

United Methodist Messenger

November 2012



Dear Friends in Groton & Conde

I first met former Senator George McGovern while I was at Dakota Wesleyan University. George's house was across the street from Allen Hall (the men's dorm) I wonder how many of my male dorm-mates realized that they were living across the street from one of America's celebrated sons. If they had perhaps they would have been more respectful and civilized or perhaps not. I laugh when I think to myself of all the stories that George could tell what a great and humble man.

Through my years at DWU I had opportunities to get to know him, specifically during the times when George would be active on campus either speaking to us as students or addressing a particular issue which George was deeply passionate about, ending world hunger.

With the recent passing of a friend and political giant, I turned to one of his books entitled, "The Third Freedom." (Ending Hunger in Our Time) It had been awhile since I had read it. What a passion, what an awareness and keen understanding of the world's systems of oppression which control others through starvation, poverty and violence.

It's time to take into account our daily lives. In Mark 12:28-34 we read the story in which Jesus is asked, "Which commandment is the most important of all?" Jesus replies, "Israel, listen! Our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God

with all your heart, with all your being, with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second most important is this, "You will love your neighbor as yourself. No other commandment is greater than these." (CEV)

Let's you and I conspire to meet these commandments in spite of all that tempts us to turn a blind eye. Let us covenant together to break systems of injustice and cycles of poverty and depression. Certainly we have the tools at our disposal and the need is ever present. Where is the heart?

It always seems like these are the months that plague us the most in regards to hunger and poverty. As we turn towards the darkest time of year let's not forget to let Christ's light shine. This little light of mine I'm gonna let it shine...

I look forward to seeing you in church,
Pastor Matt



Christmas Eve
Candlelight
Services

Groton at 5pm
Conde at 7 pm





Groton UMC Angel Tree

Christmas is just around the corner and we will be putting up the Angel Tree shortly after the Men's Fall Dinner. This mission Project is to provide Christmas gifts for children in our local community. It will be decorated with two cards for each child, one for a toy and one for any clothing needs. In the card will be a post-card for you to sign and place in the designated box so we know who has that specific card rather than signing on a sheet as we have done in the past. There will also be an envelope with the card for your receipts to be placed in the box as well when the gifts are returned. No names will be on the cards as this is kept confidential.

Gifts should be returned wrapped with the card attached so that we can make sure the right recipient receives the gift. Deadline for

the gifts to be returned is Noon on December 16th.

The tree is open to the public as well so if your co-workers would like a card or you wish to do one together, please do so. Anyone in Groton may come in and check out cards from our tree.

If you do not wish to shop, donations may be placed in the offering plate marked Angel Tree or given to Anita Lowary or Kay Brandt. We appreciate your support for this mission of making sure our local children have a joyous Christmas. Missions Committee

Marc Johnson and Jane Johnson received recognition pins from the Groton UMW for their work they do for the church on Sunday, October 28th, 2012

Thank You

Dear Groton Methodist Church Members: Thank you so much for all your support with the Sunday School USBORNE Book Fair. I would also like to thank you for your prayers for my brother after his accident. A special thank you to Pastor Matt for his care and concern. My brother is doing well now. Thanks again, Stacey Blumhardt, USBORNE Books.

Groton Decorating

Nov 28 the Nov/Dec Family Committees will be serving a light meal from 5-6 pm. Then all are encouraged to attend WOW Worship and then decorating of the church will continue afterwards at 7 pm. Everyone is encouraged to come and help prepare for Christmas!



USBORNE Books

There are USBORNE Book Catalogs with order forms on the kitchen counter at the Groton UMC if anyone is interested in ordering Christmas gifts. Stacey said some people had mentioned they would be interested in this. Please give them to me by Monday, Nov 26, so we can get them in time for Christmas. Our Sunday School received \$470 worth of

free books through our book fair, and Stacey was so impressed with our church and with Pastor Matt's comforting words that she dropped the shipping costs on the free books! Thanks to everyone for helping us start a new Sunday School library!!!

Kim Weber and Melissa Gilbert

Groton UMW - October

Sixteen members were on hand as Jeanne Wanous presented the program "Sowing Faith, Hope, and Love for the World Thank Offering. She read from the Beauty of the Earth and at the end of each verse asked the ladies to offer things for which they were thankful. A basket was passed around and the members placed their World Thank Offerings in it.

The recitation of the UMW Purpose began the business meeting. The minutes were read and approved. The financial report was given as well as a breakdown of the Fall Bazaar. Doris Zoellner read devotions from Matthew. There was no Correspondence.

The business meeting began with a lengthy discussion of the Fall Bazaar. The main suggestion was the following: since the lefse is the major money maker for the bazaar why not move the sales to the men's fall dinner and forego the bazaar. Jeanne Wanous made a motion to move the lefse sales to the men's dinner in November and Jan Raap seconded it and all present agreed. This will be presented to the board. The purchase of the two twenty-five cup coffee pots has been put on hold for now as there might be more availability to purchase them during the holidays.

New business was some discussion of the May Breakfast. One suggestion was to have

one seating. No action was taken. President Gloria Pharis reported she had received a new devotional book which she gave to Doris Z. Also from the Sunrise District, Gloria had received a memorial card that commemorated Dolly McCarlson, Pam Bahr, and Mary Jane Schott. The Groton unit was also awarded the Mission Today Certificate of Achievement (3Flame Unit) and the 2012 5 Star Giving Unit Award. The Slate of Officers was introduced. Clare Brotherton made motion to accept the group and Audrey Padfield seconded it. All agreed. Jeanne Wanous sent around a spreadsheet in which members could circle the missions important enough to be considered and voted on for the November meeting. Jolene Townsend and Carna Atherton-Pray attended the Women of Faith Conference in Minneapolis the week-end of Oct. 20th.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Gloria gave these reminders: next meeting Nov. 14th at 2p.m. with Pat Dahlquist giving the program "Upside Down Christmas." Hostesses are Caralee Heitmann and JoAnn Krueger. Plans will also be made for the Christmas luncheon in December, finalize the 2013 datebook and budget. A fall dessert was served by Ida Hannon and Deloris Knoll.

Keep your fork!

After an elderly woman died, her family complied with an intriguing instruction she'd left for her burial. As mourners passed by the casket, discovering a fork in the woman's right hand, they looked questioningly toward her family members. They just smiled knowingly.

Finally, during the funeral service, all became clear. "When you eat a meal at someone's house," said the pastor,

"as they clear the table, they often say, 'Keep your fork.' It means something more is coming – dessert! – surely the best part of the meal."

The pastor concluded, "Our dear friend knew, as her earthly life ended, that the best was yet to come. She wanted you to know that, too, so she insisted on keeping her fork."

—Adapted/Author Unknown

Groton UMW

November 14th

2 pm

Program "Upside
Down Christmas" by

Pat Dahlquist

Hostesses are JoAnn

Krueger & Caralee

Heitmann

Executive Mtg

at 1 pm

Save Coffee Cans

Groton Mission
Statement

"Enriching Spiritual
lives through Christ."



Our Church 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 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 20 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 Bruckner
Bette Geist
- Nov 28 Eric Menzia
- Nov 30 Dani Smith



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

Conde UMW
 November 12
 Monday
 10 AM
 Jane Worlie will have the Thank Offering Lesson
 Patty Knoll will serve lunch.



Conde Bible Study and Ad Council

*November 13
 6 pm Ad Council followed by Bible Study. The book that we will be using is “The 13 Apostles” This will take the place of the Evening Circle and is open to everyone.*

Conde Shoe Box Christmas

We are now collecting money or items for the Shoe Box Christmas Project. We work with the Methodist North Highlands Church in Aberdeen and they put together the boxes and deliver them to the Enemy Swim Day School near Waubay. There are lists of things that are suitable for the various ages which can be found on the table in the Narthex of the church. We must deliver the items to the Ab-

erdeen Church by November 21. We do not have to put the items in a shoe box, but they appreciate donations of extra boxes.





Be thankful for everything

When we're faithful, we see that God provides all we need.

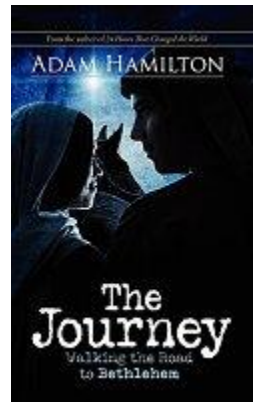
Use the list of vowels below to complete the words of Ephesians 5:19-20, NIV.

i a a e u i i o u e a o e o a a i i a o o e
a e o e e i i e a e o o u o e u i E e i a I

"S _ ng _ nd m _ k _ m _ s _ c _ n
y _ _ r h _ _ rt t _ th _ L _ rd,
_ lw _ ys g _ v _ ng th _ nks t _ G _ d
th _ F _ th _ r f _ r _ v _ ryth _ ng,
_ n th _ n _ m _ _ f _ _ r
L _ rd J _ s _ s Chr _ st."
_ ph _ s _ _ ns 5:19-20, N _ V



Answer:
Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks
to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
(Ephesians 5:19-20, NIV)



Groton Bible Study

starting November 6th

"The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem" by Adam Hamilton

Join the 10 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study for a five-week study with a book and DVD on the birth of Jesus. In the study, Adam Hamilton travels with us from Nazareth to Bethlehem in this fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. Using historical information, archaeological findings, and personal reflections, Hamilton illuminates this most amazing moment in history. We follow the footsteps of Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and others, gaining insight into our own journeys with Christ.

Happy Thanksgiving



United Methodist Student Day - Nov 25th

Purpose

“United Methodist Student Day calls the Church to support students as they prepare for life in uniting faith with knowledge.” (Par. 263.4, *The Book of Discipline* 2008)

History

In 1866, a special fund was established for the advanced education of Sunday school children and the educational preparation of persons for the ministry and missionary service. The 1940 General Conference established Methodist Student Day with a church wide offering. The 1968 Uniting Conference continued this connectional student-aid program to be funded by the United Methodist Student Day offering. Dates for taking the offering have changed through the years.

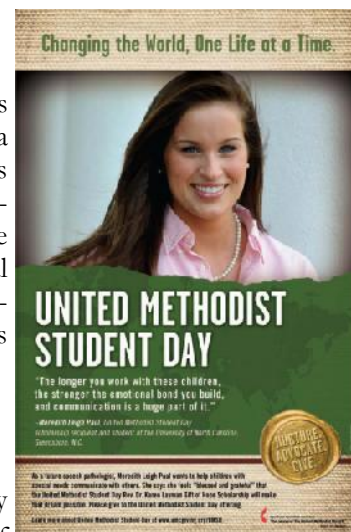
Recipients

Thanks to United Methodist Student Day, peo-

ple in your annual conference—perhaps even members of your family—have a chance to attain higher education. Students attending United Methodist and other accredited colleges and universities receive scholarships and loans. Participating annual conferences receive 50 percent of the offering for merit-scholarship awards to students of their choosing.

Receipts

In 2008, the United Methodist Student Day offering totaled \$554,252, an average of only 7 cents per U.S. member. If every member gave \$1, that would total more than \$7.8 million!



A simple act

Traditional thank-you notes are rare in this age of texting and social networking. But California lawyer John Kralik set out to change that. On January 1, 2008, at a low point in his life, Kralik vowed to send one note of appreciation to a different person every day for one year.

Although it took him a bit longer to reach the 365-note mark, Kralik's intentional focus on gratitude changed his life. "I saw how much I had been blessed by so many people in different ways," he says, "and acknowledging their blessings seemed to make them multiply."

After Kralik documented his experiences in *A Simple Act of Gratitude* (Hyperion), people wrote to share how the effects of gratitude rippled out. By the beginning of 2012, having written his 860th thank-you note, Kralik said he'd learned that "gratitude is a path to the peace we all seek."



Winter Coat Drive



Please bring new or gently used, clean coats, gloves/mittens, hats, scarves, boots, and snow pants to
Emmanuel Lutheran Church

If you or someone you know is in need of winter weather gear, please stop at Emmanuel Lutheran Church on the dates and times listed below.

Hours:

Sunday, November 11th from 3:00 pm -5:00 pm

Monday, November 12th from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Tuesday, November 13th from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

Liz Doeden, doeden@nvc.net or 397-8603

Or Becky Morris, beckster2223@gmail.com or 216-8894



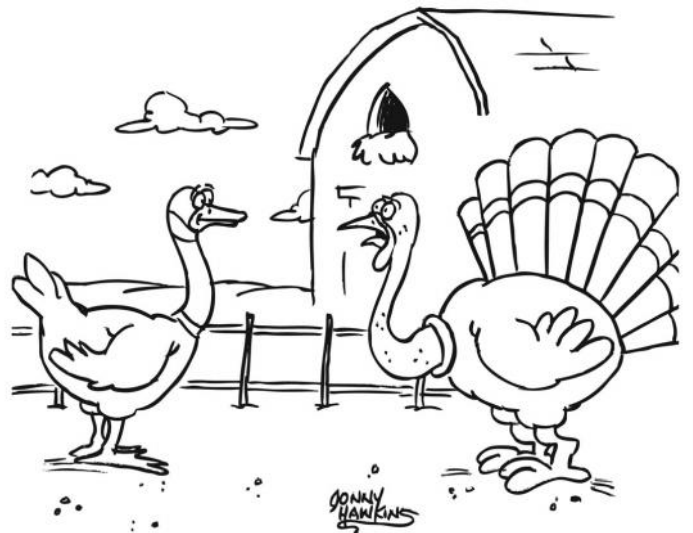
Those who say they
live in God
should live their
— lives as —
Jesus did.
1 JOHN 2:6, NLT



A family prayer

Lord, behold our family here assembled.
We thank you for this place in which we dwell
for the love that unites us,
for the peace accorded us this day,
for the hope with which we expect the morrow,
for the work, the health, the food, and bright skies
that make our lives delightful
for our friends in all parts of the earth. Amen

—Robert Louis Stevenson



"I'm praying they opt for fast food...
or that they pray and fast."

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.



Something Different

EVERYONE WELCOME

WEDNESDAYS AT 6:15 PM

GROTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Groton
Stewardship
Report
October 2012**

Average
Wkly Giving
\$1,595

Needed Wkly for
Church Mission
\$2,045

Average Weekly
Attendance Sunday
77

Average Weekly
Attendance WOW
22

Total Building Fund
Donations
\$95

Groton Dec Family Committee

Carol & Luverne Strom

Caralee & Gary Heitmann

Karla & Russell Davidson, Michaela Oleson,
Alec Oleson

Linda & Gary Thurston

Sharon & Larry Wheeting

Alan & Jolene Townsend

Zachary Townsend

Marjae & Dan Schinkel, Danielle

Kristi & Ben Peterson, Jocelyn

Betty Strom

Jane & Marc Johnson

Honorary Members

- DeLoris Knoll
- Hazel McKittrick
- Curtis Krueger

December Extra Responsibilities

- Dec 2 Change altar cloths to white for communion
- Dec 9 Change altar cloths to purple
- Dec 24 Change altar cloths to white for Christmas Eve
- Help decorate church with November Committee
- Shovel snow from doorways before Church
- Potluck 2nd Sunday
- 5th Sunday may buy donuts and give bill to Kay Brandt

December 2012						
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

November 2012						
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	



Nov 4 Daylight Saving Time Ends

Nov 4 Groton Memorial Remembrance Service during Worship

Nov 11 Groton Men's Fall Dinner 11 am - 1:30 pm

Nov 11 Veteran's Day

Nov 12 Conde UMW at 10 am

Nov 13 Conde Ad Council 6 pm with Bible Study Following

Nov 14 Groton UMW at 2 pm Executive Mtg at 1 pm

Nov 18 Groton Ad Council 12:30 pm

Nov 19 PPRC Mtg 7 pm in Conde

Nov 21 Conde Shoebox Christmas Deadline

Nov 22 Thanksgiving Day

Nov 25 Groton Trustees Mtg during Coffee Hour

Nov 25 Conde World Hunger Sunday

Nov 26 Groton USBORNE book orders due.

Nov 27 Charge Conference 6:30 in Groton

Nov 28 Groton All Church Decorating 7 pm with light meal from 5-6 pm and WOW at 6:15pm

Dec 9 Groton Sunday School Christmas Program with Potluck Following

Dec 24 Christmas Eve Services are 5pm in Groton and 7 pm in Conde