

United Methodist Messenger

www.grotonsdchurches.com/umc

Dear Friends at Groton and Conde,

Autumn is one of my 4 favorite seasons! The cold nights and warm days, the leaves changing color and the crisp scent of winter on the horizon! It's chili and soup season, a time to grab a nice hot bowl, and reflect on the goodness of God's grace.

Combines are running in the fields, their lights dance in the night sky with every little bump. Prayers go out to all those farmers working long hours in solitary cabs as they look out onto God's creation; stewards entrusted with harvesting the fruits of the good earth.

It's clear that summer is over; we have turned our attention to getting things ready for colder tem-

peratures and moisture that falls in the forms of crystalline flakes.

And yet within the business of our lives and all the work that we do, there is still time to worship and give praise to God

I look forward to seeing you in church,



Rev. Matthew G. Richards

Groton/Conde
Parishes

October 2011



"I Believe"

I believe in sunshine;
but I cannot clasp its
ray.
I cannot capture ocean
tides;
just watch them day by
day.
I believe in thinking;
yet no brick can think a
thought.
I believe in loving;
though love can't be
boxed or bought.
I believe in gifts from
God ...
diverse, yet clear ... and
thus:
I believe God's Love
enfolds,
sustains, and blesses
us!

—Peggy Ferrell, *Poems
and Prayers*

*Worship
the
Father
in
spirit
and
truth.*
John 4:23



Baptism Blessings - Suther

We would like to thank everyone for the wonderful blessings shower for Max and for celebrating his baptism with us. We couldn't have asked for a more perfect day to celebrate such a special occasion and so appreciate everything everyone did to help make it such a great day. Love, Adam, Kayla, Ben and Max Suther



Our Sincere Thanks to All of You

Perhaps you folded bulletins, stapled programs, cleaned the church, changed light bulbs, hauled tables & chairs or trash, helped prepare food & serve food, cleaned up after the meal, shared memories & pictures, sang in the men's choir, participated in the program, attended the program, greeted and helped direct people or simply attended our 125th Anniversary Celebration: we thank each and every one of you for your time, tal-

ents, and generous help in making our recent celebration a memorable and blessed event.

125TH Anniversary Co-Chairs, Marjorie Overacker & Jeanne Wanous

The 125th items will be put on the website as soon as Kay has a moment.



Dear United Methodist Congregation, Thank you so very much for your wonderful generosity to our Elementary students. Your gifts of backpacks full of school supplies was wonderful! We truly appreciate your church's mission to the children of our community! Kindergarten is especially grateful for the extra supplies for our classroom!! Sincerely, Renee Swisher and Ann Gibbs

Thank you for the generous donation you gave to the 1st grade classroom, as well as the rest of the school. The school supplies will be put to good use. We greatly appreciate it! Mrs. Eichler and Ms. Deiter, 1st Grade



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

Groton Sunday School

Sunday School: Starts at 10:00am with cookies served in SS rooms.

3rd grade Bibles: Sunday, Oct. 2nd. Chloe Crosby, Kale Pharis, Brooklyn Gilbert, Tanae Lipp, and Sage Mortenson.

Teacher Appreciation will also be Oct. 2nd during church. Teacher List Below.

Preschool/ Jr. K: Crystal Sippel and Marlee Jones as helper.

K, 1st & 2nd: Marjae Schinkel, Danielle and Jasmine Schinkel

3rd, 4th, & 5th: Karla Davidson


Music: Mendy Jones

VBS: Kim Weber

UMYF: Justin Morehouse and Cheri Strom.

Special thank you to the Youth that helped this summer with VBS.

Thank you to everyone who has helped or made a donation to SS, VBS, and UMYF.

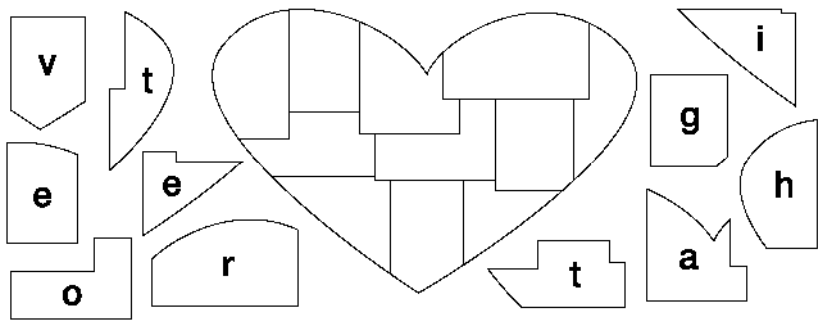


HOW TO GIVE

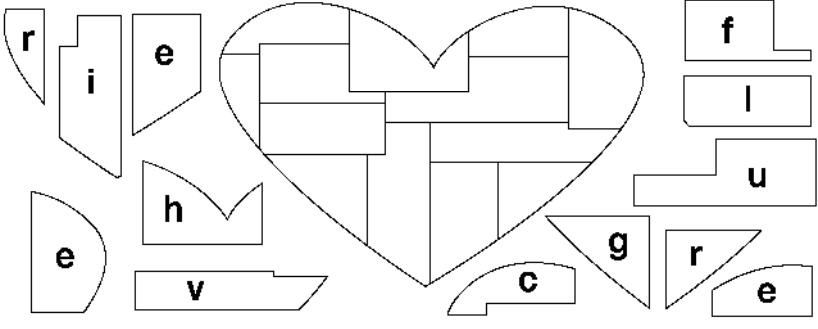
We can give in a variety of ways, including our money, possessions and time. But God says there's only one attitude to have when we give.

Finish the puzzles by matching the pieces and writing out the letters in order to complete 2 Corinthians 9:7, NIV.

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your ...



... not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a ...



Answers: heart to give, cheerful giver

**youth
group**
SCHEDULE

Confirmation will be every week on Wednesdays from 4-5:30 with UMYF starting at 6:30pm. This year the UMYF will be split between the 6th-8th graders and the 9th-12th graders.

United Methodist Fall Bazaar

The annual Groton United Methodist Women's Fall Bazaar will be held at the church on Wednesday, October 5th from 4 to 7 p.m.

General chairpersons are Connie Nilsson and Meri Erickson. Jolene Townsend is in charge of the lefse, which will be on sale until gone. Other chairpersons are Gloria Pharis, Betty Strom and JoAnn Krueger, kitchen; Melissa Gilbert and Darlys Kampa, bake sale and country store with homemade doughnuts by Kay Brandt; Diann Morehouse, dining room; Kay Brandt and Twila Ruden, advertising; and Jeanne Wanous and Clare Brotherton, cashiers. The lunch or supper menu will include soup, sandwiches, and homemade pie. Everyone is welcome. UMW Members are asked to bring 3 items for the farmer's market/bake sale/crafts Tues or Weds AM. A monetary donation may also be made instead of 3 items.

Thank You - Groton Memorials

Refinish Oak Wall behind the altar In Memory of Vern Walter, Richard Oliver, Clarence Hannon, Arlene Boehmer, Art Lange, Russell Townsend, Olena Gooding (Johnson), Sue Rock, Eugene Cassells, and Margaret Blader.

Pave Parking Lot in memory of Gertude Ruden and gifted by Nanc Mueller, Pat Larson, Char Meyers.

Altar cloths in memory of Lorraine Bartz

Nominations Committee - Groton

Nominations Committee will be meeting in October to work on the charge conference book and update the committees. Committee Chairs should talk with a Nominations Committee member about the status of your committee and any changes that may happen. Nominations Committee is Pastor Matt, Carna Atherton-Pray, Carolee Heitmann, Gary Heitmann, Kay Brandt, Carol Strom, Lars Hanson, and Kami Lipp. Watch the bulletin for a meeting date.



Fall Bazaar
Groton UMC

Wednesday, October 5th
4:00 to 7:00 PM


Serving Homemade Soup & Sandwiches with Homemade Pie

*Lefse Sales**
Farmer's Market
Fresh Donuts
Bake Sale



*Lefse will not be sold at the Men's Dinner

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

Conde UMW

October 19 at 10 am

Program Focus: Peace Through Action

Leader: Betty Taylor

Hostesses: Pat Siefken & Cindy Smith

World Communion Sunday - Oct 2

“Being a recipient of the scholarship makes me feel I’m cared about.”

“Being an Asian American in this culture, a lot of times I’ve questioned who I was and where I belonged,” said Paul Nielsen, an active United Methodist and World Communion Sunday Ethnic Minority Scholarship recipient. Paul attends Spring Arbor University in Michigan.

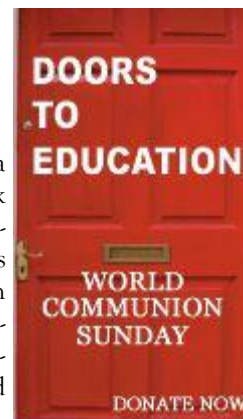
Born in South Korea but adopted and raised in the United States, Paul recalls times he felt he did not belong in either the majority or the minority culture. “But knowing I can always find my identity in Christ . . . that’s given me comfort every single time,” he added.

Relating to others in his church, on mission trips and in college has helped Paul mature in his faith and his commitment to help others. Paul works as a peer advisor to new stu-

dents at Spring Arbor.

“It’s not so much a job to me as it is a privilege. I get to serve students and work with people because that’s my overall passion,” said Paul. He is working on his Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology with a minor in business administration. Concerned about the decline in healthy marriages, he wants to become a marriage and family therapist.

Your gifts to the World Communion Sunday offering equips racial- and ethnic-minority students in the United States and international students to transform the church and their communities.



UMCGIVING.ORG/WCS



Our Church Celebrations

Groton

- Oct 2 Winifred Fawcett
- Oct 4 Fred Wolken
Josh Atherton
- Oct 5 Jeanne Wanous
- Oct 7 Allen Walter
- Oct 8 Gloria Pharis
Lars & Kelli Hanson
- Oct 10 Dan & Margae Schinkel
Megan Erickson
- Oct 12 Marc & Jane Johnson
- Oct 13 Carna Atherton-Pray
- Oct 14 Grady O’Neill
- Oct 15 Brad Morehouse
Jaymie Overacker
Russell Davidson
- Oct 21 Gary Heitmann
- Oct 24 Karla Davidson
- Oct 25 Lars Hanson
- Oct 26 Harry & Gloria Pharis
ImoJeanne Oliver
- Oct 29 Connie Nilsson
- Oct 30 Holden Sippel
- Oct 31 Dawsyn Dinger

Conde

- Oct 9 Joseph Smith
- Oct 21 Tony Lyren
- Oct 22 Janice Hanson
Sherry Hanson
Shane Haskell
- Oct 29 Marcene Bruckner
- Oct 31 Andee Geist



Celebrate with Bob Johnson October 2 during coffee hour for his 90th birthday!

Friends and Family from Haiti

It has been about a month since I have been back home in Haiti. The first two weeks Cassie, a friend of mine from camp was here to work with Living Media International. She spent time getting to know the community, being introduced to Creole (with many teachers), playing with the Kids Clubs and assisting with English classes. She has plans of returning next year to continue working with Education. After she left I have been trying to settle into some sort of routine, easier said than done in Haiti.

I assist in teaching 3-5 English Classes a week. We have a Haitian Teachers and I help with pronouncing the words and correcting if maybe the teacher does not know exactly. A couple of days one of the teachers had to be gone and I managed to teach the classes with my limited Creole and their limited English. I really enjoy teaching English, because it is hard to learn a second language - I know. You see some students struggle and struggle and then all of a sudden they have it. It is a great reward - teachers are amazing people - to all you who are teachers - thank you.

There are also, the weekend Kids Club program. There is one on Saturday in La Voute and one here in Mizak on Sunday afternoons. One week we taught 'Awesome God' to the kids in La Voute and worked with them on their numbers in English. We had a little competition dividing them into three groups - Brazil, Haiti, and France. Then of course United States - Cassie and I had to say the numbers in Creole. They really got into the game and were pretty good at their numbers. Last week at the Kids Club here in Mizak. Christy Pill (another American that was down here for 3 months teaching dance) and I did some stretching and dance exercises with the kids. There is Haitian Limbo and American Limbo both completely different so we played those games too. I am excited about working on some programming with the groups to work on creativity and some general things on how to teach children and be supportive. If anyone has any ideas for curriculum or creative activities please let me know.

Some, although not enough of my time has been spent working online. It is difficult to work on the computer without electricity. I am able to go to internet 1-2 times a week for 2-4 hours. But this is also the time the computer gets charged which gives me another 1-2

hours. This is also for work and personal. It seems that it is difficult to get away when there is always something going on, on the mountain. And yet I want to share with you about all that is going

on, on the mountain. It is an interesting balance between two worlds. But we are working on getting solar power/wind power at the Living Media Center so that will help. I am also starting to work on projects to advertise other ways people can get involved such as the new school that Living Media International just took under its wing last year and the Kids Sponsorship, since school is starting just around the corner. Always busy with something.

Yesterday I helped kill a chicken and go through all the steps of cleaning and cooking the chicken, including tying up the cat. Today I took pictures of a little



<http://www.angelicaheartforhaiti.blogspot.com/>

baby for her mother to be printed. There are not many places where you can get pictures taken in Haiti. You never know where the day might lead you. Who knows what tomorrow will bring; I just continue to try and be open, listen and learn and have a good sense of humor about it all.

Thank You for being here with me and learning and growing along the way as well. It is so good to be able to share with you and I enjoy hearing from you as well. Hope this finds you well and many blessings for our loved ones' futures.

Love and Blessings ~

Angelica



Groton UMC
125 Years



Groton Ad Council - Sept

Melissa Gilbert was pleased to report that about 30 children had registered for Sunday school and that we expect 25-30 youth to participate in UMYF.

Kay Brandt reported that the 17 backpacks and miscellaneous teacher supplies donated to our local school were very well received and plans are for our missions group to repeat this project next year.

Jolene Townsend shared plans that the Hospitality Committee has made for a welcome bag to be given to new visitors to our worship services. The bag will include information related to our church as well as a bean soup packet.

Pastor Matt talked briefly about the Leadership Institute that he and Jolene Townsend will be attending in Kansas City at the end of September. They will be joining a bus load of others in Sioux Falls also attending the institute.

Groton Mission Statement
"Enriching Spiritual lives
through Christ."

Groton UMW

2 pm Wednesday
 October 19th

Program "World Thank
 Offering"
 By Clare Brotherton

Hostesses
 Carolyn Snyder
 Carol Strom

Groton
 Stewardship
 Report
 September 2011

Average
 Wkly Giving
 \$2,510

Needed Wkly for
 Church Mission
 \$2,030

Average Weekly
 Attendance
 113

Total Building
 Fund
 Donations
 \$590



Groton Nov Family Committee

Kim & Craig Weber

Marlys Rodman

Rose Tewksbury

- Lance & Kristi Hawkins, Katelyn, Kylie
- Kami & Tom Lipp, Reilly Ell
- Carna & Cliff Pray, Kevin
- Dale & Michelle Kramer
- Karla Pasteur
- Yvonne Lange
- Gayleen & Jon Voss, Lacey
- Anita & Gary Voss
- Jay & Linda Johnson

Honorary Members

- ImoJeanne Oliver
- Doris Zoellner
- Charlotte Lange

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			

Extra Responsibilities

- Nov 6 change altar cloths to white for communion
- Nov 13 change altar cloths to green
- Nov 20 change altar cloths to white - Christ the King Sunday
- Nov 27 change altar cloths to purple
- Put up church indoor and outdoor decorations with Dec committee and all church members (check date with Pastor)
- Clean storage room off fellowship hall by straightening all shelves and materials on them and arrange as neatly as possible.
- No Potluck if Men have their dinner



October 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

Oct 2 World Communion Sunday

Oct 5 Groton UMW Fall Bazaar 4-7 pm

Oct 7-8 Youth Workers Connection at Lake Poinsett (Pastor Matt is Leader)

Oct 7-8 UMW Dakotas Annual Conference in Pierre

Oct 9-10 Confirmation Camp @ Lake Poinsett

Oct 11 Groton Missions Committee Mtg at 5:30 - all are welcome

Oct 12 Groton Ad Council 7 pm

Oct 16 Membership Sunday

Oct 16 Groton Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Potluck following worship service

Oct 19 Conde UMW 10 am

Oct 19 Groton UMW 2 pm

Nov 14 Charge Conference in Conde 7 pm