



United Methodist Messenger

September 2014

Groton/Conde Parishes

Dear Friends,

God does amazing things. At this point I shouldn't be surprised when I see God at work in the lives of people or even in nature, but there are times when I most certainly am surprised by God. This summer has been filled with youth events and UM camps and I was so impressed by the campers from Groton at LTC. (Leadership Training Camp.)

During the night of gift sharing at camp all 5 of our Groton campers shared with the camp a talent. Gabby and Danielle both sang Tia read a poem that she had written for her mom, and Kari and Macy sang a duet. It was a truly wonderful experience seeing these young women using their gifts for God and ministry.

As we watch the few remaining sunsets of summer and rapidly shift gears

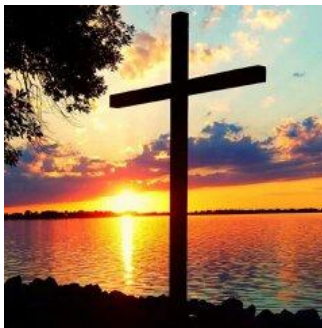
for another school year and ministry programming year, I am excited to think about how this summer's experience will continue to show forth God's Amazing Love and the gifts that we all share in for ministry.

I am reminded of a scripture, from Romans 12:3-21, I won't quote it here, but I really encourage you to read it. This scripture will serve as the beginning framework for this year's ministry and programming. May God continue to fulfill in you

the great work which began at your birth. And may you sense God's presence working in you daily.

See 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



Community Worship

September 28 will the Community Wide Potluck and Worship in the Groton Park. Meat and Buns will be provided for the potluck which will start at 5 pm. We will worship at 6pm. Following worship there will be music and prayer walk. Everyone is welcome to join us!





Haley Anne Erickson

Born August 23 weighing 7 lbs 10 oz and 19 3/4 inch long. Parents are Seth and Megan Erickson. Grandparents are John and Meri Erickson and Great-Grandfather is Emery Sippel.



Jase Dion Bahr

Born August 30 at 3:41 pm. He weighed 7 lbs 14 oz and 21 inches long. Parents are Samantha and Dion Bahr.

Thank you

The Armor Coating on the Parking Lot is from memorials from Joy Walter, Larry Pharis, and Imojeanne Oliver.



Baptism

Kaelee Morehouse will be baptized during Groton Worship on September 14th. Daughter of Justin and Amanda Morehouse.



Everyday Heroes

I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble. The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker.

—Helen Keller



Festival of Bands

Friday morning, October 10, will be the 2nd annual parade of bands in Groton. We will be having a concession stand in which the proceeds will be going half to the GHS Band and half to playground equipment for the city of Groton. Please volunteer to help us! Call Kim at 380-7817 or Pastor Matt.



Rally Sunday

(First Day of Sunday School)

September 7th

Join us for
Sunday School at 10 am
at the Groton
United Methodist Church

God made me YOU-nique!



Backpack Blessing during church on Rally Sunday! Kids bring along your school backpack...

Potluck following worship on Rally Sunday!
Pork Loin Sandwiches and Cheesy Potatoes provided.
Please bring appropriate dish to pass.

Jr & Sr High UMYF Starts

Jr High UMYF (grades 6-8) will start on Sept 17 and meet from 6:30-7:30 pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday's of each month. Melissa Gilbert and Dale Kramer will be leading.

Sr High UMYF (grades 9-12) will start on Sept 10 and meet from 7-8 pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday's of each month. Fran Sippel, Kami Lipp, and Carol Knecht will be leading.

Groton UMC Sunday School starts on September 7 at 10 am. We invite you to fill in the registration form for your children on the church website at www.grotonumc.org. We will be having a preschool - kindergarten class, first - second grade class, and third - fifth grade class.

Our Rally Day Sunday celebration will include the making of a collage to be displayed at the church, singing music, and making crafts. The church service is at 11 am and we invite the children to bring along their school backpacks and participate in the "blessing of the pack backs" during the church service. Following church there will be a potluck dinner - so bring along a dish to share and join in the fun!

Looking forward to a great Sunday School year!
 Kim Weber, Carna Atherton-Pray, and Pastor Matt Richards

Groton UMW - August

President Jolene Townsend began the meeting with a prayer from the Response magazine which used Psalms as the background for praying for certain ministries such as a hospice found in Mongolia and other ministries found in the countries of Brazil and Columbia. Fifteen members recited the Purpose. The minutes from the June meeting were read and approved as well as the financial report given with no outstanding bills.

Some committee reports were given, but under Spiritual Growth Jolene presented the question as to whether the Secret Sisters program should be reinstated. It could be started anew in January. At the time of the meeting only 32 surveys had been returned and Jeanne Wanous indicated that it was not too late to return them to her. Jolene thanked Jeanne Wanous and Marge Overacker for their excellent work they did on putting the survey together and getting it out to members. Final results will be known at the next meeting. Some other old business, Jan Raap was also thanked for her donation of a cart for the kitchen.

New business: Jolene reported a few more coffee cans will be needed

and more Christmas ribbon, but there is plenty of paper for the Christmas goody containers. The UMW Dakotas Conference Annual Meeting will be held in Bismarck, N. D. on Oct. 3 and 4. The Eastern Sunrise Annual Retreat/Meeting will be held in Lisbon, N. D. on Sept. 19 and 20. Jan Raap's name was drawn for the gift card. Prayer concerns were to keep Yvonne Lange, Helen Walter, Audrey Padfield, and Linda Sparkman in our thoughts and prayers. Correspondence was from the Aberdeen First UMW who are presenting a program about the problems in the N.D. Oil Fields on Sept. 4 at 7 p.m.

Jolene related a story of how she and Clare Brotherton met resulting in a long friendship. A card was signed and given to Clare by all attending the meeting. She will be MISSED!!

The next meeting will be Sept. 17 at 1:30 with Chris Nyberg giving the program and Linda Thurston as hostess. Hostesses for the August meeting were Caralee Heitmann and JoAnn Krueger. Caralee delighted everyone with her delicious carrot cake.

**IT'S NOT TOO
LATE!!**

**Please complete
your UMW
survey and mail
back to Jeanne
Wanous. Your
input matters!**

Groton UMW

Meeting

September 17
1:30 pm

Program by

Chris Nyberg

Hostess

Linda Thurston

Nominations Committee Meets to
prepare the new
Slate of Officers

Bring World Thank
Offering Boxes to
October Meeting.

Golf

Jesus, Moses, and an old man go golfing. The first one to tee off is Moses. He smashes the ball and it is heading right for the water hazard before the green. Moses raises his club, the water parts, and the ball makes it to the green. Jesus gets up to swing, cranks it out, and it is headed for the water hazard. Jesus closes his eyes and prays. The ball skips across the water and lands on the green two feet from the hole. The old man's turn comes and he drives the ball. The

ball looks like it is going to drop directly into the water. A fish jumps from the water hazard swallowing the ball, as an eagle drops from the sky, grabbing the fish. As the eagle flies over the green, a bolt of lightning strikes the eagle, making it drop the fish. As the fish hits the green, it spits out the ball and the ball falls into the hole, making a hole in one. Jesus looks at Moses and says, "I really think I'm leaving Dad at home next time!"



Our Church Celebrations - September

Groton

Sep 2 Kylie Hawkins
 Sep 6 Laurie & AM Mitchell
 Perryn Dobbins
 Sep 7 Alana Wolken
 Sep 8 Laurel & Monte McNickle
 Sep 9 Clint & Audrey Jacobson
 Sep 10 Bryce Hanson
 Sep 11 Audrey Jacobson
 Sep 12 Alexa Nilsson
 Cliff Pray
 Ryder Daly
 Sep 13 Karsten Hinman
 Richard Krueger
 Sep 14 Bob Wehde
 Gerald & Ann Rix
 Rick & Sarah Hofer
 Sep 15 Karen Rose
 Mason Madsen
 Sep 16 Camille Sippel
 Sep 17 Jackson Strom
 Kyler Ell
 Sep 19 Diann Morehouse
 Jace Hofer
 Sep 20 Marjory Townsend
 Sep 22 Madison McNickle
 Sep 23 Carolyn Snyder
 Sep 24 Jesse Overacker

Turner Webb

Sep 25 Charles Padfield
 Sabrina Padfield
 Sep 26 Alan Strom
 Alejandra Heitmann
 Sep 28 Payton Mitchell
 Sep 29 Bob Johnson
 Sep 30 Breslyn Hinman

Conde

Sep 1 Scott Krueger
 Sep 5 Chuck Trapp
 Sep 7 Bev Bonn
 Jerry & Bev Bonn
 Jerry Bonn
 Richard Worlie
 Sep 8 Eva Lyren
 Sep 13 Shane Bruckner
 Sep 24 Ivy Nogle
 Sep 26 Heather Herman
 Sep 27 Edwin Cunningham
 Alex Lyren
 Sep 28 Rex & Larae Taylor
 Sep 29 Bud & Julie Bruckner
 Bill Thomas



**75th Birthday
 Celebration
 for
 Gloria Pharis
 October 5
 During
 Groton
 Coffee Hour**



Out in Faith - Bakken Oil Rush Ministry

Katie Peterson ktpete@gmail.com
Deaconess, Church & Community Worker

Grace and Peace to you in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Wow, can you believe Out in Faith has been going for eight months? Did you know that Out in Faith has already assisted over 100 individuals with a variety of ways and given out over 500 items of clothing and blankets, 100 household items, 25 sleeping bags, 6 tents, 15 small bags of emergency food items. In addition, 10 people have been aided with getting government documents so that they can get jobs. This is all because of the prayers and support of the people of Faith UMC and the connectional UMC around the country! Thank you!!!

Just this summer, we have heard stories from our guests - on how they have gotten jobs, and apartments because Faith UMC and Out in Faith have been able to give them the hand up in life. Many people are continuing to come in off the bus, train, or from hitchhiking to Williston - in search of better jobs to pay off bills elsewhere and start fresh. We have heard many testimonies of where they have come from and where they are going. Our Saturday evening GIFT service continues to grow and become more widely known throughout the area.

During this summer, I have had the wonderful opportunity to share about the Bakken area ministries with both "Mission u" events in Mitchell and Jamestown, as well as at DAK youth 14 and share information with several UMC's throughout the Dakotas Conference. It is amazing how many times I hear how people around the state are being affected by the impact of the Bakken. From homelessness, to mineral rights investments in many areas, to families trying to move closer to where their spouses are working.

Thank you to all of the churches and UMC's for your generous prayers and support for myself as your Deaconess and Church and Community Worker and from Out in Faith Ministries! If you would like someone to share the joy of missions with your church or organization - please contact me. My advance covenant salary is 982942. Out in Faith Bakken Oil Rush Ministry Dakotas Conference Covenant is 748. Shalom, Katie

Wish List - Prayers, Warm Blankets, Monetary Donations, Men's Socks, Men's Winter Coats, and Sleeping Bags.

Testimony from a guest of GIFT service - Pastor Mark Britton

A man came into the office one evening before GIFT worship and told us that because of the help we gave him (putting \$50 of gas into his tank) he was blessed in numerous ways and ended up with a place to live and a good paying job and he wanted to pay it forward by helping other people. He was helping a young homeless woman by finding her a place to live and brought her to the worship service and dinner. Another homeless couple heard what he was saying and they had a place that she could stay, in a tree row where they were staying in a tent. All she needed was a tent and they would watch over her. She found a tent and last I heard she was staying with the couple as all of them looked for permanent housing and jobs.

My Experience at the GIFT Service - Jim Staricka

I have been attending the GIFT service since it started in December. I have gone every Saturday that I have been in town, which has been probably about two-thirds of the time. For about the first six times, I ate with people I knew. Then I realized I was missing out on meeting new people. So I started sitting at tables with people I hadn't met and I started meeting people. I found that most people who come want to visit with someone. A few will talk about problems they are facing, but only one or two of those have made unreasonable requests for assistance. The others just want to know that someone cares about them and will think and pray about them during the week. When I see those people a week or two later, I try to visit with them to see if things are better. One thing that amazes me about the GIFT service is how happy everyone is to be there. And despite what some people think, most of the people coming to GIFT are not coming just for the meal. Even though they are told it is optional, almost all of the attendees stay for the worship service and many stay around afterwards to visit. There is one experience I had that I think truly exemplifies my feelings on the GIFT service: One time after I got my food, I was looking around for a table of people I hadn't met yet to eat with. A lady halfway across the room, who I didn't know, waved to me to join the group at her table. As I got closer, she said to me in a Spanish accent, "Join us. No one should sit alone here. This should be like family."

Magnet Sale

Support Out in Faith BORM by purchasing a United Methodist Magnet for your Office, car, or refrigerator.

Suggested Donation: \$5 each

All profits will support the Mission projects within the Out in Faith ministry! For more information and/or to order magnets - please contact Katie Peterson at 701-572-7694.

Thank you for your prayers and support!

Please make checks payable to Faith UMC/Out in Faith, 219 1st Ave W, Williston, ND 58801



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
Audrey Thurston	397-8493

*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.

2014 Annual Conference Summary - Dakotas Conference

Over 700 members and visitors of the Dakotas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church gathered in Rapid City, South Dakota to create ***"Unleashed: Fearless, Spirit-Led Churches!"***

Bishop Bruce R. Ough, Dakotas-Minnesota Area, called for all those in attendance to "re-evangelize the Dakotas." Bishop Ough's episcopal address challenged all with the question, "Am I too late to get to know Jesus?" Ough said his generation and several others learned to avoid the "E" word and the vibrant, unabashed sharing of one's faith in Christ—and he acknowledged that it took time for him to realize that "as an evangel of Jesus' Gospel, my core mission is to ... partner with God in transforming unbelievers to fully devoted disciples of Jesus to the glory of God and for the transformation of the world."

Rev. Adam Hamilton, founding pastor, Church of the Resurrection, Leawood, Kansas, led three teaching sessions at this year's conference, explored what it means to "lead beyond the walls" through effective leadership, inspirational worship and preaching, and intentional evangelism and outreach. Churches that are fearless and Spirit-led and have a future in the 21st century are the churches that do whatever it takes to be the body of Christ in the community and the world, Adam Hamilton told members of the 21st session of the Dakotas Annual Conference.

Rev. Karl Kroger, Grace UMC, Piedmont, South Dakota and Sheri Miester, lay member, Sioux Falls First UMC, Sioux Falls, South Dakota presented the 2013 Missional Report on behalf of the Dakotas Conference Common Table. Meister, reminded the conference of the "Journey Toward Vitality" and the four vision pathways of: Developing Missional Leaders, Equipping Missional Congregations, Extending Missional Impact and Generating Missional Resources. The 2013 Missional reported highlighted the accomplishments in each of the vision pathways.

- Five grants and programs for campus and young adult ministries
- Four new church starts
- Eight thousand attendees at camps this year
- Eight churches involved in transformation through the Missional Church Initiative
- Hiring a Associate Dir of Missional Impact
- Launching the Bakken Oil Rush Ministry
- Implementing a new apportionment formula

Several business items came before the members of the annual conference session. The body voted to engage in a capital campaign feasibility study in 2014. The study will

investigate the readiness of the conference to launch a capital campaign with a focus on the vision pathway of "Equipping Missional Congregations." The conference will contract with Tyler Associates of Irving, Texas to conduct the feasibility study. The feasibility study will be submitted to the Common Table, the Equipping Missional Congregations Link, the Council on Finance and Administration, and the Extended Cabinet for review and approval. If approval is granted by each of these groups, the recommendations of the study will be implemented in 2015.

A proposal to change the language within the "Rules and Policies" of the conference was approved. The focus of the changes was to align titles, positions, and the links with current practices and the strategic plan, "Journey Toward Vitality".

The approved budget for 2015 is \$4,258,000 in Apportionments and \$2,677,433 in Direct Billing to churches for a total of \$6,935,433. This is a decrease of \$49,538 from 2014. The 2015 budget designates: \$97,000 to enhance the efforts of the Missional Church Initiative (MCI); \$25,000 for the Capital Campaign Feasibility Study; \$25,000 for a coordinator of new church starts in the Bakken Oil Region; \$24,000 for a leadership incubator with a focus on Culture of Call and ministry as a career; \$25,000 additional grant money for campus and young adult ministry; and 0% premium increase in Health Flex.

Members attended preconference workshops that focused on creating "Fearless, Spirit-Led Churches" on Wednesday afternoon. Workshops included "Using Technology to Create a Ministry Partnership," "Creating the Capacity for Congregational Transformation," "Creating a New Congregation for a Mission Field," and "What Churches of all Sizes can learn from Embrace".

Over \$180,000 was collected to launch a new church in Kenmare, North Dakota, a vital merger of two current congregations in Donnybrook and Kenmare, North Dakota. Bishop Bruce R. Ough, called for a Miracle Offering of \$100,000 and 5,000 items for the Bakken Oil Rush Ministry Mobile Thrift Store. Jim and Kathie Konsor, lay missionaries in Watford City, North Dakota operate the mobile thrift store and have already assisted over 500 individuals affected by the sometimes-inhospitable environment in the Bakken Oil Rush. Over 10,000 items were donated for the mobile thrift store. The offering, which far exceeded the Bishop's call, will help to make the new church in Kenmare, North Dakota a possibility.



The Celebration Banquet honored several clergy and lay leaders. Rev. Greg Kroger, was recognized as the outgoing Director of Ministries. Kroger also was the recipient of the Genesis Award for all of his effort and support of disaster response. Rev.

Rebecca Trefz was welcomed as the incoming Director of Ministries. Five Jubilee Clergy were celebrated. Ray Wagner, deceased, was awarded the Francis Asbury Award.

The Denman Award for Evangelism was presented to Rev. Kermit Culver, Legacy United Methodist Church, Bismarck, North Dakota, Suzanne Thoreson, Legacy United Methodist Church, Bismarck, North Dakota, Jason Balster, Fargo Faith United Methodist Church, Fargo, North Dakota, and Ann Rienhiller, Southern Hills United Methodist Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Ron Olson was ordained. Jo Flesner and Alison McCormick were commissioned for the work of a deacon. Justin Iverson, Kori Lehrkamp, and Katie Rowen were commissioned for the work of an elder. The average age of those ordained and commissioned at this year's conference session was 37 years old.

Groton October Family Committee

Jeanne Wanous

Ida Hannon

Connie & Dave Nilsson

Logan & Chanda Nilsson

Kayla & Adam Suther

Adrienne & Tigh Fliehs

Doug Bahr

Dion & Sam Bahr

William Zoellner

Steve & Becky Diegel

Scott & Myndi Kampa

Janice Raap

Anita & John Lowary

Brian Bahr

Andrea Bahr

John & Meri Erickson

Marjae & Dan Schinkel, Danielle

Karen & Ian Rose



Honorary Members

- Emery Sippel
- Bert Raap
- Reta Washnok

October Extra Responsibilities

- Care for the lawn as needed
- Potluck 2nd Sunday
- Roger Rix will be taking care of the banners, altar cloths, and candles this month from the music and worship committee.

October 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 Stewardship Report August 2014

Average
Wkly Giving
\$1,643

Needed Wkly for
Church Mission
\$2,125

Average Weekly
Attendance Sunday
59

Total Building Fund
Donations
\$170

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

Conde UMW

September 17 at 10 am
Program Focus is "Calling to Prepare for Mission" by Leader Donna Hearnen
Hostess is Patty Knoll

District Annual Meeting is Sept 20 & 21 at
Fargo Faith, ND

Groton Mission Statement

"Enriching Spiritual lives through Christ."

There's an app for that!

These days, there's a smartphone app for just about everything. But what about spiritual concerns? Where can you turn?

- Depressed? Try the joy app. Read Isaiah 51:11.
- Tired? Try the renewal app. Read Isaiah 40:30-31.
- Unsettled? Try the peace app. Read Philipians 4:7.
- Unloved? Try the love app. Read Romans 8:38-39.
- Worried? Try the refuge app. Read Psalm

46:1.

- Fearful? Try the power app. Read 2 Timothy 1:7.
- Guilty? Try the forgiveness app. Read Colossians 1:13-14.
- Praying? Try the prayer app. Read 1 John 5:14-15.

The Scriptures are God's storehouse of meaningful applications for what we face every day. Think of the Bible as the iTunes Store of spiritual apps. Best of all, everything's free!





September 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				

Our Church Happenings

Sept 6 Rosewood Court Worship 10 am
Sept 7 Groton Rally Sunday - Sunday School Starts and Potluck and Backpack Blessing
Sept 10 Groton Sr High UMYF Begins 7 pm (2nd & 4th Weds)
Sept 14 Groton Baptism for Kaelee Morehouse
Sept 14 Confirmation Orientation 7 pm
Sept 17 Conde UMW at 10 am
Sept 17 Groton UMW at 1:30 pm
Sept 17 Confirmation Begins 3:45 pm
Sept 17 Groton Jr High UMYF Begins 6:30 pm (1st & 3rd Weds)
Sept 17 Groton Ad Council 8 pm
Sept 20 & 21 UMW District Annual Mtg at Fargo Faith, ND
Sept 21 Groton Oct Family Committee Meeting during Coffee Hour
Sept 21 Membership Sunday - contact Pastor Matt
Sept 21 Groton Missions Meeting at 10:15 am.
Sept 28 Groton Community Wide 5 pm Potluck and 6 pm Worship in the Park.
Oct 10 Groton's "Festival of Bands" Fundraiser for park and community funds
Oct 12 Groton No Sunday School
Oct 16 PPR meets in Groton 7 pm