

The “E Messenger”

Notes and Comments by Wade 022709

We hold in prayer the congregation that sits on the border of North Dakota and Montana, the United Community Church of Beach. May God’s full and rich spirit continue to embrace the members of this hearty Western North Dakota Congregation and their pastor Warren Maxted.

This coming Sunday it will be my pleasure to join in worship with the members of Hope Congregational United Church of Christ in Granville and the Congregational United Church of Christ of Minot and their pastor, Frank Picard. I look forward to the opportunity to share with them in the celebration of God’s holy presence as we gather for the first Sunday of Lent.

Our prayers are with Gordon and Helen Goodfellow as Gordon becomes a resident of Bethany Home in Fargo. Gordon has held pastorates in a number of congregations in the Northern Plains Conference, and has had an active role in our shared ministry. We seek God’s gracious Spirit to be with Gordon and Helen as they enter into this new and sometimes frightening segment of their life journey together. If you wish to drop a note to Gordon you can reach him at Bethany Homes, 201 University Dr. S, C1/377. Fargo, ND, 58103.

The Covenant Gathering scheduled for February 26th fell victim to the snow that caused travel to become dangerous. That gathering at Medina has been rescheduled for March 23 beginning with dinner at 5:30 pm (ct) and the program starting at 6:00 pm (ct). I look forward to meeting with the members of the South Central Covenant area at the rescheduled time and place.

The Covenant Gatherings focusing on stewardship with an emphasis on developing a wills program for the congregation are scheduled for the following locations, dates and times in March: 3/3 @ New Salem, 6:00 pm (ct); 3/5 @ rural Elgin, 6:00 pm (mt); 3/9 @ Hebron, First Congregational, 6:00 pm (ct); 3/10 @ Hillsboro, **7:00 pm (ct)**; 3/12 @ New Town, 6:00 pm (ct); 3/16 @ Garrison, 6:00 (ct); 3/23 @ Medina, 5:30 pm (ct) dinner, 6:00 pm Program. Pastors and lay leaders are invited to share in these special gatherings.

The next ALWL training will take place March 7th beginning at 11:00 m (ct) at Jamestown. Any who are interested in attending are invited to be contacted the Conference Office and fill out one of the ALWL nomination forms found on the Conference Web Site www.npcucc.org/form.

Pastors who have not already done so are invited to register for the upcoming Post Lenten Retreat which will be held at Maryvale near Valley City April 26 – 28. The retreat featuring Luther Snow will begin with dinner at 5:30 on Sunday April 26 and will conclude following lunch April 28th. The cost for NPCUCC folk for lodging and dinner is \$70 and there is scholarship assistance available. Please check out the flier and the registration form you can find on the web site at www.npcucc.org/flier/form.

As we begin the Lenten journey let us prepare to receive the One Great Hour of sharing all church offering which will be received on March 22nd. The materials have already been sent to the congregations. If you need to have more information, you are invited to check out the national Church web site www.ucc.org or call the Conference Office.

Around the NPCUCC 022709 – 030809

Date	Time	Event	Location
2/27	7:00 pm (ct)	Alternate Paths Quarterly Gathering	Bismarck
2/28	9:00 am (ct)	Alternate Paths	Bismarck
3/1	9:00 am & 11:00 am (ct)	CM shares in worship	Granville & Minot
3/2	7:00 pm (ct)	Annual Meeting Planning	Minot
3/3	6:00 pm (ct)	Covenant Gathering	New Salem
3/5	6:00 pm (mt)	Covenant Gathering	Elgin
3/7	11:00 am (ct)	ALWL #1	Jamestown
3/8	9:30 am (ct)	Cm shares in worship	Wishek