



United Methodist Messenger

GROTON/CONDE PARISHES

January 2010

www.grotonsdchurches.com/umc

Happy New Year!

The last page of the 2009 calendar has been turned and the first page of 2010 is opened. A REALLY NEW YEAR is here for the Conde and Groton parishes of the United Methodist church and for me. Who would have thought? No one is more surprised than I. AND, I am delighted to spend these next months with you.

A little about me... I was born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana. I came to Aberdeen when I was 18 to attend Northern and to live in South Dakota. I think living here is in my DNA. From the time I was 8 years old I spent summer vacations in SD to visit my grandmother who had homesteaded south of Thunderhawk (near Lemmon). I have traveled the world over but the old adage holds true for me..."there's no place like home"... South Dakota is "home" for me.

I have been a Methodist /United Methodist since I was 5 years old. Carlyle and I married in Aberdeen December 1961. We have lived in the same home for 42 years. Our children are Leisa in Albuquerque, NM, Keith in Los Angeles, CA, and Renee in Minneapolis, MN. Our adopted daughter Iris from CannonBall, ND died in 1991.

I am excited to begin the new year in Groton and Conde. I wonder what God has in store for us? What opportunities will we have to be in ministry? How will we love God and love one another? Will we be aware of God's newness in our lives? One of my favorite scripture passages is Revelation 21:5.

And the one who was seated on the throne said "See, I am making all things new."

"This is a Day of New Beginnings" from the United Methodist Hymnal p. 383 verse 4 puts it well...

"Christ is alive and goes before us to show and share what love can do. This is a day of new beginnings. Our God is making all things new."

Please remember Pastor Rob in your prayers as he also begins a REALLY new year.

Peace of Christ be with us all.

Pastor Sheila



A prayer for the new year

Eternal God, thank you for bringing us once again to the threshold of a new year. Help us dedicate each day of 2010 to following your will for our lives. Guide us, Lord, in all our decisions and actions, day by day and hour by hour. Help us accomplish all that you desire for us to do, until our mission on earth is finished. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Goodbye and Hello

Sunday, Dec 27th, was a difficult day - we had to say a very reluctant farewell to Pastor Rob and wish him well in this new exciting challenge he undertakes in Kentucky.

Next Sunday, Jan 3rd, we welcome Pastor Sheila Richards who will serve as the interim pastor until a permanent appointment is made in July. She has been a long-time resident of Ab-

erdeen so many of you may already know her. She served the North Highland Church there for eight years, followed by a six-year stint as District Superintendent for this conference. She retired about four years ago.

Pastor Sheila has indicated a strong interest in the music and evangelism areas of our churches. Might there be choir possibilities in our future? She presently strongly supports the evangelism ministry at North Highland, and that is an area ripe for improvement in our parish as well.

So we look forward to worshipping and sharing in the gifts that Pastor Sheila brings. The challenge we undertake as we go forward is to assure that we sustain the uplifted spirit Pastor Rob inspired here.

Wishing all Peace, Joy, and Health in 2010. Pastor/Parish Relations Committee, Clare Brotherton, Chair

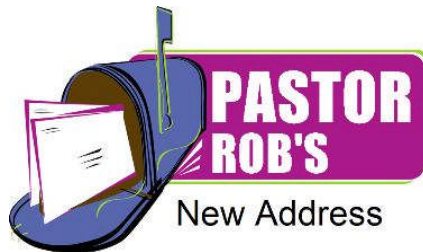
**Groton Brunch
Jan 10th
at 10 am**
January committee will provide egg bakes. Everyone else please bring anything to go with morning brunch such as muffins, rolls, or fruit.



ROBERT HOOD, 82, OF GROTON PASSED AWAY MONDAY, DEC. 7, 2009



**RUSSELL TOWNSEND'S
80TH BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION JANUARY
24TH DURING COFFEE
HOUR. PLEASE SEND
CARDS! 41258 138TH ST,
ANDOVER, SD 57422**



**13400 Spring Villa Ct #114
Louisville, KY 40245
rmoorlach@kyumc.org
605-480-2122**



- 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.



Our Church Celebrations

Groton

- Jan 2 Holly Walter
- Jan 3 Bob Walter
Caroline Graf
- Jan 5 Austin Luecke
- Jan 6 Zachary Townsend
- Jan 7 Karla & Russell Davidson
- Jan 9 JoAnn Krueger
- Jan 10 Anita Voss
Marvel Johnson
Melissa & Neil Gilbert
Neil Gilbert
- Jan 11 Randy Padfield
- Jan 13 Lance Hawkins
Monte McNickle
- Jan 14 Jay & Linda Johnson

- Jan 15 Alissa Gellhaus-Wells
- Jan 16 Hunter Bahr
Marjorie Overacker
- Jan 18 Cheryl Graf
- Jan 19 Tim Graf
- Jan 20 David Nilsson
- Jan 21 Pam Bahr
- Jan 22 Bob & Marvel Johnson
- Jan 24 Michelle Padfield
- Jan 25 Russell Townsend
- Jan 26 Doris Zoellner
Trinity Smith
- Jan 27 Kristie Hawkins
- Jan 28 Audrey Miller
Ruby Luce

Conde

- Jan 3 Bruce Herman
- Jan 5 Tony & Marcene Bruckner
- Jan 8 Darrel Haskell
- Jan 10 Donna Hearnen
- Jan 11 Norman Smith
- Jan 20 Mike & Patty Knoll
- Jan 27 Darrel & Joyce Haskell
- Jan 27 Wava Thomas
- Jan 30 Alice Hanson
- Jan 31 Kevin Hanlon



“Stationary Time”

We are frequently thinking
That time’s running fast.
The present seems fleeting
And soon becomes past

But time is a measurement
Standing quite still.
It’s we who are moving –
Or stopped, by our will.

–Peggy Ferrell



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

Worship Committee Meeting

Jan 6th, Wednesday at 5:30 pm

The 2010 members of this committee are: Gloria Pharis, Gary & Caralee Heitmann, Chris & Tyke Nyberg, Yvonne Lange, Susan Odland, and Kay Brandt.



Groton Church Furnace News

MAINTENANCE FUND NEEDS YOUR HOLIDAY GIFTS.

The Groton trustees need to share some good news and bad news with you regarding the heating systems at the church.

The good news is that we are able to be warm this winter. More good news is that the new boiler is no longer leaking 50 gallons of water per day. Still more good news is that the new boiler is approximately 25% more efficient and therefore, we should save 25% of the natural gas bill each year.

The bad news is that a major repair was needed to keep everything operational. Like all major repairs, there are some large costs involved. Although the final bills are not in as I write this story, but the estimated cost was \$17,000. Needless to say, this was not in the maintenance budget.

We all need to help with this cost. Heat in South Dakota is not a luxury. It is a necessity and we all appreciate a warm place to worship and have fellowship in comfort. **Please keep the maintenance fund on your holiday giving list!** Place your checks in the collection plate or in the mail and mark them Furnace Repairs.

For those of you who would like more

details I will try to give a little background on the problem. The Church really has 4 heating systems. 2 are electric hot air units (one for the sanctuary and one for the fellowship hall) and 2 are natural gas hot water boilers. This two source heating system gives us a better chance to keep our costs down.

Both of the natural gas boilers were installed about 13 years ago. One of the two boilers is larger than the other. This larger primary boiler is the one that started leaking last March when our water bill showed 20,000 gallons used. The pumps installed 13 years ago were also smaller than today's standards for our long lines of heating pipes which allowed some of the vapor locking and therefore, the shutting down of the heat to the Sunday school rooms experienced last spring. McGannon Plumbing was able to keep the system going during the spring & fall, but as the weather got colder, a more permanent solution had to be completed. Therefore, we are replacing the larger boiler and 2 pumps.

For more information, please feel free to contact any of the trustees. Thank you for your generous gifts. 2010 Trustees are Jerry Rix and Tyke Nyberg, Co-Chair; Chuck Padfield, Craig Weber, Cliff Pray, Anita Lowary, Marj Overacker, and Bert Raap.

Groton/Conde Photos

Did you take a family photo this holiday season? Please email the digital (preferred) photo to the church office. grotonumc@nvc.net

Have just a printed photo? Let Kay borrow it for a few minutes on Sunday and I'll scan it in.

Thank you it will be a help in updating our directories.



When a house is a home

A house is a home when it is infused with love, when there is acceptance that never wavers, and where there is always food for the mind, for the spirit, for the body and for those in need. Is your abode a house or a home?



“Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves.”

—J.M. Barrie

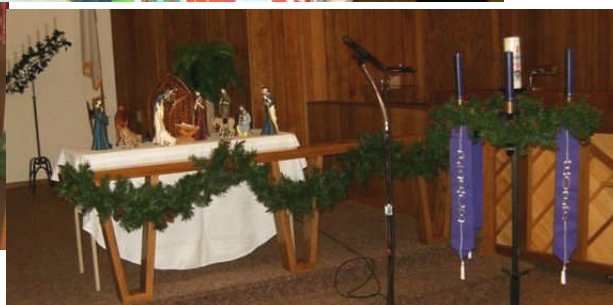
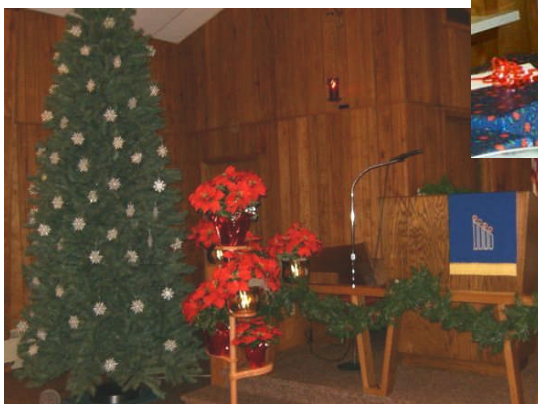


Conde Packing Holiday Food Boxes for Local Families



Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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



CONDE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BIRTHDAY DONATION IS VOLUNTARY DURING THE MONTH OF YOUR BIRTHDAY. HOUSE IS AVAILABLE AT THE CHURCH FOR DONATIONS.

January 2010

Groton Tues AM Bible Study

Dec 8th the Tuesday AM Bible Study went to the Nursing Home to play Bingo for an hour. Everyone donated quarters and bills to create a great time by all. I hear our game is still talked about with the big money and they are wondering when we will be back. It was a fun way to wish all a Merry Christmas.



Tuesday AM Bible Study

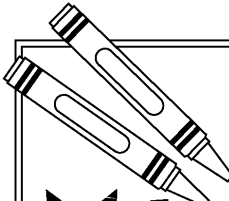
Jan 12 we will be starting a new study on "Prayer - An Adventure with God" for 12 weeks. If you would like to join and need a book, Kay has them.

Then around Easter we will be starting a study on the book "The Shack."

If there is a small group of 6 or more that would like to start a new study group at another time, please talk to Kay or Pastor Sheila.








Just for **KIDS**

Make a joyful noise

people often gather with noisemakers to celebrate the promise of a new year. be thankful and Joyful For the many blessings in your life.

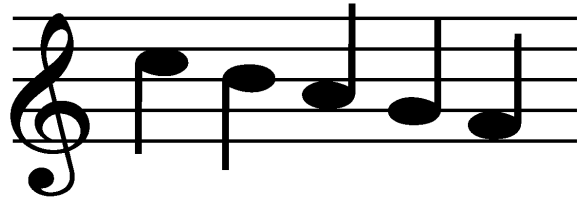
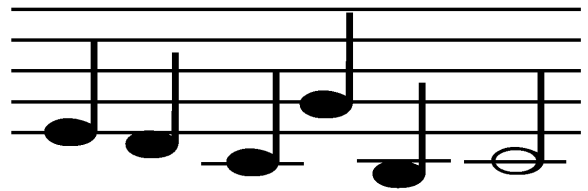
Using the musical note code, write the words of Psalm 100:2 (NIV) in the correct order below.

CODE: before come gladness him joyful LORD songs the with Worship



* * * * *

_____ the _____ ;

Answer: Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Human Relations Day Sunday

Community Developers Program

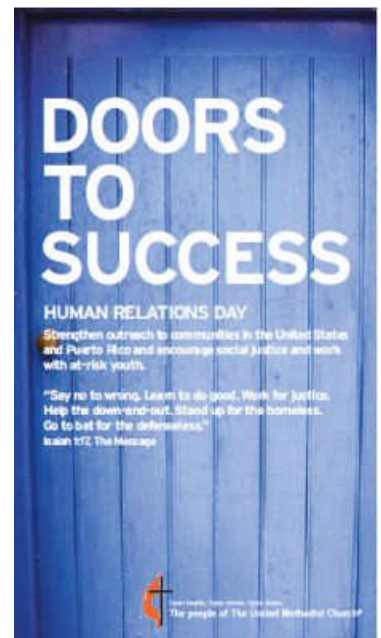
For many, the pantry doors at the Community Enabler Center lead to relief from hunger—a month’s supply of food staples so those who cannot make ends meet will not go hungry. Distributing everything from beans to baby formula, Maudine Holloway makes sure her struggling neighbors have a meal, a change of clothes, assistance paying a utility bill, medicine and a safe place for children to come after school. During these tough economic times, she has had to scramble for extra funds to keep the lights on and her small staff paid.

Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program

“Redemption Church: Freedom from Bondage for Young Nonviolent Offend-

ers” in Oklahoma is an example of how Human Relations Day supports Youth Offender Rehabilitation Programs. Penn Avenue Redemption Church, Oklahoma City, and St. Luke Redemption Church, Tulsa, cooperate in criminal justice and mercy ministries to deepen advocacy, victim/offender reconciliation and reunification of families. Active member Debbie said, “This is an opportunity for me, as well as other inmates, to interact with society again.”

Because of your offering, caring ministries continue – providing childcare, after-school tutoring, gang intervention, work with at-risk teens, outreach with current and former prison inmates, homeless services, emergency aid, jobs training and more.



Groton Health Kits Collections - Jan/Feb

- 1 hand towel (15X25 up to 17X27, No kitchen towels)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb
- 1 nail file
- 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.



Mom's misunderstood word

A mother told her young daughter that they had to hurry to church to worship God. But the way she spoke the word “worship” confused the child. It sounded more like “waaship” rather than “wereship.”

As the little girl approached the door to leave, the mother noticed the girl held a bar of soap and a washcloth.

“What’s that for?” asked the mother.

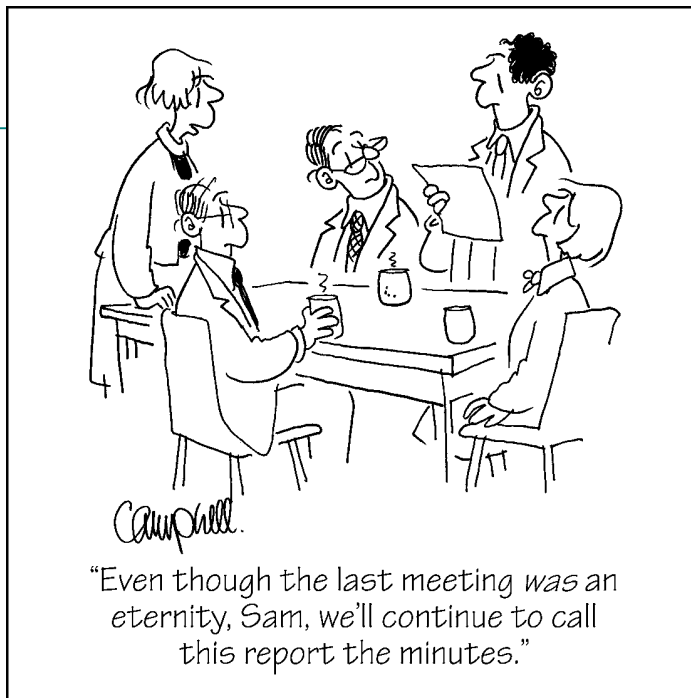
“I want to ‘wash up’ Jesus in the manger,” replied the girl.

January 2010

Groton Audit Committee

Please have your 2009 Financial Records to the church office by Sunday, Jan 17th for audit. This includes General Fund, Roof, UMW, MYF, Memorial, Parish & Parsonage Maintenance, Groton Foundation, Merrill Rix Memorial, Mamie Johnson Camping, Cub Scouts, and Boy Scouts. Thank You Audit Committee

2010 Audit Committee are Pat Dahlquist, Linda Thurston, and Allen Walter



Groton Stewardship Report Dec 2009	
Average Wkly Giving	\$2,071
Needed Wkly for Church Mission	\$2,141
Average Weekly Attendance	102
Total Building Fund Donations	\$275

Groton De-Decorating is Sunday, January 3rd. We need everyone's help so please come early!



GROTON MISSION STATEMENT
 "ENRICHING SPIRITUAL LIVES THROUGH CHRIST."

Groton Feb Family Committee

Linda & Gary Thurston	glthurst@nvc.net	725-2371
Sharon & Larry Wheeting	wheelts@nvc.net	397-4456
Caralee & Gary Heitmann	heitmanncara@hotmail.com	397-8634
Alan & Jolene Townsend	townsend@nrctv.com	395-6455
Zachary Townsend		395-6455
Brenda & Tony Madsen, Mitchell	mad410@jamesvalley.com	397-8484
Marjae & Dan Schinkel	schinkel@nvc.net	395-6645
Kristi & Ben Peterson	bobkrp@hotmail.com	397-8159
Betty & Charlie Strom	bess@nvc.net	397-8360
Dwight & Eugenia Strom	dstrom@nvc.net	397-8529
Mary Jane Schott	mjschott@nvc.net	397-8588
Curtis Krueger		397-8586
Jane & Marc Johnson, Tanner (Feb & Dec)	mjjohnson@nvc.net	397-8615

Honorary Members

DeLoris Knoll	397-2681
Hazel McKittrick	397-8505



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						

January 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

- Jan 3 Welcome Pastor Sheila Richards as our interim pastor!**
- Jan 3 Groton De-decorating. Everyone come early and help!**
- Jan 6 Groton Worship Committee Meeting 5:30 pm
- Jan 6 Groton UMYF 7 pm
- Jan 10 Groton Sunday School Resumes
- Jan 10 Communion this Sunday
- Jan 10 Groton serving brunch 10 am - bring appropriate items
- Jan 12 Groton Tues AM Bible Study starts new lesson at 10 am
- Jan 17 Human Relations Day Sunday
- Jan 17 Groton Audit Committee needs 2009 records
- Jan 13 Groton Ad Council 7 pm
- Jan 20 Groton UMYF 7 pm
- Jan 24 Groton Birthday Celebration for Russell Townsend's 80th during coffee hour
- Jan 24 Conde Hunger Sunday
- Jan 27 Conde UMW 11 am