

November 2006



GROTON / CONDE PARISHES

United Methodist Messenger



Memories Guide Us

Take a moment and think about where you are now in this world, what is before you and where you have been. It takes a break in your day to think about things of importance. We have to intentionally set aside time to do so. Most people will say, "Yeah, I know I should, but I will do it later, I have other things that have to come first." Or do they?

What can be more important than setting your goals and life focus in a straight direction? In my own life, I must keep taking inventory of where I am now placing my directions for the most good of many. A pastor must keep working not always for the fewest, but the most. Each need is important and we try to deal with those alone and having issues. We do know that individuals make up small groups and each one is important and precious and the most connection seems to be within small groups. We started our lives in families and moved usually out into larger groups until we find that "swimming in the larger ocean of life" is not always satisfying. We get to a place where we want to start again. A love interest leads to a couple, a couple to a marriage, a marriage usually, not always, to a family. Again, we have our small group. That is where we make the biggest

impression. Between brothers and sisters, parents and child we leave lasting and unshakeable memories. Some good, some funny, some hurtful and always we carry them with us. They are a never ending source of memories.

All our memories invade our consciousness, some times to convince us that we are condemned. We remember the words of the New Testament; "Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us" [Romans 8: 24] There is no condemnation for those who walk with Jesus Christ.

All Jesus said was to go and sin no more, that Jesus would not condemn. We are free of that burden. We can turn of the "radio station" of old voices in our head telling us we are less than the cherished person God knows us to be. We are only condemned if we continually do wrong. We are called out of the darkness, into God's light of goodness, love and the joy of sharing the excitement of the Good News in Christ Jesus.

Fall Blessings, Pastor Jan

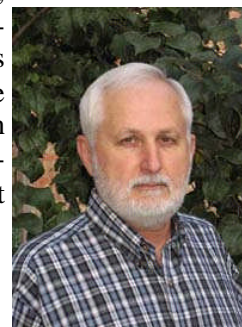
Thank you, God!

Mission Trip to Lithuania - July 1-15, 2007

A Volunteer In Mission Team is going to help the church people in Lithuania improve their English speaking ability. This helps them find better jobs to support their families. The work is to talk with the children and adults to give them experience conversing in English. The only skill needed is the ability to speak English and an adventure-some spirit. The team will have the chance to encourage the churches there and meet the people, see the country and experience the culture. The Methodist church has a long history there, but had to go underground during the Soviet occupation. So, many of the young persons do not know a lot about the church and they are just beginning to understand the love of God.

Last week, Missionary to Lithuania, Rev Teri Erbele stopped in Groton on his itineration around the conference visiting churches that support the ministry there. He said you will find a very warm welcome from the people there. They have become part of the European Union and NATO and they are eager to meet Americans. He said the economy there is very poor and there is a problem with alcoholism so that many children take part in the churches youth program as it is a safe place and the adults there love and protect them. He told how the five Methodist pastors receive \$350 per month and the costs there are the same as here or just a bit higher.

The team will stay in a new Catholic guesthouse near the Methodist office in Vilnius, a city of 400,000. Richard and Donna Fisher are the team leaders and they can be reached at 605-355-9532. Mary Hayenga and her grandson, Nate Ernst are planning to go. Nate would like to have a fellow go along as a roommate. If interested, contact Fishers, or Mary Hayenga as soon as possible as the team of fifteen persons is being made up at this week.



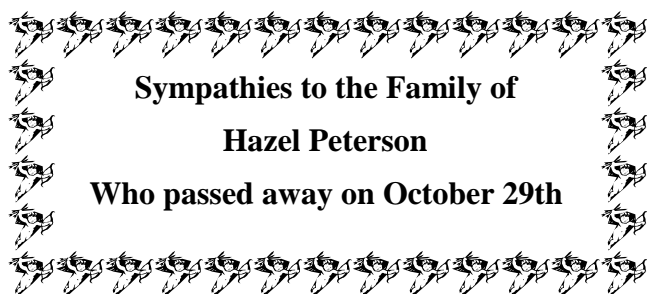
Conde UMC Dinner Theatre

A doctor's office on Christmas Eve filled with an unusual collection of people. The pickpocket, Detroit Louie; his dumb but loyal side kick, Harry; Mrs. Aiken, the hypochondriac; the blind girl; the unsuspecting Old Man; an angel on probation; and each with a different agenda for Christmas. Plan to attend dinner and this delightful play, Christmas Comes to Detroit Louie by Bobby G. Wood and produced by special arrangement with Eldridge Publishing Co, Venice, FL. There are two performances planned, December 9 and 10, 2006. Look for upcoming details and ticket information.



Groton Church Decorating

Mark your calendars for November 29th! Starting at 5:30 pm all church members are encouraged to come and enjoy a barbeque supper and help with the decorating of the church. There are many jobs for young and old. Even sideline supervisors are welcome. November and December family committees will provide barbeques, buns, chips, pickles, and bars. Bring anything else you think would go good with these and most important bring yourselves. Start the Christmas season with sharing this fellowship and making our church look festive.



Sympathies to the Family of

Hazel Peterson

Who passed away on October 29th

Community Thanksgiving Dinner



*The Aberdeen Community Living
Christmas Tree Performances
will be Sat Dec 2 at 7 pm, and
Sunday Dec 3 at 3 pm & 7 pm at
the Aberdeen Civic Arena*

Groton UMW October Minutes



Mary Swisher was the program leader for the October 18th meeting of the Groton unit of United Methodist Women at the church at 2:00 p.m. The program topic was the World Thank Offering. The offering is a personal fund collected in a special container by individuals for something they are thankful for during the year. During the yearly program the members bring their "collections" and a check is sent through channels for the total program of mission carried on through the Women's Division. New thank offering boxes were distributed. Mary read a Psalm and the hymn, "What Gift Can We Bring", was read in unison.

The meeting was called to order by President Jolene Townsend. Doris Zoellner read "The Brick" from the devotional booklet and led the group in prayer.

The nominating committee reported that the slate of officers is filled except the chairperson of one committee.

Among items discussed were making bags for school kits during the winter to have ready to fill for the Ingathering; and the secret angel program which has grown to more than what 4 or 5 women can handle. It was suggested that names be drawn for secret angels instead. The Shoe Box program was discussed. Christmas shoe boxes will be filled and sent to the Spirit Lake Reservation in N.D.

Mary Hayenga reported that a volunteer team is considering a trip to Lithuania where they would teach conversational English in schools. So far two youths and one adult besides Mary are interested in going. Fund raisers will be needed

for their expense.

Lefse for the Bazaar was made October 4th and 5th. Fifty-five bags of 6 sheets each were made. Theme baskets will be assembled by individuals for sale at the Bazaar on November 5th.

Jolene Townsend attended the Conference annual meeting in Bismarck October 14th and 15th. There were 131 women present.

Deb Green of Redfield, who is Groton's shepherdess, paid a visit to the unit. Nineteen women were present. The next meeting will be November 15th at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting closed with prayer after which Rose Tewksbury and Michelle Kramer served lunch.

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Conde UMW Minutes - October

- Conde United Methodist Women met at the church at 2:00 PM on October 11.
- Betty Taylor led the lesson on our mission to women and children with the world being represented. Group worship was included.
- President Donna Hearnen opened the business meeting by leading in the reading of the Purpose of the organization. Patty Knoll read the devotions from the Conference Worship book. Roll call showed seven members and one visitor present.
- Annual Meeting will be in Bismarck with Pat Siefken attending. Kits and gifts to Tree of Life were discussed. Shoe box gifts were discussed and will be filled. Clothing is to be sent separately. A monetary gift for food will be sent to Safe Harbor; a gift will be sent to Tree of Life on the Rosebud Reservation.
- Reading List books had been purchased below cost. These are books from the previous years on sale due to the moving of Service Center.
- Bible Study of Dickens' "Christmas Carol" will meet during the month of November, beginning with October 25th meeting following Ad Council.
- November 6 at 1:00 PM has been sent to plan the program for next year with Pat Siefken in charge.
- Betty Jensen presented the report of the Committee on Nominations, which was accepted. Betty Jensen was nominated to serve on the committee for the next three years.
- There are new rules regarding soup labels changed to cutting out bar codes. These and receipts from grocery stores are to be left in the grade principal's office at the school.
- Jane Worlie is in charge of the World Thank Offering Program at the November 8 meeting at the church at 2:00 PM., with Lois Trapp as hostess.
- Patty Knoll was hostess for the day.



Conde Headlines!

- Bible Study will meet at 7:30 pm every Wednesday evening during November. Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" is the subject and all are invited to attend.
- Nov 8th at 2 PM the Conde United Methodist Women meet at church. Jane Worlie leads the lesson, World Thank Offering. Lois Trapp is hostess.
- Nov 19th is Bible Sunday.
- Nov 26 is the Annual Charge Conference at 7 PM in Groton to discuss where we have been and how we will proceed in the new year. The meeting is open to all.
- The Bishop's Thanksgiving Offering is for the relief of those in the Dakotas who have been caught in the drought, storms, and other natural catastrophes. Please give with a grateful heart.

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

Conde UMW Officers for 2007

President - Donna Hearnen

Vice President - Pat Siefken

Secretary - Betty Taylor

Treasurer - Jane Worlie

Secretary Program Resources - Pat Siefken

Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Education Interpretation Coordinator - Patty Knoll

Social Action Coordinator, Membership and Nurture Coordinator - Donna Walter

Committee on Nominations - Joan Fahrenwald, Chair
Cindy Smith
Betty Jensen

Our Church Celebrations

Conde Birthday's

Nov 3 Marsha Murphy
Nov 8 Dorothy Sanderson
Nov 13 Arlene Peterson
Nov 24 Floyd Smith
Nov 25 Bud Bruckner

Conde Anniversaries

Nov 20 Wava & Bill Thomas



Groton Birthday's

Nov 2 Andrea Snoozy-Bahr
Nov 3 Lorraine Bartz
Nov 7 Marva Gellhaus
Nov 10 Florran Norris
Lee Swenson
Nov 11 Doug Sippel
Nov 14 Vicki Strom
Nov 15 Jack Oliver
Nov 16 Halley Schmidt
Nov 18 Luverne Strom
Nov 19 Christopher Krueger
Crystal Sippel
Garrett Heitmann
Heather Sippel
Nov 21 Art Lange

Nov 23 Francine Sippel
Nov 25 Emery Sippel
Kari Hanson
Nov 28 Amanda Geist
Nov 29 Audrey Thurston
Nov 30 Tanner Johnson

Groton Anniversaries

Nov 3 Jon & Gayleen Voss
Nov 15 Fred & Elaine Wolken
Nov 21 Larry & Sharon Wheeting

Groton UMW Meeting - Nov 15

The program for the next UMW meeting is "Advent" and the Leaders are Twila Ruden, Clare Brotherton, Gloria Pharis, and Jolene Townsend. The Hostess is Caralee Heitmann. Join us at 2 pm Wednesday, November 15th.

There will be an executive meeting at 1:00 pm to plan the

Christmas Luncheon, finalize the 2007 date book, finalize the 2007 budget, and summarize the 2007 UMW.

Upcoming events to look for are the Thanksgiving Community Dinner on November 23rd at the Catholic Church. New books are in so join the reading program!

Ingathering Kits

Thank you to all who helped make the Ingathering Kit Collection a Success!

Groton collected 23 health kits, 46 school kits, 13 sewing kits, \$100 cash for a total of \$1,116.

Conde collected 29 health kits, 33 school kits, 4 layettes, and 5 sewing kits for a total of \$941.

Charge Conference

November 26th
Sunday
7 pm
At Groton UMC



Groton Prayer Chain

Marlys Rodman	397-4570
Jean Lowary	725-1232
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
Darlys Kampa	395-6996
Marvel/Bob Johnson	397-2425
Mary Ann Whede	397-8330

*Currently 47 on email prayer chain.

Sunday School Schedule - Groton

Nov 5 Video Sunday - Church
Dinner Day

Nov 12 Regular Sunday School

Nov 19 Regular Sunday School

Nov 26 No Sunday School -
Thanksgiving weekend

*How can I repay the LORD
for all his goodness to me?*

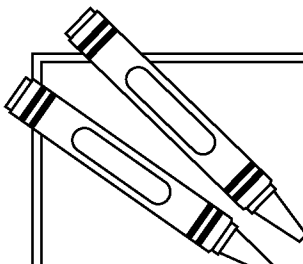
Psalm 116:12, NCV



What is faith?

Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that a man could stake his life on it a thousand times. —Martin Luther






Just for KIDS

“Thank You, God”

Thanksgiving is a time to be thankful for all the good things in our lives. God is pleased when we are thankful because He knows that we remember the wonderful things He does for us every day.

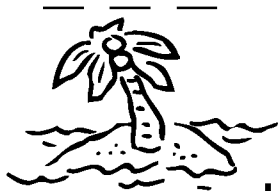
Directions: Use the picture clues below to figure out the verse about being thankful. The minus (-) sign means take out the letter(s). The plus sign (+) means to add the letter(s).



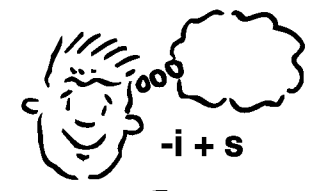
-rl + ve

2-w

4-u



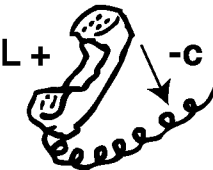
- land




-i + s

a


L +



-c



- n



g+ - h"

Psalm 107:1

_____ .

Answer: “Give thanks to the LORD for he is good.”

Charles Wesley's affirmation

Faith, mighty faith, the promise sees,
And looks to God alone;
Laughs at impossibilities,
And cries, “It shall be done!”



United Methodist Student Day - Nov 26th

"I could do construction and make more money, but there's no soul in it, no heart. I wouldn't be doing anything; I wouldn't feel anything."

Ben Crismon, a junior religious studies major at Centenary College of Louisiana, Shreveport, views his summer job as a group leader with the Ozark Mission Project as a stepping-stone toward the ordained ministry. "It keeps me focused on God," he says. "A lot of things are out of my control here, and I have to rely on God."

Ben cherishes the opportunity to work with church volunteers and with the neighbors they seek to help with home repairs. "It's amazing to watch the volunteers grow and to see how the neighbors interact with us, and it makes me want to come

back. I don't ever want to stop."

In addition to the mission project, Ben is an intern for Asbury United Methodist Church, Bossier City, La., where he works with high school youth.

Thanks to United Methodist gifts on United Methodist Student Day, Ben and other talented students attending United Methodist-related and other accredited colleges and universities receive scholarships and loans. "The Gift of Hope scholarship gives me the ability to go to a United Methodist school where I can learn about myself and about God, then go to seminary," says Ben, who felt called to the ministry at age 12.

The Psalmist writes: "God dawns on them like the morning

light, like the sun shining forth upon a cloudless morning, like rain that makes grass to sprout from the earth."

The lamp of learning shines brightly for Ben and others, thanks to caring United Methodists. Please give generously on United Methodist Student Day, the last Sunday in November. Your gift makes a world of difference! Thank you!



We GIVE YOU THANKS,
AND *praise* YOUR
glorious
name.

I CHRONICLES 29:13, NIV

Veteran's Day

Veterans Day has its roots in what was called Armistice Day, the day when a peace agreement was signed with Germany ending World War I. Armistice Day was established with a proclamation by President Woodrow Wilson which reads in part: "Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in heroism of those who

died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations." On June 1, 1954, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day to honor all

U.S. veterans.

On Veterans Day this year, let us remember and honor those men and women who gave of themselves, and let us continue to pray for our men and women currently serving in the military.



Conde Children's Sabbath Sunday



Call the Pastor!

She was not really an elderly woman, although she had arthritis, diabetes, aching feet and other physical problems. If you asked her how she was, she told you – in detail. One morning, when she awoke, her husband asked her how she was. “I’m dead!” she responded.

“Well, you don’t look dead to me,” he said.

“Nevertheless,” she went on, “I am dead and I want you to call the pastor.”

“Now, just one minute!” said the husband. “Why would you say you’re dead when you look quite alive and chipper to me?”

“Well,” she answered, “I woke up a while ago and I don’t have one ache – not one pain. That means I must be dead for sure. Call the pastor!”



“Charlie, we’d prefer you bring the grapes to our harvest festival.”

Men's Dinner/UMW Fall Bazaar Nov 5th! Join Us in Groton!

NOTICE: Bake Sale Items, Craft Items, and theme baskets: Please have them to the church by Saturday, Nov 4th, between 9 am and 3 pm. You may also leave your items off earlier in the chapel or bring them early Sunday morning

Dinner served from 11 am - 1 pm. Adults are \$7, Children 5-12 are \$5, and Children 4 and under are free. Serving Swedish Meatballs, Ham, Party Potatoes, vegetable, Gravy, Fruit Breads, and Pie.

The UMW Fall Bazaar will be open the same time as the Men's Dinner. Here you will be able Christmas shop with the theme baskets, craft items, and bake sale. Buy your lefse for your Christmas Festivities.

Come and enjoy the fun!



Groton Stewardship Report October 2006

Average Wkly Giving
\$1,368

Needed Weekly to Meet
Church Needs
\$1,706

Average Weekly
Attendance
94

Total Building Fund
Offerings
\$165

**Groton Mission
Statement**

**"Enriching Spiritual
Lives through Christ."**

Groton's December Family Committee

December 2006						
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						



Kim & Craig Weber
Sharon & Larry Wheeting
Brenda & Tony Madsen
Gloria & Harry Pharis
Ben & Kristi Peterson
Linda & Jay Johnson
Marjae & Dan Schinkel
Francine & Marc Sippel
Carol & Luverne Strom
Caralee & Gary Heitmann
Karla Pasteur, Ali
Don Bartz

Honorary Members

- Irene Breitkruetz
- Lila Bartz
- Charlotte & Art Lange
- Rita Washnok

Extra Responsibilities

- Dec 3 Change altar cloths to white and hang communion banners for this Sunday only
- Dec 10 change altar cloths to purple
- Dec 24 change altar cloths to white for Christmas Eve

- Water the Poinsettias.
- Clean & Organize Hallway Closet & Storage Room off the Choir Loft
- Help decorate church with Nov committee
- Change the banners for the Christmas Season
- Shovel snow from doorways before Church
- Potluck 2nd Sunday (organize and provide hot dishes)



**Groton
UMW Fall Bazaar
& Men's Dinner
November 5th
11 am - 1 pm**

We also switch church times
with Conde this Sunday Only!
Groton church will be at 9 am
and Conde church 11 am
more info in newsletter!

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Our Church Happenings

Nov 4 Groton UMW Bazaar Items bring to the Chapel by 3 pm

Nov 5 Groton Men's Dinner/UMW Fall Bazaar 11 am - 1 pm

Nov 8 Conde UMW at 2 pm with the World Thank Offering

Conde Bible Study at 7:30 pm.

Groton Finance Mtg at 7:30 pm

Groton Ad Council Mtg at 8:00 pm

Nov 12 No Potluck this month in Groton

Nov 15 Groton UMW Mtg 2 pm - Exec at 1pm

Conde Bible Study at 7:30 pm

Conde UMYF Meeting

Youth Rally

Nov 22 Conde Bible Study at 7:30 pm

Nov 23 Groton Community Thanksgiving Dinner at Catholic Church

Nov 29 Conde Bible Study at 7:30 pm

Nov 26 Charge Conference in Groton at 7 pm

Nov 29 Groton Church Decorating with supper at 5:30 pm

Conde Ad Council 7:30 pm

Nov 30 Shoebox Christmas Gifts for Spirit Lake Reservation are due.

Groton Women's Bible Study meets each Tues at 10 AM studying the 12 disciples. All are welcome to attend!

Groton Prayer Group meets each Tues at 11 AM.

Groton Ecumenical Men's Bible Group meets each Thurs at 7 AM

November 2006						
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		