

Dakota Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Dakota Dispatch
Sharing the unchanging love of Jesus in a changing world.



Change Comes at Intersections of Choice



The Seventh-day Adventist Church has been promoting a healthy lifestyle to anyone who will listen since its inception. Teaching people about a healthful diet has gone hand-in-hand with teaching about the Bible. Members congregating in Adventist-saturated locales have even been recognized for longevity. Dan Buettner, writer for *National Geographic*, identified five geographic locations he calls *Blue Zones* that are home to the longest living people in the world. One of the five *Blue*

Zones he identified - and the only one located in the United States - was Loma Linda, California, a hub for the Adventist Church.

According to Juliette Steen, associate food editor of *Huffington Post* Australia, "There are three key aspects to *Blue Zones*: diet, meaningful activity, and community and daily engagement." These three aspects all involve choice. They require a choice to eat healthfully, do meaningful activity and participate in community and family engagement. Choices pepper each day. Our responses to those choices are what determine our future.

Jacquie Biloff, Photo by iStock

Mandan Church Offers VBS

As the days get long and the nights warm, you know that Vacation Bible Schools throughout the country are getting vamped up for another summer program. Churches are transformed into scenes from the streets of Jerusalem, the dark caverns of a cave, or as we had at the Mandan SDA Church, a camp out! With our tent, canoe, and night sky backdrop, we hiked into a three night program learning about how Jesus is the light!

Our group of kids started the evening by singing a handful of campfire-worthy songs, such as, "Who's the King of the Jungle?", "My God is So Big!", and of course our theme song, "This Little Light of Mine." As song service came to a close we had a rousing skit put on by wilderness expert (at least that was what he claimed) Sam Spruce and his friend. The kids loved to see what crazy thing Sam was going to do each night, whether it was convincing his friend to go moose hunting with sticks on their foreheads while stomping around making "moosey" sounds, or waking Sam up because he hadn't slept that night since he was afraid of the dark.

Heading out for games they got to use some of their energy by running around with pool foam proboscises in mosquito tag or learning how to work together in a three-legged walk. Craft time brought the joy of making little camper-coin banks and a stuffed-bear buddy which they got to take home. Snack time was next, with yummy apple slices, popcorn, and other goodies. We even had the chance to celebrate one of the kid's birthdays on Thursday!

As the evening wound down, all the kids hiked back to the sanctuary where they participated in acting out Bible stories which taught about how Jesus is the Light. From Gideon to Paul's conversion to Jesus washing His disciple's feet, they had the chance to participate in the stories. The closing campfire had simple, interactive experiments with light which helped kids see how Jesus is the light and that He wants to be a part of their lives.

We believe that VBS is an amazing tool that can help kids learn about Jesus and His love for them, that it's a place where they can interact with each other and come know God better.





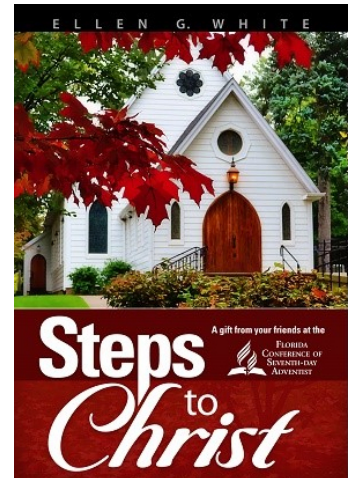
Article by Bradley Church; Photos by Paulette Bullinger

Commemorating 125 Years

Ellen G. White's classic, *Steps to Christ* has now been in print for 125 years. It was first published by the Fleming H. Revell Company in Chicago, Ill. As brother-in-law to Dwight L. Moody, Revell's publishing company began in 1870 and soon became the largest and most influential publisher within evangelical circles. The Review and Herald® Publishing Association purchased the copyright for the book in 1892, shortly after its initial print run.

Today, *Steps to Christ* is the most popular and widely read of all White's books. It has been printed worldwide in more than 165 languages. It's not known how many copies have been sold or distributed through the years. Its impact will only be known in eternity.

Pacific Press® is commemorating this milestone with the offer of a personalized edition of the book. AdventistBookCenter.com/stepstochrist



Dakota Adventist Academy Notes



Three, two, one – the countdown has begun. Three days from now, August 13, the halls of DAA will once again be filled with laughter as students return for the beginning of school. We are excited to welcome them back and to meet new students who will be joining us this year.

Since August 1, the staff have been on campus doing a myriad of tasks from cleaning carpets, painting rooms, setting up classrooms, preparing lesson plans, discussing activities and plans for the year to anything else that needs to be done to prepare for our students' arrival.

The first few weeks of school will be filled with fun activities along with classes. The Student Association officers and sponsors will head to Northern Lights Camp Monday afternoon for two days of leadership training and preparing for the arrival of the rest of the students and staff on Wednesday for camp week. Everyone looks forward to this time spent in God's outdoor classroom.

August 26 will be the first Sabbath on campus. This is a special day as we gather together to dedicate the campus, teachers and staff, and all that happens at DAA to God. Students will be divided into groups and will visit the departments to read from God's word and offer a special prayer of dedication for those areas.

September 2 is another special Sabbath as students and staff travel to various churches to participate in worship. Known as Endowment Sabbath, many from DAA will be taking part in the worship service in a variety of ways – special music, scripture reading or children's story - while in some of the churches, staff will be presenting the sermon.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support as we begin the new school year. Working together we can minister to our youth and encourage them to ask Jesus to be their best friend.

Minot Church Hosts SS Instructor



Skip Farr of the Camelback Adventist Church will be teaching Sabbath School at the Minot Adventist Church September 9, 2017 at 10 a.m. Farr has been teaching SS classes since the mid-1970s. He believes class leadership is about facilitating discussion so the entire class may have a clear picture of Jesus and be uplifted in service and surrender to their Savior.

Professionally Farr is a Civil Engineer who works with software training and development, with a history in heavy highway and bridge work. He is a husband, father, grandfather, brother, son and uncle.

Following the worship service, which will be conducted by the Minot youth, there will be a potluck meal and an afternoon seminar on leading SS classes. If you are a new or aspiring SS teacher or just want a broader perspective, you are cordially invited to attend.

Article by Pastor Barry St. Clair; Photo provided.

Hope Channel TV

"Coming home from school, I would always feel sick when I saw my house. I'd drop my things on the porch and refuse to go inside. I don't remember ever voluntarily going in that house."

—Ty Gibson

HopeChannel

[Download the full story](#)

Lindensmiths Honored

Elder Bryce Pascoe, ministerial secretary for the Dakota Conference, recognized Elder Darrel and



Karen Lindensmith at the Pastors' meetings in Omaha, NE in July 2017 for their service to the Dakota Conference having served in the Dakotas for 27 years. They were missionaries to Japan for seven years prior to accepting a call to the Dakotas. Thank you, Lindensmiths, for your faithful and consistent service.

Article by Jacquie Biloff; Photo by Neil Biloff

MAUC Pathfinder Camporee Held in Custer, SD

Clubs from ten states descended upon Custer, South Dakota the week of July 26 - 29, 2017 under the theme of *Kindred Spirits*. They had the opportunity to earn pathfinder honors, visit museums, reptile gardens and Bear Country. On Sabbath, they marched through the tunnel of flags and worshipped in the amphitheater at the base of Mt. Rushmore.

Elder Neil Biloff welcomed the over 1,500 pathfinders and leaders to the Dakotas Wednesday, July 26th and Elder Loren Nelson led the Dakota pathfinders into the amphitheater for closing ceremonies July 29th.



Article by Jacquie Biloff; Photos by Neil Biloff & KSNE Conference SmugBug



Aug 10 Dispatch Photo

The above photo was taken at the confluence of Cook Inlet and Turn Again Arm near Anchorage, AK using an iPhone with the Pro HDR app by Martha Ban. The local people say that when all the Fireweed blossoms have bloomed to the top of the plant, it will snow. Martha Ban is a Dakota girl until the end of the month so we have featured one of her photos. We will miss Gerry & Martha as they move to Lincoln, NE to serve at the Mid-America Union Conference.

In 2017, I would like to feature a Dakota photo in each issue of Dispatch taken by readers like you. Please state the location where the picture was taken, what equipment was used and your name. Submit to jbiloff@icloud.com. Thank you.

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 Jacquie Biloff at jbiloff@icloud.com. Bison

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