

OAHE CHAPEL NEWS

Winter 2023-2024

Newsletter of the Oahe Chapel Preservation Society

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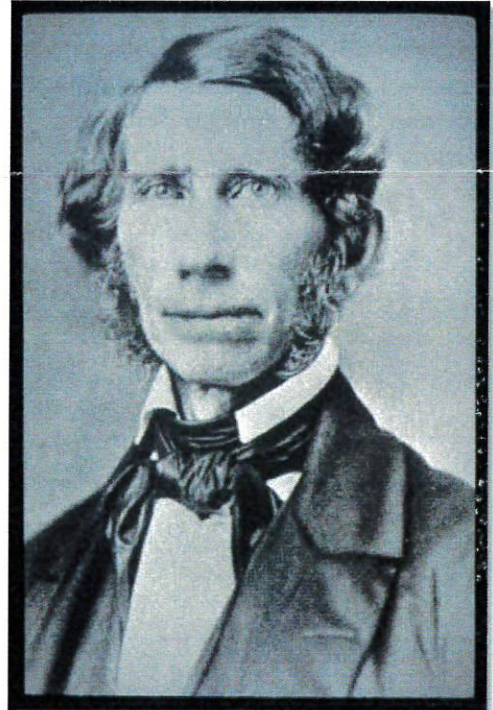
The Oahe Chapel Preservation Society was founded in 1984 to preserve and maintain the historic Oahe Chapel near Pierre, South Dakota. Funding for maintenance is provided through annual memberships with the Oahe Chapel Preservation Society, rental fees, donations, and fundraisers.

A Spotlight in History: The Founder's Father

The Oahe Mission was founded in 1874 and the Chapel building was constructed later in 1877. The mission was under the direction of Thomas Lawrence Riggs (1847—1940).

However, the Rigg's family roots go back even further in this present area of central South Dakota where the mission was founded. An account of this can be found in volume one of *History of South Dakota (1904)* by Doane Robinson and B.F. Bowen.

Dr. Steven Return Riggs (1812-1883) was in and around the central South Dakota (known then as the Dakota Territory) region as early as 1840. He held religious services with Tribes and Traders that occupied and lived in the vicinity of old Fort Pierre on the Missouri River.



Dr. Riggs was performing missionary work from his base in Lac-qui-parle, Minnesota when it was decided he would travel to Fort Pierre. Dr. Riggs was under the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions and received support from Congregational and Presbyterian Churches.

Citation: History of South Dakota, Vol. 1. Doane Robinson. B.F. Bowen

2023 Oahe Chapel Pie Social

The Oahe Chapel hosted its annual Pie Social fundraiser on September 10th! The fundraiser was again a success and we would like to extend our gratitude to everyone who participated and all the guests who decided to venture out to the Dam. We are also grateful that the Surprise Package gave such a wonderful performance for everyone to enjoy!

Community gatherings inside and outside the Chapel are always a wonderful time. Especially when it involves a great piece of South Dakota history in such a picturesque location. We look forward to seeing you later this year for the 2024 Pie Social! Details to come!



Chapel Event Rentals 2024

Don't forget that the Oahe Chapel is available to rent in 2024. We are very excited to see the Chapel utilized for many functions. The space can be reserved for weddings, church services, family reunions, baptisms or other special events. The space is available to rent year-round at the cost of \$100 for four hours and, for members, a reduced price of \$75. An additional four hours of rental can be added for \$50. The Oahe Chapel provides a unique setting and a beautiful view to make any event memorable! For more information and how to apply to rent the Chapel, please call (605)773-3458 or send an email to Oahe.Chapel@state.sd.us



2023 Summer Storm Damage

This summer the Oahe Chapel unfortunately received hail damage from the July storm that damaged many buildings in and around Pierre. There are a few missing wood shakes, some paint damage, and damaged screens. We are hoping and anticipating to have repairs done to the roof soon. Fortunately, we have surplus shakes in storage for the repairs!



Pizza Ranch Fundraising Opportunity

The Oahe Chapel Preservation Society is hosting a fundraiser at the Pizza Ranch in Fort Pierre on February 21st, 2024 from 5:00 to 8:00 P.M.! This includes dine in, pick up, and delivery. The portion of money we raise will go towards the continued maintenance of the Oahe Chapel. We would love to see you there! Keep an eye out on our Facebook page for more information and reminders. We have also included a fun poster of the event for you to keep!

Memberships and Donations



The Oahe Chapel Preservation Society memberships and donations are online! The website can be accessed by scanning this QR code. Mail-in memberships and donations are still available, one is attached below. Thank you to all our members and donors.



Check us out on Facebook by searching Oahe Chapel Preservation Society!

Oahe Chapel Preservation Society Membership Form

Membership investment is for one year. Members will receive the annual Oahe Chapel News to keep up-to-date with current projects at the Oahe Chapel. Members are also eligible to rent the Chapel at a reduced rate of \$75. Donations are tax deductible where allowed by law. Please indicate if you are wanting to be a member, just donate, or both. Thank you!

Please detach this form and mail to the address below with check payable to: Oahe Chapel Preservation Society

Oahe Chapel Preservation Society PO Box 7201 Pierre, SD 57501

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS (optional): _____

Circle: New Member	Renewal	*Donation of \$ _____
Sustaining Membership	\$500.00	Family Membership \$40.00
Patron Membership	\$100.00	Individual Membership \$25.00

