

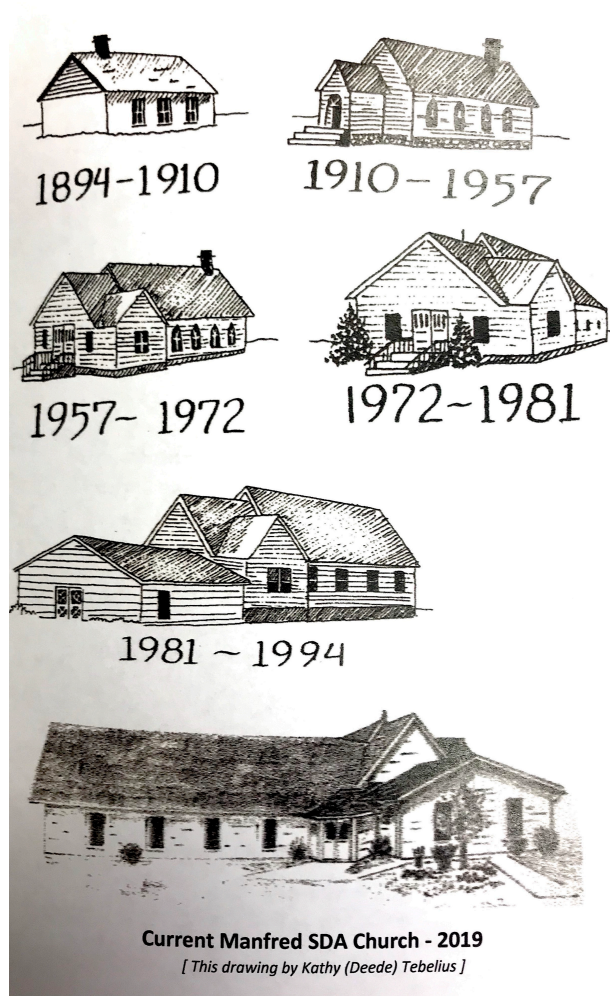
Dakota Dispatch

Sharing the unchanging love of Jesus in a changing world.



Dakota Conference Celebrating 145 Years, 1874 - 2019

The Manfred Adventist Church Survives, Part 2



As a part of the first worship service held in the new (1910) church the group enthusiastically sang, *Pass Me Not, O, Gentle Savior*. From that humble beginning the Manfred Seventh-day Adventist Church would grow to a membership of seven souls. The pioneers and charter members of the Manfred Church (possibly the first Adventist Church in North Dakota, but certainly the first one in Wells County) are listed as follows: Mr. and Mrs. John Schmidt, Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Schmidt, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Deede, Mr. and Mrs. John Deede, Mr. and Mrs. Adam Aberhardt, Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Kuntz, and Mr. and Mrs. John Merkel, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Schmir, Mr. and Mrs. David Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Miller, and Mr. and Mrs. Gottlieb Deede.

The first elder of the church was John Schmidt. John Merkel served as the Sabbath School superintendent, while Phillip Kuntz served as the Sabbath School Secretary. All clerk's reports were written in German before 1950. The first offerings consisted of Indian Head pennies. Records, currently held by the church clerk, date back to the year 1919. Many of the members felt the blessings of the Lord as they watched their church grow.

One by one, the charter members of the church passed away but their children and grandchildren, in large part, have been faithful to the message and the mission of the church. Since the Manfred church is a rural church, it has felt a missionary burden for the nearby towns of Fessenden and Harvey, North Dakota.

In 1910, the church members decided to erect a frame church which was located one mile and a half south of the original church. That is the present location of the Manfred Seventh-day Adventist Church. The land for the new frame church was donated to the congregation by Mr. and Mrs. David Miller. Elder George Wagn was the first resident pastor. In 1957, the congregation decided to add more space for the children's divisions. This renovation included the addition of a church basement. In 1958, the new additions, including the basement, were dedicated free of debt. Another renovation took place in 1972 and in 1982; the church which had faced toward the west was turned to face the south. A full basement served as a fellowship hall.

Not long ago, the Manfred church decided on another giant leap forward. Plans were laid to build a new sanctuary that would connect to the old church toward the west. It would be a 2500 square foot addition. A second phase of the new plan was a remodeling project that would transform the old church

into classrooms for the children, a library, a mother's room and storage space. The church has an active program for their children and youth and a stor Vacation Bible School in the summer. It was felt that the new plans would strengthen the entire mission of the church. A building committee of five membe was chosen with Tom Deede as the chairman. Work proceeded even in the dead of winter and on July 31, 2010, the Manfred Adventist Church wa dedicated free of debt. With the present membership around sixty-five, the church has paid off a debt of almost \$200,000 with the newest project. To Gc be the glory!

The members have been actively engaged in mission support of [Maasai Development Project](#) in Kenya, [Feed My Lambs Ministry](#) in Haiti, and [Missiona Outreach and Volunteer Evangelism \(MOVE\)](#) in Belize for many years. In the past few years, the members have added a strong prison ministry program ; well to their mission outreach.

Article by Elder Wayne Easley; Art by Kathy Tebelius.



Photo by Cliff Freese

Adopt a Student at Dakota Adventist Academy



Dakota Adventist Academy students are seeking adoption. They are looking f financial assistance from individuals or churches who have generous hearts f young people. The price of a year at DAA is \$15,750, which includes room ar board. One family has four high school aged students that would like to atten They are not seeking full compensation but assistance. Churches may choose support at the rate of \$10,000/year, which individually would be manageable.

"Right now we have 46 probables," says Tracy Peterson, recruiter and enrollme officer. Registration is Sunday, August 18th. "Our greatest desire is that every or would take a moment every day to pray for the school, the students and th faculty."

According to Niche, a school ranking system of "the best schools in your are based on rigorous analysis of key statistics and millions of reviews from studen and parents using data from the U.S. Department of Education," Dakota Adventi

Academy is ranked at third in the state of North Dakota for Christian schools. "One family from Bismarck, not associated with the Adventist church, h; decided this is the atmosphere they want for their child," says Peterson. "Other students are from Korea, Thailand, Philippines, Canada, North Dakot South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa and Florida."

"It is not too late to apply or refer a child," says Peterson.

Interested families or individuals may contact Recruiter [Tracy Peterson](#), Principal [Anthony Oucharek](#) or VP of Finance [David Chapman](#).

Black Hills Health & Education Center

invites you to attend their **Annual Spiritual Retreat** held in a red & white tent on the campus in Hermosa, South Dakota. The event starts Friday, August 30, at 6:30pm and ends Sunday, September 1, at noon. Richard Stenbakken will be presenting a first person narrative of Biblical characters (www.biblefaces.com) with special music by Advent Capelle. Call Sherlyn Martin for room reservations and meals at (605) 255.4101.

Schedule of topics:

Friday: John on Patmos

Sabbath 11am: Peter

Sabbath afternoon: Pilate

Sabbath evening: The Centurion at the Cross

Sunday morning: The Armor of God from Ephesians 6

Let the Son Shine In

MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA - Excitement is in the air as staff and students prepare for the reopening of the elementary school in Minot with the first day of classes August 23, 2019. The Ella Seifert Elementary School closed in 1986 amid a decline in registration. It is set to reopen amid humble beginnings with four registered students and one teacher in a multigrade classroom.

Improvements include updating the Internet capacity of the church building where SonShine Elementary shares the dual-purpose classroom with the youth Bible study class and the Minot Adventurer Club. The benefit is pedestrian traffic across the campus seven days a week, instead of just two. www.adventurer-club.org

Ella Seifert Elementary School served Minot for many years before closing in the mid-eighties during one of the most challenging times for agriculture since the depression era. The school has blown off the dust, and ordered next generation textbooks, and is set to reopen as SonShine Elementary ~ *Let the Son shine in!*

This slogan is what has motivated us to plan for opening an elementary school among the sixth largest population center of North and South Dakota.

"This is our evangelism plan," explains Barry St. Clair, pastor of the Minot and Bottineau, Seventh Day Adventist Churches. "We want to reach young people for eternity while they are most reachable."



SonShine Elementary is honored to join the sisterhood of schools in Dakota Conference, including seven other elementary schools, and Dakota Adventist Academy, a secondary boarding school located outside of Bismarck / Mandan, North Dakota.

The head teacher, Tami Todd, comes to us with years of teaching experience. Her specialty is multigrade, one-teacher classrooms. The benefit of small class sizes, and multi-grade levels is well documented.

"I am excited to be at the start of a school," says Todd.

Todd's interests include her pets: a horse, a golden retriever, and two house cats.

SonShine Elementary has conducted a couple of fundraisers including a plant sale this spring, and currently, selling Foxy's Super Sweet Corn. Foxy and his family operate a farm in North Dakota near Mohall, and have been growing sweet corn for several years. They have grown the corn, and now the school has the opportunity to sell it to support the scholarship program for families who desire an Adventist®

Education - pursuing 'A Journey to Excellence.' You can follow Foxy on Facebook at Fox's Super Sweet Corn. Foxy looks forward to entering first grade at SonShine Elementary next fall.

SonShine Elementary also joins several parochial schools operating in the Minot area.

"God has blessed us, and led us into this service of evangelism with Him here in Minot," says St. Clair.

Pastor Barry and Barbara St. Clair rejoined team Dakota Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in November of 2016 and currently reside in Surrey, ND. Barbara is employed at nursing homes in Minot.



Article and photos by Barry St. Clair

Pastors Enjoy Creation Health Presentations



Lynell LaMountain, director of Health Ministries for the Southern Union, presented an introduction to and foundation for presenting Creation Health as respectful strategy for community fellowship. These meetings were held July 29 – 31, 2019 at the annual Pastors' Retreat held at Northern Lights Camp bordering Lake Metigoshe along the Canadian border.

Creation culture used as a basis for re-creation health has provided stimulating conversation and consideration among Dakota Conference pastors. The scientific research, which supports the Creation Health program, provides surprising, even shocking statistics for sharing:

- Loneliness increases premature death by 500%;
- Nutrition constitutes 80% of a person's health;
- Brain activity decreases 1% per year after age 65 if a person is inactive;
- Fewer than 6 hours of sleep per night, or more than 9, decreases life expectancy by 9 years;
- Losing 2 hours of sleep from 10 pm to 3 am reduces immunity by 50%;
- Losing 2 hours of sleep from 3 am to 7 am reduces immunity by 30%;
- Drinking sufficient water reduces the risk of 3 of 4 cancers;

- A positive outlook decreases risk of early death by 50%;
- Children laugh 400 times/day; Adults laugh 15 times/day.

Attendees from the conference have said:

- I like how down-to-earth the presentations are, how candid Lynell is, speaking on the different topics. I'm looking forward to the conclusion as he discusses the Outlook.
- It is a good, well-balanced plan. I think it is an easy bridge between the church and the community. He has supplied a lot of information to teach that method.
- I thought it was really refreshing.
- It's a good program. The thing is, it is cost effective.
- Creation Health is a well-standing program, incorporated into Florida Health's Hospitalization programs and certified by Loma Linda. So it should be good and it is good. The presentations are excellent.
- Creation Health is a non-threatening program for anyone who wants to start little by little to regain health.
- I have really enjoyed Creation Health. I think it has all the components we need to give attention to in our own lives.
- We did a couple Creation Health seminars at our church in Fargo. It was very well received. We had a great turn out. One of the best things was that our members bought in and there was a high level of involvement. Everyone was blessed. The visitors were blessed also and the best part was that we were able to make new friends for Jesus.



Article and photos by Jacquie Biloff

Music Program and Teacher Dedication



The Turtle Lake-Mandan District would like to invite you to an outdoor worship service August 10, 2019 at Fort Mandan, Fahlgren Park, Washburn, ND. It is located two miles west of the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center on McLean Country Highway 17. Watch for signs. Sabbath School starts at 10 a.m., Worship Service at 11:05 followed by a fellowship dinner. Paper plates, cups, napkins and plastic ware will be provided. Bring your own chairs. Music program and teacher dedication will begin at 1:45 p.m.

Questions? Roger Boyko - 701.448.2884 or Leslie Soules - 701.319.8628

Finding Feast and Fellowship



Spiritual Feast Weekend at Northern Lights Camp on the shores of Lake Metigoshe followed on the heels of the Pastors' Retreat. The weather was beautiful with occasional threats of adversity.

Siblings Randi Suckut and Charlotte Timothy provided music for the weekend with voice and guitar. Nine-year-old Greta helped Sabbath afternoon with songs or verses not in the hymnal or praise book by pulling them up on her phone.

Elder Neil Biloff presented three devotionals over the weekend commencing Friday evening with the question, "Is Sin the Problem?" based on Matthew 24. The inevitable conclusion is that we are the problem due to our selfish propensities, which allow fractures in relationships with God and others resulting in sin.

The story of the blind man as revealed in John 9 was presented Sabbath morning. Jesus, perhaps weighing the options, considered healing to be of greater value to the gentleman than the man's excommunication from the Jewish community. The Healed joined the fledgling Christian outcasts.

Sabbath evening's title was *Food Wars*, commencing with Eve in the Garden, Cain and Abel, Jacob and Esau, and finally Peter's baffling vision of the unclean creatures presented thrice for consumption. Peter's baptizing of Cornelius and his family was culturally radical.

Visitors came from as far away as Missouri and Nebraska, and at least one came by air.






Article and photos by Jacquie Biloff

Aug 8 Dispatch Photo




Photo by Jodi Dossenke using an iPhone SE


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. Bacon Copyright

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