



# UNITED METHODIST MESSENGER

April 2013

## DEAR FRIENDS IN GROTON AND CONDE

So now that Easter Sunday has come and gone, what do you have to remind you of the risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? What do you have as a reminder that you are dead to sin and do not need to give sin power in your life? Do we all fall guilty of just leaving our faith at the mouth of the empty tomb? The author of James tells us that faith without action is dead. And the apostle Paul tells us that as Christ's body we bear all things together. Where does that leave us? Or rather what should that mean for us?

It's no secret that after the intense spiritual and physical journey of Holy Week, many Christians acknowledge a slump in their spirit. I had originally thought that these listless doldrums were reserved for Pastor's and other Clergy recovering from the busiest time of the church year. But lay persons feel this too. Some of us can easily understand how Jesus' disciples were left feeling like they had no clue as to what was next. The rest of us just go with the flow, its business as usual.

Allow me to suggest this, that faith isn't only a relationship with God, it's a system of belief, a passion for life and a way to live. Faith is the key to life. It's ok to feel some down time, remember Jesus needing time for himself after he

received news of his cousin John the Baptist's beheading? There are times when we all feel low in spirit and just need to recharge. But Jesus didn't stay away for too long, he was right back in the midst of ministry. You and I need to take our cues from Jesus.

In a few short months we'll be gearing up for a new church programming year. Now is the time to dream and brainstorm about new opportunities for ministries right here in our midst. Maybe you have wanted to get more involved but have found your life to be too busy. Let's take time and prioritize. There is a place for you here and we would love your involvement and the gifts that you can offer. If you have been yearning for something more, that something more could be right here.

And if you're wondering why we do what we do, it's because of God's grace, each and every day through the power of the risen Christ!

I look forward to seeing you in church,

Pastor Matt



# WEDDING BLESSINGS SHOWER



Celebrate with Nathan Atherton and Becky Beneda on April 14 during coffee hour.

Registered at Target and  
Bed, Bath, & Beyond

## *All Church Invitation*

### Hotel Information

**\*Blocks canceled after March 26<sup>th</sup>**

Alexander House-Park River ND  
(701) 284-7141  
Americ Inn-Grafton ND  
(701) 352-2788 or 1-800-634-3444

**Please RSVP by April 14, 2013.**

RSVP calling (701) 356-3816 and leaving a message  
on our answering machine or emailing us at  
***athertonbeneda@gmail.com***

Please specify number of kid and adult meals  
(kids under 10)

*Registered at Target and Bed, Bath, & Beyond*

*A fresh new day,  
and it's ours,  
a day of happy beginnings*

TOGETHER WITH THEIR PARENTS



*Rebecca Rose Beneda*  
and  
*Nathan Wesley Atherton*

INVITE YOU TO CELEBRATE  
THE BEGINNING OF THEIR LIFE TOGETHER  
AS THEY ARE UNITED AS  
HUSBAND AND WIFE

SATURDAY THE TWENTY-SEVENTH OF APRIL  
TWO THOUSAND AND THIRTEEN  
AT THREE IN THE AFTERNOON

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
LANKIN, ND

RECEPTION AND DANCE TO FOLLOW  
AMERICAN LEGION LANKIN

Registered at Target and Bed, Bath, & Beyond

**GOD** *exalted*  
**HIM** *at HIS*  
*right hand as*  
*Leader and*  
**SAVIOR.**

Acts 5:31, NRSV



## GROTON MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Mike & Libby Flowers will be visiting our church on April 28 and we the Missions Committee would like to help them with two needs they have. First they are trying to raise money to purchase a new industrial freezer for the kitchen. We will continue to collect change and dollar bills to help with the freezer. They also need disposable diapers. So if you are shopping, please pick up a package and we will start collecting them in the fellowship hall.

The Pots of Praise collected \$560 and we assisted 11 local families for Easter with Ken's Gift Certificates.

Thank you all for helping make our local missions a success. The Missions Committee



**Something Different**

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

**WEDNESDAYS AT 6:15 PM**

**GROTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

- |                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| 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 |

\*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.

### GROTON UMW MAY BREAKFAST ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Volunteers who are able to help with the May Breakfast food preparation, please sign up on sheets located on the kitchen counter.
- Western Décor Wanted: Call Jolene Townsend, Meri Erickson, or Kim Weber
- Decorations Committee Mtg April 10th at 5:30 pm
- May Breakfast Mtg April 14th at 10 am

## Groton UMW May Breakfast

**PRESENTS**

### "Women of Country"

**special guest stars**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**singing your favorite  
female country western hits**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Wednesday, May 1st**  
**Seating Available at 11:30 or 1:15**  
**Cost - \$8**







**United  
Methodist  
Women**  
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

**Reservations Required**  
Clare Brotherton 397-8177  
DeLoris Knoll 397-2681

**Meals are available for carryout if you are unable to attend!**

### GROTON UMW MEETING

The April Meeting will be Wednesday, April 17th at 2 pm. The program will be the UMW Reading Program with Book Reports. Hostesses are Sharon Wheeting & Gloria Pharis. There will be an Executive meeting at 1 pm with Newsletter Updates and May Breakfast Updates. Be saving Coffee Cans!

#### Groton Potluck

Sunday,

April 14th

After church

Committee wil bring hotdishes and everyone else asked to bring salad/vegetable or a dessert.

Memorial committee meeting Sunday morning, April 14th at 10am. Committee members are: Becky Diegel, Meri Erickson, Alan Strom, Gloria Pharis, Brenda Madsen, Sharon Wheeting.

### Groton Sunday School Schedule


- Apr 7 Sunday School
- Apr 14 Sunday School
- Apr 21 Sunday School
- Apr 28 Sunday School
- May 5 Sunday School
- May 12 Sunday School and Sing in Church
- May 12 will be the last day of Sunday School. Have a great Summer!

*Groton UMYF  
1st & 3rd Weds  
7 pm*

### Camping Season is Open

Check out [www.dakcamps.org](http://www.dakcamps.org) and find a camp to attend! Camp Grades listed are for the current grade your child is in. Please let Kay know what camp you are signing up for so we can get the payments correct. Thank you.

**Deadline is  
April 21!**



## TO BE FOOLISH -OR- WISE

On April Fools' Day, people like to play fun jokes, but there's nothing foolish about God's gift of salvation.

Directions: Match the word shapes to reveal the message of 1 Corinthians 1:18, NIV.

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foolishness

but

saved

it

message

are

of

cross

perishing

is

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1 CORINTHIANS 1:18, NIV

Answer: "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." 1 Corinthians 1:18, NIV

### Confirmation Sunday

will include Macy Knecht, Gabby Kramer, Kelby Hawkins, and Turner Webb.

# OUR CHURCH CELEBRATIONS

## Groton

- Apr 3 Marc Johnson
- Apr 4 Mitchell Madsen  
Sue Stanley
- Apr 5 Wyatt Kurtz
- Apr 7 Reilly Ell
- Apr 8 Lon Gellhaus
- Apr 10 Pauline luce
- Apr 13 Jessica Morehouse
- Apr 14 Reta Washnok  
Toby Dobbins
- Apr 15 Brady Graf  
Nolan Bahr
- Apr 16 Kristi Peterson  
Rodney Boehmer  
Terry & Lynette Furman

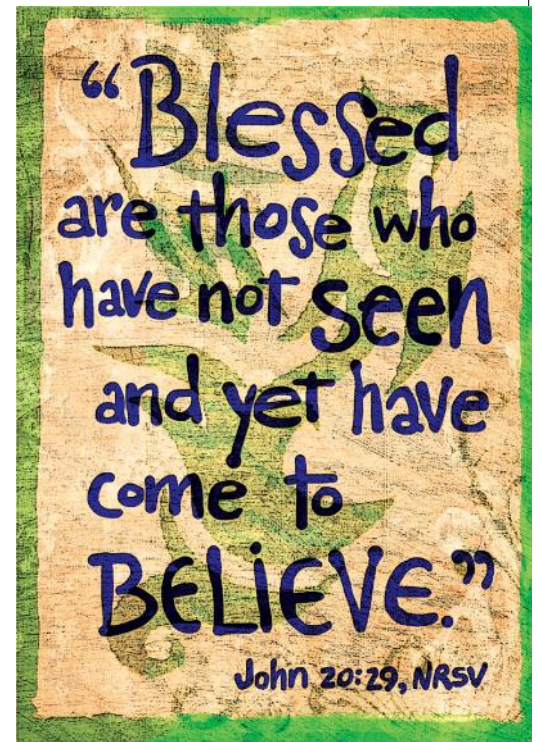
- Apr 18 Dylan vogel  
Merrie Atherton
- Apr 20 Marlys Rodman
- Apr 24 Max Suther
- Apr 28 Kevin Pharis

## Conde

- Apr 14 Dylan Stark
- Apr 18 Loren Siefken
- Apr 22 Curtis Haskell  
Brandon Schlosser  
Mary Ann Watts
- Apr 28 Jim Baldrige



Anniversaries  
and Birthdays



## NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY APRIL 14 FOR SPECIAL OFFERING

There's a sweet, sweet spirit at Greensky Hill Indian Mission United Methodist Church in Charlevoix, Mich. While it starts with the maple syrup the men's group makes and sells each year to aid the community, it does not stop there.

"Everyone says how friendly we are," a member comments.

The Rev. Timothy Wright remembers when two newcomers walked into a church meeting. Soon they were helping to plan the harvest dinner. Before leaving, they accepted an invitation to volunteer at the meal. Today they are active leaders in the congregation.

Founded in the 1830s by Peter Greensky, a Chippewa, today the church is about 50 percent Native American.

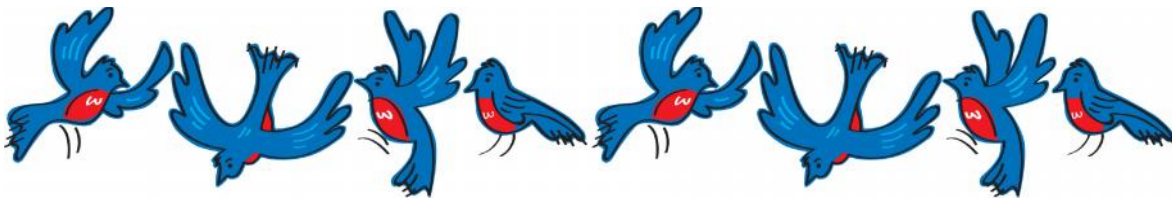
The autumn harvest dinner, feeding 400 to 600 guests each year, funds scholarships for young

people.

Greensky Hill has benefited from the Native American Ministries Sunday offering. "These dollars," says Wright, "keep ministry moving forward."

**Native American Ministries Sunday** reminds United Methodists of the contributions made by Native Americans to our society. The special offering benefits Native American outreach within annual conferences and across the United States and provides seminary scholarships for Native Americans.

United Methodists relate to **Native American Ministries Sunday** by learning about and reaching out to Native Americans in their communities and by encouraging Native Americans to consider becoming pastors and nurturing them in their journey.



### "Oh, what a beautiful morning!"

Children often see things that adults miss. My 8-year-old son often peers out the window first thing in the morning, as likely on a rainy day as a sunny one, to proclaim, "It's a beea-YOU-tiful day!"

Spring varies greatly, from chilly to warm, from rain to sun, from slush and mud to newly green grass and budding plant life. Our lives vary too, of course, between easier days and harder ones, times of relaxation and hours of stress. What if we approached it all with childlike confidence? — that, no matter what comes, life is beautiful because God walks beside us the whole way.



Raindrops tumble to the ground  
 'cause God directs them to come  
 down.  
 Little seeds sprout from the ground  
 'cause God directs them up, not down.  
 Tender roots sink in the ground  
 'cause God directs them to go down.  
 Pretty flowers will be found  
 where raindrops tumbled to the  
 ground.



—MaryAnn Sundby

### A word of wisdom

You cannot stay where you are and go with God. You cannot continue doing things your way and accomplish God's purpose in his ways. Your thinking cannot come close to God's thoughts. For you to do the will of God, you must adjust your life to him, his purposes and his ways.

—Henry Blackaby

*Groton Mission  
 Statement  
 "Enriching Spiritual  
 lives through Christ."*

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

<b>Groton Stewardship Report March 2013</b>
Average Wkly Giving \$1,601
Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,088
Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 89
Total Building Fund Donations \$125

### GROTON MAY FAMILY COMMITTEE

**Sharon & Larry Wheeting**

**Alan & Jolene Townsend**

Karla & Russell Davidson, Alec Oleson

Zachary Townsend

Kristi & Ben Peterson, Jocelyn

Betty Strom

Carol & Luverne Strom

Caralee & Gary Heitmann

AM & Laurie Mitchell

Cheri & Tom Strom

Erin & Damian Bahr

Charity Hinman

Doug Sippel

**Honorary Members**

- DeLoris Knoll
- Hazel McKittrick
- Curtis Krueger

**Extra Responsibilities**

- Mow Lawn if needed
- May 5 leave altar cloths white for communion
- May 12 leave altar cloths white
- May 19 change altar cloths to red
- May 26 change altar cloths to white
- Potluck 2nd Sunday
- Remind Marjorie & Roger Overacker to change banners

May 2013						
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

Apr 8 PPRC in Conde 7 pm

Apr 10 Groton May Breakfast Decorations Mtg 5:30 pm

Apr 14 Native American Ministries Sunday Special Offering

Apr 14 Groton Memorial Mtg 10 am

Apr 14 Groton May Breakfast Mtg 10 am

Apr 14 Groton Wedding Blessings Shower

for Nathan Atherton and Becky Beneda

Apr 14 Groton Potluck after church

Apr 17 Groton UMW Mtg 2 pm

Apr 21 Camp Sign Up Deadline

Apr 28 Mike & Libby Flowers in Worship

**May 1 Groton UMW May Breakfast 11:30 or 1:15**

May 5 Confirmation Sunday

May 12 Last Day of Sunday School and Children Sing in Church

### April 2013

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				