

United Methodist Messenger

Thursday Night Football Pastor Rob's Ponderings

The Groton High School Tiger Football team officially made the South Dakota High School Football Playoffs. The team did not need to win last night's game to get into the playoffs but it was good preparation for next week's play-off run. For a little while last night, I thought the game was going to be closer than it turned out to be, but Groton ended up winning by a convincing margin.

It was fun to watch the team again after they had the previous week off, but it was also a little strange to be watching on a Thursday night. Fridays are reserved for football games or basketball games or other school events. Having to get up to go to work on Friday after a football game just seemed strange. Don't get me wrong – I love watching sports, especially cheering on kids I know. I enjoy visiting and laughing and cheering with the hometown fans. But on a Thursday night? It just seemed out of place.

Last week, one of my friends was describing to me to the ministry his brother used to have in a nearby big city. It was called, "The Church without Walls." My friend described how his brother would meet a group of people at a café or restaurant or even a bar and invite them to have a bible study. It seemed kind of silly and even outrageous to me, but it was a very successful and rewarding ministry. It was

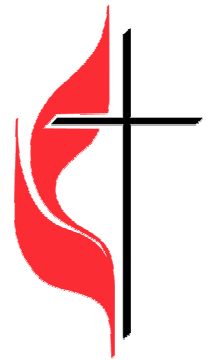
something I never could have done. It would have seemed out of place.

A few weeks ago a group of friends and I were having lunch at a restaurant when I noticed one of my friends quickly bow his head for a quick word of prayer. There are times when I'm out with a group I know all to be Christians so we will say a quick word of prayer, but in the case a few weeks ago, my friend seemed to be "out of place."

Farmers in the local area have been frustrated by the cloudy, rainy and cold weather in recent weeks to the point where some are wondering if they will complete harvesting. Some have told me, "Pastor Rob, I might not be in church if the weather clears and we can get out." Others have simply skipped church when possible to get as much done as possible. There would be some that might think this kind of work ethic is "out of place" for Christians.

On the other hand, maybe we need to be a little more "out of place" as Christians. I can guarantee you some of the people who heard me yelling at the referees during the ballgame last night thought I was "out of place." Should a minister really be yelling at an athletic contest?

Let me ask the question another way: would the people you hang around with know you were a Christian if you were a little "out of place" every now and again?



Blessed are ...

Blessed are those
who have learned
to admire but not
envy;
to follow but not
imitate;
to praise but not
flatter;
and to lead but not
manipulate.



www.grotonsdchurches.com/umc



Library Books

To further utilize the website, we will eventually be putting our library online. This way, you can see what books the church has that you may like to read or to continue your UMW reading program.

Newsletters No Longer to be Mailed!

With prices rising, I decided to do a cost comparison if we used email and the website vs. printing and mailing. PPR and both Ad Councils have approved for me to move forward and stop the bulk mailing of newsletters in January. What does this mean for you?

I will be passing sign-up sheets in church asking for email addresses and you can submit as many as you like. You will receive notice when the newsletter is online. Those that do not have email will be signing up to pick up their newsletter at the church by

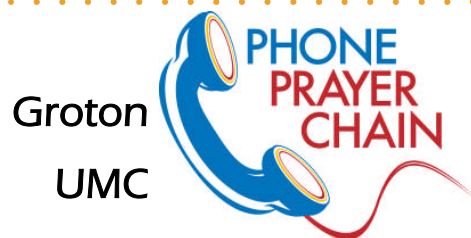
Sunday AM. I usually have them available for pickup on the last Friday AM of the month in Groton. A box will be placed on the counter in the fellowship hall with your name on your newsletter so we know who has picked theirs up..

Those few who do not live in the area or are unable to come to church will still receive the newsletter in the mail or by anyone who would volunteer to deliver them once per month.

Any questions or preferences can be sent to the office by email or letter. You may also contact Kay at 397-8389.

Who's Email?

- grotonumc@nvc.net is read by ALL office staff
 - robmoorlach@nvc.net is read ONLY by Pastor Rob
 - kay@kayscomputing.com is read ONLY by Kay
- Hope this helps on the confusion of who reads what emails!



Marlys Rodman	397-4570
Audrey Thurston	397-8493
Gert Ruden	397-8211
Pat Dahlquist	397-2616
Florann Norris	397-2638
Mary Swisher	397-8337
Gloria Pharis	397-2375
Mary Jane Schott	397-8588
Doris Zoellner	397-2417
Marjorie Townsend	298-5221
Darlys Kampa	395-6996
Marvel Johnson	397-2425
Mary Ann Whede	397-8330

Wedding Blessing Shower



Nov 16 during coffee hour is a Wedding Blessings Shower for Dwight Strom and bride-to-be Eugenia Gonzales.



Vote
November 4th

*Currently 73 on email prayer chain.

If you are not on this list or the email list, please notify the church office.

Conde UMW Met October 21st

Donna Hearnen presented the lesson on "Palestine/Israel", reading Scripture to tell of God's plan for the chosen people of the Israelites. Wars and pacts have changed politics of this birthplace of Christianity. Factual incidents in the lives of Jews and Palestinians were read with the group participating.

Seven members answered roll call, with treasurer's report being presented. Pat Siefken reported the Annual Meeting in Jamestown, and had purchased program materials for the group. The Program Planning Meeting was set for November 10th at 1:30 PM. at the church.

Officers were elected for their present positions.

Cindy Smith was elected to fill the vacancy on the Committee on Nominations.

Pop tabs had been taken to Aberdeen.

Work chairs were chosen for the next year.

Next meeting will be November 19th at 2:00 PM. Jane Worlie will present the lesson for the World Thank Offering. Donna Hearnen will be hostess.

Martha Circle meets November 5th at the church at 8:00 PM. Pat Siefken presents the Bible Study "Amazing Grace".

Joan Fahrenwald was hostess for the day.

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

Conde UMW Meeting

November 19th at 2 PM

World Thank Offering

"Giving Thanks for Good News"

Leader Jane Worlie

Hostess Donna Hearnen

Conde Ad Council Meeting October 22

Conde Administrative Council met at 8:00 PM October 22nd at the church with Betty Geist presiding. Following reading of the minutes and treasurer's report, a tentative date in December was set for the Dinner Theater, with duties listed.

The budget for 2009 set by the Finance Committee was discussed with changes made as needed.

Safe Sanctuary will be discussed at the November meeting, which will be before Thanksgiving.

Mission chair, Donna Hearnen, asked that layette kits be assembled during November and December. If further information is desired for these

kits, please check with Donna; or gifts of money may be used to purchase items for the kits.

Memorial Committee chair, Betty Jensen, presented her report. Kneeling pads will be considered for purchase by the committee.

The Christmas offering will be used for the assistance of buying groceries ,

Six members and the pastor were present for the meeting

Charge Conference will meet November 2 at the Groton Church at 7:00 PM.

Groton UMW**Meeting****November 19th****at 2 PM****Program on Advent****By the Officers****Jolene, Clare, Twila &****Gloria****Hostesses are JoAnn****Krueger and Carolee****Heitmann****Groton UMW Met October 15th**

UMW met at 2 pm. Pres. Jolene Townsend opened the business meeting.

Kelli Hanson presented the program on Breast Cancer Awareness showing us a humorous video by Anita Renfroe. She is a minister's wife and a comedian. Kelli gave us some statistics on breast cancer then she gave us a tour of her new unit that she travels with to do outreach in other towns that don't have the special digital unit in their hospitals.

The purpose was recited by the group. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The treasurer report was given by Clare Brotherton. A report of the Fall Bazaar and Blader Auction was given.

We should be thinking of any changes that should be made to the Secret Angel list.

Please let Jolene know if there are any names needed to be added before we start the New Year.

Pat Dahlquist will check with Susan Odland to find out what else the teachers at the elementary school might need for the teacher's lounge. Some of the items they had suggested were individual packets of soup, cappuccino, cocoa, individual packets of splenda/sweet & low/splenda, coffee, tea bags (especially green & flavored), instant soup, cheese & cracker packages. Items they could use for the children are: sweat pants sizes 6-12, gloves, mittens, headbands, and hats. Kelli delivered mittens, headbands, hats, scarves, and school backpacks.

The next meeting will be November 19th at 2:00. Program is Advent given by Officers Jolene, Clare, Twila & Gloria. Hostesses will be JoAnn Krueger and Carolee Heitmann.

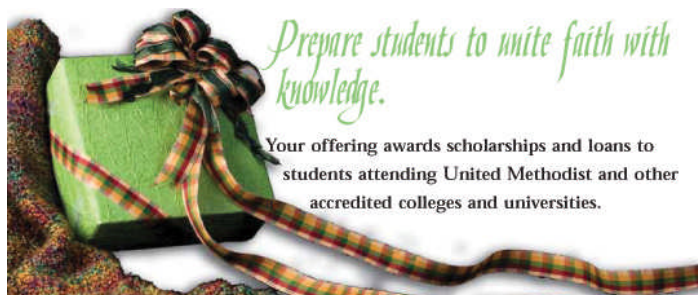
**November 2**

Groton 3rd Graders
Received Bibles

United Methodist Student Day - November 30th

Every year, we hear: "Tuition costs are increasing." For many United Methodist students, the continuous increase places an enormous financial burden that many cannot assume. However, through the United Methodist Student Day offering, we can prepare students to unite faith with knowledge.

Each year, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry awards scholarships and loans to students attending United Methodist and other accredited colleges and universities through the United Methodist Student Day offering. In addition, a portion of the United Methodist Student Day offering is returned to annual conferences for merit scholarship awards to students of their choosing.



Prepare students to unite faith with knowledge.

Your offering awards scholarships and loans to students attending United Methodist and other accredited colleges and universities.

For many students, this financial assistance is critical to attaining higher education. Each year the number of applicants continues to rise – furthering the need for more financial assistance. Imagine being able to provide assistance for everyone. That is the goal of United Methodist Student Day.

Invest in the future of our church through the United Methodist Student Day offering. We can help students unite faith with knowledge.



Holiday Baking

Wondering what Pastor Rob likes and dislikes for food? We know chocolate is a like!! If you would like a list of other items, I will have some sheets available in the office or by email for your holiday baking!



Groton Advent Bible Study

Starting November 30th at 6:30 pm Pastor Rob will be conducting an Advent Study for the 4 Sunday's of Advent. Please let the office know if you will be attending or need a ride to the church to attend.



Groton Men's Dinner

Nov 2nd

11 AM - 1:30 PM

*Serving Roast Beef Dinner
with homemade pie*

Chairpersons are

Brad & Diann Morehouse and
Alan & Jolene Townsend



Thanksgiving



Family Photo

If you take a digital family photo this year during the holiday's, please email one to the office so we can keep adding to the church directory. Thanks

grotonumc@nvc.net



UMYF Float took "Best Church" in the Homecoming Parade



Volunteer

On behalf of the residents of Golden Living Center of Groton, I'm asking individuals or groups to call bingo and serve coffee on Saturdays. They would need to be here at 1:45 to get set up, bingo goes from 2:00 - 3:00 pm and then coffee and snacks are served at 3 pm. You may call the Golden Living Center at 397-2365 or send an email to lori.webb@goldenliving.com to sign up.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lori Webb,

Director of Activities & Volunteers



Our Church Celebrations

Groton Birthdays

- Nov 2 Andrea Snoozy-Bahr
- Nov 3 Lorraine Bartz
- Nov 7 Marva Gellhaus
Susan Odland
- Nov 10 Florran Norris
Lee Swenson
- Nov 11 Doug Sippel
- Nov 12 Clarence Hannon
- Nov 14 Vicki Strom
- Nov 15 Jack Oliver
- Nov 16 Halley Schmidt
- Nov 18 Luverne Strom
- Nov 19 Crystal Sippel
Garrett Hetimann
Michael Krueger
- Nov 21 Art Lange
Pastor Rob Moorlach
- Nov 23 Francine Sippel
- Nov 24 Nathan Zeeb

- Nov 25 Emery Sippel
Kari Hanson

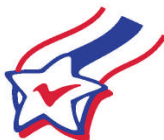
- Nov 29 Audrey Thurston
- Nov 30 Tanner Johnson

Groton Anniversaries

- Nov 3 John & Gayleen Voss
- Nov 15 Fred & Elaine Wolken
- Nov 21 Larry & Sharon Wheeting

Conde Birthdays

- Nov 8 Dorothy Sanderson
- Nov 19 Mona Baldrige
- Nov 21 Pastor Rob Moorlach
- Nov 24 Floyd Smith
- Nov 25 Bud Bruckner
Betty Geist
- Nov 28 Eric Menzia
- Nov 29 Cheri Kurtz
- Nov 30 Dani Smith



Christmas Decorating

The November work committee is planning a potluck on November 23. The November Committee will provide the hot-dishes. After dinner, all church members are asked to help decorate for Christmas.

Part of the decorating will be ordering some Poinsettias. Please let Twila Ruden, twila@nvc.net, know if you would like one or sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall.

Living Christmas Tree

Joy, Joy, Joy

Saturday Dec 6 at 7 PM

Sunday Dec 7
at 3 PM & 7 PM

Aberdeen Civic Arena



First Sunday of Advent

November 30th



Groton

NOVEMBER:

2nd No SS

9th Sing in Church

16th SS

23rd SS

30th No SS



DECEMBER:

7th SS

14th SS

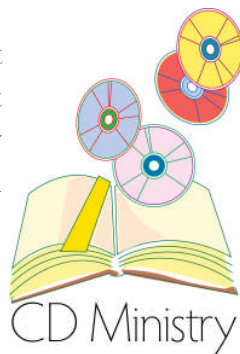
21st SS Christmas Program

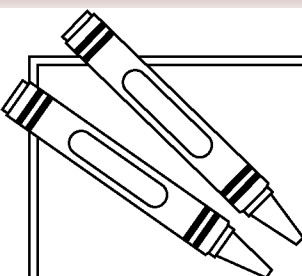
28th No SS

January:

4th No SS

Sunday School time line: 10:15-10:30 am is music in the chapel. 10:45-11:15 am is lesson in the classroom. 11:15 am the children will go into church as a group for the children's sermon and then they will sit down for church. If your child will not be going to church that Sunday, Please let their teacher know and have them picked up by 11:10 am.





Just for KIDS




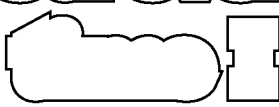
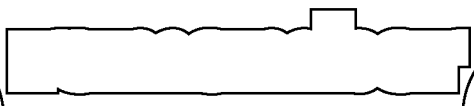
Thanksgiving and Prayer

When Paul sent a letter to the church at Philippi, he told his friends how he felt about them. Finish this puzzle to read what Paul wrote in Philippians 1:3.

Match words in the list below to the correct word shape. Then write the letters inside each shape. In the circles, draw the faces of people you're thankful for in your life.

WORD LIST: remember time you I God
I my thank every

“

”

Answer: "I thank my God every time I remember you."

Worship Recording

Groton is now recording the worship service on a CD each Sunday. It is very easy to run and I would like to teach several people to learn to do this so it is done no matter who is there. If you would like to learn and be available, please contact Kay Brandt or just have her show you one Sunday. Thanks for Volunteering!

Groton Mission Statement
“Enriching Spiritual lives through Christ.”



**“WE WILL
SERVE
THE
LORD
OUR
GOD
AND
OBEY
HIM.”**
JOSHUA 24:24, NIV

Groton Ad Council Meeting October 8th

Plans are moving forward for installation of the sanctuary screen and projector.

The 2009 budget has been completed and ready for the November 2 Charge Conference.

Pastor Rob shared that the Youth Fellowship is considering fund raising ideas to help raise money for a February ski trip. In addition a spring fund-

raiser is planned to support a mission trip.

It was suggested that we consider eliminating the mailing and copying costs for monthly newsletters to those members who can receive the newsletter via e-mail. The board was in agreement with this and noted that it supports the “green” environment philosophy as well.

December 2008						
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			

Groton Family Committee - December

- Marjorie & Roger Overacker
- Mendy & James Jones
- Jane & Marc Johnson, Tanner
- Melissa & Neil Gilbert
- Chris & Sherwin Nyberg
- John & Meri Erickson, Evan, Sydney
- Mara & Lon Gellhaus
- Ann Rix
- Laurel & Monte McNickel, Murdock
- Florrann Norris
- Jesse & Jaymie Overacker
- Audrey Miller, Martha
- Diann & Brad Morehouse
- Jack Oliver
- Nathan & Kate Zeeb
- Honorary Members**
- Dick & Gert Ruden
- Eunice Sperry
- Gerald Rix

Extra Responsibilities

- Dec 7th - change altar cloths to white for this Sunday only
- Dec 14 - change altar cloths to purple
- Dec 24 - change altar cloths to white for Christmas Eve
- Water the Poinsettias
- Clean & Organize Hallway Closet and Storage Room off the Choir Loft
- Help decorate church with Nov committee
- Shovel snow from doorways



Our Church Happenings

November 2008						
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						



Nov 2 Daylight Saving Time Ends - Turn your clock back 1 hour

Nov 2 Charge Conference 7 PM in Groton

Nov 2 Groton Men's Fall Dinner from 11 am - 1 pm.

Nov 2 No Sunday School in Groton

Nov 2 Worship times for Conde and Groton will switch for this Sunday only

Nov 4 Election Day

Nov 5 Groton UMYF 7 pm at the church

Nov 5 Conde Martha Circle 8 pm

Nov 10 Conde UMW Program Meeting at church 1:30

Nov 12 Groton Ad Council 7 pm

Nov 14 Conde Prayer Vigil 9:30-10:15 am for International Day of Tolerance

Nov 16 Wedding Blessings Shower in Groton for

Dwight Storm and bride-to-be Eugenia Gonzales during coffee hour

Nov 19 Conde UMW Meeting 2 pm

Nov 19 Groton UMW Meeting 2 pm

Nov 19 Groton UMYF 7 pm at the church

Nov 23 Groton Potluck & All-Church Decorating for Christmas

Nov 30 Groton Advent Study starts at 6:30 pm