

### United Methodist Messenger



Groton/Conde Parishes

April 2005

### Do you have a dead battery?

A story that is good for anytime, but is especially good as we approach Pentecost. The story comes from Ivey Bozeman.

In the mall parking lot, I turned the key in the ignition. There was no response. I knew the battery had to be dead. The lights would not come on. "Dead" is a good term for the whole car when the battery is

not operating. Without a battery, no lights flicker, no dashboard indicators work. Every element in the whole engine can be in fine working order, but without the battery, the car will do nothing.

I called my husband on the cell phone to come with his jumper cables. While waiting for him to arrive, I thought about how the car with a battery is like a Christian without the Holy Spirit. Right after Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, the disciples just sat there, not



knowing what to do.

Shortly, my husband arrived with the jumper cables.

He hooked the cables between his live battery and my dead one. Soon, power flowed into my car. I could now take me on the rest of my trip.

The same thing happened to the disciples at Pentecost. When the Holy Spirit reached them, they were

filled with the power needed to spread the gospel of Christ. The gathered disciples previously had all the equipment needed to do God's work – all except the power. They needed the power of the Holy Spirit.

We need to be connected to the Holy Spirit. Without the Holy Spirit we are like the can - a perfectly good engine, a capable driver, but no power.

Sometimes after a major holiday like Easter, we feel a bit of a letdown after the worship, and the gathering of family and the celebration. We feel like we should be on a spiritual high, but we drag instead. WE need the 'power' we need the Holy Spirit. May God in the form of the Holy Spirit, be with you in these days after Easter.

Peace.

**Pastor Grant** 



### Last-minute planning

It was the start of a holiday weekend, and the service station was crowded. Finally, an attendant hustled up to the local minister who had been waiting in line for some time. "I'm sorry about the delay, pastor," the attendant apologized, "but it seems like everybody waits until the last minute to get ready for a trip which they knew they were going on all along."

The pastor smiled and said, "I know what you mean. I have the same problem in my business."

## Confirmation Sunday April 24th

Confirmation Students and (mentors) in Groton are: Alexa Nilsson (Jolene Townsend) Parents Dave & Connie Nilsson, Tanner Johnson (Marc Johnson) Parents Jane & Marc Johnson, Taylor Schmidt



(Elaine Wolken) Parents Jack & Barb Schmidt, Cody Hanson (Lon Gellhaus) Parents Kelli & Lars Hanson, Evan Erickson (Gary Heitmann) Parents Meri & John Erickson, Sam Furman (Jeremy Smith) Parent Lynette & Terry Furman, Martha Miller (Kay Brandt) Parent Audrey Miller, and Jennifer Miller (Marlys Rodman) Parent Audrey Miller.

Confirmation Students and (mentors) in Conde are: Keith Hanlon (Cindy Smith) Parents Guy & Renee Hanlon, Tyler Stark (Norman Smith) Parents Vicki & Greg Stark, Shane Bruckner (Loren Siefken) Parents Bud & Julie Bruckner, Dylan Stark (Betty Jensen) Parents Vicki & Greg Stark, Collin Ragels (Pat Siefken) Parent Pam Sie-

### **Ashley Ptacek**

We would like to welcome Ashley Faith Ptacek and her parents, Perry and Laura, to our church with a baby shower during coffee hour on April 10th. Please join us

and get to know this new family. Ashley was born on February 12th and lives on the Dick Ruden farm. Grandparents are



Lyle and Kathy Jackson of Bath and Randy and Gaylene Ptacek of Cogswell, ND.

Hosted by Darlys Kampa, Gert Ruden, and Kay Brandt

### Becca Nelson Bride-to-Be of Adam Atherton

April 23rd 9:30-11:00 am At the Groton United Methodist Church

Organizing this event are Gloria Pharis and Jolene Townsend



### **Conde Friendship Evening** Alice in Holyland

Wednesday. April 27th at 6:30 pm the Conde United Methodist Women will join Alice in Holvland at the church. We will follow a voung girl's iourney's through the bible in search of guidance in becoming a godly and virtuous woman. Witness Alice, a modern teenager, as she encounters and interacts with well known women of the bible as Eve, Mrs. Noah, Sarah, Rahab, Delilah, and more;

and experience their stories from an entirely new perspective. Jeanna McKinney has written this original program which will be cast by the many fine actresses from the community.

Local committee lead-Donna Hearnen. ers are: decorations; Jeanna McKinney and Patty Knoll, program; Cindy Smith Jane Worlie. lunch: and Betty Taylor, publicity.



A salad lunch will be served at 6:30 pm followed by the program. Cost is \$5.00 per person. How can we connect with the women of all types of many years before in our lives today? All are welcome to join us at the church.

### Conde UMW

Wednesday, April 20th 2:00 pm

Lesson and Video featuring the country of Cuba. This is a study for the church for this year, so be sure to attend!

Leader: Joyce Haskell

Hostesses: Betty Taylor



### **Conde Clothing Collection**

There has been a note that items of clothing are needed for the children to the size of 16 at the Tree of Life Ministry in Mission. You may bring new or clean items as light jackets, sweaters, tee shirts for the Mission to distribute on the Rosebud Reservation. Please bring to the church when you come and all items will be sent from there. Thank you.

### Focus UMW - Conde

Focus UMW is hosted by the Redfield Church for the Conde and Surrounding Area. This is a learning day combined with opportunity for book shopping and reconnecting with friends. Registration is from 9:009:30 on Saturday, April 9th. There will be cars going from Conde, so for carpooling, call Donna Hearnen at 382-5264 for more information and ride. The meeting is scheduled to be done by mid-afternoon.

Excellence can be attained if you care more than others think is wise. risk more than others think is safe, dream more than others think is practi-\* cal, and expect more than others think is possible.

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### **Conde Administrative Council Minutes** March 8, 2005

Members in attendance: Darrel Haskell, Betty Taylor, Betty Jensen, Marion Jensen, Betty Geist, Cindy Smith, Norman Smith, Jane Worlie, Pat Siefken, Rev. Grant Piehl, Jim Zeck

Darrel called the meeting to order by having Rev. Piehl led us in prayer. Everyone recited the Mission statement of the church.

Jane gave the **Treasurer's report** showing an income of \$3.544.68 and expenses of \$2.754.80 for February. The report was approved. Donna Hearnen had a bill for layette kits costing \$42.10. Betty Taylor made the motion to approve the bill. Second by Cindy. Motion carried.

The **minutes** of the previous meeting were approved as read.

### Reports:

- **Trustees** -- The land contract is 'good' through 2005 crop year, so the trustees took no action at this time.
- Sunday School -- Betty G. reported that things were going well. The students will be singing at the 11:00 am Easter service.
- Missions -- One Great Hour of Sharing offering was taken, but figures had not been totaled yet.
- Pot Luck Noon meals were mentioned for March 13 with Donna H. in charge.
- Those who had attended the **Lay Ministry Workshop** on Feb. 13 in Groton shared information. Betty Taylor, Betty Jensen, Cindy Smith, and Pat Siefken were the attendees.

#### **New Business:**

- Good Friday services with communion will be held at 7:00 p.m.
- **Easter Sunrise services** will be at 8:00 a.m. Cindy volunteered to be in charge of the breakfast.
- Mary Ann Taylor, Cindy Smith and Pat Siefken had met and planned the program and dates for Vacation Bible School to be held on May 23-27 (8:45 am to 12:30 pm). The program will be held on Friday night.
- Stewardship Workshop will be held April 17. Bruce Blumer from the Methodist Foundation will be with us. He will lead worship that Sunday in both

churches. Conde will have a pot luck meal at noon. By consensus is was decided that the workshop time will start at 1:30. Our District Superintendent Rev. Debra Ball-Kilbourne will also be in attendance.

There being no ushers for the month of March, Betty Geist volunteered her family to do the service. A clipboard will be sent around during church service for people to sign up for the coming months.

Next meeting will be April 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Piehl closed the meeting with prayer.

The Conde United Methodist Church is seeking to satisfy the spiritual and physical needs of all.

## Groton UMW Minutes

The Groton United Methodist Women met at the Tiger's Den Youth Center March 16, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. President Jolene Townsend presided at the meeting. The **PURPOSE** was recited in unison. Groton's shepherdess, Deb Green of Redfield was a guest.

Business included the minutes, treasurer's report and committee reports. Balance in the treasury is \$1270.86.

Spiritual Growth— Mary Hayenga read from the Prayer Calendar for March 16th.

Program Resources— Mary Swisher reported that they have some more books selected to order.

Old Business—The president reported that the UMW took in \$94 at the Lenten supper free will offering. Kay Brandt moved that it be given to the Youth Center; seconded and carried.

Mary Hayenga reported on the World Day of Prayer service held at the Groton UMC on March 4<sup>th</sup>. The offering will go to Church Women United to be used for mission work around the world.

The May Breakfast

plans to date were reviewed.

New Business—Plans for a baby shower for Ashley Faith Ptacek, new born daughter of Perry and Laura Ptacek, were made, possibly to be April 10<sup>th</sup>. A bridal shower for Becca Nelson, bride to be of Adam Atherton is also being planned.

Announcements: Christian Education leaders will be honored on March 20<sup>th</sup>

Focus Day will be held in Redfield April  $9^{th}$ .

Next meeting—April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m., Executive meeting at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting closed with prayer and lunch, served by Mary Hayenga and Gert Ruden

### **Health Kits**

- 1 hand towel (15X25 up to 17X27)
- 1 washcloth (large and sturdy, not picket size)
- 1 nail file or fingernail clipper (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- 1 bar of soap (3 oz and up)
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper)
- 1 tube toothpaste (4-7 oz and check expiration date must be 6 months or longer in advance of the date of shipment to UMCOR)
- 6 Band-Aids



Groton UMW Meeting
April 20th at 7:30 PM
"In God We Are One"
Leader: Anita Lowary
Hostesses:

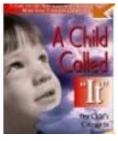
Kay Brandt and Audrey Miller Executive Meeting at 6:30

### The Banquet

The UMC of Groton and Conde members will again take part in the Mission Outreach Program of serving at "The Banquet" in Sioux Falls on Monday, June 6th. This project requires about 40 volunteers to prepare and serve the evening meal. 8-10 volunteers will be needed around 2:00 pm to prepare the meal and around 30 to serve the meal at 5:00. Please notify Rev. Piehl if you would like to be a part of this mission Car pools will be project. available, more details to come!

-- Missions Committees

## Groton UMW Reading Program Book Suggestions for April



Child Called It" by Dave Pelzer. The a u t h o r's mother, emotionally unstable and

alcoholic, subjected him to sever and unremitting child abuse. His story, while painful, reminds us of the need to advocate for victims of child abuse and suggests ways we can make a dif-

ference.

"Forced to Grow" by Sindiwe Magona. With vibrancy and intimacy, Ms. Ma-



gona describes her experiences as a South African woman left alone to raise three small children. She tells of her struggles against hardships and crises of

her eventful life.

"Winter Grace: Spirituality and aging" by Kathleen Fischer. This book explores

the Christian perspective on several key experiences of the later years of life: memories, dependence and independence, love and sexuality, loss, dying and resurrection.

Check these and many more UMW books out



### Lenten Supper Donations

Thank you to all who attended the Lenten Soup and Sandwich Suppers. Thank you to each group for helping out with making this a great success. Each group chose who to donate their free-will offerings to.

- J UMYF \$125 to Jacob Palmer
- J UMW \$94 to Tiger's Den
- Missions \$125.80 to Randy Padfield
- Choir \$104 to Randy Padfield
- **Ad Board** \$118 to Roof Fund
- ) Sunday School \$120 for Bible School

## UMW Spring Focus Days - April 8 Groton Plans

The 2005 Spring UMW Focus Days will be hosted by the Redfield UMW on Saturday, April 9th. 14 UMW Units will be attending from this area with Deb green, our shepherdess as chairman.

Registration and coffe/ rolls begin at 9:00 am. A \$5.00 lunch will be served at noon by the Redfield UMW. Closing Worship will be between 3 and 4 pm.

We will plan to leave from the Groton church at 7:30

am, car pooling will be available. Please bring your bible and dress attire is casual/comfortable.

The Spring Focus Meeting will highlight the 3 School of Christian Mission Studies; Cuba, Prayer and Public Education. Music, singing, prayer, coffee/rolls, skits, love ribbons, devotions, food, fun, prayer, more singing, and fellowship will be on the agenda. The Groton UMW will be presenting the Closing Worship ser-

vice with the Offering to go to Undesignated Giving.

Please JIIIS notify Jolene (395-6455) if you plan to attend by Wednesday, April 6th. It would be great to take 2 or 3 cars!!! What a statement that would make! Hope you can join us!!!! This is a great opportunity to learn more about United Methodist Women and our PUR-POSE!!!



### Native American Ministries Sunday Offering - April 10th

"I want to be the best minister I can be. The best way to do this is through theological education."

When lifelong United Methodist Chebon Kernell graduated from college, he decided to go to law school "to get into the political arena. I thought that would be my calling."

For the promise is for... everyone whom... our God calls" Acts 2:39, NRSV

But apparently God had other ideas for the young man whose heritage is Seminole. At a church retreat in 2001, Chebon remembers, "I heard the calling to ordained ministry."

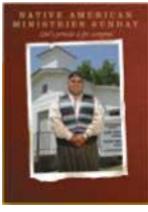
So he responded. Now a third-year student at Phillips

Theological Seminary, Tulsa, Okla., and director of interpretation and programs for the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, Chebon has a clear life plan—"to serve the local church. Spiritually, it is such a blessing."

Of his student appointment, Pawnee Indian UMC, Chebon says, "It's fun to see the church grow, to see the opportunities for worship and hospitality. These are at the heart of the gospel of Christ."

Your offering on Native American Ministries Sunday enriches The United Methodist Church in many ways. Native Americans attending United Methodist and other approved seminaries receive

scholarships.
Across the
U n i t e d
States, urban
ministries
reach out to
Native Ameri-



c a n s and others. Mission with Native Americans in your annual

conference and across the connection is developed and nurtured.

"For the promise...is for everyone whom...our God calls" (Acts 2:39). Help promising Native Americans like Chebon Kernell to answer God's call to ministry. Please give generously on Native American Ministries Sunday, the third Sunday of Easter. Your gift makes a world of difference!



## When Life Hands you Lemons....Redecorate!



Planning is underway for the Groton May Breakfast that will take place on Wednesday, May 4th. The Pro-

gram will be done by Arlis Doeden from Paints & More. Watch for more Details and Join Us!

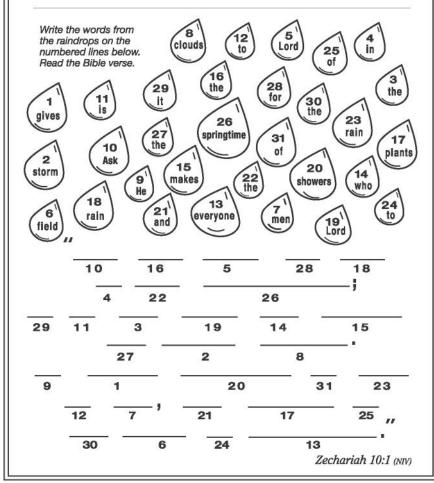
### God isn't deaf

Little Sonia was praying loudly to God and asking for a new doll for her birthday. Her mother interrupted her and said, "There's no need to shout. God isn't deaf."

Sonia responded, "No, but Grandpa is and he's in the family room watching TV."



Each spring the Lord sends April showers to water the earth. Without rain to nourish our trees, plants, flowers, fruits and vegetables, there would be a poor growing season and very little to harvest. Thank God for rainy weather!



Answer: "Ask the Lord for rain in the springrime; it is the Lord who makes the storm clouds. He gives showers of rain to men, and plants of the field to everyone," Zechariah 10:1

### **Groton Early Bird Camping Deadline!**

April 24th

Please let Kay Brandt or Rev Piehl know if you wish to Attend a Camp in the Groton Church

# Dakotas United Methodist Camping Sign Up Today!

Early Bird Deadline for all Camping Adventures is April 30th. Kay Brandt for the Groton Church would like the registration forms by April 24th in order to get them in the mail.

We have an interest in the Beginning Guitar Camp at the Wesley Acres Campground in ND. It is for Grades 9-adult so add this to your schedule and learn how to play guitar for our Worship Services! It takes place May 30-June 3rd.

Mom's Take 5 Camp is May 27-29 at the Lake Poinsett Campground. This is a camp for single moms and their children, ages 3-12. This camp offers opportunities to discuss the unique challenges of single-parenting and to grow in an atmosphere of support and acceptance. Children have special activities and family time is also planned.

Faithful Servants Camp is in Mitchell on July 11-14 for grades 7-12. Pat Siefken & Scott McKirdy are the Deans. You stay in the DWU dorms and go out in the community to do hands on missions projects, including serving at Mitchell's Love Feast.

There are wonderful Camps!

many more Check out a Camp book today!



### **Groton Church Family Committee**

### Brent & Christi Swenson, Lee & Amanda Carna & Cliff Pray, Nathan Atherton , Kevin Pray

Jodi & Craig Sternhagen

Marlys Rodman

Yvonne Lange

Leslie & Ken Dinger, Mason

Kristi & Lance Hawkins

Dale & Michelle Kramer

Kami & Tom Lipp

Eileen Piehl

Pam & Roger Rix

Rose & Bill Tewksbury

Gayleen & Jon Voss, Lacy & Jordan

Doris & Richard Zoellner

Matt & Sue Rock

### **Honorary Members**

- J Margaret Hubbard
- J ImoJeanne Oliver
- Mary & Jay Swisher
- J Mary Alice Jensen

### May Extra Responsibilities



- May 22 Trinity Sunday, Change Altar cloths to White
- May 29, Change Altar Cloths to Green
- J Mow Lawn as needed
- J Clean Nursery & Kindergarten Rooms
- J No Potluck

## **Groton Administrative Council Minutes March 9th**

Loren Siefken will lead Groton's church services on April 10. \$2000 has been received for new candelabras

Stewardship Sunday is April 17. Plans for the day include a visit by Bruce Blummer to our worship service. Also a 1:30 meeting in Conde will focus on discussions about apportionments, foundation programs and continuous church funding projects. The District Superintendent will be in attendance.

Our Missions Committee reported that April 10 will be our special Native American Day offering and June 6 we will serve at the Banquet in Sioux Falls.

Cliff Pray is collecting bids for our roofing project. The council decided the project needed to be done this year. Once projected costs are available the administrative council will meet to discuss funding of the project.

It was decided that the church will help fund 80% of camping costs this year and will invite Steve Foss to speak with the congregation and youth to encourage camping participation.

Confirmation is planned for Sunday, April 24.

Graduation Recognition Sunday is planned for May 15.

The next committee will be April 13, at 8:00 pm

--Jeanne Wanous, Secretary

Groton Stewardship Report March 2005

Average Wkly Giving \$1,463

Needed Weekly to Meet Church Needs \$1,874

Average Weekly Attendance 95

Total Building Fund Offerings \$465

### **Upcoming May Events!**

May 1 - UMW Central District Annual Meeting,  $3:00~\mathrm{pm}$  at Huron First Church

May 9 - Mother's Day

May 11 - Groton UMYF at 6:15 pm. Last Meeting of Year!

May 15 - Groton Graduation Sunday

May 18 - Groton UMW Tea

Party

on Wheels

## Goodwill Truck is Coming! Date in May to be Announced!

Conde VBS - May 23-27

June 6 - Serving "The Banquet"

### Groton Sunday School Palm Sunday



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<b>Groton Phone</b>	CAYER CANALA		
Prayer Chain	R CHARGE CHAIR		
Marlys Rodman	397-4		

1570 Jean Lowary 397-8228 **Audrey Thurston** 397-8493 Gert Ruden 397-8211 Pat Dahlquist 397-2616 Florann Norris 397-2638 Mary Swisher 397-8259 Gloria Pharis 397-2375 Mary Jane Schott 397-8588 Doris Zoellner 397-2417 Marjorie Townsend 298-5221 Marjorie Overacker 397-8562

Marjorie Overacker 397-8562 Darlys Kampa 395-6996 Marvel/Bob Johnson 397-2425

Carolyn Snyder 397-8396





PAGE II

### Sunday School Sings Palm Sunday Christian Education Leaders Recognized



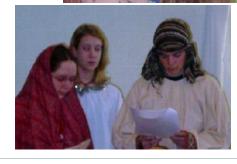












UMYF Sunrise Service



## Goodie Givers **Beverly Healthcare-Groton**

### Volunteering with Love and a Little Time

Would you like to volunteer but have little or no time to do this? Pat Miller gave me a wonderful idea the other day. A fun way to volunteer and share with the residents would be to provide

fresh baked items of various sorts that would be enjoyed during the afternoon coffee time. We only need one pan or 2-3 dozen of whatever you like. This will increase the variety of baked goodies everyone so much enjoys and remembers. If you would like to be a volunteer home baker, goodie giver, please let Kay Brandt or Dorothy McCurdy know and we can set you up with one day/month to share your wonderful baked creations.



# Other Volunteer Opportunities

### At Beverly Healthcare-Groton

- Evening Lucky 7
- Evening Uno
- Evening Quarter Bingo
- Craft Sharing
- Letter Writing
- Checker Player
- Holiday Decorator
- Sunday Newspaper Reader
- J Gardeners
- Music Sharing
- Bird Attendant

## Attention: All Church Laity Lay Ministries Training Courses

April 29-30 at the Aberdeen North Highland UMC with Basic Lay Speaking Class led by Rev. Sheila Richards and Advanced Class on "Leading Bible Study" led by Rev. Jon Damaska.

These training sessions are for all laity within the church, not just for Lay Speakers. The sessions will be designed to provide needed training for members of your congregation to become better recruiters for disciples for Jesus Christ. However, if you wish to become a certified lay speaker, you must have completed the basic course and complete one of the advanced courses. You must have additional courses every 3 years to maintain your certified lay speaker status. More information on the Lay Speaker program and re-

quirements will be available at the training session.

The classes will begin at 6 pm on Friday and conclude on Saturday by 3:30 pm. Participants should have eaten their dinner prior to arriving on Friday



evening. Lunch will be provided on Saturday. If you have questions, please cal the conference office at 605-996-6552 during the day. We will plan to start the Saturday morning session at

### **Groton Easter Memorials**

Easter Lilies	In Memory Of
Twila Ruden	Earl Ruden
Ann & Jerry Rix	Their Parents & Marian
JoAnn & Rich Krueger	Parents, Brothers, & Sister
John, Meri, Seth, Evan, & Sydney Erickson	Marlys Sippel
Bill & Clare Brotherton	Parents
Roger & Marj OverackerDon Clocksene	Margarette Clocksene & Ronnie Wallen
Jean & Earl Lowary	Their Parents
Lon & Marva Gellhaus	Grandparents & Gary Gell-
Cal & Mary Hayenga	Parents & Family
Gloria & Harry Pharis	Parents
Monte & Laurel McNickle	Memory of our Father
Dick & Gert Ruden	Lill & Oscar, Mae & Carl
Gary, Linda, & Rick Thurston	Bill, Ethel, & Jim Knoll
Russell & Marjory Townsend	Parents
Marlys Rodman	Arlene Boehmer & Parents
Sherwin & Chris Nyberg	Hannah & Parents
Norm & Audrey Thurston	Our Parents
Grant & Eileen Piehl	Parents
Al & Joyce Walter	Joyce's Parents & Al's Grandparents
Bert Raap	Darlene Raap



### **Conde Easter Lilies Memorials**

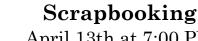
In Memory of:

- Lucy Haskell from Darrel Haskell
- Elma and Henry Buising from Dolores Grimes
- Diane and Ken Ketel
- Wanda and Burleigh Grimes
- Betty Taylor
- For: Elma and Henry Buising from Wanda and Burleigh Grimes
- Bess and Harry Grimes from Wanda and Burleigh Grimes
- For: Nellie and Lynn Drake from Donna and Horace Walter
- Eunice and Barton Walter from Donna and Horace Walter
- For: Viola Hanlon and Randy Wendt(Renee's brother) from Renee, Guy Hanlon and family
- A gift from Betty and Marion Jensen Thank you for these fitting memorials.

### Groups meet at Beverly Healthcare

Join Them! Everyone Welcome!





April 13th at 7:00 PM

**Knitting & Crochet** 

Learn to Make Items for the Layette Kits! April 20th at 7:00 PM



#### **GROTON/CONDE PARISHES**



April 2005						
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We're on the Web! www.grotonsdchurches.com

### **Our Church Happenings**

Aprıl 3	Groton May Breakfast Meeting after
Church	
April 6	Conde Martha Bible Study at church 8 pm
April 9	UMW Focus Days at Redfield UMC
April 10	Shower for Ashley Ptacek
	during Groton Coffee Hour
	Potluck in Groton
	Native American Sunday
April 13	Groton UMYF at 6:15 pm with supper
	Groton Ad Council 8:00 pm
April 17	Stewardship Sunday
	Boyd Bloomer Speaking
	Stewardship Workshop in Conde at
1:30	
April 20	Conde UMW 2:00 pm; featuring Cuba
	Conde Ad Board 7:00 pm
April 24	Confirmation Sunday
	Groton Camping Sign-Up Deadline
April 27	Conde UMW Friendship Evening 6:30 pm