

United Methodist Church News

Groton - Conde - Andover



July 2002

Pastor's Corner

It seems that everything in my family's life recently is tied up in the fact of our moving. In fact I write this column before we move and you will

receive it after we actually arrive in Groton, now three days away. But there are lessons in all things in life, if we will allow the events to teach us. What do we learn in moving, other than "we have too much stuff"?

First, moving is a reminder that life is a journey. We daily move on and things do not remain the same. "Even a journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step" we are reminded and each of us have traveled several miles of life's journey already. We continue on. We often also speak of our faith journey. Faith is a journey and none of us are where we were yesterday, nor have we arrived at the final destination yet. The heavenly goal is always in sight. We know the destination but not all that lies between here and there.

Second, moving reminds you that you must make a lot of decisions about possessions to be moved with you. Some things are so important to us that there is no decision, they must go with us. What is that important to you? Some other things are worn out and not worth the effort of packing and the cost of moving. They are disposed of. And again some of that is no decision, and other things are hard to decide. What do you hang on to? What is not important in your life?

Another lesson of moving is faith. Before we take the action of moving, we must be sure that it is a right move, a God directed thing and it will be for our good. In a sense, moving is another act of faith in life. No one knows what will happen. How will I feel about it in another year? We live by faith. By faith we say "this too is in God's control, this too will work for our good."

Another lesson of moving is simply that if you expect to follow Christ, you have to keep moving. Faith is a journey and if you camp by the road, you will be left behind. Christ is always leading us to new

and better living. Where is Christ leading you today? How will each of us expand our Christian living today?

I am looking forward to completing the move to Groton and learning where Christ will lead us together.

Peace
Pastor Grant

Congratulations to

Jesse Overacker and Jaymie Voeller who were married in the back yard of the Overacker home in Groton on June 15.

Kevin and Stephanie Pharis upon the baptism of Kale Henry on June 16 at the Groton UMC.

Tom and Kami Lipp on the birth of a daughter, Tanae Nicole on June 26, 2002. She weighed 7lbs 11oz and is 20 inches long. Grandparents are Harry & Gloria Pharis and Tom and Marie Lipp, Linton ND. Ann Masset also of Linton is a great-grandmother.

Fern Wall of Andover (now living in Groton) who will be age 90 on July 25!



Sympathy to...

The family of Fred Steffen (his nephews and nieces). Fred died on June 21 and his funeral was held at the Andover UMC on June 24 with Rev. Richard Collman officiating.

Thanks . . .

To All Who Served "The Banquet"

Thanks to all from our Parish who planned, prepared, and served food at The Banquet in Sioux Falls on June 3. They include the following:

Andover: Luetta McKittrick (now living in Aberdeen), Pat Gooding

Conde: Darrel & Joyce Haskell, Cindy Smith, Pat Siefken, Betty Jensen, Donna Hearnen, Debbie McPartland

Groton: Chuck Padfield (planned menu), Bob & Carolyn Snyder, Bert & Darlene Raap, Gert & Dick Ruden, Tyke Nyberg, Hazel McKittrick, LaVonne Raap, John Lowary, Marvel Johnson, Richard & Katherine Collman, Herron Smith, Jean & Earl Lowary, Richard & JoAnn Krueger, Betty Norgaard

Thanks to our Missions coordinators Donna Hearnen and JoAnn Krueger; to the UMW and Youth in Groton for contribution; to Conde for their financial contribution. We provided \$300 for the food which more than covered the bill and 27 workers to prepare and serve.

Mark Monday, June 2, 2003 for a return visit!

A word of Thanks



Thank You!

"Thank you!" to all who have wished us well, for gifts given, to the Pastor-Parish Committee for bringing in meals the week we moved, to all who have helped get the house ready for Grant and Eileen Piehl.

Our new address is: P. O. Box 405, Motley, MN 56466

Please stop and visit if you are in the area!

Richard & Katherine Collman

I REMEMBER...IN GRATITUDE

As I pack the office, I remember in gratitude these funny and little, yet significant things, that stand out over the past three years.

In Conde, those wonderful dinner theatres...the new piano in memory of Helen Rossow...the folks pulling together to make just about anything possible... the development of the parking space behind the church... the serious look at "where will we be in 20 years?"...Betty Taylor sharing the piano bench every month...Norm for fishing trips in the area...Marjorie for those beautiful yellow roses...Haskell's for rhubarb and asparagus...youth for their leadership...Pat for all her help in confirmation....serving the Banquet...the list could go on and on.

In Andover, the Café as the place of pastoral listening and counsel...Carolyn's garden...friendly talks at the Post Office...the Threshing Show...the strong and formative history of the church...the faithful Lay Preachers and Pianists...

In Groton...the landscaping with your help and labor (including Don Walter and Gary Heitmann setting fence posts in miserable weather)...moving plants from Clara's garden to the north side of the church...Lowary's generous donation of flowers from the farm and apple trees for the parsonage...cleaning out the grove...sorting out and cleaning up the library (thanks to Caralee Heitmann and her students)...organ lessons with Yvonne Lange...Kay and her computer help at home and office...filing and labeling the choir library with Yvonne's help...serving The Banquet...those energetic 80-year-olds who are often the "glue" of things...the book cart and children's books that delight all ages...the church vandalism in the fall of 1999 when a young man forgot his baptismal vows...the ministerial association, choral festivals, ecumenical worship, and the Sept. 11 worship at the school...Shrove Tuesday Youth Pancake supper...

By way of pastoral record...

393 home calls (211 in Groton, 145 in Conde, 37 in Andover)

27 funerals, 5 weddings, 10 baptisms

I remember, reflect, and give thanks for your ministries in this Parish and wish you continued faithfulness and blessings into the future!

Richard I. Collman

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 UMW

The business meeting convened at 7:30 pm – called to order by Linda Thurston, President: Devotions were given, purpose was recited; program “Because We Care” Pledge Service was given by Clare Brotherton and Carolyn Snyder; Minutes were read and approved; Treasurer’s report showed balance of \$4566.53

The following items were on the agenda:

-- Thank You notes were read from Tree of Life Ministry for gift of \$100 and Wegner Youth Center and acknowledgment of Special Mission Recognition for Groton Sunday School Teachers was received. A bill for Children’s Sabbath book was allowed.

Committees:

– Membership committee reported Fern Wall of Andover who has been at Rosewood Court is now residing at Beverly Healthcare.

–Nominations met and accomplished much;

--Executive committee met at 6:30 pm and chose the 2002 recipients of the mission pins.

Business:

–Teddy Bears will be collected for giving at District meeting in Groton on September 14.

–There is a considerable amount of money in the treasury. After discussion, a motion was made and carried that \$1360 be added to Groton’s 2002 Pledge making a total pledge of \$1860.

--The May Breakfast committee reported a shortage of some items in the kitchen and need for replacements or additions to dishes and supplies. Mary Swisher and Joy Walter were appointed to take inventory and report recommendations at the next meeting.

–Central District meeting will be held in Groton September 14. A kitchen chairman is needed and it is suggested that Groton choose a theme. A name for kitchen chairman was suggested. A suggestion for a theme was made. Jolene will chair the decoration committee.

–Judy Thompson, Huron, a member of the District Nominations Committee, is Groton’s shepherdess. She was present and addressed the group. Judy is enthusiastic about the UMW program and made several inspiring suggestions. She uplifted the School of Christian Mission. She explained the New Opportunities Grant and encouraged applications for it.

-- The Emmanuel Lutheran Church ladies invited the UMW to attend their meeting on Thursday July 20. Probably 4-5 ladies will attend.

–President Linda presented a monetary gift to Katherine Collman who will be moving to Motley, MN next week. She highlighted the many ways Katherine has shared her talents. She will be missed.

–Lunch was served by Brenda Madsen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

School of Christian Mission

Weekday Northern—July 15-18,

Weekend Northern—19-21,

Weekday Southern-- July 15-18,

Weekend Southern—July 12-14

Mission Encounter—Aberdeen, August 8-9

Central District meeting, Groton, September 14.

Ingathering, September 28, Mitchell

**Next meeting,
July 17—2:00 pm**

Program— “Grandparenting Skills”

by Marjorie Kolb,
Brown County Educator Leader

Leader – Joy Walter

Hostesses - Audrey Padfield & Doris Zoellner

Cancer Relays for Life

(Marvel Johnson)

I want to tell about the fantastic happenings for cancer programs in our area.

Jill my granddaughter from Sioux Falls thought it would be a challenge to enter the Sioux Falls Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Relay for Life, pledging to raise \$4500 to honor her grandmother, Marvel Johnson, a B-cell Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma, slow growing, cancer victim who is now in remission. Amazingly she raised nearly \$5500 and chose to run her relay in Alaska. Yesterday she ran her relay in 6 hours and so did 4000 others there! I don't know too much about all the participants.

There are probably 100 different kinds of cancer. Marvel's kind was mentioned so far and Bob Johnson's was prostate cancer. Both are now in remission thanks to new cancer treatments.

Our daughter, Ann Brown, Watertown, works in the Watertown Cancer Office – what a coincidence.

There are many big Relay for Life events in our area.

Bob and Marvel were survivor marchers in Aberdeen's Relay for Life – Aberdeen's second one. They sold 2 ½ times as many luminaries this year as last. So Aberdeen's response is growing fast. A luminary is a white paper sack partially filled with sand and a ten hour candle. People buy the sacks, decorate them and they are placed around the athletic field's track.

The relays begin about 6:00 pm with many teams of 8-10 people who all raise money and keep people walking around the track until 7:00 am. What unforgettable events they are. Food is often furnished, live music too and active participation.

In Watertown Friday night, 3500 luminaries were lit at their 5 or 6th event. Everyone was having fun at the event . . . large crowd, many tents. Two years ago they had 29 teams – this year 40!

When luminaries are lit at 10:00 pm, a deep silence comes over the crowd. . . . a tremendously moving event as all the luminaries are named for survivors, people dead from cancer and present cancer victims.

I've just heard that at Britton's 2nd Relay for Life this past week \$51,000 was raised! Two prominent patients had just succumbed there.

On the radio, on our way from the lake to church this morning here in Groton, someone from the Watertown radio station urged people to make

memorial contributions to the Cancer Societies.

Katherine Collman from our church is a cancer survivor and probably many others too.

Bob and I and Katherine have truly been blessed to be survivors.

AUGUST WORK COMMITTEE

Pam & Roger Rix	397-8378
Marlys Rodman	397-4570
Joy & Don Walter	397-8260

Gladys Dodge	Yvonne Lange
Kristi & Lance Hawkins	Mary Swisher
Kami & Tom Lipp	Beth Locke
Leslie & Ken Dinger, Dustin & Mason	
Mary Alice & Bob Jensen	
Cindy & Rex Sippel & Nickolas	
*Jodi & Craig Sternhagen	
*Rose & William Tewksbury	
Kristi & Rob Thurston	
Gayleen & John Voss & Lacey	
* Mary Ann & Robert Wehde	
* Doris & Richard Zoellner	

Honorary Members:

Ray Johnson	Margaret Hubbard
ImoJeanne Oliver	Jay Swisher

Extra responsibilities for **August:** Clean Sunday School superintendent's office.

Groton Volunteers for July

Ushers – Bill Brotherton, Norm Thurston
Greeter – Twila Ruden

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 June 19th with nine members and one visitor in attendance.

Joyce Haskell gave a very interesting lesson - "Justice - To Have a Home". Courageous women lead the way for many to own their own home or at least have an opportunity to rent a home. There was much discussion and some telling about housing built where people could own their own homes - such as Habitat for Humanity.

The treasurer wrote check for \$318.00 for camp fees. The UMW pays ½ of the Early Bird Camp fees. The UMW will be serving lunch on June 29 from 2:30-6:30 pm during the school reunion.

The next meeting will be August 21 with Betty Jensen as topic leader and Cindy Smith and Pat Siefken as hostesses - ***we will not meet in July.*** A delicious strawberry pie was served by Donna Walter and Joan Fahrenwald.



Dear Conde Friends,

July has been designated as Conde's Food Pantry Month. We hope that you will be able to make a contribution to the Food Pantry so that we can assist individuals and families who are facing a difficult time.

We appreciate any contribution that you are able to make. From time to time we have special needs and we would be grateful if you would consider donating items to help meet those needs.

***Our current special needs include:
cereals, noodles, tuna, spaghetti sauce and noodles,
pork and beans, green beans, macaroni and cheese,
peas, soda crackers, jello, pudding, cake and
muffin mix, cash to buy frozen meats.***

Last month we were able to assist 51 families and 167 individuals. We gave away \$3,461.40 worth of groceries to our area needy. We could not have done this without you good folks. God Bless you all.

-Sherry Wurtz & Penny Ihnen
Food Pantry Directors





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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

July 2002

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Conde 9:00 am
 Groton 11:00 am

Pastor: Grant Piehl

email: grotonumc@nvc.net

home page: <http://members.nvc.net/grotonumc>

Office, Groton 605 397-8270

Home 397-4538

Kitchen, Groton 397-2670

Andover Church 298-5265

Conde Church 382-5261

A Child Shall Lead Them

"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me."

Matthew 18:5



Deciding where The United Methodist Church should be and should lead is a formidable task when options and priorities are so numerous. It is essential to remind ourselves that Christ's highest priorities never change: seeking those most vulnerable, those in pain and suffering, those unaware of God's immeasurable love—especially the very young.

Our Advance for Christ and His Church ministries reflect this choice. Through our church, a homeless child in war-torn Africa finds a home filled with love and peace ... a poor child in Haiti discovers love in a church-related hospital ... an inner-city child in New Orleans learns jazz at St. Mark's United Methodist Church ... a Native American child in Dulac, La., plays at a United Methodist community center ... families worldwide get food and resources.

John Wesley was right; these ministries should be our first concern as United Methodists called to spread the gospel of the loving Jesus Christ.

Through our Bishops' Initiative on Children and Poverty, the whole world knows we United Methodists make first issues first priorities. Institutions and individuals can easily get lost in this confusing, turbulent world of the 21st century. Let this not happen to us.

Prayer: Holy, living Creator, love is easy to define and recognize, marvelous to experience and sure to transform. May people know us by the love we share with all in Jesus' name. Amen.

Childhood Immunization, No. 982400-7

—Paul D. White, member, General Council on Ministries; former delegate, General Conference; former lay leader, Louisiana Conference; and real estate developer and builder

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