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Freedom's Price Tag

Passage: 1 Peter 1:18-19

I know you have heard the phrase . . . “there’s no such thing as a free lunch.” Everything has a price tag attached to it. Even something that is free to you cost someone else.

A few years ago, I was in a New Mexico convenience store when a Texas youth group on a mission trip to California came through. The leader of the group was behind me in the checkout line with a handful of snacks. Having led many trips with large groups of teens, I felt compelled to tell the clerk as she rung up my order, “I’m taking care of his, too.” When the man protested that I didn’t need to do that, I replied, “Don’t you dare steal my blessing!” A woman standing at the other cash register broke out into a smile, waved her hand in the air, and said, “Oh, glory! That’s right, brother.” His almonds and trail mix were free to him that day, but there was still a price to be paid.

Peter reminds us that our greatest possession, while free to us, came at a heavy price to Someone. *“You know that you were redeemed from your empty way of life . . . not with perishable things, like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ”* (1 Peter 1:18-19). What a beautiful picture! Jesus saw my sin and with His own blood said to the Father, “I’m taking care of this.” He did the same for you



Dr. MacDonald's tentative schedule:

July 2022

- 3 Aberdeen, SD: Sovereign Grace Church
- 10 Hot Springs, SD: Cascade Road Baptist
- 17 Hot Springs, SD: Cascade Road Baptist
- 24 Hazen, ND: Hazen Christian Fellowship
- 31 OPEN

August 2022

- 7 Rapid City, SD: Hills of Grace Fellowship
- 14 Rapid City, SD: Hills of Grace Fellowship
- 21 Hot Springs, SD: Cascade Road Baptist
- 28 Hot Springs, SD: Cascade Road Baptist

and for the people you know.

On July 4 we celebrate our nation's 246th birthday. Independence Day reminds us that our freedom as Americans came at a heavy price, the precious blood of the men and women who laid down their lives for this country. Remembering the price of our freedom as Americans ought to remind us as believers of the price for the freedom purchased for us on the cross. And it provides us with a great opportunity to experience the blessing of telling others that they can be set free from the bondage of sin through the precious blood of Jesus.

Don't steal your own blessing! Tell someone today!

DBC to host two pastor/wife retreats in September

DBC pastors and wives are invited to attend one of two retreats in September. The first retreat will be September 8-10 in Bismarck. The second will be September 22-24 in Pierre. Each pastor is also invited to bring a key leader and his wife.

Each retreat will feature a guest preacher for the two evening worship sessions, morning workshops that focus on evangelism, and several hours of free time on Friday afternoon. Each retreat will begin with registration and fellowship from 3:00-5:00 on Thursday and finish with lunch on Saturday.

Details on the program, locations, and how to register will be available online and sent to each pastor by mid-July. This year's retreats will not have programming for children.

Dakota Baptists impact lives at Anaheim

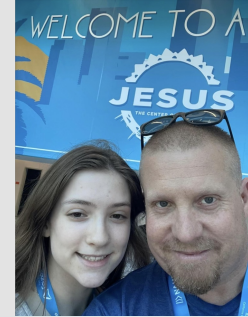
About 25 Dakota Baptists took part in the SBC annual meeting in Anaheim last month. During the meeting 52 new international missionaries were commissioned. Southern Baptists received the report from the Sexual Abuse Task Force. Some initial actions were taken and an implementation team formed to review the recommendations from the report. Texas pastor Bart Barber was elected president for the coming year. Some of the best news of the week, however, came outside of the meeting hall inside a local restaurant.

Calvary Baptist (Rapid City, SD) pastor Josh Bonner was involved in the annual meeting. He represents the DBC on the Southern Baptist Executive Committee.

On Tuesday morning of the convention, DBC Executive Director Fred MacDonald took part in a five-member panel discussion on the CP stage in the exhibit hall. The panel discussed the CP Ambassador strategy that the Dakotas and a few other states have implemented in the past year. A recording of the panel discussion follows this story.

Most of the Dakota Baptists that were in Anaheim had opportunity to get together at one of two meals at a local restaurant. While at the restaurant, they had an opportunity to impact the lives of two of the wait staff. On Tuesday evening they shared the gospel with and prayed for a young waiter named Luis. At lunch the next day, a waitress named Glenda thanked the Dakota Baptists and other Southern Baptists for stopping in so frequently during the week. She said, "When you come in here, the whole atmosphere changes. Other groups that come in are bitter and angry." She acknowledged that it was very discouraging at times. Glenda shared with the group that she teaches children's Sunday School at her church and writes songs about Jesus for the kids.

[CP Stage 2022 Video](#)



CELEBRATING INTENTIONALLY.  TOGETHER.

2022 Baker State Missions Offering

Goal: \$40,000

Psalm 118:24

2022 Baker Offering to Celebrate God’s Work in the Dakotas

The 2022 Baker State Missions Offering is just around the corner. This special offering is one of three mission offerings that Dakota Baptists receive each year. The theme for the 2022 offering is “Celebrating Intentionally Together.” The theme text is Psalm 118:24: “*This is the day which the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.*”

The goal for the 2022 offering is \$40,000, which will provide support to the entire mission of the Dakotas. That mission is, “the Dakota Baptist Convention exists as a network of Great Commission churches that partner together to strengthen established churches and start new churches.”

Resources are being prepared for churches to use in promoting the offering. The DBC staff is looking for pastors and church leaders who would be willing to record a brief video in which they share what they are celebrating at their church now, what they celebrate by being part of the DBC, what they are looking forward to celebrating in the future, and one thing that God has done in their church in 2022 that they are celebrating. If you would like to record and share a video, please email Marissa Shimer at marissa@myrestore.church for details.

The Baker offering is received each September in DBC churches. It is named after John and Clide Baker.

John was the first executive director for the Northern Plains Baptist Convention, which eventually gave birth to three state conventions, including the Dakotas.

Each church will receive sample offering resources in a few weeks. These resources will include posters, fliers, and offering envelopes. Additional resources can then be requested from the DBC office.

Dakota Baptists also provide mission giving for international missions each December through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is received in the spring to help fund missions and church planting in North America.

AROUND THE DAKOTAS

Youth and Children's Camp Roundup

The 2022 Badlands Association Camp was held at the Logging Camp Ranch near Amidon, ND. There were heavy rains on Monday and Tuesday. Despite the soggy and muddy conditions, associational missionary Larry Vickery said, "No one complained about being inside because we had our Bible studies, worship, singing, crafts, games, and great meals." On Wednesday the sun came out. The children and leaders went hiking in the woods and saw all kinds of nature. Four of the Badlands churches had kids and adults attend the camp.

Crystal Springs, ND was the site for both the Prairie Partners Association children's camp and the DBC youth camp. There was a total of about 90 between the two camps. Several personal life commitments were made.



Cascade Road baptizes in area creek

Cascade Road Baptist Church in Hot Springs, SD baptized a young adult last month in a creek south of the city. Cascade Road deacon Steve Simpson baptized Kristy Powell. It was an encouraging event for the church as it was their first baptism in a few years. Cascade Road is currently searching for a new pastor.



Cornerstone Church ordains Everett Hornbostel

Everett Hornbostel was ordained by Cornerstone Church in Mobridge, SD last month. The service was led by DBC Send Network Director Buck Hill. Jeff Musgrave, pastor at Waypoint Church in Minot, ND and a DBC Church Relations Missionary delivered the charge to Hornbostel. DBC Executive Director Fred MacDonald delivered the charge to the church.

The Cornerstone praise team sang a rewrite of the old gospel song, "The Circuit-Riding Preacher." It was called, "The Jeep-Driving Preacher." Prior to the laying on of hands, Hill invited the congregation to come forward and pray for their pastor and his wife, Rebecca.

The Hornbostels came to the Dakotas from Missouri. Everett has served as pastor at Cornerstone for nearly four years.



Restore Church leases new facility; doubles their space

Restore Church in Yankton, SD, signed a lease on 9,750 square feet in a mall in Yankton. Pastor Jeffrey Mueller said that when the renovation work is done, the church will more than double their available space. Restore Church currently has two morning worship services. When they move into the new facility, they will be able to return to one service. Restore Church has also planted a new work in Crofton, NE.



Evangelism grants available to DBC churches

by Chad McCord

The weather is warming up and the folks in your neighborhoods and communities are getting out. This is the perfect time for your church to meet your community with the gospel. The DBC has received evangelism funds through our partnership with the North American Mission Board to provide grants for churches to be on mission to win the lost to Christ. To request a grant, click this [Link](https://dakotabaptist.com/general-request-form/) : <https://dakotabaptist.com/general-request-form/> and complete the form.



The one requirement for these funds is that you intentionally present the gospel through your event and call on the lost to, in the words of Jesus, "repent and believe the gospel." The request form has a place for you to indicate how your event will engage people with the gospel. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at chad@dakotabaptist.com.

Chad McCord is an associate pastor at Connection Church in Belle Fourche, SD, and a Church Relations Missionary for the DBC.



New Underwood ordains and transitions to new pastor

Bridled for Christ Cowboy Church in New Underwood ordained Ben VanderMay to the gospel ministry last month. VanderMay was ordained about a year ago as a deacon and has since sensed and surrendered to God's call to pastoral ministry.

Bridled for Christ was started several years ago by Pastor Jim Ward. Under his leadership the church has grown, added to their building, and had a tremendous positive impact on the New Underwood community. Ward and his wife Cindy will be returning to Georgia this month. He announced his plans to the church a few months

ago and the congregation began making transition plans, which included calling VanderMay to be their next pastor.

VanderMay and his wife Britney have three boys: Case, Colt, and Cash.

A farewell dinner was held in Sturgis for the Wards by the pastors of the Black Hills Area Baptist Association. Their last Sunday at Bridled for Christ will be July 5. Jim will preach and then the church will have a farewell potluck dinner for them.

Huron Baptist hosts community event

Huron Baptist Church hosted a BBQ and fun day for the community last month. Huron's pastor Ian Harp said they registered 523 people at the event. He said, "They just kept coming and coming and coming." Harp rejoiced that they discovered 126 prospects that the church will be following up on. Even better, he said, "Three people gave their lives to Christ. That made it worth everything." Huron Baptist was assisted by the Hibernia Baptist Church in Florida.



CELEBRATING CHURCH PLANTING . . . DAKOTAS STYLE!

"Celebrating Church Planting . . . Dakotas Style!" is a monthly celebration of what God is doing around the Dakotas through our new work. Each month's feature will have two parts. The first is an article about church planting in the Dakotas. The second is one of the fourteen ways that you and your church can be involved in church planting along with an implementation suggestion. Help us celebrate the new things God is doing across North and South Dakota.

1) The empty corridors . . .

There are 255 miles along I-90 in South Dakota between New Underwood and Mitchell. It is 188 miles on North Dakota's I-94 from West Fargo to Bismarck. Travel these two stretches and you will pass through towns like Wall, Kadoka, Murdo, Chamberlain, Casselton, Valley City, and Jamestown. You will find interesting sites like the world's largest (and most well-known!) drug store, an auto museum, and even a college. What you won't find is a Dakota Baptist church. In many of the towns along these two long empty corridors, there is no evangelical presence. Travel north and south from these two interstate highways and you will find dozens more towns just like these.

While the towns along these two stretches of highway are small in comparison to the major cities across the country, they are home to thousands of Dakotans who desperately need to hear the gospel message. Join us in praying for God to open doors of opportunity, send planters with a heart for the small towns that dot the plains and rolling hills of North and South Dakota, and provide a great harvest of souls. If you have a heart for this kind of church planting field or would like information about new work in the Dakotas, contact the DBC Send Network Director Buck Hill (buck@namb.net) or one of our Church Planting Catalysts: Stephen Carson in South Dakota (stephen@bellefourcheconnection.com), or T. J. Green in North Dakota (tjgreen@cornerstonefbc.us).

2) 14 Ways to be Involved in Church Planting . . . Dakotas Style!

Way #5. Share your church facilities: If a church plant is in your community, you may be in a position to help them by offering office space/space for mission teams/fellowships/even worship services.

Implementation Suggestion Find out the names of the church planters that are near you. Contact them and discover what kind of space needs they have and whether your church's facilities might be of use to help meet those needs.



“To see all 14 ways to be involved in church planting in the Dakotas, use this QR code or go to the DBC website and click on the Church Planting link in the Resources section.”

Safety and Security Thoughts (Part 3) Cameras

by Everett Hornbostel, Church Relations Missionary

This month we are focusing on the use of cameras in Part 3 of Safety and Security Thoughts. Cameras can serve many functions in the church. How we use them should be considered with care. Hopefully this article will aid churches in understanding the importance of cameras and some things to consider when developing a policy statement for cameras. A policy statement for cameras should be developed and reviewed by an attorney prior to the implementation of the policy and the installation of cameras.

The first question to consider when choosing whether to implement a camera system is, “what is the purpose of the system?” One purpose could be to record footage of various areas of the church to be reviewed at a later time in case of an incident. Another purpose could be to have certain areas of the church monitored in real time whenever people are present. Cameras can also be utilized in the recording and streaming of worship services. However, if cameras are used for recording and streaming of worship services, they should be separate cameras from any security camera setup the church utilizes. Additional questions to ask are, “Will audio be recorded?”; “Where will cameras be placed?”; “Who will be responsible for any footage?”

Cameras are strictly passive. They record and provide for monitoring. Recorded footage provides visual evidence which can either support or refute claims that are made. If an accusation is made against a church member or visitor, camera footage can determine if the accused individual was in the area of the alleged incident during the times provided by the accuser. Cameras can also provide a visual account in the event of a claim of injury on church property.

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COOPERATIVE
PROGRAM

STORIES



July 3, 2022

GERALD AND SYMARA WATERS

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Philadelphia is the second largest city on the East Coast, but there is only one Southern Baptist church for every 31,114 people and only 6.2 percent of the population identify as evangelical.

In order to reach even more in the city, Ezekiel Baptist Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, sent out Gerald and Symara Waters to plant Proclamation Community Church in one of the most culturally, religiously, and ethnically diverse communities in Philadelphia.

Through the Waters' efforts, they've had opportunities to connect with people from a number of different nations around the world—all within their city! The Waters' outreach has led them to become a part of the community and several people they've met have visited their church.

THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM is the financial fuel for reaching every person for Jesus Christ in every town, every city, every state, and every nation. Your support through the Cooperative Program gives missionaries the resources they need to reach those in their community with a Gospel witness and message.

PRAY for the Lord to raise up more laborers in Proclamation Community Church so that they, along with the Waters, can reach more people for Christ.



FUELING THE GREAT COMMISSION

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*click image above to link to CP story with powerpoint image download