

# The “E Messenger”

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Notes and Comments by Wade  
020609

We hold in prayer this day the Federated (UCC/UMC) of Carrington. We ask God to continue to embrace the members of this historic Federated Congregation and their pastor, Susan Fandrich. May the goodness of God’s gracious presence continue to be part of their life as they continue to live out their ecumenical vision.

Last Sunday Peg and I had the pleasure of joining in worship with the members of the Congregational United Church of Christ of Dickinson and their pastor Kathleen Chesnut. I appreciated the opportunity to join with Rev. Chesnut in a dialogue Sermon and to share with her and other congregational members in the fellowship which followed.

Our prayers are with Tammi Zietz the daughter-in-law of Barry and Audrey Zietz, pastor of the Twin Buttes Congregational United Church of Christ. Tammi is currently having trouble with seizures and we pray that God’s healing grace would surround and embrace her, the doctors that are caring for her and the family that surrounds her.

This coming Sunday evening we will be having the third installment of the NPCUCC Revivals. At 4:00 pm (ct) we will be gathering at First Congregational United Church of Christ of Fargo for a celebration of the United Church of Christ and the congregations that comprise it. The Revival will conclude following a shared meal and closing communion at about 7:00 pm (ct). All are invited to join us.

Beginning this coming February and continuing through March there will be Covenant Gatherings for the purpose of exploring meaningful stewardship visions with an emphasis on wills development. The Covenant Gatherings will begin at 6:00 pm (ct) and will conclude between 8:00 and 8:30 pm (ct). The locations and dates of 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 NPCUCC 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.

At the present time we are still waiting for a number of congregations to send us your yearbook forms. If you have not already done so, please complete them and send them in to the Conference Office as soon as possible.

There is still time to become part of the next ALWL training event which will begin on March 7<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested or know of someone that would be interested please fill out the form which you can find on the Conference Web Site [www.npcucc.org/forms](http://www.npcucc.org/forms) and send it into the Conference Office.

It is time to register for the Post Lenten Retreat which will be held at Maryvale near Valley City. The dates are April 26 – 28. Luther Snow will be our presenter. The cost for meals and lodging is \$70. Please check the Conference Web Site for more information and registration forms [www.npcucc.org/flier](http://www.npcucc.org/flier) or form

In addition to the NPCUCC Calendar of Prayer you will find the National Calendar of Prayer on our Web Site at [www.npcucc.org/calendar](http://www.npcucc.org/calendar) of prayer>.

Please check the Web Site for a flier that announces the upcoming Annual Meeting of the Northern Plains Conference United Church of Christ which will be hosted by the Congregational United Church of Christ of Minot. The dates for the Annual Meeting are June 5 – 7, 2009. The flier can be found at [www.npcucc.org/flier](http://www.npcucc.org/flier)>.

It is time to begin to make plans to receive the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering which will be received March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The theme this year is “Where is your Treasure”. It calls us to celebrate this ministry of hope and promise through which we are given the opportunity to reach out and be a channel of God’s redeeming and renewing grace.

We are again inviting the congregations of the Northern Plains Conference to designate their special Lenten Offerings to the East Timor Foundation Educational Project. This project has brought into reality a functioning school and is now in the process of providing the necessary staff to make it work. Please take a moment to check the article in the February AWARE

and acquaint yourself with the work of our mission partner across the Globe from North Dakota.

Around the NPCUCC 020609 - 021509

Date	Time	Event	Location
2/6	7:00 pm (ct)	Conference committee Meetings	Medina
2/7	9:00 am (ct)	Conference Council	Medina
2/8	4:00 pm (ct)	Revival	Fargo/First
2/10	10:00 am (mt)	MV Cluster	Dickinson
2/11	12:00 Noon (ct)	Ft. Berthold Cluster	New Town
2/12	12:00 Noon (ct)	NDHRC Development Comm.	Fargo
2/15	4:00 pm (ct)	Revival	Bismarck