

The “E Messenger”

Notes and Comments by Wade

013009

We celebrate the ecumenical vision that enables the ministry of the Horizon Parish. Our prayers are with the members of Emmaus United Church of Christ of Carson, Flasher United Church of Christ of Flasher, Bethesda ELCA of Leith, St. John ELCA of Carson, and ALCL-ELCA of Flasher and their pastor Dale Carmen. May they continue to proclaim the unity of God’s loving message as they carry on their vital ministry amid the myriad challenges facing the small towns of Western North Dakota.

Last Sunday morning it was my pleasure to share in the installation service for Camille Grothier as she took her place as the Associate for Hospice Care at Bismarck United Church of Christ. We pray that God’s richest blessings be with her and with the congregations and people with whom she shares God’s comforting gracious presence.

Last Sunday evening I had the pleasure of joining with the members of the Evangelism Task Force and members of the congregations from the Ft. Berthold area as we shared in a Revival at New Town United Church of Christ. What a joy it was to be a part of this exciting faith adventure. I want to celebrate all who were a part of it as I look forward to the coming Revival at First Congregational of Fargo, on February 8th and Bismarck UCC on February 15. The Revivals begin at 4:00 pm (ct) and will conclude by 7:00 pm.

Beginning this coming February and on through March there will be Covenant gatherings for the purpose of exploring meaningful stewardship visions with an emphasis on wills development in the congregations. The Covenant gatherings will begin at 6:00 pm (ct) and will conclude around 8:00 pm. The locations and dates for the gatherings are: 2/24 @ Fargo, Plymouth; 2/26 @ Medina; 3/3 @ New Salem; 3/5 @ Rural Elgin (Ebenezer); 3/9 @ Hebron, First Congregational; 3/10 @ Hillsboro; 3/12 @ New Town; 3/16 @ Garrison. Pastors and lay leaders of neighboring congregations are invited to make plans to attend one of these important gatherings. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact the Conference Office. (Please note the addition of Hillsboro on 3/10.)

This is a reminder that yearbook forms are due into the Conference Office by February 2nd. It is vital that these forms be filled out so that NPCUCC can be properly represented in the ministry of the National United Church of Christ.

The start of a new ALWL training has been postponed until March 7th, so there is still time for more participants to sign up to be a part of this exciting ministry. There are registration forms on the Conference web site www.npcucc.org/forms for all that would be interested. If you have questions do not hesitate to contact the Conference Office.

This is a reminder of the Post Lenten Retreat which is being held in cooperation with CHARIS. It is held at Maryvale which is located near Valley City. The focus for the Retreat will be preparing our congregations to use the gifts they have to meet the challenge of the future. The dates for the Post Lenten Retreat are April 26 – 28 beginning at 6:00 pm (ct) on Sunday 4/26 and concluding following lunch on Tuesday, 4/28. Luther Snow will be our presenter. The cost for lodging and meals is \$70. Please check the Conference web site for information and registration forms www.npcucc.org/flier or [form](http://www.npcucc.org/form)s.

This past week you have received the North Dakota Conference of Churches News letter via email. “I invite you to take a moment and look it over and become acquainted with the vital ecumenical apart of our church life. The NPCUCC is a member of the NDCC.

You will find the National Calendar of Prayer on the NPCUCC web site [www.npcucc.org/calendar of prayer](http://www.npcucc.org/calendar%20of%20prayer) . You are invited to take a moment and become acquainted with this exciting celebration of the worldwide ministry of your church. If you have difficulty locating this National Calendar of Prayer or questions about the ministries that it celebrates please contact the Conference Office.

It is time to begin to line up delegates for the Annual Meeting of the NPCUCC which will be at Minot June 5 – 7. The gathering will begin with registration and budget hearings on Friday June 5th and will conclude with worship and lunch on June 7th. The guest speakers will be Dr. David Greenhaw, president of Eden Seminary in St. Louis, Charlene J. Smith of the National Church and Jim and Jayanthi Wilson our missionaries to Botswana.

Around the NPCUCC 013009 - 020809

Date	Time	Event	Location
2/1	10:30 am (mt)	CM shares in worship	Dickinson
2/6	7:00 pm (ct)	Conference Committees meet	Medina
2/7	9:00 am (ct)	Conference Council	Medina
2/8	4:00 pm (ct)	Revival	Fargo/First