

# The United Methodist Messenger



## Pumpkin people

How is being a Christian like being a pumpkin?

God sees us, picks us out of the dirt, cleans us off, takes the yucky material out of us by forgiving us, puts a smile on our faces and places a shining light within us for others to see.

Jesus said: "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16, NRSV)



## Working for the Kingdom

As our fall schedules fill up and the busy voices of the children are heard in the halls it makes me think. All of us, not just a few of us, are to be helping with God's kingdom here on earth. As each need and call to serve God comes to you, how do you respond?

Many feel they need to answer, "I'm too busy", "My kids have too many things to do at school functions to serve the church right now". "We leave for the south for the winter", "Try someone younger", "We've already served our time teaching, leading" . . . guess what? Those are all the realities of this world: Organizing and putting into action the call of God on our lives.

God is not done with any of us, young or old, to serve the kingdom of God right here on earth. Each of us can do something small or medium and be part of the team that serves the church, the community and our God. **God never seems to be too busy to listen to me when I need Him.**

When we look around our churches and see that the balance of people is stronger toward the older folks, it makes us all wonder. Where will the church be in five years or ten?

If we are all too busy. . . who will lead the church, who will teach the children, who will say those beautiful words of a song we all love to sing, "HERE I AM, LORD". Take me and use what little time I have to be a part of your world here on earth.

If I can't go camping with the teens, I can usher, I can bake cookies, I can

send cards to *Working for the* shut-ins or go visit. Instead of sliding out of the call of others, can we find time to share a little time. That is all God is calling from any of us.....a little time. Not a huge amount of your time, just a little.

I don't know how I found time to finish Master level papers, read the books, and edit while being in the parish life as pastor for six years, but God helped me through those times. Now that I have completed those 20 classes and finished my full workload, where did that time go? God filled it up with more visitation, more preparation time and now I can read for quiet time, read for pleasure and it truly is at this time in my life.

No one is going to judge us here for what we don't do only God will be the final judge. We just know that it is a difficult world to live in for many. What greater joy we find when we each take a small turn at the "big wheel" steering in direction for God. Whatever your joy, whatever your talent or gift, bring it forth and share with others. All of us together make any task short work.

I lift each of you in prayer to find peace in your lives, direction and purpose, and to calm that part of your life and mine that needs a infusion of energy and love. **Christ calls each of us every day.** Can we all continue to say, "Find someone else". . . . ? Come serve.....when we give our lives away. . . it comes back to us ten fold!

In you, I find joy, Pastor Jan

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## Our Church Celebrations

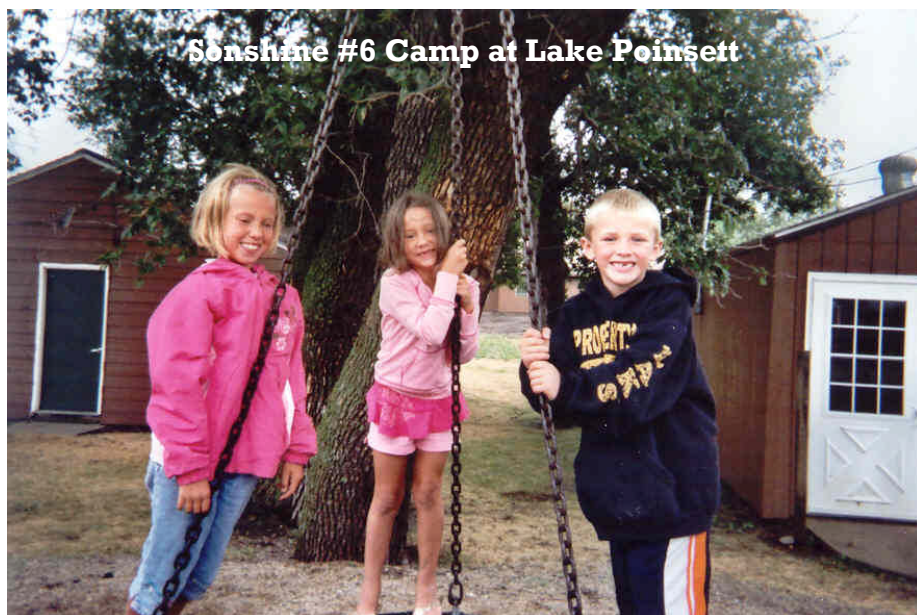
### Groton Birthday's

Oct 1 Clara Rix  
 Oct 2 Winifred Fawcett  
 Oct 4 Fred Wolken  
     Josh Atherton  
 Oct 5 Brent Swenson  
     Jeanne Wanous  
 Oct 7 Allen Walter  
 Oct 8 Gloria Pharis  
 Oct 11 Ricky Thurston  
 Oct 13 Carna Atherton-Pray

Oct 14 Grady O'Neil  
 Oct 15 Brad Morehouse  
     Jaymie Overacker  
     Russell Davidson  
 Oct 21 Gary Heitmann  
 Oct 24 Karla Davidson  
 Oct 25 Lars Hanson  
 Oct 26 ImoJeanne Oliver  
 Oct 29 Connie Nilsson  
 Oct 30 Holden Sippel  
 Oct 31 CJ Barton

### Groton Anniversaries

Oct 8 Lars & Killi Hanson  
 Oct 10 Dan & Marjae Schinkel  
 Oct 12 Marc & Jane Johnson  
 Oct 26 Harry & Gloria Pharis  
**Conde Birthday's**  
 Oct 9 Joseph Smith  
 Oct 21 Tony Lyren  
 Oct 22 Janice Hanson  
     Shane Haskell  
 Oct 25 Sherry Hanson  
 Oct 29 Marcene Bruckner  
 Oct 31 Andee Geist



Thank you for sending me to camp. I liked finding seashells and swimming. -Claire Davidson

### Blessings



Carly Lynn Gilbert  
 Daughter of Neil & Melissa Gilbert

October 14th  
 During Coffee Hour

### Groton



Marlys Rodman	397-4570
Jean Lowary	731-5256
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 UMW Fall Bazaar



Thank you everyone for helping make our first Fall Bazaar a huge success.  
UMW Exec Committee





# Sunday School SCHEDULE

## October

- 7- No Sunday School
- 14-SS
- 21-Sing in church
- 28-SS (Daylight Savings)

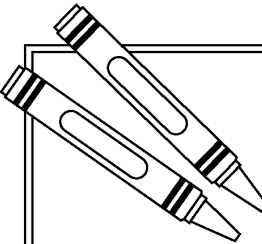
## November\*\*\*

- 4-SS
- 11-SS
- 18-SS
- 25- No Sunday School (Thanksgiving)

## December\*\*\*

- 2-SS
- 9-SS
- 16-Christmas Program
- 23- No Sunday school (Christmas break)
- 30- No Sunday school (Christmas break)

\*\*\*There may be some additional Christmas program practices scheduled in November and December.



## Just for KIDS

# THE POWER TO GIVE

In the New Testament, Jesus emphasizes the importance of giving and doing for others. In the Old Testament, Proverbs 3:27 (NIV) tells us what not to do.

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Cross out ALL of the following letters to reveal Proverbs 3:27.

..... B J K Q X Z .....

Write the remaining letters (in order) on the spaces below.

B W J I T J H Q H O B L Z D G B O O K  
D K F Q R O M T B H J O B S Q E W H O  
X B D B E K Q S E Z X R Z V J E Z X I B  
T W K H Q E N I K Q T I Z S I Z N B Y  
J X J O Z U X R P Q O K W J J E B B R T  
O A Q C Z T

"DO NOT \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_"  
\_\_\_\_\_."

P R O V E R B S 3 : 2 7 , N I V

Answer: "Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act."

## Our Best Kept Secret!

Our newly opened prayer room is in the Groton library space inside the front door. Open 24 hrs a day, many prayer helps to use, a logbook if desired, and a quiet place to be with your Lord. Prayer and the powerful components of prayer is a wonderful release as well as a healing place. You may use this prayer room anytime the Spirit speaks to you. It is yours as well as His.



### Groton UMW Meeting

**October 17 at 2:00 PM, Wednesday**

Program is World Thank Offering "Sustainers of Life" by

Doris Zoellner

Hostesses are Michele Kramer and Rose Tewksbury

Bring your World Thank Offering Boxes or Jars.

## With Sympathy

To the Family of

**Janet Rossow**

who passed away on

September 10th

## Lay Speaking Course

Oct 26-27 in Grand Forks Basic or Advanced Lay Speaking Course for any or all leaders in the church. This is basic leadership information, not for preaching unless you desire to do so. Sign up sheets in the office. We encourage all church leaders to take a class and we have budget to do so for some.



## Groton Thank You

Thank you to those sweet people who tended the flowers around our church bell all summer long. The heat and water conditions were not the best, but you gave us your best effort and the beauty is evident. Thank you for gracing us with this lovely reminder of God's beauty among us.

## Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

## Conde UMW Meeting

October 17th at 2:00 PM

Pat Siefken presents the lesson, "Mission in Music"

Hostess is Donna Hearnen

All are Welcome.



### After-School Sunday School

Cherie Kurtz is organizing an after school group for Church School activities. Cheri is also planning to host a youth group on Wednesday evenings.

This group shown met on Wednesday at the Conde church following school with a lunch before they started their session. Ann Menzia was also in attendance. We will have more information later.

## Conde UMW Meeting Minutes

Conde United Methodist Women met Wednesday, September 20 for their regular meeting.

Betty Jensen presented the lesson, "Fear Not, Pray Earnestly" assisted by Pat Siefken, Donna Hearnen and Lois Trapp.

Five members answered roll call, with Pastor Jan and Shepherdess Kay Harr as guests. Lois Trapp presented a quiz from archives testing our knowledge of the Bible.

President Donna Hearnen opened the meeting by asking Pat Siefken to lead in the singing of the Purpose Song. Cards were sent to Edwin Cunningham, Marjorie Wright, Ivy Nogle to celebrate their birthdays; get well wishes were sent to Lyle Krueger.

Donna Hearnen, Pat Siefken and Betty Taylor had attended the District Meeting of the Glacial Lakes District at Huron First Church. Our unit had received a

Certificate of Achievement and a Five Star Certificate for work done during the year.

The UMW Annual Meeting will be held in Pierre this year on October 12 and 13. Measuring cups and spoons may be taken for Haiti project; empty ink jet cartridges, and small health notions.

Betty Jensen presented the Nominations Report, asking all officers be re nominated for their offices for the coming year. A vote of election was approved. Lois Trapp will fill the vacancy on the Committee on Nominations for a three year term.

Shepherdess Kay Harr was welcomed and stressed the new Prayer Calendar as being more user friendly. She also lifted books from the Reading List and Study Books. The use of the Conference Library was urged for our unit and our church. Native American projects within the Da-

kotas Conference were named and suggestions given for any gifts for them.

The Mizpah Benediction closed the meeting.

Lois Trapp was hostess for the day.

The next meeting will be October 17 at 2:00 PM at the church. Pat Siefken will present the lesson, "Mission in Music"; Donna Hearnen will be hostess.

Martha Circle will meet October 3 at the church with Donna Walter as hostess.





## Ingathering News from Conde

Conde Church and United Methodist Women, with the leadership of Donna Hearnen, Mission Chairperson, together donated a record number of kits to the Ingathering. These kits were assembled throughout the year; some were done by members, while others were completed with the help of donations from many of the congregation.

Thirty eight health kits were

assembled, of which seven were taken to UMCOR at Sager-Brown earlier; five layettes were donated; eleven sewing kits were collected, and there were thirty school kits sent. Some of the school bags were sewn as a project at the church. As each of these kits has its value, there was a total value of \$1,159.00 worth of kits sent to Ingathering. Pastor Jan was kind enough to take the

kits to Mitchell on Saturday, September 22nd to the auction.

Much appreciation is expressed to all for their help in this project, and we look forward to another good year. Thank you.



## Shoebox Christmas 2007 - Nov 30 Deadline

Each box wrap the lid separate from the shoebox with Christmas paper. Then place a gift tag on the box with boy or girl written on the tag and the age group you choose. Rubber band the entire box closed. Age oriented ideas are as follows:

**Infants:** pkg infant wipes, bibs, bottles, booties, and infant toys

**Girls 2-7:** age appropriate educational items, reading

books, dolls, stuffed animals, coloring/painting books, crayons and watercolor paints or markers, games, puzzles, hair accessories, small dolls

**Boys 2-7:** age appropriate educational items, cars, trucks, coloring/painting books, crayons and watercolor paints or markers, Legos, construction toys, reading books, games, puzzles

**Older boys 8-18 year youth** love electronic handheld game

toys, watches, games, small puzzles, flashlights, reading books - you choose fun things.

**Older girls 8-18 year youth** love purses, makeup, nail polishes, hair items, perfume, bath products, games, puzzles, reading books, whatever you find that's fun.

All the children need: hats, mittens, and scarves, but we shall send separately to make distribution easier. These are additional.

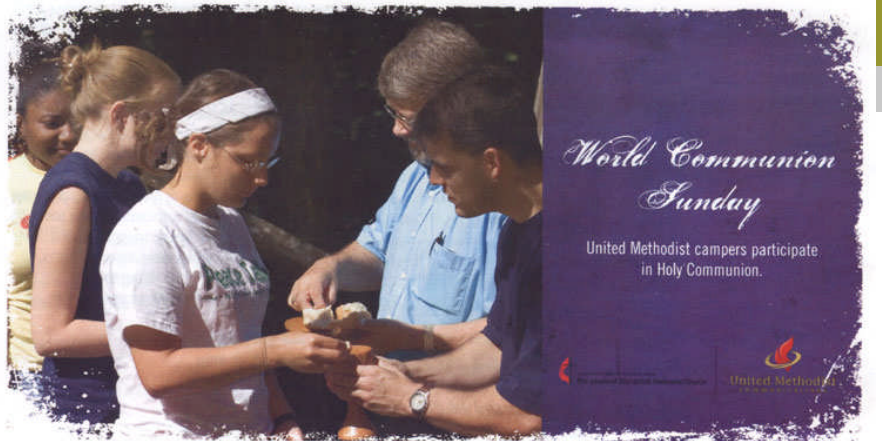


## World Communion Sunday

“Development cannot be done for people. It has to be done with them and by them.”

Crusade Scholar Jean-Michel Basquin, studying at South Dakota State University (SDSU), Brookings, is eager to return home to Haiti. Equipped with a doctorate in rural sociology, his goal is “to help the Methodist Church of Haiti to shape a better future for the country.

“Lack of rural development,” he explained, “often results in overpopulated cities, higher crime rates and other social problems. A healthy society depends on the balance between rural and urban development as most natural resources, including land for food production, are in the rural areas.”



Reflecting on the Crusade Scholarship that enabled him to do graduate studies with little financial burden, he said, “I can’t be thankful enough. That scholarship is exactly what the church needs to fulfill its global mission. It empowers people so they can empower others.”

The former campus ministry director at SDSU added, “I grew up in the church. I believe in the role the church plays in improving people’s lives.” In helping people to achieve their potential, he noted, “Scholarships are more than important. My scholarship has sustained me substantially.

I could not do without it.”

Because of caring United Methodists, Jean-Michel and other deserving students receive the opportunity for a quality education. The World Communion Sunday offering provides scholarships for U.S. (racial-and ethnic-minority) and international students, on both undergraduate and graduate levels.

Please give generously on World Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of October. Your gift makes a world of difference! Thank you!



“You’re right. Man does not live on bread alone.  
My mom and dad use credit cards.”

**Dakotas Conference United Methodist Women Annual Meeting** will meet in Pierre at First Church October 12th and 13th. Registration is 5:45 PM on Friday. For more information, see Donna Hearnen. Suggested items to bring are children’s books and used printer cartridges for Southeast Pierre church. Rick Jost still needs measuring cups and spoons for the Solar Oven Project in Haiti. You can bring them with you to Pierre.



## The Russell & Carla Davidson/Oleson family has landed!

Our newest members of our church family have been dealing with a flood damaged home since May, as have many others. They have had their basement replaced and been off their foundation for many weeks. Since the house movers have come and placed their home back on a new base they are very happy to work from here on in. We continue our prayer support and encouragement for their big family on this new “adventure” for this milestone. We are so pleased you can find a light at the end of your tunnel and God continues to bless you in this process. Keep us updated as you finish this huge project.



## The Comforter is here

Six-year-old Becky was asked to take the trash outside after dark. Dutifully, she started on the mission but quickly returned without completing the task because she heard frightening noises. Becky asked her dad, San Diego pastor Jim Standiford, to accompany her on her job.

Jim put aside his reading material, and off they went. As they made their way on the sidewalk, their feet crunched dried leaves, making loud noises. Becky then said something her father has never forgotten. Feeling con-

fidant and brave with her father as her companion, she said, “Daddy, it’s not scary to hear noises in the darkness when someone is with you.”

When you’re afraid, remember that the Comforter, God’s Holy Spirit, is as near as a prayer. That’s what the psalmist affirmed when he wrote, “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me” (Psalm 23:4, KJV).



There are many ways you can give to others.  
All you have to do is lend a hand!

### What you need:

- Colored paper
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Yarn or heavy string
- Clothespins or paper clips

### What you do:

1. With your parents’ help, think of seven (or more) things that you can do for seven (or more) people. For example, you could clean out closets and donate the items to charity, help a neighbor bring in her trash, and so on.
2. Trace your hand on the paper seven times. Cut out each hand.
3. On one side of each hand, write a person’s name. On the other side, write how you will help him or her.
4. Cut a long piece of yarn (or heavy string) and hang it in your room – like a clothesline.
5. Use the clothespins or paper clips to hang each hand on the “clothesline.”
6. When you’ve completed each act of service, take the hand off, but keep it to use another time.
7. Do this activity over and over again by “giving a hand” to someone.

# Groton DISCUSSION & SURVEY ON THE ISSUE OF HUMAN SEXUALITY & CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

As our denomination faces a controversy in General Conference, our church and our members should give prayerful consideration to the issues which will be faced by our delegates and decide where our local congregation stands on the issues. One of the issues which will be considered is one that has split other denominations and already has several of the area churches strongly defending one side of the issue or the other side. Membership for homosexuals becomes a difficult subject to fully discuss because the issue is so emotionally charged. Where does Groton stand? Where do you stand? It may not be as simple as you first think.

To really consider the issue we must know where we are now. The current Social Principles in United Methodist Discipline (the rules which we agree to live by as United Methodists) in no way condemns or denigrates men or women who have a homosexual orientation. It calls for the church to defend the civil and constitutional rights of the homosexuals and to stop rejecting, condemning, discriminating against, coercing, or allowing violence or attacks against homosexuals. As a church, we would allow someone for example, who recognizes that he/she is a homosexual to be ordained, provided they agree to remain celibate. The Bible does *not* condemn the homosexual for being homosexual, and our stance as United Methodists within our Discipline clearly reflects this. The *practice*, or the acting on the homosexual orientation or desire, is viewed as a sin by Scripture. It clearly focuses on the *practice* of homosexuality. This is a critical distinction both within the Discipline and within Scripture. Again, this is a critical distinction when it come to discussing this issue, whether the focus on the discussion is around the ordination of homosexuals or the sanctioning of homosexual “marriages” or “civil unions.” Our Discipline is consistent with this stance.

In June of 2007 Dakotas Annual Conference passed a resolution, if adopted by General Conference in 2008, would forbid churches or pastors from refusing membership to anyone based on gender identity or sexual preference. This would include practicing homosexuals (individuals actively involved with one or more same sex partners.) It would also include bisexual and transgender individuals. Similar resolutions are expected from other Annual Conferences across the country.

This resolution is a direct response to a Virginia pastor’s refusal in 2005 to allow a self-avowed, practicing homosexual to join his church. The pastor did so based on our United Methodist Discipline’s stance that as United Methodists’ we view the practice of homosexuality to be incompatible with Christian teaching. The pastor was suspended by his Bishop and placed on Involuntary Leave. The case went to the United Methodist Judicial Council (our “Supreme Court”) The Judicial Council upheld the pastor’s right to refuse the person membership. So now there is a significant effort being made to amend our Discipline to make it illegal for pastors or churches to refuse membership because of one’s gender identity or sexual preference.

The resolution passed is as follows:

### **The Dakotas Conference Youth Petition to General Conference 2008**

We, as representatives of the youth in the United Methodist Church of all sexual orientations believe in promoting equality for all people seeking membership in our denomination.

Whereas, the United Methodist slogan of Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors does not advertise any exceptions when it comes to membership in the church. There is no fine print;

Whereas, Jesus did not give any qualifications for being a part of his body - only that we follow and believe;

Whereas, a main reason for discrimination is the fear of change, something we cannot be

## Groton DISCUSSION & SURVEY Continued..

afraid of;

Whereas, the church must give the same consideration to all passages of Scripture: no passage deserves more or less scrutiny than any other;

Whereas we, as a people, must not only interpret what God says in the Scriptures, but also what God says to us today;

Whereas, the church exists to be a messenger of God's love. When the church denies that love to anyone by not allowing membership, they are effectively communicating that God is also denying them love.

Therefore, we propose an addition to the Book of Discipline stating that no person shall be withheld membership to the United Methodist Church on the basis of sexual orientation of gender identity.

This resolution is already causing a great deal of unrest in several Dakotas United Methodist churches. If this or another resolution promoting the rights of practicing homosexuals within the church is passed at General Conference, it could tip that balance and ultimately split our denomination. We need to look at both sides of the issue.

For the past 30 years our denomination has sought to balance the need to show love, care, and respect to homosexual persons and to support their civil rights within our society, with the need to honor the biblical call to holiness for those who call themselves disciples of Jesus Christ. Our church has long recognized that this call is for all areas of our lives (including the sexual) to be put under the lordship of Jesus Christ.

The "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors" slogan of our denomination has been interpreted by some to mean that there is, or should be, no distinction between welcoming people who come through our church doors and those seeking membership to the church. Church membership is based on our renunciation of all sin, our total reliance on the grace of God in Jesus Christ to forgive those sins, and our total reliance on the power of God to help us resist those sins. The first question we are asked when joining the church is: "Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?" Membership effectively says, "I have now chosen to leave the world behind me and follow Jesus Christ." If anyone had an "Open Door" policy it was Jesus, but he demands that people who follow him live with principles and standards. For 2000 years Christian moral standards have been based on the Scriptures. Can we now declare that "it's a matter of opinion;" or "it's not what I believe"?

The church should not be just another social club. The church can be holy as well as non-judgmental, loving as well as morally pure, gentle as well as strong, and open to all while uncompromising on its values. The resolution would render it impossible for pastors and churches to discern the readiness for membership of those whose sexual practices are by the Discipline's standards, "incompatible with Christian teaching."

But are the standards for what it means to be a Christian and what church membership requires different? Do social standards or political correctness or social tolerance change standards or merely open our interpretations? Our purpose as a church is to help people grow up in Christ, not leave them as spiritual infants. Can we determine which sin is more troublesome? Should we view a practicing homosexual as a greater sinner than a thief, or a glutton, or an adulterer? Do we know what other sins candidates for membership have in their lives? Do we check to see if someone is abusing a spouse or child or having an affair? We should not be judging others. Only God has that right.

**After hearing these arguments on both sides and after you have taken time to consider the issue, how would you have our delegates vote on this resolution? Fill in the Survey on the bottom of the next page and return to the church office by Oct 24th.**

## Groton Ad Council Minutes - Sept

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Finance:** The Treasurer's Report was reviewed by the group.

**Pastor/Parish:** They are in the process of setting up the next meeting.

**Trustees:** There was discussion regarding the status of new doors for the west side of the church and the front of the parsonage. Gerald Rix will contact Cliff Pray to see when these will be in place.

**Lay Leadership:** It was reported that there are some upcoming workshops for anyone interested in improving their leadership skills. These will be advertised in the newsletter.

**Outreach:** Our church will host this year's Thanksgiving meal, so plans are starting to be made for this event.

**Witness:** Clare Brotherton & Pastor Jan are working on the membership list.

**UMW:** There is a meeting

scheduled for the up-coming week. The Fall Bazaar will be held in the first week of October, so the ladies are preparing for that event.

**Youth Fellowship:** It was reported that Christie Swenson would not be continuing as a youth leader so we need to find a replacement. Several people have been approached. There are a couple of tentative people. It is felt that three or four people as leaders might help with coverage for the group.

### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Pastor Jan stated that the Wednesday evening services have been discontinued. Due to this, the Administrative Council meetings will begin at 7:00 pm again.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Prayer Room:** The Prayer Room has been opened and is being used.

**Dakotas Conference Resolutions:** Pastor Jan shared some information regarding the up-

coming Dakotas Conference resolution regarding church membership as it relates to sexual orientation. Pastor Jan had prepared handouts with reference information for council members in order to help the council understand the importance of this particular resolution and the potential impact on the Methodist Church in the future. After much discussion the council decided that information regarding this topic should be shared with our congregation through our newsletter. Through this means the members will be able to share their opinions by completing a response form and returning it to the church. Responses will be due by October 10 so that the council will have this feedback for their next Admin. Council meeting.

Those who wish to sign a petition against the resolution may add their names to Aberdeen First United Methodist papers and have a record of their names in that manner. You may ask at their church office to do so.

## ISSUE OF HUMAN SEXUALITY & CHURCH MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

Do you favor this resolution to change the Discipline or are you against changing the Discipline?

Yes I support the resolution for the change.

No. I do not support the resolution for the change.

Do you believe our church should take an official stand for or against the resolution?

Yes

No

Return the Survey via mail, offering plate, under office door, or in the basket at the back of the church by October 24th. Thank You.

November 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	

# November Family Committee

**Carol & LuVerne Strom**

**Gloria & Harry Pharis**

Kim & Craig Weber (Jan/Nov)

Sharon & Larry Wheeting

Brenda & Tony Madsen

Ben & Kristi Peterson

Linda & Jay Johnson (Jan/Nov)

Marjae & Dan Schinkel

Caralee & Gary Heitmann

Don Bartz

John Padfield

Betty & Charlie Strom

John & Lori Seelye

**Honorary Members**

- Irene Breitkruetz

- Charlotte & Art Lange

- Rita Washnok

**Extra Responsibilities**

- Nov 4, hang Communion Banners and change altar cloths to white for this Sunday only

- Nov 11, altar cloths change to green and hang the monthly banners

- Nov 25, change the altar cloths to white
- Arrange to order Poinsettias
- Put up church indoor and outdoor decorations Nov 25th with Dec Committee and ALL church members helping
- Clean Pastor and Secretary's Office
- No Potluck with Men's Dinner

**Groton Mission Statement**  
 "Enriching Spiritual Lives through Christ."



**Electronic Fund Giving**

## Thanksgiving Community Dinner

The Groton United Methodist Church will be hosting this year. We need volunteers to host and food donations to help make this a success. Watch for sign-up sheets! Please Contact Crystal Sippel or Carol Strom

## 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!

<b>Groton Stewardship Report</b>	
<b>September 2007</b>	
Average Wkly Giving	\$1,433
Needed Weekly to Meet Church Needs	\$1,742
Average Weekly Attendance	76
Total Building Fund Offerings	\$90



October

October 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			

## Our Church Happenings

Oct 7 World Communion Sunday

Oct 7 Groton No Sunday School

Oct 10 Groton Nurture/Christian Ed Meeting at 7 PM

Oct 10 Groton Ad Council 7 PM

Oct 14 Laity Sunday

Oct 14 Groton Blessings Shower for Carly Lynn Gilbert

Oct 17 Conde UMW Meeting 2:00 PM

Oct 17 Groton UMW Meeting 2:00 PM

Oct 17 Conde Ad Council 8 PM

Oct 21 Groton Sunday School Sings in Church

Oct 24 Groton Survey due for Ad Council Consideration

Oct 28 Conde World Hunger Sunday

Oct 28 Groton Catholic Fall Dinner 11-1 at GAHS Gym

Nov 11 Men's Dinner

Nov 18 Charge Conference in Conde at 12 PM with potluck prior

Nov 30 Deadline for Shoebox Christmas