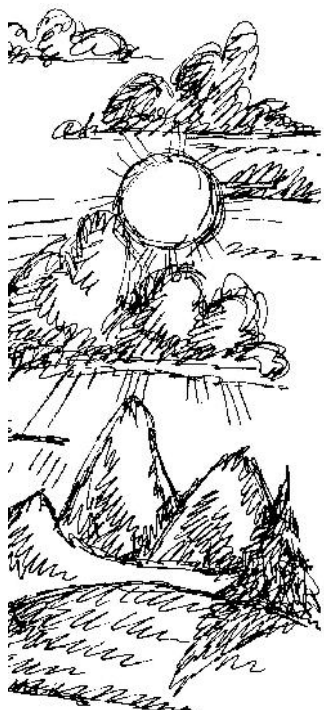


UNITED METHODIST MESSENGER

DEAR FRIENDS IN
GROTON AND CONDE

Let light
shine out of
darkness...

2 Corinthians 4:6

Spending a week at camp can truly be a time of renewal. We were spending time as a community in daily scripture and prayer. Every day included a time for corporate worship. Daily worship! Not just a Sunday morning routine. What a blessing! But my time spent at camp also involved private moments of prayer and devotion. There is something sacred about watching daylight break over the surface of a lake. There were mornings when the lake was a dead calm and then mornings when it was wind driven and choppy. Moments that brought about deep reflection.

In moments such as these one could easily find their connection with God. Time spent in silence except for the sounds of nature around you. The waves gently lapping or crashing on the shore, the birds flying overhead and the cool wet sand scrunched between the toes. Human existence, have you taken time to really ponder that?

The Christian rock band "Casting Crowns" performs the song "Who am I?" In that song the questions are asked, "Who am I that the Lord of all the Earth would care to know my name, care to feel my hurt?" Profound questions when you stop to consider everything else that God has created. So, have you asked those questions? Have you made time to feel the profound mystery of God and Creation?

It is an easy trap to fall into. Busy, busy, busy.... right? It's true we have all

used the excuses. Haven't we? I know that there have been times when I have gotten myself into trouble by not stopping what I am doing and allowing God to speak to me. Have you ever been there? Done that? It's a humbling experience and something that we can grow through when we are willing to trust in God and let go.

And the truth of the matter is this, we might not be busy as all get out, but perhaps life's circumstances have taken their toll and we find ourselves feeling an estrangement from God or those that we work with or have routine contact with. That can be a painful realization. There are real and deep hurts that we need to process and work through. Despite all this, here is the good news, God is always there, waiting for you, waiting for me to acknowledge that we can't do this "life" thing on our own. Of all the things that God has created, humans are set apart made in the image of God. And so it should come as no surprise that we need God, we need community, we need love. God is love.

I hope to see you in church,
Pastor Matt



I wish to thank everyone who worked so hard putting my Ordination celebration together and also a deep appreciation and thank you for the gifts received in honor of my Ordination. You have touched my heart and it will serve as a constant reminder of my calling.

grace and peace,
Pastor Matt

To tell the truth

To prepare for a sermon on honesty, a pastor asked church members to read Joshua 25. The next week, he asked, "How many of you read it?" Half the hands in the church went up.

"Great," the pastor said. "You're the ones I want to talk to...because Joshua has only 24 chapters."

—From *The Tale of the Tardy Oxcart*, Charles Swindoll

GROTON MISSIONS

The missions committee is now collecting for the Groton Elementary School. They have supplied us with a list of items they could use. We are trying something new this year and have created an apple tree in the fellowship hall. Each paper apple has some items on them that are needed. Please take as many apples as you wish, purchase the items, and then return them to the base of the tree with the apple shaped papers with them. If you do not wish to go shopping, monetary donations can be made. Many of us are familiar with the basic items our children need at school so you may buy as you wish and donate them to the tree as well. This is an awesome local mission!

We will get our little red wagon out again this fall when school starts and be collecting change for the holiday season food certificates for local families.

The mission committee thanks you for all your support.



Local
Missions



Invitation

I would like to take this means of communication to invite you all to come to coffee before worship. The church is not just for worship but it is also for fellowship. Come and share with Christian friends your beliefs, struggles, tears and joys. Hebrew 10:25 says: "Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing. Instead, let us encourage one another all the more..."

See you at coffee and in worship
Linda Thurston, Ad Council Chair

New Groton
UMC



Marlys Rodman	397-4570
Audrey Thurston	397-8493
Pat Dahlquist	397-2616
Doris Zoellner	397-2417
Marjorie Townsend	298-5221
Ann Rix	397-8478
Darlys Kampa	395-6996
DeLoris Knoll	397-2681
Gloria Pharis	397-2375
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.

We must have your permission to start the Prayer Chain. So please call and request this to be done. It is not automatic for privacy reasons.

CONDE MISSIONS: COLLECTING SCHOOL AND HEALTH KITS

School Kit Supplies

- 1 pair blunt scissors, rounded tip only and no plastic scissors please
- 3 pads of paper 8 1/2 X 11, spiral notebooks or top-bound pads, 150 sheets of loose leaf can be substituted for 1 pad, combinations of spiral, top bound or loose leaf is acceptable, no composition books
- 1 hand held pencil sharpener, must be at least one inch long and remove from packaging
- 1 - 30 centimeter ruler, hard or flexible, cartoon characters are acceptable and no advertisements please
- 6 unsharpened pencils, no advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or cartoon characters are acceptable
- 1 - 2 1/2 inch eraser with no advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or cartoon characters are acceptable.
- 1 - 24 count box of crayons,
- 1 - 14X16 cloth bag, home made 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

Health Kits

- 1 hand towel 15X25 to 17X27, kitchen, cleaning, and microfiber towels not acceptable
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb, needs to be sturdy, 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, do not remove from original packaging
- 1 toothbrush, adult size only, do not remove from original packaging
- 6 adhesive bandages, 3/4 to 1 inch size, common household band aids
- 1 plastic bag, one gallon size sealable bags only
- \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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



SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

Conde UMW

August 15 at 10 AM

Program is "Take a Walk with Christ - Poverty in Communities"

Leader Pat Siefken

Hostesses are Jane Worlie & Lois Trapp

I scream for ice cream

For many people, summer is synonymous with cool treats. "I must have eaten 10 tons of ice cream alone in my lifetime," said the late TV commentator Andy Rooney. "It makes life seem long and lovely just thinking about every bite of it."

Ice cream's origins go back to the first century, when Roman emperor Nero served "sweet snow" at feasts. He had slaves gather snow from the mountains and flavor it with fruit, wine or honey.

OUR CELEBRATIONS



Groton

Aug 1 Bert Raap

Aug 2 David Strom

Dylan Graf

Jessica & Brent Morehouse

Aug 3 Lance & Kristie Hawkins

Michelle Kramer

Aug 4 Craig & Kim Weber

Aug 5 Gerald Rix

Tigh Fliehs

Aug 7 Kelli Hanson

Sherwin Nyberg

Aug 8 Brad & Diann Morehouse

Yvonne Lange

Aug 9 Jackson Wells

Loel Schott

Aug 12 Amber Wolken

Tom Lipp

Aug 13 Logan Nilsson

Aug 14 Doug Bahr

Aug 16 Alissa & Michael Wells

Jim Jones

Ralph Breitzkreutz

Rose Tewksbury

Sam Furman

Aug 17 Chanda Nilsson

Aug 19 Sherwin & Christine Nyberg

Tia Marie Zoellner

William Zoellner

Aug 20 Marc Sippel

Aug 22 Virginia Breitzkreutz

Aug 23 Lisa Pray

Aug 28 Rob & Jeanne Wanous

Aug 29 Chuck Padfield

Aug 30 Emma Schinkel

Nathan Atherton

Aug 31 Katelyn Hawkins

Conde

Aug 1 Joan Fahrenwald

Aug 5 Myron & Joan Fahrenwald

Aug 6 Loren & Pat Siefken

Aug 10 Cindy Smith

Aug 12 Cody Evans

Aug 16 Brandon Smith

Aug 20 Richard & Jane Worlie

Aug 23 Jim & Mona Baldridge

Nicklos Menzia

Aug 26 Pamela Hanson

Aug 30 Carl Hanson

Aug 31 Collin Ragels

Groton UMW

August 22nd at 7 pm

*Program is "Walk with
a Child" by Yvonne*

Lange

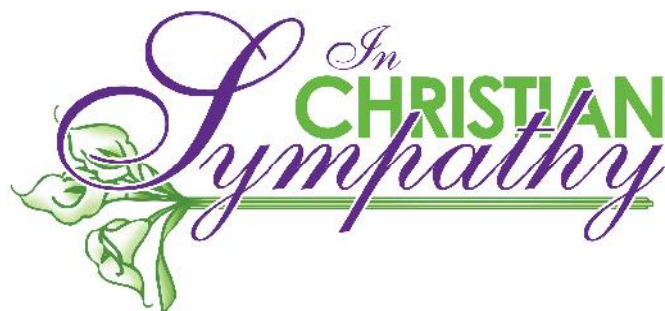
*Hostesses are Jessica
Morehouse & Chris*

Nyberg

Nominations Committee

*Meet at 6:30 pm to
prepare slate of officers*

Save Coffee Cans!

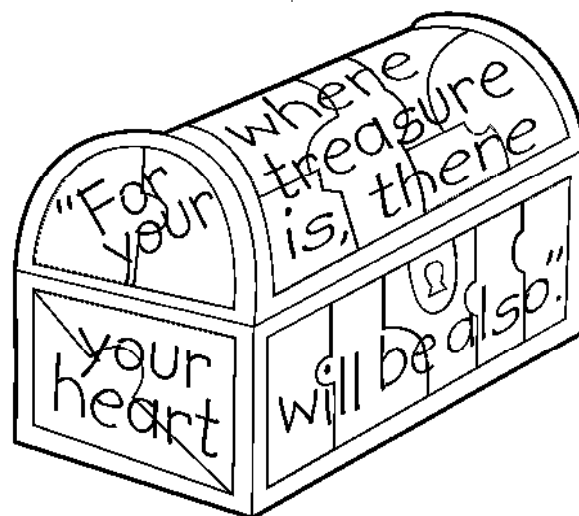


To Wanda Zoellner Family

And

Norbert Hearnen Family

Both passed away July 29th



GROTON CELEBRATION OF PASTOR MATT'S ORDINATION



BACK TO SCHOOL

Early one morning, a mother woke her son, who whined about having to go to school.

"Give me two reasons why you don't want to go," she said.

"Well," he complained, "the kids don't like me, and neither do the teachers!"

"Nonsense," she said. "Come get ready."

"Give me two reasons why I should go," the son protested.

"Well, for one, you're 52," she said. "For another, you're the principal!"



ANGELICA LAUDERMITH

Bonjour~ It has been a long crazy summer. Filled with many miles of travel, amazing friends, family and love.....and some money. I have been traveling all over the state of South Dakota and currently in North Dakota over the past 2 months. Some of the highlights -

Annual Conference - Saw lots of old friends (well they aren't all old I just have known them a long time) Shared about Haiti and activities that I do with the Haitians. Sold some of their art products as well as many of my own jewelry creations (actually almost sold out and made more at conference). Shared chocolate covered peanut candies so folks would give a donation so Gensley Zephir and Miralene Jean can go to school (attached are their photos). It is \$150 a year for a child to go to school, covering cost of tuition, books, and uniform. Last year these 2 kids were sponsored by the Dakotas Conference and Leadership Training Camp (LTC) and this year I wanted to do it again. We raised \$100 at Conference. Plus close to \$1000 was raised selling jewelry and artists works. This money supports the artists as well as Education in Haiti.

Visiting Churches - I was able to travel around and share in churches almost every Sunday I was back, Concord, MI; Traverse City, MI; Chicago, IL; Vermillion 1st UMC, Gayville, Tabor UMC, SD; Ortonville, MN, Parkview, Olivet, Parker, Lake Poinsett Chapel, SD; McCluskey, and Chasely, ND. As well as share a bit at School of Missions, SD and participating in the Haitian Study Class. It was nice to get to pray in Creole for the class and learn more about the history of Haiti. The connectional system that we have as United Methodist is a beautiful way to see and feel how we are all connected in God's love in the Universe.

I had contact with all of our United Methodist Camps this summer. I was the bus chaperon for one of the camps at Storm Mountain Center. It was a blessing to get to hang out with friends on staff that I used to work with a few years back. I also did some relaxing and made some more jewelry. The camp and wonderful staff helped me set up a table for 'Summer Nights' downtown Rapid City to sell some of my artists wares. We sold over \$500 worth of products including some to the staff and counselors at camp. I hope to do that again next summer. Big Thank You to Storm for making that happen. While out in the hills I sent products to Wesley Acres, ND with one of the summer directors. They sold out of the bracelets

in 3 days. Amazing! A few weeks later I was at Lake Poinsett Camp (I was able to speak at the Chapel on Sunday morning.) As well as sell products in the store throughout the week. We also set up the Kids Sponsorship for Gensley and Miralene again to send them to school! We raised all the money needed to send them as well as 2 youth from the camp asking me if they could sponsor their own child. What awesome things God does when we all work together. It went fantastic and I am so grateful to the great staff we have across our camping system. We are all truly blessed to have them in leadership!

Other time back was spent researching for products for the artisans to make and so that I may continue to work on product development with them when I return. I did a bit of studying on teaching techniques for English and general teaching as well. Also, may have found some materials to work on starting an English bible study in Haiti. A few Haitians on our staff as well as in our classes have been asking about that. I made some thank you cards from Haitian paintings and was honored to send those out to all the people that make this work happen - that includes you! Thank You, so very much. It is always interesting when I come back to the states with my bank account on \$0 (or very close) I spend a lot of time praying, crying and talking with God on what might be possible and God always surprises me. I don't know why - you would think I would start to trust and not get scared. But we are human and we put our trust in concrete things we can see. It is scary to know and believe that God will provide and yet time after time God still 'surprises' us. So a big Thank You to God for making a successful summer too.

I head back to Haiti Thursday, overnight Weds in Fort Lauderdale. I am taking Cassie back with me again (a college gal I had in camp at LTC a few years back) and her boyfriend Adam. They will be there for 3 weeks working on some workshops with our teachers as well as the Dreamers program. I am sure they will be involved in some hard labor at our construction site for the new elementary school as well. They will hang out with the Kids Clubs and who knows what other activities we will get involved in over the next 3 weeks. We will be watching some soccer, as it is that season. I am ready for English Classes to start back up, as well as typing - but it will be good to have a few week break before all that starts.

I can't wait to be back home to hug my

BIBLE Treasure Hunt

Let the search — and the fun — begin! Try one or both of the variations below, adjusting for age-appropriateness as needed.

What you need:

- Bibles
- Self-stick notes or pieces of paper
- Pencil
- Treats
- Boxes (treasure chests)

What you do:

Locations Treasure Hunt

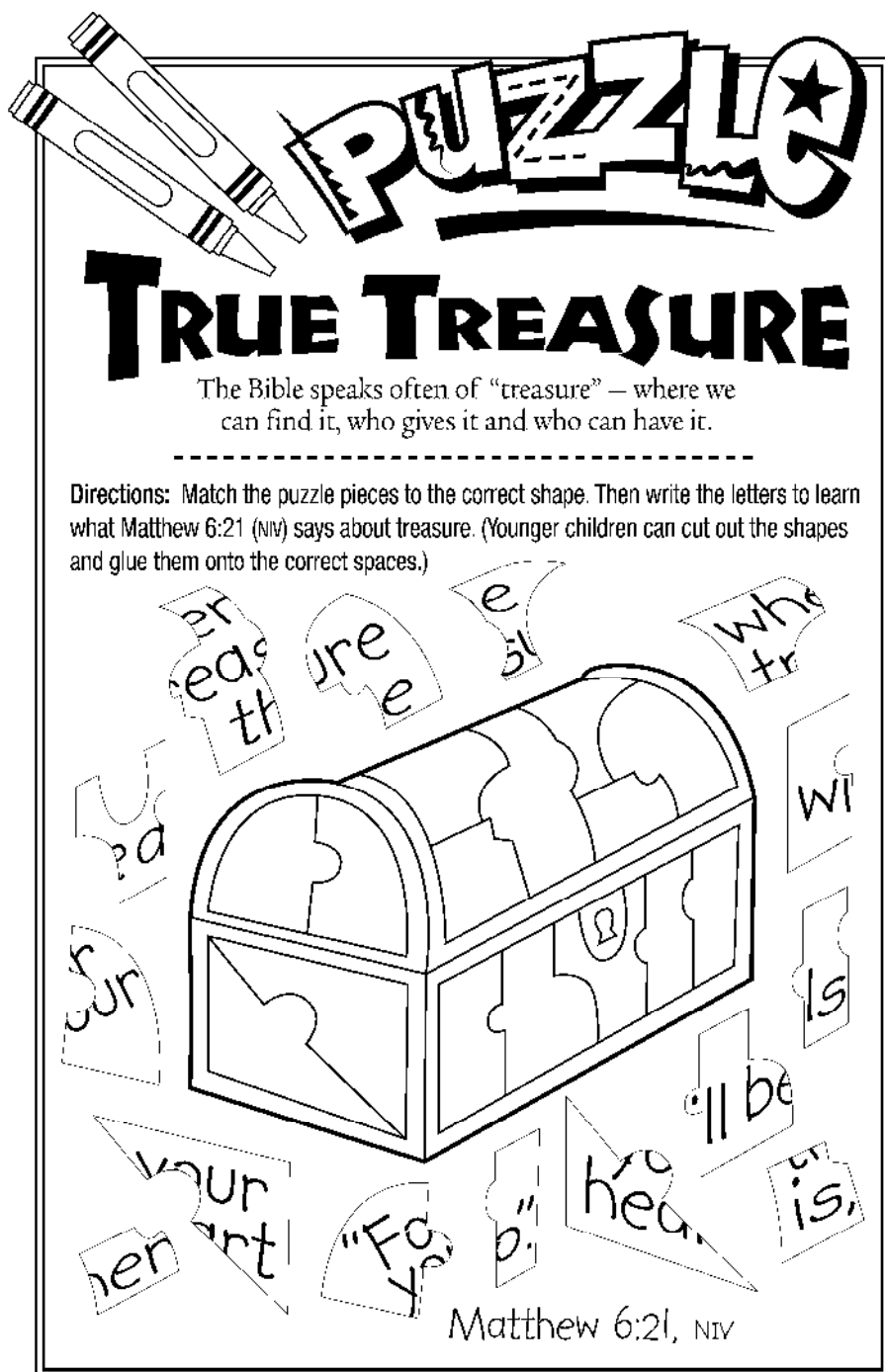
1. Find Bible verses that mention a place inside or outside your house. The location for Matthew 7:8, for example, is a door.
2. Write each verse on a self-stick note and hide all but the first clue. Give the first clue to the player(s).
3. Leave the treats at the final clue destination.

Object Treasure Hunt

1. Find Bible verses that mention objects that can be found nearby. The object for Matthew 16:19, for example, is a key.
2. Give each player an empty box, a Bible and a list of verses as clues.
3. Have players return their collected items for a final prize.

friends and family. Then get started with the artisans; I have missed their energy and creating with them. Thank You for your prayers and blessings and financial help to make this possible another year. I really couldn't do it without you and I want you to know how much I appreciate that. I also think a few Haitians I work and live with would tell you MESI !

[http://
www.angelicaheartforhaiti.
blogspot.com/](http://www.angelicaheartforhaiti.blogspot.com/)



Answer: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:21, NIV)

A dark and stormy night

During a loud summer thunderstorm, a mother tucked her son into bed. As she turned off the light, he asked with a tremor, "Mommy, will you sleep with me tonight?"

The mother smiled and gave her son a reassuring hug. "I can't, dear," she said. "I have to sleep in Daddy's room."

After a long silence, the boy replied, "The big sissy."



Education meeting: Tues, August 7th at 6:30pm. We are still looking for teachers to co teach in all grades. We will be looking at curriculum, schedule, and planning Rally Sunday.

Sign up for Sunday school on the Church Website.

Membership committee: Looking for college kids addresses: They can be emailed to Melissa Gilbert at gilbert@nvc.net.



GROTON SEPTEMBER FAMILY COMMITTEE

Melissa & Neil Gilbert
 Josh & Merrie Atherton
 Jeanne Wanous
 Kellie & Lars Hanson, Dylan
 Lynette & Terry Furman
 Francine & Mark Sippel, Camille
 Carol & Pat Knecht, Spencer
 Kent Webb,
 Denise Brown
 Tim Olson
 John Padfield
 Pernell & Noella Graf
 Kevin Pharis
 Yvonne Lorenz
 Brenda & Tony Madsen, Mitchell, Mason
 Alan Strom
 Pam & Roger Rix

Honorary Members

- Audrey Padfield
- Bob & Marvel Johnson

- Audrey Thurston

- Clare Brotherton

September Extra Responsibilities

- Take care of lawn as necessary
- Potluck 2nd Sunday (Rally Sunday)
- September 2 change altar cloths to white for communion
- September 9th change to the green altar cloths
- 5th Sunday may buy donuts - bill to Kay Brandt

September 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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						

Groton
Stewardship
Report
July 2012

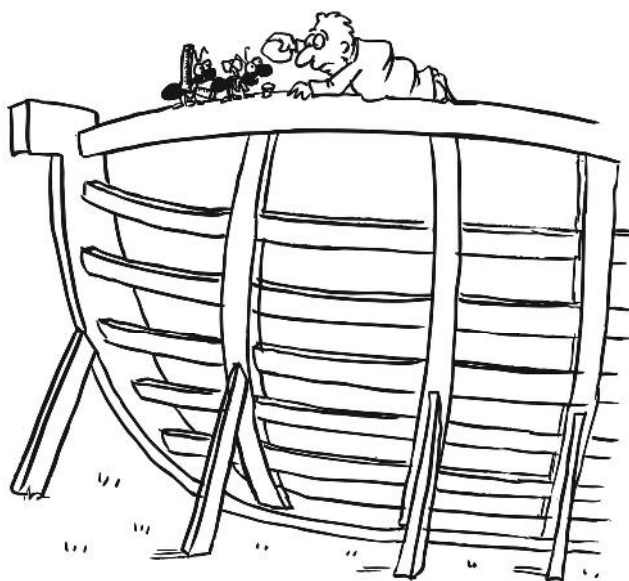
Average
Wkly Giving
\$1,368

Needed Wkly for
Church Mission
\$2,045

Average Weekly
Attendance
64

Total Building Fund
Donations
\$40

Groton Mission Statement
"Enriching Spiritual lives through Christ."



"We can help. We're carpenter ants."



My soul waits for
the LORD more than
those who watch
for the morning.

Psalm 130:6

August 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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

- Aug 5 Groton Ad Council 12:30
Aug 7 Groton Education Mtg 6:30 PM
Aug 8 Groton Membership Meeting 7 PM
Aug 9 Groton Confirmation Students, UMYF Mbrs, and Parents meet 7 PM
Aug 15 Conde UMW 10 AM
Aug 22 Groton Worship Committee Mtg 7 PM
Aug 22 Groton UMW 7 PM
Aug 26 Newsletter Items Due
Aug 26 Conde World Hunger Sunday
Sept 5 Groton WOW Worship 6:15 PM
Sept 9 Groton Rally Sunday

