

COMMENTARY



We the People

By David Adler, The Alturas Institute

Security for Judges is Essential to Judicial Independence and the Rule of Law

Reporting from the Wall Street Journal over the Memorial Day weekend that a security committee at the federal Judicial Conference in March discussed a proposal to create an armed security force responsible for the safety of the judiciary, separate from the U.S. Marshal’s Service, reflects a sad reality: judges who have ruled against President Donald Trump have faced death threats and vicious personal attacks, amid other hostile acts designed to intimidate them. It should be clear to all that the safety of federal judges is pivotal to the preservation of an independent judiciary and the rule of law, even more critical than the Article III structural guarantees of judicial independence: judges shall serve during good behavior, they may not be removed from the bench unless they commit impeachable offenses –treason, bribery and high crimes and misdemeanors—and their salaries may not be diminished during their tenure. The structural constitutional protections afforded the judiciary would be rendered irrelevant if judges feared for their lives in rendering decisions based on facts and the law.

The growing recognition among judges that their health, safety and lives—and those of their families—are on the line when they issue, for example, temporary injunctions

against President Trump, to halt his usurpations of power and the violation of individuals’ civil rights and civil liberties, has been heightened by his public statements, including those on Truth Social, that judges who have ruled against him—“USA hating judges” and “radical Left lunatics”—in both his first and second terms in office, are “scum,” and “Monsters who want our country to go to Hell.” Trump and his associates have called for the impeachment of “opposition” judges and have attacked them by name. Some have been swatted. In recent months, dozens of pizzas have been delivered to the homes of judges, an action to designed to intimidate them by demonstrating that their home addresses are known and that they can be reached. What the Trump regime refuses to acknowledge is that many of the judicial decisions that have frozen his actions have been Republican appointed judges, including those nominated by Trump himself. Trump’s parade of losses in the federal courts has been followed by a steady stream of attacks, the goal of which has been to denigrate judges, demean the principle of judicial independence and deny, altogether, the authority of the judiciary to review presidential acts. Such court bashing invites threats to judges.

As of May 23, the New York

Times reports, at least 177 rulings, including decisions of Trump-nominated judges, “have at least temporarily paused some of the administration’s initiatives.” The Trump Administration’s insistence that judges who halt Trump’s aggrandizement of power are backing criminals, fans the flames of MAGA loyalists. The concerns among judges at the March conference, in addition to those expressed by eminent, retired judges, include the fear that Attorney General Pam Bondi, who has been hyper-critical of those who have halted Trump’s acts, might withdraw the protection of the U.S. Marshals. J. Michael Luttig, a retired federal judge, revered by conservative legal scholars, pointedly stated that the federal judiciary cannot “trust this president and his attorney general to ensure their protection. How could anyone?”

Trump’s intemperate and dangerous attacks on those judges who have ruled against him represents a departure from both the measured criticisms of court rulings by previous presidents, and the occasion that he used to deliver them. His fusillade of indecorous Memorial Day assaults on judicial independence, essential to the mainte-

We The People
can't on page 8



A Country Kind of Faith

By Lucas Wagner

A Leaky Roof

One of my all-time favorite stories of healing in the Bible has to be the account of the paralyzed man who was lowered through a hole in the roof down to Jesus. Mark 2:3-12 gives the details: “And they came, bringing to Him a paralytic, carried by four men. Being unable to get to Him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and when they had dug an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic was lying. And Jesus, seeing their faith said to the paralytic, ‘Son, your sins are forgiven.’ But some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, ‘Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming; who can forgive sins but God alone?’ Immediately, Jesus, aware in His spirit that they were reasoning that way within themselves, said to them, ‘Why are you reasoning about these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven’; or to say, ‘Get up, and pick up your pallet and walk’? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins – He said to the paralytic, ‘I say to you, get up, pick up your pallet and go home.’ And he got up and immediately picked up the pallet, and went out in the sight of everyone, so that they were all amazed and were glorifying God, saying, ‘We have never seen anything like this.’”

The people were amazed and glorified God, and so do I. The awe and wonder of this event still leap off the pages and into our hearts. We recognize God was doing a mighty work in this man’s life, and that He still wants to do a mighty work in our lives today. Anyone reading who feels burdened, lonely, and helpless can cer-

tainly take some encouragement from this man’s story.

We all know people who need healing in their lives, and sometimes we wonder why God doesn’t heal them. Sometimes the answer is simply not for us to know. Illness may or may not be as a result of sin. Don’t forget that even the Apostle Paul asked to be healed, but God denied his request. As with all the stories of healing in the gospels, we must always remember that though Jesus had compassion toward those who suffered; healing was never the primary goal of Jesus’ ministry. The number one concern on Jesus’ mind was always for spiritual healing rather than physical healing. Spiritual healing lasts for eternity, physical healing does not. The fact that Jesus first and foremost said that the man’s sins were forgiven shows that the condition of the soul is always of first importance. As an added bonus, God often does choose to physically heal people as well. Healing is something that I believe can and does still happen today.

With the view that spiritual healing is of first importance, I am beginning to learn to change how I pray. Instead of starting with a litany of things I need, I have found it very beneficial to instead begin by thanking God for the things He has already provided for me. Doing this increases my faith and reminds me who God is. After this, I will pray about the condition of my heart and ask for forgiveness for sins I have committed. It can be very helpful to pray for our enemies as well. After all of this, my heart is now in a place where my prayers for healing and other kinds of help are more informed and a lot more powerful. Amen.

Announcement from page 2

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?

Legislative Event!

Wrap-up
A North Dakota Legislative Session Wrap Up discussion hosted by the District 14 Democrats will be held on Thursday, June 12th at 7:00 at the Bobcat Bar in the Mad-dock Opera House. District 14 legislators will be present to answer questions about bills that were introduced during the 2025 session. Everyone is wewlcome.to come join the conversations and hear about policies that affect every North Dakotan!

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
Bulletin announcements: 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
Bulletin announcements: 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.

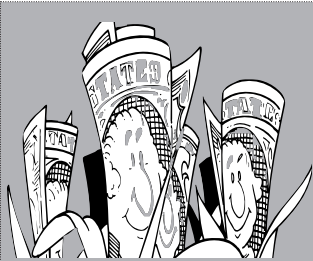
Seventh-Day Adventist Church

Goodrich-Hurdsfield-Turtle Lake
Saturday Sabbath School 9:45 a.m.
Saturday Worship at 11 a.m.

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