



Nothing to Fear

This is the 53rd 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 11: The Good Work - Part 5

Although more "career colporteurs" were needed to build a solid base for the canvassing work, the early success among the students proved the value of the scholarship plan - four were awarded in 1909³³ - and of the instructional and motivational techniques of the annual training institute. Concerning the 1909 institute, academy student Peter Richert wrote, "Brother Payne and Brother Manfull ... aroused a great interest in the canvassing work among the students. At this writing ... the interest has come up to its limit. Almost everyone is introducing himself to someone else, or to a chair as a canvasser, and then they will turn the talking machine loose."³⁴

Present at that 1909 institute at Sheyenne River Academy were Jacob Peters and Roy Saunders, future field secretaries of the North Dakota Conference, and Andrew Roedel, who would later make a significant contribution to literature evangelism in general, as well as in North Dakota.³⁵

Another Sheyenne River Academy student colporteur, Ira Evenson, became the first student of the academy to enter the work of the church in a "foreign field", going to England in 1911 as a literature evangelist.³⁶

Not all of the early colporteurs were as youthful as these students, however. William Palmer was almost 91 years old and "could just drag one foot after the other" the day he walked to a schoolhouse a mile from his home, sold a book to the teacher and walked another half-mile to sell a second volume.³⁷

An effort to broaden the base of the book work was made in 1909 by conducting a second training institute at Bowdon, designed, probably, to recruit both additional adult "full-time" workers in general, and more German-speaking colporteurs in particular.³⁸

"Full-time" canvassers (possibly working no more than four months a year) seem to have included Gustav Ellingson, who sold 200 copies of *Great Controversy* during the summer of 1907, in a territory where the local priest advised his parishioners to burn existing copies of the book; J.A. Reiber - former field secretary - who apparently helped in the training and supervision of other workers; K.O. Shawhen who had apparently begun colporteur work as early as 1895 in the northeast corner of the state; and Fred Reile, who worked for some time in the German areas of the state.³⁹

About 1905, Fred Reile began canvassing in the Lehr (McIntosh County) area, following the usual custom of seeking food and lodging in the homes of the people he visited. John Werth hospitably opened his home to Reile while making it clear that he was not interested in either Reile's books or his religion. Frustrated in his efforts to witness for his faith, Reile walked out to the slough Werth was planning to cut the next day and placed a Sabbath tract in the unmown hay, praying that his host would find and read it.

John Werth did find the tract and read and studied it. Later he bought a copy of the book *Bible Readings for the Home* from Reile, and became convinced of Adventist doctrine. Werth was one of the first people in Lehr to become a Seventh-day Adventist and a charter member of the church organized there in 1914.⁴⁰

33. *Northern Union Reaper*, January 19, 1909, 3.

34. *Ibid.*, April 13, 1909, 4, 5.

35. *Ibid.*, May 18, 1909, 5.

36. *Ibid.*, June 25, 1912, 3; December 5, 1911, 5.

37. *Ibid.*, October 7, 1908, 5.

38. *Ibid.*, April 18, 1909, 5.

39. *Ibid.*, August 6, 1907, 4; April 18, 1909, 4; May 30, 1911, 5; April 18, 1909, 5.

40. *Northern Union Outlook*, July 31, 1964, 11.

Next time from *Nothing to Fear*:

Chapter 11: The Good Work - Part 6 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.

28th Annual Dakota Men's Retreat



You are invited to attend the Dakota Conference 2023 Men's Retreat. Take advantage of the early bird special and register before March 1 to save \$25. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

Cast Iron Seasoning Day

Today at my house it's "Cast Iron Pan Seasoning Day." Every once in a while, I pour a little cooking oil in the pan and rub it all around inside and out with a paper towel, then pop it in the oven for an hour or two. This gives the cookware a shiny, protective coat that lasts for several months.

You wouldn't believe what a difference it makes when I cook eggs in a properly

seasoned pan. The eggs don't stick to the bottom and burn, and the pan looks pretty clean after I've scooped the eggs out. No ruined eggs. No "elbow grease" scrubbing needed.

The Bible talks about the difference it makes when we season our words. Colossians 4:6 says, "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone."



In other words, take a moment to season your tongue with God's goodness and grace, and you'll discover that appropriate words will slide off your tongue so easily for the rest of the day. The words can be spoken and released, regret-free! They won't burn on your tongue or leave you ruminating for hours about what you said but shouldn't have, or what you didn't say when you should have.

Season those pans. Season that tongue. No regrets!

Worship Thoughts and photo by Brenda Klein, member of the New Home Adventist Church in North Dakota. Follow Brenda on Facebook for more devotional thoughts at [Farm Girl Faith](#).

A promotional banner for Dakota Adventist Academy School Preview Days. The background is a map of the region. Text includes "2023 Dakota Adventist Academy School Preview Days", "REGISTER TODAY", "WWW.MYDAA.ORG", "z.adams@mydaa.org", "701-258-9000 ext 213", "FEBRUARY 23 - 26, 2023", and "Now is the time to plan your route through HIGH SCHOOL... Let DAA be there to guide your journey to your future." A QR code is also present.

Laundry Love Ministry

JAMESTOWN – More people are coming to Rainbow Laundry twice a month to take

advantage of a program that washes their clothes for free.

But that in turn has put a strain on the program's budget to help people, and the coordinator hopes donations will continue to offset the cost.



Terri Krovoza is the coordinator for Laundry Love, a program she worked to launch in 2017 in Jamestown through the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Now going into its sixth year in November, she says the demand has doubled from pre-pandemic levels.

“We have started averaging between 25 and 30 individuals and families that come (each time) which is a big increase over pre-COVID,” she said. “We probably had maybe 13 to 15 families and individuals (before that), and I don’t know what brought on the big increase.”

Laundry Love is offered on the first and third Thursday of each month from 2 to 6 p.m. at Rainbow Laundry. Krovoza learned about the national program from a fellow member of the South Central Homeless Coalition. It originated in California when a pastor asked a homeless man what would have the most impact on his life. His answer was clean clothes, so people would treat him as a human being.

The initiative that partners with individuals, groups and laundromats in the U.S. to provide help with laundry resonated with Krovoza.

“I thought, ‘Wow, this would be really pretty easy to do,’” she said.

With backing from her church after raising \$400 in quarters from parishioners, the program launched and was offered once a month in Jamestown but has grown to twice a month. Donations have kept the program going.

“I know we don’t have a lot of homeless people in Jamestown but we do have a lot of lower income (people) that just need a little extra help,” Krovoza said, “and they really seem to be appreciative of what we do for them.”

Laundry Love provides quarters to wash and dry people’s clothing and bedding and serves people of all ages. Free laundry detergent and dryer sheets are also provided

but some people use their own supplies, Krovoza said. Laundry Love volunteers are on site to place the coins in the machines but do not do the laundry, she said. There are no criteria for the people they help.

“If they feel that they need it, we just provide it,” Krovoza said. “We don’t ask questions.”

Participants can get three free loads as an individual and six for a family, Krovoza said. Families of four or more can get eight loads of laundry free.

“It’s kind of a learning curve for people because they just want to bring all their stuff (such as rugs which they don’t include),” Krovoza said, “ ... and that wasn’t a problem when we only had 15 to 20 people coming. But now that we have 25 to 30 we are going through a lot of money and it’s not going to be sustainable.”

Laundry Love now costs about \$1,000 per month, Krovoza said.

“And that’s ... why we’re needing a lot more donations because we run this strictly on donations,” she said.

Krovoza said she’s appreciative of community support, noting multiple clubs, banks, churches and other organizations have donated to the initiative. She said gaming funds “really saved us this last year.”

“I just really want to emphasize the appreciation that we have for the community and all the support that they have given us,” she said. “We couldn’t do it without them.”

One man who came to Rainbow Laundry on Thursday, Sept. 1, during the most recent Laundry Love event said he is on a limited income.

“It helps out a lot,” said the man, who did not want to be identified.

Volunteers are also welcome to help with Laundry Love events, Krovoza said. With only a few volunteers most days – two on Sept. 1 – it gets busy trying to help everyone when there’s a rush, she said.

For more information on Laundry Love, to volunteer or contribute, contact Krovoza at 269-9533.

Watertown Church Shows Appreciation for Local Police

With January 9 being National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, the Watertown Seventh-day Adventist Church wanted to let their local Law Enforcement Officers know how much the church members appreciated them. They did this in a couple of ways. The first was by placing a large vinyl banner in the front yard of the church saying, “Thank you to the men and women in Blue.”

Secondly, the parishioners invited the police chief and his assistant, and any other officers who were able to come, to their church service on January 7. During the service, a couple of members of the congregation shared their testimony of thankfulness in specific situations for local police officers. Assistant Police Chief Ryan Remmers shared how he became an officer of the law and what it means to him. Being in the church was a particularly special opportunity for Officer Remmers as he had attended church in this church building for 20 years prior to the Adventists purchasing it.



A plaque was presented to him on behalf of the Watertown Police Department that read, “In recognition of Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, the Watertown Seventh-day Adventist Church presents this award to the Watertown Police Department in appreciation for their dedication to our community. In an often thankless job, where going above and beyond the call of duty is the norm, please know that we recognize and appreciate your hard work and sacrifice. Your friends at the Watertown Seventh-day Adventist Church pray for you.” In addition to the plaque, 60 hardcover devotional books, *Jesus Calling for Law Enforcement*, were given to the department - enough for each officer to have one.



There was a special fellowship dinner afterward where members each had an opportunity to give their appreciation in person. It was a special day, and in addition to the prayers for the safety of each officer, the church members' prayer for each of them and their family members is to find the devotionals a blessing. They hope the devotionals will show the readers God's infinite love for them personally and find them in the Kingdom when He returns.

Article by Darla Anderson, head elder of the Watertown Adventist Church in South Dakota. Photos by Jan Rickard, member of the Watertown Adventist Church.

Freedom From Slavery

On September 10, 2022, Pastor Mike Temple baptized Linda Edwards in the Grand Forks Seventh-day Adventist Church. Just prior to her immersion, she read her story from the baptismal tank. Below is her testimony.

Testimonial - a statement recommending a person or thing. And yes, I recommend Jesus.

You know, as a kid I'd been to a few religion classes, so I knew a little about God and Jesus. One evening at home the house was filled with an argument, and so I went outside. I dug a cavern into a snow pile and lay there. It was peaceful, and I thought about God. But it was probably the other way around - I thought about God and became peaceful.

Things didn't get easy though. Separation, relocation. Honor thy father and thy mother? No.

I was angry and rebellious, and then I was assaulted. Just like an elephant that is poached and has its face cut off - I had no identity. I wasn't dead, but I was. I was lost, hurt, grieved, confused, and alone without a face.

Then I saw a preacher on television. He preached about Jesus, and I thought I'd give it a try. So I chose a day, like I had to wait, and I said my prayer. Immediately the weight of despair lifted. But now what?

I had a Bible, and I learned of truths, but for some reason, I couldn't quite believe, and so time moved on. I thought I was good, but I still grieved, faceless, and then it became legal for me to drink, and wow! I felt happy again.

It wasn't long before alcohol turned into drugs, which turned into bad decisions, and then no decisions. More grief, more sorrow. More drinks, more drugs.

Years went by. More drinks, more drugs, much sorrow. I was pretty much drinking every day. I could have easily thrown up even before I went out for the evening, that's how sick of it I was. But still, I'd go out and drink some more. I now realize I was a slave to sin.

I spent 20 years of sinking, wallowing in muck and mire. But God is true, hallelujah! Looking back, I now recognize some of the promptings of the Holy Spirit that led me to stop smoking, stop drinking, stop drugs, and start caring.

I started to see myself again, and then I remembered God. I wanted to get to know Him. I began going to church. First one, then another. It was good. It felt like I was where I needed to be. Parts of the service made me uncomfortable, and there was a lot I didn't understand, but I felt good. And then I relocated. The pastor recommended a church to attend, but after the move, I wasn't so sure I wanted to stay in that denomination.

One day I was driving home listening to the radio, and the songs were all about Jesus. I understood God, but I didn't understand Jesus, so I said a prayer, and wow! God is true. Hallelujah! I happened upon 3ABN and the Adventist church, and then Leanne handed me a book, *The Desire of Ages*. I got to know Jesus, which sealed the deal for me, and now I'm home.



Testimonial by Linda Edwards, member of the Grand Forks Adventist Church. Photos submitted by Pastor Mike Temple.

Prayer Ministries - Monthly Prayer Emphasis

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

Theme: Blessings for Blended Families

Pastoral Staff: Barry St. Clair

Office Staff: Mark Piotrowski, Mark Seibold, Mark Weir

Adventist Entities: Bison Church

Northwest, South

Dakota: Bison, Rosebud Reservation

Other: Blended Families, Single People, Married Couples, Single Parents, Widowed People, Grandparents

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

Dakota Youth & Young Adults

This week, Lynnette and I have been recruiting camp staff on the campus of Southern Adventist University. It's been great seeing our staff members from last summer and meeting new staff candidates! We already have big plans for the summer!

This weekend we will be at Union College to help and support two of our Dakota



**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=MHJVS0k4Ryt1UWVXT0l4MDImc2NoZz09>

Seventh-day
Adventist Church

Pathfinder Clubs, Cleveland Prairie Trails and Hermosa Battle Creek Warriors, who earned first-place finishes at our Conference level Pathfinder Bible Experience and will now take part in the Mid-America Union PBE.

It's a busy start to the new year! Registration just opened two weeks ago, and we are already receiving many applications for summer campers! The weeks are already starting to fill up! If you haven't registered yet, don't wait! [Reserve your space today!](#)



Camp Staff Recruiting at SAU

Cleveland Prairie Trails

Hermosa Battle Creek Warriors

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: dakotayouthandyoungadults.org

REGISTER ONLINE!

Article & recruiting photo by Ted Struntz, Dakota Conference youth director. Pathfinder photos by Lynnette Struntz, associate youth director.

Kid's Corner

Vacation Bible School

It's time to start planning for VBS 2023! This year's program is entitled, "Fiercely Faithful: God Always Keeps His Promises" and allows kids to visit a desert oasis and journey through the story of Ruth and Naomi. The Dakota Conference

owns the kit, backdrop, and cutout animals, and it's all available for your church to use this summer. Learn more at <https://www.adventistvbs.org>

Contact Kelli Wasemiller at dakotachildrenministries@gmail.com to request the kit or learn more about VBS.

Christian Home & Marriage Week

Luke 2:52 says, "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." That means Jesus continued to learn more and more as He grew up. His body grew bigger and stronger, His mind grew wiser, and He pleased His parents and God.

Pray today and every day for ways to show your children how to be like Jesus. For resources about family worship, marriage, and parenting, click here: <https://family.adventist.org/>



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.

Dakota Conference Calendar

The offering schedule is in purple.

The office preaching schedule is in blue.

Town Halls & Regional schedules are in green.

February -

- 16: Rapid City Town Hall (6:30p)
- 18: Local Church Budget
- 18: Mid-America Union Pathfinder Bible Experience in Lincoln, NE
- 20: Office Closed - Presidents' Day
- 24-26: DAA Preview Days
- 25: Dakota Challenge
- 25: Elder Mark Weir preaching in Hot Springs, SD
- 25: Elder Mark Piotrowski preaching in Minot, ND (Revitalization Pt. 1)
- 25: Elder Ted Struntz preaching in Bismarck, ND

March -

- 4: Local Church Budget
- 4: Elder Mark Piotrowski preaching in Minot, ND (Revitalization Pt. 2)
- 4: Elder Ted Struntz preaching in New Home, ND
- 5: Dakota K-12 Committee Meeting at Conference Office (11a - Subcommittees start at 8a)
- 10-12: Dakota Men's Retreat in Medora, ND
- 11: Adventist World Radio
- 19: Dakota Executive Committee Meeting at Conference Office (10a)
- 25: Dakota Challenge
- 25: Jamestown Regional with Elder Mark Weir preaching
- 26-28: New in Ministry Meetings at Conference Office

April -

- 1: Local Church Budget
- 1: Elder Mark Piotrowski preaching Hermosa, SD
- 3-4: Elementary Teacher Spring In-service at Conference Office

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

Your Help is Requested

A church member is seeking an old set of cassette tapes from the early 90s. Elder Willis Hacket was the main speaker for a Dakota Campmeeting during that time and preached a sermon on principles versus laws. If anyone has a set of these or knows someone who does, please reach out to Jodi Dossenko at: j.dossenko@gmail.com

Thank you for your help!

Blessed & Kept

May you find Christ in the common.

There is a phrase in Judaism: every table is an altar.

We so easily get caught up in the specialties that we forget some of the best things are the average, normal, everyday occurrences.

May you discover the magnificent in the mundane.

May the crisp morning air filling your lungs remind you of the miracle of your body.

May you ascertain the Divine in the daily

Even if it's from the bedroom to the office down the hall, may your commute to work remind you of the privilege of work.

May the morning greetings to your colleagues bring a sense of unity and purpose to how you will collectively approach the day.

May you stumble into Christ in the common.

May a shared meal with a loved one stir up profound gratitude for the ability to live your life in concert with others.

As the setting sun takes along with it the week behind, may you sit in the presence of God and the ones you love and know, this is what it's all about.

May you discover the Magnificent in the mundane.

May you ascertain the Divine in the daily.

May you stumble into Christ in the common.

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

February 16 Dispatch Photo



Photo taken at Cleghorn dog park in Rapid City by Myndi Clements.

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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