



Dakota Messenger

DAKOTA CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Hope For Tomorrow

Mark R. Weir, President



If there is one key reality that defines so many of our faithful people across our Conference it is this: hope. So many times, as I interact with our people, there is a wonderful perspective that comes through. No matter what is happening now, tomorrow is another day, and it will be a better day.

One of the unique realities of this winter has been the snow. I realize that we get snow every year, but this year has set records all across our two states. Yet so many people, from farmers to teachers, students to business professionals, continue on, knowing that a better day is coming.

We, as Seventh-day Adventists, live with the certainty of a future filled with hope, with a future focused on eternity with Jesus. That is our heritage. That is our foundation.

Yet we live in a world filled with suffering and loss. Every day we read of new tragedies, and all too often, we experience those ourselves. Each morning when we gather at the Conference Office for staff worship, we review the list of people and circumstances we are praying for. These include the loss of loved ones, medical issues that have no easy solutions, job situations, etc. The list is long, and the suffering is real. And yes, some days, it can be difficult to continue on.

Without hope, people begin to despair. Without hope, the future clouds over, and our tomorrows can be nightmares. Yet we are a people of hope!

I am very excited to gather with fellow believers in just a few weeks for Campmeeting. When we come together, we will again be reminded of the hope we, as a people, hold. No matter how dark and difficult the days, there is a heavenly glimmer illuminating our path to a better tomorrow. Yet the best part about Campmeeting is the fellowship with fellow believers!

People from across the Dakotas and beyond come together to enjoy a unique and enriching experience. Yes, Campmeeting is an event, but it is more than that. It is more like a massive family reunion where friendships are re-affirmed, and new acquaintances are established. It is a spiritual feast where interaction and instruction combine to help us grow, and I am excited about the speakers joining us. Our seminar speakers bring a depth of biblical insight and an incredible commitment to Jesus. The first time I heard our evening speaker preach, I was struck by both his humility and his authenticity. I am looking forward to enjoying all that will be shared, but here is what I enjoy the most—the sense of community and joyful camaraderie of the faithful.

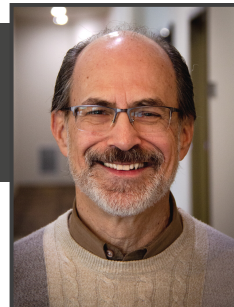
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Each one of us is on a journey, and I pray that our destination is heaven. With each passing day, I realize more and more the importance of that journey. I want my heart yielded and my life to reflect my Savior. Yet journeying alone is not the best way. We need one another. We need to encourage one another and draw strength from one another. We need gatherings like Campmeeting to be reminded of eternal realities in the midst of day-to-day challenges. We need one another.

So, I encourage you to plan to join together this year. I believe the time spent together will help not only with what we encounter each day but more importantly will provide us with hope for all of our tomorrows!

Treasurer's Report

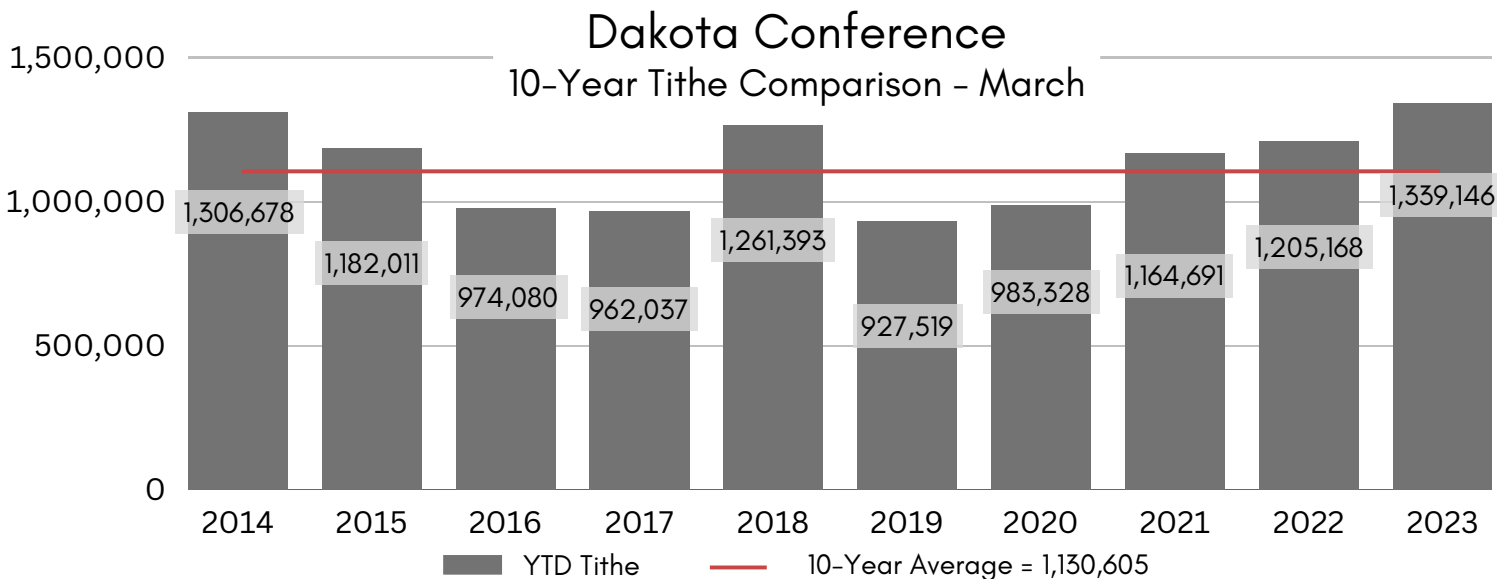
Mark Seibold, VP of Finance



I'm pleased to report that March 2023 shows the highest year-to-date tithe total in conference history! This is even more remarkable considering that a fair number of churches were unable to submit tithe reports due to an earlier-than-usual submission deadline. Here is yet another demonstration of the generosity of our Dakota members!

Conversely, expenses also grow over time, particularly due to inflation over the last year or two. A good example are staff cost of living increases. The year 2022 saw a 5.4% increase, and 2023 budget calls for a 6% increase. While these pay increases are set and recommended by the North American Division, they are not mandatory. Unfortunately, conferences that do not adopt them eventually lose competitive advantage when attracting staff.

In this time of increasing financial, social, and spiritual challenges, Dakota Adventist churches and schools must remain "beacons of light" in our communities, promoting a better life through a living God. Thank you all for your tangible support and prayers.



DAA ~ SRA ~ PVA

Alumni Weekend

OCTOBER 6 & 7, 2023



2023 DAKOTA PATHFINDER CAMPOREE



Calling ALL Pathfinders!

Come to beautiful Flag Mountain Camp for a camporee full of fun activities and honors!

Our theme is:

Building 4 Eternity

Registration opens May 15



✂ ✂ ✂ August 9-13, 2023 Flag Mountain Camp, Hill City, SD ✂ ✂ ✂

Needed:

Pastor Ted is seeking vintage Pathfinder memorabilia for the Conference Pathfinder displays. If you have patches, pins, buttons, uniforms, flags, banners, or any other items that you are willing to donate or loan, please contact him directly. He is especially interested in finding items from before the North and South Dakota conferences merged.

pathfinders@dakotasda.org

DAKOTA CONFERENCE 2023 1ST QUARTER MEMBERSHIP REPORT

ADDED BY

- Baptism and profession of faith = 15
- Letters of transfer = 24
- Adjustment = -1

Total: 38

DROPPED BY

- Letter = 23
- Deceased = 13
- Removed = 6
- Missing = 12

Total: 54

MEMBERSHIP

- December 31, 2022 = 3,857
- March 31, 2023 = 3,841
- Decreased by **16 members** (-0.41%) during January - March

Total: 3,841



Who You Say I Am

DAKOTA CONFERENCE
YOUNG ADULT CAMPMEEETING

JUNE 2 & 3, 2023

INSPIRING | MEANINGFUL | INCLUSIVE

SPEAKER: CRAIG CARR



At this year's Campmeeting, the Dakota Conference is endeavoring to provide an uplifting and meaningful worship experience for the 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 Girls' Dorm chapel.

Dakota Summer Camps

Ted Struntz, Youth & Young Adults Director

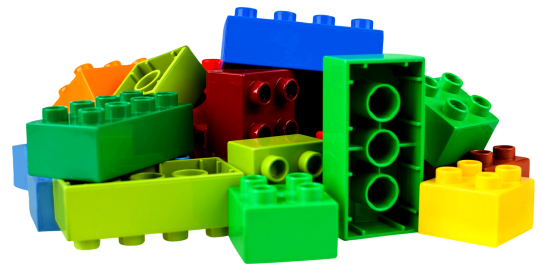


Can you believe in just under two months the Dakota Adventist Camps will officially start? Our staff is hired and preparing to minister to the kids of the Dakotas. We have staff coming from multiple states to serve in the Dakotas. For months we have been praying that God would send us just the right people to make up our summer ministry team, and God showed up in a big way! Miracles have happened, and God's timing is perfect! For instance, we really wanted to restart our ceramics program this year, and we had been earnestly praying for someone qualified to lead out in this ministry. God sent us a young lady with over seven years of experience working at summer camp with ceramics! We prayed for lifeguards to lead out at



the waterfront, and God sent them. In fact, we had multiple lifeguards apply before we even prayed for them! God knows exactly what we need. That's one of the many great things about God. He tells us in scripture that before we know what to ask for, He is already putting plans into motion to meet our needs. God's faithfulness is overwhelming at times.

This summer we are adding several new activities, including Tomahawk throwing, Gaga Ball, RC Crawlers, and LEGO building. I'm especially looking forward to our new RC Rock Crawlers. If you know what Rock Crawlers are, you can guess the fun we will be having. These remote control vehicles go over various terrain. It will be awesome to watch our staff and campers work together as they use their creativity to build tracks for timed races for the vehicles. Another creative activity that we are offering this year is LEGO construction. This was suggested to us by many of our campers last summer. We look forward to seeing completed masterpieces! (We would love to add to our LEGO collection; if you have some to donate, please bring them to Campmeeting, or contact me, so I can arrange a pickup.)



We also have been praying for our campers; they are vital part of our Dakota Adventist Camps family. We want them to have fun loads of fun this summer, but more importantly, we want them to experience meeting Jesus and learning to make Him a forever Friend. We encourage you to join us as we pray for our campers and our staff. If you know a young person who you believe would benefit from summer camp, encourage them to sign up today. Summer is coming—and we can't wait!



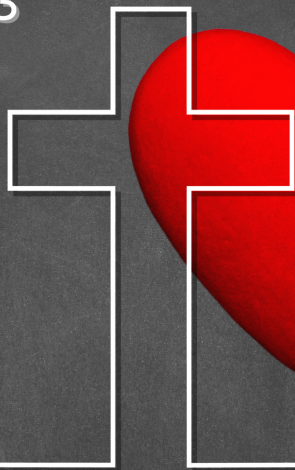
<i>Flag Mountain Camp</i>	
CUB (ages 8-10)	June 14-18
JUNIOR (ages 11-13)	June 18-25
TEEN (ages 14-17)	June 25-July 2
<i>Northern Lights Camp</i>	
CUB (ages 8-10)	July 12-16
JUNIOR (ages 11-13)	July 16-23
TEEN (ages 14-17)	July 23-30



DAKOTA CAMPMEETING

May 31 - June 3, 2023

Revive Us
AGAIN



Ways to register:

- use the QR code
- send in the paper registration
- visit dakotaadventist.org/ministries/campmeeting/registration

Suggested items to bring if staying in the dorm:

- bedding for twin bed(s)
- mattress pad
- pillows
- bath / hand towels
- washcloths
- shower caddy / mat
- air freshener
- hand soap
- garbage bin / bags
- fan(s)
- toiletries
- ear plugs
- clothes hangers
- night light
- tissues (toilet paper provided)
- iron
- disinfectant wipes
- drinking water / cup

Please note: a standard dorm room includes beds/mattresses only. Linens, towels, and personal toiletries are NOT provided.



2023 Dakota Campmeeting Reservation: May 31 - June 3, 2023

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Names of people sharing your room: _____

Total number of mattresses needed: _____

Make checks payable to "Dakota Conference." Send full payment with reservation to Dakota Conference. Full-time reservations take precedence over daily stays. Reservations may be made online at: dakotaadventist.org

Credit card payments are now available online.

Dorm Room - standard room:

Includes beds, mattresses, & shower curtain.
Shared bathroom between two rooms.

- Dorm Room - Full Time: \$100/week
- Dorm Room - Daily: \$35/day
- Refrigerator - \$25 (upon availability)

Campground with hook-up:

RV/Campers/Tents

- Campground - Full Time: \$50/week
- Campground - Daily: \$18/day

Campground without hook-up:

Tents/Self-Contained RVs

- Campground - \$10/week

Dakota Campmeeting Speakers

May 31 - June 3, 2023 - Located at Dakota Adventist Academy



Dr. Bradford Newton

In August of 2021, Pastor Newton took on the role of president of the Pacific Union Conference. For more than 25 years, he has served in various capacities in the union: pastor in the Southern California Conference, president for the Nevada-Utah Conference, associate director of public affairs and religious liberty for the Pacific Union, and most recently as executive secretary and ministerial director for the Pacific Union—a role he held for 13 years. While he is a native Californian, having grown up in the Southern California area, Newton attended college and graduate school at Andrews University in Michigan, earning bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in theology and ministry. He spent the first 14 years of his service as a pastor in the Illinois Conference. He is married to Jennifer, a certified faith-based meeting planner and Christian financial planning consultant; they have two adult children and two granddaughters.

Elder Craig Carr

Craig Carr is a Jesus-follower, husband, father, photographer, and marathoner who thinks it's fun to run every day. He earned a bachelor's in business administration from Union College, a master's of divinity from Andrews University, and a doctorate of ministry from Denver Seminary. Craig and his wife Carisa, also a Union graduate, recently returned to Lincoln where he serves as ministerial director of the Mid-America Union and chief encouragement officer for *Restore the Joy of My Vocation*. The couple have two grown children.



Pastor Esther Knott

Esther R. Knott has served as a pastor for more than 28 years and is the associate director for the North American Division Ministerial Association. She also serves as the director of the master's in pastoral ministry program at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. Esther has lived in four countries. Her parents were converts to the Adventist faith, and it was through their example that she learned to live intentionally as a contagious Adventist. She is married to Ronald Alan Knott, who is director of Andrews University Press. Their daughter and son-in-law live in Denver: Olivia is a software engineer working as a creative technologist at Hovercraft, and Ivan Ruiz-Knott is a founding partner of Types and Symbols—an Adventist design studio.

Elder Mark Piotrowski

Mark Piotrowski is vice president of administration and human resources director for the Dakota Conference. Born in Poland, his family moved around Austria, Italy, and Australia until they finally settled in South Africa when he was eleven years old. After moving to the United States in 1995, he earned a doctorate of ministry from Andrews University and wrote his dissertation on intercessory prayer strategy for evangelism. He has served as an army chaplain, church pastor, and conference prayer ministries coordinator. He also speaks three languages. Mark and his wife, Elbie, have two daughters: Cherise and Adeline.

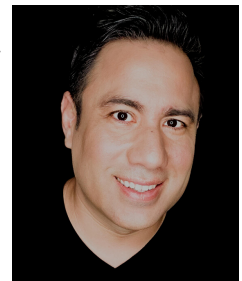


Elder Jim Roosenberg

Tim Roosenberg has studied prophecy for the majority of his life and has discovered that following the interpretation techniques of the early church and the reformers results in the most reliable and logical understanding of Bible prophecies. He received his bachelor's degree from Southwestern Adventist University and his master's degree from Andrews University. He currently works for the Idaho Conference as their evangelist. Tim is married to Karen, is a father of four, loves the great outdoors, and is the author of the book *Islam and Christianity in Prophecy: a study of Daniel 11*. He is also a frequent speaker at Daniel 11 conferences.

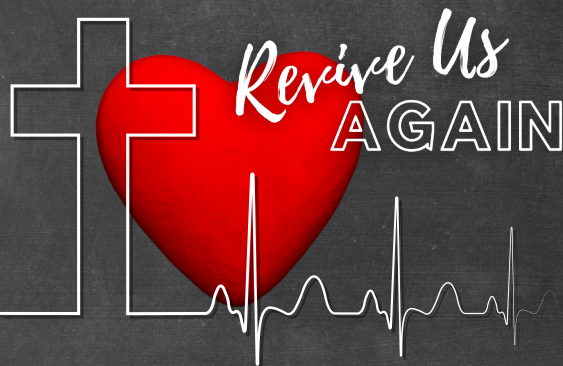
Hugo Yin

Hugo Yin is a Christian singer, author, and inspirational speaker born in Los Angeles, California. In 2008, he decided to follow his calling to be a full-time music minister, and in the same year married his wife, Addi Morales, with whom he shares his calling. Yin has travelled extensively, singing about how the Lord has saved and changed his life. In 2019, he released his first book: an autobiography which details his life as a secular musician, a celebrity bodyguard, and how it all came together after finally finding his father who had abandoned him and his mother.



DAKOTA CAMPMEETING

May 31 - June 3, 2023



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		10:50 - 12:20 Church Service Elder Bradford Newton
10:00 - 11:15		Pastor Esther Knott	Elder Craig Carr	
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		Sabbath served: 12:30 - 1:30
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				

Dakota Conference

OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

7200 N Washington Street
Bismarck ND 58503-6301
www.dakotaadventist.org



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CALENDAR

May

- 5-7 Men's Retreat - Medora, ND
- 7 Women's Mini-Retreat - Bismarck, ND (12-4p)
- 8-12 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 19-21 DAA Graduation Weekend
- 31-3 Dakota Campmeeting

July

- 4 Office Closed - Independence Day
- 12-16 Cub Camp - Northern Lights (ages 8-10)
- 16-23 Junior Camp - Northern Lights (ages 11-13)
- 23-30 Teen Camp - Northern Lights (ages 14-17)
- 31-3 Pastors' Retreat - Northern Lights

June

- 1-3 Dakota Campmeeting
- 3 Pathfinder Parade at Campmeeting
- 5-6 Office Closed
- 14-18 Cub Camp - Flag Mountain (ages 8-10)
- 18-25 Junior Camp - Flag Mountain (ages 11-13)
- 25 Executive Committee - Office (10a)
- 25-2 Teen Camp - Flag Mountain (ages 14-17)

August

- 7-10 NAD Educators' Convention - Phoenix, AZ
- 9-13 Dakota Pathfinder Camporee - Flag Mountain
- 13 DAA Registration
- 27 K-12 Board of Education - Office (10a)

President, Evangelism, ASI

Mark Weir

VP of Admin, HR, Church Ministries

Mark Piotrowski

Admin Assistant, Receptionist

TBD

Trust Assistant, Membership Clerk

Julie Brude

Communication Director

Jodi Dossenko

Development Director, ABC

Lynette Miller

VP of Finance

Mark Seibold

Associate Treasurer

Cindy Miller

Treasury Clerk, Trust Director

Judy Weir

Youth & Young Adults, Camps

Ted Struntz

Associate Youth Director

Lynette Struntz

Maintenance Services

Marlin Miller

Field Directors

Adventist Community Services

Bob Forbes II

Education

Kelli Wasemiller

Men's Ministries

Randy Rubbert

Ministerial

Vernon Herholdt

Prayer Ministries

Barry St. Clair

Women's Ministries

Paulette Bullinger