

United Methodist Messenger

Groton/Conde Parishes

February 2007

This is a Wonderful Time of Year!

[I hear you silently yelling, "It's cold outside, what is she thinking!"]. We have the opportunity to think "fresh" new plans, to begin our Lenten journey with pre-planning and direction, considering things that will truly make this season move into spring and the Lenten journey one of enrichment and growth. Yes, change is what I am calling you all to plan for. If we don't change and grow, we are wasting away and just staying in the status quo. God calls us to grow and learn, to be active in our Christian journey not passive.

Lent is a time to be an "inspector" of our hearts, minds, through prayer, reflection and spiritual reading or small group time together. We all can give up things for Lent and connect with the sacrifice that Christ gave to us, but we can add things too.

We can talk to God each day as we go along in our day. We can do so on a walk or and intentional time of quiet when we really "talk to God" just as if we are talking to an old friend of ours we haven't shared with in a long time. Open your heart and talk to God, and listen to the things God would

speak to you about in your own life.

Take time and reduce your schedule a bit so you have less time at work or to the commitments you have made. Take that time to share prayer, to do some spiritual reading or to be in reflection. God will meet you there too.

Take time to get a bit more rest, to refuel the tank and to be able to handle the stress of life better. Keep your spirit light so that God can work in you better. More sleep will do that. I Corinthians 3:16 "Take care of yourselves" Paul tells us, our bodies are temples. We are God's greatest gift and we need to care for that gift so we can give abundantly just as our Father gives to us.

Breathe, move, enjoy this time for growing inside and out.

In Him, Pastor Jan



Lent

Why ashes?

On Ash Wednesday many pastors dip a finger or thumb in black ashes and make the form of a cross on the foreheads of worshippers. Many Christians keep the symbol on their head for the entire day. It is a reminder of one's sorrow for one's sins. It is a sign of humility and the need for forgiveness. Also, the cross on the forehead reminds us of the death of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins.

Blessings



Shower

Sunday, Feb 11 during coffee hour there will be a Blessings Shower for Jaden Dobbins at the Groton UMC. Jaden was born Dec 28th to Angela Brandt & Perryn Dobbins of Watertown, SD.

Sunday, Feb 25 during coffee hour will be a Blessings Shower for Emily Overacker. Emily was born Dec 27 to Jaymie and Jessie Overacker of Groton.



If you desire your pastor to find you when you are admitted to the hospital - call and let her know.



If you or a family member is moved to a different facility or town, your pastor will not know unless you tell her. The hospital WILL NOT give out any information regarding you to anyone. It is up to your family or yourself to please let Pastor Jan know about you. Your pastor dearly wants to be in ministry with you and really needs your help to have this happen. So help keep her informed so that prayer may be offered, a visit, and private or shared information may be known to your pastor. It will not be shared unless you give your permission. So... PLEASE HELP YOUR PASTOR IN MINISTRY.



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.



Groton Birthday's

Feb 4	KayLynn Overacker
Feb 5	Eugene Luce
Feb 7	Gary Voss
Feb 8	Larry Wheeting
Feb 10	Brenda Madsen Dion Bahr
Feb 14	Diane Nissen
Feb 16	Pernell Graf
Feb 19	Gaylene Voss Terry Furman
Feb 22	Anthony Schinkel Robin Wanous-Williamson
Feb 25	Brent Morehouse Greg Heitmann
Feb 26	Mary Ann Wehde

Groton Anniversaries

Feb 1	Dick & Gert Ruden
Feb 5	Andrea & Brian Bahr
Feb 10	Alan & Jolene Townsend
Feb 18	Chuck & Mickey Padfield
Feb 20	Ken & Leslie Dinger

Conde Birthday's

Feb 4	Donna Walter
Feb 5	Richard Sanderson
Feb 9	Vicky Stark
Feb 19	Tyler Stark
Feb 22	Horace Walter Betty Jensen

Conde Anniversaries

Feb 10	Mr & Mrs Greg Stark Mr & Mrs Alan Townsend
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Groton UMW Meeting - Jan

The United Methodist Women's 2007 meetings started with the January 17th meeting held at the church at 2:00 p.m. Twila Ruden gave the Pledge to Mission program. She was assisted by JoAnn Krueger, Clare Brotherton and Gloria Pharis. The program included the PLEDGE which was repeated in unison. Each member present signed a pledge card. The money received from these pledges is used locally for various projects.

President Jolene Townsend conducted the business meeting. Several thank you notes were read Irene Breitkruetz sent greetings via the telephone. She is 99 years old and is planning to come back for a visit in May. The financial report was given by Clare Brotherton, treasurer.

The president thanked the new

officers for accepting an office.

At the December meeting about 30 cans were filled with goodies and delivered to special people. Preceding the meeting members attended a luncheon at the Latte Café which was well accepted.

The new program books were distributed and members asked to note that the December meeting is scheduled for the second Wednesday rather than the third.

The District Resurrection Retreat will be held February 2nd from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and 3rd from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Ramada Inn in Aberdeen. Ash Wednesday will be observed Febru-

ary 21, with a 6:30 p.m. soup and sandwich supper which will be in charge of UMW. World Day of Prayer service will be Friday, March 2nd at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church. UMW Sunday will be March 18 at 9:00 a.m. The UMW members will be in charge of the morning worship. The Reading Program is ongoing and members are urged to check it out.

Focus Day will be hosted by the Groton ladies at Groton on Saturday, April 21. It will begin with a morning coffee time, break for noon lunch and end with coffee in the afternoon before returning home. The cost of the lunch will be \$6.00. The day's program will be in charge of the Glacial Lakes officers and possibly there will be 75 attending.

Pastor Jan Price installed the 2007 officers and closed the meeting with a prayer.

Jolene Townsend and Clare Brotherton served a tasty lunch and coffee to close the afternoon.

February Meeting

February 21

2:00 pm, Ash Wednesday

Program

Social Action Issues

Leader: Mary Hayenga

Hostesses: Marj Townsend & Doris Zoellner

World Day of Prayer

March 2nd

“United Under God’s Tent”

By the Women of Paraguay



UMW Focus Days Workshop
Hosted by UMW Groton - April 21st



To the family of
Lila Bartz
Who passed away
January 15th

UMW May Breakfast

Will be May 2nd
Planning Meeting is
Feb 11th at 10:15
Program is Renee
McKiver

Conde UMW Minutes - January

Conde United Methodist Women met Wednesday, January 17 at 11:00 AM. Jane Worlie presented the Pledge Service for the year, opening with scripture where Jesus admonished others to "feed my sheep and lambs". Through Women's Division, we have many opportunities to share in Designated and Undesignated Giving. Pledge cards were turned in at this time.

Lunch was served to the group by Donna Walter and Betty Taylor.

President Donna Hearnen opened the meeting by leading the group in reading the Purpose of the organization. Patty Knoll read from the Conference Worship Book pertaining to many gifts.

Roll call showed seven members in attendance. Cards were sent to members who were missing from the group.

Yearly budget for 2007 was presented by the Treasurer, Jane Wor-

lie. Gifts to Redfield were sent at Christmas time for a family of three children.

Retreat will meet in Aberdeen February 2 and 3rd, which will be attended by Pat Siefken. Kay Harr is our shepherdess for the year. The unit officers will receive copies of Conference and District newsletters this year.

World Day of Prayer will be for the community on March 2, led by Patty Knoll. All are invited to come to the church at 2:00 PM.

Next meeting will be on Ash Wednesday, February 21st at 11:00 AM with Patty Knoll leading the Call to Prayer and Self Denial. Hostesses for the noon lunch are Pat Siefken and Betty Jensen. There will be a business meeting following the lunch.

The meeting adjourned by all joining in the Mizpah Benediction.

Every day is a gift -
That is why it is called the present.

February Conde UMW Meeting February 21st

11:00 AM

**Leader: Patty Knoll with
Call to Prayer and Self
Denial**

**Hostesses for noon lunch
are Pat Siefken and Betty
Jensen. Business Meeting
following the lunch.**



Bible facts

Did you know that:

- There are 66 books in the Bible?
- Micah and Nahum are the middle books of the Bible?
- 3 John is the book with the fewest words?
- Psalms has the most chapters?
- There are 1,189 chapters in the Bible?
- Psalm 117 is the middle chapter of the entire Bible?
- Psalm 117 is also the shortest chapter in the Bible?
- Psalm 119 is the longest chapter in the Bible?
- There are 31,101 verses in the Bible?
- Psalm 118:8 is the middle verse of the entire Bible? "It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man" (NIV).
- John 11:35 is the shortest verse in the Bible? It has two words: "Jesus wept."
- Esther 8:9 is the longest verse in the Bible? It has 78 words.

Conde Lenten Journey

1. The Five Love Languages by Gary Chapman (Offered along with Groton). Super class and will change your marriage together. How to Speak the Love Language of your spouse for the first time. Let Pastor Jan hear from you for a day or time.
2. Chocolate for Lent: A study (with chocolate each week). We see the movie "Chocolate" then discussions follow over the Christian symbols, insertions from within the movie. The first session begins with a Chocolate Feast: must be before Feb 20. Cost: \$5 for book.
3. Lenten Study for Adults: Living with the Mind of Christ by James Harnish. Session to reorganize our

thinking about Christ's plan? Once a week sessions.

4. Lent 2007: Watch and Pray by Lee Franklin based on the Common Lectionary. Learn to recognize God in Scripture and our lives, our church, our world. Once a week.

Pastor is available on Sunday afternoon, meal and class or on Monday afternoon, or evening. Please call or email your first and second choice to Pastor Jan along with your preferred day and time. 397-8270 or

pastorjanprice@grotonsdchurches.com



LENTEN CALENDAR

Groton Lenten Journey

1. The Five Love Languages by Gary Chapman is being offered along with Conde. Super class that will change your marriage together!
2. Chocolate for Lent: A study (with chocolate each week). We see the movie "Chocolate" and then discussions follow over the Christian symbols, insertions from within the movie. The first session begins with a Chocolate Feast: must be before Feb 20. Cost \$5 for book.

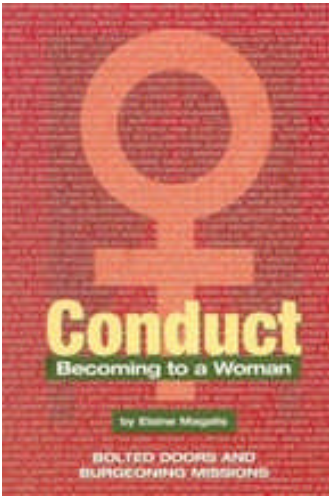
Chooses a class and the day and time you would like to begin and let Pastor Jan know. Call her at 397-8270 or email at pastorjanprice@grotonsdchurches.com and enjoy a study today!

Wednesday night Lenten Supper is being offered at 6:00 pm and service at 7:00 pm.

Lenten Supper Hosts are:

- Feb 21 - UMW for Ash Wednesday
- Feb 28 - Ad Council
- Mar 7 - UMYF
- Mar 14 - Outreach
- Mar 21 - Nurture
- Mar 28 - PPR

UMW Book of the Month



Conduct becoming to a Woman: Bolted Doors and Burgeoning Mis- sions

By Elaine Magalis

Education for Missions - 05

An account of the contributions of women in the predecessor denominations of the United Methodist Church. A reminder to young women that conduct once thought to be unbecoming to a woman is, in fact, very becoming. pp241

The creature at the door

Pastor Don Sprague tells about making a pastoral call at a home in rural Knox County, Ohio. When he knocked on the door, a child opened it and, recognizing the pastor, called out "Mommy! Mommy! It's the Creature."

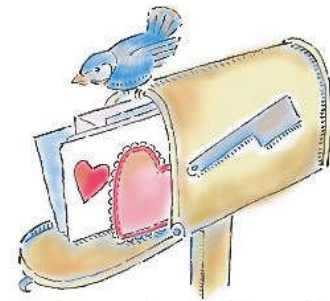
—With permission of Rev. Sprague



Why Lincoln Stood

When it came time for the pastoral prayer at the church Abraham Lincoln attended, the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, in Washington, D.C., the president stood up. Be-

cause most of the worshipers remained seated, someone asked the president why he stood. The president responded, "When my generals come into the Oval Office, they stand for their commander-in-chief. Isn't it proper then, that I stand for my commander-in-chief?"

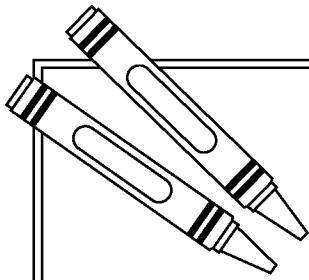


Send a Card To Someone Special



Baptism Blessings
Wava & Bill Thomas





Just for **KIDS**

But the Greatest of These Is LOVE!

God shows love to us every day and in many ways. Fill in the blanks below with the missing letters to see how God loves us perfectly!

“For God so lo _ _ ed the world,

that he g _ _ ve

his on _ _ y

begott _ _ n

So _ _ ,

_ _ hat whosoever

believeth _ _ n Him

should _ _ ot perish,

but have _ _ verlasting life.

—John 3:16, KJV

Answer: valentine

SOUPER BOWL



Youth Collecting

Feb 4th

For Hunger



YOUTH FELLOWSHIP MEETING

Groton - Feb 7 at 6:30

Groton - Feb 11 Valentine's Dinner

Groton - Feb 21 meet after

Ash Weds Service

Conde - Feb 21 at 7 pm with

meal and fellowship



GROTON SUNDAY SCHOOL

Feb 4 - Singing in Church

LOVE ONE ANOTHER



Groton March Family Committee

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 & Rober Rix
 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

- Shovel snow from doorways before church
- Clean the Kitchen
- March 4 - change altar cloths to white and hang Communion Banners for this Sunday Only
- March 11 - change the altar cloths to purple and hang the banners for this month
- Order Easter Lilies
- Water the Easter Lilies
- Potluck 2nd Sunday (Optional)



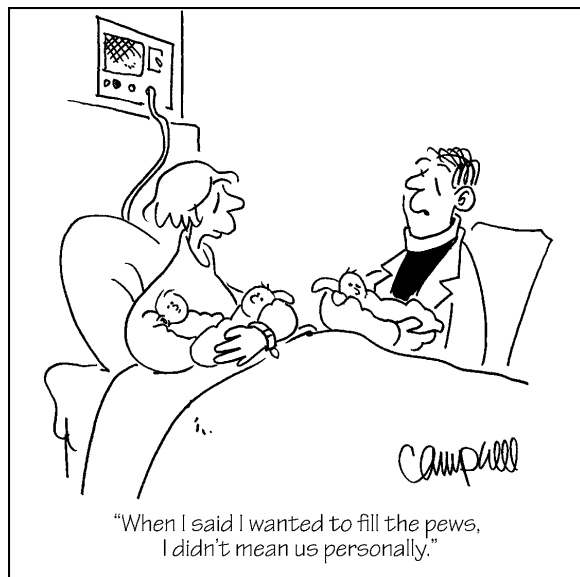
Groton Ad Council Minutes - Jan

Groton Admin. Council -Ten members were present on Jan. 10 to discuss the following agenda items:

- Apportionments: All have been paid for 2006
- Trustees: It was reported that nothing has been found wrong with the sanctuary windows at this point.
- Lay Leadership: It was reported that Mary Hayenga is a coordi-

nator for a lay ministry group for our district. This group meets to share ideas and resources for the churches.

- The council completed a church profile survey
- The council agreed to make a donation for the Sidewalk Sunday School program which is part of the Dakota Conferences Special Askings Offering.



Groton Stewardship Report January 2007	
Average Wkly Giving	\$1,132
Needed Weekly to Meet Church Needs	\$1,742
Average Weekly Attendance	67
Total Building Fund Offerings	\$115

Groton Mission Statement
"Enriching Spiritual Lives through Christ."

Conde Ad Council Minutes - Jan

Items discussed and acted upon:

- Received recommendation from Conference for paying 100% of our apportionments.
- House of Glass in Aberdeen has repaired all our exit doors.
- A task force was named to head up a list for church cleaning.
- UMW Sunday will be March 18.
- The UMYF will be collecting money for Souper Bowl Sunday with money going to their designated hunger project.
- During January and February

items/money will be collected for sewing kits.

- The mission committee will promote giving money on your birthday to Habitat for Humanity. A small house bank will be set out for persons to place their money in.
- A new copier has been purchased with funds from the Memorial and general funds.
- A task force was appointed to review guidelines and policy statements. They will be updated at the next meeting.

Upcoming Events:

- Lenten study will be offered by Pastor Jan. Subject and time to be announced.
- Ash Wednesday Service on February 21 @ 9 am.
- Pot Luck dinners set for: February 11 and March 11

Reminders:

- Continue to collect pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House.
- We will serve at the Banquet in Sioux Falls on June 4.



Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

Have a heart



Valentines of every size and description adorn store windows and other places of business this time of year. The holiday has become a time for love to be enthroned as a virtue, with the heart symbolizing the romance of our lives.

But the heart symbolizes not only love, but life itself! Without a heart, our bodies cannot survive.

Consider God’s words to Samuel: “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7, NRSV).

The heart – that inner countenance – shows what we really are. Samuel was to seek

one of the sons of Jesse to be the new king. David, even though he was the weakest physical specimen, was the one selected. His heart was great.

Love looks deeper than outward appearances, and we can thank God for that. Don’t be swayed by mere valentines – have a heart!



Our Church Happenings

February 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			



- Feb 4 Souper Bowl Sunday - Wear your Jerseys!*
 Groton Sunday School Singing in Church
 Groton Choir Singing in Church with practice prior to service
- Feb 7 Conde Martha Circle 8pm - P Siefken Lesson & D Hearnen Hostess*
- Feb 11 Groton UMC Blessings Shower for Jaden Dobbins 10 am*
 Conde UMC Potluck Dinner at noon
 Groton UMW May Breakfast Mtg at 10:15 am
 Groton UMYF Valentine Supper at 6 pm - sign up to come!
- Feb 21 Ash Weds Service - Groton at 7pm And Conde at 9 am*
 Groton Lenten Supper at 6 pm - UMW hosting
 Conde UMW Meeting 11 am - Call to Prayer and Self-Denial
 Groton UMW Meeting 2 pm - Social Action Issues
 Conde UMYF at 7 pm with fellowship & meal
- Feb 25 Groton UMC Blessings Shower for Emily Overacker 10 am*
- Feb 28 Groton Lenten Supper at 6 pm - Ad Council hosting*
 Groton Lenten Service 7 pm
- Mar 2 World Day of Prayer*
 Conde 2 pm at UMC - Patty Knoll Leader
 Groton at Emmanuel Lutheran Church
- Mar 4 Groton Honors Christian Ed Leaders & Children Sing in Church*
- Mar 11 Conde UMC Potluck Dinner at noon*
- Mar 18 UMW Sunday*