

UNITED METHODIST MESSENGER

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Summer Schedules

This past week one of my church attendees asked me, "Pastor Rob, how many people do you think will be in church this Sunday?" At first I had to stop and wonder if there was something happening in town that would be drawing people away from church, but then I realized it was Memorial Day weekend. I had to reluctantly agree with the observation that we might not have people in church on Sunday.

On the other hand, I should not be surprised. In the almost 18 years of local church ministry, Summer attendance has always dropped. I will often tell my congregations, "We will see everyone over the course of the Summer; we just won't see them all together."

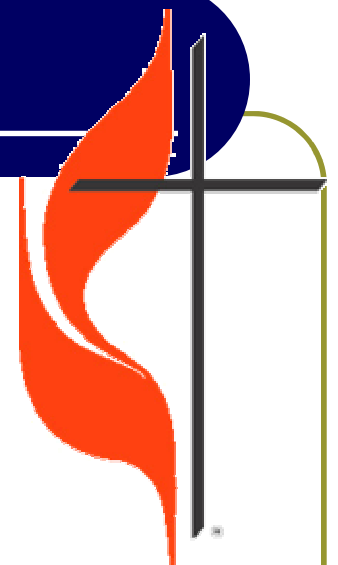
One of the bishops I knew, and who I rarely agreed with, told me something early in my career which I have found to be remarkably true. He said, "The church is no longer the central force in small communities; we must adapt to where people live today." In our conversation, we talked about the diminishing numbers who come to church on Sunday mornings to hear a sermon; about the people who drop their children off for Sunday School but don't stay for church; about the ball games, concerts

and other activities scheduled on Sundays. When I asked him about the elderly people who would complain if we changed things, this bishop, himself an elderly person, said, "We must stop living in the 1950's. Truth be told, they weren't as great as people think they were." Perhaps he was talking about the low pay and poor working conditions for clergy in the 1950's, but for those of us raised in homes in which church life was central to activities in our life, the world has changed.

Is this good or bad? I think change is often neutral—some people adapt, others don't, still others won't. We could sit around and debate the change in our society all we want too. I don't know what good the debate will do us.

As for me, I'm planning to do some fun things this Summer in church that we usually can't do or wouldn't do during "the regular church year." I'm also planning to go see some baseball games.

Wherever you are this Summer, don't forget those of us back home. Have a wonderful and safe Summer! Pastor Rob Moorlach



Always

God will always forgive
us,
No matter how often
we ask.
God will always em-
power us
With strength for what-
ever the task.
God will never forsake
us,
If we stumble or lose
our way.
God always is loving us
dearly,
In a glorious and won-
derful way!
—Peggy Ferrell, Prayers
and Poems



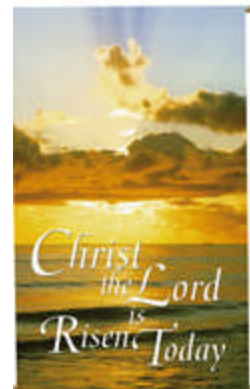
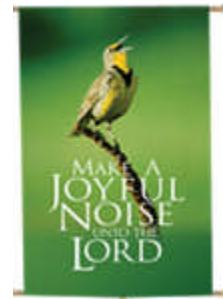
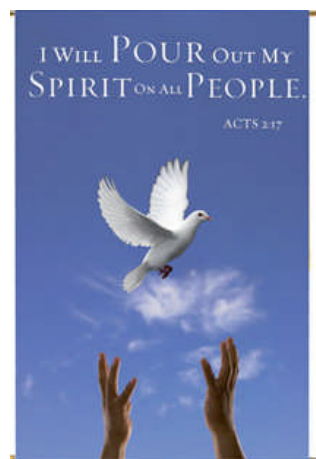
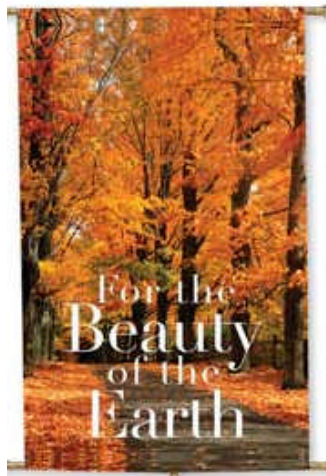
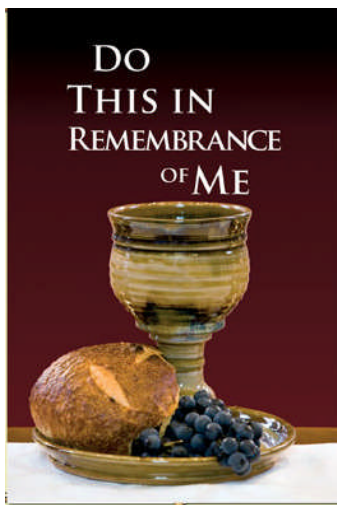
Groton UMC New Banners

New banners have been ordered to replace the old banners. The banners are the 4 X 6 to be displayed on the wall in the sanctuary and a couple for the pole outdoors. At this time our order, includes communion, Pentecost, Easter, memorial day or 4th of July, spring and fall. We would like to add, wedding, funeral, Christmas, baptism, Sunday School Sunday. The approximate cost for a banner is \$149.00 to \$179.00 we do have

some money from the memorial fund and also want to ask if anyone would like to donate toward purchasing a banner already ordered or if they would like to purchase one not ordered already. We are excited about the new change to the look of our church. If you are interested in sponsoring a banner, please contact Vicki Strom.

A New

Banner List will be posted soon for the monthly committees to use.



Thank You

The May Breakfast Committee wishes to thank all who worked Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of May Breakfast week. It was a successful event and all is appreciated.

The Committee

Groton UMW Meeting

Wednesday, June 18 at 7:30 PM

No Program - Meeting Only

May Breakfast Report & Bazaar Plans

Hostesses: Clare Brotherton & Audrey Thurston
Officers & Program Resource Chairmen Meet at 6:30 PM to Select Recipient of Mission Recognition and Jewel of a Woman.

Nomination Committee Meets at 6:30 PM to Prepare the Slate of Officers.

No Meeting in July & August

Conde UMW Notes - May

Conde United Methodist Women met at the church on May 19 at 2:00 PM. Donna Hearnen presented the lesson, "Who Am I At The Table?". We were asked to name our gifts, challenges and thoughts that make us the person we are.

We also answered the question, Who Am I? telling of our different tasks and duties in our lives. We are to let our lights shine in different ways.

President Donna Hearnen opened the meeting by leading in the Purpose. Patty Knoll read the offering from the Devotional Book written by Ginny Coates.

Bible School is meeting beginning June 1 with program on Friday evening. Our unit will furnish the

lunch for Bible School again this year.

Our pledge has been paid for this year, with the pledge being made for 2010.

Cards were sent to those to be remembered by our group.

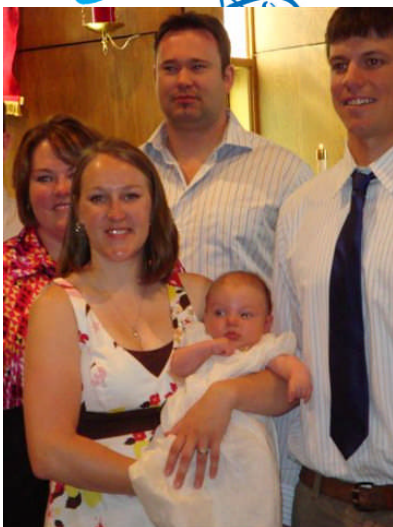
A request for TV learning session was requested and the proposal will be made at Ad Council in the evening.

A community picnic was suggested for August.

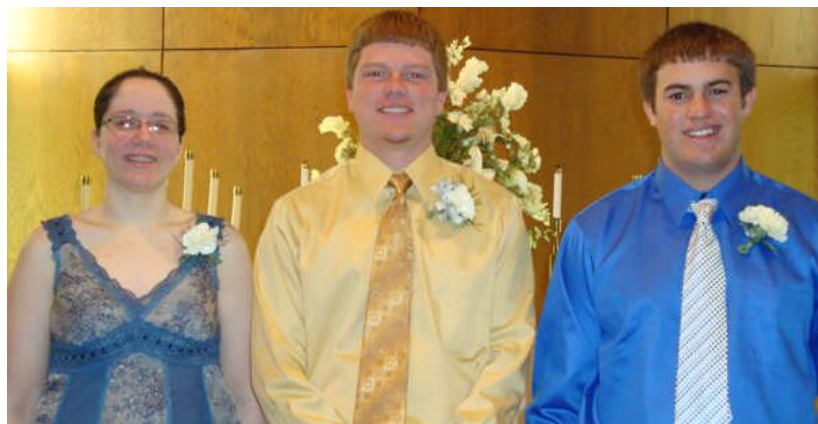
Cindy Smith was hostess for the afternoon.

Next meeting will be to visit Rotell Center in Clark on June 17 with Pat Siefken and Donna Hearnen in charge of the program. Bars will be furnished for lunch.

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



Groton UMC baptized Bennette on May 31st. He is the son of Adam & Kayla Suther.



Groton UMC Graduation Sunday
Honoring our Seniors.

Blessings



Groton Baptism & Blessings Shower on July 5th for Aiden Daniel Strom born March 31st. Parents are Eugenia & Dwight Strom.



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.



Sympathies to the family of Herron Smith who passed away May 17th

Groton Mission Statement
"Enriching Spiritual lives through Christ."

FLAG DAY



Conde Ad Council Notes - May

Conde Ad Council met at the church at 8:00 PM, called to order by Patty Knoll. We read the Purpose of the Conde Church, and were led to prayer by Pastor Rob.

Bills were presented for painting the front of the church, and materials for Bible School.

Two campers will be attending from our church.

Purchase of printer and new TV were discussed. A report was given on the outcome of the Stewardship Drive.

Bible School begins June 1 under the direction of Pat Siefken and Cindy Smith, with the program Friday night.

Discussion was held regarding the landscaping in the front of the church.

There was a multi media workshop at the church on Friday at

10:00 AM with all welcome to attend.

The School Sale was discussed by asking for items for a shopping list for the day of materials that might be of use to the church.

The Bishop's Appeal for flooding was mentioned as that had been done. Blanket Sunday had yielded \$225.00 for blankets to date. Both kinds of blankets were on hand to be shown.

Communion will be June 7th with a hymn sing, everyone is to be thinking of their favorite hymn.

Betty Jensen reported for the Memorial committee to suggest the media be purchased from that fund.

The next meeting will be June 24th at 7:00 PM

The meeting closed with prayer.



Conde Habitat for Humanity Birthday Donation

is voluntary
during the
month of your
Birthday.
House is
available at the
church for
Donations.

Hooray for fathers

A Houston newspaper asked readers to send in thoughts about their fathers. Letters flooded in, and what people wrote about their fathers is most inspiring.

A few comments:

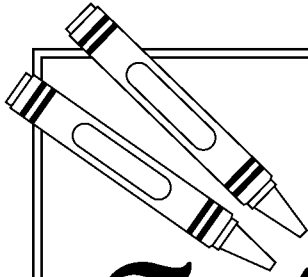
- Dad was always there for me. He sacrificed to make sure that we had what we needed.
- When disappointment came my way, Dad said, "Son, real life ain't about getting what you want but

more about doing something with what you get."

- My dad was disabled, but he worked hard to make sure we children had a good education and lived moral lives. He would say, "I want you to succeed more than I did."
- My dad wanted us to be Christians and took us regularly to church.

What would you write about your father?





Just for KIDS

Fathers of faith

Fathers do amazing things for their families, but the greatest gift our dads can share with us is their faith in God.

Complete this puzzle to read Isaiah's advice to fathers.

Directions: Working left to right, first write down all the 1's in the word blanks. Continue with the 2's and finally the 3's.

1 The	2 as	3 tell	1 living
2 I	3 their	1 the	2 am
3 children	1 living	2 doing	3 about
1 they	2 today	3 your	1 praise
2 fathers	3 faithfulness	1 you	

“ _____ , _____ — _____ ,
 _____ ; _____
 _____ .” Isaiah 38:19, NIV

Answer: “The living, the living — they praise you, as I am doing today; fathers tell their children about your faithfulness.” Isaiah 38:19, NIV



Kelly Clark
Speaker

May Breakfast Photos



Peace with Justice Sunday - June 7th

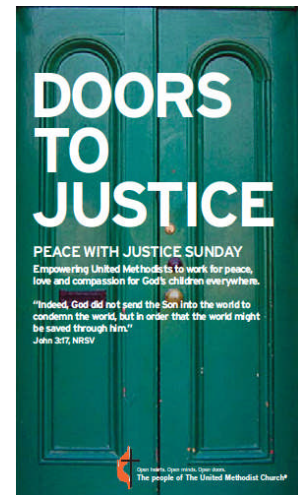
Missionary Rick Jost found a simple way to make a difference - solar ovens!

"Motivation for what we do is the crushing poverty in Haiti," Rick said. "It brings many people to tears when they see how these people live." Peace with Justice Sunday witnesses to God's demand for a faithful, just, disarmed and secure world. Drinking dirty water and cooking over open fires - because one has no choice - are justice issues. By building and taking solar ovens to Haiti, Rick and other United Methodists help poor families pasteurize drinking water and cook healthy meals in a safe environment.

Established by the 1988 General Conference, Peace with Justice

Sunday supports programs that advocate peace and justice at home and around the world. Since half of the offerings collected by your annual conference is retained to fund local peace with justice programs, you can see a difference made locally. In addition, half of the offering is remitted to the General Board of Church and Society to help fund U.S. and global work in social action, public-policy education and advocacy.

To get involved, you can contact the Peace with Justice Coordinator in your annual conference, as mandated by the 2004 Book of Discipline. Together, we can work together for a faithful and loving world for all and bring hope for our future.



Groton July Family Committee

Carna & Cliff Pray, Kevin

Dale & Michelle Kramer

Bob & Mary Ann Wehde

Marlys Rodman

Rose Tewksbury

Kami & Tom Lipp

Karla Pasteur, Ali

Yvonne Lange

Lance & Kristi Hawkins, Katelyn

Pam & Roger Rix

Gayleen & Jon Voss, Jordan, Lacey

Honorary Members

- ImoJeanne Oliver
- Mary Swisher
- Richard & Doris Zoellner
- Art & Charlotte Lange

July Extra Responsibilities

- Mow lawn each week
- Clean Sunday School Superintendent's Office & Restrooms
- July 5th, white altar cloths and hang Communion Banner for this day only
- July 12th, green altar cloths and appropriate new banner



July 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	

Our Church Celebrations

Groton

Jun 1 Anita Lowary
 Jun 3 Donald Nissen
 Jun 4 Gary & Caralee Heitmann
 Jay Johnson
 Todd Williamson
 Jun 5 Jennifer Miller
 Jun 6 Bailee Zoellner
 Jun 8 Lacy Voss
 Jun 9 Halle Williamson
 Jun 10 Sandy Oliver
 Jun 11 Jim & Mendy Jones
 Jun 12 John Seelye
 Jun 13 Roger Rix
 Jun 14 Danielle Schinkel
 Doug & Pam Bahr
 Roger Overacker
 Jun 15 Gene & Ruby Luce
 Jesse & Jaymie Overacker
 Jun 16 Gavin Voss
 Harry Pharis Jr.
 Jun 17 Jesse Morehouse
 Kristopher Oleson
 Jun 18 Nick Strom
 Jun 19 Pat Dahlquist
 Garrett & Sindi Heitmann
 Jun 20 Robert Snyder
 Jun 21 Ben & Kristi Peterson
 Gary & Linda Thurston
 Jun 22 Angela Brandt
 Jun 23 Kaycie Hawkins
 Shaylee Peterson

Twila Ruden

Jun 24 Charles & Betty Strom
 Jeremy Weber
 Steve & Robin O'Neill
 Jun 25 Tanae Lipp
 Carol Knecht
 Jun 27 Elaine Wolken
 Jun 28 Sindi Heitmann
 Jun 29 Derick Furman
 John & Meri Erickson
 Carly Gilbert
 Jun 30 Spencer Knecht

Conde

Jun 4 Paxton Bonn
 Pat Siefken
 Lois Trapp
 Jun 5 Norman & Cindy Smith
 Jun 6 Keith Hanlon
 Jun 9 Nathaniel Murphy
 Jun 12 Jerry Bonn
 Jun 13 Guy Hanlon
 Donna Hannon
 Dwight & Katy Lyren
 Jun 14 Betty Taylor
 Jun 15 Janice Herman
 Jun 20 Cary Bruckner
 Jun 22 Julie Bruckner
 Jun 26 Grant Hanson
 Jun 27 Lance Haskell
 Jun 30 Betty Barrie
 Marion & Betty Jensen



Donna Hannon's family is hosting an open house birthday party for her on Saturday, June 13th at the church at 2 PM. Everyone come and help celebrate!



On giving and getting

British author Elizabeth Bibesco said, "Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting." Can we follow her advice? Do we really need to keep a mental account of our sharing? Of course, we must keep financial records for tax purposes, but why dwell on our generosity? That might cultivate the sin of arrogant pride. Instead, keep the good feeling derived from giving. Dwell on that joy rather than on the amount or the service given. Never forget what others have done for you. A grateful heart blesses you as well as the people you help

Groton Ad Council Notes - May

Review of our Treasurer's Report brought up discussion and concerns that our member tithing has not kept up recently with our needs. We were not able to make our April conference apportionment payment of approximately \$2000. It may be that the harsh winter and earlier service time beginning in January have contributed to declining attendance and the resulting decline in tithing.

It was reported that participation in summer camping programs has grown and due to this positive trend, we should look at increasing our budget in this area for next year.

The new north door has been installed and was made possible through funds made available from the Men's Dinner profits.

Our Music and Worship Committee has worked in conjunction with our Memorial Committee to purchase a new series of beautiful sanctuary banners. Donations are welcome to help with the purchase of other special service banners.

Melissa Gilbert, Education Committee Chairperson, reported on plans for the annual Vacation Bible School. This will be held June 1-4 from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm. The evening time is necessary due to the number of working parents who are not available to help with the program until that time each day.

The council approved paying a small Boy Scout charter fee as we did for the Cub Scout charter fee. The council is very supportive of this positive program that is expanding.

Groton Stewardship Report May 2009

Average Wkly Giving

\$1,709

Needed Wkly for Church Mission

\$2,141

Average Weekly Attendance

88

Total Building Fund Donations

\$165

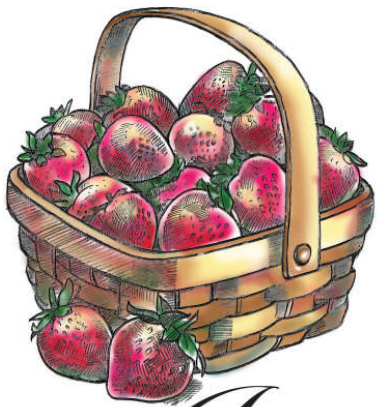


Kelly Clark
Speaker



Groton UMW May Breakfast
Photos

See you in church!



June

Our Church Happenings

Jun 7 Trinity Sunday & Peace with Justice Sunday

Jun 10 Groton Ad Council 7 PM

Jun 13 Conde Birthday Celebration for Donna Hannon 2 PM

Jun 14 Flag Day

Jun 17 Conde UMW visit Roetell Center in Clark

Jun 18 Groton UMW 7:30 PM

Jun 21 Father's Day

Jun 24 Cone Ad Council 7 PM

Jul 5 Groton Baptism & Blessings
Shower for Aiden Strom.

Groton VBS was postponed till this fall!
Watch for Details!

June 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				