



United Methodist Messenger

January 2011

Groton/Conde UMC

Greetings

A very Merry Christmas to all of you and a Happy New Year! On Christmas day, those of us at Groton UMC were graced by the return of our third magi/Wiseman! Oh if only he could speak to us and tell us of his journey back to the nativity scene this Christmas. But, there has been no sign of the cow or goat as they are still out to pasture.

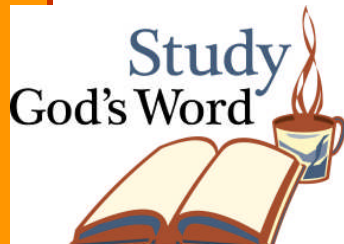
My grandmother, Rev. Lillian G. Richards sends her thoughts and prayers to us. She serves the Albert Paine Memorial United Methodist Church in Painesdale, MI. One of her favorite coffee mugs bears the quote, "Old ministers never die, they just go out to pastor." She was ordained an officer in the Salvation Army back in 1944. At age 85 she continues to serve faithfully as pastor.

Likewise, you'll notice in this month's newsletter, season's greetings from Rev. Sheila Richards. Once again, (no relation) other than the kinship we share as children of God. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank her for some

of the foundational work that was laid prior to my arrival. We offer prayers and encouragement as she continues to minister in other capacities. Grace and peace to you Sheila, thank you for your prayers and support.

As we look ahead into 2011, we are mindful of the ministry that is before us. In Conde, the ecumenical opportunities through Sunday School as well as community development, youth work and missions. In Groton, the revitalization taking place, a strong youth program, a full programming schedule, including, a weekly choir rehearsal, a young adult/generation X group for fellowship, study and missions. We must keep our hearts, minds and doors open to new and exciting ministry opportunities as we respond to God's sanctifying grace. Happy New Year!!!





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!



GROTON
COOKBOOK
RECIPES due
Sun., Jan.
16!!! Please
participate in this
125th
anniversary of
our church
project. Don't
delay...get
recipes in
NOW!!!

Dear Friends at Groton/Conde UMC

December 20, 2010

I am remembering this time last year. I was like a little kid at Christmas.....waiting to open the gift that would be YOU. I was counting the days to begin the ministry journey with you. As I count my blessings this year, I count YOU. I had such a wonderful time.

I want to thank you again for your hospitality and take this time to let you know Carlyle and I are well. We will spend Christmas in the Black Hills with his brother. Then I will travel on to New Mexico for 104 days in the desert

southwest. I have no regrets being away from Dakota winter this year but I am still glad to have stayed "home" last year!

May your New Year be Filled with promise and hope.

In Christ's love, Pastor Sheila

January Audit Groton

Please have your books and accompanying expense, income and bank statements to the church office by Jan. 16th for audit. This includes: General Fund, Building Fund, UMW, UMYF, Parish Parsonage & Maintenance, Memorial, Boy Scouts, and Cub Scouts.

Thank you, The Audit Committee

Groton De-Decorating

ALL CHURCH Christmas Decorations
Down

Sunday, Jan. 9 at 9 a.m.

*Brunch served by Jan. committee 9 am
to 1015 am (before church)

*NO Pot Luck...free will donation

*Serving breakfast pizza, fruit biscuits,
juice and coffee

Please come help!!!

Wesley James

Parents are Brent & Jessica
Morehouse. Wesley was born
December 9th at 1:51 pm. He
was 7 lbs 12 oz and 20 1/2
inches long.

Blessings Shower
Jan 23rd
during coffee time.



Groton Mission Committee Thank You

Dear Groton UMC Members – It is with heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you who participated in the Christmas Angel Tree this year. Seven families were given gifts for their children. Fourteen children had their Christmas made brighter by these gifts. You have given to many projects this year and I appreciate your continued generosity. From school kits to health kits, from Thanksgiving food baskets to the Angel Tree, from Special Offerings to noisy kettle collections, you have given your gifts and your hearts. I want to offer a special thanks to Marlys Rodman and Doris Strom for the many hours you have given to make these

projects come true and to Richard and JoAnn Krueger and Bob and Carolyn Snyder for their extra help with the Thanksgiving and Christmas projects. Without your generosity of time, these projects would not happen.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. stated, *“Everyone can be great because everyone can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't even have to make your subject and your verb agree... You only need a heart full of grace...a soul generated by love.”* Thank you for serving and giving through a soul generated by love. Carna Atherton-Pray, Mission Committee Chair



Groton UMW January

The Groton United Methodist Women will meet Wednesday, Jan. 19, at 2:00 p.m. Officers will be installed by Jolene Townsend, past president. Jan Rapp and Marlys Rodman will be hostesses.

Officers please meet for an executive board meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Groton UMW December

The officers served a Christmas luncheon to members of the unit on Dec. 9th at a 11:30 get together. Following the lunch, approximately 25 boxes were filled with Christmas goodies and delivered to various individuals. The next meeting is Jan. 19th at 2 p.m.

Lay Speaking Courses

Jan. 28-29, 2011-Lay Speaking Training. The Dakotas Conference will again offer training January 28-29, 2011 at the Miller UMC for persons who wish to take a Basic or an Advanced Lay Speaking Course. Mary Ann Sheldon will lead the Basic Course and Paul Smith will lead the Advanced Course, "From Your Heart to Theirs." This Advanced Course qualifies as a preaching class. Also, Janet Madsen will lead the Advanced Course, "Transforming Evangelism - The Wesleyan Way of Sharing Faith."

Jan. 21-22, 2011 basic and advanced Lay Speaking courses will be held at Selby UMC, Selby, SD. Elizabeth Jassmann will be leading the Basic Course. Paul Smith will lead the Advanced Course, "Lay Pastoral Care Giving." Classes will begin at 6:30 PM Central Time on Friday, January 21st. Please eat supper before coming on Friday but lunch and snacks will be provided on Saturday. Approximate ending time on Saturday will be 4:00 PM. [Click here for registration information](#)

Conde UMW Meeting - Dec

Betty Jensen led the Christmas lesson. Who would we imagine ourselves to be on that first Christmas? Any of the persons, or animals? And what would be our feelings about the wonderful events of that time? All entered into the presentation of the lesson.

Cindy Smith was the hostess at noon lunch for the day. Following this, cards were signed to be sent to those we wished to remember this year. Also, boxes were packed with various good things to be given to those in town as a gift from our church.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE January 19th at 10:00 AM. Please watch for further announcements and information.

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

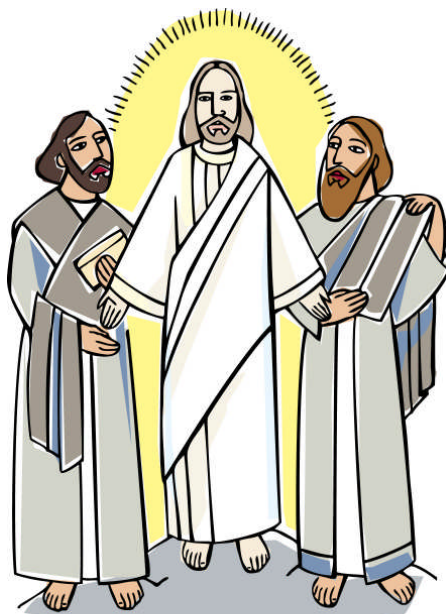
“The Conde United Methodist Church is seeking to satisfy the spiritual and physical needs of all.”





- Marlys Rodman 397-4570
- Audrey Thurston 397-8493
- Gert Ruden 397-8211
- Pat Dahlquist 397-2616
- Gloria Pharis 397-2375
- Doris Zoellner 397-2417
- Marjorie Townsend 298-5221
- Darlys Kampa 395-6996
- DeLoris Knoll 397-2681
- Marvel Johnson 397-2425

*Currently 82 on email prayer chain.
If you are not on this list or the email list, please notify the church office.



Jesus' Transfiguration

Groton Stewardship Report December 2010

Average Wkly Giving \$1,880

Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$1,929

Average Weekly Attendance 104

Total Building Fund Donations \$90

Groton Mission Statement

"Enriching Spiritual lives through Christ."

Groton Family Committee - Feb

**Jane & Marc Johnson
Darlys Kampa**

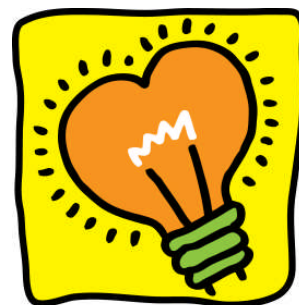
- Crystal & Doug Sippel
- JoAnn & Richard Krueger
- Chris & Sherwin Nyberg
- Pat Dahlquist
- Joyce & Allen Walter
- Gloria & Harry Pharis
- Michelle & Chuck Padfield
- Ruby Luce
- Marie McClintic & Larry Schnaidt

Honorary Members

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

Marjory Townsend
February Extra Responsibilities

- February 6th change altar cloths to white for communion
- February 13th change altar cloths to white for (Transfiguration Sunday)
- Shovel snow from doorways before Church
- Clean coffee room
 - Clean and straighten all shelves
 - Check that tablecloths are in proper containers
 - Check coffee pots and sink
 - Clean/straighten lower cupboards
 - Arrange roasters in good order
- Potluck 2nd Sunday



**SERVE
GOD
GLADLY**



Confirmation
Schedule

Groton

Confirmation will be on the same days as UMYF, the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 4-5:30pm.

Youth News:

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



From darkness to light

In the Bible, God speaks often about light and darkness. He gives us much instruction about which path we should choose.

- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| 1. Good | Righteousness |
| 2. Death | Children |
| 3. Go | Life |
| 4. Evil | Come |
| 5. Adults | Bad |

Match the opposites and then write the word in the right-hand column in the correct blanks to finish each verse.

"When your eyes are good, your whole body also is full of light. But when they are _____, your body also is full of darkness." Luke 11:34, NIV
(1)

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of _____." John 8:12, NIV
(2)

"I have _____ into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness." John 12:46, NIV
(3)

"For what do _____ and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?" 2 Corinthians 6:14, NIV
(4)

"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as _____ of light." Ephesians 5:8, NIV
(5)

Answers: 1. bad, 2. life, 3. come, 4. righteousness, 5. children



Our Church Celebrations

Groton

Jan 2 Holly Walter
 Jan 3 Bob Walter
 Caroline Graf
 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 26 Doris Zoellner
 Jan 27 Kristie Hawkins
 Jan 28 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 27 Darrell & Joyce Haskell
 Jan 27 Wava Thomas
 Jan 30 Alice Hanson
 Jan 31 Kevin Hanlon



Human Relations Sunday - Jan 16

MARCHA Conference Embraces BCD & Youth

A conference focused on the issues affecting Latinos of the United Methodist Church welcomed representatives from BCD. BCD Program Director Deborah Bell, Young Adult Coordinator Rhonda Robinson and a group of three young adults all traveled to San Juan, Puerto Rico for the MARCHA conference. Topics of the workshops included women in leadership, anti-immigration laws and community development.

Several workshops also focused on youth, which, according to Robinson was important to MARCHA organizers. "The MARCHA committee really wanted youth involvement. They made it a point for this particular meeting to be focused around empowering young adults to get involved and take on leadership roles," she said.

Francenett Herrera, who is one of the three young adults who attended the conference, said, "I plan on using

what I learned by passing it on... making people aware of what we stand for and what we represent."

Robinson believes that the youth who attended the conference were empowered by what they learned. She said, "I think they realized that they have a stronger voice than maybe they thought, and a lot of people value their opinions and what they have to say because they are the future of the United Methodist Church."



January 2011

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 9 Groton All Church De-decorating 9 am - Brunch served from 9 - 10:15 Everyone please come and help!

Jan 12 Groton Ad Council 7 pm

Jan 16 Groton Cookbook Recipes are due!

Don't delay, get them in now!

Jan 16 Human Relations Sunday

Jan 16 Groton Books ready for audit

Jan 18 Groton Women's Bible Study Resumes 10 am

Jan 19 Conde UMW 10 am

Jan 19 Groton UMW 2 pm; Exec Mtg 1 pm

Jan 23 Conde World Hunger Collection

Jan 23 Groton Blessings Shower Wesley James Morehouse

Nooma DVD Study every Thursday at 7 pm at Groton UMC