



# United Methodist Messenger

GROTON/CONDE PARISHES

June/July 2014

## Dear Friends in Groton and Conde

And just like that summer is in full swing! Both Groton and Conde having Vacation Bible School, kids riding their bikes, enjoying the pool, the evenings and baseball! We finally have warmer temperatures, and the farmers are in the fields. Weekends are filled with grilling out, camping, and going to the lake; life is good!

The other day at the DQ as I was finishing a ministerial meeting with colleagues, a couple came in with their elderly father and sat down to enjoy an ice cream treat together. In that moment it struck me. Why don't we see more of this? Why don't we spend more time with our elderly loved ones? Perhaps my spirit is a little hypersensitive right now because it's looking more and more like this will be the last summer that I will be able to physically connect with my last living grandparent. Or maybe, the feelings of some of the elderly people that I have been talking to are spot on valid! Growing old, becoming elderly is a lonely road, too lonely.

In Ephesians 6:2, Paul instructs the believers at the Church in Ephesus to "Honor thy Father and Mother." At first glance this appears to only apply to child rearing and discipline. But how do we apply the text to our later years?

In the Native American culture, elders of the community are respected, revered and sought out for their wisdom. In an earlier time the elderly were given seats of honor at banquets, special en-

trance at certain community events and often given the best village spot for their Tipi or lodge. And often after the hunt the best cuts of meat we offered to the elderly first. How times have changed.

I routinely spend time visiting the elderly, either in the nursing homes and assisted living facilities in the area. I continually hear something like oh pastor it's good to see you again, and they want to know about me and how I am doing. It's ironic because I am there to talk to them and see how they are doing, and yet they are concerned for me. After I have shared about my life for a bit I say, "but I am here to hear how you are doing and to see you." This usually invites responses that reveal loneliness, anger, fear and depression. And at the heart of it is a longing to be seen, heard, and loved by the people who have meant so much to them throughout the years.

As you are enjoying your summer, with all the visits to the lake, all the camping trips, all the fishing, all the "all these," remember that you are NOT stuck in a small room, with limited freedom, limited independence, limited interaction and an abundance of sadness.

And then remember those who ARE.

I look forward to seeing you in church,  
Pastor Matt

## Pastor Office Hours

Monday 9 am - 4 pm

Tuesday 9 am - 4 pm

Wednesday 9 am - 3 pm followed by evening meetings

Thursday will be out spent on visitation and a time of sermon prep

Friday and Sat - Off

Emergencies - Any time



# United Methodist Messenger

## Congratulations



Henry Harrison Pharis was born to Kevin and Kara Pharis on May 14 at 9:36 pm. Weighed 7 lbs 8 oz and 20 inches long.



## Father's Day Extravaganza

will be hosted by PPR on June 15th. An all-church service will be held in Groton at 11 am and no service in Conde. Following is a potluck with meat, buns, drinks, and utensils furnished. Please bring a dish to pass. There will also be large inflatables and games to be enjoyed.

## Thank You

Kind deeds are like little prayers. Thank you so much. Thank you for the sweatshirt! Reilly Ell

Thank you for the gift. Very Generous! Sincerely, Anthony

Thank you to Weber Landscaping for the tree planted during VBS.

Pastor Matt - We, the Dick Ruden family would like to thank you and the GUMC for letting us host Dad's 95th birthday party at the church. Also, we would like to specially thank Jeanne Wanous, Margie Overacker, and Rich Krueger who went over and beyond in helping us. The day was a huge success and many memories were told and made. Thanks Again - Pat Ruden Larson

## VBS Thank You

Thanks to everyone who helped in any way and/or donated to Vacation Bible School! It takes many people to make this work, and it is greatly appreciated! There were approx 45 children attending Bible School. We received a nice offering to start our Little Free Library project, and thanks to Weber Landscaping for donating and planting the tree. The children enjoyed getting "hands on" and helped fill the dirt around the newly planted tree. With the help of Alec Olson as the "Cat in the Hat" and Pastor Matt's message and prayer we had a special ceremony as we held hands around the tree. THANKS to ALL of you!!!



## Wedding Shower

An Open House Wedding Shower for Nick Strom & Jenna Bubel will be Saturday, June 21 from 10 am till Noon hosted by friends and family

A Wedding Blessings Shower will be held during coffee hour on June 22 hosted by the Congregation of the Groton UMC.

Join Nick and Jenna as they celebrate their upcoming wedding August 16th in Fargo. The couple is registered at Target and Macy's.







## Conde UMW - May

The Conde United Methodist Woman had a morning May Tea on Wednesday, May 14. The theme was "Purses". Pat Siefken named some articles that ladies might carry in their purses and then gave them a spiritual meaning or purpose to show individual's "purse—onality". In keeping with this same theme, she had a game where the ladies had to think what they had in their purse. As Pat named different items, the players were able to earn points if they had them in their possession. Some of the more common things were worth only one point, and more rare things scored ten or twenty points. Then five ladies presented a little play entitled, "Purses 'R Us". The setting was a Purse Shop, and the customer, Donna Hearn, was enlightened on many purses she should buy that would take away some of

her undesirable traits. Patty Knoll was the sales lady with Jane Worlie and Donna Walter as her helpers. At the end, the "angry customer" demanded to speak with the manager, Pat Siefken. Pat showed Donna that all she really needed was one small "Change Purse" containing a Bible to change her life, so she would be a better person. A lunch of vegetable pasta salad, fruit, ribbon sandwiches, and for the sweet tooth, there were small little cupcakes and very rich and tasty little cookies. This event replaced the "Friendship Night" that the ladies have had in the evening. Last year, the Spring slipped by without having the event, so the ladies had a Spudtacular meal and program in the Fall.



## Conde VBS

CONDE JUNE 18

UMW MEETING IS A  
DAY OUT AT 10 AM

JULY HAS NO  
GENERAL MEETING

MISSION U IS  
HAPPENING! PLAN  
TO ATTEND JULY 10-  
13 IN MITCHELL OR  
JULY 17-20 IN  
JAMESTOWN, ND

## Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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





**Groton UMC**

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

\*If you are not on this list or the email prayer chain, 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 Meeting - May**

Thirteen members were present to recite the Purpose and begin the meeting. The program was the theme of graduation. Members were to bring their graduation photo and others were to try and identify who it was. Each person then talked about any education beyond high school and employment which followed.

Old business: The May Breakfast was successful. Thank-yous were sent to the speaker and entertainment. New business: There was a lengthy discussion of the May Breakfast and whether it might have to have some changes. A survey may be used to see what other members are thinking that were not present at the meeting. This discussion was tabled until the next

meeting. Marj Overacker's name was drawn for the gift card. Hugs and Candy Kisses were also addressed. Money for this is used to help the children of S.D. There were no Mission reports. Cards were signed and sent to members who are experiencing illness or need to know they are being kept in our thoughts.

President Jolene Townsend ended the meeting with devotions: What's A Parent To Do. The next meeting is June 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:30. Hostesses are Carol Storm and Rose Tewksbury. A delicious dessert was served by Clare Brotherton and Marj Overacker. Pastor Matt's birthday was also observed.

**Groton UMW Meeting**

**June 18th at 1:30 PM**

Program by Carolyn Snyder

Hostesses are Carol Strom & Rose Tewksbury

Bring your Wedding Photo

Officers & Program Resource Chairmen will meet after the regular meeting to select recipient of Mission Recognition and jewel of a Woman.

**No July Meeting**



**MAY BREAKFAST**



**Baby Blessings Shower**

Kaelee Marie Morehouse

July 13 during coffee hour

Hosted by Groton UMC

Congregation

Kaelee was born on March

21 to Justin and Amanda

**Open House**

**90th Birthday**

**Party for**

**Deloris Knoll**

**May 31**

**2-4 pm**

Hosted by Friends

and Family in the

Groton UMC

Fellowship Hall



### Little Free Library coming to Groton UMC

We are working on starting a Little Free Library at our church. These are growing in popularity across the country, and we are going to get Groton on board! You can go to [www.littlefreelibrary.org](http://www.littlefreelibrary.org) for more info, and you can also see a map of who already has one in the country.

What is Little Free Library? A gathering place where you can "take a book, return a book." A trusting place where you can pick up a book or two and later bring back another book to share. A friendly place where you can meet other people who share the love of real printed books...not just by using technology. A "going green" place where books are recycled to help God's creation...our earth.

Why Little Free Library? When children make reading an everyday activity, they not only use their imaginations...they gain a lifelong love of learning. Our hope

is to increase literacy, to make a variety of books accessible to all children, youth, and adults any time of day, to create a fun family activity in our community, and to promote our church through community outreach.

How can I help? We will be collecting new or nicely used books to start our library, so any donations of books would be great! A container will be placed in the church nursery if you would like to donate books. We are open to any ideas to create our Little Free Library, as well as ideas on how we should build our library. Any financial donations for the library itself would be greatly appreciated! Weber Landscaping planted a tree in the church yard during VBS. Our plans, in time, are to put our LFL close to the tree along with a park bench. Hopefully, we can work together for this amazing project!!!



### Correspondence

Dear Matt, I am a member of the United Methodist Church of the resurrection and my senior pastor, Adam Hamilton, will be speaking at your upcoming Annual Convention. Our church is praying for you, as am I, and I just wanted to write a note of encouragement. You live in such a beautiful state and I'm sure God assures you each day of his love and care thru the things all around you. Be well and keep the faith. Clara Grissom

Matt, I just wanted to let you know that our family is praying for you and your congregation. May God bless you and your church that you may be filled with the Holy Spirit and a source of joy and light to your community. Have a blessed day! Doug, Karen, Kate & Rachel Spencer

### Leadership Institute 2014

Register today to join over 2,000 church leaders from across the world on Sept 24-26 for three days of inspiration, worship, fellowship, and practical ministry ideas at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City.

This year Pastor Hamilton will be joined by keynote speaker Len Sweet. Len is a scholar, preacher and best-selling author who communicates the gospel with a signature bridging of the worlds of faith, academe, and popular culture. Len Sweet will be presenting *You Don't "Work" a Violin: The Life of Faith as Playground of the Spirit*. Adam Hamilton presenting on his book *Making Sense of the Bible*. Christine Chakoian presenting on *Changing Church Culture*.

Super Early Bird Registration Deadline is July 9.



June/July 2014

## Groton Confirmation Sunday



## May Breakfast





## Our Church Celebrations - June & July

### Groton

Jun 1 Anita Lowary  
 Jun 2 Doug Daly  
 Jun 3 Donald Nissen  
 Jun 4 Janice Raap  
     Jay Johnson  
     Gary & Caralee Heitmann  
 Jun 6 Bailee Zoellner  
 Jun 7 Peyton Padfield  
 Jun 8 Lacey Voss  
 Jun 9 Madison Fischbach  
 Jun 11 Jim & Mendy Jones  
 Jun 13 Roger Rix  
 Jun 14 Danielle Schinkel  
     Roger Overacker  
 Jun 15 Eugenia Strom  
     Gene & Ruby Luce  
     Jesse & Jaymie Overacker  
     Leroy & Lynette Severson  
 Jun 16 Gavin Voss  
     Harry Pharis, Jr.  
 Jun 17 Jesse Morehouse  
     Kristopher Oleson  
 Jun 18 Nick Strom  
 Jun 19 Garrett & Sindi Heitmann  
     Pat Dahlquist  
 Jun 20 Robert Snyder  
 Jun 21 Ben & Kristi Peterson  
     Gary & Linda Thurston  
 Jun 22 Angela Dobbins  
 Jun 23 Chesney Weber  
     Easton Weber  
     Kaycie Hawkins  
     Shaylee Peterson  
     Twila Ruden  
 Jun 24 Jeremy Weber  
     Mark & June Thompson  
 Jun 25 Carol Knecht  
     Tanae Lipp  
 Jun 27 Elaine Wolken  
 Jun 28 Sindi Heitmann  
 Jun 29 Carly Gilbert  
     Derick Furman  
     John & Meri Erickson

Jun 30 Breslyn Hinman  
     Michael & Kassie Dunbar  
     Spencer Knecht  
 Jul 1 Charity Hinman  
     Graham Rose  
 Jul 4 Seth Erickson  
 Jul 5 Allen & Joyce Walter  
     Jasmine Schinkel  
 Jul 7 Ida Hannon  
     Julie Morehouse  
 Jul 8 Kelby Hawkins  
 Jul 9 Jocelyn Peterson  
     Jordan voss  
 Jul 10 Pernell & Noella Graf  
 Jul 11 Amber Fischbach  
     Baron Fischbach  
     Roger & Marjorie Overacker  
     Scott Hinman  
 Jul 12 Ashtyn Bahr  
     Corey Mitchell  
     Wyatt Fischbach  
 Jul 13 Jeff Voss  
     Jolene Townsend  
 Jul 14 Ava Kramer  
     Christine Nyberg  
 Jul 16 Linda Thurston  
     Richard Voss  
 Jul 17 Mackenzie Atherton  
     Tim & Malerie Yeaton  
 Jul 18 Josh & Merrie Atherton  
     Kaitlin O'Neill  
     Kevin Pray  
 Jul 19 Carol Strom  
 Jul 22 Gabrielle Furman  
     Jean Lowary  
 Jul 23 Chanda & Logan Nilsson  
     Joyce Walter  
 Jul 24 Maggie Oliver  
     Roger & Pam Rix  
 Jul 25 Hannah Webb  
 Jul 26 Angela & Perryn Dobbins  
     Laila Roberts  
     Pat Knecht



"Seek and you will find."  
- Matthew 7:7, NIV

Jul 27 Damian & Erin Bahr  
     Ryland Strom  
     Tony Madsen  
 Jul 28 Bob & Carolyn Snyder  
     Craig Weber  
 Jul 29 Curtis Krueger  
 Jul 30 Breslyn Hinman  
     Megan & Seth Erickson  
 Jul 31 Lynette Severson

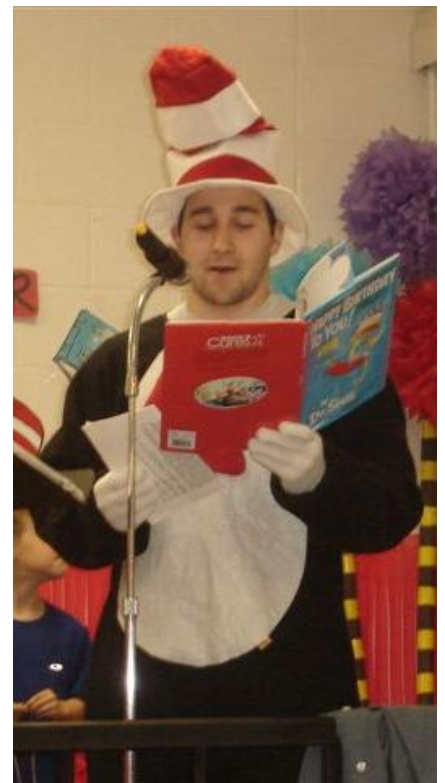
### Conde

Jun 2 Russell Busing  
 Jun 4 Paxton Bonn  
     Pat Siefken  
     Norman & Cindy Smith  
 Jun 6 Keith Hanlon  
 Jun 12 Jerry Bonn  
 Jun 13 Guy Hanlon  
     Donna Hannon  
     Dwight & Katy Lyren  
 Jun 14 Betty Taylor  
 Jun 15 Janice Herman  
 Jun 20 Cary Bruckner  
 Jun 22 Julie Bruckner  
 Jun 26 Grant Hanson  
 Jun 27 Lance Haskell  
 Jun 30 Betty Barrie  
     Marion & Betty Jensen  
 Jul 3 Guy & Renee Hanlon  
 Jul 6 Shanna Geist  
 Jul 10 Ann Menzia  
 Jul 23 Patty Knoll  
 Jul 27 Horace & Donna Walter  
 Jul 30 Judy Zeck



June/July 2014

Groton VBS





June/July 2014

Groton VBS





June/July 2014

## Peace with Justice Sunday - June 15

Together, we spread the gospel of peace and encourage cooperation locally, in the United States and globally.

In Arizona border towns, communities facing social challenges are dramatically divided. In Liberian villages, citizens' human rights are being violated. In local U.S. communities, women and girls are being bought and sold against their will.

Moved by Christ's love to pursue reconciliation and peace, honoring the dignity of every individual made in God's image, the United Methodist Church is unwilling to turn a blind eye to injustice.

Although you, and possibly even your congregation, may lack the resources alone to effect change in a broken world, your giving is vital for the UMC to continue its global ministries of reconciliation. Because of the Peace With Justice Sunday offering, the People of the United Methodist Church are able to make a difference together by sowing seeds—and yielding fruit!—of peace.

### Equipping The United Methodist Church to Do Justice in Jesus' Name

When you give on Peace With Justice Sunday, your gift makes possible our critical kingdom work in the world. Because

you give:

Methodists spearhead a peace ministry uniting Arizona border communities

United Methodists in Liberia are being equipped to implement the denomination's Social Principles to address social-justice issue

Pennsylvania students are educating their community about sex-trafficking at home and abroad

These initiatives, and hundreds of other ones, are possible because you give.

### Your Giving Makes Possible the Proclamation of Christ's Peace

In Jesus' inaugural address, standing in his home synagogue in Nazareth, he detailed his game plan,

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."* (Luke 4:18-19)

Through your giving good news is proclaimed to—and experienced by—the poor.

Thanks be to God!

## For juice, try Sunday school

It was time for Holy Communion. Our son Josh, then 3, saw all the people in front of us going to the front of the chancel. He saw we were just sitting there. That lack of action was extremely disappointing.

"Wait here. I'll go get us some," he told us as he started toward the front. I grabbed him and whispered, "It will be our turn soon." He settled back to entertain his 5 year old sister.

Finally, it was "our turn." Josh proudly led the way down the aisle. Only when we arrived at the front did I remember Josh had never participated in a Communion service. The pastor held the plateful of wafers before

our hungry son. It was too late for explanations. Josh grabbed a handful.

"Only take one piece," I whispered. A disappointed boy let loose of all but one piece and left some cracked wafers behind. He turned to see what was on the next course. With a single loud slurp, he consumed the grape juice.

Josh was again disappointed when we returned to our seats. "They give more juice in Sunday school," he complained in a much-too-loud whisper.

By Rev Rich Peck, First UMC, Franklin, TN





## Groton July Family Committee

**Mendy & James Jones, Marlee**

**Brent & Jessica Morehouse**

Justin & Amanda Morehouse

Julie & Jesse Morehouse

Angela & Perryn Dobbins

Corey & Jamie Mitchell

Michelle Kramer

Robin O'Neill, Kaitlin

Marjorie & Roger Overacker

Roger & Pam Rix

Alan Strom

Kay Brandt

Marva & Lon Gellhaus

### Honorary Members

- Dick Ruden
- Gerald & Ann Rix
- Don Walter
- Doris Strom

### July Extra Responsibilities

- Mow lawn each week

Cliff & Carna Pray from Music & Worship Committee will take care of the altar and banners.

## Groton Stewardship Report May 2014

Average  
Wkly Giving  
\$1,689

Needed Wkly for  
Church Mission  
\$2,125

Average Weekly  
Attendance Sunday  
90

Total Building Fund  
Donations  
\$430

July 2014						
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		

August 2014						
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						

GROTON MISSION  
STATEMENT  
"ENRICHING  
SPIRITUAL LIVES  
THROUGH CHRIST."

## Groton August Family Committee

**Carol & Pat Knecht, Spencer, Macy**

**Brenda & Tony Madsen, Mitchell, Mason**

Lynette & Leroy Severson

Kent Webb, Hannah, Turner

Tim Olson

John Padfield

Pernell & Noella Graf, Brady

Kevin Pharis

Yvonne Lorenz

Tim & Malerie Yeaton

Mary Ann Wehde

Melissa & Neil Gilbert

Josh & Merrie Atherton

Francine & Marc Sippel, Camille

Kelli & Lars Hanson, Kari

### Honorary Members

- Audrey Padfield
- Bob Johnson
- Audrey Thurston
- Clare Brotherton
- Bob Wehde
- Bob & Carolyn Snyder

### August Extra Responsibilities

- Mow the lawn as necessary
- 5th Sunday - may buy donuts - bill to Kay Brandt

Kelli & Lars Hanson from the Music & Worship Committee will take care of the altar and banners.



check out our online calendar for all events and changes!

GROTON/CONDE PARISHES



## June 2014

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					

## July 2014

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

- May 31 Open House 90th Birthday for DeLoris Knoll from 2-4 pm
- Jun 4-7 Annual Conference in Rapid City
- Jun 8 Groton Family July Committee meeting during coffee hour
- Jun 15 Father's Day Extravaganza hosted by PPR with inflatables
- Jun 15 No Worship Service in Conde - combined at Groton at 11 am
- Jun 15 Peace with Justice Sunday Special Offering
- Jun 18 Conde UMW 10 am - A Day Out
- Jun 18 Groton UMW 1:30 pm with Officer Mtg following lunch
- Jun 18 Groton Ad Council 8 pm
- Jun 21 Open House Wedding Shower for Nick Strom & Jenna Bubel 10 am - noon
- Jun 22 (G) Blessings Wedding Shower for Nick Strom & Jenna Bubel during coffee hour
- Jun 23 PPR Meeting in Groton at 7 pm. Trustees meet at 6:30 for walk thru.
- Jun 28 Groton Lipp Wedding
- Jul 13 Groton Blessings Shower for Kaelee Morehouse during coffee hour
- Jul 16 Groton Ad Council 8 pm

