

United Methodist Church - Groton, South Dakota

GROTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HISTORY

In January 1886 the Methodist Episcopal held a series of meetings in their church in Farmington Township. Officials were contacted and a minister was requested for Groton. Dr. A.D. Traveler, presiding elder of Dakota Territory, wrote to the college where Wm. J. Hyde was a senior. In July 1886, Hyde arrived and held the first M.E. service in the Presbyterian Church. He then arranged to hold services in the G.A.R. hall (a room over a saloon, reached by an outside ladder). The pews were planks on nail kegs and the only hymnal was the pastor's. Much history is recorded in Rev. Hyde's book, Dig or Die, Brother Hyde.

Rev. Hyde held services in homes and schools, as well as the meeting place, but by fall 1887, he wanted his own church. He raised most of the funds himself, getting contributions from farmers and businessmen, and a building was built on the site where the Groton Community Center now stands. The itemized bill for all materials totalled \$707.87. The Church was dedicated Dec. 18, 1897.

Hyde moved to a room on the second floor of the Church. He married in 1888, and Mrs. Hyde and other women of the Church raised money by sewing and holding social events. Hyde left in October 1888, not knowing where he would be sent next. The Church then had 67 members.

By the 1890's the Sunday School had an average attendance of 76 people and officers. The Epworth League and Ladies Aid Society were organized in 1892. The first parsonage was built where Paetznick Garness Funeral Chapel stands, and Rev. Sanderson was the first to live in it. The next parsonage was built east of the Church in 1900. The congregation outgrew Hyde's Church and in 1911 a brick structure was erected. The Church with \$5000 debt remaining was dedicated on Dec. 3, 1911.

In 1939 many Methodist groups united and the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Ladies Aid changed their names to the Methodist Church and the Woman's Society of Christian Service. In 1968 the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Churches merged to become the United Methodist Church and the Ladies became United Methodist Women.

Fund raising began in 1950 under Rev. MacKinzie, for a new Church. A city block was donated for the Church at its present site. Ground breaking and consecration took place Nov. 19, 1961, with Rev. Nielsen presiding. The first stage, an educational unit and temporary sanctuary, was completed and consecrated June 17, 1962, with Rev. Sanders. The second stage, the sanctuary, was started in 1966 and consecrated April 7, 1968, with Rev. Brekke. A new parsonage was built and consecrated in 1971 when Rev. Moore was pastor. The dedication and mortgage burning ceremony was on Oct. 4, 1981.

At various times Groton shared a minister and expenses with the Bath and Andover Churches and is currently with the Columbia Congregational U.C.C.

In the early years pastors moved often. Following Rev. Hyde were: C.S. Fowler, David Gostelow, John A. Ellis, W.D. Deeble, F.T. MacDuffee, Thomas Sanderson, P. Ingersol, O.W. Butterfield, Louis L. Lane, S.E. Brown, C. Benson, Fred G. MacKenzie, Harvey Sander, Robert P. Nielsen, K. Oliver Brekke, Larry Moore, John Maines, Jack Erickson, Wayne Tieszen, and Dean Trapp, the present pastor.

OUR STAFF



Rev. Dean Trapp



Michelle Kassa
Nursery Attendant
with Kimberly Trapp



Cheryl Tewksbury
Secretary



Marilyn Gibbs
Organist



Marlyce Cassels
Substitute Organist

Choir

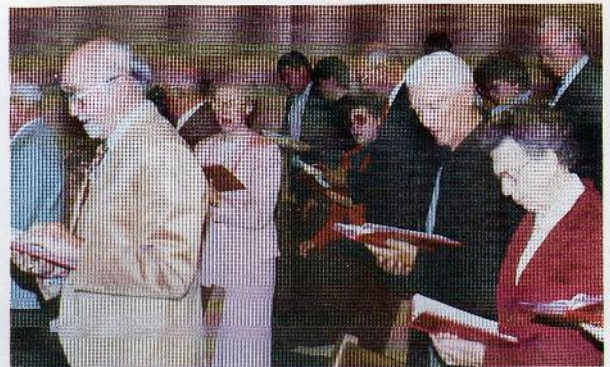




OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Worshipping



Socializing



Working





At Worship



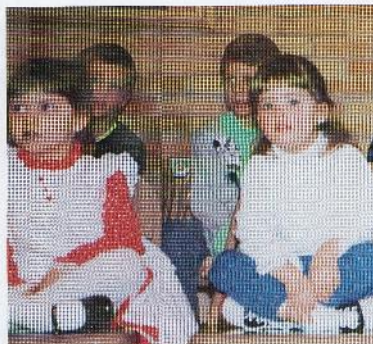
Children's Choir



Our Youth



Bible School has fun
& unusual experiences



UMYF serving Easter
sunrise breakfast





Lorraine Bartz



Margaret & Myrtle Blader



Irene Breitkreutz



Bill & Clare Brotherton



**Gene & Marlyce Cassels
& Julie**



Don & Margarett Clocksene



**Thomas & Nancy Cutler
& Walker**



Don & Dorothy Dobberpuhl



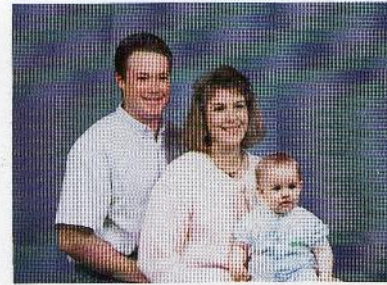
**John & Meri Erickson,
Seth & Evan**



**Terry & Lynette Furman,
Melissa, Derick & Samuel**



Matt & Joni Groebelinghoff



**Lars & Kelli Hanson
& Cody**



**Cal & Mary Hayenga
& Erik**



**Gary & Caralee Heitmann
& Garrett**



Grady Heitmann



Greg Heitmann



Erwin & Hazel Hite



Robert Hood



Bob & Mary Alice Jensen



**Jay & Linda Johnson,
J. R. & T. J.**



Robert & Marvel Johnson



Darlys Kampa



**Mark & Susan Kimsey,
Matt, Will & Erick**



**Kelly Knispel
& Rayelle, Ulric & Avril Ulvog**



**Curtis & Shirley Krueger,
Brenda, Danny & Michael**



Deloris Krueger



Art & Charlotte Lange



Earl & Jean Lowary



John & Anita Lowary



Eugene & Ruby Luce



Hilda Lundman



James & Hazel McKittrick



Jean Meyers



**Brad & Diann Morehouse,
Justin, Brent, Jesse & Desiree**



Francis & Florrann Norris



**Sherwin & Chris Nyberg,
Aaron & Wade**



Imo Jeanne Oliver



**Roger & Marjorie Overacker
& Jesse**



Art & Audrey Padfield



**Chuck & Michelle Padfield,
Joey & Randy**



Hazel Peterson



Ada Poe



Tom Price



Velma Pushor



Gerald & Ann Rix



Merrill & Clara Rix



**Roger & Marian Rix,
Grant, Jarrett & Mary Ann**



Mathieu & Sue Rock



Harold & Faye Rossow



Earl & Twila Ruden



Richard "Dick" & Gert Ruden



**Larry Schnaidt
& Marie McClintic**



Diane Schott



Mary Jane Schott



Emery & Marlys Sippel



**John & Stacy Sippel,
Amanda & Allison**



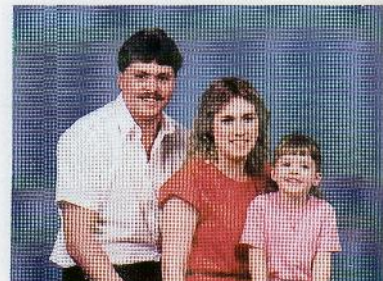
Marc & Francine Sippel



**Rex & Cindy Sippel,
Jeff, Chris, Heather & Nick**



Bob & Carolyn Snyder



**Brian & Kelly Sperry
& Samantha**



Eunice Sperry



**Alan & Vicki Strom,
Nicholas & Jackson**



Charles & Betty Strom



Dwight & Michele Strom



**Luverne & Carol Strom
& Crystal**



Joyce Sundling



**Bruce & Charlene Telkamp,
Tyrel & Trista**



Cheryl Tewksbury



William & Rose Tewksbury



Norm & Audrey Thurston



**Dean & Susie Trapp
& Kimberly**



Myrle Trask



**Gary & Anita Voss
& Tammy**



Don & Joy Walter



Dick & Marvel Washnok



Reta Washnok



**Craig & Kim Weber,
Amanda & Jeremy**



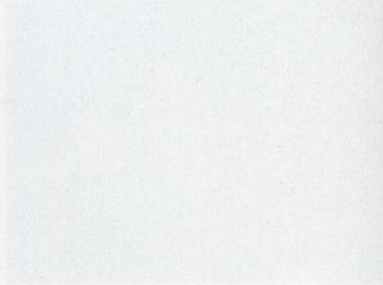
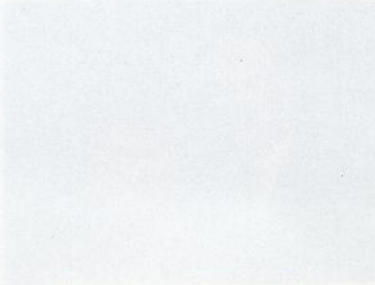
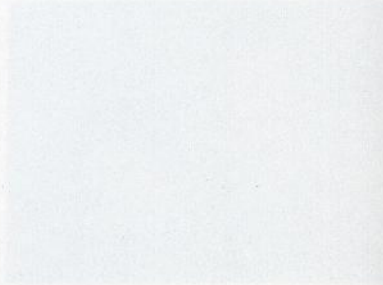
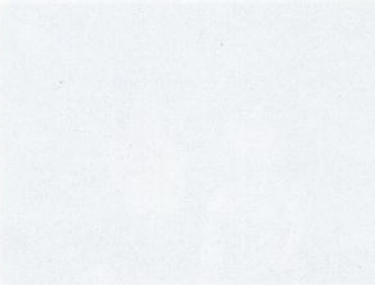
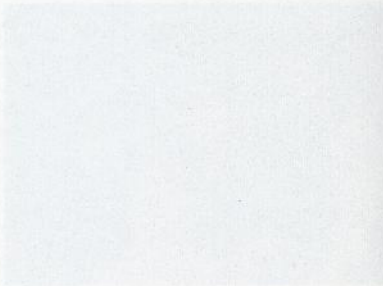
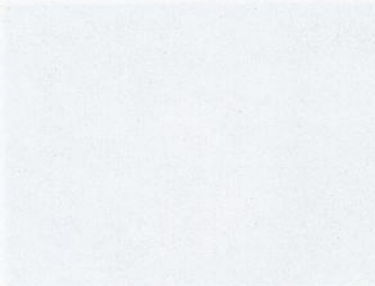
Bob & Marian Wehde



**Fred & Elaine Wolken,
Alana & Amber**



Mildred Zoellner



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Lila Bartz



Mabel Berg



Walt & Arlene Boehmer



Donald & LaVerne Bowles



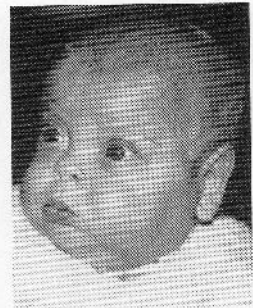
Algot & Mamie Johnson



Marc & Jane Johnson



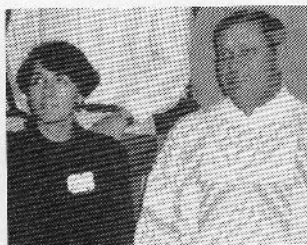
Ray & Edith Johnson



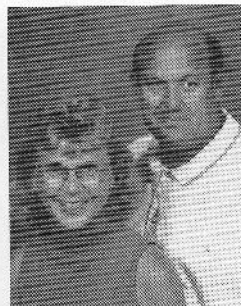
Christopher Krueger



Monte & Ruth Mason,
Stephanie & Jessica



Jack & Maggie Oliver

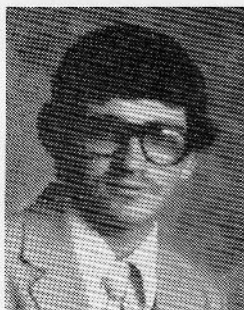


Richard & Sandy Oliver



Angie Overacker

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John Padfield



Harry & Gloria Pharis



Kevin Pharis



Floyd & Lillian Rix



Brad Ruden



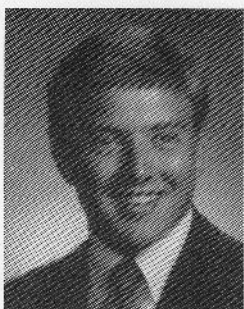
Melissa Sippel



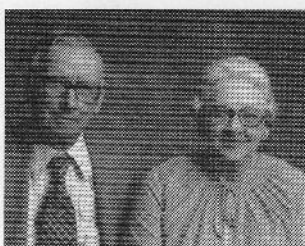
Mendy Sippel



Monte Sippel



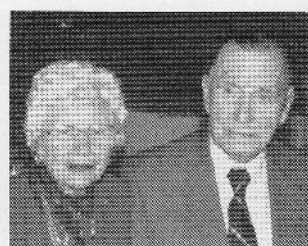
Paul Snyder



Carl & Ethel Strom



C. Dale Strom



Clarence & Tillie Strom

THOSE NOT AVAILABLE FOR PICTURES



Lloyd & Doris Strom



Florence Swanson



Jay & Mary Swisher



William & Barbara Swisher,
Jennifer, Tim, Mike & Carrie



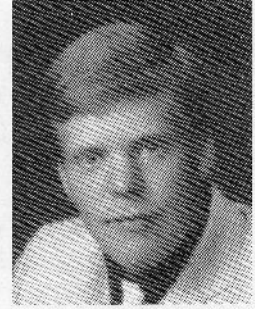
Gary & Linda Thurston,
Todd, Robbie & Ricky



Laura Townsend



Russell & Marjorie Townsend



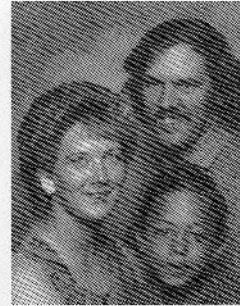
Jeff Voss



Vernon & Jean Walter



Richard & Doris Zoellner



William & Desilee Zoellner
& Joe