

Groton/Conde Parishes

# United Methodist Messenger



## Sundog



I was driving east on US 12 Sunday and there before my eyes was a blaze of glory! A sundog, a wondrous ray of colored light. I tried to explain to a friend what a sundog is and could only say, "It's rather like a rainbow in front of the sun shooting straight up into the sky." In the Dakotas we mostly see them in the winter. I could not take my eyes off the sight. I wanted it to last forever! I was filled with joy and wonder and life. Like an apparition, it disappeared with the sun's peeking over the horizon. The radi-

ance of the sundog is gone from our view.

I wonder if our faith journey resembles seeing a sundog. We come to worship engaged in singing, praying and being in com-

munity with one another. We are filled with light and Light. The Word is proclaimed. We are determined to walk the journey of faith in the coming week. We have seen the beauty of the Son.

Monday. Overcome with the busyness, boredom, worries and commitments of life we often lose our focus. The joy of worship dissipates like the sundog. Our determination lags. We forget the glory of the rising sun.

Doesn't have to be that way. The UM Hymnal pg. 349 reminds us "Keep your eyes upon Jesus....."

See you in worship.

Peace, Pastor Sheila

## Seventy years

By the time you're 70 years old, you will have spent nearly a quarter of a century sleeping. The average person spends about 23 years of his or her life in bed. Here are estimates of how most Americans spend their waking hours during those 70 years:

- 11 years working
- 8 years in leisure pursuits
- 6 years eating
- 5 years grooming
- 4 years being educated
- 3 years talking
- 2 years reading
- 6 months worshipping God

Perhaps Sunday morning worship isn't as long as it seems.



**February 14th**

### ARE YOU THE ONE?

15-20 Confirmation MENTORS are needed.

#### Job Description

Love God, Love Youth

Willing to Share one's Spiritual Journey

Read 2 chapters of LUKE each week

Meet with Confirmand ONE HOUR EACH WEEK for 13 weeks

Every 4th week Youth, Mentors and Pastor will meet for supper/discussion/etc Mid February through Mid to late May.

Please let us all join in prayer for this exciting time in the life of our youth and of our church family.

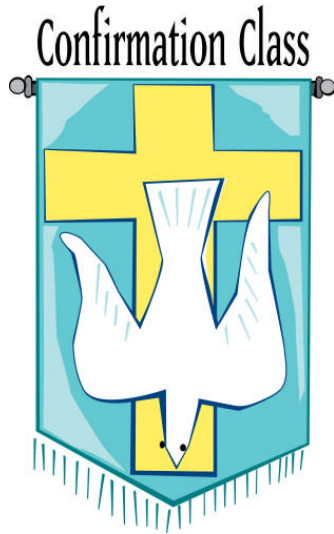
One of our youth may be asking YOU to be a mentor.

#### ARE YOU THE ONE?



Thank you to our family for the altar flowers and birthday cake. Thank you for all the cards and gifts received for my 80th birthday. God Bless everyone and thank you again.

--Russell Townsend




### BRUNCH

**Groton Brunch Served**  
 February 14th  
 Sunday - 10 AM  
 February Committee will provide egg bake. Others please bring accompanying dishes such as fruit, muffins, rolls, etc...  
*February Committee*

### 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.



### Choir Rehearsal

### Groton Make A Joyful Noise Choir

All our welcome to join us! We are practicing Feb 16th at 6:45 pm. Then, on Feb 21 we will practice at 10:30 and sing during worship. Join Us!





## Groton Serving Schedule

Lent will be here before we know it. As per the Family Committee book, each monthly committee will be serving on one Wednesday evening. The committee is responsible to prepare, serve, and cleanup. Soup & sandwiches are typically served but other choices are optional. Prepare for 50 people. Meal is served from 6-7 pm. Take a free-will offering which should be turned over to Anita Lowary or Kay Brandt. It will be used to defray any costs of the meal. Groceries may be charged or receipts given to Kay for reimbursement. Questions may be directed to Gloria Pharis or Clare Brotherton.

Feb 17 Jan Committee

Feb 24 Feb Committee

Mar 3 March Committee

Mar 10 April Committee

March 17 May Committee

March 24 June Committee

### Groton UMW

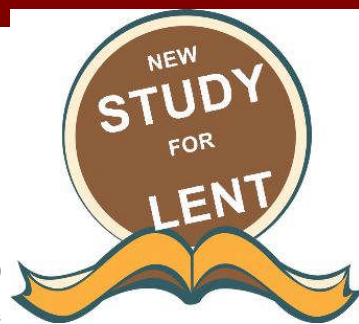
February 17th  
Wednesday, 2 pm

“Pledge Service”  
By Twila Ruden

Hostesses  
Carol Strom  
Doris Zoellner

## Conde Lenten Schedule

Ash Wednesday Service is on February 17 at 10:30 am at the church. Everyone is welcome to attend.



Lenten Study will be led by Pastor Sheila for 6 weeks from Feb 23 through March 30, Tuesday’s, at 11:15 am. Everyone is welcome. Books are \$9. Study is “Bread for the Wilderness - Spiritual Famine or Gospel Feast” Sign-up!



## World Day of Prayer

Conde Service will be held at 9:30 am on March 5th. This is observed around the world with a program by church women united. This year the worship is written by the women of Cameroon. You will learn the flavor of their country and customs. Refreshments will be served. Everyone is invited to attend. Patty Knoll is caring for presenting the program.

Groton Service will be at Emmanuel Lutheran Church at 2 pm Friday, March 5th.





# Health Kits

## Health Kits Collections by Feb 26th

### Time to Register for Camp

Deadline is April 25th! Registration online is preferred. Groton may find Kay to register online before or after church anytime from Feb 14 through April 25th.

Camp books are available at the churches or you may go online to [www.dakcamps.org](http://www.dakcamps.org)

- 1 hand towel (15X25 up to 17X27, No kitchen towels)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- 1 nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- 1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz and up)
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, No child-size brushes)
- 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages
- \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste

You may also donate money to purchase needed items to finish filling kits. Money can be marked for Health Kits and placed in the collection plate.

For more information in Conde contact Donna Hearnen and in Groton contact Carna Atherton-Pray.

## Conde UMW

February 17

Wednesday, 11 am

Program: Call to Prayer & Self-Denial

Leader: Patty Knoll

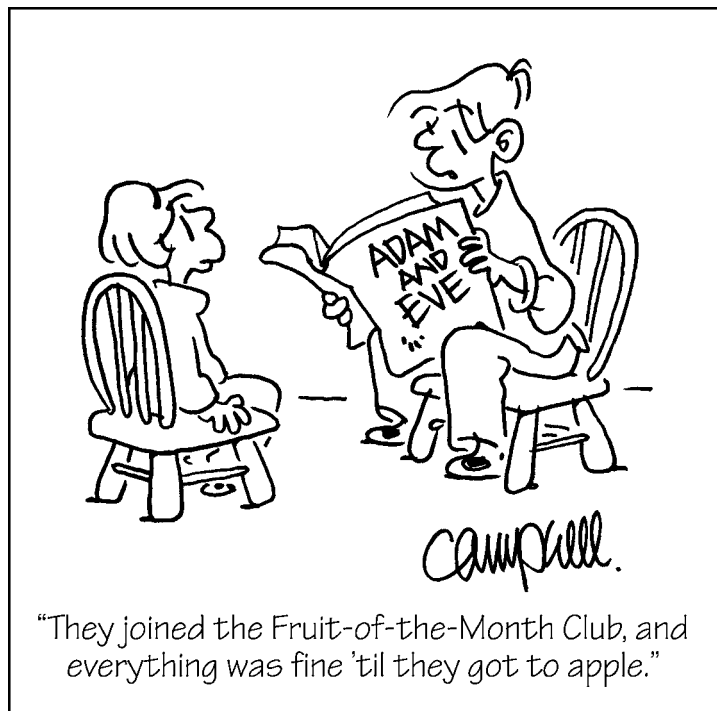
Hostesses: Jane Worlie & Lois Trapp

## Conde Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday

This is an opportunity to collect non-perishable gifts and needed cash donation to fight hunger in our community.

February 7th

Sunday





## Conde UMW - January

CONDE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN met at the church at 11:00 AM on January 27. Betty Taylor, assisted by Jane Worlie, led the lesson asking the members to assess their Gifts of the Spirit. In 2010, we were asked to pledge not only their financial gifts, but spiritual gifts as well. Pledge cards were presented for the year.

Vice President Pat Siefken opened the meeting by asking all to join in the Purpose of the organization. Minutes of the previous meeting were read. The treasurer's report was given, followed by the presentation of the budget for this year. Our Pledge to Mission is \$900 for this year.

Cindy Smith and Wilma Butler were appointed to audit the treasurer's books.

Cards were signed and sent to those to be remembered in our community.

Assignments were made by Pat Siefken for UMW Sunday on February 7. As this is Souper Bowl Sunday, cash donations and non perishable goods are accepted for the offering for use in a local community project.

World Day of Prayer is March 5 at 9:30 AM with the program written by the women of Cameroon. Patty Knoll leads the lesson; Cindy Smith is in charge of a breakfast to be served.

Next meeting will be on Ash Wednesday at 11:00 following the Ash Wednesday worship at 10:30 led by Pastor Richards.

Donna Walter and Betty Taylor furnished noon lunch.



### 50th Anniversary Celebration

The family of Jim and Judy Zeck are hosting an open house in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary on February 14th from 10 am - 1 pm at the Methodist Church in Conde. Church Service is at 9 am and you are invited to attend services and stay for coffee and rolls after the service. Lunch will be served later. The honorees request no gifts.

## Conde Ad Council - January

CONDE AD COUNCIL met the afternoon of January 28 with Patty Knoll presiding. The Mission Statement of the church was read to begin the meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Treasurer's report was given by Jane Worlie. It was noted that \$114.00 had been given to Haiti support to date.

Snow had been shoveled off the roof of the church. Our appreciation goes to

all who have kept the church lots, walks and pathways clear for worship.

Lenten study was discussed with Pastor Sheila leading on Tuesday mornings at 10:30. All are welcome to attend. Opportunity for sign up will be available soon, as materials will have to be ordered. The first week is February 23rd at the church.



### Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

## Groton Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts

At our February 18th Pack Meeting (6:30 pm) we are having a Blue and Gold Banquet which celebrates the anniversary of Scouting. And this year just happens to be our 100th Year Anniversary. It is also our "Crossover" Meeting for the 2nd Year Webelos to go on to our new Boy Scout Troop. Also this night is our Friends of Scouting presentation which helps to fund our activities through Sioux Council. Everybody welcome! (Dessert Buffet to follow)



## 100th anniversary of the Boy Scout movement

Lord Robert Baden-Powell (1857-1941) was a lieutenant-general in the British Army who loved hiking and camping in the wilderness. He wrote a small handbook for soldiers called Aids to Scouting. It became so popular among teachers and youth leaders that he rewrote it with young people in mind. Scouting for Boys was immediately a best seller and led to the establishment of many Boy Scout groups in England.

Soon afterward, scouting groups began popping up across America.

Churches were so supportive of the movement's values that many churches sponsored Scout troops — and still do.

The official beginning of Scouting in America was February 8, 1910. Each year, many churches recognize their Scouts on the Sunday before February 8.

The leaders of Boy Scouts of America have designated September 1, 2009, through December 31, 2010 as "A Year of Celebration." The year's highlight will be Jamboree 2010 (July 26-August 4, 2010), which promises to be the largest celebration of Scouting in America. More than 43,000 scouts and leaders are expected to attend the event at Fort A.P. Hill, a 76,000-acre camp outside Washington, D.C.

## Our Church Celebrations

### Groton

- Feb 1 Dick & Gert Ruden
- Feb 4 KayLynn Overacker
- Feb 5 Andrea & Brian Bahr
- Feb 7 Gary Voss
- Feb 8 Gage Sippel  
Larry Wheeting
- Feb 10 Alan & Jolene Townsend  
Brenda Madsen  
Dion Bahr
- Feb 12 Skylar Kramer
- Feb 14 Diane Nissen
- Feb 16 Pernel Graf
- Feb 18 Chuck & Michelle Padfield
- Feb 19 Gaylene Voss  
Robin O-Neill  
Terry Furman
- Feb 21 Ruth Thompson

- Feb 22 Anthony Schinkel
- Feb 25 Brent Morehouse  
Greg Heitmann
- Feb 26 Mary Ann Wehde

### Conde

- Feb 4 Donna Walter
- Feb 5 Richard Sanderson
- Feb 7 Bill Trapp
- Feb 9 Vicki Stark
- Feb 10 Greg & Vicki Stark
- Feb 12 Norb Hearnen
- Feb 15 Tim & Betty Geist
- Feb 19 Tyler Stark
- Feb 20 Jim & Judy Zeck
- Feb 22 Betty Jensen  
Horace Walter



### Equal opportunity

When young Kelli said her prayers each night, she would bless every family member, every friend and every pet (current or past). Toward the end of her prayers, she'd say, "And all girls."

One night her father asked his daughter why she always ended that way.

"Because," she replied, "everybody else always finishes their prayers by saying, 'All men.'"



## Valentine's Day

"Faith doesn't get us out of trouble; faith gets us through it." —Anonymous

**Just for KIDS**

# Our first love

In Deuteronomy 10:12 (NIV), Israel is asked a question that's also for us to answer: "What does the LORD your God ask of you?"

To find the answer, write the words from the puzzle pieces on the matching shapes in the completed heart.

... your heart and with all your soul ..."

Answer: " ... fear the LORD ...; to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all ..."



## Haiti Solar Oven Partners Still at Work in Haiti

*Montas Joseph Family:* Montas and his wife Raymonde are the Haitian Project Directors. They and their family are okay. At the time of the quake, Montas was working with a United Methodist Volunteers In Mission team in a city about 40 miles west of his home. The city of Petit Goave was also hit hard by the earthquake and Montas was involved in the rescue effort of mission team members and his long-time friend and fellow interpreter, Jean Claude. A section of the Joseph house was destroyed and the questionable structural integrity of what's left means that the Joseph family, like thousands of others, are homeless. Water and food are in short supply. The Haitian people share whatever they have even when it appears that there is nothing to share.

*Jeanne Milcar:* She is our project's solar oven assembly person. We heard from her through phone contact within 24 hours of the quake. She is okay, but as is with most everyone in the quake area, she is thirsty, hungry and living on the streets.

*Jean Claude Degazon:* He is a language interpreter working with the Methodist Guesthouse and has served our mission teams as an interpreter and as a volunteer for special projects. He survived, and in his own words written in a Saturday email: "God rescued me and Montas pulled me out from the debris. I am ok and [my] family as well." He, his wife and two children are living with few resources.

*Omilus Saint Louis:* He was the director of the Methodist Church of Haiti Publishing House and enthusiastic supporter of the Haiti Solar Oven Project. Omilus is also an architect and helped our organization with building projects, clearing a sea container from Customs and anything else. According to reports, Omilus died when he was hit by a piece of

concrete while helping his wife get out of their house. He had a special gift of working graciously and effectively with everyone and will be sorely missed.

*Bernard:* Has worked with recent solar oven mission teams as an all-around helper and interpreter. Bernard along with his sister, brother and mother all survived, but they lost their home and suffer with extreme shortages and homelessness.

*Jean Michel Basquin:* A former Methodist Church of Haiti development director who worked with Solar Oven Partners in the past and also did his graduate studies at South Dakota State University is doing well. Jean Michel lives in the city of Les Cayes, west of the areas affected by the earthquake, and was out of harm's way.

With a response beginning to emerge, specifics of our ministry plan must first address getting our Haitian team back on its feet, followed by earnest pursuit of the purpose of Solar Oven Partners. Our mission addresses the underlying causes of hunger, poverty and environmental destruction and that must not only continue, but grow. Please stay in touch for details on how you can help through your sustained prayers, gifts and volunteerism.

Thanks for all of your expressions of concern and love and stay tuned for ways to help our people working with Solar Oven Partners, and the Haiti Emergency in general, which is ADVANCE #418325.

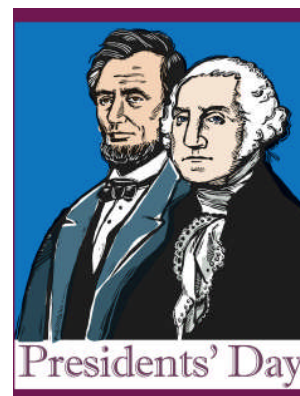
-Rick Jost for Solar Oven Partners

Excerpt from Mondays@Dakotas Conference Email Updates



“Love has nothing to do with what you are expecting to get, it’s what you are expected to give – which is everything.”  
–Vittorio Alfieri

“In a world where people are looking everywhere for signs of God, where have you found God? What have you done about it? And who will you tell?”  
–Robert Gorrell





## Groton Ad Council - January

It was reported that all 2009 apporionments were paid in full. The council decided to update the congregation during an upcoming service on the new furnace cost and ask their help with funding.

The trustees reported on the plan to keep an eye on the parsonage while it is unoccupied.

Members from our Pastor/Parish Committee plan to attend an upcoming PPR training session in Aberdeen.

Pastor Sheila reported on the current effort to start a choir again in our church. She also related the immediate need for helping with the Haitian earthquake relief efforts. She shared that there were many from our Dakota's medical mission team who were there and safe. In addition, Pastor Sheila told of plans for confirmation classes which will start in February. And finally, she shared Methodist membership statistics for the Dakotas. They have been declining in recent years.

### Groton Stewardship Report Jan 2010

Average Wkly Giving	\$1,753
Needed Wkly for Church Mission	\$1,929
Average Weekly Attendance	80
Total Building Fund Donations	\$515

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

## March Family Committee

**Crystal & Doug Sippel**

**JoAnn & Richard Krueger**

Kay Brandt

Pat Dahlquist

Joyce & Allen Walter

Darlys Kampa

Twila Ruden

Gloria & Harry Pharis

Michelle & Chuck Padfield

Ruby Luce

Marge & Russell Townsend

Marie McClintic & Larry Schnaidt

Rodney Boehmer

### Honorary Members

- Eugene Luce
- Ruth Thompson
- Richard Voss
- Jean Walter

### March Extra Responsibilities

- Shovel snow from doorways before church
- Clean the Kitchen
- Mar 7th change altar cloths to white for communion
- Mar 14th change altar cloths to purple
- Potluck 2nd Sunday

March 2010						
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 Happenings

February 2010						
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						



- Feb 7 UMW Sunday
- Feb 7 Conde Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday
- Feb 10 Groton Ad Council 7 pm
- Feb 14 Conde 50th Anniversary - Jim and Judy Zeck 10am - 1 pm
- Feb 14 Groton Brunch at 10 AM
- Feb 16 Groton Choir 6:45
- Feb 17 Groton UMW 2 pm
- Feb 17 Groton Lenten Supper 6 pm and Service 6:45 - Jan Committee Serving
- Feb 17 Conde Ash Weds Service 10:30 am
- Feb 17 Conde UMW 11 am
- Feb 21 Groton Choir 10:30 practice for worship
- Feb 23 Conde Lenten Study 11:15 am each week through March 30th
- Feb 24 Groton Lenten Supper 6 pm and Service 6:45 - Feb Committee Serving
- Feb 26 Health Kit Deadline for collection points
- Feb 28 Conde World Hunger Sunday
- Mar 5 World Day of Prayer - Conde Service 9:30 am - Groton 2 pm ELCA Church
- Mar 3 Conde Small Group meeting - hostesses Donna Walter