

The “E Messenger”

Notes and Comments from Wade 100209

We give thanks for the Congregational United Church of Christ of Independence, its dedicated members and its pastor, Juanita Helphrey. It is our prayer that God’s grace will continue to guide this community of faith along its path of renewal and promise that its message might be clear and strong.

Last week it was my great pleasure to share in worship with the members of Ebenezer United Church of Christ of Elgin. I want to thank them for the opportunity to join with them in praise and celebration and to share the vision and mission of the Northern Plains Conference. It was a pleasure to worship with the members of this rural congregation and their pastor Hazel Behrens.

“To Boldly Go Where Christ Calls Us” is the theme for the NPC Fall Youth Rally. Youth Coordinator Darcy Borden and Pastor Susan Lester are designing a special gathering for the youth of our Conference. The dates are October 22 – 24 and the location is the First UCC in Jamestown. Please read a special invitation entitled Northern Plains Conference Youth Rally” that will be sent to you via email and will also be on the Conference Web Site at www.npcucc.org under fliers. You will also find an informative flier on the web site under “Fliers” and also” Forms”. If you have any difficulty finding any of this information please contact the Conference Office.

I am looking forward to the opportunity to share with the members of the First Congregational United Church of Christ as we gather for worship, fellowship and visioning. It will be my pleasure to join with them in the process of looking to the future and seeing what it is God is calling them to be in the coming years. It will be my pleasure to be with the members of this Western Dakota Congregation and their pastor, Marcy Dawson.

Charlene J. Smith will be leading a special evangelism workshop at Plymouth Congregational UCC in Fargo on Nov. 13 – 14. This is an excellent opportunity for NPCUCC congregations to come together to explore ways that the message of God’s redeeming love and care can be shared with those in our communities and beyond that are searching for a new direction in their life. Pastors and lay leaders are invited to share in this special time. Please check the NPCUCC web site for more information you can go to www.npcucc.org under” fliers” or “forms”.

To date we have about a quarter of the amount sought in the 82 – 4 – 2010 drive. We celebrate the generosity of those that have responded and look forward to others who will help us prepare for the challenges of the coming year. This special fund drive is for the purpose of off setting the shortfall that we anticipate for the 2010 budget. We are looking for 82 donations of \$100. These donations can be made by individual members (as most of what we have so far were) or by congregations or groups of members (such as family units, church organizations or the like). I invite all to join in this special gathering as together we prepare for the call to discipleship in the coming year.

Lay and ordained pastors are invited to share in the exciting program that United Theological Seminary is providing through the Academy for Vital Christianity. The first class will be offered at Valley City and will be an opportunity for all who participate to grow in their understanding of the message and meaning of the Old Testament. Dr. Rich Weis, Dean of UTS will be the presenter. There is scholarship help for all who would like to participate, just call the Conference Office for more information. To get a look at the class schedule and the registration forms, please go to the NPC web site and check under the "fliers" tab.

Around the NPCUCC 100209 - 101109

Date	Time	Event	Location
10/4	10:30 am (ct)	CM shares in worship	Hebron/First
10/8	12:00 Noon (ct)	NDHRC Development	Fargo
10/9	2:00 pm (ct)	CHYS Board Retreat	Bismarck
10/10	-----	CHYS Board Retreat	Bismarck
10/11	4:00 pm(ct)	Ron Hildahl Installation	New Salem