

Midstate *Messenger*

MIDSTATE COMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE

February 2026

Important Dates

February 5 - Disconnect of all accounts with a 30 day balance

February 16 - Offices Closed

February 20 - Bills due by 12:00 PM.

February 27 - March bills are mailed out and due March 20th by 12:00 PM



Technology doesn't have to be intimidating—and that's exactly what our Midstate Tech Talk Trainings are all about. This training is perfect for beginners and anyone who wants to feel more confident recognizing pesky scammers, how to identify phishing emails, and understanding what MFA really is. We'll cover practical topics in a relaxed, no-pressure setting where questions are always welcome. Trainings will be held in Kimball, Chamberlain, and Platte, making it easy to attend close to home. We encourage you to sign up early. Come learn, laugh, and leave feeling a little more tech-savvy. You can register on our website at www.midstatesd.net or simply call or text us at 605-778-6221.



FIBER INTERNET IS YOUR CLEAR WINNER

You may have seen ads for Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite internet. While constellations of satellites sound cool, don't get starry-eyed by the claims. LEO's real-world performance is inferior to fiber.

Compared to satellites, fiber internet provides these advantages:

- Much faster download and upload speeds
- Superior reliability and consistency
- Local support from our responsive team

As it turns out, the most out-of-this-world internet comes from fiber's direct connections on earth.

CALL OR TEXT 605-778-6221 TO LEARN MORE



The Midstate Communications Board of Directors is excited to announce the 2026 scholarship program. This year, we will award seven \$750 scholarships to eligible members of the High School Class of 2026. The deadline to apply is March 1, 2026. Students can apply online today at www.midstatesd.net.

Midstate is proud to invest in the future of local students.



midstatesd.net



605-778-6221



midstatecommunications



Cold Outside, Connected Inside: Why Reliable Internet Matters in Winter

Winter changes how we do just about everything. Snowy roads don't always mean a day off anymore—work moves online, school becomes remote, appointments happen by video, and evenings are often spent streaming, scrolling, or gaming. When we're stuck inside more, dependable internet really matters.

If you've ever tried to rely on satellite or cell phone internet, winter can make things even more frustrating. Snow, ice, cloud cover, and heavy usage can lead to slower speeds, buffering, and dropped connections—often at the worst possible time. And when everyone is home and online, those issues can really add up.

Fiber is built differently. With a direct, underground connection to your home, fiber is less affected by weather and congestion. Your connection isn't shared with the whole neighborhood, so you get the speeds you expect—even on long winter days when everyone is streaming, working, or learning from home.

Staying connected in winter is about more than entertainment. Reliable service helps you receive weather alerts, stay in touch with family and friends, and keep an eye on your home with smart devices when conditions turn rough outside.

Thanks for supporting your local cooperative and the folks who live and work right here with you. If you have questions about your internet connection—or are feeling those winter frustrations—give our office a call or text at 605-778-6221. We're always happy to help.

Valentine's Day doesn't have to mean over-the-top gifts. Sometimes, the best way to say "I love you" is with something thoughtful, practical, and personal. At Midstate Communications, we believe sharing moments, memories, and everyday comforts matters most.

A smart digital picture frame keeps favorite memories on display all year long, with photos easily shared from anywhere. A temperature-control mug adds a cozy touch for coffee or tea lovers who never seem to finish a cup while it's still warm. For relaxation, an aromatherapy diffuser or heated eye mask can help melt away stress and create a calming daily routine.

If sleep is sacred, Bluetooth sleep headphones are perfect for audiobooks, white noise, or calming music without disturbing a partner. Prefer something purely practical? A wireless charging station helps keep devices organized and reduces cable clutter. And for writers, planners, or creative thinkers, a reusable notebook or digital writing tablet blends the familiar feel of pen and paper with modern convenience.

Want to learn more about these gift ideas? We've shared detailed descriptions and links for each item on our website. Simply scan the

Scan Me



QR code below to read the full blog on our website and explore our Valentine's picks. Whatever you choose, the best gifts are the ones that make everyday life a little easier and remind someone they're loved. And with fast, reliable fiber internet from Midstate, sharing those moments is even better.



Be mine Valentine



WE'LL PAY YOU \$20 TO PAY US VIA **AutoPay**

CHOOSE PAPERLESS BILLING ALONG WITH AUTO BANK OR AUTO CREDIT CARD AND GET A ONE-TIME \$20 BILL CREDIT*

Now's the time to switch to Midstate Communications paperless billing, which means you'll receive your statements via email rather than "snail mail."

With auto bank or auto credit card and paperless billing, you'll have one less bill in your mailbox each month, less clutter on your kitchen counter, and receive a recurring \$1.50 credit every month on your invoice! Plus, you'll help us use less paper and save some trees.

1. Complete and return the auto bank or auto credit card form on the back of this sheet.
2. Go to estatement.midstatesd.net to set up eBill
3. Once logged in, click on SETTINGS.
4. At the top click on GENERAL.
5. Choose WEB BILL ONLY and we will set up your \$1.50 monthly discount and give you a one-time \$20 discount!

*12 month eBill commitment required.



MIDSTATE COMMUNICATIONS, INC
Customer Authorization for Direct Payment via ACH or Credit Card

Direct Payment via ACH is the transfer of funds from a consumer account for the purpose of making a payment. If you wish to have your account set up on Direct Payment from your Bank Account or Credit Card, please complete the Authorization form below and return to: Midstate Communications, Inc. PO Box 48 Kimball, SD 57355.

Name _____ Account # _____

CHECK ONE: New Payment Change Information Cancel Auto Bank/Auto Credit Card

I (we) agree that the authorized MONTHLY debit date will be as elected: 4th 10th 19th

I(we) understand that this is a recurring entry request and that debits will occur at substantially regular intervals, as chosen above, without further affirmative action by the receiver.

AUTOMATIC BANK WITHDRAWAL:

CHECK ONE: Checking Account Savings Account

Depository (Bank) Name: _____ Routing Number: _____

Name on Account: _____ Account Number: _____
*Please enclose a personalized **VOIDED CHECK** or an account verification letter from your financial institution containing their letterhead.

AUTOMATIC CREDIT CARD WITHDRAWAL:

CHECK ONE: VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS

Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVV #: _____
*I agree to inform Midstate when my card expires and provide them with a new card number and updated expiration date.

I (we) authorize Midstate Communications, Inc. to electronically debit my(our) account and, if necessary, to electronically credit my(our) account to correct erroneous debits to the account listed above. I(we) agree that ACH transactions I (we) authorize comply with all applicable laws.

I(we) agree that the authorized debit amount will be: The balance due on the account on the elected debit date stated above.

I (we) understand that this authorization will remain in full force and in effect until I (we) notify Midstate Communications, Inc., in writing, that I (we) wish to revoke this authorization. I (we) understand that Midstate Communications, Inc. requires a minimum of five business days prior notice to cancel this authorization.

Customer(s) Printed Name(s): _____

Customer(s) Signature(s): _____ Date: _____

Go PAPERLESS? YES NO

If yes, please go to www.midstatesd.net – Click on My Bill Pay – Sign up for Statement. You will need your latest invoice with the account number and the amount due. Once signed up, you will need to change your invoice preference to WEB BILL ONLY. Click on SETTINGS and at the top click on GENERAL. Choose to receive “Web bill only” Once your sign up is complete, you will begin to receive a \$1.50 per month discount on your bill!