



United Methodist Messenger

July 2011

Groton/Conde
Parishes

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Dear Friends...

Summer is in full swing, it seemed as though it would never arrive. We continue to pray for our farmers around the area as the moisture level remains high. However we also need to count our blessings as we consider how our neighbors in Minot, ND and Pierre as well as other communities along the Missouri River need our prayers and support. There are some drastic changes being made to the river bed as well as landscape throughout the river's flood plain.

Despite the challenges that we face and the stress that we experience, God still is working. We may not always perceive God's ways or will, but time after time faith in God has prevailed. Things may not always work out the way that we expect them too or even the way that we want, but the axiom remains true, things happen for a reason.

I used to hate hearing that. In fact, even today the implications of that statement make me cringe. One could easily derive from that statement an understanding that when we experience suffering, God causes it. But in reality the opposite is true. God wants to put an end to suffering. The truth is that when we are experiencing hardship, God is right there

with us giving us strength and grace to endure.

A month ago, my dear friend Mark died from cancer. His life was a testimony for all of us to consider God's grace and goodness, even in the face of terminal suffering. I miss his friendship deeply, and yet I know his spirit lives on with God and with his family and friends. Mark's favorite call to worship and phrase was "God is good, all the time. All the time, God is good."

What a reminder for us! So many times we let the little things in life weigh us down, we get frustrated, we complain, we say things that we don't really mean, or if we had only taken some time to calm down or think it through we might just do or say things differently, prayerfully, righteously.

Friends, I hope this reminder brings you encouragement in the midst of busy lives, if you are experiencing hardship, know that you have a God who loves you and wants you to experience goodness and grace.

I look forward to seeing you in church,

Rev. Matthew G. Richards





To Chuck Padfield for working in our storeroom and moving the refrigerators back into the area in the corner.

To the family of Eunice Sperry for the memorial and gift of landscaping on the north side of the church and the summer centerpieces and doilies in the fellowship hall.

Thank you to Linda Thurston for learning how to setup and run the screen during worship.

Thank you to Twila Ruden for more than 15 years as Treasurer of PPRC. We also welcome Meri Erickson as the new PPRC Treasurer.

UMC, Thank you so much for hosting a blessing shower for Jesse & I, it was very nicely put together. Julie & Jesse

Groton Directory Photos Needed! Reorder Photos! - groton

Please turn in your family photos for the directory by August 1st. A photo may be given to Marj Overacker or Kay Brandt. You may also take a digital photo and email the large original file to grotonumc@nvc.net. If you should need someone to take a photo, Kay will come and help you.

Photos taken by "Remember Me" Photography can order photos and Christmas Cards till July 15th. Please call 397-8466 or mail your order to "Remember Me" Photography, 506 N Washington St, Groton, SD 57445. Re-Order Price List is as follows:

- 1 - 11X14 - \$45
- 1 - 8X10 - \$25
- 1 - 5X7 - \$15
- 1 - 4X6 - \$8

8 - wallets - \$12.



Peyton Rose Padfield was born June 7 to Randy & Rebecca Padfield. She weighed 8 lbs 2 oz and was 20 1/4 inches long.



Groton 125th Cookbooks

are for sale. They can be purchased at the church or by calling Kim Weber 397-8675 email is kimweber59@yahoo.com or Marj Overacker at 397-8562 email is romo@nvc.net. They are \$15 each.



If you would like your cell phone number listed in the new Groton Church Directory, please let Kay Brandt know at grotonumc@nvc.net or 397-8389. Also, let Kay know of any address or phone number changes the office may not have. Thank you.

2011 Groton VBS

August 8th 4:30-8:30pm

August 9th 5:30-8:30pm

August 10th 5:30-8:30pm

August 11th 5:30 program and meal

3 years- 6th grade

BRING A FRIEND

Please RSVP to Melissa Gilbert

397-7600(cell)

397-4001(home)

gilbert@nvc.net

***Come join the FUN.

If you are able to help with VBS
contact Melissa Gilbert.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Rough Road Ahead

It had been an especially long trip home, and the weary traveler still had many more miles to go. So he winced at a sign warning “Rough Road Ahead – 4 miles.”

Rough, indeed. The lanes narrowed, and the shoulder disappeared. Traffic slowed to a crawl as drivers navigated around potholes and moving construction equipment. But sure enough, after exactly four miles, the road became smooth again.

“In this world you will have trouble,” Jesus said. “But take heart! I have overcome the world” (John 16:33, NIV). Notice that Jesus didn’t say we “might” have trouble. Sooner or later, problems will come. The road will get rough. But Jesus has already defeated everything the world can throw our way. We just have to keep moving, fueled on by hope.

Our Church Celebrations

Groton

- July 4 Seth Erickson
Madelynn Grenier
- July 5 Allen & Joyce Walter
Cassandra Olson
Jasmine Schinkel
- July 7 Ida Hannon
- July 8 David Tewksbury
Kelby Hawkins
- July 9 Jocelyn Peterson
Jordan Voss
- July 10 Pernell & Noella Graf
- July 11 Roger & Marjorie Overacker
- July 12 Ashtyn Bahr
Brent & Christi Swenson
- July 13 Jolene Townsend
Jeff Voss
- July 14 Ava Kramer
Christine Nyberg
- July 16 Linda Thurston
Richard Voss
- July 17 Mackenzie Atherton
- July 18 Josh & Merrie Atherton
Kaitlin O'Neill
Kevin Pray
- July 19 Carol Strom

- July 22 Jean Lowary
Gabrielle Furman
- July 23 Joyce Walter
- July 24 Roger & Pam Rix
Maggie Oliver
Christi Swenson
- July 25 Hannah Webb
- July 26 Angela & Perryn Dobbins
Pat Knecht
Lucius Geffre
- July 27 Tony Madsen
Ryland Strom
- July 28 Bob & Carolyn Snyder
Craig Weber
- July 29 Curtis Krueger
- July 31 Lynette Furman
Amanda Swenson

Conde

- July 1 Arvon Taylor
- July 3 Guy & Renee Hanlon
Norb & Donna Hearnen
- July 6 Shanna Geist
- July 10 Ann Menzia
- July 23 Patty Knoll
- July 27 Horace & Donna Walter
- July 30 Judy Zeck



Baptism Blessings

Nolan Bahr
Baptized June 5th
Son of Andrea and Brian
Bahr



Groton Birthdays Online

Email birthday greetings right from our website. It's easy and fun! Check it out today!
<http://www.grotonsdchurches.com/umc/birthday.html>

Groton UMW - June

President Gloria Pharis opened the 7:30 meeting with the group reciting the Purpose. With thirteen members present, Clare Brotherton led the devotions. The minutes were read and approved along with the financial report.

Old business consisted of the many positive reviews of another successful May Breakfast. The decorations were especially lovely and the food delicious.

New business was a discussion of ways in which a recent donation could be used and there was mutual agreement it could be useful for improvements in the kitchen. There were many suggestions for consideration and will be looked into and reported on at a later date. Other new business was a decision to donate an amount toward youth needs. Some went to camping and the rest will be held in reserve for MYF or Bible School. Clare Brotherton made the motion and Jolene Townsend seconded it with all in favor.

Committee reports were made by Sharon Wheeting giving a reminder that the Reading Program deadline is Aug. 1 and requested that readers include the book category when turning in reports. Marj Townsend reported on Membership and stated that there will be some adjustments with one new member and the loss of others over the past year. For Social Action, Jolene talked about poverty. In her report, Jolene stated that women make up 50% of the world's population and make up 70% of the world's poor. Twenty-four percent

of these women living in poverty live in the U.S. and poorest county in this country is found right here in S.D. This is Buffalo County which includes the Crow Creek Reservation. In a spirit of UMW caring, the unit signed and sent a letter to Congresswoman Kristi Noem urging her to vote in a manner that does not cut programs which give aid to women and children.

The fall bazaar to be held on Oct. 5 was also discussed. Lefse will be for sale. On the menu soup and pie will be offered, a bake sale, and garden items will also be included with the bazaar. A fall bazaar meeting will be held Aug. 10 at 4p.m.

Twila Ruden will order the program books. The meeting concluded with these reminders: Reading Program due Aug. 1, Ingathering Sept. 17, Glacial Lakes Annual District meeting in Sept., UMW Bazaar Oct. 5, and the church Quasi-Centennial Sept. 18. Hostesses were Jolene Townsend and Brenda Madsen. There will not be a July meeting. The next meeting is Aug. 10 at 7:30 p.m. with hostesses Twila Ruden and Jeanne Wanous.

Groton Missions

I have an email into Mr. Dalchow at the elementary school in Groton to get information on school bags. As soon as I have the details, I will put them in the bulletin and in an email. The missions committee voted to do school bags locally this year and we pray you will help make this mission a success and help a child look forward to that first day of school!

Kay Brandt, Missions Chair



- | | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Marlys Rodman | 397-4570 |
| Audrey Thurston | 397-8493 |
| 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.

Conde collecting School Kits - July & Aug

School Kits will be collected during July & Aug in Conde. You may also make monetary donations to Donna Hearnen.

- 1 pair blunt scissors (rounded tiop only no plastic scissors please)
- 3 pads of paper (spiral or top bound pads, 50 sheets of looseleaf can be substituted for 1 pad, combinations of spiral, top bound or loose leaf is acceptable)
- 1 hand held pencil sharpener (must be at least one inch long and remove from packaging)
- 1 30 cm ruler (hard or flexible, cartoon characters are acceptable, no advertisements please)
- 6 unsharpened pencils (no advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols please, cartoon characters are acceptable)
- 1 2 1/2 inch eraser (no advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols please, cartoon characters are acceptable)
- 1 24 count box of crayons (only 24 count boxes please)
- 1 14X16" cloth bag (homemade or purchased bags are both acceptable, heavy duty fabric only - denim, corduroy, drapery fabric, etc., no advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols please, closures are optional but must be buttons, snaps, or Velcro sewn in middle of opening if used.)

All items must be new. Pattern for the bags may be found online at www.umcor.org. Place all loose items on top of paper. Turn items sideways and slide into the cloth bag. Fold over the top of the bag so loose items don't fall out.



Paths, Proverbs, and Lessons from Haiti
by Bruce L. Blumer

A book of photos and reflections from Haiti - the *Paths* we have walked; *Proverbs* shared by the people; *Lessons* learned over the years.

It is a simple book, designed to provide insights to a place of intense contrasts. But more importantly, profits will go to projects on the island of La Gonave, Haiti:

- Scholarships for students to attend school
- Pay and materials for teachers
- Support for women's groups who feed and protect women and children
- Feeding programs for the elderly and children
- Assisting churches in their ministry

\$20.00 - tax included 32 pages, full color,
Shipping - add \$2.00 (plus \$.50 for each additional book)



Make checks to Bruce Blumer Publishing
2832 Maui Drive
Mitchell, SD 57301

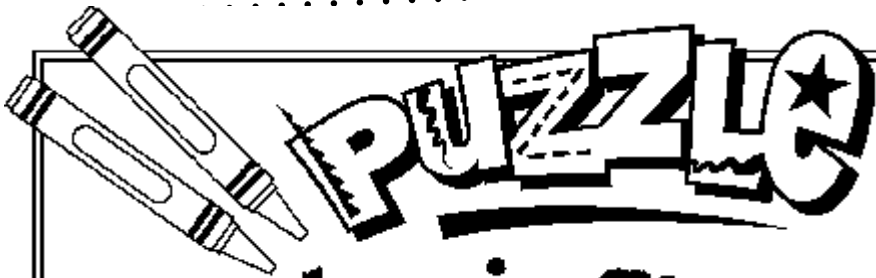
For more information: 605/996-3945 or blumer5@mir.midcc.net

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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



"They must have had some form of email. The Apostle Paul wrote the epistles."



Freedom in Christ

This Independence Day, remember that our true freedom comes from faith in Jesus.

★★★★

Directions: In each set of letters, determine the pattern. Then write the letter that completes the pattern, to reveal Galatians 5:1, niv.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

F	Q	L	V	C	R	O
G	R	K	U	D	Q	P
H	S	J	T	E	P	Q
—	—	—	—	—	—	—

I	O	B	H	A	L	P	Q	K	D	W
H	P	C	G	B	M	O	R	J	C	V
G	Q	D	F	C	N	N	S	I	B	U
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

F	E	U	L	P	W	E	D	V
E	F	T	K	Q	V	F	C	U
D	G	S	J	R	U	G	B	T
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

P	B	Q	R	V	C	O	H	B
Q	C	R	S	U	D	P	G	C
R	D	S	T	T	E	Q	F	D
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Answers: It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. (Galatians 5:1, NIV)

Fishing advice

The topic for the children’s message was Matthew 4:19, when Jesus told his disciples to become fishers of men. The woman giving the message asked the children if they’d ever been fishing – and what they used for bait. “Worms!” the children answered.

Then the woman explained that Jesus wants his friends to follow him and tell others about him. “How would you catch men?” she asked.

One little girl piped up, “With cologne!”

—Faith Lutheran Church, Spencer, Iowa



Whatever the weather

No matter the forecast, weather can remind us of God’s presence:

- When it’s sunny, remember that Jesus is the light of the world (John 8:12).
- When it’s cloudy, remember that God often spoke to and guided his people from a cloud (Exodus 13:21-22.)
- During a thunderstorm, remember the thunder and lightning when God beckoned Moses to Mount Sinai (Exodus 19:16).
- When it rains or snows, remember that God’s Word serves his purpose just as precipitation does (Isaiah 55:10-11).
- When it’s windy, remember that “a wind from God” came at Creation (Genesis 1:2), and God’s Holy Spirit arrived at Pentecost like a mighty wind (Acts 2:2).



INDEPENDENCE
Day

Groton Ad Council - June

Many projects are underway to improve the church and grounds prior to the 125th Anniversary celebration on September 18. Both the Trustees and the Memorial Committee are working to get bids on and complete projects such as refurbishing the sanctuary paneling, resurfacing the parking lot, refurbishing or repairing the bell planter, and updating our memorial gift information. Soon a pamphlet will be available explaining giving opportunities through memorials, gifts, or endowments.

The Green Foundation has once again given our church a gift of money to help defray costs for our 2011 campers.

Groton Stewardship Report June 2011
Average Wkly Giving \$1,371
Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,030
Average Weekly Attendance 66
Total Building Fund Donations \$99

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On the first day of every week...set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income...



Groton Mission Statement
"Enriching Spiritual Lives through Christ."



Groton Aug Family Committee

Carolyn Snyder

Darlys Kampa

Crystal & Doug Sippel

JoAnn & Richard Krueger

Chris & Sherwin Nyberg

Pat Dahlquist

Joyce & Allen Walter

Gloria & Harry Pharis

Michelle & Chuck Padfield

Marjory Townsend

Ruby Luce

Marie McClintic & Larry Schnaidt

Honorary Members

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

August Extra Responsibilities

- Mow the lawn as necessary
- Aug 7 Change altar cloths to white for communion
- Aug 14 Change altar cloths to green
- Clean Restrooms: Women's - wash window, wipe down walls and woodwork and Men's & Family - wipe down walls and woodwork



SERVE GOD GLADLY

August 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			

July 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						

**NO UMW MEETINGS
IN JULY**

**SEPT 18
GROTON 125TH
CELEBRATION**

*www.grotonsdchurches.com/umc
Full Calendar Online!*

Our Church Happenings

- July 5 No Groton Tues 10 am Bible Study
- July 10 Golden Living Center Service
- July 13 Groton Ad Council 7 pm
- Aug 8-11 Groton VBS in evenings - details inside! Sign Up Today!
- Aug 10 Groton Fall Bazaar Meeting 4 pm

