



Nothing to Fear

This is the 59th 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 12: The Lord Gave Freedom - Part 4

The lighting of the revival fires took place at the remarkable camp meeting held at Velva June 21-28, 1908. Of the seven hundred in attendance, the majority were German, about one hundred were Russian and a large number of each of the nationalities represented were young people, for whom special efforts were made by J.F. Simon, an Elder Benson, and others. Many of these youth, according to church leaders, "had not yet known God's pardoning grace." Toward the end of the week, the work among the youth began to bear fruit. Elder G. B. Thompson of the General Conference Sabbath School Department described the scene:

"Friday a special work began among the young people, and after the services in the evening, some of the ministers began working for some of the German young people who were not converted. This effort spread to various tents, and finally a large number ... gathered again in the large tent and continued seeking God till early morning ... The Lord wrought greatly among the Germans and Russians and also among the English and Scandinavians ... It looked like the latter rain."

The next day, when Thompson made his appeal for money for foreign missions, the highly charged crowd began to pledge cash, various acreages of crops and land up to as much as 160 acres, totaling almost \$25,000.²³

Following the revival at Velva, the Russian churches grew rapidly and, according to

one Russian young person present, it was the events of the Velva camp meeting that awakened the desire of the Russian youth for education, resulting in the establishment of SRA's Russian Department two years later.²⁴

Among the group of 96 people who indicated their desire to be baptized were thirteen who chose to wait and be baptized back at their home church, Bowdon. Capitalizing on the opportunity, John Seibel conducted meetings at the Bowdon church following the camp meeting, and by the time of the baptism, there were 21 candidates, apparently all young people.

After the baptism, during a celebration of the communion service, according to Conference President Kunkel, "We heard a poor sinner cry for pardon, and soon we were compelled to set (the service) aside to lend a helping hand to those seeking mercy. Language cannot picture the experience between 7 p.m. and 3 a.m., but ... twenty-three dear souls found peace with their Savior," bringing the total of newly baptized members to 44.²⁵

Two additional camp meetings conducted during the summer of 1908 are worthy of special notice. The first, held at Dickinson July 6-12 drew about half of the approximately 80 Seventh-day Adventists scattered over the 20,000 square miles of District 7, the area west of the Missouri River, to the first Adventist camp meeting ever held in that part of the conference. Attendance by interested town folk was reported to be "quite good" also. Six persons were baptized at the close of the camp meeting.²⁶

23. Advent Review and Sabbath Herald, July 9, 1908, 24.

24. The account is that of M.S. Krietsky.

25. Northern Union Reaper, July 14, 1908, 5.

26. Ibid., July 28, 1908, 2.

Next time from *Nothing to Fear*:

Chapter 12: The Lord Gave Freedom - Part 5 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 CAMPMEETING

May 31 - June 3, 2023

Revive Us
AGAIN



Day / Time	Wednesday - 31st	Thursday - 1st	Friday - 2nd	Sabbath - 3rd
7:45 - 8:15		Breakfast served in Cafeteria		
8:30 - 9:45		Elder Craig Carr	Elder Tim Roosenberg	9:15 - 10:45 Sabbath School Elder Mark Weir
9:45 - 10:00		15-Minute Break		
10:00 - 11:15		Pastor Esther Knott	Elder Craig Carr	10:50 - 12:20 Church Service Elder Bradford Newton
11:15 - 11:30		15-Minute Break		
11:30 - 12:40		Elder Tim Roosenberg	Pastor Esther Knott	
12:45 - 1:30		Check-in Begins	Lunch served in Cafeteria	
2:00 - 3:15		Elder Craig Carr	Elder Tim Roosenberg	3:00 - 5:00 Round Table Elder Craig Carr Pastor Esther Knott Elder Bradford Newton Elder Mark Piotrowski Elder Tim Roosenberg Facilitator: Elder Mark Weir
3:15 - 3:30		15-Minute Break		
3:30 - 4:45		Pastor Esther Knott	Elder Mark Piotrowski	
4:45 - 5:30		15-Minute Break		
5:30 - 6:15	Supper served in Cafeteria			Sabbath served: 5:30 - 6:30
6:45 - 8:30	Elder Bradford Newton	Elder Bradford Newton	Elder Bradford Newton	7:00 - 9:30 Hall of Remembrance Closing Remarks Elder Mark Weir Music Concert Hugo Yin
8:30 - 9:30	Fellowship			
Sabbath schedule differs; sundown is 9:30p				
Kindergarten, 0-5 years		Brienne Engelhart		
Primary, 6-9 years		Pr. Roy Morris		
Juniors, 10-12 years		Pr. Darrel Lindensmith		
Youth, 13-17 years		Pr. Ted Struntz		
Young Adults, 18-40 years**		Pr. Kris de Bruin		
**runs Friday evening - Sabbath				



For more information and to register,
visit: dakotaadventist.org/ministries/campmeeting

At this year's Campmeeting, the Dakota Conference is endeavoring to provide an uplifting and meaningful worship experience for young adults, ages 18-40. The speaker is Elder Craig Carr from the Mid-America Union Conference. Services will begin Friday evening, June 2, at 7:00p in the former ABC (to the left of the gymnasium).



Who You Say I Am

DAKOTA CONFERENCE
YOUNG ADULT CAMPMEETING

JUNE 2 & 3, 2023

INSPIRING | MEANINGFUL | INCLUSIVE

SPEAKER: CRAIG CARR



Sonnets of Creation Part 4 of 7

Now there was light, but there wasn't a sun.
So God tied a string and hung a bright sphere.
Then came the moon so there wasn't just one
And bright balls of gas to guide us back here.

The blue sky turned pink, then orange, and then red
Brand new colors in a dusky display
As, for the first time, the sun went to bed
And cleared a path for the white milky way.

The moon got to waxing, pushing the tide.
The earth chased the sun and started to spin,
This brought about winter, a sparkling bride.
Next came summer where the snow had just been.

You see, on the fourth day of creation
God looked up and saw a constellation.

By Afton Logan, member of the Invitation Hill Adventist Church in Dickinson, ND.



Thank you to ALL the educators living in the Dakotas! Your work is appreciated!

Youth Game Night

In a world where technology dominates, it's refreshing to see teenagers gathering together for a night of fun and board games. Last Saturday evening, youth from the Bismarck/Mandan area were invited to visit Dakota Adventist Academy and participate in a game night facilitated by Pastor Marveen Gentillon, associate pastor of the Bismarck/Dakota Adventist Academy district.

The night started with a brief devotional message by Principal Anthony Oucharek. Then, the teens were free to choose the games they wanted to play and form groups with their friends. Games ranged from *Cave Man Charades* to *Telephone*. As the night went on, the lower "Circle" was filled with laughter and friendly competition. Plenty of snacks were on hand to be enjoyed by all. Toward the end of the night, the gymnasium was opened to allow participants to have some physical activity before bed. One student said, "This was really fun, and I wish we could do it more often."

A church board game night can be a valuable addition to any youth group's calendar. By providing a fun and engaging way for teens to gather together, socialize, and reinforce Christian values, these events can have a lasting impact on the lives of young people. Pastor Marveen plans to host more events like this in the

future.



Article by Pr. Marveen Gentillon and Jodi Dossenko, conference communication director. Photos by Peter Hutuaruk, DAA math teacher.

See yourself here.

jobs.adventisteducation.org

Seventh-day Adventist Church
Dakota Conference

Inspire others. Become a Teacher in Dakota

Teaching is much more than a job; it is a calling with deep purpose. And teaching in a Adventist school means you also inspire students to find their own true purpose in God. Experience the satisfaction of challenging youth to dream big and to make those dreams come true. Become an Adventist teacher and inspire in each student a life of faith, wisdom, and service.

[Early Childhood](#) | [Elementary/Secondary](#) | [College/University](#)



Gratitude

The 2022-2023 school year is just a breath away from being one for the records book, and it has been a really good year. Towards the end of the school year, there is a time set aside for administrators and students to acknowledge and honor teachers. Every year at this time, I note and celebrate what our staff have accomplished, but this year it has been more than administration doing the celebrating.

I want to thank the Lehr Adventist Church for the incredible gift baskets brought out for each of our teachers. The Mandan Adventist Church also gave bags to our teachers and additional bags for our students. Throughout this year, different churches have reached out in a similar manner, and I cannot help but be humbled as I am reminded how much our constituency loves us. As I watched teachers receive their gift bags, I could feel that they were acknowledging that we are appreciated and that we are not in this alone, as we are so often tempted to feel; that we are supported by a host of people, not just through gifts, but through prayers, through kind words, and a shared vision. We have received this blessing from so many churches and so many people throughout the years. Mrs. O and I have been repeatedly blessed, and we appreciate the Dakotan people who have opened their hearts and their friendship to us over these last six years that we have served here.

In assembly today, members of our student association presented a creative storyboard for the teachers to be reminded of this appreciation for teachers motif. The finished product hangs just outside of the office in a place of prominence, “lest we forget.”

At this last assembly, we were blessed to present scholarships that were being awarded in the names of Ron Purkapile, Lenhardt and Darlene Kungel, and Cora Nettum. It was so much fun to see the joy on the faces of students as they realized that they are being invested in by others.

In the story of Jesus healing the ten lepers, only one returns to thank Him. We know that Jesus recognizes this when he asks, “What about the other nine?”

Here at Dakota Adventist Academy, the teachers and the students want to make it known that we wish to be counted among the “one” who genuinely appreciate the recognition that you are here alongside of us. Thank you for believing in DAA’s staff and students. Thank you for the little things that you do to be intentional.



Article and photo by Anthony Oucharek, principal at DAA.

We want to thank Anthony and Doreen Oucharek for their service to DAA and the Dakota Conference and wish them the best as they start their ministry in a new school!

Prayer Ministries - Monthly Prayer Emphasis

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

Theme: Mothers, Students & Teachers - Preparing Workers for the Harvest

Pastoral Staff: Mike Temple

Education Staff: Leanne Erickson, Eric Garrett, Peter Hutauruk

Office Staff: Jodi Dossenko, Mark Piotrowski, Mark Seibold, Mark Weir

Field Staff: Bob Forbes, Kelli Wasemiller

Adventist Entities: Grand Forks Church, Prairie Voyager Elementary

DAKOTANS PRAY
is now scheduled weekly
Thursdays at 7:00p CT

Meeting ID: 841 1749 9925
Passcode: 382190
Call In: 669.444.9171

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84117499925?pwd=MHJVS0k4Ryt1UWVXT0I4MDImc2NoZz09>

Seventh-day Adventist Church

Northeast, North Dakota: Rolla, Pembina, Langdon, Grafton, Cando, Devil's Lake, Grand Forks, East Grand Forks (MN), Spirit Lake Reservation

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

Ways You Can Help!

Camp Ministry Needs

- Mobile climbing wall
- 10 concert or tenor ukuleles
- Legos

Flag Mountain Needs

- Quonset Hut--we need safe, reliable storage
- Side-by-side vehicle/Gator

Northern Lights Needs

- Golf Cart
- Screen doors for boys and girls cabins

WANTED FOR CAMP MINISTRY

DAKOTA ADVENTIST CAMPS

Dakota Youth & Young Adults

In about two weeks, young adults from around the country will be making their way to Bismarck to begin a two-month ministry called summer camp. Months of prayer, travel, phone calls, and zoom meetings will come to a culmination as the Dakota Adventist Camps 2023 staff come together. It is super exciting to think about how all the work in hiring a staff will finally be realized. There were times during this process that I was worried, maybe even a bit fearful, if we would find the correct staff to run the activities that we were going to host this summer, create a team that will get along and work together, and have staff who would commit to avoiding unnecessary drama. When I think back to how God has led in this journey, I remember a quote I learned in school. It says: "We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history" (LS, p.196).

These past two weeks I have been down at Flag Mountain checking on the progress

made on our showers and working to get other pieces in place for camp. While there is still much work to be done with the bathrooms, I am confident that God will provide the workers and supplies needed to complete the job in time. It is times like this where I know I must continue to place my trust in Him, for He has always been faithful in the past.

What kind of things has God done for us to trust Him? Well, this summer He has provided twenty-two young people who will be ministering to our Dakota kids. When we prayed for specific staffing needs, God answered with just the person He knew we needed. One quick example: we had been praying and asking God to help us be able to offer blacksmithing again as an activity at Flag Mountain. We were looking for a person who was skilled to give instruction, but we also needed a new forge. Lynnette and I prayed and asked God to open the doors if we should proceed with this activity. What did God do? He sent us an instructor, Nathan Rowe, who will also be our camp ranger this summer. However, even before He sent us Nathan, God impressed one member of our Dakota Conference Family to send a donation of \$500 to camp ministry. Why is that number important? Because a brand-new gas forge cost \$497! Isn't God amazing? He knows our needs and impresses others to help sometimes before we even ask.

We also had been praying about our rock-climbing program at Dakota Adventist Camps. Due to circumstances beyond our control, this year we were not going to be able to offer rock climbing at all at either camp. This was a huge burden on our hearts because the rock-climbing activity provides multiple growth areas for our kids besides the obvious area of facing one's fears. As we researched various avenues, we were able to find a mobile rock wall tower that we will be able to transport from one camp to another—and we will have it in time to use THIS SUMMER! It is awesome! We know our campers (and staff) will be thrilled with this new addition to our summer camp program. (If you would like to specifically contribute to help pay off this new wall, please feel free to donate to our Rock Wall Tower of Faith.) We can't wait to share with our campers how God grows our faith through our relationship with Him.

What is happening in your life where you need to be trusting God to work on your behalf? Are you forgetting how He has worked in your life? Are you letting fear and doubt get in the way of the peace that God wants you to have? My prayer for you is that you will take time to look back and see His divine hand and that you will allow Him to lift you up with it.



Article & photos by Ted Struntz, Dakota Conference youth director, and Lynnette Struntz, associate youth director.

DAKOTA ADVENTIST CAMPS

SUMMER 2023

Flag Mountain Camp

CUB (ages 8-10)	June 14-18
JUNIOR (ages 11-13)	June 18-25
TEEN (ages 14-17)	June 25-July 2

Northern Lights Camp

CUB (ages 8-10)	July 12-16
JUNIOR (ages 11-13)	July 16-23
TEEN (ages 14-17)	July 23-30

REGISTER ONLINE!

REGISTER: dakotayouthandyoungadults.org

Kids' Corner

This year's Vacation Bible School's program is entitled, *Fiercely Faithful: God Always Keeps His Promises*. The Dakota Conference owns the kit, backdrop, and cutout animals, and it's all available for your church to use this summer. To request the kit or learn more about VBS, contact Kelli Wasemiller at:

dakotachildrenministries@gmail.com



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.

Women's Retreat Request

At the upcoming Women's Retreat in September, there will be a session about Outreach Ministries. If you are participating in a type of outreach in your area, would you be willing to be on a panel at the retreat? If you don't plan to attend, Char Timothy would love to hear what you are doing so she can share it. The committee is looking for ideas that involve single people or groups...anything you do to share the love of Jesus.

Please, email Char at ctimothy56@gmail.com and share what you are doing, how you got started, how often you do it, and indicate if you plan to attend and would be a part of the panel.



Dakota Conference Calendar

The offering schedule is in purple.

The office preaching schedule is in blue.

May -

- 8-12: Teacher Appreciation Week
- 13: Disaster Relief
- 13: Elder Ted Struntz preaching in Hermosa, SD
- 13: ACS Director Elder Bob Forbes preaching in Watertown, SD
- 13: Ladies' Luncheon in McClusky, ND (12:30p)
- 13: DAA Spring Music Concert (8:30p)
- 18: Brentwood Eighth Grade Graduation - Bismarck Church (7p)
- 19-21: DAA Graduation Weekend
- 20: Local Church Budget
- 20: Women's Ministries Director Paulette Bullinger preaching in Turtle Lake, ND
- 20: Pierre Church Women's Retreat (1:30p)
- 24: Hillcrest Eighth Grade Graduation - Jamestown Church (6:30p)
- 25: Rapid City Eighth Grade Graduation - Rapid City Church (6p)
- 27: Dakota Challenge
- 27: Prairie Voyager Eighth Grade Graduation - Grand Forks Church (11a)
- 27: Sioux Falls Eighth Grade Graduation - Sioux Falls Church (11a)
- 27: ACS Director Elder Bob Forbes preaching in Spearfish, SD
- 27: Elder Mark Piotrowski preaching in Custer, SD
- 31-3: Dakota Campmeeting; Office Closed

June -

- 1-3: Dakota Campmeeting; Office Closed
- 2: Blood Drive at Campmeeting
- 3: Camp Development
- 3: Pathfinder Parade at Campmeeting
- 5-6: Office Closed
- 10: NAD Women's Ministry
- 10: ACS Director Elder Bob Forbes preaching in Wahpeton, ND
- 14-18: Cub Camp at Flag Mountain (ages 8-10)
- 17: Local Church Budget
- 17: ACS Director Elder Bob Forbes preaching in Medora, ND
- 18-25: Junior Camp at Flag Mountain (ages 11-13)
- 24: Dakota Challenge
- 24: Elder Mark Piotrowski preaching in Williston, ND
- 25: Dakota Executive Committee - Conference Office (10a)
- 25-2: Teen Camp at Flag Mountain (ages 14-17)

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

Blessed & Kept

May you celebrate the diversity of God's desires.

"Then God said, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the Earth and increase upon it.'"

May you remember, that God's desire for humanity is for us to be united, not uniform.

May God's command to fill the earth remind you that cultural diversity is by design.

May you stand in awe and intrigue at all the different ways other people worship.

May you acknowledge that forms of worship you might deem unacceptable, could be an aroma pleasing to the LORD.

May you discover a God that is bigger and grander than your imagination.
And if God is bigger than our imagination, then surely God is bigger than our language.

May this God lead you to join in the song of re-creation happening all around you.
May you, with your brothers and sisters, worship the Creator by caring for, tending, and mending the creation.

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

May 11 Dispatch Photo



Photo by Lynnette Struntz taken on Water Hill behind Dakota Adventist Academy in North Dakota.

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

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. Bison [Copyright](#). Cover photo credit: soybean field by Chrystal Rittenbach.

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- [!\[\]\(e61aeb0d9066d5d9e54d9b655f50da3d_img.jpg\) Dakota Youth and Young Adults / Camps](#)

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