

United Methodist Messenger

JUNE 2007

GROTON/CONDE PARISHES
WWW.GROTONSDCHURCHES.COM/UMC



New Directions

Sometimes in life we need to evaluate where we are, what is needed, and how can things be made more inviting and different as well.

Since our battles with “invading water” it has been apparent that this area of the country really knows what it means to pull together. Many families have been “at war” with this invader of uncalled for water issues. You have done so well in taking care of yourselves, your neighbor and friends. There are many who still need assistance and hopefully they will contact us so we can address needed issues with them. The teams will continue to be used as each need arises.

Please call the church if you need any assistance, man or womanpower to help move things, clean things, or send things to the dump.

This will be an ongoing concern for many families for months and years to come as the financial issues are also dealt with. Do not hesitate to apply for programs that can help you there too. FEMA and SBA might have short windows of time to be successful for you and to help locate funds to reimburse you for your losses.

Mid Week Services

It has been approved by our Administrative Council that we offer a mid week service to give an opportunity for those who are away on the weekends. This service will not replace Sunday morning worship, but will enhance your choice to attend church.

“Meet me in the middle” will begin on June 20th at 7 pm. We will be recognizing our baseball teams locally on the

first Wednesday. So wear your shirts and hats and bring your whole team to have fun in the Lord.

It will be a shortened service, casual in dress and flavor. Each week we will recognize another group and hope you will come and entertain the thought as well as the service with us.

There is a place for those singers, musicians, duets, trios etc and instrumentalists to be part of this service. So, invite your friends and family to come be part of our new direction. “Guilt free church” for those who leave for the weekends, go to the lake, or might be working. We hope this will offer a new focus for your family.

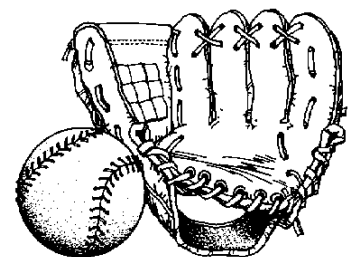
“When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him” Mark 5:11

This is a trial run for the summer and we will then evaluate the outcome to see what might happen from there.

God is calling each of us to come home, remain in Him and to continue to seek a relationship with Him. Be present to experience God in a new way with us at Groton United Methodist Church soon.

WEDS JUNE 20 at 7 pm

Pastor Jan



The miracle is this — the more we share, the more we have.

Leonard Nimoy

Drake Archer Peterson



Born on Saturday, May 26th to Ben & Kristi Peterson. He joins 2 sisters, Shaylee and Jocelyn. Drake weighed 7 lbs 10 oz and was 21 inches long.



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.

Groton Blood Drive

Tuesday, June 5th
12 noon till 6:00 PM
American Legion
Call Carol Osterman at 397-8498
for appt.

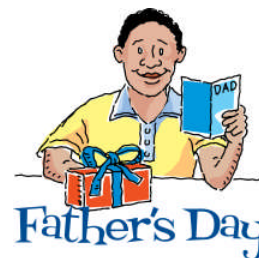
Our Church Celebrations

Groton Birthday's

- | | | | |
|--------|-------------------|--------|-------------------|
| Jun 1 | Anita Lowary | Jun 16 | Gavin Voss |
| | Jay Swisher | | Harry Pharis, Jr. |
| Jun 3 | Donald Nissen | Jun 17 | Jesse Morehouse |
| Jun 4 | Jay Johnson | | Kristopher Oleson |
| | Todd Williamson | Jun 18 | Nick Strom |
| Jun 5 | Jennifer Miller | Jun 19 | Pat Dahlquist |
| Jun 6 | Bailee Zoellner | Jun 20 | Robert Snyder |
| Jun 8 | Lacy Voss | Jun 22 | Angela Brandt |
| Jun 9 | Halle Williamson | Jun 23 | Kaycie Hawkins |
| Jun 10 | Sandy Oliver | | Shaylee Peterson |
| Jun 12 | John Seelye | | Twila Ruden |
| Jun 13 | Roger Rix | Jun 24 | Jeremy Weber |
| Jun 14 | Danielle Schinkel | Jun 25 | Tanae Lipp |
| | Roger Overacker | Jun 27 | Elaine Wolken |
| | | Jun 29 | Derick Furman |

Groton Anniversaries

- | | |
|--------|--------------------------|
| Jun 4 | Gary & Caralee Heitmann |
| Jun 11 | Jim & Mendy Jones |
| Jun 14 | Doug & Pam Bahr |
| Jun 15 | Gene & Ruby Luce |
| | Jesse & Jaymie Overacker |
| Jun 16 | Ben & Kay Brandt |
| Jun 21 | Ben & Kristi Peterson |
| | Gary & Linda Thurston |
| Jun 24 | Charles & Betty Strom |
| | Steve & Robin O'Neill |



A short quiz

Q: What time of day was Adam created?
A: A little before Eve.



June UMW Meeting

Wednesday, June 20th after the Mid-Week Church Service at 7:45-8:00 pm. approx. The program will be on "Love Ribbon" by Carolyn Snyder. Hostesses are Carna Atherton-Pray and Kelli Hanson. Upcoming events include the Reading Program which is due August 1st to Linda Thurston. The School of Christian Mission Registrations are due. The Ingathering will be September 22nd.

The 6:30 pm officers meeting will be re-scheduled at a later date.



Since the early 1800s various groups have observed a day to display the American flag. Presidents Woodrow Wilson (in 1916) and Calvin Coolidge (in 1927) issued proclamations marking June 14 as National Flag Day. But it wasn't until August 3, 1949, that Congress approved June 14 as a day of national observance. President Harry Truman signed it into law.

The American flag has changed designs more than any other flag in the world. In fact, the United States didn't have a standardized flag until 1912! And even after standardization, the flag changed three more times with the addition of new stars representing new states.



Groton Confirmation Sunday included

- Dylan Hanson
- Cole Thurston
- Michaela Oleson
- Sydney Erickson
- Mitchell Madsen
- Katelyn Hawkins
- Casey Seelye

Health Kits

- 1 hand towel (15X25 up to 17X27 and no kitchen towels)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket size)
- 1 nail file or fingernail clipper (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- 1 bar of soap (3oz and up)
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper and no child size brushes)
- 1 large tube toothpaste (4-7 ounces and check expiration date - must be 6 months or longer in advance of the date of shipment to UMCOR)
- 6 Band-Aids

Conde VBS Program



Life is an echo

A man and his young son were walking on a mountain trail when the boy tripped on a rock and twisted his ankle. “Ahhhhh!” he screamed in pain.

“Ahhhhh!” came a distant reply from the mountain.

The startled boy shouted back, “Who are you?”

“Who are you?” replied the voice from the mountain.

This made him angry, so he shouted, “You’re a big coward!”

“You’re a big coward!” was the reply.

The puzzled boy looked at his father and asked, “Dad, what’s going on?”

“Son,” the father replied, “listen to this.” He then shouted, “I admire you!”

“I admire you!” answered the voice.

“You are wonderful!” shouted the dad.

And the voice replied, “You are wonderful!”

The father turned to his son and explained, “People call that an echo, but it’s really life. Life always gives back to you what you give to it. Life is a mirror of all your actions. If you want to be loved, give love. If you want respect, give respect. If you want people to be patient with you, be patient with them. This rule of nature applies to every part of our lives.”

Groton VBS - Sidewalk Sunday School

This year, Groton Vacation Bible School will be hosted by Sidewalk Sunday School from the Dakotas Conference. **It will take place at 9:00 AM on July 23-27. Please Call Melissa Gilbert 397-4001 OR Brenda Madsen 397-8484 to sign up and come!**

As a summer outreach to children and youth, this high-energy ministry includes music, drama, Bible lessons, stories, games, crafts, prizes, and prayers.

With the aid of three generator-equipped trailers

whose sides drop down to form a sound stage, Christ-centered volunteers present the gospel to street children, neighborhood children, and children in parks. This "Special Asking" ministry is a partnership between Sidewalk Sunday School and churches in the Dakotas Conference.

As a traveling ministry, Sidewalk Sunday School has the ability to assist many churches in reaching out to children in their communities. We average 26 ministry locations in the conference each summer to complete 4 or 5 consecutive days of Vacation



Bible School. Each team travels with at least one youth team member. Our teams, the sponsoring churches, and the children who attend receive countless blessings from this ministry.

The financial support for this ministry comes from a variety of sources. Salaries are supported by your congregation's paid apportionments to the Dakotas Annual Conference. All other expenses are covered by donations and Dakotas Conference Special Askings giving. Individual and church support for Sidewalk Sunday School is needed to continue this ministry each year.

Peace with Justice Sunday - June 3rd

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."

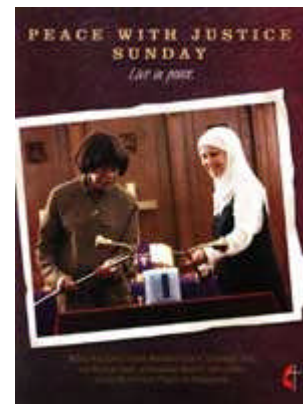
Working together, Stickley-Miner asserts, members of Faith Communities Uniting for Peace have "developed mutual respect and dignity, moving beyond stereotypes and prejudices."

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!



"Live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you."
2 Corinthians 13:11b,
NRSV

All-Church Team helps clean-up in Groton



Extreme weather caused major flooding in South Dakota, particularly affecting the Aberdeen community. UMCOR is in contact with Bishop Kiesey's office in the Dakotas Annual Conference. The floodwaters will have to recede before the extent of the flood damage can be determined. One thousand flood buckets have already been delivered and UMCOR anticipates sending emergency funds to the region.



We All Fall Short

After worship, do you ever feel guilty or like you're falling short, spiritually speaking? Do you try to compensate by being more scrupulous in your religious life?

Remember that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God ..." (Romans 3:23, NRSV). Nevertheless, when we truly repent

and ask for forgiveness, we should accept it fully. After all, God doesn't keep score. He accepts us and offers us grace without measure.

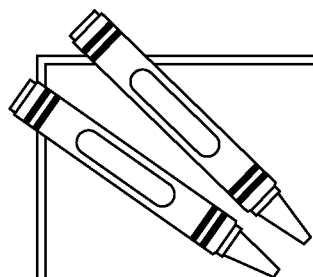
God's grace is greater than any or all the sins we commit. It's not necessary to keep beating ourselves up over our shortcomings. That is painful scrupulosity and negative thinking. Focus instead on God's love, which is greater than any human mind can fully fathom.



Groton Graduation Sunday

Graduates included: Seth Hanson, Jennifer Miller, Andrew Davies, Amber Wolken, Zachary Townsend, and Amber Locke (not pictured)





Just for KIDS

Remember Our Heavenly Father

Father's Day is a time to thank our dads, who work hard to keep the family fed, safe and loved. Let us also remember God, our heavenly Father, who gives life to us all.

Use the grid to fill in the blanks below. To find the letter for each number, look down the column to the dot, and then go to the left to the letter. Write the letter on the appropriate blank.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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3 1 17 8 6 3 1 17 5 1 6 20 14 6 2 13 20 1 17 7

15 18 4 20 3 1 6 3 16 17 20 1 15 4 14 7 9 17

11 6 14 14 17 7 11 1 13 14 7 5 17 18 15 8 10 15 7 !"

1 John 3:1, NIV

"HOW GREAT IS THE LOVE THE FATHER HAS LAVISHED ON US, THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD!"

Let's love trees



God must love trees, because he

made so many of them. Where would we be without trees? They provide us with wood, fruits and nuts. They're home for birds, squirrels, monkeys and other animals. Children climb them, build "houses" in them and hang swings from their limbs.

Trees help keep homes cooler, thus lowering the cost of air conditioning. They fight global warming, add nutrients to the soil, and help clean streams and rivers.

Trees can increase a home's value by up to 15 percent. They also add beauty to a neighborhood with their amazing colors and restful shade.

They're God's gift to us and they bless us in more ways than we might imagine. Just think: Where would Zacchaeus have been without a tree?



WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES

Groton Mid-Week Services Begin

June 20th at 7 PM

Join Us on Weds Evening!

Conde Ad Council Minutes - May 20

Conde United Methodist Administrative Council met after church on Sunday, May 20. Those present were Pastor Jan Price, Donna Hearnen, Cindy Smith, Jane Worlie, and Marion & Betty Jensen.

Treasurer's Report: Income was \$3,399.52 and Expenses were \$4,142.39. 75% of camp fees for 8 youth has been paid at the cost of \$1,239.75. The Conde UMW will be paying 1/2 of this.

UMW Report: A breakfast to honor the eight Conde High School Seniors was held on Tuesday, May 15 at 8:00 am. Attendance for May Friendship Night was down this year. UMW will pay for Bible School lunch.

Trustees Report: There is a problem with peeling paint on the south side of the church.

Education Report: A community Bible School will be held at the Methodist Church in the mornings of May 21-25 with a program on Friday evening.

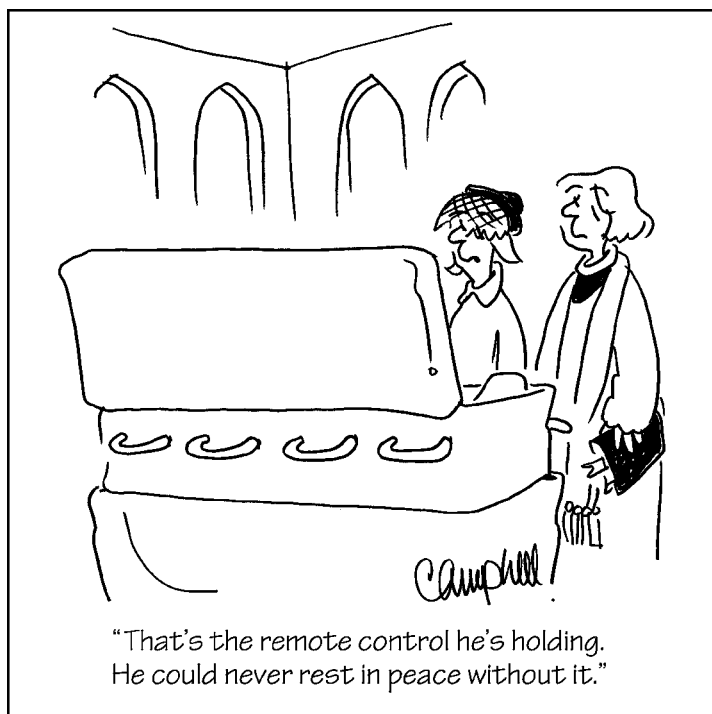
Missions Report: Serving at the "Banquet" in Sioux Falls on June 4. donations can be

made to help pay for the food to be served or to help pay for the transportation of those going down to help. There is also a need for more volunteers to serve the meal. The last two Sundays in May was the time to collect for Church World Service blankets. The cost of one blanket is \$5. Designated UMCOR Kits for May & June are the Health Kits. Items can be purchased or money given to buy the things. The list is on page 3 of this newsletter.

Upcoming Events:

- Sunday, June 3, Shanna Geist will be confirmed.
- Sunday, June 3, at 3 pm meeting at Faith United Methodist Church in Aberdeen. Purpose of the meeting is for small churches to attain information and new ideas for activities and general business of their parish. This is open to all Church Leaders.
- Wednesday, June 20, at 7:30 pm Administrative Council Meeting.

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



Groton Ad Council Minutes - May

- Finance: Concerns were expressed regarding the cost of the Lenten Service supper's and how we might approach the cost of the meals differently next year. There was also discussion about the bills we were not currently able to pay due to lower weekly contributions. It was reported that we did have enough money in camping scholarship donations to cover all but \$407.43 of the camping fees for our youth. It was noted that a finance chairman had not yet been appointed and the council decided we needed to get this done.
- Trustees: Cliff Pray discussed the work and cleanup that was necessary at the parsonage after the big rainstorm and mentioned that he was thankful for the help given by Doug Sippel and Dick Ruden.
- Lay Leadership: Carna Atherton-Pray reported that she had attended the regional lay leadership meeting in Aberdeen and that they are planning an event in Aberdeen in the near future for leadership training.
- Outreach: Pastor Jan reported that this committee made calls to check on members in need after the rainstorm.

Groton Stewardship Report May 2007

Average Wkly Giving
\$1,400

Needed Weekly to Meet Church Needs
\$1,742

Average Weekly Attendance
76

Total Building Fund Offerings
\$90



EVANGELISM:

Sharing Christ With Others

July 2007						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



Groton Mission Statement

"Enriching Spiritual Lives through Christ."

July Family Committee

Melissa & Neill Gilbert

Christine & Sherwin Nyberg

Marva & Lon Gellhaus

Ann & Gerald Rix

Mendy & James Jones

Mary Ann & Bob Wehde

Marjorie & Roger Overacker

Laurel & Monte McNickle & Murdock

Florran Norris

Audrey Miller and Jennifer & Martha

Jack Oliver

Dwight Strom

Diann & Brad Morehouse, Desiree

Honorary Members

- Clara Rix
- Margaret Blader
- Dick & Gert Ruden
- Eunice Sperry
- Ruth Thompson
- Richard Voss

July Extra Responsibilities

- Mow Lawn Each Week
- Clean Sunday School Superintendent's Office & Restrooms
- Potluck 2nd Sunday (Optional)
- July 1, white altar cloths and hang Communion Banners for this day only
- July 8, green altar cloths and banners for the month

Our Church Happenings

June 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

- June 3 Peace with Justice Sunday & Trinity Sunday
 Conde Confirmation Sunday
 Meeting for Leaders of small churches at Faith UMC , 3:00 pm
- June 4 The Banquet in Sioux Falls
- June 5 Groton Blood Drive at American Legion 12-6 pm
- June 6 Dakotas Annual Conference Begins
- June 13 Groton Ad Council 7 pm
- June 14 Flag Day
- June 17 Father's Day
- June 20 Groton Mid-Week Service at 7 PM (Baseball Theme)
 Groton UMW at 7:45 pm with "Love Ribbons"
 Conde Ad Council 7:30 pm
- June 21 First Day of Summer



**July 23-27 Groton VBS Sidewalk Sunday School
 9 AM - Noon Register Today!**

Groton Mid-Week Services

Beginning Wednesday, June 20th at 7 PM!

Join Us and wear your baseball uniforms!
