

# UNITED METHODIST MESSENGER

February 2013

## DEAR FRIENDS IN GROTON AND CONDE

The Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Corinth these words: "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends." (1 Cor. 13:4-8a)

These verses are most commonly read at a wedding or a funeral. These are of course times when love is most easily expressed and celebrated. And so it makes sense that couples and families would want to celebrate the very essence of love. But this isn't something that we think about everyday is it? Think about it. In our everyday lives are we thinking about being patient? Or being kind to everyone you come into contact with? What about irritability and resentment? Do we have urges for vengeance?

I have a feeling that all of us, from time to time, have found ourselves being and doing the exact opposite of love. It's an easy trap to fall into

and we are all susceptible as humans. I think that this is one reason why as humans, we need community. Within intentional Christian community, we find accountability, compassion and ultimately we learn how to forgive.

In just a few short weeks we will be entering the season of Lent; a time when we are urged to look introspectively at ourselves and ask God to search our hearts and minds as well. You and I come to terms with the fact that nothing is hidden from God. And that we all have an opportunity to grow in our understanding of faith and discipleship.

And hopefully through this Lenten season we'll experience the love that bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things and endures all things. And we'll know that God is love, a love that never ends.

I look forward to seeing you in church,  
Pastor Matt



### Lenten Schedule

- Feb 12 - Shrove Tues  
Pancake Supper from 5-7  
in Conde (free)
- Feb 13 - Ash Weds Svce  
in Conde at 10:30 am
- Feb 13 - Ash Weds Svce  
in Groton at 6:15 pm and  
light meal at 5:30
- Mar 28 - Maundy Thurs  
Svce in Groton 7 pm
- Mar 29 - Groton Com-  
munity Good Friday Ser-  
vice at noon
- Mar 31 - Easter Sunday

## GROTON LENTEN SERVICES

Lenten Services start Feb 13 with Ash Weds. A light meal will be served from 5:30-6:15 and then WOW Lenten Worship will be at 6:15 in the sanctuary. All are welcome to join us! The free-will donation for the meal will help support our UMYF.

Each work committee is responsible to prepare, serve, and clean-up one Lenten supper. Soup & Sandwiches are typically served but other choices are optional. Prepare for 50 people. Groceries may be charged or receipts given to Kay for reimbursement.

Feb 13 - Jan Committee  
Feb 20 - Feb Committee  
Feb 27 - March Committee  
Mar 6 - April Committee  
Mar 13 - May Committee  
Mar 20 - June Committee



## THANK YOU

Dear UMC Members,  
Thank you for thinking of me during finals week and giving me a Subway gift card. It helped me conquer my hunger during the week. Thanks Again, Mitchell Madsen



### Sympathies to the family of ImoJeanne Oliver

who passed away Jan 31

Funeral Services will be  
Monday, Feb 4 at 11 am

Groton Cookbooks  
Available For Sale  
During Lenten Services  
\$10 Each

### Groton Phone All Call System

The phone system we are using to call everyone with announcements does not work if you have blocks on for telemarketers. You will not get our calls. Also you may notice that on the James Valley phone lines the call does not always say it is from the church but on your cell phone it will if you have the church number in there. If you wish to add a phone or change a number on the calling system, please let Kay know. Thank you.

## UMYF HAPPENINGS

The church youth have been busy over the past several months! Merri Atherton and the A-Town Roller Girlz showed us their skills and it tied in with the message, "don't judge a book by its cover." The BAGS program, which provides food for kids in Groton, allows us to take turns filling the bags. We arranged a food cart at KEN'S for Salvation Army donations and gave money for 8 punch cards for HS lunches. We had an all church youth

mixer, playing dodge ball and raising money for a young man with cancer. Trick or Treating for UNICEF raised money for international aid and we also contributed funds to fight international crimes against African children. For fun, we attended the HS youth rally and the "reason" Christmas concert in Aberdeen.

## GROTON UMW - JAN

Twelve members were in attendance as Jolene Townsend presented the program "Living the Heart of God." It was decided through discussion that the Groton UMW's many projects and missions do a good job of "Living the Heart of God" and hope to continue.

The business meeting began with recitation of the Purpose led by President Gloria Pharis. The minutes and financial reports were given and approved. Old business was just a reminder that the unit will continue with their plan to sell lefse at the Men's Fall Dinner.

New business was a proposed March 10<sup>th</sup> date for UMW Sunday and preparations will have to be finalized for that event. It was discussed and approved that the unit would make a monetary donation to the Groton Public Schools to help students who cannot afford seconds at mealtime. It was reported that the BAGS program is working smoothly.

### Groton UMW Meeting

February 20th at 2 pm

Program by Anita Lowary

Hostesses Doris Zoellner and Jan Raap

## WEDDING BLESSINGS SHOWER

During Coffee hour on March 17th we will celebrate with Alana Wolken and David White who are planning their wedding for April 27th in Omaha, Nebraska. The couple is registered at Target and Bed, Bath, & Beyond.

Committee reports included Jolene Townsend on Social Action stating the focus will be on Domestic Violence and Racial Justice, and a reminder to always recycle, reduce and reuse, Marlys Rodman from Education relayed how appreciative the schools are for the food labels as an example and how a really simple thing it is to do, and Sharon Wheeting has the newsletter from which books for the reading program can be ordered. She has placed a newsletter in the book cabinet.

Pastor Matt gave a closing prayer giving thanks for all the gifts of 2012 and looking forward to all the continued service in 2013.

February 20<sup>th</sup> is the next meeting at 2p.m. with Anita Lowary giving the program. Hostesses are Jan Raap and Doris Zoellner.

A delicious lunch was served at the January meeting by Marjorie Townsend and Marlys Rodman.

## Groton Missions Committee

Currently we are collecting change during the children's sermon in our kettle of kindness as we continue to support our local families in need.

The Missions Committee will meet February 17th at 10 am during coffee hour to plan the projects for the year 2013. Committee members are Jan Raap, Marva Gellhaus, Karla Pasteur, Zachary Townsend, kami Lipp, Richard Krueger, JoAnn Krueger, AM Mitchell, and Laurie Mitchell.

Kay Brandt, chair



# OUR CHURCH CELEBRATIONS

**Groton**

- Feb 4 KayLynn Overacker
- Feb 5 Andrea & Brian Bahr
- Feb 7 Gary Voss
- Feb 8 Gage Sippel  
Larry Wheeting
- Feb 10 Alan & Jolene Townsend  
Brenda Madsen  
Dion Bahr
- Feb 12 Skylar Kramer  
Yvonne Lorenz
- Feb 14 Diane Nissen  
Adam Suther
- Feb 16 Pernell Graf
- Feb 18 Churck & Michelle Padfield
- Feb 19 Gaylene Voss  
Robin O'Neill  
Terry Furman
- Feb 20 Michael Wells



- Feb 21 Ruth Thompson  
Wyatt Morehouse
- Feb 22 Anthony Schinkel
- Feb 25 Brent Morehouse  
Greg Heitmann
- Feb 26 Mary Ann Wehde  
Ginger McNickle
- Feb 28 Paisley Mitchell

**Conde**

- Feb 4 Donna Walter
- Feb 5 Richard Sanderson
- Feb 7 Bill Trapp
- Feb 9 Vicki Stark
- Feb 10 Greg & Vicki Stark
- Feb 15 Tim & Betty Geist
- Feb 19 Tyler Stark
- Feb 22 Betty Jensen  
Horace Walter

## An Exciting Eulogy

Some men were talking about death and dying when this question came up: “What would you want people to say about you at your funeral?”

One replied, “I’d want people to say, ‘He was a great and compassionate humanitarian who cared about those in need.’”

A second said, “I’d want people to say, ‘He was a good father and husband, whose life was a fine example for others to follow.’”

A third answered, “I’d like them to say, ‘Look, he’s moving!’”



- |                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| 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 Sunday School Schedule

- Feb 3 Sunday School
- Feb 10 Sunday School
- Feb 17 No Sunday School
- Feb 24 Sunday School
- Mar 3 Sunday School
- Mar 10 Sunday School
- Mar 17 No Sunday School
- Mar 24 Sunday School and Sing in Church
- Mar 31 No Sunday School
- 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!


### Save the Dates

- May 5 - Confirmation Sunday
- April 28 - Mike & Libby Flowers will be joining us in church
- March - April - May the UMYF will be meeting the 1st and 3rd Weds

### 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.

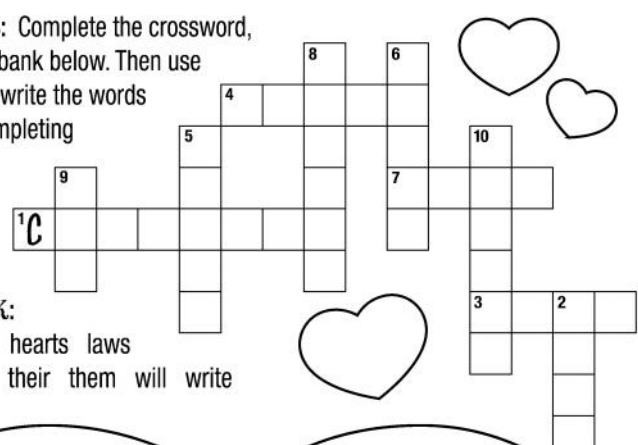
**Deadline is April 21!**



## ON THEIR HEARTS

*God made a special promise about a relationship he wants to have with people who love him.*

**DIRECTIONS:** Complete the crossword, using the word bank below. Then use the numbers to write the words in the heart, completing God's promise.



**WORD BANK:**  
 covenant God hearts laws  
 minds people their them will write

"This is the 1) \_\_\_\_\_ ... | 2) \_\_\_\_\_  
 put my 3) \_\_\_\_\_ in 4) \_\_\_\_\_ 5) \_\_\_\_\_ and  
 6) \_\_\_\_\_ 7) \_\_\_\_\_ on 4) \_\_\_\_\_ 8) \_\_\_\_\_  
 | 2) \_\_\_\_\_ be 4) \_\_\_\_\_ 9) \_\_\_\_\_,  
 and they 2) \_\_\_\_\_ be my  
 10) \_\_\_\_\_."

**HEBREWS 8:10, NIV**

Answer: "This is the covenant ... I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people." Hebrews 8:10, NIV

### Risking love

To love is to risk not being loved in return. To hope is to risk pain. To try is to risk failure, but risk must be taken because the greatest hazard in life is to risk nothing. Love comes to those who still hope even though they've been disappointed, to those who still believe even though they've been betrayed, to those who still love even though they've been hurt before.

—Author unknown



*Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O LORD.*

*Psalm 36:6, NRSV*

# PUZZLE

## ON THEIR HEARTS

*God made a special promise about a relationship he wants to have with people who love him.*

**DIRECTIONS:** Complete the crossword, using the word bank below. Then use the numbers to write the words in the heart, completing God's promise.

The crossword puzzle grid is partially filled with the following words:

- 1 C O V E N A N T
- 4 T H E I R
- 5 M I N D S
- 7 T H E M
- 8 H E A R T S
- 9 G O D
- 10 P E O P L E

**WORD BANK:**  
 covenant God hearts laws  
 minds people their them will write

“This is the **1) c o v e n a n t** ... **1) w i l l**  
 put my **3) l a w s** in **4) t h e i r** **5) m i n d s** and  
**6) w r i t e** **7) t h e m** on **4) t h e i r** **8) h e a r t s**.  
**1) w i l l** be **4) t h e i r** **9) g o d**,  
 and they **2) w i l l** be my  
**10) p e o p l e**.”

HEBREWS 8:10, NIV



## ALL IS WELL

Horatio Spafford (1828-1888), a prominent, wealthy Chicago lawyer, is remembered for writing the beloved hymn “It Is Well With My Soul.”

It seems such lyrics would come naturally to someone so successful. But Spafford didn’t pen the hymn during life’s high points. Instead, the words poured forth amid tragedy.

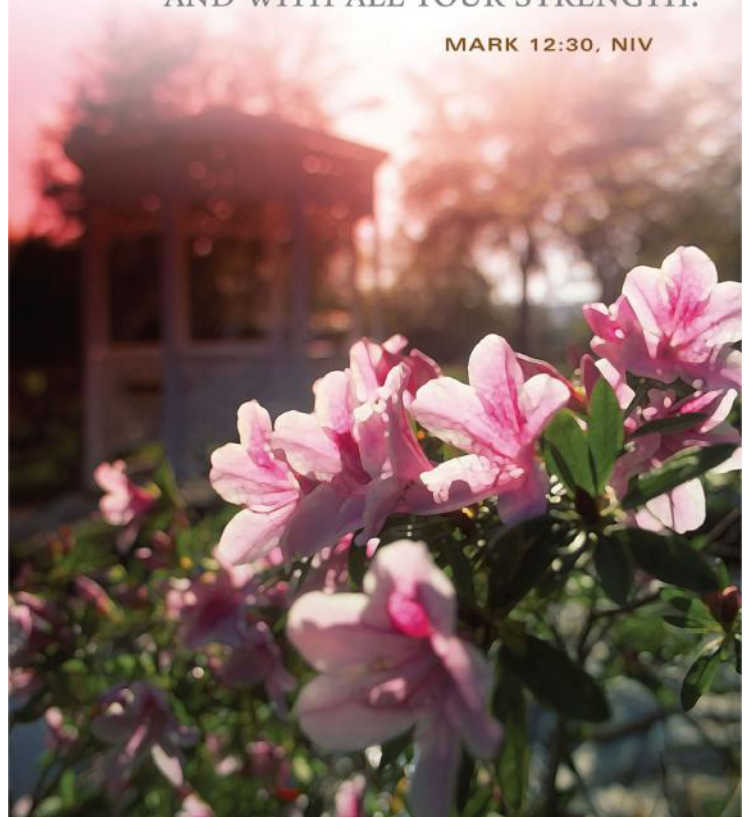
In 1871, the Great Chicago Fire wiped out Spafford’s life savings. Two years later, his wife, Anna, and their four daughters headed to Europe on the SS Ville Du Havre, with Spafford to follow a few days later. The boat was struck by another vessel and sank, killing 226 of the 313 people on-board. Although Anna survived, the Spafford girls didn’t.

After receiving the news, Spafford went to England to get Anna. While sailing over the spot where his daughters had died, he wrote the lyrics to “It Is Well With My Soul.” They’re a reminder that no matter what life brings, our souls can be at rest in God.

“When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll; whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.”

*L*OVE THE LORD YOUR GOD  
WITH ALL YOUR HEART  
AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL  
AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND  
AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.

MARK 12:30, NIV



*A cord  
of three strands  
is not quickly  
broken.*

*Ecclesiastes 4:12, NIV*



**Something Different**

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

**WEDNESDAYS AT 6:15 PM**

**GROTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



*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.”

**Groton Stewardship Report**  
**January 2013**

Average Wkly Giving \$1,383  
 Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,088

Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 73

Total Building Fund Donations \$20

**GROTON MARCH FAMILY COMMITTEE**

- Carna & Cliff Pray, Kevin Karla Pasteur**  
 Dale & Michelle Kramer  
 Yvonne Lange  
 Gayleen & Jon Voss, Lacey  
 Anita & Gary Voss  
 Dwight & Eugenia Strom  
 Marlys Rodman  
 Rose Tewksbury  
 Laurel & Monte McNickel  
 Kami & Tom Lipp, Reilly Ell, Kyler Ell  
 Lance & Kristi Hawkins, Kylie  
 Diann & Brad Morehouse  
 Linda & Gary Thurston  
 Desiree Morehouse  
 Cheryl Hanson
- Honorary Members**
- Doris Zoellner
  - Charlotte Lange

**Extra Responsibilities**

- Shovel snow from doorways before Church
- March 3 change altar cloths to white for communion
- March 10 change altar cloths to purple
- March 28, Maundy Thursday Color as per Pastor (red or purple)
- March 31 change altar cloths to white for Easter Sunday
- Potluck 2nd Sunday
- 5th Sunday - may buy donuts - bill to Kay Brandt
- Remind Cliff & Carna Pray to change banners this month.

March 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						



February 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		



## OUR CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Feb 3 Conde Souper Bowl of Sharing Sunday

Feb 12 Groton 10 AM Bible Study starts Adam Hamilton Lenten Study

Feb 12 Conde Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5-7 pm

Feb 13 Conde Ash Weds Service 10:30 am

Feb 13 Groton Ash Weds Supper 5:30 and Service 6:15

Feb 17 Groton Missions Committee Mtg 10 am

Feb 20 Groton UMW 2 pm

Feb 20 Groton Lenten Supper 5:30 and Service 6:15

Feb 20 Groton Ad Council 7 pm

Feb 24 Newsletter Items Due

Feb 27 Groton Lenten Supper 5:30 and Service 6:15

Mar 10 Groton UMW Sunday