

Reflection: Carrying the Banner



Young

by Sarah Dixon Young

I love that movie from the nineties called, “Newsies.” Homeless, streetsmart boys find employment selling newspapers, and they often do it by embellishing the headlines. Their theme is that they are “carrying the banner.” I thought of the movie, and its catchy song, this

week at backyard Bible club. The kids in my neighborhood were full of news, complete with embellished headlines and dance steps. Like the movie portrays, I found that the most sensational headlines were the sad ones: Two Boys Burned by Artillery Shell Friend’s Mom Hit by Car

Free Lunch Program Ends, Leaving August Hungry Mom leaves for Drug Treatment in California The children are full of news, and mostly, they are looking for a worldview where all the pieces fit together instead of being left holding a broken puzzle. I took the echoes of their headlines to my

Bible reading the next morning. I am in the genealogies of 2 Chronicles and the book of Ezekiel. All Scripture is God-breathed, but I am trying to read on fast-forward because Chronicles and Ezekiels are not really my genre. But, as usually happens with God’s word, something stopped me. It was a little headline, buried in

the backpages of the Philistine’s newspaper: “And the Philistines stripped King Saul and took his head and his armor, and sent messengers throughout the land of the Philistines to carry the good news to their idols and to the people.” Chronicles is telling the tragic story of the

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Reflection: I remember #1

I remember when we could trust that if a person said they were Christian, it was most likely the truth. Then along came people like Marjoe Gortner, Jim and Tammy Fay Bakker. I was not raised in the kind of church that spawned 4-year old evangelists (like Gortner) or fire and brimstone preachers like the Bakkers - we used to call them “turn or burn” preachers. When I encountered folks like that I often felt anger because even though they obviously didn’t really believe the



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things they preached, like Gortner admitted in a documentary in the early 1970’s - there were poor, unsuspecting believers who did believe them and gave away what little they

had to these televangelist-thieves. Gortner spoke at UND when I was attending college there. He spoke about how he and his family had started a ministry where he was the golden-haired, cherubic child-evangelist who ended up having a great number of followers preaching and taking home basketfulls of cash after each service. He said they would dump the money onto the bed at whatever motel or hotel they were staying in and Gortner said he would roll around on the bills as they made fun

of the poor slobs who gave them their pathetic crumpled up dollars. At the time I really didn’t have much of a relationship with God, but I knew right from wrong. And in my opinion, what they did was wrong. Now here he was working a different kind of circuit - speaking at colleges and venues around the country - debunking the things he had earlier used to bilk people out of their hard-earned dollars. The 1970’s version of Gortner no longer claimed to be a Christian, in fact, his message was that all of it was fake and

anyone who believed it was naive or stupid or simple-minded. I remember leaving that lecture and feeling sick to my stomach. Not because I had believed in that kind of message - but because of the sweet simple folks who maybe did believe him. He fooled them and they had hung their hopes and faith on the words of a fake. So what if he didn’t really believe what he said? They did. What a good lesson that was for the 18-year-old me!

I am not responsible for what someone else says or does. I am responsible for myself. What did I believe? That experience started me on a journey through the next 55 years, a path I’m still walking on. That journey has taken me to some wondrous experiences. I have learned many things and I know I have many things yet to learn in this journey of mine. I’ll keep walking along that path until and when I reach the end, then I will know.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

ASSEMBLY OF GOD River of Life 1903 Hwy 20 Devils Lake 701-662-4582 www.riverlife.us Sunday: 10 a.m. worship	CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS 20th St. & Lincoln Ave. Devils Lake Sunday: 10 a.m. Sacrament at 11 a.m.	LIGHTHOUSE ASSEMBLY OF GOD Fort Totten, N.D. 701-766-4826 Sunday 10:30 a.m.	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 515 Fourth St. Devils Lake 662-7558 Monday -Friday at 12:00pm Tuesday at 10:00am at Odd Fellows Wednesday at 10:00am at Eventide Friday at 9:30am at St. Joseph School Saturday at 8:30am & 5:00pm Sunday at 7:30am, 9:00am & 11:00am	ST. WILLIAMS CATHOLIC CHURCH Maddock, N.D. 438-2668 Wednesday: 7 p.m. Mass. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Mass. Mass at 5 p.m. on the first Friday of the month.
ASSUMPTION OF MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH Starkweather, N.D. 292-4301 Sunday: Mass: Rotating 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. with St. Mary's, Munich Call 682-5178 (Munich).	DAKOTA BAPTIST CHURCH West Highway 57 Fort Totten Church - 766-4516 Sunday: 11 a.m. worship.	MORNING STAR PARISH 701-262-4714 www.morningstarparish.com Worship services at 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. rotating: American, Pekin, Warwick, Sigdal and Sheyenne Lutheran	ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH St. Michael, ND 58370 766-4151 Sunday Mass: 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.	SEVEN DOLORS CATHOLIC CHURCH Fort Totten 766-4314 Sunday: 11 a.m. Mass. Daily Mass: 7 a.m.
BDECAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Tokio, N.D. (2 miles south of Tokio, near Woodlake) 294-2283 www.bdecanpresbyterian-church.org Worship: at 11 a.m., Sunday school kids K - 5 grade during worship, potluck meal after	DAKOTA OYATE LUTHERAN CHURCH 294-2361 Tokio, N.D. 11 a.m. worship	NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP North Junction of Hwy. 15 & 20 Rural Hamar 262-4470 Sunday: 10:30 a.m. worship service	ST. OLAF LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA 601 6th St. NE Devils Lake, ND 662-4911 9:30 a.m. Worship (September - May) Summer: 8:30 a.m. at Retreat Center 11 a.m. at St. Olaf (June - August)	TRINITY-BERGEN AFLC LUTHERAN CHURCH PO Box 46 Starkweather Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion every Sunday
BETHEL EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH 1312 East Walnut St. Devils Lake 662-3758 www.bethelfree.com Sunday worship: 9:30 a.m.	EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT Sixth Street and Fifth Avenue Devils Lake 11 a.m. Morning prayer 1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays Holy Eucharist- 4th Sunday	OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA 612 14th Ave. NE Devils Lake, N.D. 662-5112 Sunday: 10 a.m. Service Wednesday: 6 p.m. Service	ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 7th St. & 7th Ave. 662-2245 Devils Lake Missouri Synod Worship: 11 a.m. Dial-a-Devotion: 662-3158.	WEBSTER CHAPEL Webster, N.D. Worship is at 9 a.m. the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays.
CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH Tokio Saturday: 7 p.m. Mass all year round.	FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 601 Fifth St. NE Devils Lake Sunday 9:30 a.m. worship	PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (NALC) 1700 Fifth Ave. NE PO Box 1041 Devils Lake, N.D. 662-3565 Worship Sunday 9:30 a.m.	ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH Fort Totten, N.D. 11 a.m. Holy Eucharist 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sundays, 4th Sunday - Morning Prayer	WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 501 Fifth St. NE Devils Lake, 662-3584 Sunday worship 11:00 a.m.
CHURCH OF GOD (SEVENTH DAY) 607 Fifth St. S.E. Devils Lake Saturday: 2 p.m.	GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 311 5th Ave. NE Devils Lake 701-230-1332 Sunday: 10:30am and 6 p.m.	ST. BONIFACE CATHOLIC CHURCH Esmond, N.D. 249-8360 Tuesday-Saturday: Weekday Mass at 9 a.m. Saturday: 5 p.m. Mass. Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Mass.	ZOAR FREE LUTHERAN Hampden, North Dakota Pastor Craig Wentzel May through August Worship Sundays 9 a.m.	If you would like to make changes or corrections to this ad, please contact Louise at loleson@cmpapers.com
	GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH Lakota Missouri Synod Sunday worship: 9:30 a.m.	ST. JEROME'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Crow Hill District Hwy. #57, One mile N. Saturday: Mass 5 p.m.		

This week's listing brought to you by the following local businesses:

-Devils Lake Journal & the Country Peddler
516 4th St.,662-2127

-Jerome W wholesale
1115 2nd Ave. NE, 662-5366

-Nordic Fiberglass & All Employees

-Glibertson Funeral Home
Hwy2West

-Altru Health System
1001 7th St NE,662-2158

-Eventide Senior Living Communittes

-Leevers Foods
323 5th St. NE,662-4945

-Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 756
314 3rd Ave NE,662-4117

-First United Bank
323 5th St NE,662-4024