

Dakota Dispatch

Showing the unchanging love of Jesus in a changing world.



Dakota Conference Celebrating 140 Years, 1879 - 2019

Sioux Falls Adventist Church History

From the book *History of Minnehaha County* written in 1891 by Dana R. Bailey, the following quote reads: The Seventh-day Adventist Church - "This church was organized February 23, 1880 by Elder S.B. Whitney, with nine charter members. Services were first held in Sherman's Hall, but in 1881, a church building was erected on Twelfth Street between Dakota and Main Avenues, at a cost of \$1,200.00, in which the congregation worshipped until a few years ago. When the building was sold, and the services have since been held in the new church located on Duluth Ave, between Thirteenth and Fourteenth Streets. The last-mentioned church was erected at a cost of \$3,000.00, which has been paid by the members. Services are held every Saturday, and the present membership is one hundred, with an average attendance of eight-five. The Elders who have had charge of the church are: S. B. Whitney, W.I. Jones, A.D. Olesen, W.B. White, N.W. Kouble, George Bownenad. The present Elders are Fred Powers and I.W. Jones. There is a flourishing Sabbath School connected with the church, numbering about one hundred scholars, also Tract, Missionary and other Societies in aid of the church work."

People came from far and wide to attend, possibly the first Campmeeting, which was held on Jeney Island in the Big Sioux River. Elder James and Sister White were in attendance and organized the Dakota Conference in the Dakota Territory at that time - 1879. By June of 1889, the trustees of the Seventh-day Adventist Church of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, bought Lot 4, Block 5 of Grigsby's Addition #1 from John Lewis and James Clark. On this lot, at 514 S. Duluth Avenue, a church was built and later a small school building was moved on to the site. In December of 1892, these properties were deeded to the General Conference and in May of 1902, they were deeded back to the Dakota Conference. Then in 1905, they were deeded from the Dakota Conference to the South Dakota Conference.

Water and sewer were brought to the basement of the church in 1915. Within five years, the building was lengthened at the east end and electric lights were installed.

In 1961, the congregation bought a church building from the Presbyterian Church for \$30,000.00, located at 132 South Spring Avenue, 10th and Spring. Membership was 230. School was held in the basement until land was purchased south of town at what is presently 3800 West 57th Street. There, a large block building was constructed with brick exterior. In May of 1995, this church was sold and plans for building a new structure was started. Church was held in the school gymnasium.

By July of 1996, five acres of land was purchased on East 26th Street, the current location. The school on West 57th was sold in May of 1999, and ground breaking for a new building was held June 1, 1999, with construction beginning in October. While the church was under construction, a building was rented from the Friendship Baptist Church at 15th and Cloudas Avenue. School was held in a small church rented at 2601 South Marion Road for one year.





When the building was sold, school was held in the home of a member until the new church and school were ready to occupy.



The congregation met for the first time in their new building at 7100 East 26th Street March 2001. When the church building was dedicated in 2010, membership was 279. Today's membership is 307.

Information submitted by Church Clerk Mary Mayer. Photos from archives.



Students Participate in Community Service



March 28th dawned just like any other day, birds twittering and sun shining. Dakota Adventist Academy students went to breakfast and then to Week of Worship morning meeting. That is when everything changed pace.

In front of the school was a trailer loaded with oatmeal, macaroni and cheese, juice, fruit snacks, and ramen. What!? A bucket line was formed from the trailer to the cafeteria and the food items were soon on their way upstairs where they were broken into smaller ratios. Two of every item went into a smaller bag with a hand written encouragement note from DAA students.

This was a portion of assistance for the United Way's backpack summer program. Service for the students and staff was not yet complete however. Students got on the bus to deliver the

backpack bags to United Way.

Then, half of the students spent two hours cleaning and organizing the United Way's storage/distribution center. That was a big job! The other half of the students went to the Sunset Home and did the same thing at that location - cleaning, sanitizing, organizing, scrubbing and sweeping.

The highlight of the day was the joy DAA students brought to the people they interacted with. The energy and excellence they put into the work needing to be done has given the school a reputation in the community of students who are not afraid of hard work and they do it with compassion.

It is the way they speak Jesus to everyone with whom they come in contact.



Article by Tracy Peterson; Photographers includes Ryan Peterson, Tracy Peterson and Madison at United Way.

Encounter Bible Program Provides Opportunities in Adventist Elementary Schools

When you ask a child what their favorite thing they have learned in school is, most of the time the student will tell about a class that involved engaged, out-of-their-seat learning, with hands-on activities. Rarely does a student mention the traditional model of "read a text and answer a worksheet". The new Encounter Bible program incorporates all the elements to provide dynamic, hands on learning, with the goal of letting the students encounter Jesus and His great love for them.

Encounter Bible program was designed and created by Australian, Lanelle Cobin, and has been taught in the Australian Conference for 10-plus years. With the help of Cobin, the Encounter Bible program has been tailored for use in the North American Division. The framework for the program is broken into eight sections: Learner Bait; Learning Context; Animated Learning; Engaged Learning; Heart Learning; Soul Learning; Life Learning and Kaizen Learning.

The first two sessions set the stage for the Bible lesson. Learner Bait captures the attention of the students and learning context explains the purpose for learning about the Bible story and characters.

The next two sessions provide opportunity for the students to hear and explore the lesson. Animated Learning is where the teacher tells the Bible story through dramatic story telling, drawing, oral stories, or listening to "Your Story Hour". Engaged Learning takes the story to the next level for the students. It provides opportunity for the students to review and discuss the story, developing an understanding of the facts and details of the story, but also to discover the lessons and purpose of the story in their own lives. It is during these two sections that the teacher leads the students to the Bible, the only textbook this program uses, to read the story from the source. Often, a corresponding craft or project that relates to the story is completed during these sessions.

During the first four sessions selected Treasure verses, usually three per story, are woven into the learning. Through a variety of activities: songs; fill-in-the-blank; word actions; saying the verse; verse unscramble activities; etc., the verses are committed to memory.

The Encounter program provides time for the students to reflect on what they have learned in the Heart and Soul Learning sections. Quiet time is provided in class for the students to journal and spend special time with God thinking back on what they have learned throughout the lessons. It

is during these sessions that the opportunity to choose to apply the lessons is given to the students.

Life Learning fulfills the gospel commission of going into the world and telling others the good news of Jesus. Service projects have been built into this program that correspond to the theme behind the story the students learn.

The final session is the celebration of what they have learned. During Kaizen Learning a certificate is presented to the students acknowledging the joy that Christ has when we choose to follow Him. Many times, the celebration extends into an actual party with food and a special time to praise God and thank Him for the lessons they have learned from the Bible.



Encounter Bible program is providing students with the tools to develop a deep, engaged relationship to God. Hopefully, each student who participates in the program will take the love of God into their heart, and spread that love to their community.

Kaizen learning - students help prepare meal of lentil stew, flatbread and other middle Eastern food after learning about Jacob and Esau.

Article and photo by Leanna Erickson, teacher at Prairie Voyager in Grand Forks, ND

Lehr Church Joins in Community Sing



The Lehr Adventist Church invited the community to a its second annual Singspiration, March 24, 2019. It is a program the community enjoys and participates in. Close to 100 people attended.

There was an announcement made at the beginning of the service and also listed in the bulletin that midway through the program an impromptu choir would be formed that would sing a familiar hymn and that at least 4 bass, 4 tenor, 4 alto and 4 soprano singers would be needed. At the appointed time, the choir was fully staffed and sounded, "really good", according to one attendee, "especially since they had never sung together before. It was fun."

One young man, dealing with cancer and facing the prospect of losing a limb, sang with his sister, *It Is Well with My Soul*, leaving hardly a dry eye.

At the end of the program, it was announced that there would be another singspiration in the adjoining community of Cleveland and a date was given.

A variety of fruit and crackers were available after the program for a season of fellowship.

Article by Jacquie Biloff with Gerry Forbes; Photo by Pastor Bob Forbes II

Plan now to attend the Northeast Regional, which will be held at the Jamestown Adventist Church in Jamestown, ND, April 27, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.

Enjoy a day of praise, music and fellowship.

Fargo Falcons Represent Dakota Conference



The Fargo Falcon Pathfinder Club from the Red River Adventist Church received first place at the Dakota Conference Bible Experience on January 19, 2018. A month later, the Fargo Falcons traveled to the Mid-America Union Pathfinder Bible Experience in Lincoln, Nebraska and placed second. The six pathfinders spent months diligently studying the book of Luke. The dedication of parents and coaches, Angela Ronalds and Akua Owusu Ansah, helped the pathfinders achieve this goal.

Teams have already begun studying Ezra and Nehemiah for the Bible Experience next year.

Pathfinders with Elder Loren Nelson at the Mid-America Union Bible Experience include: Angel Mochoge, Cynthia Mochoge, Andrew Ronalds, Josh Ronalds, Luke Ronalds and Samuel Smith.



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Testimony of Jose Aguilar

Religion was never something that came peacefully to my family. I was raised Catholic and my wife was raised a non-denominational Christian. Every big decision we made in our lives together, no matter how happy the occasion was meant to be, resulted in a fight because of our differences of opinion.

My wife had asked me for years to attend church with her, but I stubbornly refused because I was convinced my church was the one true church, and if I got her to go with me enough, eventually she would be the one to convert and join my church.

Out of respect for me, my wife would attend church with me as a guest, but that changed in 2012 with the birth of our oldest son, when my family started inquiring about our son's baptism into the Catholic Church. My wife and I agreed that baptizing our son into a church where both of the parents did not wholeheartedly attend was not the best thing for him.

That year we got tired of fighting, and we both stopped going to church altogether. In early 2018, my wife's friend invited her to a church seminar in Cleveland, North Dakota.

After several meetings, my wife invited me to go with her. Several meetings and a few Sabbath services later, I fell in love with the Seventh-day Adventist Church. As a family, we continued to attend Sabbath services off and on over the next year, and I came to love our church more and more. For the first time in my life my questions about the Bible were being answered with truth, and for the first time, our home was undeniably filled with God's peace.



In February of 2019, my wife called me in tears saying she was going all in and was planning to be baptized. The excitement I had for her, and the peace I had in my heart told me I was ready to join her in that decision. On March 2, 2019, I laid a sinful man to rest and I was born again a child of God, ready to do whatever it is that my Heavenly Father calls me to do.

Testimony of Jose Aguilar; Photos by Cheryl Erickson

District Sabbath Baptism

The Edgeley, Lehr and Kulm church members “enjoyed a very high Sabbath,” says Gerry Forbes. It was a district Sabbath when the three churches pastored by Elder Bob Forbes II met at one location for fellowship. That Sabbath, March 30, 2019, church members met at the Lehr Adventist Church. The highlight of the day was “adding another young man to the church family,” says Forbes.



Chris Hofer, a young man with a wife and three children, joined the Lehr church by baptism. Hofer grew up in a Hutterite Colony but left when he was a teenager and began smoking and doing drugs. He had a good job moving houses and was able to keep working in spite of his drug habit. Encounters with Adventists brought him in touch with Christ and he completed Bible study lessons. Finally, he decided he wanted to be baptized.

He invited his wife, who is not too sure about him becoming a Christian. However, she and the kids came. He invited his dad and his sister, but still being members of the colony, are not allowed to attend any outside church. Although the baptism was held later in the afternoon, after the fellowship meal, hoping his family might feel free to come at that time, they did not attend. A friend of his did however.

After seeing an ad from Amazing Facts, Hofer sent in his conversion story. Amazing Facts contacted him and flew him to Chicago for an interview Tuesday, April 2nd.

Article by Jacquie Biloff with Gerry Forbes; Photo by Marion Sweigert.

OUTLOOK magazine is requesting your input! Please help them improve your reading experience by filling out a short survey on page 29 of the April issue of *Outlook*. Returned paper surveys will be included in a random drawing for a \$100 gift card from the Adventist Book Center. You may also complete the survey online at bit.ly/OUTLOOKsurvey2019.



OUTLOOK Magazine

NEEDS YOUR INPUT

Please help us improve
your reading experience
Now - April 22

Mid-America Union Conference





April Food Specials
April 1-30, 2019

		Bismarck Retail <u>Case</u>	Bismarck Retail <u>Single</u>	Bismarck Special <u>Case</u>	Bismarck Special <u>Single</u>
Canned					
LL Saucettes	12/19 oz	\$71.73	\$6.58	\$67.33	\$6.33
LL Super Links	12/19 oz	71.73	6.58	67.33	6.33
LL Swiss Stake	12/13 oz	61.49	5.64	57.09	5.39
Food Service					
LL Linketts	6/96 oz	122.94	22.56	116.14	22.06
LL Swiss Stake	12/47 oz	153.69	14.10	146.89	13.60

Subject to availability at Bismarck Location

ABC hours in Bismarck, ND are:

- Tuesday - Thursday 3:00pm - 5:30pm

April 4 Dispatch Photo



Photo by Jacquie Biloff taken northwest of Zap, ND using an iPhone XS

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 Copyright



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