

United Methodist Church News

Groton - Conde - Andover



April 2002

"Fifty Days of Glory"

Just a reminder that Easter is not a day but rather a season, extending for 50 days until Pentecost on May 19. The musical responses will change once again (most are familiar), be in a bright and major key, and our worship will reflect the risen Christ in our churches and in our lives. We live in such an age of "bigness" that we could well remember this poem by E. E. Cummings. It reminds us of the wonder of each person and the One whose glory we share during these Easter days. Try cutting it out and putting it on the refrigerator door...

Richard J. Coleman

i am a little church (no great cathedral)
far from the splendor and squalor of hurrying cities
-i do not worry if briefer days grow briefest,
i am not sorry when sun and rain make April

my life is the life of the reaper and the sower;
my prayers are prayers of earth's own clumsily striving
(finding and losing and laughing and crying) children
whose any sadness or joy is my grief or my gladness

around me surges a miracle of unceasing
birth and glory and death and resurrection:
over my sleeping self float flaming symbols
of hope, and i wake to a perfect patience of mountains

i am a little church (far from the frantic
world with its rapture and anguish) at peace with nature
-i do not worry if longer nights grow longest;
i am not sorry when silence becomes singing

winter by spring, i lift my diminutive spire to
merciful Him Whose only now is forever:
standing erect in the deathless truth of His presence
(welcoming humbly His light and proudly His darkness)

Congratulations to...

Stephanie Ann and Kevin Pharis, Groton, on the birth of Kale Henry, March 4 (grandson of Harry & Gloria Pharis.)

Lance Haskell selected to go to Boys' State the end of May, sponsored by the Conde American Legion.

Carolyn Downs, director of "The Banquet" in Sioux Falls, one of four women in the nation to receive the Unsung Heroines Award from the Mitsubishi USA Foundation (presented by Tom Daschle, who nominated her).



Camping Brochures are Here!

"Turn Around!" is the theme for Dakotas Camping for all ages and stages of life. Did you know that a week of camp is equal to a year of Sunday School or even Confirmation? What an opportunity for both learning and fun. The church bulletin boards have the camp brochures - take one and register by May 1 for the Early Bird price.



Stewardship never stops...

Stewardship through one's will or estate plan is a great way to remember your church or the Dakotas Conference. Did you know that, for purposes of estate taxation, there is no limitation on the size of a charitable gift that you may give to your church at the time of your death? No matter how large, the gift is deductible for estate tax purposes. Both Conde and Groton churches have endowment funds set up. Consider giving a gift now to these funds.



Save the Date! (For The Banquet)

June 3, Monday, is our date to serve "The Banquet" in Sioux Falls. Sign-ups will begin during May. Last year, 16 persons said they would return and we hope for a good turn out plus contributions to assist buying food for our evening.



Stark Lectures

The Stark Lectures at Dakota Wesleyan University will be on Tuesday, April 9, at 11 AM. The subject is "Understanding Islam" by Qadir Aware, Director of the Sioux Falls Multi-Cultural Center. Mr. Aware is a native of the Kurdistan area in northern Iran. He recently returned for his first visit with his relatives there in 26 years. He fled as a teenager in 1974 in the middle of the night. Aware is an effective spokesman for diversity and has a unique perspective on recent world events.



Native American Ministries Sunday

On Sunday April 14, we remember the Native American Ministries of the United Methodist Church. Our offering, one of six special annual collections, supports Native Americans in seminary and assists in urban ministries and mission outreach with native Americans across the United States.

Groton UMC Mission Statement

The Groton United Methodist Church is a body of believers seeking to strengthen and build a church family that provides all individuals with the opportunity to grow in their faith and lead an enriched spiritual life in Jesus Christ through worship, study, fellowship, working together and reaching out to others.

Groton Administrative Council

The following items were on the agenda March 13th:

■ Part 1 of the video presentation, "Priorities.....The Pathway to Success" by Dr. John C. Maxwell was shown. Each participant received a personal workbook aid. Part 2 will be shown at the April meeting. District Supt. Gene Kroger will lead the wrap-up session at the May meeting. This is a study leading to setting priorities for the ministry in our church.

--A check in the amount of \$262.09 has been received from the Mamie Johnson Endowment Camping Fund for use in the 2002 camping program.

--Missions Committee Chairman, JoAnn Krueger, reported that receipts from One Great Hour of Sharing exceeded \$200. That committee will be delivering food baskets to selected recipients during the Easter season. The offering on Christmas Eve is dedicated to this project.

--Sherwin Nyberg, Trustees Committee Chairman, presented a proposal from Parkview Nursery for landscaping the front of the church. Cost of the project as proposed is \$1400. The matter was tabled for further study.

--Plans to paint the fellowship hall and kitchen on April 5th and 6th are underway. A donation of \$150 for paint has been received to help defray cost of the project. Approval was given to have the carpets cleaned in the dining room and hallways when the painting is completed.

--The next council meeting will be April 10th at 7:30 pm. All church members are invited and urged to attend the meetings.

WE'RE HAVING A PARTY!!

- AND EVERYONE IS INVITED!!

This will be a *PAINT* party. It has been more than ten years since the Fellowship Hall and kitchen have been painted, and they are badly in need of a clean up. The Trustees have designated Friday and Saturday, April 5th and 6th, as the dates to do this work, and are asking anyone who is able to set aside time to help.

Friday will be "preparation day" — taking down tables and chairs, preparing the walls, taping, etc. so everything is ready for a paint crew to go to work Saturday morning.

Lunch will be furnished on Saturday, and coffee, pop, and treats will be available both days.

A donation of \$150 has been received to defray cost of the paint. It is hoped that the paint brushes, pans, rollers, stepladders, rags, etc. will be available to borrow from members. If you will be able to help with labor and equipment, please contact Tyke Nyberg (397-8530) or Bill Brotherton (397-8177), or add your name to the sign-up sheet on the church kitchen counter.



Prayer Chain

It is time to update the Prayer Chain for the Groton congregation. If you would like your name added to the chain or deleted from the chain, please leave your name and telephone number with Pastor Richard or Katherine Collman (397-4538) or Brenda Madson (397-8484). To look at the current list check the bulletin board next to the sanctuary door.

Our
Congregation in
ACTION

Easter Food Baskets

Please note when you read this that because of your generous donations on Christmas Eve, your Mission Committee has delivered 45 baskets of fresh fruit and ham to individuals and families in our Groton church and community. The Christmas Eve offering was used to remind our neighbors that we care about them and that we are thinking about them at Easter.

Thanks to Katherine Collman, Deb Thurston and Anita Lowary for the initial planning.

Many thanks to Katherine for her extra help and for those helping make the deliveries on Saturday: Katherine, Jeanne Wanous, Doris Stom, Marlys Rodman and Richard Krueger.

-JoAnn Krueger

May Breakfast

The Groton UMW May Breakfast will be held May 1st. The theme this year is "Lotions, Splashes, and Therapy", and promises a soothing and relaxing time. Serving times are 11:30 am and 1:15 pm. Reservations may be made by calling Clare Brotherton (397-8177) or Jean Lowary (397-8228).

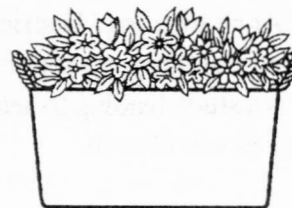
Groton Missions

The Ingathering Health Kits are growing in number. Please continue to shop for hand towels, wash cloths, toothbrushes and toothpaste, bar soap, combs and nail files. Our gifts can help others to survive life-threatening disasters all over the world.

To Groton UMW Members:

The May Breakfast Dining Room Committee would appreciate the loan of several items needed for decorating. If you are able to help the committee with any of the following, please let Marj Overacker or Connie Nilsson know:

- Large baskets,
- Artificial (silk or plastic) trees
- Large white or ivory candles
(3" or 4" minimum)
- Pedestals



Groton May Workgroup

Gene & Adeline Cassels	294-5348
Twila Ruden	397-8391
Doris Strom	397-8367

*Arlene Boehmer	Rodney Boehmer
*Darlys Kampa	*DeLoris Knoll
*JoAnn & Richard Krueger	*Jean Lowary
*Ruby & Eugene Luce	Herron Smith
Marie McClintic & Larry Schnaidt	
*Michelle & Chuck Padfield & Randy	
Vicki & William Podoll, Jennifer & Christopher	
*Crystal & Doug Sippel	
*Deb & Todd Thurston	
*Joyce & Al Walter, Michelle & Holly	
Marvel & Dick Washnok	

Honorary Members:

Earl Lowary	Ruby Fuller
Emery Sippel	Lorraine Bartz

Extra responsibilities for **May**:

Clean nursery & kindergarten classrooms

Groton UMW

The following items were on the March 20th agenda:

--UMW **PURPOSE** repeated in unison

--No devotions and no program due to weather condition. Perhaps the program will be rescheduled.

--Minutes were read and corrected; no correspondence; financial report given.

Committee reports:

--Spiritual Growth-no report.

--Membership-Gloria reported plans continuing for May tea party. Will need 2 or 3 persons to go to each household reached. A baby card will be sent to Kale Henry Pharis.

--Education and Interpretation -The prayer chain has had a couple of calls. Katherine Collman will check on new names to be added. The Ingathering health kits need more items. Several items of one thing may be brought and if anyone cares to donate money, Katherine will shop for additional needed items.

--Program Resources-Members were urged to continue reading. The titles of some books were mentioned.

--Executive-Committee met at 1:00 p.m. The Groton ladies have been asked to present one of the skits for Focus Days on April 13th in Ellendale. Plans for attending and participation in the skit were made. Groton's shepherdess, Judy Thompson of Huron will attend the June 19th meeting.

--May Breakfast-The theme name will be changed to "Lotions, Splashes and Therapy."

New business:

--Vice-president Jolene Townsend, who conducted the meeting, reported that Groton ranked 18th of 59 units reporting, as to overall program and giving for 2001.

--Mary Swisher moved that UMW purchase the meat and buns for the lunch the day of the paint party, April 6th.

--The janitor is having a problem with the kitchen floor. The matter will be referred to the Trustees. There was a suggestion that a new floor covering might be in order.

Lunch

--Ann Rix served angel food cake with topping and coffee to the group following the meeting. Ann also received the membership door prize pin.

Acolytes

- April 7 Alexa Nilsson & Desiree Morehouse
14 Evan Mannings & Martin Schumacher
21 Dylan Hanson & Tanner Johnson
28 Ali Pasteur & Jordan Voss

Ushers & Greeters

Ushers: Gary & Caralee Heitmann

Greeter: Eunice Sperry

Readers Needed

May Work Committee

will meet

Sunday, April 21 at 10:15 am



Groton UMYF

April Meetings

Sunday April 7 & April 21 at 7:00 pm

See you at the church

Groton UMW

Wednesday April 17
2:00 pm

Program: "Tour of China"

by Pastor Anne Muldoon

Leader: Jean Lowary

Hostesses: Marj Townsend/Mary Jane Schott

Conde UMC Mission Statement

The Conde United Methodist Church is a body of believers seeking to worship God; to proclaim the salvation of Christ the Lord; to increase the knowledge of the teachings of the Bible to all ages of people; to satisfy the spiritual and physical needs of all; and to instill in the people a sense of concern and obligation to the church, the community, and the world, through our church build on God the Rock.

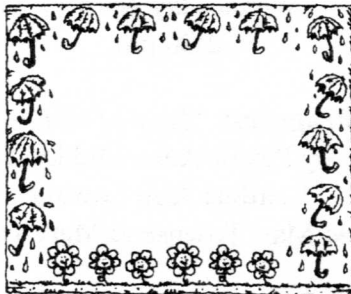
Conde UMW

The Conde UMW met March 20 with eight members and one visitor present. Donna Hearnen gave the lesson, "Women: Courageous Seekers of SHALOM" depicting the thoughts of Mary Magdalene, Johanna and Mary the mother of James and John, courageous women who were friends and followers of Jesus, women who were the last to leave the cross and the first to arrive at the tomb. It is not only our responsibility to treasure their stories, but also to assume their powers of commitment to Jesus Christ in our own lives. Also used was scripture, hymns and a reading, "My Savior, My Son" to tell the Easter story.

A delicious noon luncheon was prepared and served by Donna Walter, Marjorie Wright and Betty Jensen.

President Donna Walter conducted the business meeting. Focus Day to be held on April 13 was noted and the plans for the May Tea were discussed. Get Well cards were sent to Dolores Grimes, Janice Herman, Bill Thomas and Lyla Siebrecht.

The next meeting will be held April 17 at 2:00 pm. Pat Siefken will give the lesson, "Tobacco and Your Health".



Not Talking About Others

I once did an experiment that I found very beneficial toward understanding the importance of speech and its effect on the mind. As a kind of training, I decided that for a period of three months I would not speak about any third person. That is, I wouldn't speak to someone about someone else. I discovered several things from doing this. First, my mind became much less judgmental because I wasn't giving voice to the various judgments in my mind; even good ones. And as I judged others less, I found that I judged myself less as well. Second, I discovered in this experiment that about 90 percent of my speech was eliminated. This silence led to a lot more peace in my mind. It was astonishing to see so clearly how much of the time our talk is about other people. -- Joseph Goldstein (*Benedict's Dharma*, Riverhead Press)



A sure and certain sign of spring is the coming of Daylight Savings Time. Don't forget to change your clocks. April 7th is the start of Daylight Savings Time.

*"O dying souls, behold
your living spring;
O dazzled eyes, behold
your sun of grace;
Dull ears, attend what
word this Word doth bring;
Up, heavy hearts, with joy
your joy embrace.
From death, from dark
from deafness, from despairs,
This life, this light,
this Word, this joy repairs."*

—Robert Southwell

How many Christians does it take to change a light bulb?

Charismatic: *Only one.* Hands already in the air.

Pentecostal: *Ten.* One to change the bulb, and nine to pray against the spirit of darkness.

Presbyterians: *None.* Lights will go on and off at predestined times.

Roman Catholic: *It depends on how many the pope authorizes*

Baptists: *At least 15.* One to change the light bulb, and three committees to approve the change and decide who brings the potato salad.

Episcopalians: *Three.* One to call the electrician, one to mix the drinks and one to talk about how much better the old one was.

Unitarians: *We choose not to make a statement either in favor of or against the need for a light bulb.* However, if in your own journey you have found that light bulbs work for you, that is fine. You are invited to write a poem or compose a modern dance about your light bulb for the next Sunday service, in which we will explore a number of light bulb traditions, including incandescent, fluorescent, three-way, long-life and tinted, all of which are equally valid paths to luminescence.

Methodists: *Undetermined.* Whether your light is bright, dull, or completely out, you are loved. You can be a light bulb, turnip bulb, or tulip bulb. Church wide lighting service is planned for Sunday. Bring bulb of your choice and a covered dish.

Nazarene: *Six.* One woman to replace the bulb while five men review church lighting policy.

Lutheran: *Lutherans don't believe in change.*

Eastern Orthodox: *None.* They have candles.

Amish: *What is a light bulb?*

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Jeffy's rising, but he isn't shining."

from *The Joyful Noiseletter*



Where's the button that makes it go 'swish'?

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Hurry up, Dolly. God's waitin' to hear MY prayers."

B.C.

By Johnny Hart



from *The Joyful Noiseletter* ©2002 Creators Syndicate, Inc., Reprinted by permission of Johnny Hart & Creators Syndicate, Inc.

April 2002

Wed Apr 3	(C) 8:00 pm	Martha Circle
Fri Apr 5	(G) 8:00 am	Paint Prep Party
Sat Apr 6	(G) 8:00 am	Paint Party
Sun Apr 7	Daylight Savings Time Begins Clocks ahead 1 hour	
	(G) 10:00 am	Trustees
	(G) 7:00 pm	UMYF
Tue Apr 9	Stark Lecture/DWU / 11:00 am	
Wed Apr 10	(G) 5:15 pm	Confirmation
	(G) 7:30 pm	Ad Council
Fri Apr 12	(G) 7:00 am	AMENS
Sun Apr 14	Native American Ministries Sunday	
Wed Apr 17	(G) 2:00 pm	UMW
	(C) 2:00 pm	UMW
	(C) 8:00 pm	Administrative Board
Thu Apr 18	(G) 9:45 am	Beverly Communion
Sat Apr 20	(G) 10:00 am	Beverly Worship
Sun Apr 21	Pulpit Exchange/Rev. Dave Bambas	
	(G) 7:00 pm	UMYF
Wed Apr 24	(G) 5:00 pm	Confirmation / with parents/mentors
Newsletter deadline		
Fri Apr 26	(G) 7:00 am	AMENS
Sun Apr 28	(G) 11:00 am	Confirmation
	(G) 12:00 pm	Zack Barton's Confirmation Reception
Tue Apr 30	(C) 7:30 pm	PPR Committee

Pastor: Richard F. Collman
 email: grotonumc@nvc.net
 home page: <http://members.nvc.net/grotonumc>
 Office, Grotton 605 397-8270
 Home 397-4538
 Kitchen, Grotton 397-2670
 Andover Church 298-5265
 Conde Church 382-5261

April 2002
SUNDAY WORSHIP
 Conde 9:00 am
 Grotton Sunday School 9:45 am
 Grotton 11:00 am

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

United Methodist Church
 Grotton - Conde - Andover Parish
 906 North First Street
 Grotton, SD 57445-2192



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