

Prairie Highlights

Our team

Valley City Office

213 Central Ave. N., Ste. A
Valley City, ND 58072
701-845-2894

Wahpeton Office

118 6th St. N.
Wahpeton, ND 58075
701-642-1108

Ways to meet

In person | Virtual | Phone

To request an appointment

- Visit our [website](#)
- Click this link, [Calendly - Dakota Prairie Associates](#)
- Call one of the office numbers or email samantha.quick@thrivent.com or samantha.nelson@thrivent.com and we can get you on the schedule!

Website

[connect.thrivent.com/
dakota-prairie-associates](https://connect.thrivent.com/dakota-prairie-associates)

Follow us on Facebook!



Here comes summer!

As this is only our second edition of our bi-annual newsletter, we wanted to remind you of what you can find here. Inside each one, we'll share practical tips, fresh perspectives and resources to help make planning for the future a little easier. We'll also keep you in the loop on things happening in the community—like local events, educational workshops and charitable initiatives we're proud to support. Our hope is that each newsletter will feel like a helpful conversation, not just an update.

As we leave winter behind, we look forward to the growth and renewal that spring and summer bring. From family outings at the zoo, to golf days at Bois de Sioux, and family fun days in Valley City, we can't wait for all that the next few months have in store. With all the many opportunities summer has to offer, we wanted to share a quick update and preview of the exciting things we have planned. There will be a

variety of workshops, family events and social gatherings to attend. Be sure to check out the events section of this newsletter to see all the dates and opportunities where you can join us throughout the summer.

In June, join us at The Reserve at Woodland for a **Thrivent Charitable Workshop featuring guest speaker Charitable Solutions Consultant Ben Boline**. This in-person event will focus on integrating charitable giving into your financial plan, with insights for individuals, nonprofits and churches on flexible endowment strategies.

July brings all the fun in the sun! As you know, community involvement and giving back are values we truly cherish. We're proud to announce that Dakota Prairie Associates is returning as the main sponsor for Valley City Parks and Recreation's July Celebration. The month will be packed with summer favorites,

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including the community block party, BBQ pulled pork cook-off, Safety in the Park, Crazy Daze and so much more. We'd love for you to bring the family and stop by the events to say hello.

You can also meet us in Nome on July 21, as we host Shelly Halverson's presentation, **A Lifetime**

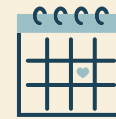
Gift. Shelly helps individuals prepare for end-of-life planning using a checklist and structured tools that encourage meaningful conversations around important documents and final wishes—providing a sense of reassurance for both individuals and their loved ones.

In early September, we'll be back at The Reserve at Woodland, with guest speaker John Busacker and his presentation **Purposeful Legacy: How to Share Values and Valuables with the Next Generations.** John provides a framework for planning and communicating values and assets across generations. The session covers tools and resources related to retirement, charitable strategies, estate and end-of-life planning.

As always, we'd love to hear from you—whether you have questions, need guidance or just want to catch up. Reach out anytime. We think of our clients as family, and we're so grateful to be part of your stories and journeys. From all of us at Dakota Prairie Associates, thank you for placing your trust in us.

The Dakota Prairie Associates Team

Adam, Steph, Tony, Sam Q. and Samantha N.



Mark your calendar

JUNE

- 23 Charitable Strategies with Ben Boline
- 30 Valley City Block Party

JULY

- 09 BBQ Pulled Pork Cook-Off, Valley City
- 11 ChalkFest in Wahpeton
- 21 A Lifetime Gift with Shelly Halverson
- 28 Thrivent Night at the Redhawks (check emails)
- 29 Safety in the Park, Valley City

AUGUST

- 13 Steph's seventh Thrivent anniversary
- 21 Tony's birthday

SEPTEMBER

- 02 Scott's 12th Thrivent anniversary*
- 03 Purposeful Legacy: How to Share Values and Valuables with the Next Generations with John Busacker
- 11 Sam's ninth Thrivent anniversary
- 22 Adam's 10th Thrivent anniversary

OCTOBER

- 15 Leaving a Thriving Legacy with Financial Advisor Eric Bilger

NOVEMBER

- 16 Tony's sixth Thrivent anniversary

MISSION

At Dakota Prairie Associates, our mission is to make financial clarity accessible to everyone by delivering complete, personalized financial plans and meaningful advice. We strive to empower individuals and families to live confidently, generously and in alignment with their values.

VISION

To create a stress-free financial experience that empowers every generation to live aligned with their purpose and values. We strive to bridge the wisdom of older generations with the dreams of younger ones, fostering legacy preservation and lifelong financial freedom through personalized, values-driven financial planning.

Get to know us!



Adam Brandvold

Adam is a financial advisor in our Valley City office and lives on his family farm in Kathryn with his significant other, Abby, and dog, Motley. He enjoys volunteering with the Kathryn Fire Department, fishing, hunting and spending time at the lake.

Favorite summer activity?
Fishing

Did you have a summer job as a teenager?
Yes, farmhand

Favorite ice cream flavor? Vanilla and cookie dough

Where is the furthest you've traveled during the summer? East Tennessee for a mission trip

Favorite summer food? Burgers and brats

Favorite summer sport? Would have to go with baseball if fishing doesn't count!



Tony Van Dyke

Tony is a financial advisor in our Wahpeton office and lives in Wahpeton with his wife, Nichole, their two children, Kayden and Evelyn, and their dogs. He enjoys spending time with family, cheering on his favorite teams, and being outdoors hunting and golfing.

Favorite summer activity?
Golf

Did you have a summer job as a teenager? Valley City Country Club Pro Shop

Favorite ice cream flavor? Cookie dough

Where is the furthest you've traveled during the summer? Medora

Favorite summer food? Anything you can get on a stick at a carnival

Favorite summer sport? Golf



Stephanie Roelfsema

Steph is a financial advisor in our Valley City office and lives in Valley City with her husband, Kyle, their two boys, Parker and Riley, and their cats and dogs. She enjoys spending time with family, cheering on her kids at sporting events, and relaxing with a good book and pets on her lap.

Favorite summer activity?

Watching my boys play baseball and working outside in my gardens

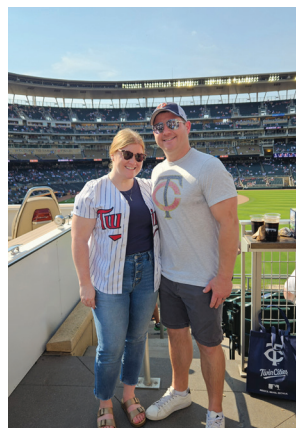
Did you have a summer job as a teenager? Convenience store clerk, librarian, hotel front desk and housekeeping

Favorite ice cream flavor? Salted caramel

Where is the furthest you've traveled during the summer? Olds, Alberta Canada

Favorite summer food? Corn on the cob

Favorite summer sport? Baseball



Sam Quick

Sam is the office manager in our Valley City office and lives in Valley City with her husband, Geoff, and their three cats. She enjoys volunteering as a BIO Girls mentor, attending Minnesota Twins games, traveling to new places, and relaxing at home with her cats and a good TV series.

Favorite summer activity?

Relaxing on my deck or planting flowers

Did you have a summer job as a teenager? Babysitting

Favorite ice cream flavor? Cherry yogurt gelato or Ben & Jerry's pistachio

Where is the furthest you've traveled during the summer? Boise, Idaho

Favorite summer food? Macaroni or potato salads

Favorite summer sport? Minnesota Twins baseball

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Samantha Nelson

Samantha is an office professional in our Wahpeton office and lives in Wahpeton with her husband, Lance, their children Addi, Ben and Matthew and their pets. She enjoys spending time with family and friends, staying active with sports, reading and coaching her daughter’s youth basketball team.

Favorite summer activity? Golfing, reading on our patio, mowing/gardening, and watching our kids’ summer activities.

Did you have a summer job as a teenager? Helping my parents on the farm and babysitting

Favorite ice cream flavor? Caramel praline pecan or chocolate peanut butter cup

Where is the furthest you’ve traveled during the summer? Denver, Colorado

Favorite summer food? Watermelon and fresh garden veggies

Favorite summer sport? Golf



WAYS TO MEET

In person, virtual or phone

While meeting in one of our office locations allows us to provide you with our highest level of service possible, we also conveniently offer meetings virtually and by phone. Additionally, we have planned travel days to rural areas during which appointments can be scheduled. Although we strive to accommodate walk-in requests throughout the year, we recommend you make an appointment ahead of time. Pre-scheduled appointments help ensure a financial advisor is available to assist you upon arrival.

To request an appointment

- Visit our [website](#)
- Go to [Calendly - Dakota Prairie Associates](#)
- Call one of the office numbers or email samantha.quick@thrivent.com or samantha.nelson@thrivent.com and we can get you on the schedule!

Exciting upgrades to Thrivent Choice®

Meet the new Thrivent Choice



Great news! The generosity program Thrivent Choice is now simpler, more flexible and available to all members.

Choice Dollars® are now designated once per year, in full, based on the prior year’s qualifying product activity. As a member, you

have until December 31 to direct Choice Dollars to the causes you care about. This gives you the flexibility to direct Choice Dollars any time throughout the year—on your schedule and in support of what matters most to you.

Access to the program has also expanded. All Thrivent members are now eligible to direct Choice Dollars, more than doubling the number of members who can participate. Whether you’re a longtime user or newly eligible, you now have even more opportunities to make a meaningful impact.

Direct 2026 Choice Dollars now at thrivent.com/choice.

As always, if you need assistance or have questions feel free to call our office.

Don’t see your favorite nonprofit? Recommend it!

Thrivent members can nominate their favorite 501(c)(3) organizations and churches to be part of the Thrivent Choice program. If it’s not in the catalog, simply complete this online form at bit.ly/4x1ogWn. If your organization is eligible, Thrivent will email an invitation using the email you provided for them. To receive updates on the process, which takes about six weeks, include your personal email address on the nomination form. Enrolled organizations can receive Choice Dollars® funding, get support from Thrivent Action Teams, and even receive fee-free online donations (Thrivent covers the processing fees**).

Have a community event coming up? Apply for a Thrivent Action Team

A **Thrivent Action Team** is a group of community volunteers led by a Thrivent client to complete a fundraiser, educational event or service activity. You submit your project idea through an application via the client portal.



Once approved, Thrivent will send you a Thrivent Action Kit, which can include:

- A Community Impact Card with up to \$250 in seed money
- A personalized webpage and other digital tools to promote your activity
- “Live Generously” T-shirts
- Thank you cards, name tags, stickers and more

Clients with membership can lead two Thrivent Action Teams per year, and clients with associate membership can lead one team per year. If you need help with your application, call our office or the customer service line at 800-847-4836, and ask for “Thrivent Action Teams” and we can walk you through the process.

Text reminders and online booking



You can now book a meeting through our website! All you have to do is visit [our website](#) and click the **giant red button!** You won't miss it.

If you've recently had an appointment with us, you have gotten a text reminder from one of our text-line numbers.

We love this new communication method. It not only reminds you of your upcoming meeting, but it also provides you with a secure opportunity to reply or reach out to us by text!

If you don't have a cell number on file, but would like to receive text reminders, please give one of our offices a call to update your contact information. These are the numbers you'll receive texts from:

Adam 701-401-7279 | **Steph** 701-658-6464 | **Tony** 701-401-5357



RECIPE CORNER

Summer Berry Fluff Salad

Ingredients

- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup vanilla Greek yogurt (20g protein) (optional)
- 1 small box strawberry-flavored sugar-free Jello (can use sweetened Jello if desired)
- 1 can (20-ounce) crushed pineapple, drained thoroughly
- 1 package chopped strawberries
- 1 container blueberries

Instructions

1. In a large mixing bowl, beat the whipping cream with an electric mixer at high speed until thickened into whipped cream. Set aside.
2. In a large mixing bowl, beat the cream cheese at medium speed until smooth. Add the whipped cream and yogurt and mix well.
3. Stir dry mixture of strawberry Jello. Mix well.
4. Fold in the can of well drained crushed pineapple.
5. Chop and fold the entire package of strawberries into the strawberry fluff.
6. Add package of blueberries.
7. Cover and refrigerate for 1 hour before serving.



Upcoming events

For more information about upcoming workshops and events, visit our website at connect.thrivent.com/dakota-prairie-associates or scan the QR code.



Charitable Strategies with guest speaker Ben Boline

Tuesday, June 23 | 5:30–7:30 p.m. | 1251 14th St. S.W., Valley City, North Dakota

Visit bit.ly/charitablevalleycity or give us a call.

A Lifetime Gift with guest speaker Shelly Halverson

Tuesday, July 21 | 5:30–7:30 p.m. | Nome Schoolhouse, 200 1st Ave., Nome, North Dakota

Visit bit.ly/lifetimegiftnome26 or give us a call.

Purposeful Legacy: How to Share Values and Valuables with the Next Generations with guest speaker John Busacker

Thursday, Sept. 3 | 5:30–7:30 p.m. | The Reserve at Woodland, 1251 14th St. S.W., Valley City, North Dakota

Visit bit.ly/PurposefulLegacy26 or give us a call!



Referrals are our biggest compliment!

If you know people who can benefit from our guidance, encourage them to reach out for a complimentary appointment. We will take care of them like they are family!

Stay connected

Follow our Facebook page and check out our team website for latest news, fun content and upcoming events!

facebook.com/DakotaPrairieAssociate

connect.thrivent.com/dakota-prairie-associates

thrivent[®]

ADVICE + INVESTMENTS + INSURANCE + BANKING + GENEROSITY

No products will be sold or gifts solicited.

Not all team members can provide all products, programs and services in all states.

Not all team members may office at the above addresses.

*Although Scott Wilmes, revenue growth director, is not a member of our team, he remains integral to our team. Learn more about Scott Wilmes here connect.thrivent.com/scott-wilmes.

**Thrivent will pay up to \$300,000 in online processing fees per calendar year for personal donations made through Thrivent's online giving platform.

Thrivent Choice[®] is a fraternal activity that gives clients with membership a voice in Thrivent's charitable giving. While members recommend organizations to receive funding, Thrivent maintains final authority over all charitable distributions. By participating, you agree to the program's Terms and Conditions available at Thrivent.com/thriventchoice.

Member benefits, programs and activities are not guaranteed contractual benefits. You should never purchase or retain any insurance or annuity products simply to be able to participate. Participation is subject to applicable Terms and Conditions.

Thrivent provides advice and guidance through its Financial Planning Framework that generally includes a review and analysis of a client's financial situation. A client may choose to further their planning engagement with Thrivent through its Dedicated Planning Services (an investment advisory service) that results in written recommendations for a fee.

Thrivent Charitable[™], the marketing name for Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing[®], is a public charity that serves individuals, organizations and the community through charitable planning, donor-advised funds and endowments. Thrivent Charitable works collaboratively with Thrivent and its financial advisors. It is a separate legal entity from Thrivent, the marketing name for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

Insurance products, securities and investment advisory services are provided by appropriately appointed and licensed financial advisors and professionals. Only individuals who are financial advisors are credentialed to provide investment advisory services. Visit Thrivent.com or FINRA's BrokerCheck for more information about Thrivent's financial advisors.

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