



United Methodist Messenger

AUGUST 2009

GROTON/CONDE PARISHES

Desk Conspiracy

Two weeks ago I had my desk perfectly cleaned and organized. I went through the various papers throwing many of them away and filing others. I even found a bill which needed to be paid and sent payment in the mail before the due date. I felt proud of myself and glad I could dedicate time to other things.

This morning I walked into my office and realized my desk had "sprouted" a whole new batch of papers. How does it do that? I can hear my cell phone ringing and need to look under a pile of papers to find it. I think there is a conspiracy of some sort to keep my desk from being organized. Some people in the church have told me, "Pastor Rob, you just need to get in the habit of organizing and filing." The only problem is I could swear my desk was perfectly organized only a couple of

days ago. Just as a couple of my family members believe the Apollo 11 Moon Landing was a government conspiracy, I'm starting to believe there is a conspiracy to keep my desk from being organized. I think I need to start asking how many people have keys to the church office. There could be lots of people in on this one.

One of the characteristics of Summer is the "laid back" atmosphere of the months between the school years. Our schedule supposedly "free up" and allow us to do all kinds of things. What a bunch of "baloney!"

From what I observe, people are as busy as ever with all sorts of jobs, trips, events, and activities. We think we get "the desk cleared off" and all of a sudden it is full of things happening again. The activities might not be the same as those in the school year, but they are still activities (papers in a pile).

During a recent bible study we were discussing the concept of holiness and what it means to be holy. Holiness is a key belief in the church for Christians. Dr. Keith Drury in his book, Holiness for Ordinary People, defines it as "Loving the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength; and your neighbor as yourself." Recognize it? These are the words of Jesus from Mark 12:29-31. What we realized in our bible study was "being holy" is not a "state;" it is a "process." Our lives are constantly changing with various schedules, various meetings and even the various conditions of my desktop. We might think we have everything done and can relax but the process of loving and knowing God and helping our neighbor should never stop and take a vacation.

The lesson from bible study was to continue to grow in our relationship with our Savior and our neighbors even as our lives keep changing, sometimes without us even realizing it.

Do you think putting up a hidden surveillance camera to catch people putting paper on my desk is a bit much?

Pastor Rob



Church Picnic

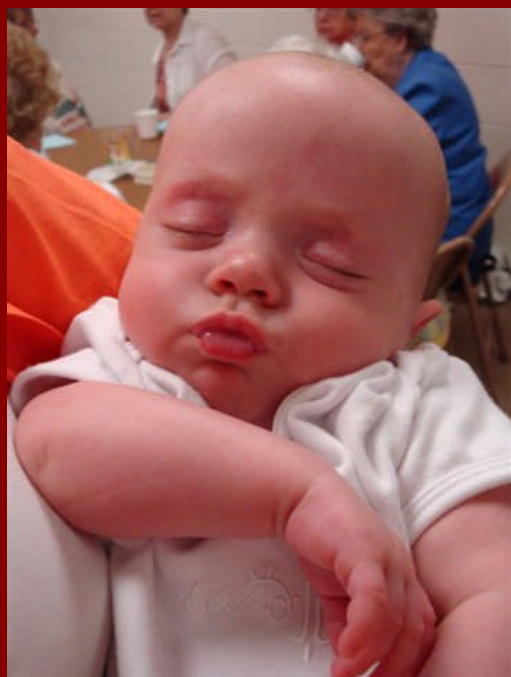


Groton UMC Annual Picnic

YOU'ALL COME - to the Annual Groton UMC Family Picnic on Wednesday, August 5th! A catered meal will be served at the church 5:30 to 7:30 pm. We will be celebrating the one-year anniversary of Pastor Rob's arrival here. Coincidentally, the Vacation Bible School Camp E.D.G.E. will be ending that evening as well.

There will be fellowship and fun for all, so mark your calendars today - for sure, we'd like to see you'all there!!

Freewill offering at the picnic to go towards the Heifer Project in Pastor Rob's name.



Groton Baptism & Blessings Shower on July 5th for Aiden Daniel Strom. Parents are Eugenia & Dwight Strom.

Wedding Card Blessings Shower (no gifts please) August 9th during coffee hour for Bert Raap and Janice Amdahl who will be married August 15th.



Wedding Blessings Shower for Morgan McNickle and Ginger Hewson August 16th during coffee hour. They are planning a September 19th Wedding.



Laila Erica Roberts was baptized on July 19th. Parents are Lisa Pray and Jason Roberts.

Our Church Celebrations

Groton

Aug 1 Bert Raap
 Aug 2 David Strom
 Dylan Graf
 Jessica & Brent Morehouse
 Aug 3 John & Lori Seelye
 Lance & Kristie Hawkins
 Michelle Kramer
 Aug 4 Craig & Kim Weber
 Aug 5 Gerald Rix
 Aug 6 Becky Luecke
 Aug 7 Kelli Hanson
 Sherwin Nyberg
 Aug 8 Brad & Diann Morehouse
 Yvonne Lange
 Aug 9 Loel Schott
 Jackson Wells
 Aug 12 Amber Wolken
 Tom Lipp

Aug 13 Logan Nilsson
 Aug 14 Doug Bahr
 Aug 16 Alissa & Michael Wells
 Jim Jones
 Nathan Gellhaus
 Ralph Breitreutz
 Rose Tewksbury
 Sam Furman
 Aug 17 Bill & Wanda Zoellner
 Aug 19 Amanda Seelye
 Gert Ruden
 Sherwin & Christine Nyberg
 Tia Marie Zoellner
 William Zoellner
 Aug 20 Marc Sippel
 Aug 22 Virginia Breitreutz
 Aug 28 Rob & Jeanne Wanous
 Aug 29 Chuck Padfield
 Aug 30 Emma Jo Schinkel

Nathan Atherton
 Aug 31 Don & Joy Walter
 Joy Walter
 Katelyn Hawkins

Conde

Aug 1 Joan Fahrenwald
 Aug 5 Myron & Joan Fahrenwald
 Aug 6 Loren & Pat Siefken
 Aug 10 Cindy Smith
 Aug 12 Cody Evans
 Aug 16 Brandon Smith
 Aug 20 Richard & Jane Worlie
 Aug 23 Jim & Mona Baldrige
 Aug 23 Nicklos Menzia
 Aug 26 Pamela Hanson
 Aug 30 Carl Hanson
 Aug 31 Collin Ragels

**Groton
 UMC**



Marlys Rodman 397-4570
 Audrey Thurston 397-8493
 Gert Ruden 397-8211
 Pat Dahlquist 397-2616
 Mary Swisher 397-8337
 Gloria Pharis 397-2375
 Doris Zoellner 397-2417
 Marjorie Townsend 298-5221
 Darlys Kampa 395-6996
 DeLoris Knoll 397-2681
 Marvel Johnson 397-2425
 Mary Ann Whede 397-8330

*Currently 82 on email prayer chain.
 If you are not on this list or the email list,
 please notify the church office.

Interested in Membership?

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Groton United Methodist Church, please contact Pastor Rob or Clare Brotherton. Pastor Rob can be reached at 397-8270 or email is robmoorlach@nvc.net.

Clare Brotherton can be reached at 397-8177 or email is ceebee@nvc.net



Open House Baby Shower August 10th from 5:30 – 7:30 in the fellowship hall for Chesney and Easton, twins of Sam & Jeremy Weber born June 23rd.

Conde Ad Council - July Meeting

CONDE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL met at 8:00 PM at the church with Patty Knoll presiding. Pastor Rob opened with prayer. Treasurer's report was given by Jane Worlie. Cleaning of the sanctuary ceiling was discussed with Patty to inquire at an Aberdeen company. The multimedia equipment is available for programs in the church.

It was suggested we have a church gathering with the possibility of showing a film or obtaining speakers from mission volunteers or community members. The suggested date was September 13th.

Norman and Cindy Smith and Patty Knoll had cleared the area around the church sign and made everything new, including attractive plantings in a neat area.

File cabinets had been purchased at the school sale to be used in the office area.

The Civic Development Association is sponsoring a picnic on August 9th in honor of the school children who will be traveling in another direction for their schools.

PLEASE: Pastor Rob would like to be informed as soon as possible if there is someone in the communities that would like to be visited.. or if you have prayer requests. The cell number where he can be reached is 605-480-2122. Or he can be reached at the church office or parsonage.

Other committees reported as needed. We will have a Worship Moment in our Worship service beginning August 2nd. There will be a regular prelude, announcements and greetings, followed by a short opening devotional moment before the regular service is to begin. Pastor Rob closed the meeting with prayer.

Conde Habitat for

Humanity

Birthday

Donation

is voluntary

during the month

of your Birthday.

House is available

at the church for

Donations.

Conde United Methodist Women will meet in their general meeting .

August 19th at 10 AM

Betty Jensen presents the program: Food and Faith: Where Would Jesus Sit?

Patty Knoll and Betty Taylor hostesses. We would invite you to share our brunch. this morning.

Community Picnic

at 6:30 pm in the
Conde park.

August 9th
Sandwich provided; bring a dish to pass and drink.

Honoring Conde children and recognizing the various schools they will be attending.

Everyone is invited.

Conde

MISSION

STATEMENT

"The Conde

United

Methodist

Church is

seeking to

satisfy the

spiritual and

physical needs

of all."

Dakotas Conference**UMW Annual****Celebration****ROOM AT****THE TABLE****October 2-3, 2009****North Highland UM Church****620 15th Ave. NE****Aberdeen, SD****How to pray**

Pray where you are. God is present everywhere and ready to listen.

Pray, when possible, in a quiet place where you can be alone. It is good to fix your mind deliberately on God, apart from confusing distractions.

Pray to God simply and naturally, as to a friend. Tell him what is on your mind. Get help from the prayers of others.

Pray, remembering the good things God has done for you. Give thanks for all your blessings.

Pray for God's forgiveness for the unworthy things you may have done. He is near to a humble and contrite heart.

Pray especially for those things that will make your life more Christlike.

Pray for others, remembering the help they need for the situations they confront.

Pray for the world in its need, and for God to guide you toward ways you can help.

Pray that God's will be done in you. His purposes are deeper and wiser than our own.

Pray, and then allow God to answer your prayer.

Groton UMW**No August Meeting****God is awake**

A mother and her 4-year-old daughter were preparing for bed one night. The child was afraid of the dark, and on this occasion the mother, alone with the child, felt fearful herself.

When the light was turned off, the child caught a glimpse of the moon outside the window. "Is the moon God's light?" she asked her mom.

"Yes," replied the mother.

"Will God put out his light and go to sleep?" asked the girl.

"No, dear. God never goes to sleep."

Then, out of the simplicity of a child's faith, the girl said something that reassured the fearful mother. "Well, as long as God is awake, there's no sense in all of us staying awake."

The pair slept well that night — and for the many nights that followed.





Groton VBS & Sunday School

Sunday, Aug 2nd: 4-8:30pm with light meal
 Monday, Aug. 3rd: 5:30-8:30pm with snack
 Tuesday, Aug. 4th: 5:30-8:30pm with snack
 Wednesday, Aug 5th: 5:30pm-? with Picnic (kids will sing)

Thank you for the generous support for VBS!
 Anyone with camping gear please let Melissa Gilbert know. Looking for a Pup tent, cot, anything camping. We are decorating several rooms.

REGISTRATION FORMS for SUNDAY SCHOOL: Will be going out soon. PLEASE return ASAP so materials can get ordered for RALLY SUNDAY!

RALLY SUNDAY: Sunday, September 13, 2009.

PARENTS: If you have a child going into 3rd grade please let Melissa Gilbert know ASAP. She will need the correct spelling and middle name to order their Bible.



What is a Christian Family?

A CHRISTIAN FAMILY is one in which parents so live the Christian life, and practice the presence of God that children come to accept God as the greatest reality of life.

A CHRISTIAN FAMILY is one in which each member is accepted and respected as a person having sacred worth.

A CHRISTIAN FAMILY is one that accepts the responsibility of worship and instruction to the end of developing the

spiritual life of each person.

A CHRISTIAN FAMILY is one that manifests a faith in God, observes daily prayer and grace at meals.

A CHRISTIAN FAMILY is one that is committed to behavior in keeping with Christian ideals for family relations, community life, and national and world citizenship.



School Kits are being collected.

School Kit Items Value:

- 1 pair blunt scissors (rounded tip)
- 3 pads (or loose leaf) of 8 1/2" x 11" ruled paper
- 1 30-centimeter ruler
- 1 hand held pencil sharpener
- 6 unsharpened pencils with erasers
- 1 eraser, 2 1/2"
- 1 box of 24 crayons (only 24)

Prepare a 14X16 inch (finished size) cloth bag with handles and an optional closure (Velcro, snap, or button) and place items in the bag. Patterns are available from UMCOR Sager Brown website or hanging in the church office by the photocopier. Please feel free to donate all or part of a kit and monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate designated as such.



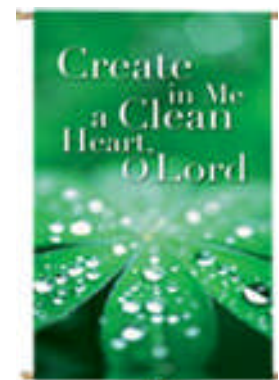
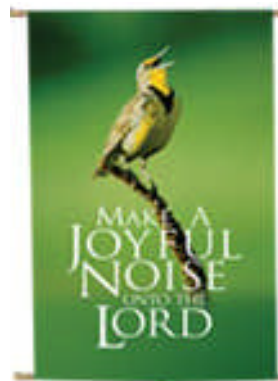
SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

Groton Banners

Thank you to all who helped purchase new banners for our sanctuary. There are still some needing to be purchased if you wish to do so or can be purchased in memory of a loved one. Please Contact Vicki Strom.

Photos on right are ones no one has purchased yet.

The new banners will be stored in the Library. If you would like one of the old banners, please contact Kay.



A parent's prayer

Heavenly Father,

Make me a better parent. Teach me to understand my children, to listen patiently to what they have to say, and to answer all their questions kindly. Keep me from interrupting them or contradicting them. Make me as courteous to them as I would have them be to me.

Forbid that I should ever laugh at their mistakes, or resort to shame or ridicule when they displease me. May I never punish them for my own selfish satisfaction or to show my power. Let me not tempt my child to lie or steal. And guide me hour by hour that I may demonstrate by all I say and do that honesty produces happiness.

Reduce, I pray, the meanness in me. And when I'm out of sorts, help me, Lord, to hold my tongue.

May I ever be mindful that my children are children, and I should not expect of them the judgment of adults. Let me not rob them of the opportunity to wait on themselves and to make decisions. Bless me with the bigness to grant them all their reasonable requests and the courage to deny them privileges I know will do them harm. Make me fair and just and kind. And fit me, Lord, to be loved, respected and imitated by my children.

Amen




Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody

This is a little story about four people: Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done, and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.




Upon your hearts

The Bible is the perfect guidebook for living God-pleasing lives.
Deuteronomy 6:6-8 (NIV) tells us how to remember the Scriptures.


Use the picture clues and Word Bank below to finish the verses.

WORD BANK


children	road
commandments	sit
down	Talk
foreheads	Tie
hands	up
hearts	walk
home	




1




2




3




4




5




6




7




8




9




10



11



12



13

“These (1) _____ that I give you today
 are to be upon your (2) _____. Impress them on your
 (3) _____. (4) _____ about them when you
 (5) _____ at (6) _____ and when you (7) _____
 along the (8) _____, when you lie (9) _____ and when
 you get (10) _____. (11) _____ them as symbols on
 your (12) _____ and bind them on your
 (13) _____.”

Answers:
 (1) commandments; (2) hearts; (3) children; (4) Talk; (5) sit; (6) home; (7) walk;
 (8) road; (9) down; (10) up; (11) Tie; (12) hands; (13) foreheads



Groton Stewardship Report July 2009

Average Wkly Giving
\$1,539
Needed Wkly for
Church Mission
\$2,141
Average Weekly
Attendance
73
Total Building Fund
Donations
\$100

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

Groton Sept Family Committee

Caralee & Gary Heitmann

Alan & Jolene Townsend

Bob & Mary Ann Wehde

Linda & Gary Thurston

Zachary Townsend

Brenda & Tony Madsen, Mitchell

Marjae & Dan Schinkel

Carol & Luverne Strom

Sharon & Larry Wheeting

Kristi & Ben Peterson

Lori & John Seelye, Casey

Betty & Charlie Strom

Dwight & Eugenia Strom

Mary Jane Schott

Loel Schott

Diane Nissen

Don bartz

Curtis Krueger

Honorary Members

- DeLoris Knoll
- Hazel McKittrick

Sept Extra Responsibilities

- Take Care of Lawn as necessary
- Clean North Storage Room & 1st NE Sunday School Room and the Hallway
- Potluck 2nd Sunday (Rally Sunday)
- Sept 6 change altar cloths to white and hang the Communion banners for this Sunday only
- Sept 13th change to the green altar cloths and hang the banners for the month





Our Church Happenings

Aug 1 Groton UMW Reading Program Reports to Sharon Wheeting

Aug 2-5 Groton VBS (Details on Page 6)

Aug 5 Groton All-Church Picnic 5:30

Aug 9 Conde Community Picnic at 6:30 in the Park

Aug 9 Wedding Card Blessings Shower for Bert Raap & Janice Amdahl *no gifts*

Aug 10 Open House Baby Shower from 5:30-7:30 for Chesney & Easton Weber

Aug 12 Groton Ad Council 7 PM

Aug 16 Wedding Blessings Shower for Morgan McNickle and Ginger Hewson

Aug 19 Conde UMW Meeting 10 AM

Aug 19 Groton May Breakfast Meeting at 9:30 AM

Aug 26 Conde Ad Council 8 PM

Aug 30 Conde Collection for World Hunger

Sept 12 UMW Glacial Lakes District Mtg in Madison

Sept 13 Groton Rally Sunday

Sept 19 Ingathering in Mitchell

Oct 2-3 Dakotas Conf Annual UMW Mtg at North Highland UMC

Oct 7 Groton UMW Fall Bazaar

August 2009						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					