



United Methodist Messenger

May 2013

Groton/Conde Parishes

The joy of service

I slept and
dreamt that life
was joy.
I awoke and saw
that life was
service.
I acted and be-
hold, service was
joy.

—Rabindranath
Tagore (1861-
1941)



Dear Friends in Groton & Conde

Hopefully we have seen the last of winter for this spring. Farmers have been chomping at the bit to get into the fields and I am pretty sure the rest of us were just plain exhausted with having all that snow. It seems as though the parsonage lawn has turned green overnight; it's amazing what a little sun and warmer temperatures can do. New life and the energy of spring can be seen and felt all around.

The prophet Isaiah writes this, "For as the rain and snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it." These words come at time when the nation of Israel was searching for hope and forgiveness. They are found in the text as Isaiah is writing about abundant life and returning to the Lord.

In this text, the amazing process of precipitation, saturation and evaporation is used as a metaphor highlighting how we as humans receive the word of God, interpret the word of God and then apply scriptural meaning to our lives. And God promises that his word shall not return empty but will accomplish its intended purpose. What is God's intended purpose? For the Israelites God wanted there to be reconcilia-

tion and abundant life.

The meaning found in the word of God is timeless and everlasting. So for you and me the same meaning exists. These are words of promise and hope assuring us of the goodness of God that is to come. This scripture also indicates that there will be rain and there will be snow, the metaphor here is that there are times in our lives when we are in the midst of struggles and storms. But let us remember that those struggles and storms help us grow in our faith and like the prophet Isaiah wrote, there is an intended process. And let us not forget the promise of God; the guarantee of an abundant life in Jesus Christ.

I look forward to seeing you in church,
Pastor Matt





Groton Thank You Notes

New table cloths in memory of Margaret Blader. New Easter Banner in memory of Pam Bahr.

Thank you to the Green Foundation for their donation towards camping scholarships.

Thank you very much for the Ken's Gift Certificate. It is greatly appreciated.

Words cannot express the gratitude we feel for your kindness and generosity following the loss of our home. We are overwhelmed by your compassion and support. Knowing we have such wonderful people in our lives, makes this tragic event a little more bearable. The fire may have taken many physical heirlooms, but we still cherish the memories we've made and the people we have shared them with. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your donation! Shad, Darcy, Margelle, Jade, Maycee & Jeric Albrecht



Groton Confirmation

Confirmation will be celebrated May 5. Those being confirmed are Macy Knecht, Gabby Kramer, Kelby Hawkins, and Turner Webb.

Groton Memorial Committee Mtg

Committee meeting Sunday, May 19th at 10 am. Those on the committee include: Sharon Wheeting, Alan Strom, Meri Erickson, Gloria Pharis, Becky Diegel, and Brenda Madsen. Chair, Linda Thurston

Groton Graduation

Sunday, May 12, David Strom will be honored during coffee hour for his high school graduation. A gift table will be set up for him. David is the son of Dwight & Eugenia Strom and Steve & Michele Cogley. Grandparents are Luverne and Carol Strom.



PPR Meeting

PPR will be meeting at 7 pm on May 20 in Groton. Members are Betty Geist, Pat Siefken, Meri Erickson, Carna Atherton-Pray, Donna Hearnen, Adrienne Flihs, Tyke Nyberg, Andrea Bahr, Bud Bruckner, Roger Rix, Lon Gellhaus, Greg Peterson, and Dale Kramer.

Representatives from the trustees' and PPR will tour the parsonage at 6:30 prior to meeting.

Conde Community VBS

Plans are underway for a Conde Community VBS - June 17 – June 21. The theme will be 'Kingdom Rock'

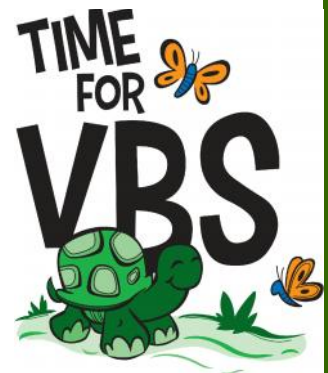
At Kingdom Rock, kids discover how to stand strong for God! Kingdom Rock is filled incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste!

Scency-fun Gizmos, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the royally

rockin' activities that help faith flow into real life.

Plus we will help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life—something we call God Sightings.

Please register your kids by calling or emailing: Cindy (382-5923) or clsmith@nvc.net or Pat (395-6626) or lpksiefken@nrctv.com before Monday, May 13.



Conde Ad Board Notes

Accepted the challenge of Bishop Ough to raise \$ the the Bakken region in ND – special emphasis the last 2 Sundays in May

High School Sr. Recognition for area students will be held during the church services in May

Special Father's Day Parish Wide Celebration will be held on June 16 at the

Groton church – no services in Conde. Events will start with worship at 11:00 followed by a meal (members asked to bring a dish to pass). A tractor display with finish out the afternoon.

Upcoming Date: UMCOR Blanket Sunday on May 12

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

Conde Highlights

- Conde UMW met April 24
- Friendship night will be held Oct 9th @ 6:30 with variety of salads.
- We will be honoring the graduates May 5th during church
- Circle will meet May 14 after ad board meeting at 6:00
- We will be having a day out in May time and date to be announced

Must-have traits

How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these.

—George Washington Carver



Groton UMW - Jan/Feb/Mar

Twelve members were in attendance at the 2p.m. meeting as Anita Lowary presented the program "Seeing the Future in Our Midst." The theme was based on Matt. 18: 1-5, we are taught to not only tolerate the neglected, but welcome them. Some of the organizations the Groton UMW are involved in this manner are the Family Crisis Fund, BAGS for Tomorrow, and Helping With School Lunches. The program closed with Psalms 78: 1-7 which challenges us to teach our children about the wonderful works of God. God works through us... the UMW of Groton.

The business meeting was called by President Gloria Pharis with recitation of the Purpose and Doris Zoellner read devotions. The World Day of Prayer was held on Mar. 1 at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church with Jolene Townsend and Marj Overacker will assist. UMW Sunday was scheduled for Mar. 10.

New Business consisted of Gloria and Marj showing samples of new white tablecloths, Darlys Kampa donated 12 plastic trays. Additional items needed for the kitchen were noted: additional plastic water pitchers, lazy Susan for veg./dip, large spoons for scalloped potatoes, large slotted spoons for vegetables, and large crock pot for vegetables.

Jan Raap and Doris Zoellner served lunch. At the March meeting the Shepherdess will be visiting. Hostesses for the Mar. meeting will be Pat Dahlquist and Rose Tewksbury.

At the Mar. 20th meeting twelve members were present to hear our shepherdess, Pat Siefken, share news from the district and conference.

During old business, Marj Overacker reported on the World Day of Prayer. There were 40 people in attendance. New business: the Groton UMW will host the World Day of Prayer next year on Mar. 7, 2014 with Marj Over-

acker chairing the event. The Memorial Committee has purchased 16 round and 4 long tablecloths. Plans are underway for the annual May Breakfast. The theme is "Women of Country." There are two settings at 11:30 and 1:15 with \$8.00 per plate being charged.

Lunch was served by Pat Dahlquist and Rose Tewksbury. Hostesses for the April meeting are Sharon Wheeting and Gloria Pharis. The reading program and book reviews are on the program.

Fourteen members were present for the Apr. 17 meeting with Jolene Townsend and Sharon Wheeting giving the program. They presented a skit on the reading program which was an overview of the program and the 5 categories. The program can be reviewed on p.p. 19-20 of the UMW booklet. Jan Raap, Jolene Townsend, and Marj Townsend shared reviews of books they have read to end the program.

Old business was a reminder of Focus Days to be held April 20 at Faith United Methodist in Aberdeen. Gloria Pharis, Jeanne Wanous, and JoAnn Krueger attended. They also resented a skit.

The May Breakfast was discussed with plans underway. Some concern was noted about reservations, but the weather has not always been cooperating.

There was a discussion of membership. To be a member you need to have strong commitment to mission and you don't have to be a United Methodist to be a member.

The next meeting is May 15 at 2 p.m. with Marj Overacker giving the program. Hostesses are Darlys Kampa and Carol Strom. Sharon Wheeting and Gloria Pharis served a delicious desert pizza for the April meeting.

Groton UMW

May 15

2 pm - Weds

Program by

Marjorie Overacker

Hostesses

Darlys Kampa &

Carol Strom

Upcoming Events

Reading Program due

Aug 1st

Register "Mission U"



Memorial Day

May 27

HOWDY PARDNERS!!!

It's Groton UMC Vacation Bible School time!

WHO: Preschool thru Grade 5 (just finishing)

WHEN: Monday, May 20...Tuesday, May 21...
and Wednesday, May 22

TIMES: 3:15pm thru 5:45pm

(Someone will be at elementary school on Monday and Tuesday to walk students over to the church. Last day of school is at noon Wednesday, but VBS will be at 3:15 like other days. Call transit bus if need rides any day at 397-8661.)

WHAT: Snacks will be served at 3:15 to 3:30.

(No supper served with 5:45 pick up.)

"Round up" your friends! Everyone is "WANTED" to join us for fun music, lessons, and crafts to start your summer as we "GIDDY UP for GOD!!!"

Friends and family are invited to attend Wednesday, May 22, at 5:45 for a meal, a short program, and to get your crafts. There is NO charge for Bible School, but we would appreciate any help and/or donations! Please fill out the online form at www.grotonsdchurches.com/umc or return the attached form to the black basket on kitchen counter at church. Questions please call Kim at 380-7148 or email kimweber59@yahoo.com. THANKS!

VBS Signup is ONLINE!
A link is on the home page of our website.

www.grotonsdchurches.com/umc



Groton Sunday School Schedule

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 VBS Help & Donations

Please let Kim Weber know if you can help any of the following days: Sunday, May 19 to set up at 9 am; Monday, May 20; Tuesday, May 21; or Wednesday, May 22. Would you prefer to assist with music, lessons, recreation time, crafts, snacks, or the nightly clean-up? Thank you.

The following donations are also needed. Juice boxes, Bush's baked beans, Ice Cream, Apples, Yogurt covered raisins, My Little Pony fruit chews,

Yogurt covered pretzel twists, Kellogg's mini Wheats, Napkins, sturdy paper plates, chocolate or cinnamon flavored god fish crackers, lemonade mix, potato chips, 2 liter Root Beer pop, Watermelon, stick pretzels, craisins, confetti cake mix, cool whip, vanilla yogurt, paper cups, or any monetary donations to help with these purchase.

Thanks so much for helping support VBS!



Our Church Celebrations

Groton

May 1 Don Bartz
 May 2 Eugene Luce
 May 3 Kim Weber
 May 4 Desiree Morehouse
 Evan Erickson
 Tom Strom
 May 5 Gary Thurston
 Marlee Jones
 Tony & Brenda Madsen
 May 6 Clint Jacobson
 Dick Ruden
 May 7 Gabbie Kramer
 Rebeca Padfield
 May 8 Austin Jones
 Dale Kramer
 John Lowary
 Rob Wanous
 May 10 John & Anita Lowary
 May 11 Audrey Padfield
 May 12 Jack & Maggie Oliver
 May 13 Doris Strom
 May 14 Linda Johnson
 Pam Rix
 May 15 Charlotte Lange
 May 17 Cliff & Carna Pray
 May 18 Jean Walter
 May 19 John Erickson
 Taylor Diegel
 May 20 Tom & Kami Lipp
 May 21 Cody Hanson

Pastor Matt
 May 25 Jon Voss
 Adrienne Flihs
 May 26 Drake Peterson
 May 27 Luverne & Carol Strom
 May 28 Cheryl Hanson
 Jesse & Julie Morehouse
 May 29 Clare Brotherton
 DeLoris Knoll
 Gary & Anita Voss
 May 30 Hazel McKittrick
 Kami Lipp
 Macy Knecht

Conde

May 3 Janette Imsland
 May 7 Eric & Ann Menzia
 Jane Worlie
 May 10 Marion Jensen
 May 11 Tim Geist
 May 12 Diane Taylor
 May 16 Dwight Lyren
 May 21 Pastor Matt
 May 25 Greg Bonn
 Floyd & Carol Smith
 May 27 Malcolm Knoll
 Arvon & Diane Taylor
 May 28 Grant & Janice Hanson
 May 30 Curtis & Cindy Haskell



*Anniversaries
and Birthdays*



Mother's Day
May 12

Mother with a mission

Catherine Booth, wife of Salvation Army founder William Booth, was said to have read the Bible through eight times before age 12. In 1855, she married William, a Methodist minister, keeping the wedding simple so more money could go toward ministry.

Breaking with tradition, Catherine became active in the church, speaking in meetings and giving public testimony. While raising eight children, she raised funds for her work, which included helping alcoholics get their lives on track.

Upon her death, this "Mother of the Salvation Army" received high praise from her husband. "To me she has been made of God, never-failing sympathy, reliable wisdom and unvarnished truth," said William Booth. "In short, all that is noble and good; and consequently a tower of strength, a mine of wealth, and an everflowing fountain of comfort and joy."

Peace with Justice Sunday - May 26

Your Peace with Justice Sunday gifts change lives in places where the joy of knowing Christ is mixed with the tragedy of violence.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Bishop Nkulu Ntanda Ntambo assumed his post as a brutal civil war began in 1996. After nearly eight years of war, he helped to broker a peace settlement at a conference where 250 fighters committed not to fight again.

United Methodists in the Democratic Republic of the Congo — 2.3 million strong — received two Peace with Justice grants from the General Board of Church and Society to respond to the 2011 post-election violence and to teach people to share Jesus' love.

A \$4,790 grant encouraged young people in the Central Congo Episcopal Area to foster reconciliation. Another grant — \$4,700 to the South Congo Episcopal Area — engaged youth and

their leaders to model ways to overcome violence.

Today we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and witness to God's demand for a faithful, just, disarmed and secure world. The special offering benefits peace-related ministries in annual conferences and through the Board of Church and Society.

United Methodists relate to this special Sunday by seeking peaceful solutions, creating and supporting peace-related ministries in their conference and learning about peaceful, just efforts around the world.

Please give generously on Peace with Justice Sunday.

Your Peace with Justice Sunday offering aids disciples, young and old, who are indeed changing lives and changing the world, inspired by Christ's gospel of love and liberation



Mistaken identity

Two cars waited at a stoplight. When the light turned green, the first driver didn't notice. The woman behind him pounded her steering wheel and yelled. When the light turned yellow, she honked, made an obscene gesture and cursed. Hearing the commotion, the man looked up and accelerated through the intersection just as the light turned red. The woman ranted at missing her chance to get through.

Suddenly, she heard a tap on her window and looked up to see a policeman. He told her to get out and place her hands on her car. The bewildered woman was hustled into the patrol car, booked at the station and placed in a cell.

Eventually, the original officer returned and apologized for the mistake. "I noticed your behavior," he said. "Then I saw the 'Follow Me to Sunday School' bumper sticker and the Christian fish emblem. Naturally, I assumed the car was stolen."

Groton UMW May Breakfast was May 1st



Thank you
Everyone!



“Women of Country”
Featured local singers were
Camille Sippel, Kari Hanson,
Macy Knecht
Guest Star was Theresa Edgarr from
Rockham SD who sang Patsy Cline hits.

Groton School Supplies Mission Project



- Backpacks
- Red Pens
- No 2 Pencils
- Pencil Bags (Cloth)
- Rulers
- Elmers School Glue
- Watercolors
- Erasers
- Boxes of Kleenex
- Spiral Notebooks (wide)
- Colored Pencils
- Felt Tip Markers
- Dry Erase Markers
- Pocket Folders
(No Trapper Keepers)
- Hand Sanitizer
- Blunt Scissors
- 9X12 Clip Boards
- 1" 3 ring Binders
- 1 1/2" blue 3 ring binder
- white business envelopes
- white 5X7 envelopes
- snack ziploc bags
- sandwich ziploc bags
- quart ziploc bags
- gallon ziploc bags
- tin foil
- glue sticks
- pencil sharpeners
- Crayons 24 count
- Sharpies
- Plastic Sheet protectors
- Napkins
- Folders - red, green, yellow
- bath towels
- usb jump drives



SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

This year we are collecting a variety of supplies to make one large donation to the Groton Elementary School. Cut out the list and carry it with you to have handy this summer as the supplies come on sale. If you do not wish to shop, you may always make a monetary donation. Thank you for supporting our school!

A Collection Box will be set up at the church later this summer. Thank you. Missions Committee



Local Missions

Thank you to all who helped with the Spirit Lake Coin Collection and Diaper Collection. It was greatly appreciated.



Groton UMC	Marlys Rodman	397-4570
	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 UMC Ad Council - April

The financial discussion included concerns that four church services were cancelled year-to-date adversely affecting offerings and our budget. It was noted that our weekly Sunday attendance has also been slipping since September.

The Pastor Parish Committee shared plans for hosting a parish wide picnic in conjunction with the Father's Day Tractor Show at our church on

June 16. This committee also plans a parish walk thru on May 20.

The trustees plan to do a full building walk thru and room by room utilization review.

Carol Knecht gave a good report on the UMYF activities and the generosity they have shown in donating funds they have raised to those in need.

Groton Stewardship Report April 2013

Average Wkly Giving \$2,108

Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,088

Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 68

Total Building Fund Donations \$40

Groton June Family Committee

Gloria & Harry Pharis

Chris & Sherwin Nyberg

- Joyce & Allen Walter
- Michelle & Chuck Padfield
- Randy & Rebecca Padfield
- Mary Ann Wehde
- Darlys Kampa
- JoAnn & Richard Krueger
- Crystal Sippel
- Pat Dahlquist

Honorary Members

- Eugene & Ruby Luce
- Richard Voss
- Jean Walter
- Twila Ruden

- Bob Wehde
- Marjory Townsend
- Marie McClintic & Larry Schnaidt

June Extra Responsibilities

- Mow the Lawn Weekly
- June 2 leave the altar clothes white for communion
- June 9 change altar cloths to green
- 5th Sunday may buy donuts and give bill to Kay Brandt
- Remind Jesse & Jaymie Overacker to change banners.

June 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						

Groton Mission Statement
“Enriching Spiritual lives through Christ.”

The price of freedom

In “What Did He Die For?” Twila Paris reminds us why we observe Memorial Day — and why we worship Jesus as our Savior. The first verse tells of a 21-year-old soldier fighting for America’s freedom during World War II. The second verse recalls another young man, many centuries prior, sent by his Father to win eternal freedom from sin for the entire world. The chorus offers this challenge:

“What did he die for when he died for you and me,
 Made the sacrifice so that we could all be free?
 I believe we will answer each to heaven
 For the way we spend a priceless liberty.

Look inside and ask the question, What did he die for?”

Memorial Day challenges us to live so as to honor the sacrifices made by members of the military. We value our freedom because of the heavy price people have paid for it. Likewise, every day we’re challenged to live so as to honor Jesus’ supreme sacrifice. He calls us to spend our “priceless liberty” using our blessings to bless others.

Our Church Happenings

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	



- May 5 Groton Confirmation Sunday
- May 5 Conde Honoring Graduates
- May 12 Groton Last Day of Sunday School and Children Sing in Church
- May 12 Conde UMCOR Blanket Sunday
- May 12 Mother's Day
- May 14 Conde Ad Board at 6 pm followed by Circle
- May 15 Groton Ad Council 8 pm
- May 19 Memorial Committee Mtg 10 am
- May 20 PPRC Meeting 7 pm in Groton
- May 20-22 Groton VBS 3:15-5:45 - Sign-up ONLINE
- May 21 Pastor Matt's Birthday
- May 26 Peace with Justice Sunday
- June 5--8 Annual Conference in Bismark, ND
- June 16 Father's Day Extravaganza