## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Community Banks Put the "Community" in Banking

North Mankato, MN (April 7, 2020) – At a time of social distancing, Pioneer Bank wants consumers to know that community banks put the "community" into banking and are here to serve the needs of their customers and communities throughout the coronavirus pandemic and beyond.

"Pioneer Bank is proud to be a community bank; we prioritize the needs of our customers and community above all else," said David Krause, CEO, Pioneer Bank. "We put community first and bring about community closeness in countless ways. While everyone may be social distancing, know that we are here if you have any financial questions or concerns. We are here to serve."

Krause encouraged consumers who have questions about their finances to reach out to their local community bank. "If you are a community banking customer who has questions, I encourage you to speak with your banker—this is when having that relationship really counts," he said. "And if you are a consumer who doesn't have a banking relationship, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We exist to serve and can help local consumers navigate questions and concerns."

To help consumers better understand what makes community banks special, Pioneer Bank offers the following facts:

- Pioneer Bank is invested in our communities and here to offer bright banking for the speed of life.
- Community banks are relationship lenders and take a holistic approach to lending, considering numerous sources of information, including history and discretionary spending.
- Community banks understand and embrace local small businesses. A study from the <u>Federal Reserve</u>
   <u>Banks</u> found that small businesses that apply for loans with community banks are more successful and satisfied.

For more facts about community banks, <u>click here</u>. To find a Pioneer Bank location near you, visit www.bankwithpioneer.com/locations.

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## **About Pioneer Bank**

Pioneer Bank is a community bank with eight locations throughout southern Minnesota including Mankato, North Mankato, St. James, St. Peter, Madelia, Mapleton, Lewisville and Lake Crystal. Pioneer Bank offers expertise in personal, business and agribusiness banking with bankers and staff that provide experience that is unparalleled. Pioneer Bank is very active in the communities they serve and was a finalist in 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 for the Extraordinary Banking Award, a national organization that marks the excellence for the best banks in America. In addition, Pioneer Bank has been named one of the 2018 Top 150 Workplaces in Minnesota by the Star Tribune. Pioneer Bank was ranked seventh out of the 70 companies included in the small employers list, 59–149 employees. For more information visit www.bankwithpioneer.com. Member FDIC.