

August 2025 | <http://abc-dakotas.org> | 605-575-2071

Pastor Aaron's Post-It

Through the line of Abraham would come Jesus Christ. But this promise came with a call to leave the past, follow God in faith, and inherit the land. (Genesis 12:7-8, 13:18) At 75 years old, Abram believed and obeyed. And every time God showed up, Abram built an altar and worshiped (Genesis 13:18, 22:9). His life became a pattern of faith in action.

Abram's story proves that faith begins where comfort ends. God called him to leave the familiar and trust the impossible. And when Abram said yes, a nation was born, a promise was set in motion, and the Savior of the world entered history. If God can use an old man with a barren wife and a broken past to change the world, He can use anyone.

Please take a moment and pray:

Could God ever call you to a new place, whether it be a job, ministry calling, or even moving to a new state or country?

How available are you to the purposes of God today?

Camp Judson Men's RoundUp, August 22-24!



SD AB MEN'S ROUND UP

AUGUST 22-24, 2025

Round Up the Men and Boys!

Round Up the men and boys, and head to Camp Judson for a great weekend to grow in your faith, enjoy fellowship, relax, have fun, and eat some great food! Please call and register at the ABC of the Dakotas Region Office (605) 575-2071 and come between 3 – 5 PM on Friday, August 22nd at Camp Judson near Keystone, SD.

Costs: \$110 (15 and older); \$75 (ages 6-14); 1/2 price for pastors; \$50 one-day rate; FREE (5 and under); Cabins 1, 2, & 3, and Insp. Lodge will be ready.

Weekend schedule on website: www.abc-dakotas.org



HEAD 'EM UP TO:
FELLOWSHIP
WORSHIP
LEARN
RELAX
HAVE A GREAT TIME
EAT GREAT FOOD

GUEST SPEAKER:
PASTOR & LEADER,
CHUCK KRANZ

FEATURE SPEAKER:
REV. BILL MCCREADY

COME AND FIND OUT
WHAT IS GOING ON
WITH THE NEW
LODGE!

ABC DAKOTAS

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Sioux Falls, SD 57108
605-575-2071

www.abc-dakotas.org

Questions contact:
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VISIT OUR WEBSITE [HTTP://ABC-DAKOTAS.ORG](http://ABC-DAKOTAS.ORG) FOR MORE INFO!



Camp Judson Capital Campaign Progress

While there is nothing new to report with respect to fundraising for the new building, there is no rest for the staff and management during this - the busiest time of the camping season. It is "non-stop" from dawn (carmel rolls) until after dusk (campfires are always the best). We marvel how the leadership, at all the camps, pour themselves into the young people knowing that things they say and do - could help change a life.

Cabin counselors play a very important role in the camping experience. We should all be thankful for those young adults who give up a week of their summer vacation, sleep in a cabin with 7 kids (some better behaved than others), and try to pass along the love of Christ to those kids whose world is getting more depraved and confusing each day. If you know someone who has been, or is going to be a counselor at one of our camps, be sure to offer them a word of encouragement. Let them know that they are doing great work for God's kingdom, and that you are praying for them. Do you remember the old shower house? The building fell to Tracy's "backhoe prowess" in October of 2022, and while memories are sweet, we can probably agree - we needed change.



Stopping at Camp yesterday, we noted that progress was being made on the new shower facility attached to the east side of the new building. This will be an important addition as it will allow campers, without a shower in their cabin (now just a handful of cabins) and swimmers coming up from the lake to clean up before continuing their day. It's been a safe summer. Continue to pray for the management, staff, and all campers. Lives are being changed at Camp Judson.

Only By His Grace,
Judy Waldman & Ken Wrede
Capital Campaign Co-Chairs



Pastor's Corner with Tim Smith

Each month, some time will be taken to get to know our ABCD region pastors. This month, we get to know a little more about Tim Smith, pastor at First Baptist Church in Belle Fourche, SD. Tim has been a pastor in Belle Fourche for 14 years. Tim was willing to answer a few questions about who he is and what's on his mind:

1. Who in the Bible would you like to meet? A. "Jesus. I just want to see Jesus. Also, Daniel, I would like to know what was going through his mind and what he was doing in the lion's den."
2. What is your favorite part of ministry? A. "Relationships. Two keys to ministry - love the people and please the Lord."
3. Family? Wife - Sandy and daughter, Lisa

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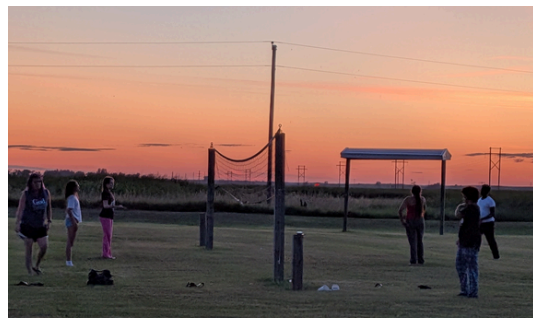
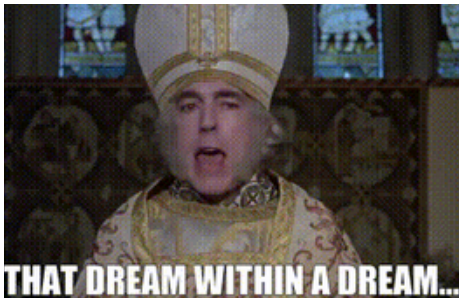
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Pastor's Corner with Tim Smith (cont'd)

Camp Bentley Broadcast

4. Originally from? A. Springfield, IL
 5. Favorite food? Fried Chicken
 6. A favorite Bible verse?
 A. John 3:16
 7. How have you seen God working recently? A. "Through the cancer journey with my wife, Sandy. The people that know us and who don't know us reaching out and asking how Sandy is doing."
 8. Favorite movie? *The Princess Bride*
 9. Favorite book of Scripture and why? A. "Either John or Romans. If I want to focus on teaching/doctrine, I will teach from Romans. If we are talking about the gospel, then the book of John."

Thank you for letting us get to know you a little more, Tim! God bless you, your family, and your ministry - in Jesus's name!



We ended our 2025 summer camps with Family Camp and Sr. High Camp. We were blessed to have Pastor Yagana Yakuba from the Church of Hope as our speaker for Family Camp. She inspired families to be rooted in Christ through the storms and celebrations of life. We also had fun on family scavenger hunts, slip-n-slides, and Minute-to-Win-It games. Sr. High Camp had the theme of Stand Firm: Put on the Full Armor of God. They had 30 campers.

ABY Convention will be held at Camp Bentley, September 20 and 21. More details will be coming in August. The camp closing is September 22-25 to get camp put to bed for winter. Speaking of beds, we are starting a Bed for Bentley campaign to buy new mattresses for our cabins. We are still looking at samples so the exact cost for each mattress will be known soon. We will soon have information about how to donate money for a mattress or outfit a cabin.



- Sturgis Emergency Services Mission, First Baptist, Rapid City, SD - August 2-9.
- Men's Roundup at Camp Judson, Keystone, SD - August 22-24.
- Region Executive Ministers Meeting at Camp Judson - September 9-11.
- AB Women's Sunday - Oct. 21.
- ABCD Pastor's Retreat at Camp Judson - Oct. 1-3.
- ABCD Region Policy Board at Camp Judson - Oct. 3.
- ABCD Region Biennial, 1st Baptist Church, Aberdeen, SD - Oct. 10-11.
- Nov. 3-5, Great Commission Society, Denver, CO

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Here and There

As Executive Minister, I have the distinct privilege of traveling the open range of the Dakotas and visiting with pastors & believers of all kinds. In this section of *Dakota Baptist*, I will share some about where I've been and who I've seen.

July was a month full of travel around our ABCD region. Along with celebrating 1st Baptist of Sioux Falls 150th birthday I was able to be camp pastor for Camp Judson's Junior Camp. I was also able to travel up to Bismarck First Baptist Church and I helped facilitate a great vision and mission meeting. I am truly thankful for churches that so eagerly want to work together for the glory of God's kingdom!



Lori Dvirnak-Lundblad and I continue to work alongside our churches looking to call pastors in Kief and Stanley, ND as well as Watertown, SD and Sioux Falls Emmanuel Baptist. Each of these churches are looking to God for guidance so your continued prayers for these searching churches are much appreciated!

Church and Pastor Resources

Each month this section will feature several resources that might help churches and pastors with a variety of different tasks and ministry areas. Each featured resource will have a link to click on for more info!

1. <https://thinkorange.com/> - Orange is a team of ministry leaders, educators, researchers, counselors, writers, editors, artists, musicians, and producers all committed to supporting churches and families as they nurture the faith and future of the next generation.



2. **ASCENT** - The heartbeat of Ascent is to connect the orthodox, globally minded, missionally engaged Christian community around the call of the Great Commission. Among the cultural and ecclesial fragmentation of our current moment, we know the Holy Spirit to be stitching together a new movement. We are composed of local congregations, regional denominational families, national ministry networks and communions, mission agencies, non-profit ministries, and theological institutions.



A Time to Pray

Each month, we will feature prayers concerning our ministries in the Dakotas that we can offer to God, knowing that we can, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." - Rom. 12:12

- Prayers for pastors and congregation member travel safety in this summer months
- Pray for Camp Bentley and Camp Judson leadership and student counselors
- Pray for people needing freedom in Jesus Christ
- Pray for the witness and example of followers of Christ
- Pray for churches that are seeking pastoral leadership
- Pray for those who are looking for ways to serve the church
- Pray for revival and a desire to please the Lord in every area of our lives.

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, - Phil. 1:3-4

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