

May 2005

GROTON/CONDE PARISHES



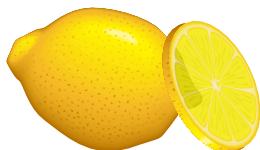
**Groton UMW
May Breakfast**

Wednesday
May 4th

“When Life Hands
you Lemons...
Redecorate!”

Featuring
Arlis Doeden from
Paints N More

Seating available at
11:30 or 1:15
Make reservations
with Jean Lowary
397-8228 or
Clare Brotherton
397-8177.



United Methodist Messenger

Lost and Found

Sometimes it takes a new approach to an old parable to get our attention and the intent of the Bible. Robert T. Brooks has one that makes us rethink the parable of the lost sheep.

Have you ever looked in the lost and found? Most of the time the things there could just as well stay there. One mitten, a dirty T-shirt, a muddy sock. If you lost something of no consequence to you, you likely wouldn't even bother looking, most people don't.

Which one of you, having 100 T-shirts and losing one of them, would go into that Lost and Found to search among the filthy, smelly clothes there until you found that shirt? And if you found that shirt, would you call all your friends together and have a party, shouting, “Rejoice with me, for I have found my shirt that was lost!”

Fortunately, Jesus considered us of worth and went looking until he found us.

Peace,

Pastor Grant



Memorial Day

Memorial
Day emerged
from the grim
shadows of the



American Civil War. Before the close of the war, women began decorating the graves of soldiers who had died in that war. The practice quickly spread, and a few years later May 30, 1868, was designated as Decoration Day – a day for placing flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers throughout the United States.

In 1882, Decoration Day became known as Memorial Day, and soldiers who died in other wars were also honored. Over the years, it has become a day when all loved ones who have died – in war and otherwise – are remembered. In 1971, the United States Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be observed annually on the last Monday in May.

On this Memorial Day, remember those who gave their lives for our country. But also pray for those who continue serving to keep America free, especially those who are in harm's way.



*Groton Seniors
Graduating
will be honored
May 15th*

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



Confirmation Sunday - April 24th

Groton Students (mentor) Parents

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) Parents Lynette & Terry Furman, Martha Miller (Kay Brandt) Parent Audrey Miller, and Jennifer Miller (Marlys Rodman) Parent Audrey Miller.

Conde Students (mentor) Parents

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 (Donna Hearnen) Parents Vicki & Greg Stark, and Collin Ragels (Betty Jensen) Parent Pam Siefken.

Confirmation Coordinators were:
Meri Erickson in Groton and Pat Siefken in Conde

Groton Campers

Groton has two students signed up to go to camp this summer. Please send them a card because they would enjoy a hello greeting from our church family!



Lake Drive, Arlington, SD 57212.

Alexa Nilsson will be headed to MADD camp on June 21-26 at Lake Poinsett. Camp greetings are always welcomed. So send her a greeting on June 20th to Lake Poinsett Camp, MADD, 20 South

Martha Miller is off to Wesley Acres Camp in ND on May 30 - June 3. We hope she will come back and share a song with us in worship on her guitar! Camp greetings can be sent on May 27th & 28th to her at Wesley Acres Camp, Beginning Guitar, 1821 115th Ave SE, Dazey, ND 58429-9733.

))))))
TO THE PURE
ALL THINGS ARE
PURE,
BUT TO THE
CORRUPT
AND UNBELIEVING
NOTHING IS
PURE
))))))
TITUS 1:15

Tea Party on Wheels

The Groton UMW meeting for May 18th will be "Tea Party on Wheels" with Marj Townsend Leading. Please come to the church at 2:00 pm to go out and have a tea party with some special people of our church and have an enjoyable afternoon!



April UMW Meeting Minutes - Groton

Anita Lowary presented the program entitled, "In God We Are One". Discussion followed on what we can do in our community to improve adult child relationships.

President Jolene Townsend presided at the April 20th meeting of UMW at 7:30 p.m. An executive committee meeting was held at 6:30 p.m. Sixteen members were present. The PURPOSE was recited in unison.

The minutes were read by the secretary and approved. A thank-you note from Safe Harbor for the canned goods and paper products was read and Hazel McKittrick thanked the ladies for serving lunch at her husband's funeral. Notes had been received from Irene Breikreutz and Lorraine Bartz. A card and monetary gift in honor of Ashley Faith Ptacek, infant daughter of Laura and Perry Ptacek, has been sent. Jolene Townsend showed the Brookings United Retirement Center's newsletter in which there was a picture of Joyce Sundling who is a resident there.

What more can you do?

I will do more than belong – I will participate.

I will do more than care – I will help.

I will do more than believe – I will trust.

I will do more than dream – I will work.

I will do more than teach – I will inspire.

I will do more than earn – I will enrich.

I will do more than give – I will serve.

I will do more than live – I will grow.

I will do more than be friendly – I will be a friend.

I will do more than talk – I will listen.

I will do more.

—Unknown



The treasurer gave the financial report.

Gloria Pharis, Marvel Johnson and Clare Brotherton attended Focus Day in Redfield on Saturday, April 9th. Jolene Townsend was also there and assisted with the leadership and presentations.

The new books for the reading program are here and ready to be checked out. The books on the 2000 list will expire in 2005

Members will be corresponding with sister unit, the Holmes United Methodist Women near Thompson, N.D. There will be a prayer vigil later in May.

The School of Christian Mission will be in Mitchell July 8-10th (weekend) or July 11-14th.

The May Breakfast plans were reviewed and are progressing according to schedule.

Kay Brandt and Audrey Miller

New Bible Study Group - Groton

Meeting Wednesday Mornings 10:00 AM

Bring your Bible!
Meeting May 11th and on...join us! All are welcome.

Organizers are:
Kay Brandt &
Doris Strom

Upcoming Events

May Breakfast, May 4th

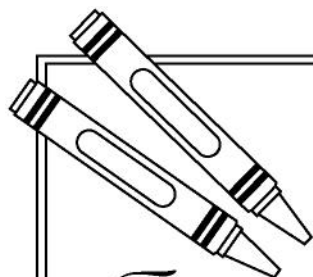
Mother's Day, May 8th

Serve "The Banquet" June 6th

Health Kits/Reading Program

School of Christian Mission, July 8-10 & 11-14

Next Meeting—"Tea Party on Wheels", May 18, 2:00 p.m.



Just for KIDS

Famous Mothers in the Bible

Mothers are very special people. The Bible tells many stories about famous mothers.

Unscramble the letters to find the names of some mothers from the Bible.
Look up the Bible verses, if you need help. Write the names on the blanks.
Use the letters on the numbered blanks to fill in the message at the bottom.

VEE (Genesis 3:20)

6 11

NAHHAN (1 Samuel 1:20)

14

BRAHEOD (Judges 5:7)

18

3

KREEHBA (Genesis 27:5)

16

5

HELA (Genesis 30:14)

1

CHELRA (Genesis 30:22)

7

12

MOIAN (Ruth 1:22)

10 17 13

RAAHS (Genesis 17:19)

8

RAMY (Matthew 2:11)

2

ZEBLEHATI
(Luke 1:13)

9 15

4

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
13 8 14 G 15 F 4 F 16 10 17 G 3 18 !

A MOTHERS LOVE IS A GIFT FROM GOD.

Answers: EVE, HANNAH, DEBORAH, REBEKAH, LEAH, RACHEL,
NAOMI, SARAH, MARY, ELIZABETH



Mother's
Day

Groton UMYF
Last Meeting of the
Year Activity
May 11th at 6:15



VBS - Groton
May 25-27

It will be in the Groton
Church with a jungle theme.
Kingdom of the Son, A
Prayer Safari. We are
expecting approximately 70
children. If you can donate
some time, please contact
Brenda Madsen.



VBS - Conde
May 23-27

World Hunger Collection

Will be the fourth Sunday of every month at the Conde UMC. The loose change in the collection or specially marked checks or envelopes will be sent to the Advance for World Hun-

Dakotas Annual Conference

The twelfth annual session of the Dakotas Conference of the United Methodist Church will meet in Bismarck, ND from June 8-11, 2005, at the Ramkota.

Important items to be addressed are: 2006 Budget, election of officers, members of committees, ordination of new clergy, memorial service for those who have passed away this last year, reports from committees, salaries of staff and administration, conference action on reports and resolutions from General Conference, reports of ministries, with special breakfasts and luncheons.

Bishop Reuben Job will be spiritual advisor for the Conference. Bishop Job is originally from ND, served in Iowa as a

Conde UMW Meeting

May 11th at 2:00 PM

Program

"Day Out for Togetherness, Spiritual Renewal" with leader Pat Siefken

Hostess Donna Hearnen

bishop; was world editor of the Upper Room, and was associate general secretary of the Board of Discipleship. Bishop Job now resides in Tennessee and has authored many devotional books.

Bishop Burce Ough is also formerly from ND now serving as presiding Bishop in West Ohio Annual Conference following his ministry in the Dakotas and Iowa.

Representatives of the Groton-Conde Parish are: Rev. Grant Piehl, Pastor; Lay member of the Parish, Marva Gellhaus; Mary Hayenga, serving on General Church Committee; Pat Siefken, Conference President of United Methodist Women; Jolene Townsend and Betty Tay-

Blanket Collection

Conde UMC

Will be on Mother's Day Sunday



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

Encouragement for graduates

The late singer John Denver once gave a commencement speech at his old high school. "The best thing you have to offer the world is yourself," he said. "You don't have to copy anyone else. If you do, you're second best." He recalled how, after high school, he went to Texas Tech intending to become an architect. "But I quit to become a singer," he said. "Not one person said I was doing the right thing. But I knew, deep down inside, I was born to sing to people. Singing is the most joyful thing in the world for me. It's what's inside you that counts. And if it's not what you want to do, don't do it. Listen to yourself. You'll always know what's right. Listen to that voice. That's how you'll find success as a human being. Don't be afraid to be who you are."

Give and take

Life is often a matter of giving and taking. But with what spirit do we give — or take? The British author, Elizabeth Bibesco, once said, "Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting."

Accomplishing that will require some practice, won't it? Giving something to another person or to God's church, and not remembering the act may go against our nature. Yet, when we can give without remembering or without begrudging what we gave, the giving can become habitual and instill a feeling of joy.

So try to remember the happiness of giving, but forget the occasion of doing so.

On the other hand, most of us are recipients of gifts given and good deeds done by others. Remember with gratitude those blessings. Savor the joy they aroused in us and be grateful for the givers.

Give without remembering. Take without forget-



Groton Admin Council - April Meeting Minutes

Groton Admin. Council – Eleven members were present on April 13 to consider the following agenda items:

Suggestions for new missions statements were reviewed. More suggestions will continue to be accepted and the council will review again at the next meeting.

Project costs and time estimates for the roof project were not yet available, so this will be discussed at the next meeting.

Camping participation was discussed and it was agreed that more encouragement is needed to increase participation.

Kay Brandt announced that a small group of women have started a Bible study group.

Kay Brandt reported that expenses have exceeded offerings year-to-date. Only our January apportionments have been

paid.

Plans are being made for a group to travel to Sioux Falls as volunteers to serve at The Banquet on June 6. Volunteer drivers will be needed. This is a joint project between Conde & Groton.

UMW: Plans are in progress for the May Breakfast scheduled for May 4. The group recently toured the Groton Youth Center as well.

UMYF: Fifteen members were in attendance on April 13 for a meal & meeting.

Lay leaders will be asked to conduct services on May 1 & June 12 in Rev. Piehl's absence.

The next committee will be May 11, at 8:00 pm

Groton Stewardship Report April 2005

Average
Wkly Giving
\$1,374

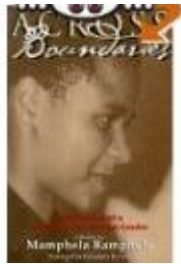
Needed Weekly to
Meet Church Needs
\$1,874

Average Weekly
Attendance
85

Total Building Fund
Offerings
\$40

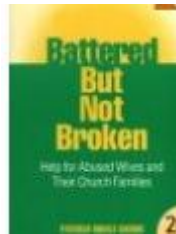
UMW Reading Program 2005

A C R O S S
BOUNDARIES; THE
JOURNEY OF A SOUTH
AFRICAN WOMAN
LEADER by Mamphela
Ramphela. Born Black and
female in apartheid-ruled



South Africa, Mamphela Ramphela went on to become one of Africa's most distinguished woman - a leading political activist, physician, and advisor to Nelson Mandela. This is her autobiography. (Education for Mission)

BATTERED BUT
NOT BROKEN by Patricia
Riddle Gaddis. Offering
techniques and resources
for assisting victims of do-



mestic violence, this book also challenges the church to take a stand against this crime, a leading cause of injury and death of women in the United States. (Nurturing for Community)

THE INFLUENTIAL
PARENT by David
Damico. A pastoral coun-
selor offers parents of teen-

agers going through potentially difficult years practical help with issues that face adolescents. Personal stories, humor, and concrete suggestions make this a valuable resource.



The UMW READING PROGRAM participants shall report completion of reading requirements by August 1st for the year 2005 to Ann Rix in Groton.

Please check out the NEW 2005 Books we

Mom's example

"By whose preaching were you converted?" a young man was asked.

"Not by anyone's preaching," answered the dedicated believer. "I was converted by my mother's practicing."



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	



Due to a Misunderstanding
Trailer will be here the middle of July.

But have booked it for May again
in 2006!
Apologies

www.goodwill.org -Check out Goodwill
on the Internet and read the success
stories of your donations!



Peace with Justice Sunday - May 22nd

Seeing the face of Christ in others is not easy, but it is a commitment that the Rev. Deanna "Dee" Stickley-Miner embraces and encourages. As co-founder of Faith Communities Uniting for Peace, the United Methodist clergywoman works with Christians, Buddhists, Hindus, Jews, Muslims and Sikhs "to live from a vision of peace rooted in faith."

"We witness to peace not from a primary agenda of politics," she says, "but from a desire to be faithful to God's dream for creation. All faiths proclaim a vision of peace where all—not just some—are beloved of God."

Working together, Stickley-Miner asserts, members of Faith Communities Uniting for Peace have "developed mutual respect and dignity, moving beyond stereotypes and prejudices."

After the March 2004 Interfaith Prayers for Peace worship service and rally, "someone called me," Stickley-Miner

recalls. "She did not know there were people advocating for peace from a place of faith. She said the vent helped to provide a place for her voice and convictions." The caller plans to participate in future peace activities.

Your offering on Peace with Justice Sunday helps the children of God everywhere to live lovingly and peacefully. Half of the offering supports peace with justice ministries globally through the General Board of Church and Society, and half assists annual conference-related work such as Faith Communities Uniting for Peace in West Ohio.

"Live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you," wrote the apostle Paul to the church in Corinth. Help to bring peace and justice to a hurting world. Please give generously on Peace with Justice Sunday, the first Sunday after Pentecost. Your gift makes a world of difference!

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 project. Car pools will be available, more details to come!

-Missions Committees

Health Kits

- J 1 hand towel (15X25 up to 17X27)
- J 1 washcloth (large and sturdy, not picket size)
- J 1 nail file or fingernail clipper (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- J 1 bar of soap (3 oz and up)
- J 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper)
- J 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)
- J 6 Band-Aids



Norma Hurt, Christ United Methodist Church, Columbus, Ohio, and Muna Al-Aseer, a Palestinian Muslim, light candles during the Interfaith Prayers for Peace event.



The Grace of God is with you!

June Family Committee - Groton

Jolene & Alan Townsend &
Zachary Barton
Meri & John Erickson & Seth & Evan

Mary & Cal Hayenga
Pam & Doug Bahr
Brian Bahr
Dion Bahr
Anita & John Lowary
Connie & Dave Nilsson & Alexa
Bert Raap
Linda & Gary Thurston
William & Wanda Zoellner
Dick Oliver
Michelle & Bruce Schumacher
Robert Hood
Hazel McKittrick

Honorary Members

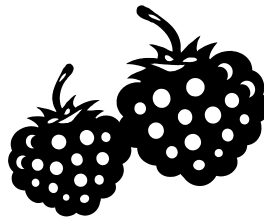
J Don Clocksene
J Erwin Hite
J DeLoris Knoll

Extra Responsibilities for June

J Mow the Lawn Weekly
J Clean Chapel and Library
J No Potluck
J June 26th - hang communion banners
for this Sunday only (check this tentative date with the Pastor)



Raspberry Delight



Laura Ptacek sent me her mother-in-laws recipe many of you requested during the April Potluck we had for her shower.

Crust:

1 1/2 cups flour
2 Tbs sugar
1/2 cup margarine
1/2 cup chopped nuts

Using pastry cutter, mix the first 3 ingredients together. Add nuts. Bake at 350 degrees in a 9X13 pan for 10-14 minutes. Cool completely.

Filling:

1 - 8 ounce package cream cheese, softened
1 cup confectioners sugar
1 tsp vanilla
1/4 tsp salt
1 - 8 ounce Cool Whip (I use fat-free)

In a mixing bowl, beat cream cheese, confectioners sugar, vanilla, and salt until smooth. Fold in Cool Whip. Spread over crust.

Topping:

1 - 6 ounce package raspberry jello
2 cups boiling water
2 - 10 ounce package sweetened frozen raspberries
1 - 8 ounce Cool Whip (fat free)

For topping, dissolve jello in boiling water. Stir in frozen raspberries. Chill for about 10 minutes or until mixture begins to thicken. Spoon over filling. Refrigerate until set. Top with Cool Whip- I usually don't do this too far in advance of serving time. (3-4 hours or so is fine)

Yields 12-16 Servings

--Gaylene Ptacek

• Intense love does not measure, it just gives.
—Mother Teresa

• The soul must long for God in order to be set aflame by God's love.
—Meister Eckhart

• What is important is that one is capable of love. It is perhaps the only glimpse we are permitted of eternity.
—Helen Hayes



May 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	31				



Our Church Happenings

May 4 Groton UMW May Breakfast
May 5 National Day of Prayer & Ascension Day
May 6 May Friendship Day
May 8 Mother's Day
Conde Blanket Collection Sunday
May 11 Groton Morning Bible Study at 10:00 (Each Wednesday)
Conde UMW 2:00
Groton UMYF at 6:15 pm
Groton Ad Council 8:00 pm
May 15 Groton Graduation Sunday
Pentecost Sunday
May 18 Groton UMW Tea Party on Wheels
May 22 Peace with Justice Sunday
Trinity Sunday
May 23-27 Conde VBS
May 25-27 Groton VBS
May 30 Memorial Day
June 4 Atherton Wedding in Cavalier, ND
June 6 Serving "The Banquet"
June 8-11 Dakotas Annual Conference