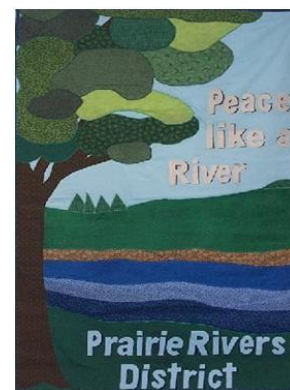


**JUNE 2009**  
**“Wellspring”**  
*Prairie Rivers District*  
*United Methodist Church*

Dr. Harold D. Backus, Prairie Rivers District Superintendent  
Phone: 308-384-0603 Fax: 308-384-1391  
Email: prairierivers@umcneb.org

**Website: [www.prairieriversdistrict.com](http://www.prairieriversdistrict.com)**



## Reflections

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Nebraska Annual Conference will be convening this month and highlight a time of worship, celebration, and decision making for our United Methodist Church. It is also a time of transition for many clergy families as they move from one location of service to another. It means moving from one community to another, which will be a time of saying good-bye to close friends and receiving a welcome from new friends-to-be.

There will be some changes this year on our District. We will be saying farewell this month to some of our pastors.

**Nancy Lambert** moved in March from Grand Island Trinity to serve the Minden/Upland parish. As of July 1, there will be other moves:

**Rosalie Anderson** will be leaving the Trumball/Inland charge to return to full retirement.

**Tom Hyde** will be leaving St. Paul to serve Sidney.

**Lorri Kentner** and husband **Robert** will be leaving the Bruning/Davenport/Ohiowa churches to serve Alma and Republican City.

**Dale Lambert** is leaving the Cairo/Boelus charge to serve Holdrege.

**Rich Savage** will be leaving Central City Fairview and Archer Zion to serve Grant.

**Joy Savage** will come out of retirement to serve the Big Springs UMC.

**Jeff Wulff** and family (Rhonda, Jenna and Jacob) will be leaving York/Waco to serve Ord.

We will also have the opportunity to welcome new pastors and families this summer. The new pastors are:

**Melanie Adams** and husband **Harry** will be moving to Grand Island where Melanie will serve as the Associate Minister for Grand Island Trinity.

**Janet Burgel** will be serving the Central City Fairview and Archer Zion churches.

**Janice Farrell** and husband **Jerry** will be moving to Davenport, where Janice will serve the Davenport and Bruning congregations. Janice will be a student pastor attending Saint Paul School of Theology.

**Jeff Hale** will be serving the Cairo and Boelus congregations..

**Pat Norris** and husband **Pat** will be moving to York, where Mrs. Pat will serve York First and Waco as Associate Minister..

**Peter Phillips** and family (**Shelly and Macy**) who will be serving Hastings First, Trumball and Inland while finishing his seminary education at Saint Paul School of Theology.

**Joel Rathbun** and family (**Paula, Patrick and Lael**) will be moving to St. Paul, where Joel will pastor the St. Paul UMC.

I would ask us to be in prayer for the families of our pastors who will be going through this period of moving. This is not an easy time. I hope and pray for their future places of living and service will be a meaningful and good experience.

Pastors have been called and sent by God throughout the Church's long history. May we trust that to be so in the changes before us in this present day.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harold D. Backus". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'H'.

Your District Superintendent

## Churches Praying for Churches

Please include in your bulletin each week. Also include Bishop Ann Sherer and Harold Backus.

7-Jun	Hastings Grace	5-Jul	Juniata
14-Jun	Hebron	12-Jul	Kenesaw
21-Jun	Holstein	19-Jul	McCool Junction
28-Jun	Inland	26-Jul	Milligan

## Calendar

June 6	Native American Recognition <i>making a stop at Genoa</i>	"Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness" for more information, see article below
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	Cabinet Dinner	Lincoln
June 9-10-11	Linda out of the office to attend Annual Conference	Lincoln
June 8-13	Harold at Annual Conference	Lincoln
June 9	Extension Ministry Luncheon	12:30-3:00
June 10-12	Annual Conference	Lincoln
June 10-12	Cabinet	TBA
June 14	Licensing School	
June 22-27	Bishop's week/District Camping	Camp Comeca
June 27-July 1	NUMB Ride	See article below
July 3	Office Closed	
July 7	New Pastor Orientation	<b>10:00-3:00 First United Methodist Church in Lincoln</b>

## NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

If you have something, you would like us to post in our Newsletter please email or send it to:

Prairie Rivers  
 207 N Pine #102  
 Grand Island, NE 68801  
 Email: [prairierivers@umcneb.org](mailto:prairierivers@umcneb.org)



## THE PARSONAGE CONNECTION

**WHAT:** The Parsonage Connection Annual Meeting & Brunch.

**WHEN:** Saturday June 13, 2009  
from 8:30-10:00 a.m.

**WHERE:** The Green Gateau Restaurant  
330 S 10th St. #110, Lincoln, NE.

**MENU:** To be announced. For more information go to [www.greengateau.com](http://www.greengateau.com).

**Attention all clergy spouses! You are invited to attend our Annual Parsonage Connection Brunch at the Green Gateau Restaurant. We are not mailing registrations out this year, but are asking that each person pay for their own meals at the time of the brunch. Dues can also be paid that day. If you cannot attend the brunch, we ask that you mail your \$5.00 annual dues to: Pat Andersen 401 West 20th Street, Schuyler, NE. If you have any announcements you want shared in The Happenings (graduations, weddings, births, etc.) please e-mail them to [fa53230@msn.com](mailto:fa53230@msn.com) and we'll share them with the group. Any questions, call 402-352-3400. We hope to see you there!!!**

## HISPANIC AND LATINO UPDATE

¡Hola!

Just to let you know that I heard from the New York office yesterday about networking Hispanic/Latino Ministries of the UMC on Facebook and Myspace. Francisco and his assistant, Alberto, are currently working on the official National Plan website which is sponsored by GBGM and there are some restrictions that the organization has but they feel it's just a matter of time before these two exciting venues open up for us! :)

En el servicio de mi Señor,  
Sandy Sypherd

**VISIT THE WEBSITE AT [prairieriversdistrict@umcneb.org](mailto:prairieriversdistrict@umcneb.org) and click on the Hispanic/Latino Ministries tab at the top of the page.**

## NUMB Ride 2009

From June 27, 2009 until July 1, 2009

NUMB stands for Nebraska United Methodist Bike Ride for Hunger. This year NUMB will celebrate 14 years of feeding the hungry of the world.

This year we start in Ogallala and end in North Platte. Registration fee is \$45 prior to May 1 after it will be \$50.

For more information contact: Bill Ritter, Director 402-564-8463 [umcfirstsrp@frontiernet.net](mailto:umcfirstsrp@frontiernet.net) or Regina Bergman, Registrar 402-289-4764, 402-657-3983 [numbride@hotmail.com](mailto:numbride@hotmail.com). Check out our website at [www.numbride.org](http://www.numbride.org)

NUMB 2009 will be a 250+/- mile loop tour starting and ending in historic, cow town Ogallala, Neb.

The official start of NUMB 2009 is the Saturday evening Rider's Meeting, but for those arriving early to Ogallala, there will be an optional pre-NUMB loop ride on Saturday morning of about 50 miles. NUMB riders leave Ogallala on Sunday morning and head east on the route of the Oregon Trail on their way to our overnight stay in Brady. From Brady, riders will head north into the Sandhills and cattle country towards the destination of Stapleton. NUMB riders will then pedal back towards the Platte River valley to an overnight stay in North Platte. Riders will leave North Platte for the tour conclusion with a ride back to the starting point in Ogallala.

For complete information, review the attached registration information

**NUMB Registrations:** [http://www.umcneb.org/communication/umconnect\\_pdfs/NUMB\\_Info\\_Registration.pdf](http://www.umcneb.org/communication/umconnect_pdfs/NUMB_Info_Registration.pdf)

## An opportunity to earn more \$\$\$!

HealthFlex participants: The Health Quotient (HQ) Blitz is on. You probably remember the HQ Blitz from last year, because it was a chance to earn a \$100 gift card. Well, the HQ Blitz is back again this year. This time you can earn \$100 in HealthCash. This is in addition to the \$300 you can earn by reaching goals in the Virgin HealthMiles program.

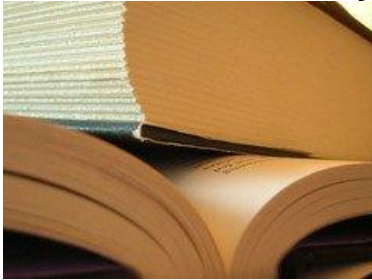
All you need to do is go to [www.gbophb.org](http://www.gbophb.org), log in to HealthFlex/WebMD and click on "Update Health Quotient Now."

The \$100 HQ Blitz incentive applies only to participants and spouses who are enrolled in the HealthFlex active plan (not the Medicare companion plan). To earn \$100, you must complete the HQ before June 30, and be enrolled in the Virgin HealthMiles program before June 30. For married couples both enrolled in HealthFlex, you both must take the HQ and you each will earn \$100. If only one takes the HQ, neither will earn the incentive. (Log in under your own usernames and passwords and make sure you're both enrolled in HealthMiles.)

Any questions? Call the Health Team at 1-800-851-2201. At the prompt, select option 1, then 0.

To enroll in Virgin HealthMiles, go to [www.gbophb.org](http://www.gbophb.org), log in to HealthFlex/WebMD and click on "Join Now!"

## Archives and History



### Historical Center General Information

At the Nebraska United Methodist Historical Center, we seek to help local churches, groups and individuals as they "celebrate the journey" of United Methodist history. We are the main archives and depository for records of the Nebraska United Methodist Annual Conference.

We encourage you to try the Web site administered by the Commission on Archives and History at Drew University, Madison, N.J. This Web site has a wealth of information and resources. Many of the Historical Center's collections are listed on this site. We are preparing more for Web publication every month. Visit the Commission on Archives and History Web site at <http://www.gcah.org>.

**Hours of Operation:** Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Appointments are strongly encouraged!

**Location:** Cochrane-Woods Library, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lower Level (Handicap Accessible)

**Director/Curator:** Terri L. Raburn, [traburn@nebrwesleyan.edu](mailto:traburn@nebrwesleyan.edu)

**Historical Center e-mail:** [traburn@umcneb.org](mailto:traburn@umcneb.org)

**Telephone:** 402-465-2175

Church Name	2007 Members	\$1.50 per member	District Amount Monthly Amount
ALDA	42	\$63	\$5
ARCHER ZION	125	\$188	\$16
AURORA	845	\$1,268	\$106
BEAVER CROSSING	91	\$137	\$11
BELGRADE	54	\$81	\$7
BELLWOOD	83	\$125	\$10
BENEDICT	74	\$111	\$9
BLADEN	125	\$188	\$16
BLUE HILL	124	\$186	\$16
BOELUS	34	\$51	\$4
BRADSHAW	116	\$174	\$15
BRAINARD	37	\$56	\$5
BRUNING	63	\$95	\$8
CAIRO	248	\$372	\$31
CEDAR RAPIDS	93	\$140	\$12
CENTRAL CITY	439	\$659	\$55
CENTRAL CITY FAIRVIEW	140	\$210	\$18
CHAPMAN	32	\$48	\$4
CHESTER	123	\$185	\$15
CLARKS	76	\$114	\$10
COLUMBUS	979	\$1,469	\$122
COTESFIELD	32	\$48	\$4
COWLES	27	\$41	\$3
DAVENPORT	44	\$66	\$6
DAVID CITY ST LUKES	295	\$443	\$37
DONIPHAN	287	\$431	\$36
EBENEZER	28	\$42	\$4
ELBA	56	\$84	\$7
EXETER	80	\$120	\$10
FAIRMONT COMMUNITY	192	\$288	\$24
FAITH GRAND ISLAND	313	\$470	\$39
FIRST GRAND ISLAND	304	\$456	\$38
FULLERTON	186	\$279	\$23
GENEVA	536	\$804	\$67
GENOA	90	\$135	\$11
GILTNER	153	\$230	\$19
GUIDE ROCK	96	\$144	\$12
HARVARD	169	\$254	\$21
HASTINGS FIRST	879	\$1,319	\$110
HASTINGS GRACE	694	\$1,041	\$87
HEBRON	155	\$233	\$19

2.00 per member	Monthly @ \$2.00 per Member	Total Payment
\$84	\$7	
\$250	\$21	
\$1,690	\$141	\$423
\$182	\$15	
\$108	\$9	Paid in Full
\$166	\$14	Paid in Full
\$148	\$12	
\$250	\$21	
\$248	\$21	Paid In full
\$68	\$6	
\$232	\$19	Paid In full
\$74	\$6	
\$126	\$11	Paid In full
\$496	\$41	Paid In full
\$186	\$16	Paid In full
\$878	\$73	Paid In full
\$280	\$23	Paid in Full
\$64	\$5	Paid In full
\$246	\$21	Paid In full
\$152	\$13	
\$1,958	\$163	\$734
\$64	\$5	Paid In full
\$54	\$5	Paid In full
\$88	\$7	Paid In full
\$590	\$49	Paid in Full
\$574	\$48	
\$56	\$5	Paid In full
\$112	\$9	
\$160	\$13	Paid In full
\$384	\$32	
\$626	\$52	\$8
\$608	\$51	Paid in Full
\$372	\$31	
\$1,072	\$89	Paid In full
\$180	\$15	Paid In full
\$306	\$26	
\$192	\$16	
\$338	\$28	Paid in Full
\$1,758	\$147	\$886
\$1,388	\$116	
\$310	\$26	

Church Name	2007 Members	\$1.50 per member	District Amount Monthly Amount
HOLSTEIN	72	\$108	\$9
INLAND	13	\$20	\$2
JUNIATA	90	\$135	\$11
KENESAW	95	\$143	\$12
MCCOOL JUNCTION	137	\$206	\$17
MILLIGAN	93	\$140	\$12
MONROE	91	\$137	\$11
NORTH BEND	61	\$92	\$8
OHIOWA	20	\$30	\$3
ONG	30	\$45	\$4
OSCEOLA	224	\$336	\$28
PALMER	149	\$224	\$19
PAULINE	18	\$27	\$2
PHILLIPS	95	\$143	\$12
PIERCE CHAPEL	28	\$42	\$4
POLK	102	\$153	\$13
RED CLOUD	254	\$381	\$32
RISING CITY	99	\$149	\$12
ROSEDALE	92	\$138	\$12
SCHUYLER	142	\$213	\$18
SHELBY	189	\$284	\$24
SHICKLEY	126	\$189	\$16
SILVER CREEK	126	\$189	\$16
ST EDWARDS	82	\$123	\$10
ST PAUL	243	\$365	\$30
STROMSBURG	212	\$318	\$27
SUPERIOR	264	\$396	\$33
SUTTON FED	156	\$234	\$20
SUTTON SALEM	19	\$29	\$2
TRINITY GRAND ISLAND	1674	\$2,511	\$209
TRUMBULL	53	\$80	\$7
UTICA	141	\$212	\$18
WACO FIRST	23	\$35	\$3
WOLBACH	40	\$60	\$5
WOOD RIVER	338	\$507	\$42
YORK FIRST	806	\$1,209	\$101

2.00 per member	Monthly @ \$2.00 per Member	Total Payment
\$144	\$12	
\$26	\$2	Paid In full
\$180	\$15	
\$190	\$16	\$46.00
\$274	\$23	Paid In full
\$186	\$16	Paid In full
\$182	\$15	\$62
\$122	\$10	
\$40	\$3	
\$60	\$5	Paid In full
\$448	\$37	
\$298	\$25	Paid In full
\$36	\$3	Paid In full
\$190	\$16	
\$56	\$5	
\$204	\$17	Paid In full
\$508	\$42	
\$198	\$17	
\$184	\$15	Paid In full
\$284	\$24	
\$378	\$32	
\$252	\$21	Paid In full
\$252	\$21	
\$164	\$14	Paid In full
\$486	\$41	Paid In full
\$424	\$35	
\$528	\$44	\$264.00
\$312	\$26	
\$38	\$3	Paid In full
\$3,348	\$279	
\$106	\$9	Paid in Full
\$282	\$24	Paid in Full
\$46	\$4	Paid In full
\$80	\$7	Paid In full
\$676	\$56	
\$1,612	\$134	Paid In full



## Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness!

1879 was a long time ago, but the start of the boarding school era in that year spawned a legacy of hurt for American Indians, Alaska Natives and First Nations people throughout North America.

On May 16, 2009 the **Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness** will begin at the Chemawa Indian School in Salem, Oregon. About 40 days and 6800 miles later it will make a stop at the site of the former Carlisle Indian school in Pennsylvania where it all began in 1879. Next, during the final stop in Washington, DC, the *Journey Petition for Apology for Abuses at U.S. Indian Schools* will be presented to the new Obama Administration.

**The journey is scheduled for a stop at the Indian Industrial School in Genoa, Nebraska** sometime during the day of June 6. They will place the hoop and have a brief prayer service. If you are interested in attending, contact Harold Backus at the District office. 308-384-0603.

The goals of the Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness include, 1) creating educational awareness of the boarding school era through presentations at each of the historic boarding school sites; 2) offering ceremonies at each site in the list of schools that we visit so that the spirits of the children who suffered and died at these sites may finally rest; and 3) delivering the petition. There are also plans for educational training sessions on intergenerational healing to take place in the states hosting site visits both before and after the Journey. These plans will be finalized in the weeks to come.

To learn more about the Journey **and sign the petition** go to [www.wellbrietyjourney.org](http://www.wellbrietyjourney.org) OR <http://whitebison.org> and read all about it.

