

THE NORTHERN PLAINS CONFERENCE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1200 EAST HIGHLAND ACRES
ROAD

BISMARCK, ND

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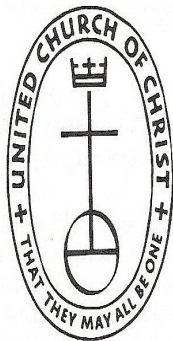
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<http://www.npcucc.org>

AWARE FOR:

APRIL 2011

A monthly newsletter supporting the building of community in the multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, multi-lingual, multi-national community of faith.



Articles Not In This Version:

As I Look At It, Youth Ministry Report, Voices From The Prairie, Thanks to St. John, Hebron, Summer Camp, Aware in Two Versions, News From Cue Seminaries, Congregations Seeking A Pastor, Lenten Retreat: The Church In The 21st Century, What Does The Conference Disaster Ministries Coordinator Do, Medallion

Award Information, One Great Hour of Sharing Materials, Northern Plains Conference and South Dakota Conference Enter Into Meaningful Conversation About A Shared Future, Making Friends With Church Numbers, Nominations Are Received For Northern Plains Offices.



Northern Plains Conference Pastor highlighted in Worship Ways

Marilyn Levine pastor at New Town UCC and Memorial Congregational in Parshall has contributed Lenten worship materials that have been shared through Worship Ways (which can be found on the National UCC Web Site www.ucc.org put Worship Ways in the search area and then follow the prompts). That service was the basis for the Ash Wednesday Worship at the Amistad Chapel at the church House in Cleveland. Pictures from the service can be found on the NPC Website www.npcucc.org on the homepage and under the Church News tab. **Well done Marilyn.**

Northern Plains Conference Rural Resolution Continues To Call UCC:

In 2007 at the General Synod in Hartford, Connecticut the Northern Plains Conference presented a resolution which called on the National Church to commit greater resources of time and money to the well being of the rural church. Since that time this call has continued to spark energy and conversation in a variety of areas of the National UCC. Varieties of projects have been started. Some lead to future projects, and some due to staff changes had to be dropped to be picked up at a later time. This past week, a workshop was held in Dubuque, Iowa in which the participation of the UCC was a direct outgrowth of our resolution. Charlene J. Smith was the National representative who called together the UCC caucus. The workshop was entitled "Hospitality in Changing Times" and featured Tex Sample as a keynote speaker and workshop leader. A meeting of UCC pastors and Conference staff

present lead to a commitment to develop regional Rural workshops for UCC pastors and lay leaders in the various regions. I was pleased to represent our Conference at this gathering and to now say that while this has been a long time in coming it does seem to have some direction and momentum. One of our primary concerns was to make possible gatherings that would be helpful, to local congregations and

accessible to local congregations. The conversation in the UCC caucus came to the conclusion that future rural ministry workshops would have to be in driving distance for pastors and conference leadership if we were going to expect them to attend. While our little resolution has not surfaced for many years it continues to be a link that calls the wider church to new life.

The April Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Location
4/3	11:30 am (ct)	CM guides strategic planning	Jamestown
4/3	5:30 pm (ct)	Lenten Retreat	Jamestown
4/4	9:00 am (ct)	Lenten Retreat	Jamestown
4/5	9:00 am (ct)	Lenten Retreat	Jamestown
4/7	10:00 am (ct)	MV Cluster	-----
4/9	10:00 am	ALWL #4	-----
4/10	1 ⁰⁰ -6:00 p.m.(ct)	Making Friends of Church Members	Cong. UCC, Moorhead, MN
4/11-4/13	12:00 (ct)	West Central Regional	Northland Inn, MN
4/14	12:00 Noon (ct)	Ft. Berthold Cluster	New Town
4/20 – 24	-----	CM on Vacation	-----
4/21	-----	Maundy Thursday	-----
4/21	10:00 am (ct)	Fargo Cluster	-----
4/22	-----	Good Friday	-----
4/24	-----	Easter	-----
4/25	11 ⁰⁰ am (ct)	Central Cluster	_____
4/28	11:00 a, (ct)	Minot Cluster	_____