

Groton/Conde Parishes



## From Pastor Thomas' Desk

Greeting Friends,

Advent is a season of waiting, as we enter this season may we wait on Jesus. Did you know there are two kinds of waiting? There is a passive waiting and there is an active waiting. As I began to think about this I couldn't help but wonder what kind of waiting we will be doing this Christmas season? This bible verse came to mind as I thought about what kind of waiting we will be doing.

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lamp stand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven. **Matthew 5:14-16**

My hope for both Conde and Groton would be that we would be actively waiting as we become a light for our community. I pray that the folks in our communities, who are broken, lost, and lonely this Advent season would see the light of Jesus in all of our heart, hand and actions! May we light our city street bright with the love of Jesus.

On each Sunday of the Advent, we will be lighting a candle on the advent wreath the first for hope, as you wait what are you hoping for? The Second candle we light is for Love, who do you know in our community that could use a gesture of love this Christmas season?

The third candle is for joy, do you know someone who could use a little joy this time of year? The fourth candle is for peace, do you know someone who is struggling or battling some situation that may need some peace of mind? The fifth and final candle is the CHRIST candle which we will light



## Christmas Eve

on Christmas Eve. Who will you invite to church this advent season to experience what this season is all about - the light of the world.....Jesus Christ!

May God richly bless you this Christmas Season!

Pastor Thomas Carlson

## Pastor Thomas' Schedule

**Mon** - in office 10 am - 2 pm

**Tues** - working on sermon

**Weds** - in office 2 - 3:30 pm

**Thurs** - available by appt 10am-5 pm

**Friday and Sat** - Days Off

**Emergency Calls 24/7**



### Church Information

Pastor Thomas Carlson  
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 Groton, SD 57445

### Youth Group Schedule

Dec 6 Youth Group 6-8 pm  
 (Colorful Creation)  
 Dec 11 Reason Concert  
 Dec 13 Youth Group 6-8 pm  
 Dec 16 Wrapping Angel Tree  
 Gifts  
 Dec 18 Youth Christmas party  
 at Melissa Gilberts House  
 (Ugly Sweater Party)  
 Dec 20 Christmas Program at  
 5 pm w/Potluck following  
 Dec 27 No Youth Group  
 Jan 3 No Youth Group

### Groton UMW - Nov 18

President Jolene Townsend introduced Kay Daly who presented a program on "Contagious Christmas". The program message centered on spreading the joy of Christmas. Kay shared a video explaining a creative Twelve Nights of Christmas activity. Throughout the program the UMW group was encouraged to share joyous memories of their past Christmas's and to think of ways we could all make spreading the everyday joy and the joy of Christmas contagious. Kay's program was followed by a festive lunch including Christmas cookies and a delicious holiday punch. Pat Dahlquist served as co-hostess for the lunch.

The regular business meeting was called to order beginning with the reading of the UMW Purpose. Previous minutes were approved. Treasurer, Jeanne Wanous, reviewed the Treasurer's Report stating that we had an ending balance of \$1,243.01. There were no bills presented.

#### New Business:

- 2016 Meetings: After a short discussion it was decided that 2016 meetings will change from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. Meeting times will remain at 1:30 pm, unless otherwise noted.
- 2015 Christmas Meeting: The group decided on December 16, at 12:00 pm for our final Christmas luncheon gathering for 2015.
- Packing of Christmas Goodies: The annual packing of the Christmas goodies will follow our Christmas luncheon on December 16.
- Focus Day Host: A host location is being looked for by the Eastern Sunrise District. The event will be held in April, although the exact date is yet to be determined. Our UMW agreed that we would volunteer Groton as a host site.

Jolene closed out our monthly meeting with a devotion and prayer.

Secretary, Jeanne Wanous

### Notes from Brandon

I am the youth minister for the middle school at Groton United Methodist Church! It has been a lot of fun and the year is going by VERY quickly. I cannot wait to see what the rest of the year holds for us. Just a few weekends ago we just got done with DAK youth and it was a blast! It was a weekend full of events and small groups of learning, and how to grow in our relationship with the Lord.

In about a week we will be attending the Reason concert here in Aberdeen, and it will be a blast! Jeremy Camp, and Jamie Grace will be there, and they are pretty well known and it will be a lot of fun! I think the kids will have a blast and I hope most of them can come so we can all worship together!

Blessings!

Brandon Bicek



CHRISTMAS traditions

### Christmas Goodie UMW Mission Project

December 16

All UMW Members please have your individually wrapped baked goodies, snack size bags best, to the church by noon.

### Ava Lynn Strom

Ava Lynn was born Nov 21 at 4:49 pm., 22 inches long. Parents are Jenna & Nick Strom.



### Calli Lyn Wilkinson

Calli Lyn was born Nov 22 at 7:08 pm. She weighed 6 lbs 2 oz and was 18.7 inches long. Calli's parents are Sydney Erickson and Blake Wilkinson



Blessings



- |                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Marlys Rodman   | 397-4570 |
| Pat Dahlquist   | 397-2616 |
| Doris Zoellner  | 397-2417 |
| Marj Townsend   | 298-5221 |
| Ann Rix         | 397-8478 |
| Darlys Kampa    | 395-6996 |
| DeLoris Knoll   | 397-2681 |
| Gloria Pharis   | 397-2375 |
| Audrey Thurston | 397-8493 |

### Baptism & Blessings Shower

Jaeden Emma Morehouse will be baptized Dec 13th and honored at a Blessings Shower during coffee hour by our church members. She was born on Oct 26th to Justin and Amanda.



\*If you are not on this list or the email prayer chain, please notify 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.



## Conde UMW

The UMW met at 12:30 on Wednesday, November 18. Patty Knoll had prepared a delicious lunch for us even though she was not able to be at the meeting. After lunch, Jane Worlie gave the Thanksgiving/World Thank Offering lesson. Get Well cards were sent to Layle Evans and Lyle Krueger. They are at home now, but both had spent some time in the hospital.

Donna Hearnen will be calling the Good Samaritan Center in Redfield about buying gifts for children in a family who reside in the Tri-County area served by this facility. After the meeting, Donna contacted one of the ladies in charge of this project, and it was decided that we would send cash rather than buying some gifts. Donna also suggested that the UMW and the Church congregation bring nonperishable food and paper items to be taken down to the Good Samaritan Food Pantry. The Conde Legion and Auxiliary also bring items to their December 3rd meeting, so all of this can be delivered at the same time.

We will be having an Advent Bible Study using the book SENT - Delivering the Gift of

## Conde Church News

The Advent Candle will be in place by November 29th which is the first Sunday of Advent. Other decorating will follow sometime during the first week in December. No special time has been set, so some phone calls will have to be made. We need some "able bodied" men to help with this project.

The grocery basket will be in the Narthex for collection of nonperishable food and paper products to be delivered to the Good Samaritan Food Pantry in Redfield. Spink County is one of the Tri-Counties that receive help from this facility. They also collect good used clothing to be given out to people living in the area.

No decision has been made about a recipient for the Christmas Eve collection. The donations usually are used for a family or families in the community who need a little help at Christmas time.

Hope at Christmas. The first session will be at 7:00 pm on November 24th, and every Tuesday evening throughout Advent. There should be six sessions, if all goes as planned. Pat Siefken is the leader of this study. Nine ladies have purchased books with plans of attending. There is also a DVD to go along with the study.

At the December meeting we will sign Christmas Cards for Church members who are in a Nursing Home or don't get out to attend Christmas activities.

The UMW special Christmas meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 16th at 10:30 am. There will be a program followed by a lunch. We are inviting ladies in the community, and also the Groton and Bath UMW ladies. Those of you from Groton please inform your President, Jolene Townsend if you plan on attending. We realize this is getting close to Christmas, but hope some of you can fit this "fun morning" into a busy schedule.



Donna Hearnen delivered several bags of gifts and some wrapped shoe boxes to the Aberdeen North Highland Church on Tuesday, November 17th. These items will be used for the Shoe Box Christmas Project. Many churches participate in this Mission project, but North Highland fills the boxes and delivers them to the Enemy Swim School. A lot of things had been brought in, so one table was full and the boxes were stacked under the table. They appreciate having the boxes wrapped because this is quite time consuming, as the lid and box each have to be wrapped separately. Thanks to everyone who donated cash so that Donna could purchase the gifts.

### Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

## Conde UMW

Christmas Special  
Dec 16th at 10:30 am  
Everyone is invited to attend - program and lunch provided.

## Conde Advent Bible Study

Each Tuesday at 7 pm during Advent.  
Studying  
SENT - Delivering the Gift of Hope  
By Adam Hamilton

## Good Samaritan Food Pantry

Located in Redfield  
Conde UMC collecting Non-Perishable Food and Paper Products for Christmas  
Collection Basket in Narthex

### Bibles Received

3rd graders received Bibles Nov 8th. They were: Taylor Diegel, Jaden Dobbins, Karsten Jeschke, Jaeger Kampa, Payton Mitchell, Emily Overacker, Laila Roberts, and Turner Thompson. Also, 5th grader Chase Neiber who has recently joined us. The Bibles were purchased in memory of Ralph Breitkreutz.



### Confirmation Youth Received Bibles



### In Sympathy

To the family of Robert Snyder who passed away Nov 25



Thank you for the banners in memory of Ruth Thompson, Marvel Johnson, Alfreda Nash, and Eugene Luce.



**Groton Christmas Eve Service - 5 pm**  
**Conde Christmas Eve Service - 7 pm**

 A graphic for a sermon series titled "Let Us Adore" by Pastor Thomas Carlson. It features a green and a red Christmas ornament on top of sheet music. The text includes the title in a large script font, the pastor's name, the series duration (6 weeks, Nov 22 - Dec 24), and service times for two churches.
 

*Let Us Adore*  
 by Pastor Thomas Carlson

6 Week Sermon Series  
 November 22 - December 24th

11 am at the Groton United Methodist Church  
 9 am at the Conde United Methodist Church

*Let Us Adore*

PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS



### Angel Tree

Gifts are due back by noon  
 December 13th



 A graphic for "Coffee and Prayers" featuring a green cup of coffee with steam rising from it, set against a background of blue decorative swirls.
 

## Coffee and Prayers

Every Monday at 9 am  
 Every Thursday at 7 pm  
 At the Groton UMC

*coffee may not always be available but  
 feel free to bring a cup along*

 A graphic for the "BAGS" program. It includes the logo "BAGS Building Academic Groton Students for tomorrow..." and the text "Food Item of the Month!". Images of a Campbell's Chicken Broth can, a Mott's Fruit and Applesauce cup, and a Dole Fruit and Applesauce cup are shown.
 

**BAGS**  
 Building Academic Groton Students  
 for tomorrow...

**Food Item of the Month!**

December - Fruit or Applesauce Cups (Single Serve)

## Groton Christmas Program

The Sunday School, Youth Group, and Confirmands Christmas Program will be on the evening of Sunday, December 20th at 5 pm.

Marc and Jane will be grilling pork loins and providing hot dogs and buns. Everyone else should provide salads or dishes that will compliment the meat or the season. The Pharis families will be making cupcakes to celebrate Jesus' birthday.

## Groton Sunday School Schedule

- Dec 6 Crafts at 9:30 then Program Practice
- Dec 9 Practice for main speakers at a time that works in their schedule
- Dec 12 Program Practice at 9:30
- Dec 13 Crafts at 9:30 then Program Practice
- Dec 20 Dress rehearsal starting at 9:30
- Dec 20 Program at 5 pm w/Potluck following
- No Sunday School Dec 27th and Jan 3rd for Christmas Vacation

## Thank You

Thank you to Kellie Townsend (Styrofoam bases), Kay Daly (candles), and Shirley Larson (tree) for donating supplies to help us all learn about the advent wreath! The children all enjoyed creating on Nov 29th. Thank you all.

Angela Dobbins



Advent Wreaths were made during SS Craft Time



### Kid Zone - Dec 9th at 6 pm



**Trunk or Treat  
Photos from  
Halloween**





### Our Church Celebrations

#### Groton

- Dec 2 Meri Erickson
- Dec 3 Anthony Sippel
- Dec 4 Darlys Kampa
- Dec 7 Morgan McNickle
- Dec 9 Ann Rix  
Brooklyn Gilbert  
Wesley Morehouse
- Dec 11 Dave & Connie Nilsson
- Dec 13 Melissa Gilbert
- Dec 14 Bob & Mary Ann Wehde
- Dec 15 Marjae Schinkel
- Dec 16 Dan Schinkel  
Sage Mortinson
- Dec 17 Alan Townsend
- Dec 18 Dylan Hanson  
Michaela Oleson
- Dec 20 Lon & Marva Gellhaus
- Dec 21 Kent Webb  
Noella Graf
- Dec 23 John Padfield

- Marc & Fran Sippel
- Dec 24 Kenley Johnson
- Dec 26 Ben Peterson
- Dec 27 Emily Overacker  
Jane Johnson  
Karla Pasteur
- Dec 28 Jaden Dobbins  
Meredith Gubin
- Dec 29 Andrea Davidson
- Dec 30 Alec Oleson  
Alex Graf

#### Conde

- Dec 1 Betty Haskell
- Dec 4 Greg & Stacey Bonn
- Dec 8 Tony Bruckner
- Dec 24 Floyd Smith
- Dec 27 Richard & Dorothy Sanderson



### Thank You

We would like to thank everyone who helped with the church dinner. What a great day of fellowship.

Blessings to all.

Fall Church Dinner Comm.



January 2016						
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 Family Committee - January 2016

Cheryl Hanson

Dale Kramer, Gabrielle

Yvonne Lange

Lance & Kristi Hawkins, Kelby

Jay & Linda Johnson (Jan)

Kami & Tom Lipp

Laurel & Monte McNickel

Diann & Brad Morehouse

Susan Odland

Karla Pasteur

Carna & Cliff Pray

Dwight & Eugenia Strom

Rose Tewksbury

Mark & June Thompson

Linda & Gary Thurston

Kim & Craig Weber (Jan)

### Honorary Members

- Doris Zoellner
- Marlys Rodman

### January Responsibilities

- Shovel snow from doorways before Church
- Take down Christmas decorations with all church helping
- If tree lights need replacing, do so before putting them away
- Potluck 2nd Sunday - give church secretary details for bulletin
- 5th Sunday may buy donuts and give bill to church treasurer
- Change fellowship hall table decorations with the seasons
- Check Kitchen supplies for the month
- Check & clean oven and fridge as necessary
- Coffee Hour workers (make coffee, provide cookies, launder towels, and remove trash)
- 2 ushers for each Sunday
- Straighten the sanctuary pews
- Maintain the altar flower arrangements
- Serve at Golden Living Center - 5th Sunday

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

Groton Stewardship Report NOV 2015
Average Wkly Giving \$2,663
Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,206
Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 98
Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs \$820

*The* REASON

Featuring *Jeremy Camp*  
 with *Jamie Grace* and a message from *Nick Hall*

THE FAMILY CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE OF THE YEAR IS COMING TO ABERDEEN

Friday, December 11  
 7PM

Aberdeen Civic Arena

\$15 (INDIVIDUALS) | \$12 (GROUPS 4+)

Ticket details, deluxe experience, and general information at:

[thereasonchristmas.com](http://thereasonchristmas.com)

December 2015						
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

- Dec 6 Groton Sunday School begins practice for the Christmas Program
- Dec 8 Groton Tuesday 10 AM Bible Study will meet at 9:30 am
- Dec 9 Groton Kid Zone 6 pm for Preschool - 5th grade
- Dec 12 Groton SS Christmas Program Practice 9:30 am
- Dec 13 Groton Baptism/Blessings Shower for Jaeden Morehouse
- Dec 13 Groton Angel Tree Gifts due back to the church by noon
- Dec 16 Conde UMW Christmas Special Meeting at 10:30 am
- Dec 16 Groton UMW Christmas Luncheon and Goodie Cans packed and delivered
- Dec 16 Groton Ad Council 7:15 pm
- Dec 18 Groton Youth Christmas Party at Gilberts (Ugly Sweater Party)
- Dec 20 Groton Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal 9:30 am
- Dec 20 Groton Christmas Program at 5 pm with Potluck to follow.
- Dec 24 Groton Christmas Eve Service 5 pm
- Dec 24 Conde Christmas Eve Service 7 pm

Be sure to mail or email a Christmas Family Photo Card to the church for the Online Directory! [grotonumc@nvc.net](mailto:grotonumc@nvc.net)