



United Methodist Messenger

NOVEMBER 2011

GROTON/CONDE PARISHES

Dear Friends at Groton and Conde,



There has been A LOT of windshield time for me the past few weeks. One thing that I truly appreciate about that time is that it gives me time to reflect on what God is doing not only in my life but also in the lives of those I serve.

God truly continues to work in amazing ways. I am a true believer in God's ability to bring good out of all situations. It may take time, it may be difficult to function for a time, but with God's grace all things are possible. (Phil. 4:13) There is HOPE!

God's desire for us is to live in accordance to that grace and forgiveness that we speak so often about. It's easy for us to

say that and to speak about it. But so often, to truly live accordingly to the grace of God, a transformed heart and mind if required. (Rom. 12:1-2)

In a few short weeks we will be turning our attention towards Advent; the season of preparation, as we anticipate the celebration of the Christ child's birth. My prayer is that our hearts and minds will be transformed through various means of God's grace, so that we may experience God's love and extend that beyond our walls in Groton and Conde.

I look forward to seeing you in church,



Rev. Matthew G. Richards

Discouraged?



On my way home one day, I stopped to Watch a Little League baseball game that was being played in a Park near my home. As I sat down behind the bench on the first-base line, I asked one of the boys what the score was. 'We're behind 14 to nothing,' he answered with a smile.

'Really,' I said. 'I have to say you Don't look very discouraged.'

'Discouraged?', the boy asked with a Puzzled look on his face...

'Why should we be discouraged? We haven't Been up to bat yet.'



Groton November committee meets Wednesday, Nov. 16, at 6 pm to prepare for decorating the following Sunday. ALL CHURCH CHRISTMAS DECORATING Sunday, Nov. 20, before church. Rolls, fruit, coffee, and juice served 9 am to 10:30 am.



Strom Thank You

At this difficult time it was nice to know that so many people cared so deeply. Charlie's friendly smile and gentle ways will be greatly missed.

We would like to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, phone calls and visits. The food, flowers, memorials and etc. were greatly appreciated. It meant so much to us to know that your warm, supportive thoughts and prayers surround us.

A special thank-you to Rev. Jack Erickson, Yvonne Lange, Tara Telkamp and the United Methodist

Women for their exemplary assistance at the memorial service and the funeral.

Betty, Char, Cindy and Dale Strom



Sympathies to the family of Charlie Strom who passed away October 22

Groton Missions

Local Families have been invited to submit forms for our Angel Tree again this year. The tree should be up with needs by Nov 20th.

The children will continue to collect "thankful tips" during church through Thanksgiving.

Watch for information on how we may be of assistance to the Community Thanksgiving Dinner that will take place at the Community Center.

Thank you for sharing your gifts during the holiday season. Kay Brandt, Chair



Thank you

For Communion Linens

Joan Olson

Karen Murray

For Repair of Church Bell & Planter

Clara Rix

- 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 84 on email prayer chain. If you are not on this list or the email list, please notify the church office.

*Never
Forgotten*

In observance of All Saints Day
The
Groton United Methodist Church will
have a Service of Remembrance to
honor our own past saints. You and
your family are invited to a special

Service of Remembrance

On Sunday, the Sixth of November
Two Thousand and Eleven

10:00-10:50 Fellowship
11:00 Service of Remembrance

Please inform your
other family members.

2006

Joyce Sundling
William Tewksbury
Hazel Peterson

2007

Lila Bartz
Margaret Hubbard
Earl Lowary
Norman Thurston

2008

Margaret Blader
Ruby Fuller
Mary Alice Jensen
Florann Norris
Clasra Rix
Jay Swisher

2009

Robert Hood
Herron Smith
Richard Zoellner

2010

Lorraine Bartz
Olena Johnson Gooding
Clarence Hannon
Arthur Lange
Sue Rock
Eunice Sperry
Vicki Strom
Russel Townsend
Joy Walter
Vernon Walter

2011

Joan Olson
Gertrude Ruden
Mary Swisher



Groton 125th
Celebration
Cookbooks
\$15
Buy for your
Christmas Gifts



Conde UMW - October

The Conde UMW met at 10:00 am on Wednesday, October 19th. Pat Siefken had the lesson which was titled, "Peace Through Action". Although the lesson was rather "different", Pat did a good job of presenting some questions that brought about a good discussion from the few ladies that were present. Pat was also the cook for the noon meal and that was delicious. After lunch, we had a short business meeting which begin with reciting the Purpose and a Devotion taken from the Conference Booklet. Thinking of You cards were sent to Betty Taylor and Cindy Smith, and a Birthday card to Andee Geist, who is an exchange student in Germany. It was decided to again buy Christmas gifts for some children in the Spink County Area. Ages, sizes, and wants are supplied by the Good Samaritan Center in Redfield. For many years, this has been a Christmas project for the Conde UMW. We usually buy for a family of three children, depending upon the ages, as clothes for older children are a little more costly. We always try to purchase most of the things on their "wish list". Another Christmas charity that both the Church and the UMW will be supporting is the Shoe Box Christmas Project. We will work with the Aberdeen North Highland United Methodist Church, which means the items that we collect will be taken up to Aberdeen, and they will put together the boxes for Children at the Enemy Swim Day School near Waubay,

SD. People from the Aberdeen church actually deliver the boxes to the school and have the joy of watching the children open their "Shoe Boxes" loaded with gifts. For the past two years, we have been invited to go along on the trip to the school, but so far, none of the Conde people have been able to go. Maybe this year. Anyone interested in participating in this project can get a list of gift suggestions from Donna Hearnen, or cash can be given and some of the Conde Mission Committee people will buy some things. It was decided to continue on with the same order for Work Chairpersons. They are as follows:
 October – December 2011 Pat Siefken, Chr. Cindy Smith Co. Chr.
 January – March 2012 Cindy Smith Chr. Donna Walter Co Chr.
 April – June 2012 Donna Walter Chr. Jane Worlie Co Chr.
 July – September 2012 Jane Worlie Chr. Donna Hearnen Co. Chr.
 October – December 2012 Donna Hearnen Chr. Pat Siefken Co. Chr.
 The Prayer Chain was discussed and persons who have been on this list will be contacted to be sure they want to continue being a participant. If you have never been on this prayer list and would like to be included, please contact Pat Siefken, as she is in the process of making the Date Book for the new year.

Conde UMW Meeting












November 9
Wednesday
10 am

World Thank Offering
by Jane Worlie

Hostess
Patty Knoll












Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

Andee has moved and here is her new address....She loves it there !!

Andee Geist
 c/o Peter and Andrea Kreutz
 Krämersterz 9
 52224 Stolberg, Germany



Groton UMW - October

The program for the October 19th meeting was given by Jeanne Wanous on the World Thank Offering. President Gloria Pharis called the business meeting to order with recitation of the Purpose. There were fourteen members present.

The minutes were read and approved. An assessment of the fall bazaar was given by the treasurer which was a great success. Gloria read a letter from the Eastern Sunrise district reminding units to keep in mind this year's theme of Finding, Giving and Living Peace

The slate of officers was introduced. Clare Brotherton made a motion to accept the new officers and Kay Brandt seconded the

motion. The unit will continue to collect box tops, pop tabs, grocery receipts, and labels as part of their mission projects. The Auxiliary House in Aberdeen was also mentioned as a possible mission project. Sharon Wheeting reported the Response magazine contains new books for the reading program.

The next meeting will be held on Nov. 16th at 2 p.m. Hostesses are Carolee Heitmann and JoAnn Krueger. Pastor Matt will give the Advent program. An executive meeting will be held at 1p.m. prior to the November meeting. At the close of the October meeting, Audrey Thurston and Carol Strom served a delicious lunch.

Groton UMW

Meeting

November 16th

Wednesday

2 pm

“Advent”

By Pastor Matt

Hostesses

JoAnn Krueger

Carolee Heitmann



God's Wife

An eye witness account from New York City, on a cold day in December, Some years ago: A little boy, about 10-years-old, was standing before a shoe store on the Roadway, barefooted, peering through the window, and shivering With cold.

A lady approached the young boy and said, 'My, but you're in such deep thought staring in that window!'

'I was asking God to give me a pair of shoes,' was the boy's reply.

The lady took him by the hand, went into the store, and asked the clerk to get half a dozen pairs of socks for the boy. She then asked if he could give her a basin of water and a towel. He quickly brought them to her.

She took the little fellow to the back part of the store and, removing her gloves, knelt down, washed his little feet, and dried them with the towel.

By this time, the clerk had returned with the socks.. Placing a pair upon the boy's feet, she purchased him a pair of shoes.. She tied up the remaining pairs of socks and gave them to him.. She patted him on the head and said, 'No Doubt, you will be more comfortable now.'

As she turned to go, the astonished kid caught her by the hand, and looking up into her face, with tears in his eyes, asked her. 'Are you God's wife?'





Groton UMW Recognition Sunday
 Marvel Johnson - Jewel of a Woman Award
 Diann Morehouse - honored

United Methodist Student Day - Nov 27

“You ought to serve the world with your gifts,” said Josh Union, United Methodist Student Day scholarship recipient and student at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. He plans to use his degree in business management and computer science to make the world a better place.

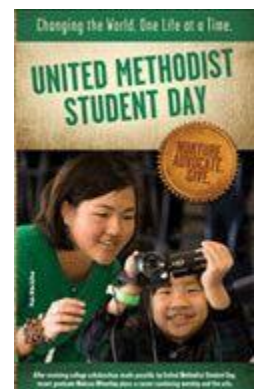
“No matter what I do, I want to die having done something to better the planet,” added Josh, who envisions ways that he can use his business acumen to invest in development projects overseas. His goal is “to serve God as faithfully, as obediently as I can.”

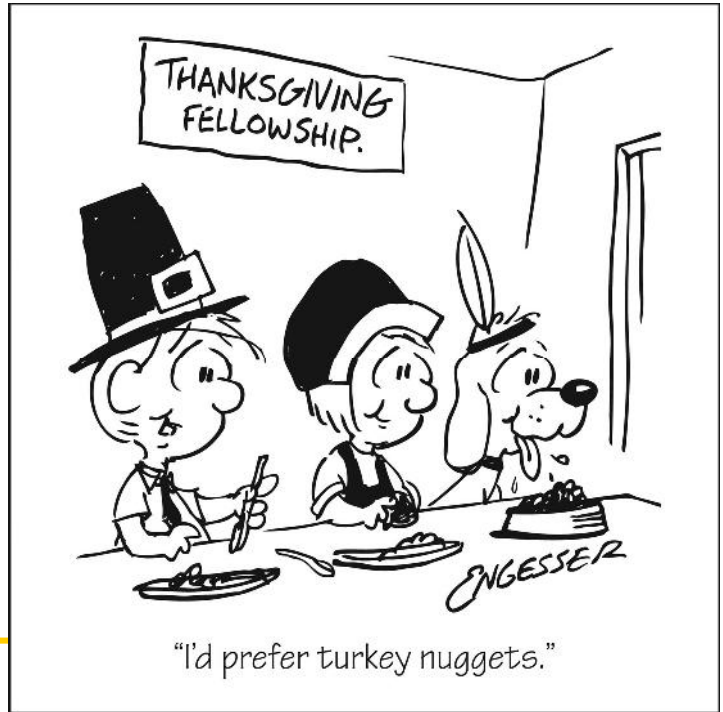
Every year hundreds of students like Josh receive scholarships and loans funded by United Methodist Student Day. “You can ac-

tually help provide students with the very materials and encouragement they need,” he said about the importance of this offering.

An honors student with interests that range from fencing to magic to missions, Josh sees how supporting students like himself equips a new generation to change the world. “Supporting United Methodist Student Day would help students help the world. And that’s a great cause,” he commented.

When you give to United Methodist Student Day, you support students who are finding new ways to serve God in the world. Your contributions are needed more than ever.





Our Celebrations

Groton

- Nov 2 Andrea Snoozy-Bahr
- Nov 3 Jon & Gayleen Voss
- Nov 7 Marva Gellhaus
Susan Odland
- Nov 11 Doug Sippel
- Nov 15 Fred & Elaine Wolken
Jack Oliver
- Nov 16 William Andrews
- Nov 17 Delaney Atherton
- Nov 18 Luverne Strom
- Nov 19 Crystal Sippel
Garrett Heitmann
Michael Krueger
- Nov 21 Larry & Sharon Wheeting
- Nov 23 Dwight & Eugenia Strom
Francine Sippel
- Nov 25 Emery Sippel
Kari Hanson
- Nov 27 Kayla Suther
- Nov 29 Audrey Thurston
Cheri Strom
- Nov 30 Tanner Johnson

Conde

- Nov 8 Dorothy Sanderson
- Nov 11 Joseph & Dani Smith
- Nov 12 Linda Pitts
- Nov 16 Devon Smith
- Nov 19 Mona Baldrige
- Nov 24 Floyd Smith
- Nov 25 Bud (Leslie) Bruckner
Betty Geist
- Nov 28 Eric Menzia
- Nov 30 Dani Smith



*Christ
the King Sunday*

November 20th

THIS MONTH'S
birthdays

THIS MONTH'S
anniversaries



Prayer of thanksgiving

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—
who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and
mercy,
who satisfies you with good as long as
you live
so that your youth is renewed like the
eagle's.

—Psalm 103:2-5, NRSV

The psalmist's all-encompassing list is a good example of all the gifts of God we should gratefully acknowledge. Personalize this ancient prayer by pondering your own experiences of God's forgiveness, healing, redemption, love, mercy and satisfaction of your daily needs.

Give Praise

Solve this puzzle to read a Bible verse about praising God for all his blessings.

Directions: In each group, underline the word that doesn't belong. Then write the underlined words on the lines below.

1. Give Take Grab	2. peanut praise pear	3. temple house Lcrod	4. proclaim pasl present	5. name boy lad	6. ruin destroy make
7. pine acorn known	8. train nations bus	9. done donut muffin	10. Sing Sleep Yawn	11. she him girl	12. sun praise moon
13. tell fast slow	14. red all blue	15. horrible dreadful wonderful	16. acts sisters aunts		

" _____ to the _____, _____ his _____ ;
1 2 3 4 5

_____ among the _____ what he has _____ .
6 7 8 9

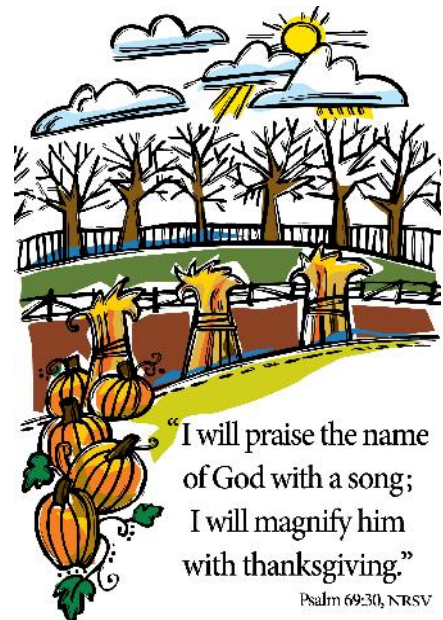
_____ to _____, sing _____ to him; _____ of _____ his
10 11 12 13 14

_____ ."
15 16 PSALM 105:1-2, NIV

Answers: 1. Give, 2. praise, 3. LORD, 4. proclaim, 5. name, 6. make, 7. known, 8. nations, 9. done, 10. Sing, 11. him, 12. praise, 13. tell, 14. all, 15. wonderful, 16. acts
 Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. (Psalm 105:1-2, NIV)



Groton Fall Bazaar Photos



"I will praise the name
of God with a song;
I will magnify him
with thanksgiving."

Psalm 69:30, NRSV

Groton Ad Council - October

The council welcomed Camille Sippel to the meeting. Camille was elected by the youth as the UMYF representative and will plan to attend future council meetings.

The council was pleased to hear that we are current on our apportionment payments.

Clare Brotherton reported that the Pastor Parish Relations committee had met recently and completed their 2012 proposed budget. Clare reviewed line items of the budget with the council.

Melissa Gilbert reported that Sunday school attended is averaging 30-35 students. She also mentioned that an old desktop computer and printer are now in use by the Sunday school teachers for lesson planning and it

has been a great help.

Jeanne Wanous reported that the 125th Anniversary Committee was pleased that the sale of our cookbooks has covered the expenses of the anniversary celebration.

Pastor Matt explained that he still needs to complete some interviews with the board of ordained ministers. If he completes all requirements satisfactorily he will be ordained in Sioux Falls in June, 2012.

Linda Thurston suggested that we hold an annual service to honor our members who have passed away. The council agreed and set November 6 as the date for this year's service.

Groton Mission Statement
 "Enriching Spiritual lives through Christ."

Groton Stewardship Report October 2011
Average Wkly Giving \$1,750
Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,030
Average Weekly Attendance 92
Total Building Fund Donations \$40

Groton Dec Family Committee

Bert & Janice Raap

Jane & Marc Johnson

Connie & Dave Nilsson

Logan Nilsson

John & Meri Erickson, Sydney

Anita & John Lowary

Brian & Andrea Bahr

Pam & Doug Bahr

Dion Bahr

William & Wanda Zoellner

Steve & Becky Diegel

Honorary Members

- Doris Strom
- Emery Sippel
- Ida Hannon
- Dolly McCarlson

December Extra Responsibilities

- Dec 4 change the altar cloths to white for communion
- Dec 11th change altar cloths to purple
- Dec 24th change altar cloths to white for Christmas Eve
- Clean Pastor's Office & Secretary's Office by wipe down walls and woodwork, dust and straighten shelves, dust computers and equipment as can reach safely
- Help decorate church with November committee
- Shovel snow from doorways before church
- Potluck 2nd Sunday



December 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

November 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			



November

Our Church Happenings

- Nov 6 Daylight Saving Time Ends
- Nov 6 Groton Service of Remembrance during worship
- Nov 9 Conde UMW 10 am
- Nov 9 Groton Ad Council 7 pm
- Nov 11 Veteran's Day
- Nov 13 Groton Men's Fall Dinner 11 am - 1:30 pm
- Nov 13 Golden Living Center Worship
- Nov 14 Charge Conference in Conde 7 pm
- Nov 16 Groton UMW 2 pm
- Nov 16 Groton Nov Committee prepare for Christmas Decorating 6 pm
- Nov 20 Groton All Church Decorating starting at 9 am - coffee will be on
- Nov 23 No Confirmation - Groton
- Nov 24 Thanksgiving Day Community Dinner - Groton
- Nov 27 Conde World Hunger Sunday
- Nov 27 UM Student Day Special Offering
- Nov 27 First Sunday in Advent