

# COMMENTARY



## We the People

By David Adler, The Alturas Institute

### When Presidential Claims Collide with the Court, Due Process and the Rule of Law

Last week, the U.S. Supreme Court instructed the Trump Administration to “facilitate” the return of Kilmar Abrego Garcia from an infamous torture prison in El Salvador, to which he was illegally deported without any semblance of due process of law. Citing an “administrative error,” the Administration acknowledged that this deportation of a Maryland man, who has never been charged with a crime, had been a mistake. Yet, Trump officials have made no effort to facilitate Garcia’s return to the United States, and to his wife and child.

On April 16, U. S. District Judge Paula Xinis, the presiding judge whose ruling that the Administration has an obligation to facilitate Garcia’s return was unanimously affirmed by the Supreme Court, ordered Trump officials to produce records and sworn answers about the efforts, or lack thereof, to return Garcia, or face a contempt ruling. For readers whose busy lives have precluded attention to this growing standoff between the executive and the judiciary, here’s why it is important for you to pay attention. President Donald Trump has informed the Salvadoran President, Nayib Bukele, in an exchange posted on Bukele’s X feed, that “Homegrowns are next. The homegrowns. You gotta build about five more places.”

Trump’s threat to deport “homegrowns,” those whom he sometimes refers to as the “worst of the worse,” includes all Americans, citizens from coast-to-coast. In the Supreme Court’s unanimous ruling last week, Justice Sonia Sotomayor penned a statement, joined by Justices Kentanji Brown Jackson and Elena Kagan, that warned of Trump’s claim of unlimited authority: “The Government’s argument, moreover, implies that that it could deport and incarcerate any person, including U.S. citizens, without legal consequence, so long as it does so before a court can intervene.”

The Administration had argued that the courts could not intervene in the president’s conduct of foreign policy, an overly broad contention that flies in the face of two centuries of Supreme Court rulings that declare boundaries on the scope of executive power in foreign relations. The most alarming assertion advanced by the Trump Administration is its authority to dispatch armed officials to grab people from the streets and ship them off to a prison in another country—without a shred of due process. The threat of deportation and incarceration, “before a court can intervene,” is a reference to executive contempt for due process and the rule of law.

Indeed, the Court’s prescription for the return of Garcia,

which embraced the core of Judge Xinix’s ruling, trumpeted the obligation to adhere to due process: “The order properly requires the Government to ‘facilitate’ Abrego Garcia’s release from custody in El Salvador and to ensure that his case is handled as it would have been had he not been improperly sent to El Salvador.”

Adherence to due process of law is the foundational principle of American jurisprudence, without which the premise and promise of the rule of law and American Constitutionalism, itself, vanish. Due process emerges from the mists of antiquity in Magna Carta, signed by King John at Runnymede 1,100 years ago, on June 15, 1215. America’s founders believed with Sir Edward Coke, the parliamentarian and champion of the rule of law whom they idolized, that Magna Carta has no peer-- “no sovereign”—for it was incontestable that its proclamation in Chapter 39 that the “law of the land,” a majestic phrase that soon after its appearance was popularized as “due process of law,” represented the bone marrow of the agreement between the barons and the King John at Runnymede. What the “law of the land” meant to the

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## A Country Kind of Faith

By Lucas Wagner

### Farming and the Bible

I think it’s now finally safe to say that spring is finally here. This past week I’ve seen hints of green grass almost everywhere, and I also saw my first robin of the year. My daughter tells me that she’s seen many robins already this spring. She is much more attuned to nature than I am. In general, kids notice a lot of things that their preoccupied parents tend to miss. Another sure sign of spring is the many anhydrous ammonia tanks I see coming and going, along with the two air seeders I saw working in the fields on the way to Bismarck the other day. As Genesis 8:22 reminds us: “While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.”

I my not always notice the robins, but I do try to notice when baby calves are born on the farm. This past week there were three new ones. Two were hefty bull calves while the third was a petite little red heifer calf. Prior to this there were three bull calves that were born at the end of February. Those first three calves have gotten well acquainted with the kids and have been named Abe, George, and Trump. Interestingly enough, the calf named Trump is the one that has turned out to be the greediest when it comes to bottle feeding, and he seems to have somewhat taken the leadership role over the other two!

Cattle can be a lot of work, and talking about cattle reminds me of the verse from Proverbs 14:4 which says: “Where no oxen are, the manger is clean, but much revenue comes by the strength of the ox.” The author is essentially saying that it’s easy to gripe about the work and problems that cattle cause, but getting rid of the cattle and having a clean barn also means you will miss out on all the bene-

fits and income that cattle can bring. To say it another way, anyone can have a clean barn when you don’t have any cattle, but having to haul manure means you actually have a real farm with real work to be done. The first time I saw this verse was years ago hanging on a wall in the maintenance shop where I worked on campus during college. I think the point being made was don’t complain about our shop being dirty, it means we’re actually doing some work around here! Somehow that stuck in my head from all those years ago, and I still remember that verse to this day.

Some more verses that come to mind are Ecclesiastes 11:4-6 which says: “He who watches the wind will not sow and he who looks at the clouds will not reap. Just as you do not know the path of the wind and how bones are formed in the womb of the pregnant woman, so you do not know the activity of God who makes all things. Sow your seed in the morning and do not be idle in the evening, for you do not know whether morning or evening sowing will succeed, or whether both will be good.” Anyone who has tried to plant a crop or make hay can relate to what Solomon is saying here. There have been many times when I’ve delayed cutting a hayfield because of threatening weather only to find out it never rained in the end, and all I did was waste time out of fear. The weather is out of our control, and all we can do is to keep trying. Another verse with a similar meaning is Ecclesiastes 11:1 which says: “Cast your bread on the surface of the waters, for you will find it after many days.” This time of year, a lot is starting to happen on the farm, and I’m glad to know that God seems to understand farmers since so much of the language in the Bible has to do with agriculture. Amen.

### Announcement from page 2

Submissions of ads, photos, obits, copy, reports, minutes, events, and subs, new and renewals, are possible at that time. Ads and notices must meet the noon Friday deadline before the next issue to be included in the next paper. We go to press at noon Monday.

Material needs to be submitted in person, preferably in writing, by computer cards, or by email to [gazette@westriv.com](mailto:gazette@westriv.com), by mail to McClusky Gazette at P.O. Box 619, McClusky, 58463, or by phone to McClusky Gazette at 701-363-2492.

Thank you for keeping our chain of information working by using the established protocols for submission of community information. Our reader-

ship continues to grow.

Announcements for free and open to the public events are free.

Thank you, personal announcements, sales of items or services, or promotion of events which charge admission or are fundraising events are ads. Legals are paid, required reports and announcements to the public.

#### Publishers Auxiliary

We practice journalism, which is defined by a discipline of verification; we tell you how we know something, or we attribute it; we’re mainly about facts, not opinion. Social media is mainly about opinions and have little, if any, discipline or verification. Which should you trust?

## Church Announcements

#### Assembly of God Church, McClusky

Rev. Charles Springer  
Christian Education Hour, 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday youth SCYwalk: grades 7-12; 5-7 p.m.  
Free food at 5 p.m.

#### McClusky Baptist Church

Pastor Lucas Wagner, interim pastor  
Church: 363-2264  
Sunday School at 10 a.m.  
Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

#### First Baptist Church, Goodrich

Pastor Lucas Wagner, interim pastor  
Office: 884-2528  
Parsonage:  
Morning Service at 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School at 10:40 a.m.

#### Martin Baptist Church

701-693-2844  
Pastor Tim Houck  
*Winter Schedule (Dec-March)*  
Sunday School 10:00 AM  
Morning Worship 11:00 AM  
*Summer Schedule (April - Nov)*  
Sunday School 9:30 AM  
Morning Worship 10:30 AM

#### Community Church of God, Bowdon

Rev. Dale Peasley  
Home: 547-3596  
Church: 962-3681  
Sunday School at 9 a.m.  
Worship at 10 a.m.

#### First Baptist Church, Mercer

Pastor Paul Stout  
Sunday School at 10 a.m.  
Morning Worship at 11 a.m.  
WMF, last Sunday of each month at 7 p.m.

#### Holy Family Parish, McClusky

Fr. Tom Graner  
First and third Sundays of the month, 10:30 a.m.

Second and fourth Sundays of the month, 8 a.m.  
Fifth Sunday of the month, 5 p.m. Saturday evening

#### St. Francis Xavier's Catholic Church

Fr. Tom Graner  
605 1s St. w., PO Box 49  
Anamoose, ND 58710-0049  
Parish email: [stfx@gondtc.com](mailto:stfx@gondtc.com)  
Bulletin announcements: [stfxbulletin@gondtc.com](mailto:stfxbulletin@gondtc.com)  
Phone (701) 465-3780  
Fax: (773) 496-3780  
First and fifth Sunday of the month, 8 a.m.  
Second Sunday of the month, 10:30  
Third and fourth Sundays of the month, 5 p.m. Saturday evening  
Confessions ½ hour before weekday  
Masses and one hour before Sunday Mass.  
Baptism: Call Parish for appointment  
Marriage: Call 12 months before for appointment

#### St. Margaret Mary's Catholic Church

Fr. Tom Graner  
605 Main St., PO Box 197  
Drake, ND 58735-0197  
Parish email: [stfx@gondtc.com](mailto:stfx@gondtc.com)  
Bulletin announcements: [stfxbulletin@gondtc.com](mailto:stfxbulletin@gondtc.com)  
Phone (701) 465-3284  
Fax: (773) 496-3780  
First and second Sundays of the month, 5 p.m. Saturday evening  
Third Sunday of the month, 8 a.m.  
Fourth and fifth Sundays of the month, 10:30 a.m.  
Confessions ½ hour before Masses.  
Baptism: Call Parish for appointment  
Marriage: Call 12 months before for appointment

#### St. John's Lutheran Church (LCMS), McClusky

Rev. Matt Thompson  
701-426-4877  
Sunday Worship Service at 11:30 a.m.

#### St. Martin Lutheran Church Anamoose

Rev. Marschner  
Worship at 9 a.m

#### Grace Lutheran Church, McClusky

402 4th Street W.  
Sunday School & Fellowship at 10 a.m. Worship Service at 11 a.m.

#### Peace Lutheran Church, Goodrich

Office: 363-2267  
Call for Times of worship

#### The United Methodist Church Chaseley

Rev. Warren Rhodes  
363-2420  
Worship at 8:45 a.m.  
Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship at 10 a.m.  
**Goodrich**  
Rev. Warren Rhodes  
363-2420  
Family Worship at 10 a.m.  
Sunday School at 11 a.m.  
Community Bible Study at 7 p.m.  
**McClusky**  
Rev. Warren Rhodes  
363-2420  
Fellowship Hour at 10 a.m.  
Family Worship at 11:15 a.m.

**Drake**  
465-3757  
Sunday Worship at 8:30 a.m.  
**Martin**  
324-2720, 324-2445  
Worship at 11:15 a.m.  
4th Sunday Evening Worship at 8 p.m.

**McClusky Seventh-day**  
Adventist Church  
Saturday Sabbath School 10 a.m.  
Worship Service 11 a.m.

**Seventh-Day Adventist Church**  
Goodrich-Hurdsfield-Turtle Lake  
Saturday Sabbath School 9:45 a.m.  
Saturday Worship at 11 a.m.

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