



The "NOEL" Messenger

Notes Comments and Holiday Cheer from the Schemmels
122311

We give thanks for the First Congregational United Church of Christ of Reeder. Let us celebrate the ministry of this small membership congregation as they continue to be center where the Living Christ is praised and the light of God's hope is shared. We pray for the members of this congregation and their pastor, Richard Wyman. AMEN

Last Sunday, Peg and I had the pleasure of sharing in worship with the members of Salem United Church of Christ, New Salem. We want to thank them for the opportunity to share in the Advent worship service and for the warmth of their worship and the fellowship which followed. May God's richest blessing continue to be with the members of Salem UCC and their pastor, Ron Hildahl.

Peg and Wade will be taking a few days of vacation from December 26 – 28. If you should wish to contact them during this time please feel free to call either of their cell phones (Peg 701 226 1196. Wade 701 471 3278) or send an email to (Peg - secretary@npcucc.org, or Wade - schemmel@npcucc.org). We will be back in the Conference Office on December 29th.

Let this be a final reminder that the Conference Financial books will be closing on December 31. If you find that this is difficult for your congregations please do not hesitate to call the Conference Office.

As we start to look towards 2012, I would invite you to mark February 7th at 7:00 pm (ct) on your calendars. That is the time when Kate Huey of the National Church will be presenting a stewardship workshop on WebEx. All who would like to participate are invited let the Conference Office know so that link can be sent to the appropriate computer.

It is with joy in our hearts that we take this opportunity to wish each one of you the most blessed and wonderful Christmas. May this be a time when the joy of which the Angels sang, be the blessing that you carry and share with one another. We pray that this Christmas, for each of you, the Christ Child is born anew, surrounding you with the wondrous joy of God's ever present Spirit. Our prayer for each of you this Christmas is that you would receive the divine gift that would most fully complete your life. If you are lonely may it be companionship, if you grieve may it be comfort, if you are frightened may it be assurance and courage, if you are uncertain may it be confidence and if you feel weak may it be strength. May the forgiving and renewing touch of God's holy grace be with you this Christmas and throughout the following year. Merry Christmas from Peg and Wade