



Groton/Conde Parishes

The United Methodist Messenger

Waiting

Truth

In its purest form, truth is not a polite tap on the shoulder. Truth is a howling reproach. What Moses brought down from Mount Sinai were not 10 suggestions.

-Ted Koppel



Since reaching the more mature years of my life, waiting is more tolerable. As a child, it was the most difficult thing to master...waiting. I could hardly wait for a birthday, Christmas, Easter or any other holiday or family picnics to arrive. The admonition of parental words, "Just wait." Weren't enough to keep the anticipation down to a quiet level within. Age has sure helped, the dust of many things waited for in our hands as they turned out to not be close to the expectations on them at all.

I was always struck by grandparents sitting around the circle of gift openers at Christmas with sweet smiles on their faces while we kids were caught up in a frenzy of emotions within and around us. It was that they were used to waiting for things in life too, and knew the outcome of the predictable.

Our world seems to be waiting for many things. We have been through such horrible, tragic, and mind blowing events in our world in the last years until now. How could life be so tranquil when we were children?

We wait for intervention for a war that

continues to be so damaging to many sides, but we wait to find a way to end it. As we wait for fires, floods, draughts, and other areas of uncontrollable natural forces we are seeking to find reasons for the ways to prevent more. We are waiting for babies to arrive, family members to come together in reunion, others are waiting to die or have painful conditions subside soon. All the world seems to be waiting. We wait for the next political elections, the ending of an era, the results of the latest recipe, the birth of kitties or pups. All the world seems waiting.

As a Christ follower, I long to find a time when all the anxiety of this world will be over for us all who seek God's face. But as we wait, in these last days of unknown things, we work for the kingdom. Doing those things that show and bring others to know of the love of God that never leaves any of us uncovered. To share in that joy is our mission. To open ways for others to come to that knowledge is our joy. So while waiting. . . while working....it is just not work at all, but constant joy.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Jan

Meet Me In the Middle in Groton Each Wednesday Evening at 7 PM

Invite neighbors and friends to come to Mid-Week Services. They need not be members of our church or anywhere at all. Just come and enjoy mid-week worship.

Aug 8 - we recognize our 4-H leaders and members... don't forget to wear your 4-H shirts.

Aug 15 - honoring those who participate in Rodeo in anyway. Sorry, no livestock needed.

Aug 22 - a time to recognize all gardeners among us. Bring your gloves, hats, and come place a plant in the church garden if you wish. Thanks.

Aug 29 - we will honor all those who farm and their families, a special blessing for the harvest season.



Carly Lynn Gilbert

Born June 29, 10 lbs 1 oz and 22 inches long. Carly was born early and flown to Sioux Falls. Lungs were not developed but they are okay now. She still needs a feeding tube and hopes to be home soon. She is the daughter of Melissa and Neil Gilbert and joins sister Brooklyn. (photo to the left)

Blessings



**Blessings Shower
August 5th**

During Coffee Hour

For Drake Archer

Peterson born on

May 26, 2007

Kristi & Ben Peterson

are the parents

Blessings to Christina Sherwood And Derick Furman

**United in
Marriage
July 7th**



**To the family of
Norm Thurston
who passed
away
July 7th**



Madilyn Kalea
daughter of Troy and
Jennifer Bahr, Parker, Co.
Photo to the left.



**Carolyn & Robert
Snyder celebrated
50 years of
marriage July 28th.
Congratulations!**



*Shanna Geist
Confirmed in Conde*

*Kristopher Oleson
cleaning a flood
house in Groton*



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Our Church Celebrations

Groton Birthday's

- Aug 1 Bert Raap
- Aug 2 David Strom
Dylan Graf
- Aug 3 Michelle Kramer
Mike Sundling
- Aug 5 Gerald Rix
- Aug 7 Kelli Hanson
Sherwin Nyberg
- Aug 8 Yvonne Lange
- Aug 9 Loel Schott
- Aug 12 Amber Wolken
Haida Boyd
Tom Lipp
- Aug 13 Logan Nilsson
- Aug 14 Doug Bahr
- Aug 16 Harry Pharis Jr
Jim Jones
Nathan Gellhaus
Ralph Breitreutz

- Rose Tewksbury
- Sam Furman
- Aug 19 Amanda Seelye
Gert Ruden
- Tia Marie Zoellner
- William Zoellner
- Aug 20 Barb Schmidt
Marc Sippel
- Aug 22 Virginia Breitreutz
- Aug 24 Jack Schmidt
- Aug 27 Mary Alice Jensen
- Aug 29 Chuck Padfield
- Aug 30 Emma Jo Schinkel
Nathan Atherton
- Aug 31 Joy Walter
Katelyn Hawkins

Groton Anniversaries

- Aug 3 John & Lori Seelye
Lance & Kristi Hawkins
- Aug 4 Craig & Kim Weber

- Aug 8 Brad & Diann Morehouse
- Aug 16 Alissa & Michael Wells
- Aug 17 Bill & Wanda Zoellner
- Aug 19 Sherwin & Christine Nyberg
- Aug 28 Rob & Jeanne Wanous
- Aug 31 Don & Joy Walter

Conde Birthday's

- Aug 10 Cindy Smith
- Aug 12 Cody Evans
Randy Kurtz
- Aug 13 Sonja Herman
- Aug 16 Brandon Smith
- Aug 23 Nicklos Menzia
- Aug 31 Collin Ragels

Conde Anniversaries

- Aug 6 Loren & Pat Siefken
- Aug 20 Richard & Jane Worlie
- Aug 23 Jim & Mona Baldrige

VBS Thank You

We were so glad to try a new method of doing Vacation Bible School for this year. Although we will not be able to use Sidewalk Sunday School in this manner, we will use it as a springboard for ideas for next year.

We had so many wonderful helpers this year and we were pleased to have enough people to pitch in and be a small group leader and have everyone used in this way.

Our helpers were: Sidney Erickson, Meri Erickson, Mendy Jones, Gloria Pharis, Kami Lipps, Susan Odland, Christi Swenson, Amanda Swenson, Jolene Townsend, Maddie Howard, Dale Kramer, Pat Dahlquist and Pastor Jan.

The group of children that participated were from 3 different churches and a few who are friends. We had a total of thirty nine young people coming and having a good time each day. We had energizing exercises, songs all with motions, and prayer time in small groups, treats, crafts and some stories from the Bible each day. Some of those stories were enacted to give us a better idea of what might have taken place so we could understand it better. We had three college students come and shared their time with the Bristol UMC who used them for evening hours too.

We had a great time and hope that next year we will have more attend and fill the days with laughter and joy.

See you next time. And a BIG thanks to all who helped with support, funds, and prayers for this big success.



Clergy Record on Website

Rev Dean emailed me the other day and said I did a search for my name on the internet and our website with our church clergy list came up. I had the years he was here wrong so I thank him for correcting that. And he did note that a lot of the pastor photos are missing. If you can help me get photos of the previous pastor's, I would appreciate it. It could be any photo as long as I can easily crop out just the pastor. Here is a list of the ones I am missing.

Dean Trapp, Wayne Tieszen, John

Maines, K.O. Brekke, R. P. Nielsen, Harvey Sander, Luther Benson, John Norris, Frederick Ray, Paul Gardner, Albert Hartt, Curtis Harrold, Samuel Brown, James Lombard, Louis Lane, Otis Butterfield, Perry Ingersoll, Thomas Sanderson, Frank MacDuffee, William Deeble, John Ellis, David Gostelow, and Thomas Fowler.

www.grotonsdchurches.com/umc

Is our website! Check it out!

Thanks Kay

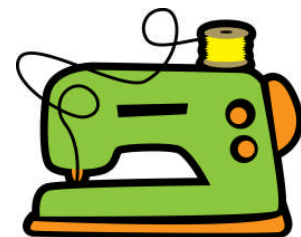
Conde United Methodist Women meet August 15, Wednesday at 2:00 PM at the church. Betty Taylor leads the lesson on Ecumenism. Also many important items to discuss.



School Kits

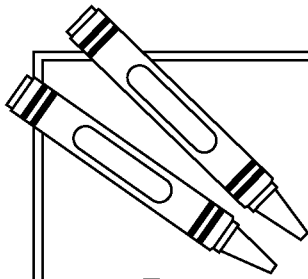
- 1 pair of blunt scissors (round tip)
- 2 pads of spiral or looseleaf 8 1/2 X11 ruled paper
- 1 - 30 cm ruler (12")
- 1 hand held pencil sharpener
- 6 new pencils unsharpened with erasers
- 1 - 2 1/2" eraser
- 12 sheets colored construction paper
- 24 crayons in it's own box (Not a box split up!)
- 12X14 Cloth Bag with Velcro Closure

We always need volunteers to sew these school bags. If you would like to do so, the pattern can be found in the office or on our website.



God's wish

The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quiet, alone with the heavens, nature and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be and that God wishes to see people happy, amidst the simple beauty of nature. -Anne Frank



Just for **KIDS**

Unique Creations

Have you ever walked along the shore and noticed the footprints you make in the sand? A famous poem called "Footprints in the Sand" reminds us we are never alone.

Unscramble each word and write it inside the footprint. See what Psalm 119:133 (NRSV) says about our footsteps. (The bold letters are the first letters of the words.)



reDcti



ym



efoopstst



cgcdianro



ot



oryu



dowr



elt



on



nsi



lreu



rvoe



em."

Psalm 119:133, NIV

Answer: "Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me."

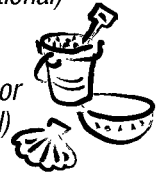
Footprints IN THE SAND



Try this craft at the beach, at the park or in your own sandbox at home. It will remind you whose footprints we should follow.

What you need:

- Plaster of Paris
- Sand (beach, park or sandbox)
- Small shells (optional)
- Water
- Small bowl
- Stick, toothpick or skewer (optional)



What you do:

1. Find some moist sand by digging down a little.
2. With a bare foot, make a footprint in the sand.
3. (Optional) Place shells face down on the toe imprints as toenails.
4. Follow the plaster of Paris directions for mixing the dry plaster with water in bowl.
5. Fill the footprint with the plaster and smooth the surface.
6. (Optional) Using a stick, toothpick or skewer, write "Direct my footsteps" (Psalm 119:133) or "Follow Me" (John 10:27).
7. When dry, place the foot in your garden, yard or room.
8. Remember to turn the foot over to remind yourself of whose footprints we should follow, and that we are never alone.



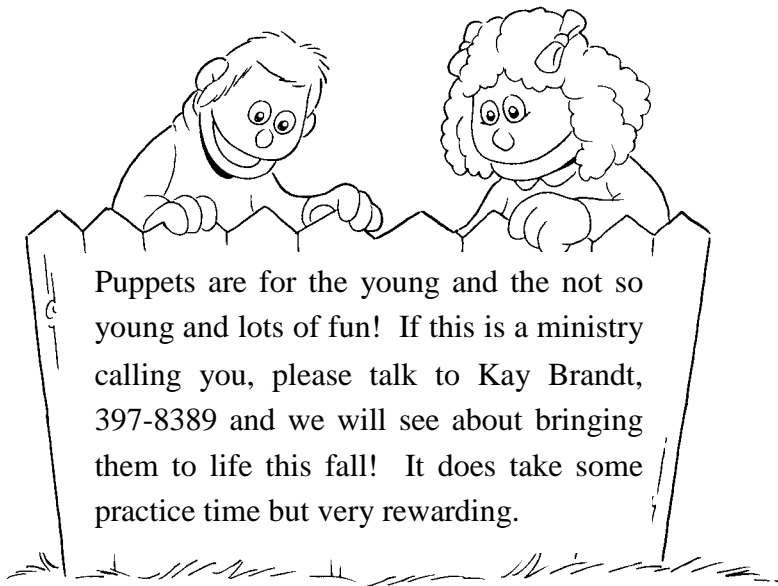
Chippy's trauma ... and ours

A woman was using a portable vacuum to clean out her parakeet's cage, but Chippy, the bird, was still in the cage. When the phone rang, the woman left the hose in the cage. When she came back, the bird was gone. She quickly opened the canister and found Chippy alive but covered with dust.

She took Chippy into the bathroom and ran water over his body. When he was clean, she dried him off with her hair dryer and returned him to his cage.

When a reporter heard about the incident, he called to see how the bird was doing. "Well," said the woman, "Chippy looks okay, but he doesn't sing much anymore. He just sits and stares."

Given the traumas we may face in life, we too, may be tempted to just sit and stare. It would be more beneficial to sit and pray, or do something for someone else in need of help. Talk with a pastor or counselor and immerse yourself in the Bible. Help is always available!



Puppets are for the young and the not so young and lots of fun! If this is a ministry calling you, please talk to Kay Brandt, 397-8389 and we will see about bringing them to life this fall! It does take some practice time but very rewarding.

Puppets?



Hidden books

How many books of the Bible can you find in the paragraph below? There are 15 books from the Old and New Testaments.

I once made some remarks about hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu - kept some people looking so hard for facts and studying for the revelation that they were in a jam. Especially since the books were not capitalized. But truth finally struck numbers of readers. To others, it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy to spot. Others require judges to determine. We must admit it usually takes a minute to find one, and there will be loud lamentations when you see how simple it is. One woman says she brews tea while she puzzles her brain. Well, get to work if you want to complete it. Good luck!

Hidden books Answer

I once made some reMARKs about hidden books of the Bible. It was a luLU - KEpt some people looking So hard for FACTS and studying for the REVELA-TION that they were in a JAM. ESpecially since the books were not capital-ized. But tRUTH finally struck NUM-BERS of readers. To others, it was a real JOB. We want it to be A MOST fas-cinating few moments for you. YES,

THERE will be some really easy to spot. Others require JUDGES to determine. We must admit IT USually takes a min-ute to find one, and there will be loud LAMENTATIONS when you see how simple it is. One woman says SHE BREWS tea while she puzzles her brain. Well, get to work if you want to complete it. Good luck!

Horse sense

The clergyman Henry Ward Beecher (1813-1887) went to buy a horse. The horse's owner declared, "This horse is perfectly sound. He can go at any gait, walk, pace, trot or gallop. He will work any place you put him, and he will stand without hitching. He will never bite nor kick. He is gentle, yet full of spirit. He goes when you want him to go, and he stops when you want him to stop."

Beecher looked the horse up and down with great admiration. Then he said blissfully, "Oh, if only that horse were a member of my church."

Groton Mission

Statement

"Enriching Spiritual Lives through Christ."

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

Groton UMC



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 70 on email prayer chain.



"You're grillin', pastor. That must make you a friar!"

Groton Ad Council - July

- The council approved payment of past due apportionments as enough money had been received from our members to be able to make this payment.
- Clare Brotherton reported that all church membership records are now on the computer and a printed copy is now on archival paper. There was discussion as to the continuation of the Wednesday night services. Pastor Jan felt that we should continue but put an article in the local newspaper to let more people know about it.
- The comfort of families using our Sunday school rooms for funeral or weddings during the hot summer months was discussed. The council will look into a portable air conditioning unit as a possible solution.

Electronic Giving is Now Available in Groton! Electronic Giving allows your weekly or monthly contributions to be transferred electronically from your checking or savings account directly to the church account. One simple and easy to use authorization form can begin or change your electronic contribution amount. This form is available from Anita & Kay. Sign up today!

Groton Family Committee - September

Kami & Tom Lipp

Karla Pasteur, Ali

Marlys Rodman

Rose Tewksbury

Brent & Christie Swenson, Lee & Amanda

Carna & Cliff Pray, Kevin

Yvonne Lange

Lance & Kristi Hawkins

Dale & Michelle Kramer

Pam & Roger rix

Mary Ann & Bob Wehde

Gayleen & Jon Voss, Jordan

Doris Zoellner

Sue Rock

Michelle Sundling

Loel Schott

Karla & Russell Davidson, Kristopher

Oleson

Honorary Members

- Margaret Hubbard
- ImoJeanne Oliver
- Mary & Jay Swisher
- Mary Alice Jensen
- Richard Zoellner

Extra Responsibilities

- Take care of lawn as necessary
- Clean North Storage Room & 1st NE Sunday School Room and the Hallway
- Potluck 2nd Sunday (Rally Sunday - Optional)
- Sept 2 - change altar cloths to white and hang the Communion Banners for this Sunday only
- Sept 9 - change to the green altar cloths and hang the banners for the month



Groton Stewardship Report July 2007

Average Wkly Giving
\$1,280

Needed Weekly to Meet
Church Needs
\$1,742

Average Weekly
Attendance
50

We are offering Weds Evening Services to meet your weekly spiritual needs when weekends are busy.

Total Building Fund
Offerings
\$15

September 2007						
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

August 2007						
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	

Aug 5 Groton Blessings Shower Drake Peterson, son of Kristi & Ben Peterson during Coffee Hour

Aug 8 Groton Mid-Week Service recognize our 4-H leaders and members

Aug 8 Groton Ad Council 7:45

Aug 15 Groton Mid-Week Service honoring those who participate in Rodeo

Aug 15 Conde UMW at 2 PM

Aug 22 Groton Mid-Week Service with a time to recognize all gardeners

Aug 29 Groton Mid-Week Service honoring all those who farm and their families, a special blessing for the harvest season.

Sept 22 Ingathering for World Hunger. DWU Mitchell SD