



**NORTH DAKOTA
SUPPLEMENT**
www.ndyorkrite.org/gckt
SK David Bickel
RE Grand Commander



Thirteen Months Freemasonry Has Survived

Just over thirteen months ago COVID -19 threw the breaks on most organizations in North Dakota. Freemasonry and its appendant bodies were not exempt from the social insult that the COVID-19 pandemic brought.

Early on the Grand Lodge of North Dakota, through Grand Master Lowell Domier and more recently Grand Master Bob Wedberg, provided advice and counsel for meeting and performing degree work for all lodges in the North Dakota jurisdiction.

The lodges of northwestern North Dakota took the Grand Master's guidance to heart by implementing the guidelines for meeting in person as set forth by the Governor's office and the Grand Lodge office.

While scaled back, meetings resumed. Petitions were read and voted on. Degree work resumed in Williston, Tioga and Watford City. Fellowship in the form of face to face meetings served to in vibrate the lodge members with enthusiasm exceeding pandemic levels.

The York Rite of North Dakota should find itself positioned well to benefit from the pent up energy and good will that resides in the hearts and minds of all Masons, most certainly the Brothers situated in the northwestern part of the state.

In closing I would remind everyone in a leadership role that the "reset button" has been hit. Let's make the most of that opportunity and examine how we conduct meetings. Ask ourselves how we should be "feeding our flock". Ask our local members what THEY would like to see coming from our meetings and then deliver it.

SK RW Rick Wightman
Senior Grand Warden Grand Lodge of North Dakota
Grand Warder Grand Commandery
Knights Templar of North Dakota

