

The "E Messenger"

Notes and Comments by Wade 123110

As we begin the journey of 2011 let us give thanks for the Spirit of the Living Christ that walks with us throughout the unknown of the next year, sharing in the times of promise and challenge, Let us commit ourselves to channel through our lives God's grace, thus transforming despair into hope and resignation into conviction. AMEN

As 2010 draws to a close Peg and I want to thank the congregations of the NPC and the members that are a part of them (lay and pastoral) for their continued support and friendship. It has been a blessing to be able to work with you as together we answer the call of our Redeemer to be hands, feet and mouth of Jesus Christ in our time and in this place. I am more convinced than ever that together we can make miracles happen and that the best days for the Northern Plains Conference are still to be written. May God's richest blessing be with each of the congregations of the NPC, their lay members and pastors, and may that blessing be a source of call to step with courage and commitment into the promised land of 2011. We look forward to sharing with you in the unfolding and exciting ministry of the Northern Plains Conference in the year ahead.

Rev. Jennifer Kottler, the director of policy and advocacy at Sojourners in Washington DC will be the presenter for the NPC Lenten Retreat. Please mark the dates of April 3 – 5, 2011 on your calendar and make plans to join us in Jamestown, ND for a special time of renewal, refocus and relaxing as together we look at the call of the Church in the 21st century. A bio for Rev. Kottler and basic information about the Lenten retreat are on the NPC web site www.npcucc.org and more information including registration and lodging, will be forth coming soon, The gathering meal, April 3rd at First Congregational UCC of Jamestown, will be a potluck with participants being asked to bring a desert or salad, the main course and beverages will be furnished.

This is a special reminder that as 2011 starts the NPC I in the process of calling together a new ALWL (Authorized Lay Worship Leaders) class. This is an opportunity for all NPC lay members that are called to be a part of this vital ministry to receive the necessary training. Since the classes are currently started it is important for all interested individuals to contact the Conference Office as soon as possible.

NPC youth are invited to mark July 24 – 28, 2011 on their calendars and make plans to join friends from across the Conference for the Youth Camp which will take place at Camp of the Cross near Garrison. More information about the camp and camp registration information will be forth coming in the near future. If you have questions or suggestions please feel free to contact the Conference Office (701 255 1104) or the Co Youth Directors, Carleton and Darcy Borden (701 845 1977).

Around the NPCUCC 123110 – 010911

| Date | Time | Event | Location |
|----------|---------------|--|--------------------------|
| 12/31/10 | ----- | New Years Eve | ----- |
| 1/1/11 | ----- | Happy New Year | ----- |
| 1/3 | 1:00 pm (ct) | Youth Leadership Meeting | Camp of the Cross |
| 1/9 | 10:30 am (ct) | CM shares in worship | Valley City |
| 1/9 | 3:00 pm (ct) | CM flies to St. Louis for Lay Leadership meeting | Eden Seminary, St. Louis |