

# United Methodist Messenger

March 2015

Groton/Conde Parishes



## Dear Friends

In mainline churches, Lent has morphed into just a season of practicing self-denial and introspection as a means of spiritual discipline. And typically after the 40 days are over, so are those practices that brought you closer to God. However it hasn't always been this way. The season of Lent is steeped in its' tradition as a season in which new converts were welcomed into the community of believers, with Baptisms held on the day of Easter.

Throughout the 40 days the catechumens (those to be received into the fellowship of believers) would make a covenant to fast and pray daily and immerse themselves in the reading of scripture and the Didache (The teachings of the 12 disciples of Jesus Christ). These 40 days reflected the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness prior to his ministry (Matt 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13). After going through such an intense journey, one could imagine how wonderful it was to celebrate baptism as well as breaking their fast with the Lord's Supper.

Then as the day of baptism grew closer for the catechumens, the meaning and emotion found in the passion story intensified as they moved through Holy Week. It is unfortunate for us as Christians living today that Holy Week has lost some of its' meaning. However there are those who are working for renewal and a revival of that type of deep faith experience. Not out of a sense of self-righteousness or to be labeled as holier than thou, but out of a

genuine and heartfelt desire to have a closer relationship with Jesus who is the Christ. For me, the restoration of that relationship is the beauty found in the passion story, or Holy Week.

If you have immersed yourself in the passion story of Holy Week, Easter then arrives with a sense of mystery and surprise mixed with jubilation. The story of the women at the tomb is quite possibly one of the strongest advocates for our female clergy today. We are reminded that the women were the first of Jesus' disciples to greet the resurrected Christ and then were instructed to tell the others. The story of Easter gives us hope, strength and confidence as we consider God's power in the face of death. And at the center of the story we have Jesus Christ promising us new life and victory beyond the grave. Where O grave is thy victory? Where O death is thy sting?

### United Methodist Schedule

- Maundy Thursday : Groton 7pm
- Good Friday: 12pm Ecumenical/Community-wide at Groton UMC, 7pm in Conde
- Holy Saturday: On your own
- Easter: Groton: Sunrise at 7:30 am led by Confirmation students/ youth and 11am, Conde: 9am

I look forward to seeing you in church,

Pastor Matt



**Monday** 9 am - 4 pm

**Tuesday** 9 am - 4 pm

**Wednesday** 9 am - 3 pm  
followed by evening mtgs

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

**Friday and Sat** - Off

**Emergencies** - Any time

## Baptism & Blessings Shower

March 8th will be a Blessings Shower for Jase Dion Bahr born August 30, 2014 during coffee hour. Jase was born to Samantha & Dion Bahr. Jase will be baptized during worship service.



Thank You!

Thank you to Lorraine Bartz for altar cloth and runner for Advent.



## Holy Week

### Thursday

- Maundy Thursday at 7 pm at Groton UMC

### Friday

- Groton Community Good Friday Service at noon with the Groton UMC hosting.
- Conde UMC Good Friday service at 7pm

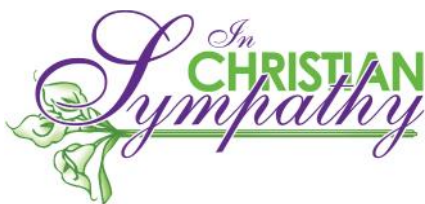
### Sunday

- Groton Easter Sunrise Service at 7:30 am by Confirmation Students and Youth.
- Watch for further information in the bulletin if there

will be a brunch following the Sunrise Service.

- Groton will have an Easter Egg Hunt following the Sunrise Service. Young Children will search for eggs in the fellowship hall and grades 1-5 will search for eggs in the Sunday school room areas when it is announced to start. Bring a basket!
- Groton UMC Easter Service at 11 am
- Conde UMC Easter Service at 9 am

## Groton Lent information

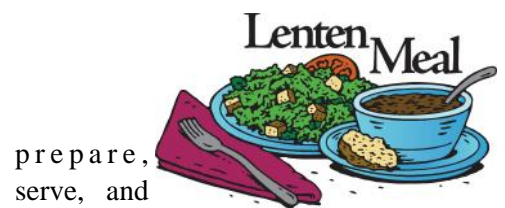


Sympathies to the family of Ralph Breitkreutz who passed away Feb 18th in Spearfish. Services were held at the Groton UMC on Monday, Feb 23.

The family committees will be in charge of serving the Lenten Supper each week from 5:30 - 6:15. The Lenten Service will follow in the sanctuary at 6:15 for a brief Lenten Service. All are welcome.

March 4 - March Committee  
March 11 - April Committee  
March 18 - May Committee  
March 25 - June Committee

The family committee is responsible to



prepare, serve, and clean-up.

Soup & sandwiches are typically served but other choices are optional. Prepare for 50 people. Take a free-will offering should be turned over to Myndi Kampa or Kay Brandt. It will help defray any costs of the meal. Groceries may be charged or receipts given to Kay for reimbursement.

## Conde News

On Tuesday, February 17th, the Conde United Methodist Church hosted a "Strove Tuesday" pancake supper. There was a small crowd, but those attending had some good fellowship and good food. Another social event was held on Friday, February 6th. A few people enjoyed the movie, "God Is Not Dead" and snacked on popcorn, peanuts, candy and pop.

On Ash Wednesday, there was a special service at 10:30. Following the service, Jane Worlie had the UMW lesson entitled, "Welcoming Through Giving", which was the yearly pledge service. The group discussed different missions that they felt could use our help. Again, the Salvation Army was considered, and at this time the ladies decided to give money rather than try and find a time to go up and work. It seems they need help primarily for the after school program, and this is not something that

the group felt they could do. Cindy Smith used some of the eggs and sausage that were left from the Tuesday night supper, and prepared a couple of delicious egg bakes. Fasting did not start on Wednesday; there was still some of that "rich food" to get cleaned out of the cupboards.

Pastor Matt will be leading a Lenten Study using the book REVIVAL which is written by Adam Hamilton. There is a DVD to accompany the study which always makes it more interesting. The first session will be Tuesday, February 24th at 8:00 and the rest of the sessions will continue on Tuesday evenings at 6:00. There are books available, or if someone chooses not to purchase a book, and would just like to come and listen to the DVD and join in the discussion, this is also an option. The books are \$15.

### Conde UMW Meeting

March 18th at 10 am

Program is Call to Prayer & Self-Denial

"A Gesture of Gratitude"

By Patty Knoll

Hostess - Pat Siefken

#### Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

## St. Patrick's Day trivia

You may know that St. Patrick used shamrocks to teach about the Trinity, but did you know these other facts about him?

- St. Patrick wasn't Irish. (His parents were Roman citizens living in either Scotland or Wales.)
- He was kidnapped and sold as a slave at age 16. After escaping six years later, he joined a monastery in England.

- March 17 is the date of St. Patrick's death, not his birth. He died in 461 A.D.

- The color originally associated with St. Patrick is blue, not green.
- The harp, not the shamrock, is the national symbol of Ireland.



## Groton Feb UMW

President Jolene Townsend welcomed eleven members who recited the Purpose on a cold February afternoon. Marlys Rodman gave Devotions which emphasized that Jesus loves you.

Linda Thurston presented the program on Lent which consists of the forty days before Easter. Some of the things we should consider during our Lenten journey are fasting, Bible Reading, prayer, service, and rest. Linda also handed out a list of Bible Readings to use during this period of time. In 1992, the ashes and the washing of the feet were adopted into the Methodist discipline. Each person in attendance made a bracelet by placing a colored bead on a pipe cleaner with each color signifying the following: God can help purify me, forgive me, enlighten me, inspire me, teach me, lead me, dwell in me, empower me, transform me, and use me. It was a very interesting and inspirational program to lead all into the Easter journey.

Minutes were read and approved and the finances

were the same. Correspondence was from Doris Strom thanking the unit for her Christmas goodies and her appreciation for the Secret Angel program.

Old/new business was the continued suggestions and planning for the UMW to hold a spring and fall event. It has been suggested that the spring event could be moved to June 6 with a salad luncheon, some entertainment, etc. The fall project could consist of businesses, families, organizations etc. asked to decorate trees to be displayed throughout the church to be viewed by the public. There could be light refreshments, entertainment, and a free will offering. A possible date is Nov. 15. Suggestions are welcome.

Jolene ended the meeting with a prayer and Rose Tewksbury served a delicious strawberry dessert for lunch. The next meeting is Mar. 18 at 1:30 with a possible visit from the Shepherdess Pat Siefken. Hostess is Gloria Pharis.

## A new spring

Botanists say that trees need the powerful March winds to flex their trunks and main branches, so that the sap is drawn up to nourish the budding leaves. Perhaps we need the gales of life in the same way, though we dislike enduring them. A blustery period in our fortunes is often the prelude to a new spring of life and health, success and happiness, when we keep steadfast in faith and look to the good in spite of appearances.

—Jane Truax



will be replaced in the spring after the frost is out of the ground. Blocker construction will replace the soffits and fascia in the spring. We have had some minor problems with the furnace, one pump had to be replaced. A big thank you to Dave McGannon for maintaining it. We encourage everyone if a problem is found in the church to please contact one of the trustee members. Thank you to everyone for your donations to this project. We will continue to raise funds to cover the remaining repairs .

## Groton UMW Meeting

March 18th - 1:30 pm

Program - "Shepherdess Visit"

Hostess - Gloria Pharis

## Groton Trustee Report

The Groton church project of updating the building and complying with insurance requirements is progressing as planned. House of Glass, Aberdeen has completed the window project. The bill was paid in full on February 16, 2015. We encourage everyone to take a look at them . Locke Electric has completed the Exit signs at the three exits. The cross in the fellowship room now has all new LED lights installed. Also a new outside light has been installed at the north entrance. The outside ground light

# Our Church Celebrations

## Groton

- Mar 3 Tristan Kampa
- Mar 4 Christina Zoellner  
Kale Pharis  
Kay Brandt
- Mar 5 Chance Strom
- Mar 7 Brain Bahr  
Richard & JoAnn Krueger
- Mar 9 Betty Strom
- Mar 14 Mendy Jones  
Sydney Erickson
- Mar 15 Samantha Weber
- Mar 18 Ron Gubin
- Mar 21 Kaelee Morehouse
- Mar 22 Don Walter
- Mar 24 Emerlee Jones
- Mar 25 Laurel McNickle  
Murdock McNickle
- Mar 26 Claire Davidson  
Clayton Kurtz  
Justin Morehouse  
Mark Thompson
- Mar 27 Michelle Walter  
Dwight Strom
- Mar 29 Sharon Wheeting  
Zara Maag
- Mar 30 Breslyn Hinman
- Mar 31 Aiden Strom  
Caralee Heitmann

## Conde

- Mar 6 Stacey Bonn
- Mar 9 Samuel Schlosser
- Mar 10 Alyssa Taylor
- Mar 14 Katie Lyren  
Nicole Taylor
- Mar 17 Myron Fahrenwald
- Mar 20 Dale Busing
- Mar 22 Mike Knoll
- Mar 23 Greg Peterson  
Greg Stark
- Mar 25 Larae Taylor
- Mar 26 Samantha Menzia
- Mar 27 Matthew Engel  
Cindy Haskell
- Mar 28 Todd Krueger
- Mar 29 David Engel
- Mar 31 Renee Hanlon



## 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.

**Groton Tues 10 AM Bible Study**  
will start a new Adam Hamilton Study called Forgiveness March 3rd for the next 4 weeks.  
Please come and join us!



**March 29th during coffee hour  
at the Groton UMC**



Missions Committee is raising funds for School Supplies



Please donate and have items at the church by 10 am

Please bid and then pay and pick up the items you won after Church!

# People Need help and hope



**Because of you, UMCOR is ready to respond.**

Donations UMCOR receives through this Special Sunday along with other undesignated gifts made throughout the year, cover our costs of doing business.

**Don't delay in your giving. People are in need.**

Your financial gift makes it possible for UMCOR to use 100% of all other funds raised for the actual cause specified such as UMCOR's disaster response to the Oklahoma tornadoes.

**Your donation delivers help and hope.**

Give during our Special Sunday Offering in church on March 15, 2015.



## A potluck of people

Many congregations enjoy gathering for potluck dinners – meals largely unplanned, when people bring food to share. Usually, the main dishes, salads and desserts balance out. The fun is the variety mixing together on a plate and the surprise factor of what's contributed.

Churches and communities – even families – are potlucks of a sort, too. When groups assemble, each person contributes something unique and sometimes unexpected. When all is mixed together, the whole is

truly greater than the sum of the parts. A beautiful balance often results: One is a good singer, the other writes well; some are strong leaders, others dependable team members; some are traditional, others innovative. Together, it's delicious!

Potlucks are sometimes called covered-dish dinners. But don't keep your gifts "covered"! Share them because you're a valued part of the whole.

## Groton Calling System

Ad Council voted to set up a new calling system for our church when special announcements need to be made. Kay Brandt will be working on putting the system in place. We would like to have one phone number per family on the system and the message may also be received via email in case you should miss it on the phone. If you have telemarketer blocks on your phone, you will not receive these calls and should select a phone without the

blocks or have a friend call you whenever there is a church call. Please let Kay know what phone number and email you prefer by contacting her at 397-8389 or email her at [grotonumc@nvc.net](mailto:grotonumc@nvc.net). Thank you for your patience as this is set up to keep us all connected.





# POWER OF PRAYER

When life gets crazy, worry creeps in. But God tells us exactly what to do — any time and anywhere.

**Directions:** Circle the word in each group that doesn't belong. Then write those words on the numbered lines below.

<b>1</b> apple anxious artichoke	<b>2</b> every eagle emu	<b>3</b> purple pink prayer	<b>4</b> Paul petition Peter	<b>5</b> taste touch thanksgiving
<b>6</b> rest requests relax	<b>7</b> God George Greg	<b>8</b> puddle peace pond	<b>9</b> transcends train truck	<b>10</b> unusual unique understanding
<b>11</b> guard giraffe gorilla	<b>12</b> hearts hold held	<b>13</b> many minds more	<b>14</b> Philadelphia Pennsylvania Philippians	

“Do not be \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> about anything, but in \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> situation, by \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup>, with \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup>, present your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup>. And the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> of God, which \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> all \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup>, will \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup> your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> and your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup> in Christ Jesus.” \_\_\_\_\_<sup>14</sup> 4:6-7, NIV

Answers: 1. anxious, 2. every, 3. prayer, 4. petition, 5. thanksgiving, 6. requests, 7. God, 8. peace, 9. transcends, 10. understanding, 11. guard, 12. hearts, 13. minds, 14. Philippians

## Groton Sunday School Schedule

- Mar 1 Sunday School
- Mar 8 Sunday School
- Mar 15 Sunday School
- Mar 22 No Sunday School
- Mar 29 Sunday School and Sing in Church
- Apr 5 No Sunday School
- Apr 12 Sunday School
- Apr 19 Sunday School
- Apr 26 Sunday School
- May 3 Sunday School
- May 10 Last Day Sunday School and Sing in Church

## Groton Jr UMYF Schedule

- Mar 4 6:30 pm
- Mar 6 Lock-In 7 pm to 8 am
- Mar 18 6:30 pm
- Apr 1 6:30 pm
- Apr 15 6:30 pm
- Apr 29 6:00 pm Fun Night



The Camp books are now available. The curriculum this summer focuses on five of the many texts that speak of God’s Spirit. Each of the texts explores an important aspect of the work of the Holy Spirit - the Spirit’s giving, forgiving, loving, gathering, and sending. Online registration is similar to last year with a church code that can be obtained from the church office. Early Bird Deadline is April 30th. If you should be signed up for camp and become ill or cannot attend for some unforeseen reason, please let Pastor Matt or Kay Brandt know immediately so we may make sure the Conference Office is contacted so we may obtain a refund.



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

Groton Stewardship Report Jan 2015
Average Wkly Giving \$1,500
Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,206
Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 55
Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs \$1,805

Groton Stewardship Report Feb 2015
Average Wkly Giving \$1,477
Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,206
Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 53
Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs \$1,910

## Groton April Family Committee

### Carol & Luverne Strom

### AM & Laurie Mitchell

Karla & Russell Davidson

Zachary Townsend

Erin & Damian Bahr

Charity hinman

DougSippel

Curtis Krueger

Anita & Gary Voss

Betty Strom

Caralee & Gary Heitmann

Sharon & Larry Wheeting

Alan & Jolene Townsend

Cheri & Tom Strom

Kristi & Ben Peterson, Jocelyn

Roger & Pam Rix

### Honorary Members

- Deloris Knoll
- Hazel McKittrick



### April Responsibilities

- 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
- Pickup ritual of friendship sheets
- Straighten the Sanctuary Pews
- Maintain the Altar Flower Arrangements
- Serve at Golden Living Center - 2nd Sunday
- Potluck 2nd Sunday - Give church secretary details for the bulletin

April 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		





# Our Church Happenings

- Mar 3 Groton 10 AM Bible Study starting Forgiveness by Adam Hamilton
- Mar 3-Mar 24 Conde will have a Lenten Study on Tues nights - 6:30 pm
- Mar 4 Groton Lenten Supper/Service 5:30/6:15 (March)
- Mar 5 PPR Mtg in Conde 7 pm
- Mar 6 Groton Jr UMYF Lock-In 7 pm - 8 am
- Mar 8 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- Mar 8 Baptism/Blessings Shower for Jase Bahr
- Mar 11 Groton Lenten Supper/Service 5:30/6:15 (April)
- Mar 15 Conde UMW Sunday
- Mar 15 One Great Hour of Sharing
- Mar 18 Conde UMW 10 am
- Mar 18 Groton UMW 1:30 pm
- Mar 18 Groton Lenten Supper/Service 5:30/6:15 (May)
- Mar 18 Groton Ad Council 7 pm
- Mar 22 Groton No Sunday School
- Mar 25 Groton Lenten Supper/Service 5:30/6:15 (June)
- Mar 29 Groton Missions Silent Dessert Auction
- Mar 29 Palm Sunday - Groton Sunday School Singing in Church
- Apr 2 Maundy Thursday Service 7 pm
- Apr 3 Good Friday Community Service at Noon at Groton UMC
- Apr 5 Easter Sunday - Groton Sunrise 7:30 am - Conde Worship 9 am - Groton Worship 11 am

Groton/Conde Parishes



March 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				