

Pastor Tony Sifuentes

Bethel Assembly of God Church,
Glen Ullin

LABOR DAY: A TIME TO REFLECT Proverbs 14:23
Happy Labor Day! Sunday was a holiday that celebrates the hard work and ingenuity of the American worker. It is a national holiday in honor of the people who go to work every day, whose efforts are vital to keeping our nation running. It honors every worker, not just the ones who have high salaries and upwardly mobile careers. To me, Labor Day reminds me that there are thousands of people who go to work every day and do menial jobs no one wants to do so that we can live comfortable lives.

As we celebrate Labor Day, we are reminded that work is good.

Labor Day was created to acknowledge and pay tribute to the workforce for all that they have done to make our country prosperous and strong. “Labor Day differs in every essential way from the other holidays of the year in any country,” said Samuel Gompers, founder and longtime president of the American Federation of Labor. “All other holidays are in a more or less degree connected with conflicts and battles of man’s prowess over man, of strife and discord for greed and power, of glories achieved by one nation over another. Labor Day...is devoted to no man, living or dead, to no sect, race, or nation.”

We know that work is God ordained. We read in Genesis 2:2 - “On the seventh day, having finished his task, God rested from all his work...” Genesis 2:15 says “The LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and care for it.”

Work is normal. It’s part of God’s created order for humanity. Everything that we bring to work (skills, intelligence, experience, and reputation) is a gift from God that He allows us to use. God’s original intention for work was to bless us. I feel sorry for the many people who view their work as simply a job: something to be performed for a wage and nothing else. We spend more time at work than doing anything single activity except for sleep and some of us work more than we sleep.

In celebration of Labor Day, I would like to look at three viewpoints that the world has towards work versus God’s view.

1. My work and the income I earn from it define my self-worth.

As Christians, we must remember that it is not our work that defines us, but the attitude with which we do our work that pleases God the most. Sometimes the work that we do earns a significant income. Unfortunately, some Christians have guilt issues related to this.

But there’s never any reason to feel guilty as long as you have earned the money honestly and ethically.

Proverbs 14:23 (NKJV) says, “In all labor there is profit, but idle chatter leads only to poverty.”

In his book “The Treasure Principle”, Randy Alcorn says: “God does not raise our income so that we can increase our standard of living, but rather our standard of giving.”

One of the great remedies to having a large income is giving the money away.

The more you give, the less you must manage. In fact, this attitude of stewardship is one of the great ways for a believer to distinguish his worldview from the secular worldview. In the end, we must remember that while God may choose to bless us financially through our occupation, we are defined neither by our work nor by the income we earn from it.

What defines us in God’s eyes is the way our work is done in honor of Him.

2. Work is a Necessary Evil.
For the Christian, work is not a necessary evil, but a mission field for which we can be an example of

Christ’s love and spiritual integrity.
Paul wrote in Ephesians 6:6 “Work hard, but not just to please your masters when they are watching. As slaves of Christ, do the will of God with all your heart.”

Each of us has a conscience.
Your conscience is God’s built-in warning system.

By following it we can build Godly character. Building character takes focus and patience, with attention to detail and an ability to be consistent over time. While God is ultimately our Potter, we also play the role of the potter in forming our own character. Christians would be horrified to be accused of stealing from their employers, but there are many small ways in which employees do it every day. If someone is paid for 40 hours per week but only worked 30 hours, they’ve stolen 10 hours’ worth of salary. If someone takes supplies from work and doesn’t replace them or pay for them, their integrity is shot.

Patrick Morley (Man in the Mirror Ministries) says that when we limit our thinking to major matters, we will miss the point that to be trustworthy with much, we must first prove trustworthy with little. One thing that has not changed even in our fast-paced society is that relationships are built on trust. The fragile thread of trust upon which relationships depend can be easily broken. Integrity is priceless. It’s one of the few things that can’t be taken from you. You can only lose it.

3. My Job Should Always Make Me Happy

There are all sorts of clichés that deal with being satisfied: “the grass is always greener on the other side” is the one that comes to mind first. But, as the pessimist said, it’s only greener because they’re laying more fertilizer over there. The point is contentment isn’t found in always getting what we want but in always being satisfied with what we have. Sometimes, it isn’t your position that makes you happy or unhappy, it’s your disposition.

That’s not to say that we should never find or take a new job. But, before I ever tell anyone to find a new job, I encourage them to earnestly pray about any decision before they make it. They need to discover what it is that God wants them to do. I remind them that they are at their job for a reason. They may not know what that reason is, but there is a reason. Of course, God may be directing them elsewhere and that is fine.

Sometimes I meet people who simply work for awful people, and they probably should leave, but I’m a big fan of praying for the people you are working for. More importantly, pray for yourself that you would be the person God wants you to be. Positive people are much more likely to turn their ideas into positive behavior. Positive behavior, in turn, does change circumstances, and nearly always for the better.

Let us view Labor Day not only as a holiday but a divine appointment to share the life-giving message of the Gospel with those who may be searching for hope and purpose in their own lives.

Let this Labor Day serve as a reminder that our work, no matter what it is, is both a blessing from God and a way to impact others for Him.

May the Lord bless you abundantly in your labor, and may you find fulfillment and purpose in all you do. Remember, you are not laboring in vain, for your work is valued and rewarded by our gracious and loving God.

Colossians 3:23-24 – Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.

Have a blessed week!
Pastor Tony Sifuentes

Public Notice

NOTICE OF LEASING STATE SCHOOL LANDS
The Board of University and School Lands will Conduct Surface Lease Auctions in the following Counties:
Adams Hettinger Pierce
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Bowman McHenry Sioux
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Golden Valley Oliver Williams
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Auctions will be held in person at location in the County Seat. Refer to the advertisement in the official county newspaper or the public lease auctions schedule posted on the Department of Trust Lands’ website for auction dates, times, locations, & list of tracts offered. Auctioneer will read specific requirements at the auction. The information contained in this advertisement may be revised prior to the auction upon further review by the North Dakota Department of Trust Lands. The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids. For more information, visit <https://land.nd.gov> or call (701) 328-2800.

Joseph A. Heringer COMMISSIONER
1707 N 9th St | Bismarck ND 58506
PHONE: 701-328-2800
FAX: 701-328-3650
WEB: <https://land.nd.gov>

Fantastic Four: First Steps showing at Mayer Theatre

This weekend showing at Mayer Theatre in Hebron is Fantastic Four: First Steps rated PG13. Show time is 7:30pm CT., each night.


The Fantastic Four: First Steps is a 2025 American superhero film based on the Marvel Comics superhero team the Fantastic Four. Produced by Marvel Studios and distributed by Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures, it is the 37th film in the Marvel Cinematic Universe and the second reboot of the Fantastic Four film series.

The film was directed by Matt Shakman from a screenplay by Josh Friedman, Eric Pearson, and the team of Jeff Kaplan and Ian Springer. It features an ensemble cast including Pedro Pascal, Vanessa Kirby, Ebon Moss-Bachrach, and Joseph Quinn as the titular team, alongside Julia Garner, Sarah Niles, Mark Gatiss, Natasha Lyonne, Paul Walter Hauser, and Ralph Ineson.

The film is set in the 1960s of a retro-futuristic world which the Fantastic Four must protect from the planet-devouring cosmic being Galactus.

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In Touch with Prairie Living

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cultivated in Russia and some parts of Asia. Found almost everywhere in the vast country, even in Siberia, the flower is deeply rooted in Russian culture.

Chamomile originated in Europe and west Asia. Since the ancient times, it has been highly valued by the Egyptians, Romans and Greeks for its medicinal properties. Chamomile is a common name for several daisy-like plants. Two of the species are commonly used to make herbal infusions for traditional medicine, and there is some evidence that chamomile has an impact on health. The name chamomile comes from Greek and means “earth apple.” Today the more popular application for chamomile is herbal tea. Around the world, people consume more than one million cups a day.

I have fond childhood memories in the 1950s of my grandmother Odellia (Wolf) Baumgartner growing chamomile in her large garden at Strasburg, N.D. Visiting the Welk Homestead State Historic Site, much chamomile was growing near the summer kitchen like when Ludwig and Christina (Schwahn) Welk homesteaded in 1893.

Lena Wolf, London, England, emigrated from Kazakhstan to Germany in the 1990s. She writes, “I can say that we always used chamomile tea in Kazakhstan. I will drink it every day in London.” Allyn Brosz, Washington, D.C., native of Tripp, S.D., writes, “In my childhood, Hutchinson County, S.D., chamomile grew wild in the farmyards. Our neighbors picked the plans and laid them out on the enclosed porch on old sheets to dry. The dried flowers and leaves were then crushed and placed in a glass jar to provide tea throughout the winter. The smell of the drying chamomile was wonderful.”

Ted Hovland, Lincoln, Nebr., wrote on the GRHC Facebook, “I grew up at Eureka in the 1940s and 50s. My grandmother Elisabeth Lidele came from Russia in 1885. She was part of our family the first 18 years of my life in the same house she had lived in since it was built in 1914. Wild chamomile grew in the back yard. She would pick the blossoms and dry them on a dish towel in the guest bedroom, then store them in an oatmeal box. She called it ‘camilia’ tea. Sometimes that sweetened tea and a plate-sized piece of fried bread would be our supper. Whenever I was sick as a child, I would be on the road to recovery when my mother, Adina Liedle Egeland, would bring me a cup of ‘camilia’ tea sweetened with honey to



Trooper Wald Promoted

Trooper Michael Wald was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and will serve as the NDHP Planning Officer, stationed at Headquarters. Wald earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Minot State University. He attended the training academy from March 12, 2012, graduating July 27, 2012. He was initially stationed in Williston as a motor carrier enforcement trooper, where he served until July 31, 2014. He then transferred to New Salem until August 31, 2018; then to Bismarck until October 8, 2023. In October 2023, he transferred to Headquarters and served as the Cultural Liaison/Recruitment Officer until his promotion.

Wald began serving as the NDHP Planning Officer effective August 1, 2025.



Colonel Daniel Haugen (left) presents Sgt. Michael Wald with a certificate of promotion at a ceremony on August 1, 2025.

Michael is the son of LuAnn and the deceased Michael Hanson, Bismarck and Robert Wald , Bismarck. Michael is the grandson of the late Joseph and Delores Muller from Glen Ullin and Baltzer and Helen Wald, Bismarck. Michael and his wife Amanda and their sons, Leo and Bodie, reside in Bismarck.

drink. I still keep a box of chamomile tea in my kitchen.”

JoAnne Iszler, Three Forks, Mont., native of Ashley, N.D, writes, “I grew up in 1948 with chamomile tea. We got this for colds, tummy aches, and other things that were wrong. We had tons of it growing behind the house. When I was little, I’d sit down in it and pick the little yellow flowers and mom could dry them, we always had it on hand. Sometimes relatives would come for visits and I’d pick it and they’d pay me 50 cents for a sack paper bag. I thought I’d made a ton of money. The chamomile tea you buy in little bags have nowhere near the wonderful taste as brewing the flowers. I’d love to find a way to get some started in a little patch. Even the smell was comforting.”

Linda Brook, Eureka, writes, “My mother also grew chamomile and anytime I was ill, it was brewed. Still love it to this day.” Don Saylor shared, “We had a great aunt who had no lawn in her lot, all chamomile. We picked every year. Great stuff. Just add some sugar.” Jennifer Sik, Farmington, Minn., commented, “When we visited my grandmother in Eureka, she would make that tea for us grandkids when we weren’t feeling well.”

Judy Graham Thornton Barnes,

Rupert, Idaho, writes, “As luck would have it, I still have a canister full of Grandma’s hand-picked chamomile. I plan to tie a photocopy of the Northwest Blade article onto that canister so family can understand its importance after I’m gone.”

GRHC published the book, “Tender Hands: Ruth’s Story of Healing,” by Ruth Weil Kusler, Beulah, N.D., born in 1908. Ruth’s mother, Katharina Fischer, taught her tender hands and healing prayers of Brauche. Katharina was born in Neu Glückstal, South Russia, where she learned Brauche from her mother, Christina (Kirschenmann) Fischer. The book documents medicinal remedies, including the use of chamomile for bleeding, constipations, shingles, and sore eyes. This book is available at the GRHC website <https://grhc-northdakotastate-ndus.nbsstore.net/tender-hands>.

For more information about donating family histories and photographs, or how to financially support the GRHC, contact Jeremy Kopp, at jeremy.kopp@ndsu.edu or 701-231-6596; mail to: NDSU Libraries, Dept. 2080, PO Box 6050, Fargo, N.D. 58108-6050; or go to www.ndsu.edu/grhc. You may also contact me directly at michael.miller@ndsu.edu or 701-231-8416.

Happy 6th Birthday Jrull!



Love,
from your family in
North Dakota!

Coaches Needed For Bearcat Athletic’s

The Glen Ullin/Hebron Bearcats are looking for a

- Varsity boys’ basketball head coach and a varsity boys’ basketball junior varsity coach for the 2025-2026 school year. Season starts December 1st, 2025.
- Junior High boys’ basketball coach for the 2025-2026 school year. Season starts December 1, 2025.

If interested please contact the
Glen Ullin School 348-3590 or
Myron Schaaf Bearcat Activity Director 878-4442



New Rules?



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