

The United Methodist Messenger

SEPTEMBER 2007

Jesus

Reading my morning meditations this week I found this lovely nugget and wish to share with you the contents therein.

"A person is a Christian because of Jesus. Through the paradoxical congruence between Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, and a person's experience, Jesus becomes a savior of power and might. For the Christian of lively faith, there breathes the dearest freshness in Jesus. He is a thesaurus, a treasury, never to be emptied. From cradle to grave, his mysteries shine golden with Johannine grace, glint green and white with Pauline grace aligned with springtime and Passover. From The Heart of the Christian Matter by John Carmody

To serve Christ is the greatest gift we have as followers of our Savior, yet it is the most difficult task of our "reformed lives" to do so.

"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy" that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it." Matt 7:13-14

Most of the things of this life are in place to make the world comfortable, full of all the things that woo us, yet we should not be deceived. Those are the world's way and not the one our Lord gave us to reach eternity with God. This year and the ensuing weeks close by have been painfully important to my own under-

standing and growth. Perhaps we do not achieve everything we want to do with perfection. Maybe we are, in our haste and humanness, the person who hurt others and need to help heal those places.

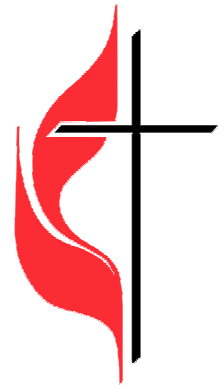
We are on this journey together and none of us are perfect individuals, but that is what grace is all about. The willingness to let some things go, to forgive others as we wish to be forgiven and to ask repentance from God to help us begin anew. I am sure that when the sun comes up tomorrow, I will make one more mistake too. I only trust that I will be as open to forgiving others as I hope to be forgiven.

A special blessing from God's people came to me this week in the form of a lovely young lady. She came to help, with guidance, to change my car's flat tire. She will never know the profound impact that gift gave to this pastor. She modeled a new conscious change in my life's direction. I will not forget her kindness. How wonderful the gift she gave, may I return it ten fold.

Keep following. The model we have is the Christ, the Messiah, the Jehovah God before us who, we should never take our eyes off. Keep the focus, keep the vision and keep on your journey. I send my heartfelt love to those who need it and especially to those who think they don't.

In Christ's love I remain,

Pastor Jan

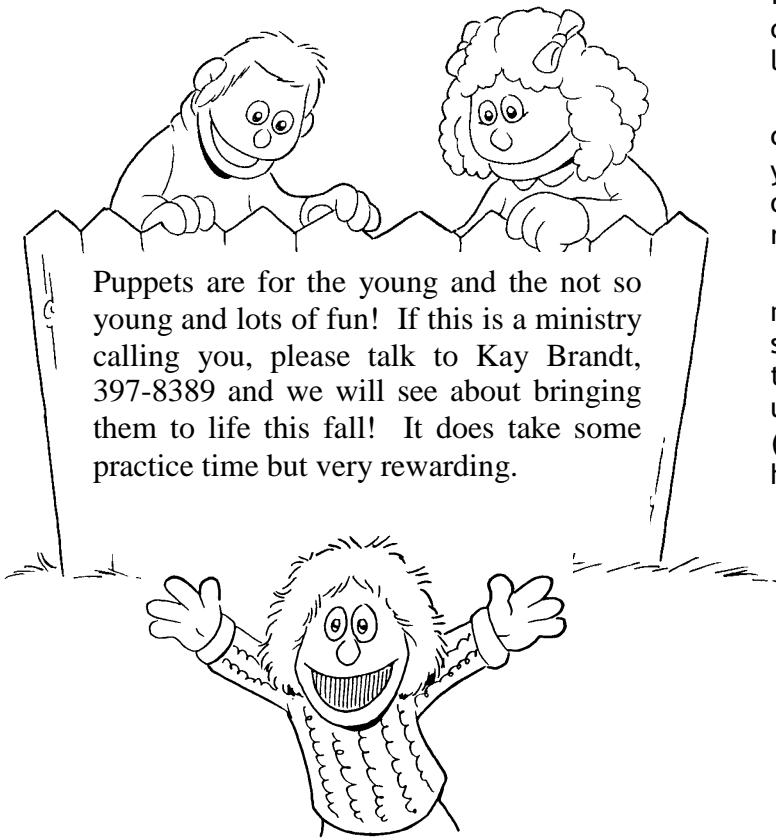


Poem for laborers

Lives of great men
all remind us
We can make our
lives sublime
And, departing,
leave behind us
Footprints on the
sands of time.
Let us, then, be
up and doing,
With a heart for
any fate;
Still achieving,
still pursuing,
Learn to labor and
to wait.
—Henry
Wadsworth Long-
fellow from "A
Psalm of Life"



In Remembrance of Sept.



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.

Remembering 9/11/01

Dear Lord, loving Creator of us all, we remember with great sadness those whose lives were taken on September 11, 2001. We hold up to you the victims' families that they may know, despite their pain, that they can find solace in your loving presence. Help them bring their hurting hearts to you, realizing that your everlasting arms can bear them up and that they cannot be separated from your abiding love.

Please assure us that even though we cannot understand such horrible deeds, you can bring good out of evil, justice out of injustice and righteousness out of unrighteousness.

Therefore, confessing our human weaknesses, our grief and our struggles to make sense out of this world, we cry out with the psalmist: "Rise up, O LORD; O God, lift up your hand; do not forget the oppressed" (Psalm 10:12, NRSV). Strengthen our hearts, this day and every day. Amen.

Groton UMC



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 71 on email prayer chain.

Camp Thank You

Thank you for sending me to Leadership Training Camp at Lake Poinsett. It was a wonderful experience. I met many new friends and learned about God in many new ways. We were able to choose 3 classes to go to each day during camp and in each one we learned about how God tries to communicate with us and tell us how to live our lives. We also got time to go on the water and other do many other fun activities. Overall camp was great and I hope to be able to go back next year.

Thank you and God bless,

Alexa Nilsson

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Our Church Celebrations

Groton Birthday's

Sept 1 TJ Johnson
 Sept 2 Kylie Hawkins
 Sept 7 Alana Wolken
 Sue Rock
 Wanette Strom
 Sept 11 Audrey Jacobson
 Sept 12 Alexa Nilsson
 Cliff Pray
 Sept 13 Richard Krueger
 Sept 14 Bob Wehde
 Sept 15 Mason Madsen
 Sept 16 Camille Sippel
 Sept 17 Jackson Strom
 Kyler Ell
 Sept 19 Diann Morehouse
 Sept 20 Marjory Townsend

Sept 22 Eunice Sperry
 Madison McNickle

Sept 23 Carolyn Snyder

Sept 24 Jesse Overacker

Sept 25 Joey Padfield

Sept 26 Alan Strom

Sept 29 Adam Atherton

Ben Brandt

Bob Johnson

Groton Anniversaries

Sept 7 Doug & Crystal Sippel

Jack & Barb Schmidt

Sept 8 Laurel & Monte McNickle

Sept 9 Clint & Audrey Jacobson

Sept 12 Richard & Doris Zoellner

Sept 14 Gerald & Ann Rix

Sept 17 Alan & Vicki Strom

Sept 18 Vern & Jean Walter

Sept 20 Russell & Marjory Townsend

Conde Birthday's

Sept 7 Richard Worlie

Jerry Bonn

Sept 8 Marjorie Wright

Eva Lyren

Sept 13 Shane Bruckner

Sept 24 Ivy Nogle

Sept 26 Heather Herman

Sept 27 Edwin Cunningham (100)

Alex Lyren

Sept 29 Bill Thomas

Conde Anniversaries

Sept 28 Rex & Larae Taylor

Sept 29 Bud & Julie Bruckner

Golden Living Center Coffee Servers Wanted

If you are able to serve coffee from 3:30 - 4 pm at the Golden Living Center after Pastor Jan's Worship Service, please contact Jolene Townsend. We were asked to participate in this and we need to know if anyone is willing to fill this need.

The dates we would help on are: Sept 30th, Nov 25th, and Dec 23rd.

Groton UMW Meeting

September 19 at 7:30 PM

"2008 Reading Program"

by Linda Thurston

Hostesses: Karla Pasteur & Kami Lipp

Executive Meeting at 6:30 to discuss 2008 date book plans, newsletter update, finalize slate of officers, and UMW bazaar.

Awesome God



When our lives are focused on God, awe and wonder lead us to worship God, filling our inner being with a fullness we would never have thought possible. Awe prepares the way in us for the power of God to transform us, and this transformation of our inner attitudes can only take place when awe leads us in turn to wonder, admiration, reverence, surrender and obedience toward God.

—James Houston, *The Transforming Power of Prayer*

Conde UMW August Minutes

Conde United Methodist Women met at 2:00 PM at the church with five members and Pastor Jan present. Cindy Smith was hostess for the day.

Betty Taylor presented the lesson on Being Ecumenical in Mission. Volunteer projects were discussed, along with kits for UMCOR at Sager Brown. The lesson closed with prayer and "God Bless America".

President Donna Hearnen opened the meeting by asking we sing the Purpose Song. Pat Siefken read the devotional from the Conference Booklet. Thank you notes were read from the families of Elmer Herr and Eleanor Dittus MacMillan. Cards were sent to Marjorie Wright in Clark, Bill and Wava Thomas, Donna Barnes, Darlene Meyer, Janet Rossow and District President Marsha Timm.

Shepherdess Kay Harr will be with us for the

September 19th meeting. Pat Siefken gave a report on her youth class at School of Christian Mission, telling of Globalization and Music.

Martha Circle will be meeting September 5th at 8:00 PM. There will be a special study and making of kits for Ingathering. School kit bags will be made August 22nd at 7:30 PM. We will be using Mission Money to pay for supplies for kits.

Funeral committee for July, August, September is Betty Taylor and Donna Hearnen. There will be a farewell for the Murphy family Sunday.

The meeting closed with the Mizpah Benediction.

The Glacial Lakes District Meeting will be at First United Methodist Church in Huron on September 15. All who are going to this meeting should contact Donna Hearnen, President.



Conde UMW Meeting

Wednesday, Sept 19th at 2:00 PM

Betty Jensen leads the lesson

“Fear Not, Pray Earnestly” -

Time for Soul Searching

Followed by business meeting and fellowship

Lois Trapp is hostess

Everyone invited to attend

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.

UMW Glacial Lakes Dist Mtg

United Methodist Women Glacial Lakes District meeting at Huron First United Methodist Church in Huron is on September 15, Saturday.

Registration and Coffee - 9:15 - 10:00 AM

Morning Session in Sanctuary - 10:00 AM

Cost \$8.00. There is a car going from Conde - call Donna Hearnen for more details. You are reminded to bring baby quilts, crib blankets and clean, slightly used or new teddy bears to the meeting. There will also be a count on pop tabs collected.

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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



Groton UMW Bazaar



The 2007 United Methodist Bazaar will be held Wednesday evening, October 3rd., 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the church. There will be the usual Craft and Bake Sale and Country Store. Lefse will be sold at the Bazaar bake sale and not at the Men's dinner. Members are encouraged to bring the usual items which will include theme baskets as before. A sandwich and pie supper will be served during the entire time.



Committee members include Kelli Hanson, general; Gloria Pharis, kitchen Twila Ruden, lefse sales; Chris Nyberg, bake sale; Betty Strom, craft sale; and Meri Erickson and Melissa Gilbert, theme baskets. Twila Ruden and Kay Brandt will handle advertising.

Groton UMW Polar Fleece Throws Sale

Polar fleece throws with the United Methodist Church emblem embroidered on them are for sale by the Groton United Methodist Women for \$15. They are 48 x 62 inches in size and are available in five colors, camel, pink, cream, baby blue and gold. Your Chills Will Cease When You Buy Polar Fleece. If you have questions, please call Susan Odland, 397-2322. You may pay Susan or Clare Brotherton.



Groton UMW Lefse Alert

Lefse will be made at the church on Monday and Tuesday, September 17th and 18th, starting at 8:00 a.m. both days. Everyone is welcome and needed to work. If you have lefse making equipment, please let Twila Ruden, 397-8391; or Gloria Pharis, 397-2375, know. A practice-making session for anyone wishing to learn how has been scheduled for September 26th, starting at 4:30 p.m.



Easy Applesauce Muffins

This healthy recipe will make a great start to your day, a great snack or a great gift for your teacher and classmates.

What you need:

- 6 tablespoons butter
- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs
- 2/3 cup brown sugar
- 1 1/2 cups chunky applesauce
- Baking cups



What you do:

1. With an adult's help, heat the oven to 375 degrees. Line a 12-cup muffin tin with baking cups and set aside.
2. In a small, microwave-safe bowl, melt the butter on high for about 30 seconds; set aside to cool slightly.
3. Sift together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon and salt in to a large mixing bowl.
4. In another large bowl, whisk together the eggs and brown sugar. Stir in the applesauce and melted butter until the mixture is smooth.
5. Pour the apple mixture over the flour mixture. Stir with a wooden spoon just until the flour disappears. (This will produce muffins with a nice, crumbly texture.)
6. Fill the baking cups about two-thirds full with batter. (For mess-free muffins, use an ice-cream scoop to spoon batter into the baking cups.)
7. Bake for 20 minutes or until light brown. Test for doneness by inserting a toothpick in the middle; if it comes out clean, the muffins are ready to eat. Makes 12.



Groton

Sunday School SCHEDULE

September

9-Rally Sunday. Children will sing in church

16-SS

23-SS

30-SS

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

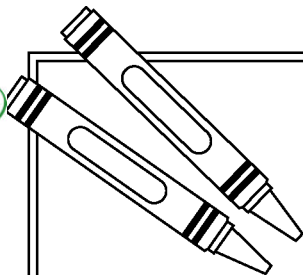
23- No Sunday school (Christmas break)

30- No Sunday school (Christmas break)

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



Leaders are needed for the youth group! 1 or 2 couples/persons who are willing to share 4-5 hours per month.



Just for KIDS

Apple of Your Eye

When something is said to be the "apple of your eye," it means it's precious to you and you would protect it as you would your own eye. With school starting up again, we should remember God's instructions in Proverbs 7:2: "Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye" (NIV).

Find and circle the word "apple" 13 times in the puzzle below. It can be horizontal, vertical, diagonal and even backward.

e	a	e	e	a	p	e	l		
l	a	p	a	p	p	i	e	l	a
a	p	p	p	p	a	i	e	p	p
l	p	l	p	a	p	l	p	e	p
a	l	e	l	l	a	l	p	p	l
e	e	a	e	p	e	a	e	p	e
l	l	e	a	p	p	l	e	p	l
a	p	p	a	p	p	l	e		
l	a	p	p	i	e	p			
e	a	a	e	a					



Annual Conference adopts resolutions and petitions to send to the General Conference 2008



Annual Conference Adopts Resolution Against Death Penalty, Sends Iraq War and Church Membership Petitions to General Conference Members of the 2007 Dakotas Annual Conference adopted a resolution against the death penalty in South Dakota, a petition seeking a church-wide stand against the Iraq war, and a petition seeking more inclusive language in the membership qualifications for the UMC.

The death penalty resolution encourages church members to become involved in educating lawmakers and themselves about the death penalty and to be in prayer for families of both the condemned and victims. It also seeks action from South Dakota Gov. Mike Rounds, asking that he stop further executions and create a task force to study the issue. Elijah Page was executed July 11. It was the first execution in South Dakota in 60 years. Page was convicted in the 2000 torture and murder of 19-year-old Chester Allan Poage near Spearfish.

The Iraq War petition to the 2008 General Conference urges Congress and the President to end military action in Iraq and continue rebuilding the country. It also calls on United Methodists throughout the world to pray for peace and to stand up and speak out for public policies that promote peace, justice, and reconciliation among all nations.

The membership petition to 2008 General Conference addresses qualifications for membership, asking that an addition be made to the Book of Discipline stating that no person shall be withheld membership to the United Methodist Church on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Membership Petition

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 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 or gender identity.

Submitted by Tanielle Brost, Chance Cole, Connor Cole, Katharine Dalton, Emma McKirdy, Grace McKirdy, Ally Roemmich and Jacob Tallmon, members of the Dickinson (ND) UMC youth group.

Ratified by DAKYAK, Dakotas Youth Annual Conference 2007.

Death Penalty Resolution

Death Penalty Resolution

SUBJECT: A resolution regarding use of the death penalty in South Dakota.

WHEREAS the Social Principles (Discipline) of the United Methodist Church state, "we oppose capital punishment and urge its elimination from all criminal codes," and

WHEREAS recent revelations of the flaws of our judicial system have resulted in many persons being freed from death row because their innocence has been proven, and

WHEREAS technology has advanced which should require a re-examination of the cases where the death penalty has been assessed,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the

Annual Conference adopts resolutions and petitions to send to the General Conference (Cont from Page 7)

members of the Dakotas Annual Conference and their local congregations be encouraged and resourced to follow our Discipline in any or all of the following ways:

+Working to educate governmental leaders in South Dakota about the United Methodist Church's position and urging those persons to support elimination of the death penalty as an option of punishment under South Dakota's legal system.

+Learning about the fairness of the death penalty's application, especially as it affects those who are mentally retarded, members of minority groups or the poor, and supporting a moratorium on the use of the death penalty while such a study is being conducted.

+Praying for those condemned to death, for their families, and the families of those persons against whom crimes were committed, especially on the day of an execution.

Further be it resolved that this Annual Conference respectfully requests Governor Michael Rounds use every legal power at his disposal to stop any further executions in the state of South Dakota. We further request the Governor to appoint a special task force to conduct an in-depth study of capital punishment in light of its fairness to all persons, its effect as an alleged deterrent, and its ability to fulfill the law of God which calls us to extend God's love, justice, mercy, and forgiveness to all people.

Signed by: Rev. Brook R. McBride, First UMC, Vermillion, SD; Cyndy McBride, First UMC, Vermillion, SD; Barbara Goodman, First UMC, Vermillion, SD; Robert Stoner, First UMC, Vermillion, SD; Jayson Dobney, First UMC, Vermillion, SD; Rev. Jennifer Hallenbeck, First UMC, Pierre, SD; Jinny Tarver, UMC, Sioux Falls, SD; Rev. Russ Tarver, UMC, Sioux Falls, SD; Donna Fisher, Canyon Lake UMC; Rev. Richard W. Fisher, Canyon Lake UMC; Rev. Ray Baker, Superintendent, Sakakawea District; Rev. Marty Toepke-Floyd, Zion UMC, Wishek; Peg Zerface, Fargo Faith UMC; Sarah Baker, McCabe UMC Bismarck, ND

Iraq War Petition

IRAQ WAR PETITION TO GENERAL CONFERENCE

Submitted for approval by The Dakotas Annual Conference

Whereas, The United Methodist Church deplores war and urges the peaceful settlement of all disputes among nations, as stated in ¶ 164I of the

2004 Book of Discipline; and

Whereas, The United Methodist Church believes war is incompatible with the teachings and example of Christ, as stated in ¶ 165C of the 2004 Book of Discipline; and

Whereas, Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God" (Matthew 5:9); and

Whereas, Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also" (Matthew 5:38-39); and

Whereas, all life is sacred and worthy of Christ's redemption; and

Whereas, The United Methodist Church honors the community-based work of United States and coalition troops, and supports them through prayer and caring relationships; and

Whereas, the increasing death toll among United States and coalition military personnel, and the continuing loss of Iraqi civilian lives, especially children, grieves the heart of God; and,

Whereas, The United Methodist Church states in ¶ 164B of the 2004 Book of Discipline that the church should continually exert a strong ethical influence upon the state, supporting policies and programs deemed to be just and opposing policies and programs that are unjust,

Therefore, be it resolved, that The United Methodist Church:

Urges members of Congress, as well as the President of The United States, to come up with a plan to responsibly end military action in Iraq; and

Calls for the continued rebuilding of Iraq through a multinational development plan; and

Calls United Methodists throughout the world to pray for peace and to stand up and speak out for public policies that promote peace, justice, and reconciliation among all nations.

Please note that portions of this resolution were taken from the October 2, 2005, "Resolution on the War in Iraq," put forth by The United Methodist Council of Bishops.

Submitted by, Rev. Howard J. Baird, Rev. Cody Schuler, Jayson Dobney, Rev. Jennifer Hallenbeck, Rev. Teri Johnson

This Day Is a Gift

This beautiful day is a gift of love
 That's given to us from God above.
 With twenty-four hours of time to use
 In ways God is hoping we'll wisely choose.
 So why not ask God for both guidance and grace?
 Let God set the standards as well as the pace.
 Then when the day's over, we'll find we've been
 blessed
 With all that we needed in choosing what's best!
 —Peggy Ferrell



Groton Mission

Statement

*“Enriching
 Spiritual Lives
 through Christ.”*

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 Stewardship Report August 2007	
Average Wkly Giving	\$1,164
Needed Weekly to Meet Church Needs	\$1,742
Average Weekly Attendance	55
Total Building Fund Offerings	\$110



Autumn

Groton October Family Committee

- Connie & Dave Nilsson & Alexa
- Pam & Doug Bahr
- Anita & John Lowary
- Linda & Gary Thurston
- Jolene & Alan Townsend, Zachary
- Meri & John Erickson, Seth & Evan
- Mary & Cal Hayenga
- Brian & Andrea Bahr
- Dion Bahr
- Bert Raap
- William & Wanda Zoellner
- Dick Oliver
- Audrey & Clint Jacobson
- Joy & Don Walter



Honorary Members

- DeLoris Knoll
- Robert Hood
- Hazel McKittrick

October Extra Responsibilities

- First Sunday, October 7th, World Communion, change the altar cloths to white and hang the Communion Banners for this Sunday only
- October 14th, change the altar cloths to green and hang the monthly banners
- Care for the lawn as needed
- Clean Storage Room off the Fellowship Hall
- Potluck 2nd Sunday (Optional)

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			



Rally Sunday - Sept 9th
Sunday School Starts
Children Sing in Church
Potluck Dinner

Fun Games

Bean Bag Toss, Face Painting,
 Music, and lots of fun, fun,
 fun, for this

Sunday School Kickoff!

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

- Sept 5 Conde Martha Circle meets 8 PM at the church - all are welcome!
 Surprise Program by Donna Hearnen, hostess.
- Sept 9 Groton Rally Sunday. Sunday School Starts, Children Sing in Church,
 Followed by a Potluck Dinner and Carnival For Children.
- Sept 12 Groton Ad Council 7:45 PM
- Sept 15 UMW Glacial Lakes District Meeting at First UMC in Huron.
- Sept 16 Conde Ad Council following Worship in Fellowship Hall
- Sept 17-18 Groton Lefse Making starting at 8 AM each day.
- Sept 19 Conde UMW meets at 2 PM for lesson, meeting, and fellowship
- Sept 19 Groton UMW meeting at 7:30 PM - Exec Mtg at 6:30 PM
- Sept 22 Ingathering in Mitchell at DWU. Plan to attend and do your Christmas
 shopping! An auction will be held for quilts and other items.
 We take all the kits our church has made.
- Sept 23 Conde Offering for World Hunger - all loose change and designated
 monies will be sent to the Advance Special for World Hunger.
 This money is used in our Mission Giving total for the year.
- Sept 26 Groton Lefse Learning Session at 4:30 PM. Come learn how!
- Sept 30 Golden Living Center serve coffee? Contact Jolene Townsend.
- Oct 3 UMW Bazaar from 4-7 PM. Lefse will be sold here!
 Bake, Craft, and Country Store.
- Nov 18 Charge Conference in Conde at 12 PM with potluck before meeting.