

**NORTHERN PLAINS CONFERENCE  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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



1200 East Highland Acres Road  
Bismarck, ND 58501-1252  
Office Phone: 701-255-1104  
Fax: 701-255-0103  
Website: <http://www.npcucc.org>

## AUGUST AWARE 2011

### Don't Forget to Mug Your Guests and Visitors.

At the last Annual Meeting in Fargo guests and delegates were invited to take home mugs imprinted with the UCC logo and the "Northern Plains Conference" imprint. The purpose was to give the mugs to visitors so that they would have something to help them remember this time with you. The mugs could be filled with literature and possibly some candy or cookies from your church. This would hopefully work as an invitation calling the visitors to come again and visit your community of faith. You may wish to develop some pieces that could be fit into the mugs that would have helpful information about worship and activity times. A number of the mugs were given out at the Annual Meeting following the banquet on Saturday evening. The mugs are available through the Conference Office. Please contact us that we can make arrangements to get additional ones to you. Do not forget to "Mug your Guests".

### We have just received new addresses for Lester Soberg, they are;

Blessing House  
13090 SW Laurmount Drive  
Tigard, OR, 97223  
Or  
Ron Soberg  
C/O Lester Soberg  
11333 SW Gaade Street  
Tigard, OR, 97223

### State Women's Retreat at the Abby in Richardton, September 16 – 18

Charlene J. Smith of the National Church will join the NPC and South Dakota women for their annual retreat which will be held this year at the Abby in Richardton. The theme for the weekend gathering will be "Communing With God". On Friday evening the focus will be "Letting Go

and Welcoming God", On Saturday Morning "Communing with God through our gifts", On Saturday afternoon the focus will be "Communing with God through nature". On Saturday evening the focus will be "Reflection of the day with God" and On Sunday morning and sending forth with a communion service". All the women of our Conference are invited to come and make this special time of reflection, fellowship and service one to remember. The mission project for the gathering will be collecting food for the food shelf in Parshall. A listing of items needed can be found on the NPC Web Site [www.npcucc.org](http://www.npcucc.org) by July 22, under "Church News" along with the flier and a registration form. If you have questions please do not hesitate to call the Conference Office.

**It is with special gratitude** that we in the NPC receive the second mile gifts from Flasher UCC and Emmaus UCC of Carson. These gifts that were above and beyond the regular OCWM gifts were raised by hosting a car wash for the purpose of receiving special funds for the support of the Northern Plains Conference. As it is with gratitude that we receive all gifts, we lift up these special second mile gifts and dedicate ourselves to using them and all the support with which we are blessed wisely and faithfully.

### National Youth Event 2012 Purdue University-July 2012

It is time to begin to think about us in the Northern Plains organizing the Conference contingent to the 2012 National Youth Event to be at Purdue University in West Lafayette Indiana. We are looking for adults who wish to be the contingent leaders for this great event. NYE-2012 will be one of those great moments in the lives of our High School aged Northern Plains youth. Help us help them to have a great time. Rev. Carleton & Rev. Dorothy Borden have already begun to build the plan for the trip but they will not be able to lead our great

and exciting group to West Lafayette. This is where we need you and the adults in your church.

If you are interested in being that contingent leader or being an adult chaperone please either contact: the Northern Plains conference office or the Borden's' @ [revcarletonborden@gmail.com](mailto:revcarletonborden@gmail.com)

**Sacred Conversation on Race.**

We are invited to join our brothers and sisters from the South Dakota Conference as they gather at their camp (Placerville) in the Black Hills to share in a **Sacred Conversation on Race.** The informative and meaningful gathering will take place September 12 – 14. Norm Jackson, whom many of you know, will be the facilitator. The Sacred Conversation will provide a time for all participants to share their ideas, fears and hopes as we continue to seek ways to move forward to more effective relations with one another. This gathering will provide an opportunity to explore the realities we all share and the feelings that we personally hold. Please watch the NPC Web Site [www.npcucc.org](http://www.npcucc.org) and the "E Messenger for more information.

**Northern Plains Conference Fall Youth Rally**

**October 20 - 22, 2011**

**Location:** Bismarck United Church of Christ  
**Address:** 1200 East Highland Acres Road  
**Time:** Thursday @ 1 pm - Saturday @ Noon  
**Cost:** \$50 /Save \$5 If Registration Postmarked by October 8<sup>th</sup>

**Registrations Due:** October 14<sup>th</sup>

**Bring:** Sleeping Bag, Pillow & Personal Care Items  
 Clothing (appropriate for sports & service project)  
 Swim Suit  
 Work Gloves & Rake  
 Money for Snacks (while traveling)  
 Talent Show Items (instruments, etc.)  
 Adult Chaperone / Advisor

**Make Checks Payable to:** NPCUCC

**Mail Registrations to:**

Bismarck United Church of Christ  
 Att: Dawn Archer  
 1200 East Highland Acres Road  
 Bismarck, ND 58501

**Generosity as Spiritual Practice; Changing Lives, Transforming Churches,**

is the title and theme for the workshop that Kate Huey of the National Church will be presenting in Bismarck, September 30 and October 1<sup>st</sup>. This workshop will be an opportunity for congregations to explore both the faith perspective and the practice of generosity. Special topics for the gatherings will be Year-round stewardship, Giving as Spiritual Practice, Motivational resources, Financial Wellness, Generational Questions, and The Stewardship of Creation. Through Bible Study, conversation, sharing, worship and presentation Rev. Huey will guide us along a path of deeper understanding of the challenges and possibilities for meaningful and effective stewardship in our congregations. Please watch the NPCUCC web site [www.npcucc.org](http://www.npcucc.org) for an informational flier and registration information, including suggested motel accommodations.

**The Calendar for August**

Date	Time	Event	Location
8/2	3:00 (ct)	Conference Call	Geoffrey Black
8/4	11:00 am (ct)	Minot Cluster Summer Picnic	Garrison
8/7	9:00 am (ct) 11:00 am (ct)	Cm joins in worship	Granville Minot
8/14	10:00 am (ct)	CM joins in worship	New Town
8/16	4:30 pm (ct)	NPC/SDC meeting	Aberdeen
8/17	9:00 am (ct)	NPC/SDC meeting	Aberdeen
8/21	---	Installation Service	Lakota
8/28	-----	CM on Vacation	-----
8/29	-----	CM on Vacation	-----
8/30	-----	CM on Vacation	-----
8/31	-----	CM on Vacation	-----