

# The “E Messenger”

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## Notes and Comments by Wade

080709

Our prayers are with the members of First Congregational United Church of Christ of Mayville and their pastor, Lindy Holt. We pray that this congregation, located in a college town, might continue to search forever more meaningful ways to express the love and grace of God within its membership and beyond.

Last Sunday I had the opportunity to be present with many from Dickinson at a very special concert, put on by an ecumenical coalition of churches, which included the United Church of Christ. The proceeds of the concert went to help those who suffered damage because of the tornado that recently moved through sections of the town. Their efforts bore much fruit in the numbers of people that came and in the money they raised. We have many words of appreciation for them as they continue to reach out to the community in service in the name of our Redeemer.

The recent disasters have left the CHW service in need of our support. They need Hygiene and Baby Kits and emergency clean-up buckets. These resources have been used by individuals that experienced flooding, and other forms of natural disaster and need to be replaced. Congregations that are interested in making any of these kits can contact the Minn-Kota CWS office (1 888 297 2767) or the Conference Office for more information.

The Fargo Cluster that is meeting on August 20<sup>th</sup> at shelter 4 will be gathering at Lindenwood Park and not Linden Hills Park. As we look forward to all Fargo Cluster participants to join us for this outing, we urge you to mark that change on your calendar.

We have a jailbird working in the Conference Office. Peg Schemmel will be arrested on August 19 as she is taking part in a March of Dimes fundraiser. Any who would like to help shorten her sentence are invited to send contributions marked “March of Dimes” to the Conference Office.

Lay ministry training for the Northern Plains Conference continues to be a large part of our life together. We are pleased to announce that we are working with United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities and their “Academy of Vital Christianity” program. There are currently two classes scheduled for North Dakota: Interpreting the Older Testament with Integrity, which will be taught by Richard Weis. The class will meet October 10 and November 7<sup>th</sup> at Valley City. The second class is “Wrestling with

the problem of Evil and Suffering” taught by Eleazar Fernandez. All NPCUCC lay members and pastors are invited to share in these classes. These classes are a part of the lay ministry training program of the Conference. For more information please contact the Conference Office.

The Wills Training program which was snowed out twice last Winter has been rescheduled for Hillsboro Church on August 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm (ct). Any who would like to share in this interesting power point program are invited to join us.

Around the NPCUCC 080709 - 081609

Date	Time	Event	Location
8/10	9:00 am (ct)	Midwest rural Assembly	Sioux Falls
8/10	5:00 pm (ct)	Great Plains Consortium	Sioux Falls
8/11	-----	Great Plains Consortium	Sioux Falls
8/11	2:00 Noon	Progressive Faith Network	Bismarck
6/13	-----	CM on Vacation	-----