

Notes and Comments by Wade 120310

On this Second Sunday of Advent, let us hold in prayer the United Church of Christ of Wahpeton. We give thanks for their vital ministry and pray that they might continue to find the renewal that they seek. As we continue our Advent journey we do so mindful that God's gracious Spirit is part of all our lives, and shares in the challenges and joys of our Congregations. We pray that that Spirit might be with the members of Wahpeton United Church of Christ and their pastor, Ken Adams. AMEN

This is a reminder that the closing of the financial books for the Northern Plains Conference will be the end of 2010 (December 31st). I know that the mission Support Forms mention a later date, in January of 2011, but since that came out, the Conference purchased a different program to keep the financial records. This program does not allow one to make any additions after the end of the calendar year. If this causes you some serious problems please do not hesitate to contact the Conference Office.

The second in a series of eight Multiple Paths pastoral formation classes will be taking place December 10 and 11 at Valley City. We are grateful for the support of United Theological Seminary and for the Multiple Paths Candidates and mentors who are part of this ground breaking program. Our prayers of support are with them as they prepare for this exciting program.

This coming Sunday I will be joining colleagues from across the country as we gather for worship and workshops and the like in Tampa, Florida for the biennial Search and Call Gathering. (I know you feel sorry for me having to forgo the snow and the wind, but somebody has to do it). It is my honor to represent the congregations, members and pastors of the Northern Plains Conference I look forward to sharing the outcome of this meeting with you.

Plans are underway for a Spring Pastoral Retreat. I would welcome suggestions and ideas as we begin to pull this program together. I am currently working with some of the staff of Sojourners who would present a program and the call of the church in the 21st century. I am also looking for a location that would provide the retreat type atmosphere that would be helpful for all who participate. Suggestions and ideas are welcomed.

Let's Talk" is a new, locally-produced TV program discussing community issues from faith perspectives. It's sponsored by the Progressive Faith Network and is broadcast every Sunday at 8:00 p.m. on cable channel 12, Dakota Access Media. The program's topic in December is the "Season of Holidays".

There has been a special request from First United Church of Christ in Garrison to all churches in the Northern Plains Conference. Their ladies are looking for glass communion cups. If any churches have glass communion cups that they are willing to

give away or sell for a nominal amount they could use them to make them into angels as a fundraiser during the Dickens Festival and their English Tea. Please inform Kathy Holmes, Women's Fellowship chair. The church address is P. O. Box 186, Garrison, North Dakota 58540 or telephone Joanne Heinzen at 701-463-2109. Thank you for considering their request and if you have any questions, contact Kathy, Joanne or the Conference Office.

There is also a communication from Lindy Holt, Disaster Minister for the Northern Plains Conference. The communication reads:

Friends,

First, let me say that I hope each of you has a wonderful Thanksgiving and the joy of sharing it with family and friends! There are several items I wanted to share with you.

1. The job posting for the position of Church World Service Associate Director, Domestic Disaster Response, has now been posted on the employment section of the Church World Service website. I would ask that any of you who may know of potential good candidates for this position, please share this information with them and encourage them to apply. The application deadline is December 17, 2010 with the hope that we would then do the first round of interviews sometime in early January. The Church World Service website is: churchworldservice.org.
2. http://www.churchworldservice.org/site/News2?page=NewsArticle&id=10393&news_iv_ctrl=1361&soo=V2WK4x8FbP9tw1jBsymBQ.

Many local CBS stations will on December 5, 2010, be airing a program on Haiti Response. Among the interviewees for the program are Burton Joseph, our Church World Service Haiti project manager and Melissa Crutchfield of UMCOR. The above link is to a release that shares about the program and connect you to the list of local stations that will be airing the program.

Thank you and Best Wishes

Donna Derr

CWA-DHA

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Around the NPCUCC 120310 – 121210

Date	Time	Event	Location
12/3	-----	Search and Call	Tampa
12/4	-----	Search and Call	Tampa
12/5	-----	Search and Call	Tampa
12/6	-----	Search and Call	Tampa
12/7	-----	Search and Call	Tampa

12/8	9:00 am (ct)	Judicatory Gathering	Maryvale
12/10	5:30 pm (ct)	Multiple Paths	Valley City
12/11	9:00 am (ct)	Multiple Paths	Valley City
12/12	10:30 am (ct)	CM to share in worship	New Salem