



JUNE 2005

## UNITED METHODIST MESSENGER

GROTON/CONDE UMC PARISHES

### FAREWELL

#### Our New Address Will Be:

Rev Grant & Eileen Piehl

PO Box M

Napoleon, ND 58561

701-754-2240

June first and the beginning of a busy month for all of us. For grade school children the magic words of "no school" even Vacation Bible School is finished. There will be lots of baseball and other activities for them. There are summer jobs for older youth and some are preparing for college in a few months.



For me and several others in our church, June is Annual Conference, in Bismarck, ND (June 8-12). After that, Eileen and I prepare to move. We will be living in Napoleon, ND and serving the churches in Napoleon and Lehr, ND. Thanks to the help of two of our kids and several volunteers from the church, we got most of our packing done a couple of weeks ago. We are 90-95% ready at this point. We are currently living amid the boxes and often wondering where certain items are.

There are still a couple of farewell events planned and the personal goodbyes to friends, but the time of ministry in Groton and Conde is nearly ended. This chapter of our lives comes to an end, but the story continues.

We look forward to this new chapter of life. There are many people in and out of the church to get to

know. Some will become good friends.

Looking back there have been many good events during our three years here. There have been weddings and baptisms and sad funerals. All are times that draw us together and times of ministry. Serving at the "Banquet" has been a learning experience for all of us.

There have been many other good events.

This time together comes to an end, yet we hope to see you at conference events and other meetings. If you chance to come through Napoleon, stop in and visit a few minutes.

God Bless you.

"Until we meet again"

Peace,

Pastor Grant

### Up from the valley

We think sometimes when things don't go the right way, when we suffer a defeat, that all has ended. Not true: It is only a beginning, always. Greatness comes not when things always go good for you, but the greatness comes when you are really tested, when you take some knocks, some disappointments, when sadness comes. Because only if you have been in the deepest valley can you ever know how magnificent it is to be on the highest mountain.

—Richard M. Nixon



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## Groton UMW Tea Party on Wheels



### Christ still calls us

The rugged hills of Galilee  
Drop down to meet the sea  
Where burly men still mend  
their nets,  
Still fish there eagerly.  
The sea's the same place  
where Christ said,  
"Lay down your nets and  
heed

My call to love all people  
And serve them in their  
need."

"I'll help you fish for hu-  
mankind,"

He told them long ago.  
His call's still heard, His  
help's still real  
Today, as we well know.  
Yes, people still are leaving  
"nets"

Wherever they might be,  
And as disciples still go forth  
To serve Christ willingly.

—Peggy Ferrell








**CONDE VBS**





## Just for KIDS

### Do Good Works Unto the Lord!

The Bible tells us that ants are good workers and we can learn from them. Make a list of things you can do this summer to keep busy like the ants. You can help your family, your neighbors, your friends and your church. Get your friends together to think of projects you can do as a group.

*Fill in the blanks below with the letters from the ants. Follow the ants back and forth, and write the letters in the order they appear.*

g o t   o t h   e a n   t c o   n s i   d e r

t i e   s i w   e b d   n a s   v a w   s t i

s t o   r e s   i t s   p r o   v i s   i o n

r e h   t a g   a n a   r e m   m u s   n i s

s i t   s f o   o d a   t h a   r v e   s t

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ !

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Proverbs 6:6-8, NIV

Answer: Go to the ant ... consider its ways and be wise! It ... stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest. —Proverbs 6:6-8, NIV

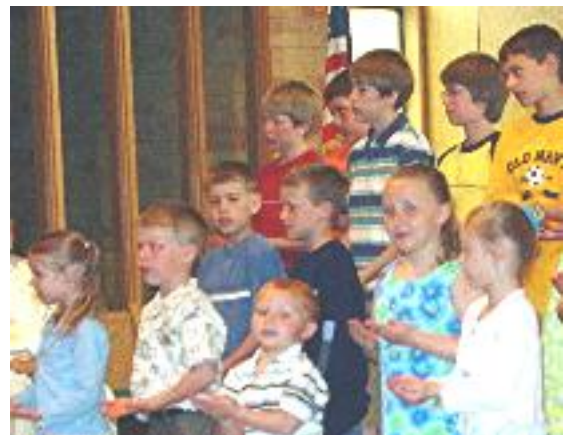
#### Groton Seniors were honored

Lacy Voss  
Alana Wolken  
Jessica Pasteur  
Nathan Atherton  
Mason Dinger  
Jennifer Podoll  
Halley Schmidt  
Michelle Sundling



#### Groton Vacation Bible School was a Success!

Thank you to all who helped and donated items. Sunday School



## FROM THE UMW PRESIDENT...

The Dakotas Conference UMW 2005 theme is "Making Our World Smaller Through Prayer." This year the UMW are intentionally taking time to improve our communication through prayer, at our recent Focus Days we explored several new ways to pray. When we read the newspaper, or hear of events on television, we will stop and say a prayer. We will let all circumstances call us to prayer. We will continue to participate in the upcoming prayer vigils. We will also pray for our "Sister Unit", Holmes UMW, at Reynolds, ND.

Remember there isn't just one right way to pray - what works well for one person may not for another.

When we pray we come before God with the world on our hearts. God already knows what is in our hearts and minds. We can be honest with God, and say exactly how we feel, or even just sit in silence. You may want to pray alone, or you may find that it helps to join others. You may use your own words or you may find it helpful to use written prayers.

Let us thank God for all our prayer opportunities. Prayer is so simple and yet it is the highest and holiest work that we can do. 1 Thesalonians 5:16-18 Paul says, "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

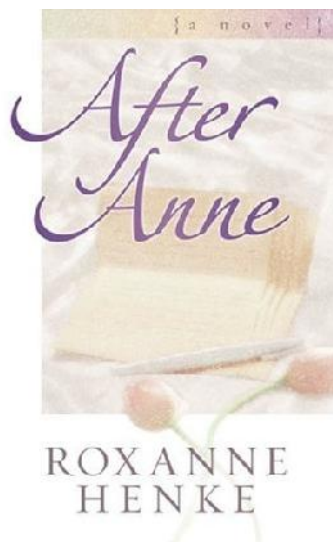
## Let us know peace



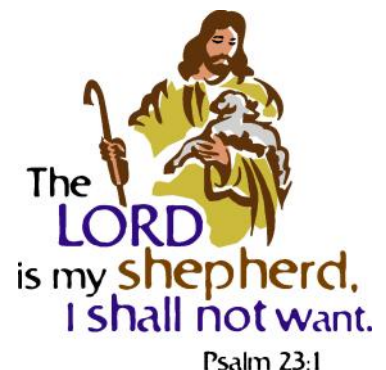
Let us know peace  
For as long as the moon  
shall rise  
For as long as the rivers  
shall flow  
For as long as the sun  
will shine  
For as long as the grass  
shall grow.  
Let us know peace.  
—Native American  
prayer

## DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING - SEPT 10TH

Have you read the book "After Anne"? It's the story of two women who become best friends. Anne is truly the kind of friend all of us would love to have, this story will make you cry, so have tissues close by. The author, Roxanne Henke, will be our guest speaker at the Central District Meeting in Gettysburg, SD on



Sept 10, 2005. Roxanne lives in Wishek, ND and we are excited to have her as our guest. Buy or borrow the book and join us in Gettysburg. "After Anne" is on our 2005 UMW Reading Program, one copy is in the UMW Library. Check it out today!



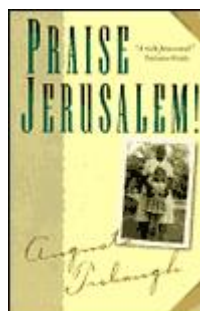
## UMW READING PROGRAM

**Falling Leaves** (Ed for Mission) In 1937, Adeline Yen Mah's mother died giving birth to her. Because of this, she was considered "bad luck", tormented by her siblings and shunned by her father. Her father soon remarried a beautiful, young Eurasian woman who was cruel and manipulative. She treated all five of her stepchildren badly, but saved her real hatred for Adeline. *Falling Leaves* is the powerful, riveting memoir of emotional abuse and isolation that Ms Yen Mah suffered at the hands of her stepmother. Adeline Yen Mah didn't just survive her childhood, she triumphed. With great wisdom and insight, she tells a story not just about her life, but the life of China, before and after the cultural revolution and how both were changed forever. Despite her miserable childhood, she excelled, became a doctor, married and found freedom and a new life in America. This is an amazing, compelling story, told by an amazing woman who was not only able to put the past behind her, but was able to celebrate life and move forward.



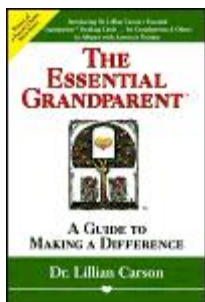
a positive experience. An easy read that gets you thinking. This book will help you find your answer and assist you in developing a plan for your grandparenting. It will dispel the myths and "tell it like it is." You'll learn that other grandparents feel just as you do. It will guide you to become aware of the possibilities, encourage you to trust your intuition, and teach you how to set goals so that you can make the most of this essential role. Just as babies don't come with instructions for parents, they certainly don't come with instructions for grandparents!

**Praise Jerusalem** (Social Action) What a wonderful book Ms. Trobaugh has given us to read. I love all of her books starting with Resting



in the Bosom of the Lamb, and this one was not a disappointment. Her characters are unforgettable & you don't want their story to end. If you love books about the south & quirky characters please read & fall in love with Trobaugh's books. *Praise Jerusalem!* spans a few vital weeks in the lives of three elderly Southern women who have been thrust into a concerted effort to find their "New Jerusalem" - a utopia of heavenly perfection. In this case, however, it is the small town of Jerusalem, Georgia, to which the women journey, each expecting to find happiness at last. But to find their utopia, they must overcome the social and racial estrangements that isolate them from each other.

**The Essential Grandparent** (Nurt for Comm.) Great observations and insights about the family and grandparenting. Dr. Carson dispels myths and provides good observations and suggestions on how to make grandparenting



August 1st is the deadline for the 2005 Reading Program Plan. "After Anne" seems to be popular, everyone is enjoying it. Remember to complete Level I, you must read 1 book from each of the four categories, (books are chosen from the 2000 to 2005 list) for a total of 4 books plus reading of Response. Level II is at least 2 books from each of the 4 categories plus 2 of your choice for a total of 10 books plus regular reading of Response and New World Outlook Magazines. Please send your completed Reading Program Forms to Mary Swisher by August 1st.



## GROTON UMW PLEDGE

In 2005, Mission support from United Methodist Women's Undesignated giving through Women's Division totals:

\$ .58 for one second

\$ 34.68 for one minute

\$ 2,080.54 for one hour

\$ 49,932.95 for one day

\$18,255,527.00 for one year

WOW - Isn't it great to be part of that giving? What is your personal pledge to mission for 2006? Can you spare...

\$ .25 per month.... \$4.00 pledge

\$ .50 per month.... \$6.00 pledge

\$1.00 per month... \$12.00 pledge

\$2.00 per month....\$24.00 pledge

\$3.00 per month....\$36.00 pledge

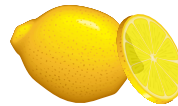
\$4.00 per month....\$48.00 pledge

for women, children, and youth?

Your 2006 Pledge Card will be arriving in the mail soon. Please take time to read the information and return as directed.

"Give, and it will be given to you...for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." - Luke 6:38

**Thank you** to all 90 members of the UMW for the contribution of desserts, lemons, cool whip, and coffee and their TIME and SERVICE. It wouldn't be possible without your help. Thank you to Jolene Townsend, president of UMW, for leading us in having a successful May Breakfast this year!



## Groton UMW Meeting

**June 15th**

**7:30 PM**

**Pledge Service**

**"Then & Now:  
136 Years of  
Mission"**

### **Leaders**

**Elaine Wolken  
Carolyn Snyder**

### **Hostesses**

**Carol Strom  
Crystal Sippel**

### **Officers & Program**

#### **Resource Chairmen**

meet at 6:30 PM

Select Recipient of  
Mission Recognition

Select Jewel of a  
Woman

### **Nomination**

**Committee Meets at**

**6:30 PM to Prepare  
Slate of Officers**

## GROTON JULY FAMILY COMMITTEE

Brenda & Tony Madsen

Gloria & Harry Pharis

Ben & Kristi Peterson

Carla & Tim Geffre, Lucius & Skylar

Linda & Jay Johnson

Charlotte & Art Lange

Marjae & Dan Schinkel

Francine & Marc Sippel

Carol & LuVerne Strom

Sharon & Larry Wheeting

Caralee & Gary Heitmann

Kim & Craig Weber

Karla Pasteur, Jessica & Ali

Don Bartz

### Honorary Members

J Barbara Wegner

J Irene Breitruezt

J Lila Bartz

### July Extra Responsibilities

J Mow lawn each week

J Clean Sunday School Superintendent's Office & Restrooms



June 19 Groton July Family Committee Mtg during coffee hour before Church

## The joy of generosity

He who has received much should also give much. It is essential to give a goodly part of what God has allowed us to accumulate. Otherwise greed and miserliness will seize our hearts and minds. Furthermore, by not giving generously, we will miss the many joys that generosity brings to us. Let us not cheat ourselves of those blessings.

## GROTON ADMIN BOARD MINUTES - MAY

Groton Admin. Council – Ten members were present on May 11 to consider the following agenda items:

All 90 members contributed to help make the May Breakfast a success, serving 178 guests. The Tea Party on Wheels is planned for May 18. Registration deadline is June 15 for the School of Christian Mission in Mitchell July 8-10 & July 11-14.

May 11 was the last meeting of the UMYF which included bowling & a pizza party.

Mary Hayenga will lead services on June 12. Arrangements for Bath church services have been made with Loren Siefken, Donna Baskins and Carna Atherton-Pray.

Discussions continue to be held on roof repair for the Groton Church. Cliff Pray distributed drawings to be reviewed. A special administrative

council meeting will be held when all estimates are received. Funding of the repair work received much discussion including using the UM Builders Fund.

The outdoor church sign is being repaired and cleaned thanks to volunteer work from Ben Brandt and Marlys Rodman.

There continues to be a shortfall in offerings, but we are now able to pay February apportionments this month.

Before new candelabras will be purchased with Memorial Gifts, a catalog representative will be contacted for discussion and to possibly view samples.

Eileen and Pastor Grant will be honored at a farewell potluck on June 19.

### Groton Stewardship Report May 2005

Average Wkly Giving \$1,123

Needed Weekly to Meet Church Needs \$1,874

Average Weekly Attendance 74

Total Building Fund Offerings \$40



JUNE 2005



Marlys Rodman	397-4570
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
Darlys Kampa	395-6996
Marvel/Bob Johnson	397-2425

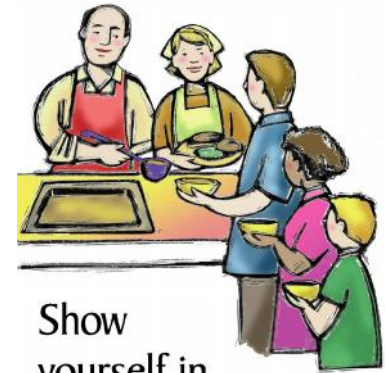


July 15-22

### Trailer at Groton Church Parking Lot

No Large Appliances or Furniture. Questions? Contact Anita Lowary.

[www.goodwill.org](http://www.goodwill.org) -Check out Goodwill on the Internet and read the success stories of your donations!



Show  
yourself in  
all respects a model  
of good works.

Titus 2:7

### Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Starting in June we will be meeting on Tuesday Mornings!

See you June 7th at 10:00 am

Studying Women of the Bible

**JOIN US!**

## A blessing, one way or another

The marriage ceremony was over and the pastor raised his hand to pronounce the benediction. The bride, however, must have thought he was offering her a "high five." She raised her hand and slapped the pastor's hand. The congregation laughed. Not wanting to leave the groom out, the minister gave him a high five as well. Then the pastor finally offered the benediction.



Brian & Andrea Bahr,  
married Feb. 5, 2005  
at the UMC in  
Groton. The couple is  
residing in Groton.



## CONDE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES - MAY

The Conde United Methodist Church Administrative Council met on Wednesday, May 18th at 7:00. The following members were in attendance: Cindy Smith, Jane Worlie, Darrel Haskell, Donna Hearnen, Betty Jensen, and Rev. Grant Piehl.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** showed income was \$2745.74 and expenses were \$3957.98.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**TRUSTEES** - Weed spraying and ant spraying need to be done. This will be taken care of by Norb Hearnen or Darrel Haskell. The copy machine is not working properly and repair parts are unavailable for a machine that is this old. Research will be done on purchasing a new one. There is a possibility that there may be some undesignated Memorial money available to help pay for a new machine. There was discussion on the need of more tables for the church. When there is a large crowd, we do not have enough descent tables and have to use some very unstable ones.

**UMW** - The Senior Breakfast was held on Wednesday, May 11. All eight seniors, Mr. Youngman, Rev. Piehl, and the pastor from the Aberdeen church that April Worlie attends were present to enjoy the meal and fellowship. At 10:30, some UMW members traveled to Aberdeen for lunch at Alonzo's and a tour of the newly renovated hotel. The group also toured the museum, and then went to the Salvation Army Thrift store to buy clothing to send to The Tree of Life Mission.

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE** - Bible School is

being held from May 23-27. Sunday School is in recess for the summer.

**MISSION COMMITTEE** - The trip to Sioux Falls to serve at "The Banquet" will be Monday, June 6. More volunteers are needed for this project. We will be collecting articles or money for School Kits during the months of July and August. Donations can still be made for church World Service Blankets.

### NEW BUSINESS

It was decided to accept the offer made by Kay Brandt to place a used computer in the Conde Church. This should make it easier to get articles up to Groton for the Church Newsletter. There was also discussion about purchasing a digital camera so pictures could be taken for the newsletter.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, June 5 - Potluck dinner following church to honor Rev. Grant & Eileen Piehl as they leave our parish for a new charge in Napoleon, ND.

Monday, June 6 - Groton and Conde churches serve at "The Banquet" in Sioux Falls.

Sunday, June 12 - Annual Conference - Mary Hayenga will be Lay Speaker.

Wednesday, June 15 - Administrative Council Meeting at 7:00.

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

4th Sunday of  
each month we  
are dedicating  
the loose change  
in the collection  
or specially  
marked checks  
or envelopes to  
the Advance for  
World Hunger.





## GREAT FATHER ... APPRECIATIVE SON

An Arizona man named Ruff wrote to a newspaper to tell about his father. Ruff said his dad's first priority was to be a good father. He supported his children in their various activities: football or baseball games, scouting, school activities, etc.

Ruff said his dad, a heavy-equipment operator, was physically big but was also big-hearted. Ruff saw him help a dog that was hurt, and go out of his way to help the poor. He saw his father's eyes moisten when he held his baby granddaughter for the first time.

His father had taught him to drive, to use tools correctly, not to be greedy, and to be respectful of

others. The good father had taught his son how to be a good man.

Ruff ended his letter to the paper with these words: "I guess ... I thought I'd reach a point in my life where I could be self-sufficient and not need him. That was a young man's thinking. Now that I'm over 40 and he is gone, I think about him every day and miss him. And I need him.

"So for all the times I didn't say it: Dad, I love you."

—Adapted from a letter in The Arizona Republic



## Sky is Still Falling In Groton

Last Wednesday when I came to the church for the Administrative Council meeting. I heard "Drip, Drip, Drip". I saw that the water was coming in one of the education rooms and was falling onto the papers that had been set out for Vacation Bible School. The carpet was soaked. We are glad for the rain, but each soaking soaks the ceilings of the education unit.

On May 22, on behalf of the Administrative council, I reported to the congregation that the roof is leaking and we need to repair it. Last week, the Ad Council met the considered the information we have gathered so far. We learned that this is a more complex project than we had thought. It was decided that the best thing to do is gather all the best information that is available and to have a Roof Committee formed to gather information and coordinate the plans for financing and construction. The Roof Building Committee would work with Finance, Trustees, and Ad Council. This committee would make sure we are all going the same direction



and that facts are shared with the congregation in an accurate and timely manner. This committee would be empowered by the Ad Council to get the project moving and keep it going. The smaller group could move quickly to see that leaks are stopped and the repair inside and out are done. If you know someone who you feel should be part of the Roof Committee, please let the Pastor or an Ad Council member know.

--Mary Hayenga

### A father's example

I watched a small man with thick calluses on both hands work fifteen and sixteen hours a day. I saw him once literally bleed from the bottoms of his feet, a man who came here uneducated, alone, unable to speak the language, who taught me all I needed to know about faith and hard work by the simple eloquence of his example.

—Mario Cuomo

**Service Times will be switched on  
June 19th for the Potluck in Groton!**



June 2005						
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		

## **OUR CHURCH HAPPENINGS**

**June 5** - Conde Potluck Farewell for Rev. Grant & Eileen

**June 6** - "The Banquet" in Sioux Falls

**June 7** - Blood Drive at Groton Legion 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm - Appt: 397-8498

Groton Women's Bible Study 10:00 am - each Tuesday

**June 8-11** - Dakotas Annual Conference in Bismark, ND

**June 15** - Groton Roof Meeting at 8:00 (Please Note they will Meet Weekly!)

Conde Ad Council Meeting 7:00

Registration due for School of Christian Mission - DWU

**June 19** - Service Times will switch to allow for a Farewell Potluck in Groton.

Conde Church 9 am and Groton Church 11 am.

Groton Potluck Farewell for Rev Grant & Eileen

Groton July Family Committee Mtg during coffee hour before Church

**July 8-10** - Weekend School of Christian Mission - Mitchell, DWU

**July 11-14** - Week Day School of Christian Mission - Mitchell, DWU

**July 15-22** - Goodwill Trailer in Groton Church Parking Lot