

United Methodist Messenger



Holy Posers vs. Holy Rollers

Friends, it won't belong now and we will be raking our leaves, draining our lawnmowers of essential fluids, and getting our garages ready for our vehicles during the winter. I hate to admit it but summer is gone and autumn is just around the corner. Our only hope is some rain for the farmers and less wind. With summer coming to a close, we turn our eyes to the school year and all that entails for us as communities of faith. One of the concerns facing us is reaching out to youth and young adults.

For those of you who use the internet, I found the following CNN article [by **John Blake**, CNN August 27, 2010] extremely helpful in answering the question "Where are all the young people in Church?" For years churches have been asking this question and we have seen little done in response, despite the fact that nurturing disciples is our greatest responsibility as Christians.

In this CNN article, the author quotes Kenda Creasy Dean the author of the book "Almost Christian." Apparently youth in our country have been subjected to a "Mutant Christianity" in which God becomes a "divine therapist" whose main purpose is to coddle believers and boost self esteem. In "Almost Christian" she suggests that this self-serving understand-

ing of Christianity is being taught to younger believers by parents and pastors who have no idea what they are modeling for youth.

Is she right? Do we model this understanding of faith to our children? And if so is this a contributing factor to the exodus of youth and young adults from our parishes? For Dean, She concludes that this is indeed a contributing factor and that churches are not giving teens "enough to be passionate about."

Friends, if this is true, then the responsibility lies with us. Not just me as pastor or you as layperson but all of us as a community of faith. We need to bring the passion of our faith back to the church. With Rally Sunday rapidly approaching, I can't think of a better time than RIGHT NOW to bring back the excitement and passion of our faith! We have programs and planning as well as evangelism and discipleship as our tasks at hand. Are we ready? Well whether we are or not the time is NOW! Let's do this!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Matt

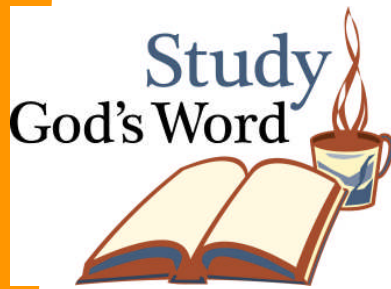
<http://www.cnn.com/2010/LIVING/08/27/almost.christian/index.html?hpt=C1>

Sound Advice:

WE NEED SOMEONE to assist with running the sound board it isn't that complicated, let Pastor Matt know if interested.

"Calling All

Voices" time to call the church choir back together now that summer is over. rehearsal time tba/ytbd (to be announced/yet to



Women's Bible Study every
Tuesday Morning at 10 AM
and

Men's Bible Study every
Wednesday Morning
at 7 AM in Groton

Everyone is Welcome!



Thank you for all the birthday
cards and wishes.

Bert

Camp Thank You

Dear Church Members,

Thank you so much for sending me to LTC (Leadership Training Camp) at Lake Poinsett! I had so much fun this year! I was very sad that it was my last year but I hope to go back and be a counselor someday! We had so many activities to keep us busy including Square Dancing, campfires, Wacky Olympics, and a lawn party! I was in Cabin 1 this year and we won the Wacky Olympics! This year was the first time I have been in the winning cabin! Each year is always a great experience at camp & I have met lifelong friends. Thanks again for sending me!
God Bless, Alexa Nilsson

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
Marvel 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.



Conference Informational Meeting

September 18 - for PPR Committees in the local church. This will be through the David System operated by the conference where everyone takes part through inter-active television. Contact anyone on PPR committee for more information as to a site near us. The time is 9:30 AM-4:30 PM



Refrigerator for the store Room. If you are buying a new fridge and wondering what to do with the old one? This is a wish to have two refrigerators in the store room some day.

Conde UMW - August

CONDE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MET AT THE CHURCH on August 18 with Arlie Rodman, our Shepherdess, as special guest.

Pat Siefken opened the afternoon meeting by remembering the things we can change and cannot change; and what it means to be a Christian.

Donna Hearnen opened the business meeting by asking all to repeat the Purpose of the group. Patty Knoll read from the devotional booklet. Cards of remembrance were sent.

The District Meeting will be in Brookings on September 11 and Ingathering will be in Mitchell on September 25th.

It was moved that money be given from our treasury to finish out

kits in our church that were not completed as yet.

Motion was made to write a grant applying for monies to assist in funding the Children's Library for new books.

Arlie Rodman presented activities in our Conference in regard to UMW activities. We will be sent pledge cards and nominations report for use for this year, due to the fact that our re-districting will not be complete until January 1.

Arlie and Patty were assisted by their grand daughters at this meeting.

Next meeting will be at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, September 15. Patty Knoll will present the lesson; Pat Siefken is hostess.

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

Saturday, September 11 -
Glacial Lakes United Methodist Women meet for their District Meeting at Brookings. Please call Donna Hearnen if you are interested in attending.

Conde Ad Council - August

Conde Ad Council met following the UMW meeting. Patty Knoll opened the meeting with prayer.

PPR committee meeting the previous evening was reported to the group.

General items of church upkeep were discussed.

Next meeting will be 7:00 PM on Wednesday, September 22

Conde UMW Meeting

September 15 at 10 AM
(please note the time change!)

Program is
"Human Trafficking"
With Leader Patty Knoll

Hostess is
Wilma West Butler



"The greatness of God rouses fear within us, but his goodness encourages us not to be afraid of him. To fear and not be afraid – that is the paradox of faith."
—A.W. Tozer

"Winter is an etching, spring a watercolor, summer an oil painting and autumn a mosaic of them all."
—Stanley Horowitz

Groton UMW Fall Bazaar

The United Methodist Women are planning the annual UMW Bazaar. It will be Wednesday, October 6, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. It will feature a bake sale, lefse sale, country store and craft sale. Supper will be served during the whole time with a choice of soup, sandwiches, homemade pie or bars and beverages.

Lefse will be made at the church Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, September 22, 23, and 24. Potatoes will be peeled Wednesday afternoon starting at 1:00 p.m. The frying will begin Thursday morning at 8:00 a.m. and continuing through Friday afternoon. Please call Jolene Townsend, 395-6455, if

you can help. Beginners are welcome. Items for the sales may be brought to the church. If items are brought early please mark them clearly.

Connie Nilsson and Meri Erickson are general chairpersons. Chairs of other committees are Jolene Townsend, lefse; Gloria Pharis and Betty Strom, kitchen; Diann Morehouse, dining room; Chris Nyberg, Melissa Gilbert and Jolene Townsend, bake sale, country store and crafts; Clare Brotherton, cashier; and Kay Brandt and Twila Ruden, advertising.

Groton UMW Sept 15th Meeting

The Groton unit of United Methodist Women will resume its fall meetings on Wednesday, September 15th. Members are to meet at the church at 2:00 p.m. and proceed to the Groton High School Library where Chris Nyberg will be in

charge of the program. The group will return to the church following the program for the business meeting. Carolyn Snyder and Marlys Rodman will serve lunch.

Labor Day thoughts

On this Labor Day weekend, it's hard not to think about how unemployment has affected many people in our communities and churches. Congregations with unemployed members have a calling to help however they can.

Some churches provide job fairs; some have regular meetings to help unemployed people cope. Some churches provide food and other necessities. Those who can should hire an unemployed brother or sister in Christ at a fair wage. The entire congregation should pray regularly for unemployed people.

Christians who've lost their jobs should know they still have work to do. The church always needs volunteers, and unemployed people can serve the Lord and help the church's mission. Charles Wesley made every Christian's "work" clear in his hymn "A Charge to Keep I Have":

A charge to keep I have, a God to glorify,
A never-dying soul to save and fit it for the sky,
To serve the present age, my calling to fulfill;
O may it all my powers engage to do my Master's will!



Ptuney Ladies Aid will meet on Sept 23 at 9:30 am at the church. The program will be helping to make lefse.

**Dakotas Conf Annual
UMW Meeting is
October 8-9 at
McCabe UMC in
Bismark, ND**

**Bring World Thank
Offering Boxes to
the Groton UMW
October Meeting.**

Laudermith Returning to Haiti Sept 23rd

Angelica Laudermith, a GBGM Individual Volunteer to Mizak, Haiti working with Haitian Artisans for Peace International (HAPI), Advance # 3020490 returned to the US this summer. However, she did not return home to family. Angelica attended a week-long training for the Communities of Shalom, (COS). COS emerged at General Conference in 1995 as a UMC response to the LA riots taking place in California. For more information on Communities of Shalom please check out the website www.communitiesofshalom.org/.

Laudermith is the former campus minister at the University of South Dakota. Angelica will be serving as the Regional Site Coordinator for the COS in Haiti, as well as working with artisans in Mizak.

Angelica still claims Vermillion, SD as home but really the Dakotas Conference in general. Since being back this summer she has packed up her things and sold half her belongings, to raise money for her mission work and travels. The UMW in Vermillion held a garage sale raising over \$1200 for Angelica's mission in Haiti. Angelica has travelled to churches and also

to camp at Lake Poinsett to share experiences in Haiti with youth from across the Dakotas. Angelica states, "Giving back in the name of God's love is the best thing we can do to thank God for all we are given in our lives."

Angelica will be returning to Haiti Sept 23rd to spend 8 months as an individual Volunteer in Mission with HAPI. Donations can be made to *Angelica's Heart for Haiti* Checks can be mailed to **Advance GCFA, P.O. Box 9068, GPO, New York, NY 10087-9068. Please make checks out to Advance GCFA**, also include on the memo line of check **Advance #982465, for Angelica Laudermith**. You can also be a part of what Angelica is doing in Haiti at by looking at and making a comment of support at her blog at www.angelicaheartforhaiti.blogspot.com.

From Mondays@the Dakotas



Only today

There are two days in every week about which we shouldn't worry.

One is yesterday, with its mistakes and cares, its aches and pains. Yesterday has passed forever beyond our control.

The other day is tomorrow, with its possible adventures and blunders. Until its sun rises, we have no stake in tomorrow, for it is yet unborn.

That leaves only one day – today. Anyone can fight the battle of just one day. It is only when we add the burden of those two eternities – yesterday and tomorrow – that contentment will escape us.



“The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?”

PSALM 27:1, NRSV

Groton Sunday School

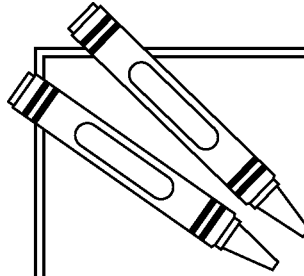
Sept 12 is Rally Sunday and Sunday School will begin. Bibles will be presented to the 3rd graders during church.

We still need volunteers for Sunday School.

Thank you to everyone who donated items or helped with VBS. VBS was very successful with an average of 32 children every day.

Thank you, Melissa Gilbert





Just for KIDS

GOD'S INSTRUCTION

The Bible is a guide for how we should live. In Sunday school and at home, we learn how God loves and saves us. Solve this puzzle to find Proverbs 4:13 (NIV), which tells about the importance of God's Word.

First, write the word that means the opposite of the one given. Then write the correct letters on the number-coded lines below.

young 1 2 3 death 2 6 7 8 cold 4 1 5 come 9 1

sweet 10 1 11 12 can't 13 14 15 no 16 8 10 later 15 1 17

"H


4 1 2 3 1 15 5 1

6 15 10 5 12 11 13 5 6 1 15 ' 3 1

15 1 5 2 8 5 6 5 9 1 ;

9 11 14 12 3 6 5 17 8 2 2 ' 7 1 12

6 5 6 10 16 1 11 12 2 6 7 8 . "



Youth News:
 UMYF 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 7,
 Sunday School the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

Answers: old, life, hot, go, sour, can, yes, now
 ("Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; guard it well, for it is your life."
 (Proverbs 4:13, NIV))



Boy Scout News

Boy Scout Troop 264 hosted a Pancake Feed on Saturday, July 17 at the Groton United Methodist Church. Pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee were served by the boys and several adult helpers. A bake sale was also held with the funds raised being used to help with expenses for Camp Wilderness.

Our Boy Scout Troop ventured off to Camp Wilderness in northern Minnesota on Sunday, July 25 and returned home on Saturday, July 31. Attending the week-long camp were Tevin Abeln, Nathan Fjelstad, Dillon Freeman, Joe Groeblichhoff, Peyton Jondahl, Alex Kern, and Troop-master Clint Fjelstad and Zach Kern. The following comments were made regarding the troop's first-time camp:

"At camp we hiked everywhere all week. We were so busy we only had time for two campfires. One morning I got up and swam at 6am. I wasn't cold because the water temp is warmer than the air. I liked camp so much I want to go back every year. The first two days were the worst. We had a lot of fun after that. We discovered a new trail every day." - Nathan Fjelstad

"Camp Wilderness was awesome. We need to go next year! Over all I liked fishing the best. Camping was a lot of

fun. Thanks for supporting us." - Tevin Abeln

"I think Camp Wilderness was awesome. It was a real adventure. I think the most fun thing was nature class. The ride down was an adventure too because it was crazy. My second favorite class was leather working. In leather working I made a knife pouch and leather button." - Joe Groeblichhoff

"We learned a lot at Camp Wilderness." The experience for the boys was priceless. We learned a lot about camping in the outdoors, nature and wilderness survival. We also met a lot of interesting scouts and troops from around the area. It was a very busy time with lots of activities planned every day. Besides the Party at the Nature Lodge, aka trip to the storm shelters, everything went fairly smoothly. We know better what to expect for years coming and how to plan our trips and activities, along with things we should have for next time. By the end of the week, everybody was in good spirits and wanting to do this again next year."

- Troop-master Clint Fjelstad

Our thanks to the community for supporting us at our Pancake Feed/Bake Sale and to the Groton Methodist Church for being our sponsor! Just a reminder that popcorn sales start in October!



Boy Scouts are resuming their usual schedules in September.

Boy Scouts are meeting after school on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each Month.

Cub Scout Pack Meetings are the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm

Cub Scout/Boy Scout Parent Meetings are held on the 3rd Weds of each month beginning at 7 pm.

Cub Scout Den Meetings have not been scheduled yet.

Any conflicts, please let Kay know. Thank you.

Something beautiful

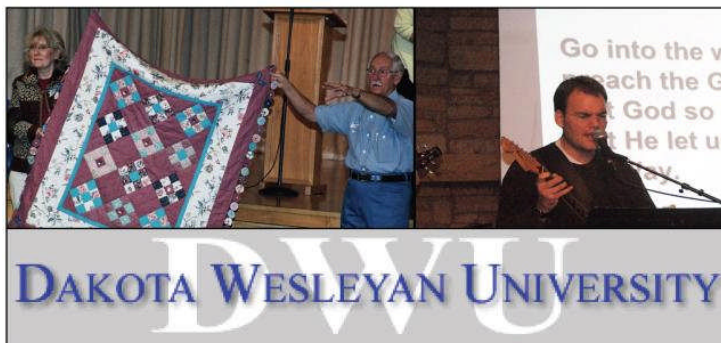
"Spread love everywhere you go; to show love for God and our neighbor we need not do great things. It is how much love we put in doing that makes our offering something beautiful to God."

—Mother Teresa

THE UNITED METHODIST
 DAKOTAS CONFERENCE
INGATHERING

FOR WORLD HUNGER
 September 25, 2010

DAKOTA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY,
 MITCHELL, SD



“...let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds...” (Hebrews 10:24, NRSV)

The beginnings of Sunday school

Englishman Robert Raikes, born in 1735, was a Christian layman who was pained to see unschooled children working six days a week in factories or mines. On Sundays, children roamed the streets, often getting into trouble. Most didn't know how to read or write and knew nothing about Christ or the church.

As Raikes labored to reform England's prison system, he noticed that many children were imprisoned, stirring him to action on their behalf. He arranged for halls and homes to be used for educational purposes on Sundays, the one day children didn't have to work. He found volunteers to teach reading, writing and math, as well as the Bible and Christian beliefs.

The first Sunday school class was held in July 1780. Amazingly, by 1788 some 250,000 children were attending such schools. This occurred despite some people's opposition to the education of lower-class children.

Countless boys and girls have attended Sunday school classes since then, thanks to Raikes, who brought Christ's light and love to children around the world.



Groton VBS was held in August!



“He who labors as he prays lifts his heart to God with his hands.”
—St. Bernard of Clairvaux

Our Church Celebrations



Groton

Sept 1 TJ Johnson
 Sept 2 Kylie Hawkins
 Sept 6 Perryn Dobbins
 Sept 7 Alana Wolken
 Sue Rock
 Doug & Crystal Sippel
 Sept 8 Laurel & Monte McNickle
 Sept 9 Clint & Audrey Jacobson
 Sept 11 Audrey Jacobson
 Sept 12 Alexa Nilsson
 Cliff Pray
 Sept 13 Richard Krueger
 Sept 14 Bob Wehde
 Gerald & Ann Rix
 Sept 15 Mason Madsen
 Sept 16 Camille Sippel
 Sept 17 Jackson Strom
 Kylar Ell
 Sept 19 Diann Morehouse
 Sept 20 Marjorie Townsend
 Sept 22 Eunice Sperry
 Madison McNickle

Sept 23 Carolyn Snyder
 Sept 24 Jesse Overacker
 Turner Webb
 Sept 25 Joey Padfield
 Sept 26 Alan Strom
 Alejandra Lee Heitmann
 Sept 29 Adam Atherton
 Ben Brandt
 Bob Johnson

Conde

Sept 5 Chuck Trapp
 Sept 7 Bev Bonn
 Jerry & Bev Bonn
 Richard Worlie
 Sept 8 Eva Lyren
 Marjorie Wright
 Sept 13 Shane Bruckner
 Sept 27 Alex Lyren
 Sept 28 Rex & Larae Taylor
 Sept 29 Bud & Julie Bruckner

In earthen vessels

The dear Lord's best in-
 terpreters
 Are humble human souls;
 The gospel of a life like
 His
 Is more than books or
 scrolls.

From scheme and creed
 the light goes out,
 The saintly fact survives;
 The blessed Master none
 can doubt,
 Revealed in holy lives.
 — John Greenleaf Whit-
 tier, from "The Friend's
 Burial"

"Be kind to one another,
 tenderhearted,
 forgiving one another,
 as God in Christ
 has forgiven you."
 Ephesians 4:32, NRSV



An offertory prayer

Loving Creator, you have generously and graciously given us blessing after blessing, gift after gift, kindness after kindness. Your steadfast love and amazing grace abound in our lives. You are awesome, and we are humbled and deeply grateful.

Now we give our tokens of love and appreciation to you. First, we offer our grateful hearts, minds and souls. Receive our praise and thanksgiving. We also offer the gifts of our labor, our monetary offerings, and our pledge of talent, time and service.

Help us be dedicated servants for you in our daily lives so we may be more worthy of the life you have given us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Groton Ad Council - August

It was reported that Vacation Bible School had an average daily attendance of 30 children. We were very happy to have five high school girls assist with VBS. We were also happy to hear that 26 children attended various summer camps with 17 being under the second grade level.

The trustees reported that the parsonage exterior will be painted in September. They also noted that there will be a day set-aside in September for tree trimming.

Justin Morehouse stated that the UMYF will plan to meet on the 2nd & 4th Sunday nights this coming year. He also noted that all of this year's confirmands attended the same summer camp together.

Pastor Matt shared some literature entitled "What If" to the council to consider. More discussion will follow next month on ways to reach out to younger generations and minister to outsiders.

Groton Mission Statement
"Enriching Spiritual lives through Christ."

Groton Stewardship Report August 2010

Average Wkly Giving
\$1,428

Needed Wkly for Church Mission
\$1,929

Average Weekly Attendance
73

Total Building Fund Donations
\$40

Perspective

Just as One person's junk is another person's treasure;
 So, one person's work is another person's pleasure.
 —Peggy Ferrell

Groton October Family Committee

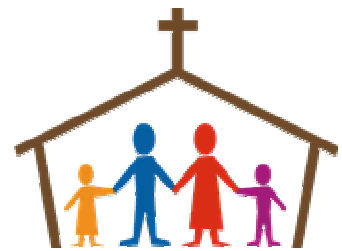
- Chris & Sherwin Nyberg**
Laurel & Monte McNickel
 Diann & Brad Morehouse
 Marva & Lon Gellhaus
 Justin Morehouse
 Marjorie & Roger Overacker
 Mendy & James Jones
 Angela & Perryn Dobbins
 Jesse & Jaymie Overacker
 Nathan & Kate Zeeb
 Brent & Jessica Morehouse

Honorary Members

- Dick & Gert Ruden
- Eunice Sperry
- Gerald & Ann Rix
- Irene Breitzkreutz
- Joy & Don Walter

Extra Responsibilities

- Oct 3 Change Altar Cloths to White for Communion
- Oct 10 Change Altar Cloths to Green
- Care for the lawn as needed
- Clean Storage Room off the Fellowship Hall
- Potluck 2nd Sunday
- On 5th Sunday - may buy donuts - bill to Kay Brandt
- Oct 31 Change Altar cloths to red



October 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						

September 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		

Our Church Happenings

- Sept 8 Groton Ad Council 7 pm
- Sept 11 Glacial Lakes UMW District Meeting in Brookings
- Sept 12 Groton Rally Sunday and 3rd graders receive Bibles in church
- Sept 12 Groton Sunday School for 7-12
- Sept 12 Groton Potluck after church
- Sept 15 Groton UMW 2 pm
- Sept 15 Groton UMYF at 7 pm
- Sept 21 Conde Prayer Vigil 8:45-9:30 - Pollution Prevention
- Sept 22 Conde Ad Council 7 PM
- Sept 22-24 Groton Lefse Making
- Sept 25 Ingathering in Mitchell 9 AM - 4 PM
- Sept 26 Conde World Hunger Sunday
- Sept 26 Groton Sunday School for 7-12
- Oct 3 World Communion Sunday
- Oct 6 Groton UMW Fall Bazaar
- Oct 17 Conde Laity Sunday

