

ND and SD Convention Guidance from Perry Pearson

Aug 30

Dear Dakota Friends,

Our fall convention season is rapidly approaching, and we want to send out a letter about our days together. We remain committed to making our conventions a safe place for all attendees, and especially those with young children. Because of this, no known sex offenders or those with known allegations of Child Sexual Abuse/Sexual abuse (CSA/SA) will be attending any South Dakota or North Dakota convention.

While we understand no setting can be guaranteed risk free, we can practice wise conduct to deter risk. This includes a renewed awareness of the need for healthy boundaries. Our purpose is that any interactions we have with your children will be in public view. Another practice to reduce risk is to follow the buddy system introduced in the Boy Scouts of America training program. This is a system where a child is paired with another child to keep track of each other. We encourage you to follow this safe suggestion. However, this should not be considered a substitute for parental/guardian supervision.

While at convention, we don't want to live in fear, but we must be wise. If something appears inappropriate or uncomfortable to you, please speak to someone you trust who can help you. Situations that are reported can be dealt with properly, including involving the authorities if warranted. Communication is our safety!

Please feel free to make alternative sleeping accommodations if you are uncomfortable staying on the grounds. The most convenient locations are as follows:

Utica – Yankton

Hunter – Casselton or Fargo

Mandan – Mandan or Bismarck

Any who choose to do so are welcome to listen via a conference call number which will be provided. We are aware that this option has given spiritual help to many who have listened from home in recent years.

We hope this information will help make convention an edifying and encouraging experience.

The Dakota Workers