

## The "E Messenger"

Notes and Comments by Wade

090508

On Christian Education Sunday let us hold in prayer the First Congregational United Church of Christ of Garrison. We pray that God's gracious Spirit be with this congregation as they continue to be renewed in their ministry and in their vision of Service in the name of Jesus the Christ. May God's Spirit embrace with grace the members and their pastor, Stephen Holmes?

This coming Sunday Peg and I along with Margaret Kloster will have the pleasure of joining with the members of the Filipino United Community Church as we celebrate the installation of their pastor Angelito Rodriguez and Associate pastors Jose Pelayo and Glenn Saria. This will be a very special event in the life of this exciting congregation. Since distance, not to mention a boarder crossing, will make it impossible for many to share in this event personally; I would invite you to let them know by email that you are holding them in your prayers. They can be reached at [fucc.church@skybiz.com](mailto:fucc.church@skybiz.com).

All NPCUCC women are invited to make plans to attend the annual Women's Retreat which this year will be held at Maryvale, near Valley City. The theme for the program is "An Invitation to Prayer, Finding Your Peace Shell". The guest speaker will be Shirley Nelson, the Vice President of Operations of CHHSM, (The Council for Health and Human Service Ministries of the UCC). The retreat is scheduled for October 10 - 12. Registration forms and informational fliers can be found on the website [<npcucc.org/flier/forms>](http://npcucc.org/flier/forms). If you have questions do not hesitate to call the Conference Office.

Charles Hall Youth Services will be holding the 7<sup>th</sup> annual "Footin It For Fun Walkathon" September 14<sup>th</sup>. Registration will begin at 1:00 pm with the walk beginning at 2:00 pm at the Dakota Zoo in Bismarck. NPCUCC members are invited to participate in this important enjoyable and exciting event. The "Cottonwood Bluegrass Band will be featured in concert beginning at 3:30 pm (ct). If you are not able to form a team and would like to support the ministry of Charles Hall Youth Services "Team Schemmel" will be walking. Please send contributions to the Northern Plains Conference with the label "Walkathon".

Share God's good presence with your Brothers and Sisters in the Northern Plains Conference. NPCUCC congregations are invited to share with the Conference the ways that God's Spirit has been alive and well in their midst. Please take a moment and write up a paragraph about new programs, building additions, outreach projects, or mission ideas. Let us know what is going on in your congregations that others in the

NPCUCC family might join in the celebration. Your thoughts and celebrations will become bulletin inserts that will be shared with the congregations of the Northern Plains Conference. Please send (US Mail or email) to the Northern Plains Conference.

The 2008 Neighbors in Need Offering will be received October 5<sup>th</sup>. You should already have received the special materials. If you have not please do not hesitate to contact the Conference Office and we can help you. The Neighbor's in Need Offering makes it possible for your church to assist people at the most vital times of their lives. Your contribution will reach across this country with a message of hope and promise.

So that we might keep our young people to continue to actively share in the ministry of the church when they are off to college please email their names to [revtheta@fmucm.org](mailto:revtheta@fmucm.org). United Campus Ministries is working hard to keep our young adults connected to the church during the times they are off to college.

Let us take a moment and give thanks for the ministry of the First Congregational Church of Wing. This nearly century old congregations has continued its fine ministry amid shrinking members, in a shrinking community. We give thanks for the beacon of light which they held high for so long and celebrate the lives that have been touched by their vision and their ministry of hope and promise. A special word of thanks to Darrel Aleson for his nearly 20 years of service as their pastor. The service of closure for the First Congregational United Church of Christ of Wing will be Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm (ct)

Date	Time	Event	Location
9/6	10:30 am (ct)	Boundary Training	Valley City
9/7	10:30 am (ct)	CM shares in worship	Winnipeg
9/9	10:00 am (ct)	MV Cluster	Hebron, First Cong.
9/11	7:00 pm (ct)	Evangelism Task Force Conference Call	-----
9/13	11:00 am (ct)	Mission Ambassador's Training	Bismarck
9/14	1:00 pm (ct)	Service of Closure	Wing
9/14	1:00 m (ct)	Walkathon	Bismarck