

The “E Messenger”

Notes and comments by Wade

121908

As we prepare to receive the Christmas Fund Offering we do so with deep gratitude for all the ways that God’s redeeming presence continues to call us to new beginnings, new hopes and new visions. On this Sunday we lift our voices in gratitude for the ministry of one of our rural congregations located in South Western North Dakota, which continues to embody that hope and vision. May God’s grace continue to live through the members of Pierce Congregational United Church of Christ and their pastor, Mary Peterson.

Last Sunday like many of you I did not get any place to do many of the things that I had planned. So some of the events that were on the agenda for last Sunday are again calling us this Sunday. For example the 80th birthday celebration for Vern Bader will be continued for another week. All who are interested are invited to join the members of Zion United Church of Christ of Medina for a celebration of the 80th birthday of Vern Bader following worship (at about 11:30 am [ct]). Following that the ordination service for Susan Lester which was scheduled for last week will take place this coming Sunday instead, at 4:00 pm (ct) at First Congregational UCC of Jamestown.

We are in the process of seeking folk that would be interested in becoming ALWL (Authorized Lay Worship Leaders). To do that one only has to take four (free) classes that are held in a central location and then be ready. ALWL’s are a great blessing to the NPCUCC for they fill the pulpits when the called pastors are not available. You will find a form for nominating someone (yourself or someone else) to become an ALWL candidate on the NPCUCC website at www.npcucc.org/forms. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Conference Office. The next starting ALWL class is scheduled for January 31.

This coming week you will receive via email the 2009 NPCUCC Calendar of Prayer. There will also be a copy available on the web site. Please watch for it that you have the material necessary for worship in January of 09.

You have received via email the “Wills Flier” entitled “Legacy of Hope”. Please download it and make it available to your congregation. You might wish to do so as a bulletin insert, or possibly a flier in a pew rack or on a literature table at the back of church. Soon you will be hearing about Covenant gatherings the end of February and early March, which will be an opportunity to talk with pastors and lay leaders about the importance of remembering the church in your will and sharing the “Legacy of Hope”

Time is running out for congregations to get their quilt squares completed and in to the Conference Office. Soon we will be taking the exciting designs we have and transforming them into patchwork quilts that will be displayed at the Annual meeting in Minot, June 5 – 7. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Conference Office

Around the NPCUCC 121908 – 122808

Date	Time	Event	Location
12/19	10:30 am (ct)	Central Cluster	Valley City
12/21	11:30 am (ct)	Vern Bader’s 80 th Birthday Celebration	Medina
12/21	4:00 pm (ct)	Susan Lester Ordination	Jamestown
12/22	12:00 Noon (ct)	Ft. Berthold Cluster	New Town
12/22	4:00 pm (ct)	Evangelism Task force Conference Call	-----
12/24	-----	Christmas Eve	-----
12/25	-----	Christmas Day	-----