

Calendar of Events

May 16, 2026

6th Annual Celebrate Jesus Community Worship and Prayer

Downtown Grand Forks

START 414 University Ave to North 3rd Street then across Demers to Town Square END

Grand Forks, ND 58201-3439

10:15 AM - 01:30 PM CST

Joe Chine, 2187913182

sofine2258@outlook.com

The Grand Cities Organizers for Celebrate Jesus invite YOU to be a part of our 6th Annual "special celebration" on Saturday, 16 May 2026.

Churches, families, community leaders, and businesses are invited to the Walk and Worship Rally to joyfully "Celebrate Jesus" together in unity and love--outside the walls of buildings and churches.

The Walk assembly STARTS at the Central HS parking lot (414 University Ave) at 10:15 AM, then begins at 11 AM and ENDS at 11:30 AM in the Town Square.

The Worship Rally STARTS at 11:30 AM in the Town Square with music, remarks, worship, food, and prayer.

Visit Grand Cities Website:<http://grandcitiescelebratejesus.com> and Facebook Page <http://facebook.com/celebratejesusgrandforks> for participation and more information.

May 16, 2026

Midtown District Mall Craft & Vendor Show

Midtown District Mall (Formerly the Grand Cities Mall)

1726 S Washington St

Grand Forks, ND 58201

09:00 AM - 03:00 PM CST

Stacey Brorson, 2187799416

stacey.brorson@gmail.com

Join us for a spring shopping event with over 40 crafters and vendors all under one roof!

You'll find handmade goods, baked treats, crochet, home décor, and your favorite direct sales vendors including Norwex, Pampered Chef, and Color Street. Perfect time to shop local for Mother's Day, grad gifts, or just because.

For event updates, join our vendor group: Grand Cities Pop Up Shopping

For Vendor Interest/Cancellation List

Our May 16th show is currently full. Thank you for the amazing response! To be added to our cancellation list, please message Stacey. Spots are filled first-come, first-served from the list if they open up. We do only allow one vendor per Direct Sales organization.

May 19, 2026

YMCA 140th Anniversary Celebration

Altru Family YMCA

215 N 7th St

Grand Forks, ND 58203

05:00 PM - 07:00 PM CST

Dan Fjestad, 7017752586

dfjestad@gfymca.org

Help us celebrate 140 years serving the Greater Grand Forks community! Join us for a family friendly outdoor picnic celebration featuring food, music, games, bouncy house, temporary tattoos, community sponsors, and more!

May 20, 2026

May Brown Bag || Leadership Lessons from Mathematics
Chamber of Commerce GF/EGF - Board Room
202 North 3rd Street
Grand Forks, ND 58203
11:30 AM - 01:00 PM CST
Doug Iverson, 701-772-7271
doug@gochamber.org

May Brown Bag
Leadership Lessons from Mathematics

Wednesday, May 20, 2026
11:30 am – 1:00 pm
\$25/Member & \$35/Non Member
(Includes Lunch)

Leadership Lessons from Mathematics

Rising healthcare costs, unpredictable renewals, and growing compliance demands continue to challenge employers. This Brown Bag session will provide a clear, practical overview of Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Arrangements (ICHRA) and how they compare to traditional group health plans.

Attendees will learn how ICHRA work, why some organizations are exploring them, and what factors to consider when evaluating this approach. The session will also touch on contribution strategies, compliance basics, and real-world examples to help bring the concept to life.

This is a non-sales, educational presentation designed to help you better understand your options and determine next steps. This will be an interactive session, and questions are welcome throughout.

Featured speaker:
Dr. Andy Armacost, President, University of North Dakota

Andy Armacost is the thirteenth president of the University of North Dakota, a role he assumed on June 1, 2020. He has spent nearly three decades in higher education as an educator, scholar, and leader.

In his current role, Armacost has led the UND campus to national acclaim, setting a trajectory for the university's recent classification as a "Carnegie R1" institution. He has forged key partnerships with the US Department of Defense, becoming the first-ever university designated as a member of the U.S. Space Force's University Partners Program. He has garnered significant support from the state legislature to launch two new major facilities: one for satellite design and fabrication and another for the development of nanomaterials. He led critical efforts following the COVID pandemic to unify and empower the campus community via the creation and launch of the UND LEADS strategic plan, which articulates our guiding vision and our core values of Learning, Equity, Affinity, Discovery, and Service. Notably, under Armacost's leadership, the UND campus received the Larry Abernathy Award from the International Town & Gown Association and the ACE/Fidelity Investments Transformation Award as two examples of our sense of unity and purpose. The campus and President Armacost have

been nationally recognized for their work in the adoption of artificial intelligence, the interaction of humans and machines, and the preservation of what it means to be human.

Prior to UND, Armacost served as the Dean of the Faculty at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. He retired in the rank of Brigadier General after thirty years of service, including twenty years as a professor, department chair, and Dean of the Faculty. He currently serves on the board of the Academy's Falcon Foundation; represents UND on three NCAA Division I athletic conference boards; serves on the advisory board for VOICE, the voice of collegiate esports; and is an active board member for four UND-affiliated non-profit organizations that guide our work in energy, aerospace sciences, innovation, and philanthropy.

His academic career began as an undergraduate at Northwestern University, where he studied Industrial Engineering, and as a graduate student at MIT, where he earned his master's and Ph.D. in Operations Research. He is an award-winning educator and researcher, with international recognition from the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS) and the Military Operations Research Society (MORS).

May 21, 2026

Business After Hours

Canad Inns Destination Centre

1000 S. 42nd St.

Grand Forks, ND 58201

04:45 PM - 07:00 PM CST

Doug Iverson, 701-772-7271

doug@gochamber.org

Canad Inns Destination Centre is hosting Business After Hours from 4:45-7:00pm. This event is free for all Chamber members, and members are welcome to bring guests. We hope that you can join us!

Location is likely upper Playmakers but may be announced differently as we approach this date.

May 28, 2026

2026 Chamber Golf Classic

Valley Golf Course

2407 River Rd NW

East Grand Forks, MN 56721

Shot gun start at 12 noon

Kimberly Strom, 701-772-7271

kimberlys@gochamber.org

The Chamber, Bank Forward & Insure Forward invite you to get your business out on the course and enjoy the day networking with fellow chamber members!

Thursday, May 28th - Valley Golf Course, East Grand Forks

4 person Golf Scramble

Save time at check-in and purchase your game advantage packs now!

Tournament Timeline:

Tournament check-in 10:30-11:30am

Box lunches provided from 11am-12pm

Shot gun start at 12pm

Dinner & Awards following golf

We look forward to seeing you out on the course!

June 2, 2026

Medication Take Back Event

Parking Lot Near Perkins

1305 S Columbia Rd

Grand Forks, ND 58201

08:00 AM - 12:30 PM CST

Safe Kids Grand Forks, 701.780.1489.

safekids@altru.org

Safe Kids Grand Forks, along with our partners, will be hosting a Community Medication Take Back Event.

June 9, 2026

Business Builders Workshop: Save Your Money

Grand Forks Online

03:30 PM - 04:30 PM CST

Steve Moser, 701-739-3214

steve.moser@scorevolunteer.org

Participants will learn how to file an LLC, obtain a free EIN, and open a business bank account without paying third-party services. The session also highlights no cost support from VBOC, SBDC, Women's Business Centers, APEX Accelerators, and local partners. Attendees will leave with practical knowledge, clear next steps, and the confidence to launch while keeping more startup capital in their business.

Presented by Michael Danielson, Director, VBOC of the Dakotas

June 11, 2026

Midtown Marketplace Father's Day Men's Show

Midtown Marketplace

1803 N 4th St

Grand Forks, ND 58203

03:00 PM - 07:00 PM CST

Lashanna Lundebly, 5096307361

Lashannalundebly5@gmail.com

Father's Day Men's Show – Midtown Marketplace

Join us for a fun, family-friendly community event on Thursday, June 11th from 3–7 PM at Midtown Marketplace in Grand Forks!

Enjoy an afternoon filled with local shopping, great food, and exciting attractions for all ages.

Event Highlights:

- *Food trucks & sweet treats*
- *Local small business vendors*
- *Prime Steel Car Show*
- *Meet & greet with race car driver Jack Croaker*
- *Mini race cars from Forks Karting Association*
- *Rydell's Toy Shop*
- *Throttle Addiction*

Bring the whole family, support local businesses, and celebrate Father's Day with us!

? Midtown Marketplace – Grand Forks, ND

? 3:00 PM – 7:00 PM

?? Free to attend

June 16, 2026

Minnesota DEED Seminar || Grow Your Business with Minnesota Programs
Chamber of Commerce GF/EGF - Board Room
202 North 3rd Street
Grand Forks, ND 58203
11:30 AM - 01:00 PM CST
Sam Jenson, 218-399-8578
Sam.Jenson@state.mn.us

Grow Your Business with Minnesota Programs

Tuesday, June 16, 2026
11:30 am – 1:00 pm
\$20 per person
(Includes Lunch)

Grow Your Business with Minnesota Programs
Join the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)
and the East Grand Forks Economic Development Authority for an informative seminar
focused on helping Minnesota businesses grow, expand, and compete.

This session will highlight a range of state-supported programs and resources designed to support business success at every stage. Attendees will gain insights into financing and incentive programs, strategies for business expansion, and workforce development tools available specifically to Minnesota employers. Whether you are looking to scale your operations, navigate regulatory processes, or strengthen your workforce, this seminar will connect you with the people and programs that can help move your business forward.

Presenters from DEED and the East Grand Forks EDA will walk through available resources, explain how to access them, and answer questions to help you identify the best opportunities for your business. This is a valuable opportunity to better understand how to leverage state and local partnerships to support your growth goals.

Lunch is included with registration.
This seminar will be held at the GF/EGF Chamber.

Featured speakers:

Chet Bodine | Business Development Manager, Northwest MN

Chet has worked at DEED since 2014, starting as a regional labor market analyst. In 2021 he was promoted to Business Development Manager in Northwest Minnesota, where he works with individual businesses, industry sector partners and consultants to promote and support the regional economy. In this role, Chet also coordinates Minnesota Business First Stop, and interagency group that assists developers and businesses to understand and navigate the regulatory environment in Minnesota.

Prior to DEED, Chet attended the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, graduating in 2013; worked for the University of Minnesota and the U.S. Department of State; and served in the Minnesota National Guard as a Civil Affairs NCO.

Sam Jenson | Workforce Development Representative, DEED

Sam Jenson is a new but familiar face to the Greater Grand Forks economic development ecosystem. After graduating from UND with a degree in Political Science in 2021, he accepted a role with the Greater Grand Forks Young Professionals (GGFYP) as their Executive Director. As Executive Director, Sam supported organizational development and helped organize over 60 events per year. After his tenure with GGFYP, Sam gained experience in sales with Leighton Media. While maintaining and growing a book of business with Leighton Media, he was able to develop relationships with area entrepreneurs on a more professional level. Finally, in January of 2026, Sam accepted a role with DEED to become a Workforce Development Representative. In his current role, Sam supports job seekers, works with local business, and collaborates with regional stakeholders.

Maggie Brockling | Economic Development Director, East Grand Forks EDA

Maggie Brockling is an economic development leader and entrepreneurial ecosystem builder with more than two decades of experience advancing business growth across public, private, and nonprofit sectors. She specializes in designing and implementing programs that support entrepreneurs, strengthen local economies, and translate strategy into measurable outcomes. Her work includes launching microloan and incentive programs, leading business retention and expansion initiatives, securing and managing grant funding, and building high-impact public-private partnerships. Recognized as a 40 Under 40 honoree and Girl Scout Gold Award recipient, Maggie holds a Master of Public Administration from UND and is known for her ability to move complex initiatives from concept to execution.

June 18, 2026

Business After Hours

Nelson Auto (Ford)

2273 32nd Ave S

Grand Forks, ND 58201

04:45 PM - 07:00 PM CST

Doug Iverson, 701-772-7271

doug@gochamber.org

Nelson Auto is hosting Business After Hours from 4:45-7:00pm at their Ford store on 32nd Ave S. This event is free for all Chamber members, and members are welcome to bring guests. We hope that you can join us!

July 4, 2026

**YMCA Firecracker 5K Run/Walk, 10K Run, and Free Kiddie Run
Grand Forks Greenway - Downtown by Town Square (map provided)
48 Riverboat Road
Grand Forks, ND 58203**

08:00 AM - 10:30 AM CST
Adam Sorum, 701-775-2586
asorum@gfymca.org

Join us for the traditional Grand Forks July 4th kick off! The 5K run/walk and 10K run starts at 8:00 am sharp and the free kiddie run starts shortly afterward. The event features top finisher prizes and medals, bananas, snacks, and refreshments, and free kiddie swag bags. Visit our website for event details as they develop.

July 14, 2026

**Business Builder Workshop: Beyond Production: Diversifying Farm Income Without Adding M
Grand Forks Online**

03:30 PM - 04:30 PM CST
Steve Moser, 701-739-3214
steve.moser@scorevolunteer.org

A strategic look at non-production revenue streams that realistically fit within farm businesses—especially for operators facing tight margins or capacity constraints. The focus is on decision-making, sequencing, and testing ideas in ways that don't overextend the business or the owner.

Presented by: Emily Reno, Founder of Mezclada.

July 16, 2026

**Business After Hours
Wallwork Truck Center
5505 Gateway Drive
Grand Forks, ND 58203**

04:45 PM - 07:00 PM CST
Doug Iverson, 701-772-7271
doug@gochamber.org

Wallwork Truck Center is hosting Business After Hours from 4:45-7:00pm. This event is free for all Chamber members, and members are welcome to bring guests. We hope that you can join us!

August 20, 2026

**Business After Hours
Advanced Business Methods
875 N. 42nd St.**

Grand Forks, ND 58203
04:45 PM - 07:00 PM CST
Doug Iverson, 701-772-7271
doug@gochamber.org

Advanced Business Methods is hosting Business After Hours from 4:45-7:00pm. This event is free for all Chamber members, and members are welcome to bring guests. We hope that you can join us!

September 17, 2026

Business After Hours

Alerus Center

1200 42nd Street South

Grand Forks, ND 58201

04:45 PM - 07:00 PM CST

Doug Iverson, 701-772-7271

doug@gochamber.org

Alerus Center is hosting our annual trade show style Business After Hours from 4:45-7:00pm. This event is free for all Chamber members, and members are welcome to bring guests. We hope that you can join us!

This year's event will feature booths from area businesses, and this will be on the main concourse on the second floor.

For booth rental information, please contact Doug at the Chamber!

September 22, 2026

Medication Take Back Event

Parking Lot Near Perkins

1305 S Columbia Rd

Grand Forks, ND 58201

09:00 AM - 12:30 PM CST

Safe Kids Grand Forks, 701.780.1489.

safekids@altru.org

Safe Kids Grand Forks, along with our partners, will be hosting a Community Medication Take Back Event.

October 15, 2026

Business After Hours

04:45 PM - 07:00 PM CST

Doug Iverson, 701-772-7271

doug@gochamber.org

The Public Arts Commission and BBI International are co-hosting Business After Hours from 4:45-7:00pm. This event is free for all Chamber members, and members are welcome to bring guests. We hope that you can join us!

Location for this event is still TBA. Please watch for more information as this date approaches.

November 19, 2026

Business After Hours

University of North Dakota

04:45 PM - 07:00 PM CST

Doug Iverson, 701-772-7271

doug@gochamber.org

UND's Division of Research & Economic Development is hosting Business After Hours from 4:45-7:00pm. This event is free for all Chamber members, and members are welcome to bring guests. We hope that you can join us!

Precise location will be announced as this date approaches. Please watch for e-promos from the Chamber, or inquire with Doug.

December 17, 2026

Business After Hours
Northland Community & Technical College
2022 Central Avenue NW
East Grand Forks, ND 56721

04:45 PM - 07:00 PM CST
Doug Iverson, 701-772-7271
doug@gochamber.org

Northland Community & Technical College (EGF campus) is hosting Business After Hours from 4:45-7:00pm. This event is free for all Chamber members, and members are welcome to bring guests. We hope that you can join us!

Best entrance: main entrance doors on west. Additional entrance: from parking lot on north side using NW doors.