



The United Methodist Messenger

From the Pastor

National Geographic magazine carried a story about the Sherpa people who live in the shadow of Mount Everest. It is their people who often serve as guides for those wishing to climb Mount Everest. They are used to steep mountain trails and hills that we would call impassable. Sherpas must travel rocky mountain trails every day to get to the market, to school, or to visit family. A Western journalist visiting among the Sherpa people asked numerous citizens why they did not create paved roads in their villages. Surely this would make their lives easier. Their answer is encapsulated in the response of one Sherpa man:

"If we rode a bus in Khumba, would we still feel the steepness of our mountains? Would we still hear the waterfalls coming down our cliffs? Would we stop and say a prayer when we passed a prayer stone?

I thought that a prayer stone might be a good idea - just something that we go by often that would remind us to pray for other people, our church or as long a list of items as we might want. The

Sherpa people had a good prayer reminder. Their devotion is good.

Perhaps we could remember to pray at a certain time of day - early before the daily activity begins, or late before we turn in for the night.

Some item in our house might serve as a good prayer reminder, we see it and pause perhaps only for a minute for a sentence or two of prayer. Got a picture of Jesus or other religious item in your home? Besides beauty it could be a prayer reminder.

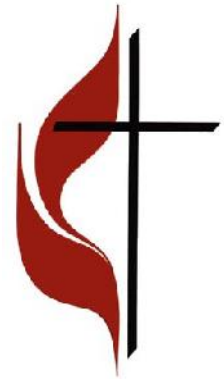
How about a picture of our kids? If you have kids from newborn to age 80 they all need our prayer support.

How about the church building? When you see it, you could say a sentence prayer for the church and its ministry and its people. (Careful not to close your eyes when you pray and drive!)

You could think of other items to remind you to pray from time to time during the day. It would help all of us improve our prayer time.

Think about it!

Pastor Grant



Serving at
Beverly
Healthcare

July 11th
2:30 Coffee
3:30 Worship



Next Page

New Entrance in Groton

Family of Robert L. Jensen wishes to thank friends and family for the generous contributions in memory of Bob. It was used for the new front doors and their installation.

Sincerely, Mary Alice and Family

(Photo of the new front doors! Please enjoy them as you come to church on Sunday mornings.)



Groton Ad Council Minutes - June 9th

President Mary Hayenga opened the meeting with a prayer, and the Mission Statement was read in unison. There were 15 members in attendance.

--Committee Reports were given as follows:

Membership & Evangelism - Clare Brotherton noted the past and present activity taken by the committee in contacting inactive members regarding their preference as to membership status. UMW - Linda Thurston indicated that at the next meeting on June 16th the 135th anniversary of the UMW organization will be celebrated by having a birthday party. Jean Lowary and Ann Rix are hostesses.

UMYF - Rev. Piehl reported that six young people will be going to camp.

Music & Worship - Carna Atherton-Pray stated that the committee will be considering changes in the order of worship and types of music to be used, starting in the Fall. The fabric for new altar cloths has been received, and new cloths in all colors will be made.

Lay Leader - Carna will preach on July 11th when Rev. Piehl is on vacation.

Trustees - Tyke Nyberg reported the new front doors will be installed by Hub City Glass in the coming week. He contacted ProTech Roofing Company to examine the roof, which has been leaking on the north side. They also found damage on the west side and the chimney flashing needs repair. Repairs

would cost approximately \$5,000. The committee will meet to consider the alternatives and report back.

Finance - Kay Brandt reviewed the Treasurer's Report for the period ending May 31. She noted that after paying the June bills, there are insufficient monies remaining to pay apportionments.

Missions - Jolene Townsend reported on the trip to prepare and serve a meal at The Banquet in Sioux Falls, at which 507 were fed, including 88 children. The Groton/Conde parish will serve again on June 6, 2005. She noted that the special collection for Peace With Justice amounted to \$128.

Rev Piehl and Mary Hayenga shared points of interest from the Annual Conference held recently in Pierre.

The remainder of the meeting was spent considering possible actions that might be tried to address the declining finances, which are the result of lower church attendance trends and significant annual increases in operating expenses.

JULY
4th

**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.

Will you be a helper?

This is July, a time when many are on vacation. The work of the church, however, goes on. It must. God and the Church do not go on hiatus.

So what needs to be remembered? Stewardship, for one thing. Reminding everyone that the bills also come in the summer, the church staff members need their salaries, the homeless still need to be fed, missionaries are still in the field, etc. The church must depend on each member doing his or her part on a regular basis. That is our responsibility and our **p r i v i l e g e**.

We must also carry on our stewardship of service: lining up teachers for Sunday school, finding volunteers for the nursery, ushers for worship services, recruiting greeters, kitchen workers, counselors for summer camps, youth counselors, people to help build Habitat for Humanity homes, etc. We need talented people to help freshen up our church newsletter, people to work on special events such as the church picnic, a music festival and religious dramas.

The bottom line is this: Helpers are always needed. Helpers are always wanted. Helpers are always special and greatly appreci-

**July 21st
7:00 PM
Conde
Ad Council
Meeting**

**Groton Ad
Council Meeting
July 14th
8:00 PM**

**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 Stewardship
Report
June 2004**
Average Wkly Giving
\$1,212
Needed Weekly to
Meet Church Needs
\$1,765
Average Weekly
Attendance
56
Total Building Fund
Offerings
\$25



[Next Page](#)

School Kits

- 1 pair blunt scissors - rounded tip
- 2 pads (or loose leaf) of 8 1/2 x 11 paper
- 1 30cm ruler
- 1 hand held pencil sharpener
- 6 unsharpened pencils with erasers
- 1 eraser 2 1/2 inches
- 12 sheets construction paper
variety of colors
- 1 box 24 crayons (must be 24!)

12 X 14 Cloth Bag with a Velcro Closure
Pattern can be found on our website or
ask the office for a copy.

Monetary Donations are always accepted
to help finish partial kits.

Groton UMW July Meeting

Wednesday, July 21st 7:30 PM

Hostesses - Elaine Wolken & Crystal Strom

Executive Meeting at 6:30 PM

Reading Program Due Aug 1st - Mary Swisher



Conde UMW
July
No Meeting

UMW - 135 Years of Mission

135 Years of celebrating United Methodist Women! We are not an organization that does only bible studies; serve funerals, weddings, and so on. One part of our organization is the Reading Program. This encourages us to read so we stay abreast of social issues, spiritual growth, nurture and outreach, as well as education and interpretation. We have books to choose from. This is a wonderful opportunity to READ - an easy way to read a book without having to decide if it is a good choice. There are devotional, biographies, novels, and even great children's books. The books come in Large Print and some even come on tape. Check out our local church library today! And READ!



Sit in the generous sunshine of summer –
A bright blue sky overhead.
Join millions of leaves.
Join grasses and trees.
Soak up the warmth from heaven.

Pause in the generous sunshine of summer.
Look for a cool, clear brook.
Rest in the shade
That summer has made.
Rest and refresh the soul.

Bask in the generous sunshine of summer.
Indulge in its timelessness – the quiet un-
folding of nature itself,
Abundantly giving,
Abundantly living.
Beauty transcends the earth, and leads to
eternal worth!
–Peggy Ferrell



July Groton UMW Meeting Minutes—June 16th

Executive Board—met at 1:00 p.m. Persons to receive the honorary membership pins were selected. The minutes and treasurer's report were accepted as printed. The nominating committee reported plans. Book bags and lengths of fabric (3 yards in one piece) are needed for the Ingathering kits. UMW will assist with the blood drive in December. The mission pledge for 2005 was set at \$2000.

Meeting at 2:00 p.m.—the program was two-fold. The unit observed 135 years as women's missionary organizations in the United States. Jolene Townsend read a brief summary of the work done, written by Genie Bank, president of the United Methodist Women's Division. As Imo Jeanne Oliver is moving to Aberdeen, she was honored. A large group of UMW members and family members and friends of Imo Jeanne were present to honor her. Ann Rix read a paper she had composed about Imo

Jeanne's life. Several hymns were sung and a prize was given to Doris Strom for guessing the nearest number of pop tabs contained in a pint jar. President Linda Thurston presented love ribbons to several ladies who had helped with various activities recently.

A tea party had been held Thursday, June 10th, for Irene Breitrueztz who moved to Omaha to be with her daughter, Mary Jane Loll.

At a table flocked in white and pink, a lunch of cake, ice cream and strawberries was served by Ann Rix and Jean Lowary. Pink peonies from Linda Thurston's garden and the church adorned the tables.



New Address:

Irene Breitrueztz
C/O Mary Jane Loll
4736 South 177th Street
Omaha, NE 68135-3413

Thank you for all your prayers and cards. God Bless.



New Address:

ImoJeanne Oliver
1425 15th Avenue Apt. 205
Aberdeen, SD 57401



Save Pop Tabs

Doris Strom won the Pop Tab Guessing Game held by UMW to bring awareness to save pop tabs for missions. There were 343 tabs in the jar and Doris guessed 345. Good guess!

Color Photos on the
Internet Web Site!

www.grotonsdchurches.com

“The Banquet”

Thank You to everyone who contributed and/or volunteered to serve at “The Banquet” on June 7th. The volunteers from Groton & Conde UMC Churches served 507 guests, 88 of which were children on a very warm evening. The time went by quickly as everyone was kept busy. It was a very enriching and fulfilling mission project that



reaches out and does God’s work, we are grateful for the opportunity to be a small part of this outreach program. The Holy Spirit moved us all in accepting the offer to serve “**The Banquet**” on **Monday evening, June 6th, 2005**. We hope more of you can join us next year. Thank you to the UMW for their contribution of 73 jars of baby

food and 4 baby quilts. Other “needs” donated were scotch tape, copier paper, powdered milk, and stuffed animals. Thanks. Mark your calendar for June 6, 2005 and please join us! Missions Committee



**June 6,
2005
Next
Serving**





**June 6, 2005
Join Us!**

Pastor's Vacationing

Pastor Piehl will be on Vacationing this month and if you should have a need for pastoral care please contact your lay leader. Betty Jensen, Conde, 382-5939 and Carna Ather-ton Pray, Groton, 397-4419.



Bible Quiz

In 2 Chronicles 7:11-22, there is a promise given by God to the Israelites. God asks them to do three things before he would forgive their sins and heal their land. The first requirement was to humble themselves. The second was to pray and seek his face. The third requirement was one of the three choices below. Check the correct answer.

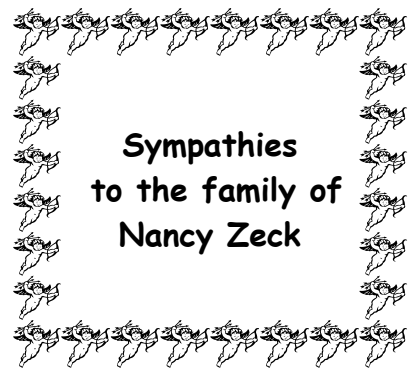
- A. Sacrifice a young bull.
- B. Turn from their wicked ways.
- C. Choose a new leader.

Answer on Page 10



from *The Joyful Noiseletter*
©Richard Stubler
Reprinted with permission

Learn
Swedish Yarn Embroidery
and make an afghan.
Please call Joy Walter if
interested and a class
will be set up.
397-8260



August Work Committee

Caralee & Gary Heitmann
Kim & Craig Weber
Karla Pasteur, Jessica & Ali

Don Bartz
Scott Craig
Carla & Tim Geffre, Lucius & Skylar
Linda & Jay Johnson**
Sue & Bob Kubal*
Charlotte & Art Lange
Brenda & Tony Madsen
Melissa & Neil Gilbert
Gloria & Harry Pharis**
Marjae & Dan Schinkel
Francine & Marc Sippel***

Ward Sperry
Brent & Christie Swenson, Lee & Amanda
Carol & LuVerne Strom
Jean & Vern Walter
Sharon & Larry Wheeting
Honorary Members
Barbara & Robert Wegner
Irene Breitrkruetz
Lila Bartz

August 2004						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August Extra Responsibilities

Mow the lawn as necessary.
Clean the three NW Rooms
(UMYF & 2 Sunday School Rooms)
No Potluck

UMC Campers

Christopher Pruitt is going to Dare 2 DV8 at Lake Poinsett August 1-5. This camp is all about how God works in the lives of young people. A week of wacky games, a rocking Christian band, and opportunity to know Jesus better.

Jessica Pruitt is heading to Storm Mountain Camp to a Rock that Doesn't Roll on July 11-17. Here she will explore how God calls us to live distinctive Christian lives in this fast-passed, multimedia-influenced world. She will be tubing the creek, Ultimate Frisbee on the plateau, singing at campfires, and climbing Storm Mountain.

Shanna and Abdee Geist will attend Treasure Seekers at Storm Mountain July 25-30. They will have an exciting time of seeking God's treasures using G.P.S. units and geocoaching. They will explore for gold and seek the treasures found in God's Word. Singing, swimming, games, and crafts will be a part of their quest. They will discover God's treasures in the wonderful beauty of the Black Hills and develop relationships that can be treasured for many years.

Lee and Brent Swenson, father & son team, are off on a Wilderness Canoe Adventure July 10-16. The sounds of the Northwoods wilderness will be theirs as they learn canoe skills, build community, and fall asleep to the sounds

of the loons. They will experience God through their senses as they work and play together in the Boundary Waters of northern Minnesota.

Amanda and Christi Swenson, mother & daughter team are going to the Wet & Wild Family Camp July 3-5 at Lake Poinsett. It is a weekend of great family fun in the sun. The days will be spent playing games in, on, and by the water. Evenings will find us around the campfire telling stories and singing songs.

Amanda Swenson and Jennifer Miller are going to be Faithful Servants July 8-11 serving Mitchell's Love Feast. They will stay in a DWU dorm and then go out into the community and do hands on mission projects. They will also learn what the book of Exodus says to us as Faithful Servants and what other religions can teach us about living out our faith. Pat Siefken is Dean of the Camp.

Martha Miller will attend M.A.D.D. camp at Lake Poinsett July 7-11. She will enjoy Music, Arts, Drama, and Dance with an awesome week for the Arts. They plan and will present a dynamic worship service on Sunday at the Lake Poinsett chapel to honor God with the artistic gifts we have been given.

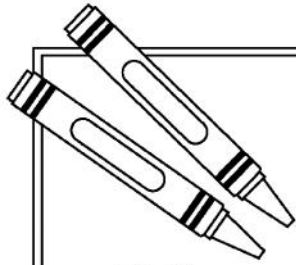


Camp Mail

It is always exciting to be at camp and receive mail! Here are the addresses of our two camp sites. You may want to send mail a couple days early...Add the Campers Name and Camp they are attending to the address please.

Lake Poinsett Camp, 20 South Lake Drive, Arlington, SD 57212

Storm Mountain Center, 23740 Storm Mountain Road, Rapid City, SD



Just for KIDS

Who were Jesus' friends?

Jesus spent a lot of time with his friends.
Whom did Jesus consider his friends?

Beginning at the arrow and moving clockwise,
write every other letter on the spaces below.

John 15:14

Answer: You are my friends if you do what I command.



As we celebrate Independence Day, let us recall St. Paul's words to the Galatians: "You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence ... (Galatians 5:13 nrsv). May God enable us to use our freedom for service and the love of one another.

Heifer International

Mozambique

Orphans' Peace School Livestock Support Project

Mozambique is home to over 700,000 orphans. AIDS and other diseases have ravaged the adult population, leaving these children alone and uncertain.

The livestock support project for the Orphans' Peace School, on Mozambique's east coast, was established with the objectives of increasing nutrition, contributing to the school's income and providing the orphans with basic training in animal care and farming.

Animals include ducks, dairy goats, and rabbits; along with the feed, vaccines, equipment, and training required for their care.

Some orphans in Mozambique are themselves HIV-positive. A balanced diet, including goat milk, has been demonstrated to extend the lives of HIV-positive children — and with better health comes



Page 8 Answer: B

Dakotas Annual Conference Notes - 2004

More than 500 people attended the Annual Conference at the Ramkota in Pierre, SD.

Conference opened with a banquet honoring Bishop Mike and Marsha Coyner. Dr. Jim Salley and the colorful Africa University Choir were features of the banquet in addition to appearing at worship services. Their varied program was outstanding.

The theme of Conference was "Making Disciples" with a colorful worship center and opening worship every morning to begin the day.

Dakotas United Methodists presented a \$15,000. love gift to Africa University honoring the Bishop and Marsha Coyner. Great strides have been made in not only buildings for the University but additions to courses and increasing numbers of students.

Budget adopted tops \$5.2 million which includes insurance for clergy and lay employees, and \$450,000 for Health Flex. A task force has been investigating the cost of pensions, insurance, and how costs can be reduced to the conference. The wellness activity is very important with most clergy and lay people taking part.

Concerns were raised for elderly population; along with children and youth. These numbers have been determined by demographic figures.

Current membership stands at 43,684, down 625 from the previous year. Worship atten-

dance stands at 23,116, down 244.

Yellow balloons recognized efforts of Second Mile Giving. Dakotas UMs gave \$6.64 per capita. With 88 % of churches participating, the Dakotas Conference ranks third in the UMC for UMC giving.

New churches were celebrated - Celebration at Brandon; beginning church from Canyon Lake in Rapid City;

A study will be made of transition areas with five districts continuing and four District Superintendents.

Free Fabric and webbing for school kits is available. See your minister. or mission chair

UMCOR needs fabric for sewing kits. See your mission chair

There certainly is a paper sack in your church for the Happy Meal. Look for it.

New Conference Lay Leader is Janelle Jones of Spearfish; with Becky Holten of Grand Forks as Associate. Watch for things to happen.

Conference wellness focuses on physical, emotional and spiritual health. See your lay members to Annual Conference for more information.

Wanted: Any one to help write and update the history of the Dakotas Conference.

You may start your own Web site. See your church secretary or Betty Taylor.

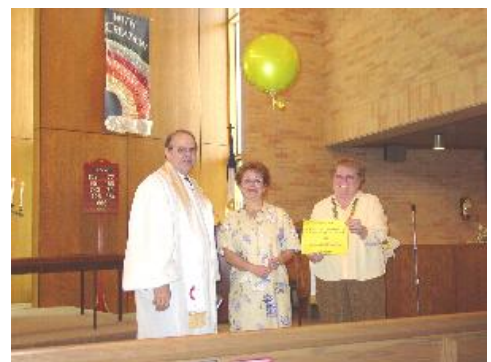
Master's Dollar for children's ministries \$27,318.38

Don't forget solar oven ministry. The brownies were great.

There are seven deadly sins in the world: Wealth without Works, Pleasure without Conscience, Knowledge without Character, Commerce without Morality, Science without Humanity, Worship without Sacrifice, and Politics without Principle. --- Mahatma Gandhi.

Watch your Dakotas Connection and Monday UMC for more news.

Attending were Twila Ruden, Lay Member; Mary Hayenga, General Committee member; Marva Gellhaus, member at large; Pat Siefken, Conference President United Methodist Women; Betty Taylor, Chair Communications Committee; Rev. Grant Piehl, Pastor Groton-Conde Parish.



Groton UMC is a Dakotas Conference Mission Minded Church for 2003. Thanks for going the Second Mile in Your Mission. After Apportionments are Paid - Mission Minded Dakotas go the 2nd Mile! From the Dakotas Conference Board of Global Ministries.

**Groton/Conde
UMC Parishes**

July 2004						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Photos Inside!

Church Happenings

July ★★

Sunday Service Each Week!

4th Happy 4th of July!

11th Beverly Healthcare Coffee—2:30 and
Worship at 3:30

14th Groton Ad Council 8:00 PM

21st Conde Ad Council 7:00 PM

21st Groton UMW Meeting 7:30 PM

NO Groton Potluck this Month

NO Conde UMW this Month