

The 2010 Calendar of Prayer

Northern Plains Conference United Church of Christ

- January 3 As we stand at the beginning of the 2010 journey of faith let us celebrate the unity we share as people of faith giving thanks for the Spirit that enables us to carry the Grace of God to another and thereby bring healing and hope in the most challenging of times. May we be the channel of God's presence to one another. AMEN
- January 10 Our prayer this day is for the many who labor on behalf of the local congregations, their pastor and members in the National United Church of Christ. May they feel the support of those of us that gather to worship and serve in Jesus' name. May their efforts bring strength to the ministry we share and clarity to the vision we follow. AMEN
- January 17 Our prayers are with the ecumenical union of the Gardner Congregational Lutheran Church in Gardner. May God's divine grace and love be with this unique Congregation as they continue to minister in the name of our Redeemer. AMEN
- January 24 On this ecumenical Sunday we hold in prayer the parish of Zion United Church of Christ of Manvel and the Federated (UCC/ABC) of Grand Forks. We celebrate the covenant between the small town and the city and pray that God's love and care might continue to be manifested through their ministry of proclamation and outreach. May God's blessing be with the members of this Northern North Dakota Congregation and their pastor, Keith Mills. AMEN
- January 31 As we celebrate the fourth Sunday of Epiphany, Health and Human Services Sunday, we hold in prayer the Horizon Parish. That special union of five Congregations from Lutheran and UCC background that come together to be one parish and unite in one ministry. We hold in prayer the members of Emmaus United Church of Christ of Carson, Flasher United Church of Christ of Flasher, Bethesda ELCA of Leith, St. John's ELCA of Carson and ALCL-ELCA of Flasher and their recently called pastor, Rose Trenbeath. AMEN

- February 7 It is with prayers of joy and expectation that we come to this Fifth Sunday of Epiphany, the beginning of UCC Women's Week, as we hold in prayer the Federated (UCC/UMC) of Carrington. We pray that the ministry of this ecumenical parish might continue to grow in its vision and strength and that God's grace will be with the members and their pastor, Susan Fandrich. AMEN
- February 14 As we gather for Transfiguration and Racial Justice Sunday, we pray that God's transforming grace might continue to embrace the members of the United Church of Hope and their pastor, Allen Finger. May God's renewing love continue to enrich their gatherings when they gather and when they scatter. AMEN
- February 21 This first Sunday of Lent our prayers are with the United Church of Christ of Josephburg. We pray that this congregation, which holds dual standing in the Northern Plains Conference United Church of Christ and the United Church of Canada, may experience God's renewing grace as it continues its vital ministry in this most northerly region. May God's grace continue to be with the members of this exciting community of faith and their pastor, Deborah Hoekstra. AMEN
- February 28 As we gather in prayer and praise this second Sunday of Lent, which is also Church Vocations Sunday, We hold in prayer the members of the Beach Community Church (UCC/UMC) and their pastor Warren Maxted. We celebrate the strength of their vital ministry in this most Western North Dakota Community. May God continue to give them strength and courage as they face the challenges of the future. AMEN
- March 7 This Amistad Sunday, the Third Sunday of Lent, we celebrate the ministry of our Conference Amistad Church, the Congregational United Church of Christ of Minot and its parish partner, Hope Congregational United Church of Christ of Granville. May God's creative Spirit continue to bless the members and the pastor, Frank Picard, of this parish which unites city and small town Congregations as they minister in Jesus' name. AMEN

- March 14 As we receive the “One Great Hour Of Sharing” offering on this Fourth Sunday of Lent, let us lift up in prayer the members of Bismarck United Church of Christ and their pastors, James Moos and Dawn Archer. May God continue to bless their ministry of outreach, as they guide our mission to the Protestant Church of East Timor and as they share in the ministry of support and proclamation of the Northern Plains Conference. AMEN
- March 21 It is our prayer, this Fifth Sunday of Lent that God’s Grace and Spirit continue to enrich the creative ministry of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ of Fargo. May God’s blessed presence be the source of vision and hope for the members of this Eastern North Dakota Congregation and their pastor, Aaron Roberts, as they focus on meeting the challenges of ministry in the 21st Century. AMEN
- March 28 This Palm Sunday as we seek guidance from the message of Our Redeemer’s courageous and faithful entrance in to Jerusalem, and as we give thanks that through Jesus’ Passion we have been called to receive the fullness of God’s redemptive love into our lives. We hold in prayer the ministry of the members of Salem United Church of Christ and their pastor Ron Hildahl. May God’s grace continue to embrace them as their beacon of faith shines brightly on the Western North Dakota Prairie. AMEN
- April 4 This Easter Sunday as we celebrate God’s declaration of hope which invites all to walk in the fullness of our Creator’s embracing grace, let us hold in prayer the ministry of the of the United Parish of Hillsboro (UCC/UMC). May God’s rich blessing continue to embrace the creative ecumenical ministry of this community of faith. We pray for God’s care to continue to be with the members of this Congregation and their pastor, Pete Young. AMEN
- April 11 This Second Sunday of Easter, as we gather in the embrace of God’s redeeming love, let us hold in prayer the Filipino United Community Church of Winnipeg. We give thanks for the special ministry of this exciting Congregation as we pray that God’s gracious spirit continue to embrace its members and pastor, Lito Rodriguez . This we ask in the name of our Redeemer, Jesus the Christ. AMEN

- April 18 This Third Sunday of Easter, as we celebrate the “Integrity of God’s Creation, we hold in prayer the members of Hope United Church of Christ of Streeter and their pastor, Chris Hogstad. May God’s blessed Spirit continue to guide this congregation as it experiences the opportunities and challenges of ecumenical ministry. We pray that God’s continued gracious Spirit embrace this community of faith as it gathers in service and praise. AMEN
- April 25 As we celebrate Rural Life Sunday, on this Fourth Sunday after Easter, our prayers are with the Pierce Congregational United Church of Christ of Scranton. May God’s gracious Spirit continue to empower the members of this Rural Western North Dakota Congregation and their pastor, Mary Peterson, as they embody the Spirit of the Living Christ in their ministry of service and proclamation. AMEN
- May 2 As we gather in service and praise on the Fifth Sunday after Easter, let us hold in prayer the ministry of Charles Hall Youth Services which is located in Bismarck. May God’s Spirit continue to bring hope to the lives of troubled youth through the efforts of this exciting ministry. Our prayers are with the Co Directors, Gayla Sherman and Gayle Klopp and the other staff of this vital ministry. May God’s Spirit continue to be a source of renewal and recreation. AMEN
- May 9 On the Sixth Sunday after Easter as we celebrate the Festival of the Christian Home, we hold in prayer the First Congregational United Church of Christ of Fargo. We celebrate the ministry of this faith family as they continue to reach out to the greater Fargo area with ministries of service and praise. Our prayers are with the members of this historic Congregation and their pastor, Kevin Cassiday-Maloney. AMEN
- May 16 As we gather for worship on the Seventh Sunday after Easter we hold in prayer the First United Church of Christ of Gackle. We celebrate the ministry of this Congregation as it seeks to continue to be a center of hope through proclamation and service in the name of our Redeemer Jesus the Christ. May God’s grace flow through the members of this Central North Dakota Congregation and their pastor, Tim Blackman. AMEN

- May 23 This Pentecost Sunday as we celebrate the empowering of the church by God's Holy Spirit by receiving the "Strengthen the Church " Offering, let us hold in prayer the Congregational United Church of Christ of Argusville. We give thanks for the ministry of Presence this Congregation brings to this Eastern North Dakota Community. May God's grace continue to flow through the members of this Congregation and their pastor, Darcy Borden. AMEN
- May 30 The First Sunday after Pentecost, also known as Trinity Sunday, we come together in prayer around our sister church, St. John Church of Hebron. We pray that God's gracious care continues to be with this Congregation as it comes together in praise and service in the name of our Redeemer, Jesus the Christ. We ask that God's loving presence be with the members of this Western North Dakota Congregation and their pastor, Gaylund Olson. AMEN
- June 6 On the Second Sunday after Pentecost, our prayers are with the United Church of Christ of Lakota. We pray that God's special blessing be with the members of the Congregation along with its ecumenical partners as it seeks pastoral leadership. May God's Spirit bring clarity and vision to the members of this and the other Congregations in this wider parish. AMEN
- June 13 As the Northern Plains Conference gathers for its Annual Meeting in Valley City, let us prayerfully seek God's guiding Spirit to grant visions of mission and ministry and convictions of hope, that this meeting might be the beginning of a year of exciting and meaningful praise and service. May God's blessing embrace the delegates as they gather and may this blessing go with them as they return to their homes. AMEN
- June 20 As we prepare to honor the Father figures of our lives let us hold in prayer the Union Congregational United Church of Christ of Hankinson. May God's blessed Spirit be with this historic Congregation as they seek to find their path into the future. Our prayers are with the members of this South Eastern North Dakota Congregation and their pastor, Phyllis Hagen. AMEN
- June 27 As we gather to worship on this Sunday in Summer, let us hold in prayer the one and only class II congregation in the Northern Plains Conference. Barrie Congregational Church is located near Walcott. May God's blessed Spirit continue to embrace the members of this rural Congregation. AMEN

- July 4 Our prayers this Independence Day are with the youth of the Northern Plains Conference attending the Regional Youth Event in Billings, Montana. We pray that this gathering of youth from across the area might be a time of growth, spiritually, and personally as they share in worship, discussion and fellowship. May God's blessed presence be with them with safety and substance as they continue to seek God's vision for their life. AMEN
- July 11 On this Seventh Sunday after Pentecost our prayers are with the Congregational United Church of Christ of New England. May the Spirit of the living God continue to be with this South Western North Dakota Congregation as they search for God's path for their ministry. Our prayer is with the members of this Congregation and their pastor, Janel Kolar. AMEN
- July 18 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
- July 25 Let our prayers for God's guiding Spirit be with the youth that are taking part in the Northern Plains Conference Summer Camp which is taking place at Wesley Acres, July 25 – 29. This Conference wide experience for NPC young folk ages 8 – 16 is a special time for reflection, renewal and celebration. Our prayers are with the participants, youth and adult. AMEN
- August 1 This First Sunday of August our prayers are with Mayville Congregational United Church of Christ. May God's richest and most blessed Spirit embrace this Congregation located in a college town, and may God's grace be with its members and pastor, Lindy Holt. AMEN
- August 8 This eleventh Sunday after Pentecost our prayers are with the First Congregational United Church of Christ of Dickinson. We pray that this Congregation continues to be a community of hope and renewal in the midst of Western North Dakota. Our prayers are with the members of this Congregation and their recently called acting pastor, Janel Kolar. AMEN

- August 15 On this Sunday we hold in prayer one of our more rural of Congregations, Malcolm Congregational United Church of Christ of Pettibone. This central North Dakota Congregation which sits by itself in the prairie has been the Spiritual Home for local residents for over a century. We pray that God's grace and Spirit continue to guide the membership of Malcolm Church along with its pastor, Joan Dekrey. AMEN
- August 22 Our prayers are with the First Congregational United Church of Christ of Garrison, North Dakota. We pray that God's Spirit continue to bring life and hope to the ministries of this community of faith, including their groundbreaking ministry of outreach to the families of service men and women who are stationed overseas. May God's blessed Spirit continue to be with the members of their Congregation and their pastor, Stephen Holmes. AMEN
- August 29 We rejoice this Sunday as we celebrate the ministry and mission of Emmanuel United Church of Christ of Hankinson. We pray that Gods continued Spirit of renewal and promise be present in the ministry of this Eastern North Dakota Congregation. May God's gracious Spirit be with the members of Emmanuel United Church of Christ and their recently called pastor, Teresa Heupel. AMEN
- Sept. 5 Let us give thanks this Christian Education Sunday, for the ministry of the Congregational United Church of Christ of Valley City. We are grateful for their many efforts as hosts of the 2010 Annual Meeting and celebrate with them as they are the NPC Amistad Church for this year. May God's Living Spirit continue to be with the members of this historic Congregation and their pastors, Carleton and Darcy Borden. AMEN
- Sept. 12 As we gather to worship this sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost we do so with gratitude for the ministry of presence and proclamation of the Arickara Congregational United Church of Christ of White Shield. May God continue to embrace the members of this Reservation Congregation and their pastor, Spencer Wilkinson. AMEN
- Sept. 19 May God's blessing continue to be with the Mandaree, Hidatsa Church located on the Ft. Berthold Reservation. We pray that God continues to empower their ministry of hope and help and that God's blessed Spirit continue to bring new life to the Congregation and the Community. We pray that God's continued care be with the members of this renewing Congregation and their pastor, Elise Packineau. AMEN

- Sept. 26 On the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, American Indian Ministry Sunday, we celebrate the ministry of the Independence Congregational United Church of Christ on the Ft. Berthold Reservation. We pray that this renewing Congregation may continue to be a beacon of hope as it continues to proclaim the message of God's love and care. Let us hold the members of this Congregation in our prayers. AMEN
- October 3 As we gather from the corners of God's world around the table of the Lord for World Wide Communion Sunday, let us hold in prayer the Twin Buttes Congregational United Church of Christ. This active Congregation on the Ft. Berthold Reservation is a center of hope and sharing as the message of God's love is shared through fellowship, praise and study. Our prayers are with the members of this vital Congregation and their pastor, Barry Zietz. AMEN
- October 10 On this the twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, Access Awareness Sunday, as we prayerfully explore the call to make our churches and communities accessible to all regardless of physical challenge, let us hold in prayer one of our Reservations Congregations that is exploring ways to address this vital issue, the United Church of Christ of New Town. We celebrate the renewing ministry of congregational life and community support which is taking place within this community of faith as we pray for its members and pastor, Marilyn Kennedy Levine. AMEN
- October 17 The twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost is "Children's Sabbath Sunday". This is a very special time as we focus our energies on the well-being of our children. May this be an opportunity for us to not only explore the ministry of our Congregations assuring that they are meeting the needs of the children entrusted to us, but that we look beyond the walls of our church to the surrounding community and beyond and explore ways that we can better support parents in their vital task. Let us hold our children in our prayers this Sunday. AMEN

October 24 We gather for worship and praise on this the twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost, which is also United Nations Day. A time set aside to celebrate the diversity of God's creation and to embrace that diversity. On this Sunday we hold in prayer the ministry of one of our recently renewed Native Congregations on the Ft. Berthold Reservation, the Shell Creek Congregational United Church of Christ near New Town. This rural Congregation is continuing its path of rebuilding and renewal and invites us to hold it in our prayers. May God's blessed Spirit be with the members of this community of faith and their pastor, Elise Packineau. AMEN

October 31 As we gather on this Reformation and Reconciliation Sunday, celebrating the call to renewal for our Congregations and the challenge to celebrate afresh God's redeeming presence; let us hold in prayer the Memorial Congregational United Church of Christ of Parshall. May God's gracious presence and abiding praise continue to embrace and guide the members of this Reservation Congregation and their pastor, Marilyn Kennedy Levine. AMEM

November 7 As we gather this Sunday with an extra hour of sleep following the end of Daylight Saving Time, let us celebrate the multitude of ways that the laity of our Congregations carries on the vital work of ministry. On this Laity Sunday we hold in prayer the life and ministry of the Congregational United Church of Christ of Reeder. This Southwestern North Dakota faith community continues to celebrate the presence of God's Spirit within in spite of its struggles to secure pastoral leadership. We pray that God's blessed presence continue to be with the member of this small membership church. AMEN

Nov. 14 The twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost in many of our NPC Congregations is Stewardship Sunday. It is a time for us to declare our commitment to the life and ministry of our church at home and beyond its walls. On this Sunday we hold in prayer one of our Rural Congregations, Ebenezer United Church of Christ near Elgin. Let us give thanks for this active rural Congregation as it continues to gather for praise celebration and fellowship. Our prayers are with the members of this country church and their pastor, Hazel Behrens. AMEN

- Nov. 21 May this Thanksgiving Sunday be a time for us to gather in gratitude for the many channels through which God's blessing embraces. Let us give thanks for a grace that is without end and a hope that continues to burn brightly in our hearts, our homes and our Congregations. We in the NPC give thanks for the ministry of the First Congregational United Church of Christ of Hebron and Glen Ullin. We pray that these Congregations may continue to be a community wherein the love of God is shared and the hope of God is felt. Our prayers are with the members of these Congregations and their pastor, Marcy Dawson. AMEN
- Nov. 28 As we begin the Advent journey let us prepare our hearts and minds to receive afresh the message of God's abiding love and care for all and may we rededicate ourselves to sharing that message through our words and our actions. On this Sunday we hold in prayer the members of the First Congregational United Church of Christ of Jamestown and their pastor, Susan Lester. We pray that God's grace continue to bring hope and renewal to this Central North Dakota community of Faith. AMEN
- December 5 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
- Dec. 12 It is with prayers of gratitude and petition that we come to this Third Sunday of Advent. Let us give thanks for this opportunity and the call to deepen our faith as we prepare to welcome anew the Christ child into our midst. It is with such gratitude that we lift up our prayers for the United Church of Christ of Wishek. We pray that God's renewing Spirit might continue to renew the members of this Congregation and their pastor, Tammy Toepke-Floyd. AMEN
- Dec. 19 As we prepare to receive the Christmas Fund Offering which enables the National Church to respond to the special needs of active and retired clergy let us on this Sunday before Christmas hold in prayer Parshall United Church of Christ. May this Congregation continue to be a source of hope as it seeks to reach out to its members and to those beyond its doors. We hold in prayer the members of Parshall United Church of Christ and their pastor, Chris Lenning. AMEN

Dec. 26

The day after Christmas as we continue to celebrate the gift of God's love in the birth of the Christ Child let us give thanks for a Divine blessing that empowers us as people and communities of faith to be channels of God's grace to people and places in need. Today we give special thanks for the ministry of Zion United Church of Christ of Medina. We celebrate the creative efforts of this Small Town Community of Faith to be a source of healing and hope for those within their membership and beyond. Our prayers are with the members of this vital Congregation and their pastor, Karl Limvere. AMEN