

UMC NEWSLETTER



November 2003

PASTOR'S NOTES

In this time of hurried celebrations of holidays, we come to Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is an interesting time in our land. The cooks among us face the prospect of preparing massive amounts of food for the Thanksgiving Feast. Meanwhile the food-lovers among us face the prospect of over-indulging and paying for it later. We suffer from a unique malady: We have to much and we pay for it in many ways.

In Jesus' day, they had the opposite problem: there was rarely a surplus of food. One season of harsh weather or an infestation of bugs could wipe out an entire crop and leave the people hungry for weeks or months, even a year until the next crop of some sort was harvested. So imagine how the people received Jesus' words from Matthew 6, "Therefore I tell you do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"

It seems strange that Jesus would say to these too often hungry people, "Don't worry about food and drink!" They did worry. They often worried where the next meal would come from, or would they have food if the crop was less than good. Perhaps it was be-

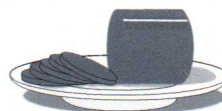
cause of the real and possible shortages that they celebrated many of their religious holidays with a feast. For

often hungry people the feast was a sign that God provided enough and more. On a holy day you could eat and enjoy.

Perhaps there is something there for us to remember also as we go for a second piece of pie. God gives more than just barely enough to save us. God provides for more than just barely getting us into heaven. God will do more than allow us to barely scrape through the crises in our lives. God does more than just take note of our prayers. God answers all our need with enough and to spare.

While I am not trying to justify over-indulgence, I think there is a lesson learned in feasting. God Provides. God provides more than we need. God gives abundantly above what we ask or need. Remember that as you enjoy the thanksgiving feast.

God Bless
Pastor Grant.



Charge Conference
Sunday November 9th
8:00 p.m. at Conde
Backup Day is Nov 12th

Groton UMC will be hosting the Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner on November 27th at 12:00 . We need donations of food, money, and time. All are welcome to join in this day of Thanks.

Groton UMC
Men's Dinner
UMW Bazaar
November 9th
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Adults \$6
Children 5-12 \$3
Children 4 and Under
are free

HALLIE WANOUS BAPTIZED



Halle is the daughter of Robin (Wanous) & Todd Williamson, Sioux Falls. Halle's god parents included Terri & Mike Olund, Dell Rapids and Fran-kye Gravatt, St. Paul, MN. Also attending the service were Rob & Jeanne Wanous, Grandparents; Robert & Barbara Wegner, Great-grandparents all of Groton; Doug & Marilyn Wil- liamson, Grand- parents from Garretson and several other friends & rela- tives.



CONFIRMATION & NEW MEMBERS JOIN

October 12th was confirma- tion Sunday. Confirmed and received into Membership were

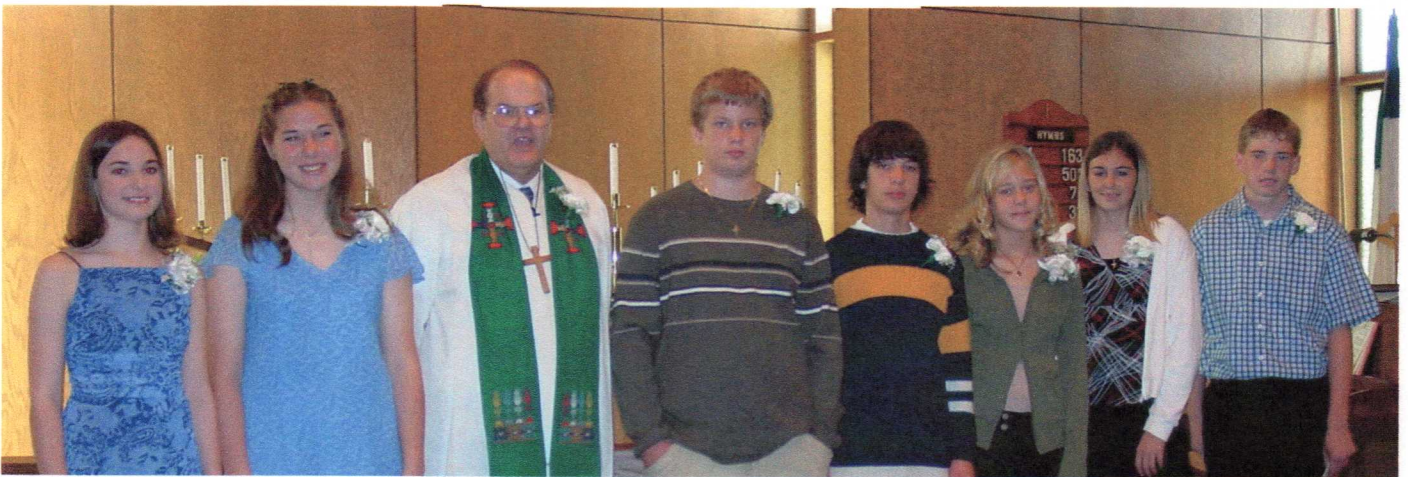
- ◆ Skyler Geffre (Mentor Lars Hanson)
- ◆ Murdock McNickle (Mentor Sherwin Nyberg)
- ◆ Desiree Morehouse (Mentor Becky Luecke)

- ◆ Ali Pasteur (Mentor Jane Johnson)
- ◆ Jordan Voss (Mentor Brenda Madsen)
- ◆ Amanda Swenson
- ◆ Dexten Frericks



Other members joining the congregation were

- ◆ Michele Kramer
- ◆ Roger Colestock
- ◆ Lee Swenson
- ◆ Christi Swenson
- ◆ Brent Swenson



GROTON UMC AD COUNCIL MINUTES



The following items were discussed at the October 1st meeting.

-The Education Department reported that teachers have been assigned, and classes have begun. The Christmas program plans are being made.

-The Music and Worship Committee is working to have special music at services whenever possible. Carna Atherton-Pray will lead the music on Sundays.

-The Trustees noted that the new sewer line from the church to the street has been completed. An extra cleanout was put in. A new outside door

has been installed at the parsonage, and the condition of the parsonage outside windows is under review.

-The Mission Committee reported that 25 school kits, 22 health kits, and 3 sewing kits were sent to the Ingathering.

-Rev. Piehl held membership class meetings, and several new members were prepared to join the church on October 12. Six confirmation students were to join on that date also.

-The Finance Committee presented a proposed 2004 church budget for consideration. It was approved and forwarded for adoption to the

Charge Conference meeting, to be held November 9th at 8:00 pm in Conde.

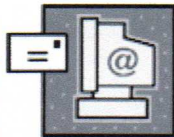
-Harry Pharis will chair the Men's Dinner on November 9th. The price will be \$6.00, and tickets are now on sale. All the men in the church will be contacted to assist.

-The UMW will hold a Bake Sale on that date, and lefse will be offered for sale.

-Our church is scheduled to be the host church for the community Thanksgiving dinner on November 27th. Please contact JoAnne Krueger (397-8597) if you can help or furnish food that day.

Sunday Bulletin

Can arrive each week in your e-mail box in Word format to keep up with the happenings. This is a great way to keep in touch if you have to miss a Sunday or are traveling south! The weekly announcements are included. Just send us an e-mail to the church stating you would like to join this mailing list.

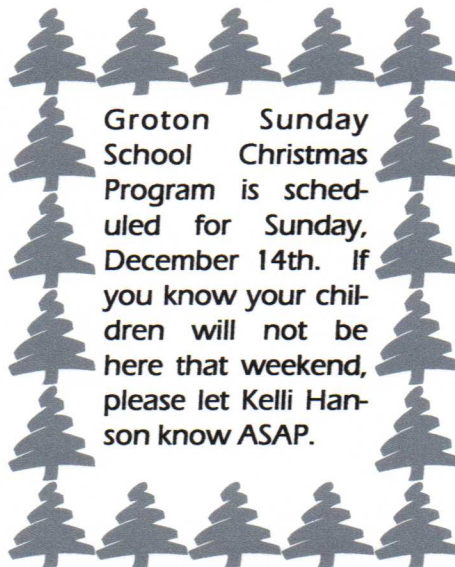


grotonumc@nvc.net

DECEMBER WORK COMMITTEE

Audrey Thurston
Kelli & Lars Hanson
Kevin Pharis

Clare & Bill Brotherton
Lynette & Terry Furman & Derick
Audrey & Clint Jacobson
Marvel Johnson
Audrey Padfield



Groton Sunday School Christmas Program is scheduled for Sunday, December 14th. If you know your children will not be here that weekend, please let Kelli Hanson know ASAP.

John Padfield
Carne & Cliff Pray
Nathan Atherton
Barb & Jack Schmidt & Halley
Mary Jane Schott
Vicki & Alan Strom & Jackson
Elaine & Fred Wolken & Alana & Amber
Anita & Gary Voss

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.

Honorary Members

Art Padfield
Lila Bartz
Norm Thurston
Robert Johnson

Extra Responsibilities

Clean & Organize storage room in north hallway. Decorate Church Nov 23rd. Beverly Coffee on Nov 23rd.

GROTON UMW MINUTES



Groton unit met Wednesday evening, Oct. 15.

Carna Atherton-Pray gave the program—"Enroll All Children in Health Insurance Programs." She was assisted by Elaine Wolken. Carna explained CHIPS and its rules and guidelines.

Individuals remembered in prayer

- PURPOSE repeated in union.
- President Linda Thurston

presided at the business meeting.

- Fall Bazaar, November 9th was discussed.
- Lefse will be made October 20th and 21st.
- Assisting with the blood drive December 2 was discussed. The unit will furnish cookies and serve them and juice.
- Bible study planned.
- Proposed budget nearing

completion.

- Petition protesting proposed Church district reorganization was circulated.

Lunch was served by Caralee Heitmann and Meri Erickson

Unit will meet next during the Church coffee hour on Sunday, November 16. The program will be "Giving Thanks" and the World Thank Offering will be taken. Twila Ruden will be leader.

BISHOP LEADS CHILDREN

Local children from our church can help represent the needs of all children as they march to the state capital building in Pierre with Bishop Michael J. Coyner.

The March is January 17, Saturday, from 11:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m. At the First United Methodist Church in Pierre.

Arrive early. A free meal awaits you, fun music with guitarist Sarah Baker and friends, conversation with Bishop Mike and Marsha Coyner, fun surprises and maybe come unique awards (hmmmm...)! Then, we march! A brief program follows at the capitol. Gov. Mike Rounds has given early indications he will be on hand for this non-political activity, according to Coyner. Legislators have also been invited and several will attend.

The March is sponsored by the Bishops' Initiative on Children and Poverty. Marching Children & their adult friends receive a lesson in faith and civics — and help raise awareness of children's issues in South Dakota. Prayer books will be given to South Dakota legislators and legislative officials a few days before the march.

Send prayers for the Prayer Book for Legislators to Cindy Nelson, Asbury United Methodist Church, 2425 South Western Ave, Sioux Falls, SD 57105. These should be on half sheets of unlined 8 1/2 x 11 inch size paper and carry the first name of the author/illustrator and have the name of the town from which they originated. More info on Conference website.



Next UMW Meeting

November 16

10:15 a.m. Sunday

Morning

World Thank Offering

Twila Ruden, Leader

ADVENT

With Advent starting, we will be decorating the church after services on Sunday, November 23rd. Both the November and December work committees are involved plus anyone else who will help. There will be daycare provided with videos for the kids to watch. A lunch will be provided during the decorating time.



CONDE UMW MINUTES

The Conde United Methodist Women met October 15th at 2:00 p.m. at the church. The lesson on Mexico was led by Patty Knoll. She took the part of Maria, the wife of Hector, a Mexican farmer. She told about living on the farm where only corn could be grown as water for irrigation came from a blue jean factory was so contaminated that it could not be used for vegeta-

bles which was what they had been used to growing. She also brought out the problems of the exploitation of women in Mexico. She gave us a lot to think about.

Prayers and Concerns for Agnes Hildebrant who is having surgery, the family of Wayne Taylor, David Toy who is taking cancer treatments in Rochester, MN

Joyce Haskell, Donna

Hearnen, Marjorie Wright reported on the annual meeting they had attended.

A gift from missions was given to the Dustin Toy Fund.

Patty concluded the meeting by serving delicious foods she had prepared using Mexican recipes.



November 5th, Wednesday, Conde United Methodist Women Program Committee will meet at 1:00 at the church. We will finish at 4:00 p.m. for those who have Martha Circle that evening.

UM STUDENT DAY

November 30th is United Methodist Student Day which is the last of our 6 special giving Sundays. United Methodist Student Day calls the Church to support students as they prepare for life in uniting faith with knowledge. The offering receipts support the United Methodist scholarships and the United Methodist Student Loan Fund.



UMC HAPPENINGS

Would you like to learn more of United Methodist happenings in the Dakotas and the General Church? Every Monday a Monday UMC e-mail is sent to those who want to be informed. Also included are special events and announce-

ments. If you would like to be up-to-date, send your name and e-mail address to Betty Taylor 897-6687 or e-mail to ktaylor@nvc.net. You will be included in the e-mailings. And it's free!

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.

Sympathies to the family of Virginia Sheppard



United Methodist Church

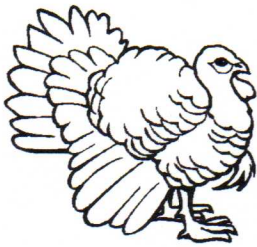
Groton – Conde Parish
906 North First Street
Groton, SD 57445-2192

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GROTON, SD 57445-2192
PERMIT #31

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

November 2003
SUNDAY WORSHIP

Groton 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Conde 11:00 a.m.



Pastor Grant Piehl
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Kitchen, Groton 397-2670
Conde Church 382-5261

NOVEMBER 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
St. John's Conde Supper 4-7 p.m. 2	3	4	Peter Eide Con- cert Groton Gym; Conde UMW Prog Comm 1:00 5	Hunger Conf w/ G. McGovern at DWU 6	7	Acapella 7:30 Johnson Fine Arts Center 8
Charge Conf 8:00 Conde; Groton Men's Dinner 11-1 9	10	11	Charge Conf 12 Backup Day; Groton Ad Council	13	14	15
Groton UMW Meets after church 16	17	18	19 Conde Ad Council	20	21	22
Groton Church 23 Decorating; Bev- erly Service & Coffee	24	25	26	Groton Com- munity Dinner at UMC 27	28	29
UM Student Day Offering 30				