

# United Methodist Church News

Groton - Conde - Andover



June 2002

## Reflections Upon Living Here...

"We wake, if we wake at all, to mystery, rumors of death, beauty, violence....' Seem like we're just set down here,' a woman said to me recently, 'and don't nobody know why.'

...Some unwonted, taught pride diverts us from our original intent, which is to explore the neighborhood, view the landscape, to discover where it is that we have been so startlingly set down, even if we can't learn why." —Annie Dillard, *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*

People who have come to know me know that I love quotes, and this quote may define my life among you at this time. Please allow me to make some observations about our life together.

First, I have enjoyed being here...the people, and landscape with its own beauty, the wider area. There are real characters in this place, more mysterious than the land. There is real stubbornness here to exist over 100 years in such a windswept plain also. That trait is fine unless it divides us from each other and from God. There is much beauty here, including Aberdeen, Blue Cloud Abbey, the fields, the lakes, the Granary. I have enjoyed landscaping the parsonage with your plants and memorial trees.

Second, this Parish is healthy. There are few financial problems. But that doesn't mean that all is always well. We can often buy our way out of discipleship. There needs to be more "hands on" mission work both here and elsewhere. There is a wonderful world beyond the town borders. Check it out—camps, missions, wider church gatherings. These churches are but a small part of a larger and more exciting wider church and world. Sometimes, we forget that.

Any problems we have can be solved with God's help from within us. "The Kingdom of God is within you." Let us not be so quick to blame either the minister or each other. Let us be more ready to applaud and cheer each other on. Bill Janklow's mother at age 88 said "If you don't come to see me when I'm alive, don't bother showing up when I'm dead." Say good things to the living while they're here—don't wait until the funeral! I've tried to model both thanksgiving and encouragement, but it has been

difficult to do at times. Gossip can kill the spirit and kill leaders in our midst. Read the book of James in the Bible for guidance about the tongue.

Let us all be more open and welcoming. There is a Biblical mandate to "welcome the stranger" in our midst. Often, that stranger is a new minister or teacher in the community. Every new person brings gifts to unwrap with love - invite them to do so. Every new person is a reason to be interrupted from our routines. Be interruptable. The Kingdom will then grow in our midst when people learn that our churches are very welcoming communities. Such is not always the case. But we are the only people who can change that with God's help. I will probably have pleased 100% of the people here—50% when I came, and 50% when I leave (quoted to me by a member of the wider Parish when I came.)

Ultimately, we are in no position to evaluate what our presence means among others because we are all sowing seeds, hopefully seeds of kindness. So I close with another quote, this time by Albert Schweitzer (another minister and musician):

"No ray of sunshine is ever lost. But the green which it awakens into existence needs time to sprout, and it is not always granted for the sower to see the harvest. All work that is worth anything is done in faith."

*Richard I. Collman*

## Farewell

On Sunday, June 23, Groton UMC will worship at 9:00 am and Conde UMC will worship at 11:00 am.

This is set up by the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee in order to have a Farewell Reception for the Collman's at Groton UMC at 10:00 am coffee following worship and a Potluck Dinner at Conde UMC at noon. Groton persons who wish to be a part of the potluck in Conde are invited.

## Rev. Collman Appointed to MN Conference

Bishop John Hopkins of Minnesota Conference announced as of May 12 that Rev. Richard F. Collman will be appointed to Motley, MN, to serve at this church. Motley is located between Staples and Brainerd at the intersection of Highways 210 and 10, and it is in the beautiful resort area of Minnesota.

Richard was a member of the Minnesota Conference 1969-79 before coming to the SD Conference (previous to the Dakotas Conference before the merger). This move will also put him about 80 miles from where he grew up west of Duluth.

Richard's last Sunday here will be June 23.



### "Together in Christ

#### - A Dakotas Celebration"

We will be well represented at Annual Conference in Sioux Falls with Twila Ruden, Mary Hayenga, Pat Siefken, Betty Taylor and Rev. Richard Collman. Twila is our Parish delegate, and others attend by virtue of their offices of leadership in the Conference. The United Methodists meet at the Ramkota Inn in Sioux Falls beginning noon June 5 and conclude in the afternoon on June 7. Conference is followed by "Together in Christ, A Dakotas Celebration" at the Convention Center June 7-8 (see poster, brochure in churches, or article in last month's newsletter). Ordination for the United Methodists will be Sunday morning, 10:00 am, First UMC at 12<sup>th</sup> & Spring, downtown Sioux Falls. Richard Collman works with the Conference worship committee and is in charge of all music for conference (including keyboard work and other musicians). Stop in if you are able to attend a session or a worship service



### A few notes about our new pastor. . .

Rev. Grant Piehl was born in Gibbon, Minnesota. He graduated from Hector Community High School in Hector MN, Spring Arbor College in Spring Arbor MI and Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore KY. He has previously served churches in Kulm & Jud ND; Lansford, Donnybrook, and Maxbass ND; Bowbells, Kenmare and Coteau ND; Langdon and Hannah ND; and most recently, since 1992, Streeter, Medina and Tappen ND.

He and his wife Eileen have four grown children, Latha (Larry) Pederson, Maple Grove, MN; David, Minneapolis, MN; Joel, Canton, MI; and Jeff (Heather) Granite Falls, MN. They have one granddaughter- Brittney, and three grandsons - Jake, Zack and Brennan.

Rev. Piehl is a farm toy collector, a builder of clocks and enjoys camping and the outdoors.

We welcome the Piehls to the Groton-Conde-Andover parishes!

### THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Daddy, what were you before you were a daddy?"

### Welcome

On Sunday, June 30, regular worship will resume with Groton at 11:00 am and Conde at 9:00 am.

This will include a Welcome Reception for Grant and Eileen Piehl following worship at Conde and a Potluck Dinner at Groton at noon. Conde persons who wish to be a part of the potluck in Groton are certainly invited.

## Thanks to . . . . .

Caralee Heitmann of Groton for spending parts of the whole last school year in reorganizing and categorizing the Groton UMC Library! Stop in and take a look – better yet, check out a book!

Pat Siefken, Cindy Smith and other volunteers for leading a most successful VBS in Conde May 20-24.

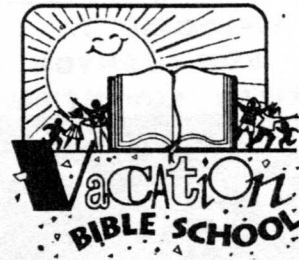
Brenda Madsen and other volunteers for leading a successful VBS in Groton with St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church at our church May 22-24.

## Congratulations to . . . . .

Todd and Debbie Thurston upon the baptism of Riley in Groton UMC on June 2.

High School Graduates in Groton: Grant Rix, Jarrett Rix, Morgan McNickle, Charity Kramer, Bruce Schumacher, Jr, Nick Strom, Tom Sundling and Brent Wienk.

High School Graduates in Conde: Krystal Hanlon, Brandon Smith and Lindsey Zeck.



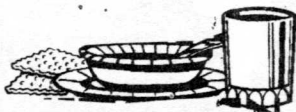
The 2002 Groton Vacation Bible School was held at the Groton United Methodist Church on May 22-24. There were 75 children in attendance.

We sang festive songs, made crafty crafts and learned about making peace, showing respect, following God's instruction, trusting God and making friends wisely.

I would like to thank all of you who were so generous in all of your donations.

A special thank you goes out to the wonderful and talented teachers and helpers; Meri Erickson, Kelli Hanson, Gayleen Voss, Franne Sippel, Kami Lipp, Michelle Walter, Mary Rix, Lacey Voss, Seth Erickson, Amber Wolken, Jordan Voss, Skyler Geffre and Ali Pasteur.

It takes a lot of people to have a successful VBS and I truly appreciate all of the help. If you didn't help this year and think you would be interested – there is always next year. –Brenda Madsen



## "The Banquet"

Last minute signups still invited! See JoAnn Krueger in Groton or Donna Hearnen in Conde. We prepare food at 2:00 pm and serve about 400 persons at 5:15 pm. Come, be a part of this "hands on" mission project in Sioux Falls this coming Monday, June 3.



from The Joyful Noiseletter

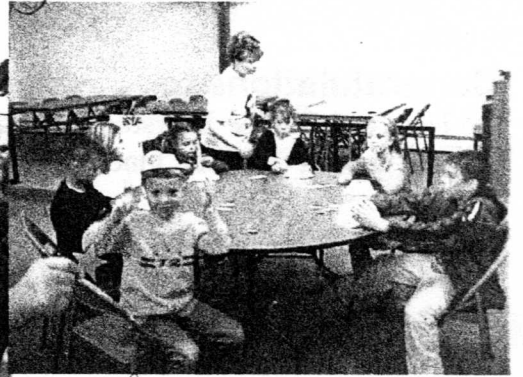
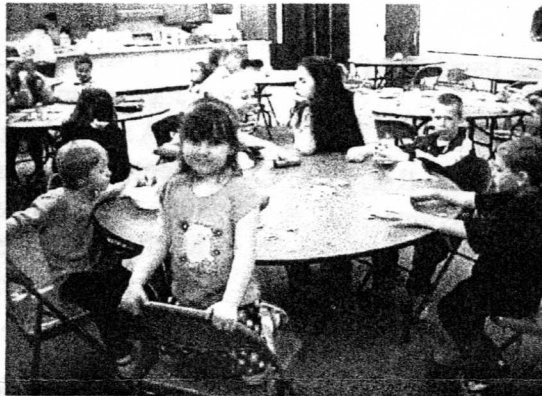
Groton VBS

May 22-24, 2002



Welcoming decorations

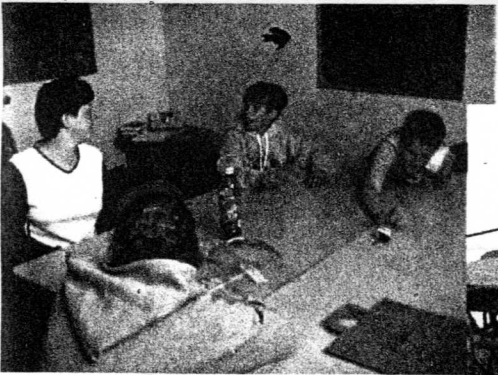
Breaking the "Pinata"



Pre-school

Pre-K

Pre-Kindergarten



1st grade



2nd grade



3rd grade



4th grade



5th grade

## 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

Agenda items May 8<sup>th</sup>:

-- A landscaping plan for the front of the church was approved by the Trustees. The project will be completed by Parkview Nursery at a cost of \$1100. Donations totaling \$1000 have been received from the Donella Gardner and William Rix families for this purpose. The balance will be paid from remaining Men's Dinner proceeds.

--A committee will be appointed to conduct a feasibility study on renovating the existing bathrooms, including the need to provide a handicap accessible bathroom.

--The trip to Sioux Falls to prepare and serve a meal at The Banquet on June 3<sup>rd</sup> was discussed. A sign-up sheet is available in the church dining room.

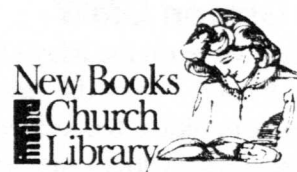
--The Administrative Council will not meet in June. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be July 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Many Thanks. . . . .

The May Breakfast was again a great success. We wish to thank all of the dedicated workers who helped make the dessert tarts, those who made and donated the delicious fillings, and the two ladies who baked all the wonderful rolls. The kitchen crew outdid themselves again — the salad was extra tasty, and the plates very attractive. The dining room co-chairs again came up with a unique, innovative, new theme — ““Lotions, Splashes and Therapy””, and turned the fellowship hall into a virtual spa. The decorations were beautiful, and the program very interesting and entertaining. Many favorable comments were received.

So, a big THANK YOU to everyone who helped in any way to make this annual event a standout again!! This, of course, includes all the UMW ladies who faithfully respond with monetary support.

Clare and Jean, May Breakfast Chairmen



## Groton Library is Ready

You are invited to use the Groton Library, all labeled and ready for use. Check out books using the check out cards. Try to return them within two weeks.

Parents are also invited to check out Sunday worship books for children at the back of the church. Use the cards and the box on top of the book cart, and return the books within a week so other children may use them. What a great way to do Christian education at home by reading a different age appropriate book to your child each week! These books are in memory of Bill Rix. Soon there will be 10 more books given in memory of Donella Gardner by her parents from Milbank.

## Groton July Workgroup

Audrey Padfield	397-8166
John Padfield	397-8166
Elaine & Fred Wolken & Alana	397-8280

*Clare & Bill Brotherton	Kelli & Lars Hansen
Audrey & Clint Jacobson	Loel Schott
*Jane & Marc Johnson	Mary Jane Schott
*Marvel & Robert Johnson	Chris Sippel
Stephanie & Kevin Pharis	*Audrey Thurston
Anita & Gary Voss	
*Carna & Cliff Pray, & Nathan Atherton	
*Barb & Jack Schmidt & Halley	
*Vicki & Alan Strom, Nick & Jackson	
Lynette & Terry Furman, Melissa & Derick	

## Honorary Members:

Art Padfield	Lila Bartz
Norm Thurston	

Extra responsibilities for **July**: Clean 3 NE Sunday school rooms

## Groton UMW

The following items were on the May UMW agenda:

--"Tea Party on Wheels" was the program for the day. Members took cookies, tea and coffee to Irene Breikreutz, Margarete Clocksene and Margaret Blader.

--The business meeting convened at 3:00 pm Minutes were tabled. The treasurer reported receipts of \$2367.80, disbursements were \$423.08, leaving a balance of \$5166.28.

--Katherine Collman reported visiting with Irene Pfaff and Fern Wall at Rosewood Court.

--The treasurer reported on the Ruden auction sale lunch with receipts of \$670.00 and disbursements of \$103.88. May Breakfast receipts were \$1750.80 and disbursements of \$190.72.

--Correspondence included two thank-you notes.

**New business** items included a review of the Ingathering progress, plans and the day, September 28<sup>th</sup> in Mitchell.

--A Mission Encounter work day will be held in Aberdeen August 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>; registration due August 1<sup>st</sup>.

--Moms' Take 5 retreat is May 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>.

The Central District UMW meeting will be in Groton September 14. Groton is responsible for food, registration table and decorations. A kitchen chairman is needed.

--The unit voted to raise the mission pledge giving from \$500 last year to \$1300.00 in 2003.

--\$100 will be given toward the \$300.00 obligation of the church for the Banquet serving on June 3<sup>rd</sup> in Sioux Falls.

--The shortage of kitchen items such as cups, forks and glasses was noted. Also there is always a need for such things at the Wegner Youth Center, now the Tigers' Den.

## 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**, June 19—7:30

## Groton Church School Teachers To Be Honored

The Groton unit of United Methodist Women is honoring the Church School teachers by sending a monetary donation in their names to Missions. Kelli Hanson has served as superintendent during the year. Carna Atherton-Pray has directed music with Yvonne Lange providing accompaniment. Helpers who have assisted in the classroom are Meri Erickson, Jane Johnson, Fran Sippel, Jolene Townsend, Zach Barton and Brenda Madsen. Bruce and Michèle Schumacher are UMYF leaders; Twila Ruden assisted the acolytes; and Diann Morehouse assisted Rev. Collman with confirmation. Mentors for the confirmands Marlys Rodman, Vicki Strom and David Nilsson. The work of all who have assisted with the church school program in any way is much appreciated.

### Groton UMW

Wednesday, June 19—7:30 pm

#### Program

"Because We Care", the Pledge Service;

#### Leaders

Clare Brotherton and Carolyn Snyder,

#### Hostesses,

Brenda Madsen and Kristie Johnson.

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### Volunteers for June

Ushers - Bert & Darlene Raap

Greeters - Jerry & Ann Rix

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## 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 on Wednesday, May 15 at 2:00 pm.

"The Meaning of Shalom: Content Whatever the Circumstance" was the theme of the lesson given by Betty Taylor. Hymns and a Litany of Peace were used to promote discussion.

Marjorie Wright gave devotions using the subject of Pentecost.

Betty Taylor volunteered to chair the lunch served during the Alumni Reunion on June 29.

Volunteers were sought to help serve "The Banquet" in Sioux Falls on June 3. The two churches, Conde and Groton, will be working together to do this mission project.

The UMW will pay for lunches served during VBS.

The next meeting is June 19 – Joyce Haskell will give the lesson and hostesses are Joan Fahrenwald and Donna Walter.

A refreshing lunch of sherbet, wafers and coffee was served by Darlene Meyer.



## Conde Administrative Board

The Conde Administrative Board met on Sunday, May 12 at 10:00 am.

New Business:

–Serving at the Banquet on June 3 will require 8 persons to cook and 32 people to serve. Volunteers from both churches are being sought. A monetary donation of \$300 is also required. Conde's share being \$100. A motion was made to

have special offerings on May 19 & 26 designated for this purpose; the balance will then be paid from the general fund.

–The Annual Conference Offering this year is designated for Scholarships to assist youth and young adults in participating in Volunteer in Mission (VIM) trips. A motion carried to donate \$100.

Old Business:

–Clarification was made on "the Special Askings" offerings which will be taken in September.

Trustees Report:

–The Trustees continue to work on the following projects: seamless eaves, sidewalk repair, roof repair, yard work including tree removal and mulching around plants.

A farewell potluck for the Collman's on June 23 is in the planning stages. More details will be available at a later date.

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## ASAP

*Did you ever wonder about the abbreviation ASAP? Generally we think of it in terms of even more hurry and stress in our lives. Maybe, if we think of this abbreviation in a different manner, we will begin to find a new way to deal with those rough days along the way.*

There's work to do,  
Deadlines to meet;  
You've got no time to spare,  
But as you hurry and scurry  
ASAP - *Always Say A Prayer*

In the midst of family chaos,  
Quality time is rare.  
Do your best; let God do the rest  
ASAP - *Always Say A Prayer.*

It may seem like your worries  
Are more than you can bear.  
Slow down and take a breather  
ASAP - *Always Say A Prayer.*

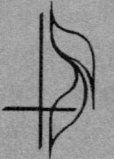
God knows how stressful life is;  
He wants to ease our cares,  
And He'll respond to all your needs  
ASAP - *Always Say A Pray*

**JUNE 2002**

Sat Jun 1	11:00 am	(G)	Overacker/Voeller Shower
Sun Jun 2			Communion
	11:00 am	(G)	Riley Thurston Baptis
Mon Jun 3			"The Banquet" in Sioux Falls
Wed Jun 5			Annual Conference in Sioux Falls
Sun Jun 9			Richard Ward preaches
Sat Jun 15	10:00 am	(G)	Beverly Worship
	4:00 pm	(G)	Overacker/Voeller Wedding
Sun Jun 16			<b>Father's Day</b>
Wed Jun 19	2:00 pm	(C)	UMW
	7:30 pm	(G)	UMW
Thu Jun 20	9:45 am	(G)	Beverly Communion
Sun Jun 23	9:00 am	(G)	Rev Collman's last Sunday
	11:00 am	(G)	Worship/Farewell Coffee Hour
			World Hunger Offering
			<b>Newsletter Deadline</b>
Sun Jun 30			Welcome Rev. Grant Piehl
	9:00 am	(C)	Worship/Welcome Coffee Hour
	11:00 am	(G)	Worship/Welcome Potluck

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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



**June 2002**  
**SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
 9:00 am  
 11:00 am  
 Conde  
 Groton

Pastor: Richard F. Collman  
 email: [grotonumc@nvc.net](mailto: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

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