

The "E Messenger"  
Notes and comments by Wade  
091908

Let us give thanks for the Congregational United Church of Christ of Valley City as they continue to explore anew the challenge of ministry in this college town. May God's gracious and loving Spirit be with the members of this historic congregation and their recently called pastors Carleton and Darcy Borden as they expand the boundaries of ministry and lift the horizons of service in Jesus' name.

Last Sunday it was my pleasure to share in the service of closure for the Congregational United Church of Christ of Wing. It was a time of reflection, of gratitude to God for gifts given and hope received and of anticipation as the community looked to the future with its new opportunities for service and hope.

All NPCUCC youth (5<sup>th</sup> grade through high school) are invited to make plans to attend the "Fall Youth Rally" at Valley City. The theme for this exciting event is "Sharing the Spirit". It will be a time of fellowship, service, and growth as the youth and advisors celebrate God's Spirit alive in their midst. For more information and registration information please go to the NPCUCC Web site [www.npcucc.org/fliers](http://www.npcucc.org/fliers).

We received the following note from John Thomas; together we raised \$235,000 and will be airing Steeples to a national audience! The ad will air nationwide beginning Monday, September 29 through Sunday October 12 on CNN, BRAVO, BET and TV ONE.

All NPCUCC women are invited to make plans to share in the October 10 - 12 Retreat at Maryvale. The theme for the event is "An Invitation to Prayer, Finding Your Peace Shell". You will find the registration information and a flier on the NPCUCC web site [www.npcucc.org/flier](http://www.npcucc.org/flier).

If you have not already done so, NPCUCC congregational members are invited to take the piece of white cloth that was in the Annual Meeting packet and turn it into a quilt piece for the NPCUCC quilt which will be displayed at the 09 Annual Meeting in Minot. This is an opportunity to declare your faith as a community of faith and to present that statement for all to see and appreciate. Quilt squares are due at the Conference Office by January 15, 09 so that they can be assembled.

If you are in need of a quilt square, please contact the Conference Office and one will be sent to you.

Do not forget the Neighbors in Need offering to be received on World Wide Communion Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. This all church offering is one of the ways that your church is present with brothers and sisters around the world in the most challenging of times. It is also the basis of Support for the CAIM congregations, including those in the Northern Plains conference. Please take a moment to lift up this vital offering in the Sundays ahead.

It is hoped that each NPCUCC congregation and its members will make a special gift response to the UCC - issued \$250,000 appeal for the impact of hurricane Fay, Gustav and Ike as well as tropical storm Hanna. These destructive storms will require our collective response for those affected in the Caribbean, Florida and across the Gulf Coast. Please make checks payable to the Northern Plains Conference and identify them as Hurricane relief.

Date	Time	Event	Location
9/22	9:30 am (ct)	NDCC board meeting	Jamestown
9/22	10:00 am (ct)	Wilson Health Collaborative	Minot
9/22	7:00 p.m. (ct)	Sister's In Christ	

		Committee Conference Call	-----
9/23	1:30 pm (ct)	Evangelism Task force Conference Call	-----
9/24	12:00 Noon (ct)	Ft. Berthold Cluster	New Town
9/24	4:30 pm (ct)	NDHRC Board	Fargo/Conf Call
9/26	11:00 am (ct)	Central Cluster	Joan DeKrey's Place
9/27	10:30 am (ct)	Boundary Training	Bismarck
9/27	9:00 am	YC Class	Fargo
9/28	10:30 am (ct)	CM shares in worship	Hebron/First