



United Methodist Messenger

November 2009

Groton/Conde UMC

<http://www.grotonsdchurches.com/umc>

**"A coincidence is
God's way of re-
maining any-
mous."**

—Unknown

**"Thanksgiving
was never meant
to be shut up in a
single day."**

**—Robert Caspar
Lintner**

Control

Things we CANNOT
control:

- Someone else's faults
- How long we will live
- Another person's opportunities

Things we CAN con-
trol:

- Our attitude
- The kind of life we live
- What we do with our opportunities

Plans

Don't you hate it when you make plans to do something, especially the plans you make far in advance, and unforeseen events cause you to change those plans? I hate it!

I like to have things planned far in advance so I know what's coming at me. I don't mind surprises like parties, friends dropping by, or unique events. But when consequences force me to change plans I've made for weeks or months, I can get flustered.

Some farmers I know are going through this same type of frustration. It's been raining and snowing more than usual around here and many fields are too wet to drive heavy machinery to get harvesting done. This is the time of year for harvest; we've planned it all year and now we can't get it done because of the (choose your own adjective and insert here) weather. We hate it!

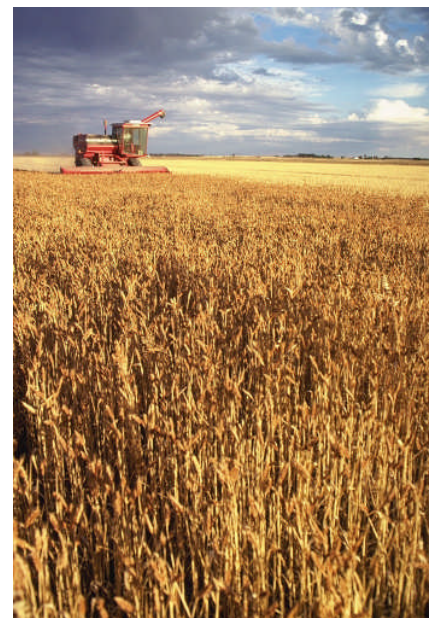
My favorite bible verse is Genesis 28:15. God says to Jacob, "What's more, I am with you and will protect you...I will not leave you until I have finished giving you everything I have promised you." Not only does God tell Jacob about His presence but God also tells Jacob He's not finished with him yet. I like that!

When I asked one of the area farmers about the wet weather, he said, "We'll get the crops eventually." The farmer who told me that is just one of the many farmers I know who have gone through years of "easy harvests" and great prices for crops as well as years when they relied on "crop insurance" to pay bills because they never did get to the crops.

One of the most important lessons I've learned from the farmers in my life is that each of them knew God was not done with them yet.

See you in church.

Pastor Rob





Congratulations to Garrett and Sindi Heitmann in the birth of Alejandra Lee Heitmann born September 26, 2009, 6 pounds and 11 ounces, 18 inches long



Toby Clark Dobbins was baptized on October 11th. Parents are Angela and Perryn Dobbins.

Birth Announcement

Paul and Shawn Snyder, Grand Forks, N. D. announces the birth of twins, Joshua Abram and Caleb Isaac born on October 14, 2009. Grandparents are Robert and Carolyn Snyder and Neil and Connie Wagner, and the late Irene Wagner.

Family traditions

To strengthen your family, consider establishing some traditions. These don't need to be complicated or expensive. For example, traditions can range from having daily devotions to attending a church camp together each year. Traditions not only build bonds between family members but help create lasting memories.

Last summer, a newspaper editor wrote of a tradition he and his wife started after a visit to some churches in Europe. They bought a small font while there, brought it home and put water in it. That led to a new family tradition.

Now when the family's two boys are leaving for school or an outing, the father dips a finger into the font, makes a small cross on each head and says, "May God remind you he blessed you with brains to make good decisions."

Our Church Celebrations

Groton

| | |
|--------|---|
| Nov 2 | Andrea Snoozy-Bahr |
| Nov 3 | Jon & Gayleen Voss Lorraine Bartz |
| Nov 7 | Marva Gellhaus Susan Odland |
| Nov 10 | Lee Swenson |
| Nov 11 | Doug Sippel |
| Nov 12 | Clarence Hannon |
| Nov 14 | Vicki Strom |
| Nov 15 | Fred & Elaine Wolken Jack Oliver |
| Nov 16 | Halley Schmidt |
| Nov 18 | Luverne Strom |
| Nov 19 | Crystal Sippel Garrett Heitmann Michael Krueger |
| Nov 21 | Art Lange Larry & Sharon Wheeting Pastor Rob Moorlach |
| Nov 23 | Francine Sippel Dwight & Eugenia Strom |
| Nov 24 | Nathan Zeeb |
| Nov 25 | Emery Sippel |

| | |
|--------|-----------------|
| Nov 25 | Kari Hanson |
| Nov 29 | Audrey Thurston |
| Nov 30 | Tanner Johnson |



Conde

| | |
|--------|-----------------------------|
| Nov 3 | Marsha Murphy |
| Nov 8 | Dorothy Sanderson |
| Nov 11 | Joseph & Dani Smith |
| Nov 12 | Linda Pitts |
| Nov 16 | Devon Smith |
| Nov 19 | Mona Baldridge |
| Nov 21 | Pastor Rob Moorlach |
| Nov 24 | Floyd Smith |
| Nov 25 | Bud Bruckner Betty Geist |
| Nov 28 | Eric Menzia |
| Nov 20 | Cheri Kurtz |
| Nov 30 | Dani Smith |

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



“All the days
of the poor are
hard, but a
cheerful heart has
a **continual feast.**”

Proverbs 15:15, NRSV

PROJECT 86

CHILD 183

ERIC SAMUEL TIMM

DISCIPLE

LIFE LIGHT TOURS

FALL 2009
Groton, SD
Groton High School
NOVEMBER 4
7:00 pm doors at 6:30

Tickets:
\$6 advance \$10 door
Dairy Queen (Groton)
Anchors of Faith (Aberdeen)
Pizza Ranch (Aberdeen)

WWW.LIFELIGHT.ORG

LifeLight

Groton UMW

November 18 - Wednesday
2 PM

Advent - Together at the Table
by the Officers
Hostesses
JoAnn Krueger
Caralee Heitmann

Executive Meeting at 1 pm

Plan Christmas Luncheon
Finalize 2010 Date Book
Finalize 2010 Budget
Summarize 2010 UMW



Toward happier homes

"Six things are requisite to create a happy home. Integrity must be the architect and tidiness the upholsterer. It must be warmed by affection, lighted up with cheerfulness; and industry must be the ventilator, renewing the atmosphere and bringing in fresh salubrity day by day; while over all, as a protecting canopy and glory, nothing will suffice except the blessing of God."

—James Hamilton

"I have so much to do (today) that I should spend the first three hours in prayer."

—Martin Luther

"Man needs difficulties; they are necessary for health."

-Carl Jung

"When a friend speaks to me, whatever he says is interesting."

-Jean Renoir

Men's Fall Dinner

Groton United Methodist Church

Sunday, November 8, 2009
11 am to 1:30 pm

Roast Beef Dinner

Adults: \$7 Children 5-12: \$5
Children 4 and under: Free



Thanksgiving

Conde UMW Meeting
 November 18 - 2:00 PM
 World Thank Offering led by Donna Hearnen
 Hostess Joan Fahrenwald

**Conde Habitat for Humanity
 Birthday Donation**
 is voluntary during the month of
 your Birthday. House is available at
 the church for Donations.

Conde Dates to Remember

Nov 14 at 9:30 AM Church cleaning, tree trimming, and decorating. Lunch will be furnished. Please come to help that morning.

Nov 18 Ad Council meets at 5:00 PM (Time is Right)

Nov 20 Conference Prayer Vigil for UMW from 9:30 - 11 am for Hunger Awareness

Shoebox Christmas is a special way of remembering children on the reservations in SD. Donna Hearnen and the Mission Committee wish to have some shoeboxes of Christmas gifts to send by November 10th. Please see Donna to make your contribution for this worthy project.

Thank you.

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

Friends:

There will never be an easy way to pass on the news I'm about to tell you without sending it via email which reaches my entire address book. I look forward to visiting with you individually in the months ahead about the new position I'm about to assume and which was announced this morning (Sunday, Oct. 11th) to the congregations I currently serve.

A couple of weeks ago I was offered and have accepted the position of Conference Benefits Administrator for the Kentucky Conference of the United Methodist Church starting January 2, 2010.

Over the next two and half months, I will be making the transition from local church pastor; Dakotas Benefits Officer; Dakotas Annual Conference logistics coordinator; Dakotas Conference statistician; and any other informal things I do to the Conference Benefits Administrator in Kentucky with the prime responsibilities of administering the pension and health plans offered through the Kentucky Board of Pension and Health Benefits.

I will be training with the current Kentucky staff in late October and early November, moving my possessions to a suburb of Louisville, KY sometime in mid-December, preaching final messages in Groton and Conde, SD the last two weeks of December, and starting full-time on January 2nd.

Between now and January 2nd, my life will be somewhat hectic, but you can always call or email.

Take Care and God Bless,

Pastor Rob

An Abundance of Thanks



Three kinds of giving

"There are three kinds of giving: grudge giving, duty giving and thanksgiving. Grudge giving says, 'I have to'; duty giving says, 'I ought to'; and thanksgiving says, 'I want to.' The latter comes from a full heart. Thanksgiving is an open gate into the love of God."

—Robert N. Rodenmayer

United Methodist Student Day Special Offering Nov 29th

Doors to Learning

GIFT OF HOPE SCHOLAR THANKS UNITED METHODISTS ON STUDENT DAY.

"I love bringing a smile to someone's day," says Todd Segal, a Gift of Hope scholar from Edinboro, Pa. That – plus a drive to ensure the best for the people he serves – will come in handy as this pharmacy student prepares for his career. He hopes to earn a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Ohio Northern University in 2011. Grateful for generous gifts to the United Methodist Student Day offering, Todd thinks frequently about the importance of faith in his life. "When I left for school, thinking about my church family and the scholarship I received, I felt fully embraced and supported by The United Methodist Church. As a result, I am motivated to achieve my personal best."

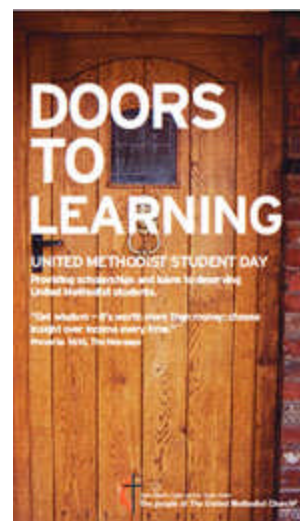
UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS AND LOANS TO PEOPLE ACROSS

THE UNITED STATES – MAYBE EVEN SOMEONE YOU KNOW.

Like many things, college costs continue to rise. Thanks to United Methodist Student Day, people in your annual conference – perhaps even members of your family—have a chance to attain higher education. Students attending United Methodist and other accredited colleges and universities receive scholarships and loans. Participating annual conferences receive 10 percent of the offering for merit-scholarship awards to students of their choosing.

A RICH HISTORY OF EDUCATING UNITED METHODISTS.

This Special Sunday had its beginnings in 1866, when a special fund provided for advanced education of Sunday-school children and of candidates for the ministry and missionary service. For more information please contact the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.



Your Generous Gifts Support:

- United Methodist scholarships and the U.M. Student Loan Fund, administered by the [General Board of Higher Education and Ministry](#) (GBHEM).
- Annual conferences participating in the Rebate Program may award one or more merit scholarships to United Methodist students. Participating conferences may award scholarships to U.M. students who reside in the conference and who attend or will attend a U.M.-related college or university.



The beginning of Advent

November is the month of Thanksgiving, but it often also includes the beginning of a new church year. This year, November 29 is the first Sunday of Advent. The season of Advent is about Jesus, the Word, "coming." It's about anticipating and preparing for Christ's arrival.

God comes to us in many and various ways. He speaks to us through the prophets and saints. He comes and speaks to us when we are listening. He comes in the

beauty and mysteries of nature. Most of all, God comes in the person of Christ, speaking to his listeners face to face.

Pastor Edmund Steimle put it this way: "The Christian story is a story of God coming into the middle of life, of our lives, opening the dialogue with us."

That's what Advent is really all about: God visiting the earth in person to speak with anyone and everyone who is ready to do so.



Groton All-Church Decorating

November 22nd
Potluck Sunday
All are asked to join in
this time of preparation.



Don't look back

Looking back can sometimes bring trouble. A Sunday school

teacher was telling about Lot's wife, who looked back toward Sodom and Gomorrah and turned into a pillar of salt.

Prompted by those words, a boy said, "My mom was driving one day and suddenly looked back, too. She turned into a telephone pole."

Christmas is proof

Christmas is a time to be happy! ... A time for celebrating and sharing. For God stoops down to be one of us, born as a poor baby so that we can be rich. He does not leave us to get along as best we can. He joins us where we are. God is committed to us. Christmas is proof that God cares. That is why we celebrate — and show our care in turn to those who need it.

—F. Hebart



"Through Jesus,
therefore, let us
continually offer to
God a sacrifice of praise —
the fruit of lips that confess his name."

Hebrews 13:15, NIV



Groton Sunday School

November:

1st SS
8th SS
15th SS
22nd SS (Sing in Church)
29th No SS

December:

6th SS
13th SS
20th Christmas Program (tentative)
27th No SS

January:

3rd No SS
10th SS Resumes

Schedule:

10:00-10:15am Cookies
10:15-10:50am Lesson in classroom
10:50-11:15am Music
11:15-12:00pm Church Services

***We take a weekly offering in Music. This offering will be designated to a special project chosen by the children. We will be deciding on the project Rally Sunday. We do try to keep the gift local if possible.

He gave thanks

This Thanks giving, you may share a special meal with family and friends. Do you remember the time when Jesus shared a meal with thousands of people and gave thanks?

Use the clues to find important words from Matthew 14:19 (NIV).

Across

- opposite of down
- opposite of up
- more than one loaf
- penniless
- place where God dwells
- bass, halibut, salmon and others
- past tense of give
- a command you give to a dog

Down

- another name for humans
- twelve of Jesus' closest friends
- what a lawnmower cuts

Across: 1. up, 3. down, 4. loaves, 6. broke, 8. heaven, 9. fish, 10. gave, 11. sit
Down: 2. people, 3. disciples, 5. grass, 7. thanks, 9. five



Groton Ad Council - October

The 2010 budget was reviewed in preparation for the November Charge Conference. It was noted that there may be some adjustments to the new pastor's salary once one is named. There was some discussion but the council gave their approval for the budget as presented.

Vicki Strom reported on the improvements made to the small chapel and the library. She noted that new chairs were purchased both with memorial funds and donations. She is still working on historical church pictures to be placed in the library.

The trustees reported that they had begun a review of the condition of the parsonage and anticipated that they would complete this task soon. They also are working to assure our church furnace is in good working order for the winter. The trustees are also reviewing our insurance policy to make sure it is

adequate and the cost is acceptable.

The Pastor/Parish committee plans to meet on November 1 after the Charge Conference. They will have an opportunity to meet with the District Superintendent regarding arrangements for an interim pastor along with voicing their desires for a replacement for Pastor Rob. Clare Brotherton did voice a concern regarding keeping church attendance up during the interim period.

Pastor Rob reported that the UMYF had their first meeting on Oct. 7 and that Justin Moorehouse has been helping with the group. Pastor Rob is considering options for leadership of this group once he leaves. Pastor Rob also will be working with our church education chair, Melissa Gilbert, to assure that there is a plan to provide instruction for this year's confirmation class.

Groton Stewardship Report Oct 2009

Average Wkly Giving
\$1,743
Needed Wkly for Church Mission
\$2,141
Average Weekly Attendance
109
Total Building Fund Donations
\$45

Groton Mission Statement
"Enriching Spiritual lives through Christ."

Groton December Family Committee

Josh & Meri Atherton

Kelli & Lars Hanson, Dylan

Lynette & Terry Furman, Sam

Karla & Russell Davidson, Michaela

Olseon, Kristopher Oleson

Alan & Vicki Strom

Francine & Mark Sippel

Jeanne Wanous

Pernell & Noella Graf

Kevin Pharis

Anita & Gary Voss

John Padfield

Derick Furman

Brent & Jessica Morehouse

Jane & Marc Johnson

Honorary Members

- Audrey Padfield
- Bob & marvel Johnson
- Audrey Thurston
- Clare Brotherton
- Herron Smith

Extra Responsibilities

- Dec 6 Change altar cloth to white and communion banner is hung
- Dec 13 Change altar cloths to purple and season banner is hung
- Water Poinsettias
- Clean & Organize Hallway Closet and Storage Room off the Choir Loft
- Help Decorate with November
- Shovel Snow from doorways before Church
- Potluck 2nd Sunday



| December 2009 | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 | | |

| November 2009 | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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



Our Church Happenings

- Nov 1 Daylight Saving Time Ends
 - Nov 1 Charge Conference 7 pm at Conde UMC
 - Nov 1 PPR Meeting following Charge Conference
 - Nov 4 Lifelight Concert at GAHS gym at 7 pm
 - Nov 4 Conde Study Group 7 pm - Jane Worlie Hostess
 - Nov 8 Groton UMC Men's Fall Dinner from 11-1:30**
 - Nov 8 Church at 9 am in both churches.
 - Nov 11 Groton Ad Council 7 pm
 - Nov 14 Conde Cleaning, Tree Trimming, & Decorating
 - Nov 18 Conde UMW 2 pm
 - Nov 18 Groton UMW 2 pm
 - Nov 18 Conde Ad Council 5 pm
 - Nov 20 Conde UMW Prayer Vigil 9:30-11:00 am
 - Nov 22 Conde Hunger Collection with loose change
 - Nov 22 Groton All-Church Decorating and Potluck
 - Nov 26 Thanksgiving Day
 - Nov 29 First Sunday of Advent
 - Nov 29 UM Student Day Special Offering
-