

# The “E Messenger”

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## Notes and Comments by Wade 072409

We hold in prayer the youth of the Northern Plains Conference United Church of Christ. It is our prayer that through the youth camps and rallies NPCUCC youth might encounter the call of God's Holy Spirit to an ever more vibrant life. May God's grace enable them to step with courage into their future as people of God.

Peg and I arrived back in Bismarck late on Monday evening. The trip to Louisiana was long (1500 miles each way), and the weather could be defined in one word HOT. The surprise was when on the first day we were there our son came into the house and basically collapsed, unable to breath, stand or even talk. He went to the hospital where he remained beyond the day of our return. After many tests and input from many different hospitals it was discovered that he has Gilbert's Syndrome. While I knew nothing about it when we started our trip by the time we returned I would declare myself an expert. We give many thanks to the doctors and support staff of the army hospital on the Ft. Polk Base and for the prayers that many have lifted on Brice's behalf. He is getting stronger every day and hopefully will regain all his strength soon.

Our prayers are with the youth, adult counselors and camp staff as our annual youth camp gets underway this Sunday. May God's divine grace be with all who share in this very special time. Our special words of gratitude go to our Conference Adjunct Youth Staff, Carl and Darcy Borden for their hard work in planning and preparation for this important event.

There is still room for any who would like to come to the Stewardship in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century workshop which will be held at Valley City July 31 and August 1. Please check the NPCUCC website, [www.npcucc.org](http://www.npcucc.org) under forms for an informative flier and a registration form. We do need you to register so that we have adequate food and other materials. For any that will need lodging, a block of rooms have been reserved at Wagon Wheel Inn and you can contact them by calling 701 845 5333. If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact the Conference Office.

There will be a special workshop for Northern Plains Pastors aimed at helping support the emotional and spiritual care of the caregivers during times of disaster. This special workshop will be held at the United Church of Christ in Valley City between 11:00 am and 5:00 pm (ct). It will be a brown bag lunch gathering to which all are invited. Bryan Crousore of Church World Service will be the primary presenter. This is an opportunity to come together in support and understanding that together we might grow in our personal strength and as a channel of God's holy grace.

All the women of the Conference are invited to begin to make plans to attend the Women's Retreat which will be held September 25 – 27. Please check the NPCUCC web site for more information [www.npcucc.org](http://www.npcucc.org) check under forms or fliers for an informative flier and a registration form.

All NPCUCC members and pastors are invited to share in a special day of celebration and thanksgiving for the ministry of Dale Carmen, Dale is retiring from the Horizon Parish the end of this month after serving as its founding pastor. The celebration will begin with a worship service that will be held at the Fair building at Carson and will begin at 10:00 am (mt) and will continue with lunch and a celebration in the afternoon. Let us join together to say thank you to Dale and Ken for their long and meaningful ministry among us.

Around the NPCUCC 072409 – 080209

Date	Time	Event	Location
7/25	11:00 am (ct)	Central Cluster	Jamestown
7/26	10:00 am (mt)	Celebration service for Dale Carmen	Carson
7/26 – 7/30	-----	NPCUCC Youth Camp	Wesley Acres
7/31	11:00 am (ct)	Emotional and Spiritual Support Amid Disaster Workshop	Valley City
7/31	5:30 pm (ct)	Stewardship in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	Valley City
8/1	-----	Stewardship in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	Valley City
8/2	8:30 (mt)	CM Shares in Worship	Elgin
8/2	3:00 pm (mt)	River of Help Concert	Dickinson