

The “E Messenger”

Notes and Comments by Wade 071610

We hold in prayer on this eighth Sunday after Pentecost the Union Congregational United Church of Christ of Medora and ask that God's blessed Spirit be with the members of this Congregation as they continue their Summer Ministry. We pray that their fellowship may be strong as they reach out to their members and to the visitors of this tourist community. AMEN

Last Sunday Peg and I had the distinct pleasure of sharing in a very special service of worship in Grand Forks. The Congregation known as the Federated Church of Grand Forks has changed its name to United Church of Christ in Grand Forks. This was also a time when the former American Baptist members were received into the membership of the now United Church of Christ. It was our joy to share in the service of worship, the renaming service and the picnic which followed. We pray that God's grace and love continue to embrace and guide this ministry.

The Conference has just received word that Fred Kirschenmann will be having a presentation at Zion United Church of Christ in Medina August 22nd at 7:00 pm (ct). The topic of his presentation will be Faith and Sustainability. He will be discussing his new book and the role of faith in his approach to agriculture. There will be a free will offering in support of FARRMS. FARRMS is a local non-profit organization which provides education and information on sustainable agriculture and sustainable rural communities. All NPC pastors and lay members are invited to put this date on their calendar and to make plans to attend this interesting and informative program.

We are continuing to rework and tighten up the recently redesigned NPCUCC web site. I would invite you to go onto www.npcucc.org and check it out. After you have done so, please take a moment and share your thoughts and comments with the Conference Office. It is our hope that while the new web site will have all the information that was in the former one, that it would be easier to access.

The flier announcing the 2010 NPC Women's Retreat can be found on the NPC Web Site www.npcucc.org on the front page below the scrolling pictures and under the Church News Heading. The Registration forms can be found under the registration tab. The dates for the 2010 Women's Retreat are September 17 – 19 at Camp of the Cross-near Garrison.

On September 9 - 10 Charlene J. Smith of the National Church will be with us for the first of a special series entitled "Shaping Prairie Hospitality for the 21st Century". This will be the first gathering for this series and one of only two that will be face-to-face. Most of the times we get together we will do so on WebEx. The event will begin with Dinner at 6:00 pm (registration will begin at 5:30 pm.) We invite the pastor and lay leaders of all NPC congregations to be present. This first gathering will take place at First Congregational United Church of Christ in Jamestown. On Saturday, September 10th, we will be outlining the material that will be covered in the following 5 WebEx meetings. I would encourage all NPC congregations to make plans to attend this important and meaningful meeting.

Around the NPCUCC 071610 - 072510

| Date | Time | Event | Location |
|------|---------------|---|----------|
| 7/16 | 3:00 pm (ct) | Faith and Nurture Committee WebEx meeting | ----- |
| 7/17 | 11:00 am (ct) | ALWL #3 | Bismarck |
| 7/18 | 9:30 am (ct) | CM shares in worship | Mayville |
| 7/19 | 3:00 pm (ct) | NPC Executive Committee WebEx Meeting | ----- |
| 7/22 | 3:00 pm (ct) | Church and Ministry Committee Meeting | Bismarck |
| 7/25 | 9:00 am (ct) | Cm shares in worship | Streeter |

This is a reminder that Conference Summer Camp begins August 25 at Wesley Acres. Any interested youth that have not registered are invited to do so. Please go to the NPC Web site and find the registration form under the registration tab.