

**MARK WATNE**  
**North Dakota Farmers Union President**

Mark Watne was elected as the ninth president of North Dakota Farmers Union in November 2013. In his capacity, he serves as president of Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Company and Farmers Union Service Association, all headquartered in Jamestown.

Mark has a long history of Farmers Union involvement, first as a youth and young producer farming at Velva. In 1990, he was elected to the NDFU State Board of Directors. He served for six years, and was also state treasurer. In 1996, he began a 15-year-career in Jamestown at the Farmers Union headquarters as a development specialist, agricultural strategist and staff executive director. He has led the development of the organization's farmer-owned restaurants and other innovative ideas.

Mark has been a board chairman for the Quentin Burdick Center for Cooperatives, located at North Dakota State University, and is currently a board member for First Community Credit Union, Jamestown.

He continues to farm but resides in Jamestown with his wife, Michelle. They have three grown children – Eric, Meghan and Nick.