetings at the schoolhouse. "The attendance was fair to begin with," reported Nash, "but it has increased and ... spread to the other towns nearby. The entire surrounding country is stirred. It is probable that the call for Bibles and other religious books has exceeded the call from any other town of this size in America. I have never seen such a demand for Bibles."<sup>3</sup>

Within two weeks, Nash reported that "sixteen have begun to keep the Sabbath and ... others are in the valley of decision." Startled by the success of Nash and Roedel, the religious establishment of nearby towns apparently began to react. "Last week," reported the *Reaper*, "a fellow preacher came to town and told the people that he was prepared to prove that the principles of the fourth commandment are not to be found in the New Testament; but after listening to a sermon on the New Testament Sabbath, he left without further explanation. Five have been added to those reported before."<sup>4</sup>

1. Northern Union Reaper, February 18, 1908, 4; Looking Back, a program for bicentennial year services at the Goodrich Seventh-day Adventist church, July 2 and 3, 1976.

2. Letter from Jim Pogue of St. Helena, California, dated April 28, 1976. Pogue is the grandson of Gottlieb Roedel; 1963 account of the origin of the Diesem church by Minnie Searle, widow of Guy Searle, of College Place, Washington.

3. Northern Union Reaper, April 9, 1918, 3.

4. Ibid., February 26, 1918, 6; March 12, 1918, 7.

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

### **Chapter 11: The Good Work - 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.

## You Are Invited

You are invited to attend the upcoming Aberdeen Regional on Sabbath, November 12 starting at 10:00am. Due to the church size and lack of venues to rent in Aberdeen, this year's event will be held at **Trinity Bible College in Ellendale, North Dakota**. A fellowship meal will follow the worship service prior to the afternoon seminars at 2:00pm. Children's programming will be presented during Sabbath School. Please bring a fellowship dish to share for lunch and then plan to stay for supper provided by the Ellendale Church.



**NOVEMBER 12 - 10:00AM**

# ABERDEEN REGIONAL 2022

## "Tell Someone"

**TRINITY BIBLE COLLEGE**  
50 SIXTH AVE S, ELLENDALE, ND

A fellowship meal will follow the worship service prior to the afternoon seminars. Please bring a potluck dish to share - extra food for hungry teens is appreciated. Make note that there will be no ovens available, but plenty of electrical outlets. Supper will be provided following the seminars.

### SABBATH AFTERNOON SEMINARS

2:00PM



#### EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT EADVENTIST

Julie Brude: Membership Clerk



#### DOES MY CHURCH COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY?

Jodi Dossenko: Communication Director



#### RESOLVING CONFLICT BIBLICALLY

Elder Vernon Herholdt: Ministerial Director



#### TELLING OUR STORY: THE RELEVANCE OF THE ADVENT MOVEMENT TODAY

Elder Mark Piotrowski: VP of Administration / HR Director



#### HOW TO PLAN FOR EFFECTIVE OUTREACH TO YOUR COMMUNITY

Elder Mark Piotrowski: VP of Administration / HR Director



#### DOLLARS & SENSE

Mark Seibold: VP of Finance



#### PRAYER MINISTRIES IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

Elder Barry St. Clair: Prayer Ministries Director



#### YOUTH MINISTRY IN THE CHURCH

Elder Ted Struntz: Youth & Young Adults Director



#### CHILDREN'S & YOUTH MINISTRY THAT CAN GROW A CHURCH

Elder Ted Struntz: Youth & Young Adults Director



#### GENERATION WHY: CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Kelli Wasemiller: Education Superintendent



#### EVANGELISM BOOTCAMP

Elder Mark Weir: President

## Off Course

I have a gold personality.

Here's what they say about the gold personality: "Those with gold color personality

- strengths tend to be loyal, dependable, organized, thorough, sensible, punctual and caring. They notice and remember facts, like directions and instructions, set deadlines, and want them to be met. They enjoy checklists and checking things off the list."

Maybe that's why I love those perfect GPS-guided straight lines so much. They're neat, organized, and sensible. I really don't like veering off of my nice, straight GPS lines to deal with rocks, washouts, and gullies.

This spring, rainwater gushed downhill and didn't consult a GPS about which way to run. Rainwater follows the path of least resistance down the hill, sometimes northeast, sometimes in jagged lines. It removes topsoil and digs a channel through the dirt, unearthing rocks and spewing them out along the banks.



When I come across these washouts with the combine, I can't ignore them. My GPS is set to 0 degrees north, but if I continue on my northward course my machine will lurch into the dip and potentially damage the header. The rocks are sticking up at crazy angles and my sickle teeth are likely to catch one and break. Or I could spill grain out of the hopper as I lurch forward. Or I could get stuck in the dip. So many things could damage the combine if I keep going north.

So instead I grab the steering wheel and veer off course. I follow the zigzag path of the washout down the hill, over to the other side, and back up. This makes the field look like a haphazard mess instead of organized grid work. I don't like that. But since it's potentially saving my combine from being out of commission and needing costly or time-consuming repairs, I choose to veer off course.

In my life, I definitely hold to my gold personality. I prefer my life to be organized and sensible. Sometimes I even use checklists!

But as we all know, life rarely sticks to the sensible and predictable. When there are little hiccups or major upheavals, I can't keep plowing ahead with the course I set when I was fourteen years old. I might need to grab the steering wheel to change the

course of my life for a while until things are not so rough.

If I listen, I can hear divine guidance telling me which way to go. It's better than barreling ahead on a preset course. God's way is filled with delightful zigzags that keep my soul safe if I choose to embrace His path instead of my own.

"Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying,  
'This is the way, walk in it,'  
Whenever you turn to the right hand  
Or whenever you turn to the left."  
- Isaiah 30: 21

*Worship Thoughts and photo by Brenda Klein, member of the New Home Adventist Church in North Dakota.  
Follow Brenda on Facebook for more devotional thoughts at [Farm Girl Faith](#).*

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## Financial Update on DAA

Dakota Adventist Academy is part of the heart and soul of the Dakota Conference. However, for years there has been a financial drain to keep the doors open. The Dakota Conference has given up to 23% annually compared to tithe for Academy subsidy and in the process has slowly exhausted the operational reserves.

In the past two years, we have hired consultants to help with marketing and recruitment. We have made phone calls to prospective students and parents. We have sent surveys to our constituents. We have prayerfully introduced the DAA Circle of Faith where members can participate in the operation of DAA.

In September, we conducted seven Town Halls to share trend lines and financial realities of both the Conference and the Academy. The bottom line remains that there will be a projected shortfall of \$363,000.00 for the 2022-2023 school year. The Conference has made a commitment to cover the current deficit but going forward no longer has the ability to do so given our current financial realities.

On November 6, a K-12/Executive Committee meeting was held to discuss options and a path forward. The options on the table were, as follows:

- Option 1 - Sell Assets
- Option 2 - Reduce Employees
- Option 3 - Cease Academy Operations



Following an extensive discussion of the options, a motion was made to take “Cease Operations” off the table. After a season of prayer, a secret ballot vote was taken. The vote was 18 in favor and 8 against removing Option 3. Thus, it is officially voted that we are not going to consider closing the Academy.

The Executive Committee will finalize a plan to fund the Academy for the foreseeable future. A sale of Academy agricultural land will likely be a key component to obtaining the funds required to address future financial shortfalls. This meeting will take place on December 11, 2022.



*Watch for an expanded version of this article in the upcoming Dakota Messenger. If you were not able to make it to a recent Town Hall Meeting regarding Dakota Adventist Academy, a studio-recorded version is now available. To access it, please visit: [youtu.be/hqH0jMYELpA](https://youtu.be/hqH0jMYELpA)*

*Article by Elder Mark Weir, Dakota Conference president. Photo by Cliff Freese.*

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## Employee Spotlight

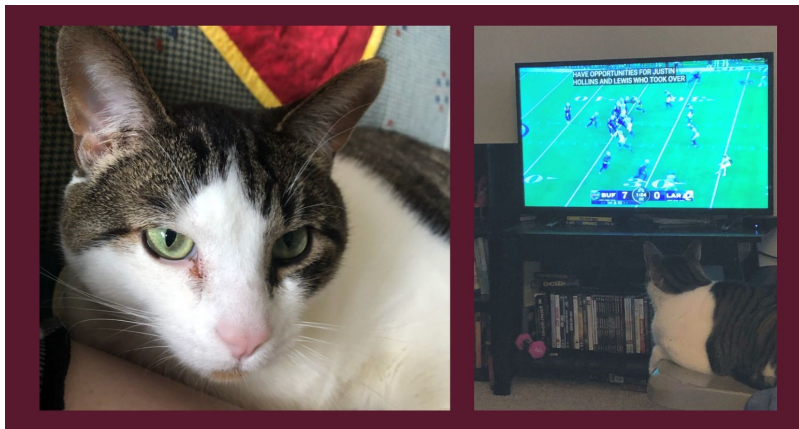
Jamie Howell is the head teacher at Rapid City Seventh-day Adventist School in South Dakota. She has spent the last eight years of ministry here in the Dakotas.

Jamie grew up in Niles, Michigan, learning in the multi-grade classrooms of Adventist education. As she grew older, she was able to help the younger students with their work which planted a seed of excitement in her to see how fun it was to help them learn and understand concepts. She loved the look on students' faces

when they started to understand and succeed after grasping a concept they formerly struggled with - this is what she calls a "lightbulb moment". Her second through fifth-grade teacher, Ms. Beardsley, inspired her to make a career out of teaching. Ms. Beardsley was the one who allowed Jaime to occasionally teach simple lessons to the younger graders and is still the one who has continued to encourage her throughout her college years and her career.

Right after college, Jamie began looking for a job as an elementary teacher. When she didn't find anything, she accepted a position as a cafeteria/office worker at Dakota Adventist Academy. After spending a year at DAA, she moved to Payabya Adventist Mission on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota to teach. "My first year of teaching was pretty memorable. I taught in a one-room school which consisted of a classroom converted from a garage. There were so many ups and downs and trials that year, I learned that God is always with me and has a plan for my life." Jamie spent one year at the Mission and when the school was closed, transferred to work as the lower grades' teacher in Rapid City.

Jamie, also referred to as Ms. Howell, has one cat named "Bo". He came from a litter of barn cats born the year she worked at DAA and therefore is a "native Dakotan". Bo loves to watch television and especially enjoys watching the Broncos play!



*Article & photo by Jodi Dossenko, conference communication director. Pictures of Bo by Jamie Howell.*

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## Celebration of Praise



Make plans now to attend this year's Celebration of Praise. Invite a friend, or two, or three!

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## River Baptism in Hot Springs

On September 3, 2022, the Custer and Hot Springs church district met together at the Hot Springs church for a celebration of baptism. Both churches were involved in the process of bringing a soul to Christ. Back in April of 2021, the Hot Springs church sponsored an evangelistic series entitled "Revelation of Love" with David Machado. Pat Doughty, invited by her friend Betty from Custer, attended those meetings.

Pat was excited about the new truths that she was learning every night and at the end of the series expressed her desire to continue studying and be baptized. Gloria Marcoe, an elder from Hot Springs church who works in Custer every day, volunteered to study with Pat each week. Together they went through the "Lifting up Jesus" Bible study lessons and when they completed them, Pat made the decision to be baptized and join the church.

The week prior to the scheduled baptism, tragedy struck when Pat was notified that her daughter had died unexpectedly. She of course was devastated. Pat's new church family rallied around her and she admits that this support and her relationship with Jesus are what got her through this difficult time. She made her decision not to delay but to go on with the baptism that Sabbath. Because her family from out of town came for the memorial service, they were also able to be present for her baptism. Both her Custer church family and Hot Springs church family were present as Gloria Marcoe and Pastor Thomas escorted Pat into the Fall River and baptized her that a beautiful Sabbath afternoon.



We praise God that He continues to touch hearts and draw all men and women to Him.



*Article by Pr. Sam Thomas, pastor of the Custer / Hot Springs church district in South Dakota. Photos by Oliver Stubbs.*

## Community Service at the Zoo

Dakota Adventist Academy students had the opportunity to help the Dakota Zoo clean up some areas on Friday, October 14. Since a majority of the students went to Rapid City for the Regional, the remaining few on campus were able to help out in this activity. Few hands that we had were still relatively many hands when cleaning up the area around the playground - which was visibly covered by many twigs and leaves due to strong winds a few days before.

As noted by freshman Ané du Plessis, “Everyone enjoyed working together as a team”. Our group spent nearly an hour and a half cleaning up the area. Orrin Waldner, a senior, felt that this community service was unique since this was the first time he had done it at the zoo. Liz Struntz, a junior, thought the clean-up was a great



way to give back to the community. She commented, “It was evident that the work we did really helped the workers there and made the zoo a better place.”

The grounds maintenance director of the Dakota Zoo noted a job well done by our students and was appreciative of what we did. Louis, the goat in the petting area and a permanent resident of the zoo, noticed us work the entire time and seemed to appreciate what we did as well. Because of this, we decided to take a picture with him. Interestingly enough, when we came over to take a picture with Louis who at that time was by himself in the pen, the other goats came over quickly for the picture. It was as if Louis had called them over for the photo opportunity. Overall, the clean-up at the zoo was a memorable experience and a blessing for all of us.



*Article and photos by Peter Hutauruk, math teacher at DAA.*

## Dakota Youth & Young Adults

The Pathfinder season has begun! We have awesome clubs around the conference that are busy completing honors, learning the book of John for PBE, and doing outreach in their communities. Right now, we also have several churches in the process of trying to start their own local clubs. This is so exciting!

I am frequently asked by church leaders, “What can we do for the youth in our church?” I enthusiastically tell them, “Start a Pathfinder Club!” Pathfinder ministry is

a great way to grow young people spiritually, and it helps them be part of their local church. It has also been proven that the Pathfinder program grows churches. Pathfinder ministry is over 50 years old, and it has been adapting for the times with continued program upgrades and resources. There are even several excellent apps for honors! With a plethora of Pathfinder resources available, any willing person can lead a successful Pathfinder ministry. These time-tested materials equip leaders and helpers with all the needed tools



and curriculum; there isn't a need to create anything from scratch. If you have just a couple of kids in your church, you can start a great club! Encourage your kids to invite their school friends or neighbors to join them and be part of the club. They will love it!

Pathfinders also gives our kids opportunities to spend time with other pathfinders from around the conference and union at our events. Coming in 2023, the Dakota Conference will have several big Pathfinder events, including PBE, Honor Weekend, a Pathfinder Parade during Campmeeting, and hosting a Pathfinder Camporee at Flag Mountain Camp in Hill City, South Dakota. We are really excited about these upcoming conference events. It has been a long time since our conference has hosted a Pathfinder Camporee, and we are looking forward to providing this memorable experience for our youth.

Our young people are vital for our churches; Pathfinder ministry is a great way to invest in them. If you have questions about how your church can become involved in this valuable ministry, please contact me at [dacpathfinders@gmail.com](mailto:dacpathfinders@gmail.com)

#### Upcoming Pathfinder Events

- February 3-5: Dakota Pathfinder Bible Experience & Honor Weekend at DAA
- February 18: Union Pathfinder Bible Experience at Union College Dakota Conference
- June 3: Pathfinder Parade and Honor Afternoon at DAA
- August 9-13: Dakota Conference Pathfinder Camporee at Flag Mountain Camp

~ Pastor Ted

## Prayer Ministries - Monthly Prayer Emphasis

Please keep the following in your prayers for the month of **November**:

**Theme:** Heritage - Faith of our Fathers

**Theme:** Thanksgiving -  
God & His Abundant  
Blessings

**Pastoral Staff:** Darrel  
Lindensmith, Licinius  
Chiriak, Barry St. Clair

**Education Staff:** Carlene  
Lang, Doreen Oucharek,  
Trudy Smith

**Office Staff:** Jodi  
Dossenko

**Adventist Entities:**

Edgeley Church, Ellendale Church, Cleveland Church, Fargo Church, Hillcrest  
School, Jamestown Church, New Home Church, Wahpeton Church

**Southeast, North Dakota:** Fargo, Moorhead MN, Wahpeton, Ellendale, Jamestown,  
Cleveland, Edgeley

**Other:** Native American Ministries, North American Division

[Click here](#) to visit the Prayer Ministries' webpage.



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## Kid's Corner

[Click here](#) to view this month's craft corner.

Visit the Dakota Conference Children's Ministries YouTube channel, [Dakota SDA Kids](#), and explore the many videos available for children.





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

## **JOB OPPORTUNITY**

*at the Dakota Conference Office*

The Dakota Conference Office is looking for a front desk receptionist/administrative assistant. The individual who is hired will need to have public relations skills, computer processing proficiency in Office Suite programs, be self-motivated, have the ability to work independently, be highly organized, and exercise confidentiality. Please send your resume to: [j.dossenko@gmail.com](mailto:j.dossenko@gmail.com)

## **Dakota Conference Calendar**

The offering schedule is in purple.

The office preaching schedule is in blue.

Town Halls & Regional schedules are in green.

### **November -**

- 12: Aberdeen Regional in Ellendale, ND, with Elder Mark Weir preaching
- 12: Annual Sacrifice

- 14-17: MAUC Year-end Meetings in Lincoln, NE
- 17: MAUC Executive Committee Meeting in Lincoln, NE
- 19: Elder Ted Struntz preaching in Cleveland Church, ND
- 19: Local Church Budget
- 23-24: Conference Office Closed - Thanksgiving
- 23-27: DAA Homeleave
- 26: Dakota Challenge

## December -

- 3: Elder Mark Piotrowski preaching in Custer Church, SD
- 3: Local Church Budget
- 10: Elder Ted Struntz preaching in Sioux Falls Church, SD
- 10: Elder Mark Piotrowski preaching in New Home Church, ND
- 10: Elder Mark Weir preaching in Spearfish Church, SD
- 10: Elder Vernon Herholdt preaching in Cleveland Church, ND
- 10: NAD ACS (North American Division Adventist Community Services)
- 11: Dakota Executive Committee at Conference Office (10a)
- 16: DAA Celebration of Praise (7:30p)
- 17: Celebration of Praise & Bismarck Regional at DAA (10a) with Elder Mark Weir preaching
- 17: Local Church Budget
- 17-1: DAA Christmas Homeleave
- 24: Dakota Challenge
- 26: Office Closed - Christmas (observed)
- 31: Dakota Evangelism

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 God's astounding call to Abram inspire you.

In Genesis 12 God called Abram to do something unheard of, to reject the cyclical understanding of reality and set out on his own to forge his own destiny.

Go, leave your family and your people to a land that I will show you.

May you listen for the extraordinary things God calls you into.

May the story told of your life be as straightforward as Abram's.  
So Abram went.

May God grant you the courage to follow the path that is before you.

Perhaps your instructions for today will be less life-altering than those for Abram,  
may you choose to follow in these little things so that God will later entrust you with  
bigger things.

May you learn to attune yourself to the life rhythm the presence of God radiates.  
May you join in the healing, life-giving dance of the spirit of God.

May all people be blessed through you.

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

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## November 10 Dispatch Photo



Photo by Myndi Clements, who attends the Rapid City Church, of Spearfish Canyon in South Dakota.

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If you have 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)

Dakota 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](#). Cover photo credit: soybean field by Chrystal Rittenbach.

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- [!\[\]\(944943bcf87a12c5b9337bf7ed1ef546\_img.jpg\) Dakota Conference Education](#)
- [!\[\]\(77e1e368d53d3ed6ec2a15bf2432e026\_img.jpg\) Dakota Adventist Academy](#)
- [!\[\]\(beb4ee3dc3a91926258601f02c4f4582\_img.jpg\) Dakota Youth and Young Adults / Camps](#)

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