

**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



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## DECEMBER AWARE 2011

- ❖ Soon the Faith and Nurture Committee will be convening for the purpose of calling a **NORTHERN PLAINS CONFERENCE Youth Director**. While we have to date received some names of interested persons, we invite others who might be interested to **send in their resume and letter of interest** to the Conference Office. The youth director is a vital part of the ongoing ministry of the Northern Plains Conference. The Northern Plains Conference Youth Director works with UCC partners from across the region and the National UCC. They work with other Northern Plains Conference Youth Leaders as we plan the Fall **Youth Rally**. Any who might have questions about the Conference Youth director are invited to **call the Conference Office**.-----
- ❖ The **NORTHERN PLAINS CONFERENCE Office has moved**. The new location is in the basement of our home which is located at 204 East Reno Avenue in Bismarck. Thanks to helping hands and "Hometown Movers" the job is virtually completed. The phone numbers remain the same, the cell numbers remain the same and the email addresses remain the same. The only thing that has changed is the mailing address. Any who would like to come and pay the new digs a visit are invited to drop in some afternoon. Much of the Conference material is stored at the parsonage of **the First Congregational UCC of Hebron**. Thanks to Marcy Dawson and the First Congregational Church for their generosity. -----
- ❖ Don't forget the new mailing address for the **Northern Plains Conference United Church of Christ is 204 East Reno Avenue, Bismarck, North Dakota, 58504-6471**. The Conference **phone is still 701 255 1104** and the **fax is 701 255 0103**. The Conference Minister can be reached on the **cell phone by calling 701 471 3278**. The Administrator can be reached on the cell phone by calling 701-226-1196. The Conference **email addresses** are: **secretary at [secretary@npcucc.org](mailto:secretary@npcucc.org)** and **Conference Minister at [Schemmel@npcucc.org](mailto:Schemmel@npcucc.org)** and the **Conference Web Site is [www.npcucc.org](http://www.npcucc.org)**. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.-----
- ❖ **Coming together on Line** is the developing opportunity for Northern Plains Conference pastors and lay leaders to get together for inspiration, information and individual attention. Via the **WebEx connection** those interested in a particular offering can be connected to an instructor and each other for a time of sharing and growth **without ever having to leave the safety and warmth of your home or office**. The first such offering will be a **Conversation with Kate Huey on December 12 at 6:00 pm (ct)**. Please check the **Northern Plains Conference UCC Web Site** under **Conversation with Kate Huey**, for more information. Those who are interested can send in the registration form or email your interest to the Conference Office. **All who let us know they are interested will be sent a link for the WebEx connection**. If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact the Conference Office.-----
- ❖ On **December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011** the **Christmas Fund, Veterans of the Cross** offering will be received. The special all church offering provides an opportunity for all of us to reach out in support of those that have given so freely of themselves. Money from the Christmas Fund Offering goes to help **retired pastors who receive a low pension**

**payment because of low salaries** during the years they served a congregation. While the **Christmas fund offering also provides support for active pastors who find themselves in a difficult place and need some additional support.** I would invite you to be **generous in your support of this vital offering.**-----

- ❖ Representatives from 4 **Northern Plains Conference Congregations** attended a special Church **Growth Workshop** in Detroit. Each of the participants came back to the Northern Plains Conference excited about what they heard, each with vital information that they can use in their congregations and many started as soon as the first week back to draw upon their experience. This group will be getting

together for a **Coming Together On Line** event along with Charlene J. Smith of the National Church. There will also be a **workshop** in the near future for these leaders and others to **share their church growth and development ideas.**-----

- ❖ The articles that are in the long version of the AWARE are: As I Look At It, Voices From The Prairie by Dale Kent, In terim Minister at Bismarck UCC, Media Resource News, Cue Seminaries Update Highlight: Eden Seminary, CUE Seminaries Survey, NYE, 2012 National Youth Event, Imagine, South Dakota Conference and the Northern Plains Conference continue to meet, and Northern Plains Conference UCC Congregations seeking a pastor.-----

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The **Calendar for December**

Date	Time	Event	Location
12/1	----	CM and Peg on Vacation	----
12/3	9:00 am (ct)	Fair Housing Conference Call	-----
12/5-12/6	4:00pm (ct)	SDC/NPC Meeting	Watertown, SD
12/8	10:00 am (ct)	MV Cluster	Bismarck
12/9-12/10	5:30 pm (ct)	Multiple Paths	Valley City
12/11	10:00 am (ct)	Closure Service	Streeter
12/12	6:00 pm (ct)	Stewardship gathering with Kate Huey on WebEx	Computer
12/14	12:00 Noon (ct)	Ft. Berthold Cluster	New Town
12/15	10:00 am (ct)	Fargo Cluster	Fargo/Plymouth
12/16	1:00 pm (ct)	Midwest Seminary Conference Call	----
12/18	----	CM shares in worship	----
12/19	11:00 am (ct)	Central Cluster	----
12/22	11:00 am (ct)	Minot Cluster	----
12/24	----	Christmas Eve Day	----
12/25	----	Christmas Day	----