

# The “E Messenger”

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Notes and comments by Wade  
011609

Our prayers are with the members of the historic union congregation, the Gardner Lutheran Congregational Church, as they continue their search for a pastor. We pray that God’s wisdom continues to guide the Eastern North Dakota, small town congregation in their search.

Last Sunday it was my pleasure to join in worship with the members of Ebenezer United Church of Christ of rural Elgin and their pastor, Hazel Behrens. I want to thank them for the good fellowship I experienced during their time of worship and during the “breakfast” which followed the service. May God’s blessing continue to be with this rural ND congregation.

This Sunday marks the beginning of the Revival Gatherings across the NPCUCC. Each pastor is encouraged to take this opportunity to participate in one of these gatherings along with members of their congregation. The Revivals are a time to celebrate the faith and to give thanks to God for the renewing energy which is brought into our midst. Each Revival will begin at 4:00 pm and will conclude by 7:00 pm. The dates and locations for the revivals are as follows; January 18, Jamestown; January 25, New Town; February 8, Fargo First and February 15, Bismarck. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call the Conference Office. For more information you can also check the website [www.npcucc.org](http://www.npcucc.org).

This coming Sunday it will be my pleasure to share in the annual meeting and worship with the members of the Federated (UCC/UMC) of Carrington. I look forward to this opportunity to join the members of this congregation and their pastor, Susan Fandrich, in worship.

We will again be having Covenant Groups across the Northern Plains Conference United Church of Christ. The focus for the Covenant Gatherings will be to explore the full opportunity that lies before us as we call our congregations to meaningful Stewardship programs. This particular gathering will have a special focus on Wills. All the Covenant Gatherings will begin at 6:00 pm and conclude by 8:00 pm. The dates and locations for the gatherings are as follows: 2/24 at Plymouth/Fargo; 2/26 at Medina; 3/3 at New Salem; 3/5 at Elgin; 3/9 at First Cong, Hebron; 3/10 at Hillsboro; 3/12 at New Town and 3/16 at Garrison. You are invited to mark these dates and times on your calendar.

Our prayers are with the family and friends of Rev. Bernard (Bud) McLain who at age 92 was called from the church militant to the church triumphant. Rev. McLain has touched the lives of many during his 55 years in the ministry as he proclaimed by action and word the living presence and love of God. There will be a memorial service at the Congregational United Church of Christ of Mayville on July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009. More information will be forth coming.

Let us hold in prayer Helen Goodfellow as she recovers from back surgery. Helen is currently in Innovis Hospital in Fargo and will be there for a while longer as she continues her recovery.

All NPCUCC pastors and lay members are invited to hold in prayer and when possible attend the installation service of Camille Grothier as a licensed pastor into a 4 way covenant with Bismarck United Church of Christ on January 25, 2009 during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Camille is being installed at Bismarck UCC as the Associate for Hospice Care and is assuming the role as the Hospice Spiritual Coordinator.

Around the NPCUCC 011609 - 012509

Date	Time	Event	Location
1/17	11:00 am (ct)	ALWL #4	Garrison
1/18	9:45 am (ct)	CM shares in annual meeting and worship	Carrington
1/18	4:00 pm (ct)	Revival	Jamestown
1/19	9:30 am (ct)	NDCC Board	Bismarck
1/21	12:00 Noon (ct)	Ft. Berthold Cluster	Parshall
1/23	10:00 am (ct)	Wilson Health Collaborative	New town
1/23	10:30 am (ct)	Central Cluster	Medina
1/23	6:00 pm (ct)	YC Class	-----
1/24	-----	YC Class	-----
1/25	10:30 am (ct)	Installation of Camille Grothier	Bismarck
1/25	4:00 pm (ct)	Revival	New Town