

# United Methodist Messenger

[www.grotonsdchurches.com/umc](http://www.grotonsdchurches.com/umc)

FEBRUARY 2011

GROTON/CONDE PARISHES

## Dear Friends at Groton and Conde,

We have had our share of snow this year, and winter isn't even over yet! Fortunately none



### Groundhog Day

of the storms have been too dangerous. Over the holidays I took the time to watch one of my favorite movies, "Ground Hog Day." In the movie, a lackluster yet egotistical weatherman from Philadelphia PA, played by Bill Murray, is assigned to cover the Ground Hog Day festival in Punxsutawney. He reluctantly goes through the motions, thinking that the assignment is beneath

him and completes the assignment his way.

On the way back to Philly, the film crew gets stranded by a blizzard, that wasn't in the forecast, according to the weatherman. They are forced to turn around and stay in Punxsutawney. Through some sort of manipula-

tion of the time-space continuum that only occurs in the realm of fantasy, the weatherman relives Ground Hog Day over and over again until his actions throughout the day lead to the perfect ending. Throughout the process, he also becomes more compassionate and considerate towards others and we see him become a better human being.

Now we aren't given the opportunity to relive the same day over and over again, even though some days feel that way. But we are given the chance to live our lives right. And God's grace surrounds us in our time of need. Through the process of discipleship, we grow closer to God and begin to recognize God's imprint on our lives. Eventually the image of God that is in each of us will be restored.



**Groton Brunch**

**February 13th**

**9:30-10:30**

*Committee will provide egg bake and congregation please bring fruit, rolls, muffins/breads, etc...*

**Groton Trustees Meeting**

**Feb 13th 10 am  
Fellowship Hall  
Jerry Rix, Cliff Pray,  
Anita Lowary, Marj Overacker, Bert Raap,  
Doug Sipel, & Dwight Strom**



# 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 Pernell 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
- Mar 1 Mary Jane Schott

**Conde**

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

**Congratulations to**

**Bob & Marvel Johnson**

**On January 22nd**

**And**

**Dick & Gert Ruden**

**On February 1st**

**Celebrating 68th Anniversary**



## Groton Lenten Suppers

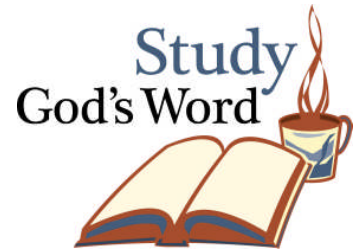
- March 9 - Jan Committee
- March 16 - Feb Committee
- March 23 - March Committee
- March 30 - April Committee
- April 6 - May Committee
- April 13 - June Committee

Meal is served from 6-7 pm with a short Lenten service following.

Each work committee is responsible to prepare, serve, and clean-up.

Soup & sandwiches are typically served but other choices are optional. Prepare for 50 people. Take free-will offering which should be turned over to Anita Lowary or Kay Brandt. It will help 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.

Groton  
UMC



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

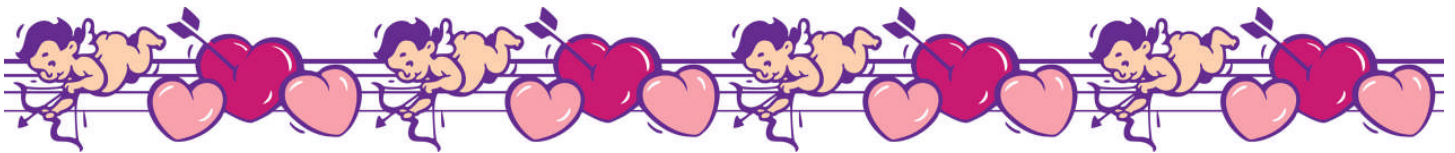
**Groton  
Choir Rehearsal  
Starts Feb 9th  
Meets Weekly on  
Wednesday at 8 pm**

Women's Bible Study  
every Tuesday Morning  
at 10 AM  
and  
Men's Bible Study  
every Wednesday Morn-  
ing  
at 7 AM in Groton

**Join Us!**

Everyone is Welcome!

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



## Groton UMW - Jan

With 12 members present, President Gloria Pharis called the 2 p.m. to order with recitation of the Purpose.

Following the Purpose, Jolene Townsend installed the new officers. The minutes and financial reports were read and approved. Correspondence was read from individuals thanking the unit for the Christmas treats.

Jeanne Wanous suggested that any activities to come should keep in mind the theme of the 125<sup>th</sup> Celebration. The title given to the celebration is "Walking a 125 Year Path." Jeanne also reminded the group that the committee is looking for UMC Memorabilia and pictures which can be placed in a spe-

cially marked box placed in the back of the church. Mark items with your name and indicate "Keep" or "Return."

Planning UMW Sunday was discussed and is planned for Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>. There are now 72 members of UMW.

The World Day of Prayer will be held on March 4<sup>th</sup> and we are the host church.

At the Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Spiritual Growth Committee will give the program.

Following the meeting, Jan Raap and Marlys Rodman served a delicious lunch. Hostesses for the February meeting are Sharon Meeting and Marj Townsend.

**Groton UMW  
February 16th  
2:00 pm - Weds  
Program by  
Spiritual Growth -  
Carol Strom,  
Doris Zoellner,  
Marj Overacker  
Hostesses  
Marj Townsend  
Audrey Padfield**

# Conde Ad Council - Jan

Jane Worlie led the lesson on the pledging of monetary giving and the giving of personal time and talent. Litanies and prayers remembered those less fortunate than we, in addition to those in far countries. We can participate in volunteer work, Heifer Project, not to disregard local projects.

President Donna Hearnen opened the meeting by asking all to join in the pledge to the United Methodist Women.

Thank you cards were read from those who had received thoughtful cards or remembrances of Christmas boxes.

Cards were sent to others who were ill or house bound.

Donna read the Bible Alphabet from a recent publication which also contained the article of the Opportunity Grants. Our unit had received a grant for the work in the School Library.

Mission money was to be sent to the work in Spirit Lake, which was represented by the Flowers' in church the previous Sunday. There will be a joint effort to work at Spirit Lake in August.



## UMW & Ad Council

Wednesday,  
February 16, 10:00  
AM - Conde  
United Methodist  
Women  
11:30 - Lunch  
Ad Council to  
follow UMW  
meeting.

# Conde Ad Council - Jan

Conde Ad Council met with Patty Knoll asking all to repeat the Mission Statement of the Church "The Conde United Methodist Church is seeking to satisfy the spiritual and physical needs of all."

Following the treasurer's report, bills were presented.

Norman Smith appreciated the assistance of the group who cleaned the snow from the roof of the church. Included were Tim, Betty, Shanna, Andee Geist, Bud Bruckner, Cary and Shane; Norman and Cindy Smith. This is not only a necessity for removal of snow, but also to keep the roof in good condition.

It was also moved that Norman and Cindy Smith, Curtis Haskell be paid \$25.00 for each day for cleaning the snow from the church yard, walks and on the street for parking. This has been appreciated by all who attend church. This is to be discussed further at the time the budget is to be set for

next year.

New fluorescent bulbs need to be purchased for the lighting of the Fellowship Hall. If anyone is interested to helping with this project, contact Norman or Cindy Smith..

The next Nooma study has been set for Tuesday, February 1st at 6:00 PM.

The church cleaning has been set for Saturday, February 12 at 9:00 AM.

We will be observing Souper Bowl Sunday on February 6 during worship, with the proceeds to be sent to the Salvation Army.

Many thanks are given to those who assisted in the lighting of the Advent wreath candles: Betty and Marion Jensen, Julie, Bud, Carey and Shane Bruckner; Ann Menzie, Erin Heiman; Cindy and Norman Smith; Betty, Tim, Shanna and Andee Geist. We appreciate their help in making our services more meaningful.

### Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

## Youth Ski Retreat

February 19-21 at the Black Hills, Storm Mountain Center and Mystic Miner. Cost is \$125/person. The cost of ski rental can be viewed at Mystic Miners Website - www.skimystic.com

The cost covers lodging, meals, lift ticket, and 2 hours of swimming at Watiki water park (yes it is indoors).

## Mission Trip

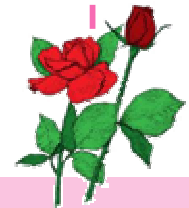
Join the Mission Trip August 7-12th to Spirit Lake Nation at Devils Lake, ND. We will be working with Mike and Libby Flowers. Check your schedules and see if this opportunity works for you.

Cost is \$300/person and this covers meals and lodging for the week.

**Groton Memorial Meeting**  
**Feb 9th, Weds**  
**4 pm**  
**Linda Thurston**  
**Meri Erickson**  
**Connie Nilsson**

**Groton Missions Meeting**  
**Feb 17th, Thurs**  
**4 pm**  
**Kay Brandt**  
**Carolyn Snyder**  
**Diann Morehouse**  
**Richard Krueger**  
**JoAnn Krueger**  
**Jan Raap**  
**Marva Gellhaus**

**All Welcome to Attend!**



# Health Kits - Collecting in Feb & March

- 1 hand towel 15" X 25" to 17" X 27" (kitchen, cleaning, and microfiber towels not acceptable)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (comb needs to be sturdy and at least 8" long, no pocket combs or picks please. Rattail combs and combs without handles are acceptable)
- 1 metal nail file or clipper (no emery boards or toenail clippers please)
- 1 bath size soap (3 oz and larger sizes only, all brands are acceptable, do not remove from original packaging)
- 1 toothbrush (adult size only and do not remove from original packaging)
- 6 adhesive bandages (3/4" to 1" size of common household band aids)
- 1 plastic bag one gallon size (sealable bags only)
- \$1 to purchase toothpaste

All items must be new. Do not wash any of the items as they will be considered used.

If you would rather donate money rather than buy items, please give to Donna Hearnen in Conde and to Kay Brandt in Groton. Thank you for all your support with helping UMCOR provide these kits. They have been used in many emergency situations here in the US and abroad.

### Hang On!

When a couple received a rose bush as a gift, they planted and cared for it, eagerly waiting for it to bloom. A few months later, a bud finally appeared. Day by day, it began to fill out. The couple's anticipation grew when they could see that the rose would be bright red.

One day, they were surprised to notice that the green around the bud had been pulled away and the flower petals were torn apart. They asked their young daughter if she knew what had happened. "I just couldn't wait any longer," she said, "so I blossomed it myself."

The psalmist tells us to "Wait for the LORD ... " (Psalm 27:14, NRSV). Instead of trying to help God along, let him bring things to fulfillment in his perfect time.



## Sunday School Schedule

### February

- 6th - SS
- 13th - SS
- 20th - No SS (President's Day)
- 27th - SS

### March

- 6th - SS
- 13th - SS
- 20th - No SS (Spring Break)
- 27th - SS

### April

- 3rd - SS
- 10th - SS
- 17th - SS (Palm Sunday - Sing in Church)
- 24th - No SS (Easter)

### May

- 1st - SS
- 8th - SS (Mother's Day - Sing in Church and honor the Graduates - last day of SS)



*“Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.”* Romans 13:10, NRSV



# A Love Letter

In the New Testament, John writes a letter about God's love and the love we should show to other people.

**DIRECTIONS:** Working from left to right, write down all the 1's in the word blanks. Continue with the 2's and finally the 3's. Then read about love, from 1 John 4:11-12, NIV.

lives 3	in 3	us 3	Since 1	and 3	God 1	so 1	loved 1	his 3
us 1	love 3	we 1	If 2	also 1	is 3	made 3	we 2	ought 1
to 1	love 2	love 1	one 1	complete 3	one 2	another 1	in 3	us 3
another 2	God 2							

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1 John 4:11-12, NIV

Answers: Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

Groton UMYF meets weekly at 7 pm  
Confirmation meets weekly at 4 pm



### Anyway

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self-centered; Forgive them anyway.  
 If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives; Be kind anyway.  
 If you are honest, people may cheat you; Be honest anyway.  
 If you find serenity and happiness, people may be jealous of you; Be happy anyway.  
 The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow; Do good anyway.  
 Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough; Give the world the best you've got anyway.  
 You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God;  
 It was never between you and them anyway.

—“The Paradoxical Commandments,” Kent M. Keith



## Boy Scouts

The Groton Boy Scouts have been busy with several activities the past couple of months. On November 8, the Boy Scouts troop traveled to Richmond Lake for a fishing trip. Unfortunately, no fish were caught, but they had a fun time. On November 22, the troop joined the Cub Scouts for their monthly pack meeting. Denny Adams from Conde came to talk about the Dakota Territory Rescue Dogs program. He brought one of the dogs with him and answered questions. Hunter Schaller was the lucky winner of a Dakota Territory Dogs cap donated by Mr. Adams.

Both the Cub Scouts and the Boy Scouts became bell ringers for the Salvation Army on December 4 at Econofoods. The Scouts Christmas party was postponed due to the weather, but on December 27 a yummy pot-luck supper was held and each scout was asked to bring three items from a gift list for the residents of Golden Living Center. The boys decorated a wrapped box with stickers and stamps and then the box was loaded up and delivered to the nursing home.

On January 2, the Boy Scouts attended the North Star District Bowling Tournament at the Village Bowl in Aberdeen and took 4th place! The Boy Scouts also helped out with

the Kids Against Hunger event at the Groton High School on Wednesday, January 26. This was an awesome event with 43,000 meals prepared! The boys helped out by packaging the meals, carrying boxes, and loading the trailer with all the filled boxes. The final activity during the month of January was a sledding trip to Amsden Lake. Fortunately, the weather cooperated on this day!

As you can see, our Scouts have continued to keep busy with outings and community service projects even though the weather has been a challenge! Our thanks to the Groton United Methodist Church for sponsoring our Scouting organization.



Pictured: Back-Joe Groeblichhoff, Dillon Freeman, Alex Kern Front-Peyton Jondahl, Tevin Abeln, Nathan Fjelstad Groton Boy Scout Troop 264 volunteered at the Kids Against Hunger event at the Groton High School on Wednesday, January 26, 2011.

# Groton Ad Council - Jan

Mr. Brad Pope of Church Mutual Insurance Company visited with the council about our church and parsonage insurance. He reviewed our current coverage and answered some questions asked from the council. Mr. Pope will prepare a list of recommendations regarding our current coverage to the council for review and action. He did explain that our church conference has formed a group which will result in lower premiums for churches in our conference beginning in

2012.

There was discussion about the need for additional volunteer help leading our UMYF group. There has been excellent attendance and interest this year prompting the group to move to weekly meetings.

It was reported that all of our nativity figures are now in our possession.

<b>Groton Stewardship Report January 2011</b>
Average Wkly Giving \$1,613
Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,030
Average Weekly Attendance 71
Total Building Fund Donations \$1413

# March Family Committee

**Marjorie & Roger Overacker**

**Jesse & Jaymie Overacker**

Laurel & Monte McNickel

Diann & Brad Morehouse

Marva & Lon Gellhaus

Justin Morehouse

Mendy & James Jones

Angela & Perryn Dobbins

Brent & Jessica Morehouse

Kay Brandt

**Honorary Members**

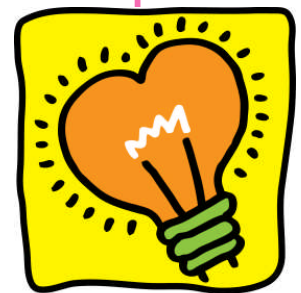
- Dick & Gert Ruden
- Gerald & Ann Rix
- Irene Breitzkreutz
- Don Walter

**Extra Responsibilities**

- Shovel snow from doorways before Church
- Clean the Fellowship Hall - wash tables and chairs - dry wipe walls/cobwebs
- March 6th change altar cloths to white for communion
- March 9th change altar cloths to purple (Ash Weds)
- March 13th change altar cloths to purple
- Potluck 2nd Sunday
- Serve Lenten Supper on March 23rd

March 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		

**Groton Mission Statement**  
*“Enriching Spiritual lives  
 through Christ.”*



**SERVE  
 GOD  
 GLADLY**





# Our Church Happenings

February 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					

Look inside the printed copy for a full calendar with all events. OR you can go online to [www.grotonsdchurches.com/umc/calendarumc/](http://www.grotonsdchurches.com/umc/calendarumc/) for a full interactive calendar that is up-to-date as events become available.

- Feb 6 Conde Souper Bowl of Caring
- Feb 9 Groton Memorial Meeting 4 pm
- Feb 9 Groton Ad Council 7 pm
- Feb 9 Groton Choir Rehearsal 8 pm every Weds
- Feb 10 Groton Nooma DVD Study every Thurs 7 pm
- Feb 12 Conde Church Cleaning 9 am
- Feb 13 Groton Youth Sunday 11 am - Brunch 9:30-10:30 am
- Feb 13 Groton Trustee Meeting 10 am - fellowship hall
- Feb 13 Golden Living Center Service 3 pm
- Feb 16 Conde UMW 10 am with Ad Council following
- Feb 16 Groton UMW 2 pm
- Feb 17 Groton Missions Meeting 4 pm
- Feb 19-21 Youth Ski Retreat
- Feb 20 UMW Sunday
- Feb 27 Conde World Hunger Sunday
- Feb 27 Newsletter Items Due