



United Methodist Messenger

NOVEMBER 2015

GROTON / CONDE PARISHES

From Pastor Thomas' Desk

My morning devotion was from Luke 14:12-14

Then he turned to his host. "When you put on a luncheon or a banquet," he said, "don't invite your friends, brothers, relatives, and rich neighbors. For they will invite you back, and that will be your only reward. Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. Then at the resurrection of the righteous, God will reward you for inviting those who could not repay you."

With our upcoming Thanksgiving season fast approaching, I began thinking. Soon, we will all be getting ready for family gatherings to celebrate Thanksgiving. This text really spoke to me; in that, we sometimes get so busy with our families that we forget our neighbors that are in need (*the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind.*)

As I began to think about everything that we have been blessed with I could not help but think of 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 "*Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be*

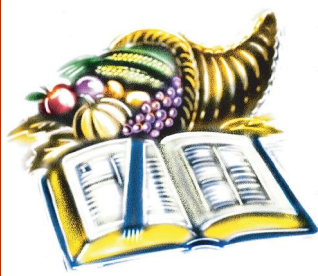
thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus." Friends, we have so much to be thankful about!

My heart filled prayer is that our church families may be willing to extend some prayers of thanksgiving and bless some of our hurting neighbors. May God use each and every one of you this Thanksgiving season. So that we may be a light of hope to those who are broken, lost, and lonely. Helping others feel the love and generosity of Jesus Christ through our hands and hearts!

I give thanks to God for all of you and your families. It is a great honor to be your pastor and watch you use your God given gifts to build the Kingdom.

Blessings to all of you this Thanksgiving season!

Pastor Thomas



Pastor Thomas'

Schedule

Monday - in office
10 am - 2 pm

Tuesday - working
on sermon

Weds - in office 2
pm - 3:30 pm

Thurs - available
by appt 10am-5 pm

Friday and Sat -
Days Off

Emergency Calls
24/7

Youth Ministry

Since youth group has started it has been a lot of fun! We have had new kids about every week. We haven't had a huge amount of kids, but that is ok because it shouldn't matter how many kids are there as long as they go to learn and grow. That is all that really matters to us, we just want to see them grow in their faith, and we want to grow as well. The one thing that I love most about it is going into the sanctuary and worshipping! It seems like the kids really love it. The songs are great, and after that we always go and play some fun game! Whether it is outside or inside Pastor Thomas always has something fun up his sleeve.

After we play our game we go back inside and cool off and we teach the kids a lesson. We try to get them involved as possible, whether it's opening us up in prayer, reading some scripture, or answering the questions we ask them about the scripture. Finally we end with a big prayer with all of the kids. We ask what is on their hearts, and we normally get a lot of requests which is amazing! I'm really looking forward to seeing these kids grow in their faith, and all of us leaders grow with them. I'm excited for the rest of the year it should be a blast!

Brandon Bicek, Youth Pastor

BABY SHOWER



Come & Go Baby Shower for Jenna (Nick) Strom. October 31st from 9:30 - 11 am at the Groton United Methodist Church. One small request, please bring a book instead of a card. Jenna is registered at Target and Amazon. A girl is on the way... hosted by friends and family.



It's A Girl!

Jaeden Emma was born to Justin and Amanda Morehouse and Kaelee on October 26th. She weighed 7 lbs 12 oz and 21 inches long.

CHURCH INFORMATION

Pastor Thomas Carlson
Office Phone
605-397-8270
Cell Phone
605-277-8448
Pastor Email
pastorthomas@nvc.net

Secretary Email
grotonumc@nvc.net

website
grotonumc.org

906 N 1st St
Groton, SD 57445



Sunday November 8

Groton & Conde Joint Worship Service at 9:45 AM at the Groton UMC
Groton 3rd graders will receive Bibles at 9:45 am during worship
Sunday School will take place at 10 am during worship
Men's Dinner starts at 11 am

Groton Bibles

3rd graders will be receiving Bibles Nov 8th in church at 9:45 am. They are: Taylor Diegel, Jaden Dobbins, Karsten Jeschke, Jaeger Kampa, Payton Mitchell, Emily Overacker, Laila Roberts, and Turner Thompson. The Bibles have been purchased in memory of Ralph Breikreutz.

Thank You

Thank you to the Ralph Breikreutz family for an ongoing memorial for bibles for children.

Thank you so much for your generous donation to the teachers at our school. The Wal-Mart gift card for Groton Area OST will be used when something comes along we need for children in our after school program. Children are our future and you are making a difference! Thanks again, Kim Weber (OST coordinator & Brett Schwan (OST Director)



Conde UMW - October

The UMW met at 10:00 on Wednesday, October 21. Because of sickness and other conflicts, there were only three members and one guest present. Pat Siefken gave the lesson entitled, "Welcoming People of All Abilities". The theme was about accepting all people, rich or poor, educated or uneducated, and also those with disabilities. Cindy Smith served a delicious lunch.

We had a short business meeting and the following things were discussed:

December meeting will be at 10:00, December 2, and we will invite other ladies in the community. There will be a noon meal and Cindy will be in charge of this. Pat and Patty Knoll will plan a program. We will again buy gifts for children that

the Good Samaritan Center in Redfield has suggested, or give cash for them to purchase things. The Christmas Shoebox project was discussed, and since this is a Church project, we will wait for the results of those collections and add some more funds if needed. The next meeting will be at 10:00, November 18. Jane Worlie will have the Thanksgiving World Thank Offering lesson. Patty Knoll will be the hostess.

The Bible Study, "Making Sense of the Bible: Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today" is going well. There are nine ladies and Pastor Thomas who have books and attend when they can. The next session will be October 27 at 7:30 following the Administrative Board meeting.

**Conde
MISSION
STATEMENT**

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

Conde Shoebox Christmas

Christmas Shoebox items or cash donations need to be given by November 15 which will give the Mission Committee time to purchase things and deliver them to North Highland Church by November 25. There are lists of suggested gift items available at church, or you can e-mail Donna Hearnen at ndhearnen@nvc.net to get a list. The shoeboxes will be delivered to the Enemy Swim School which is on the Spirit Lake Reservation.



Conde UMW Meeting
November 18 at 10 am

Program Focus:
Thanksgiving &
World Thank Offering

Leader Jane Worlie
Hostess Patty Knoll



Sunday School Pumpkin Carving Lesson

Thank you to Emery Sippel and Tom Tietz for donating pumpkins so we could make this happen! We had a wonderful time. Now we can let Jesus' light shine on Halloween night!

THE PUMPKIN PRAYER

Open my mind so I can learn about you!

Cut off the top

Take away all my sin and forgive me for the wrong things I do.

Clean out the inside

Open my eyes so your love I will see.

Cut two eyes

I'm sorry for turning up my nose to all you've given me.

Cut a nose

Open my ears so your word I will hear.

Cut two ears

Open my mouth to tell others you're near.

Cut a mouth

Let your light shine in me so others can see.

Place a candle inside

My happy little pumpkin shows how much God loves me!



Groton UMW - October

President Jolene Townsend introduced Jeanne Wanous who presented the annual World Thank Offering Program. She explained that the World Thank offering is one of the five channels of mission giving for UMW. In 2014 UMW women gave \$1,184,287 worldwide. Our local UMW has averaged \$250 in giving over the last three years. The group took part in reading about five examples of UMW mission work around the world including the United States. The group offered their monies collected throughout the year for the World Thank Offering program.

The regular business meeting was called to order beginning with the reading of the UMW Purpose. Treasurer, Jeanne Wanous, reviewed the Treasurer's Report stating that we had an ending balance of \$971.83.

New Business:

- We agreed to proceed with the spring Salad Luncheon again in 2016 as well as plan a fund raising event for the fall.
- Yvonne Lange, Carna Atherton-Pray, and Jeanne Wanous volunteered to help with the Trunk or Treat UMW vehicle on Oc-

tober 31.

- Three new UMW members were announced as: Britini & Thomas Carlson and Jaymie Overacker.
- Jolene shared the awards our group received for being a 3 Flame and a 5 Star unit.
- The December meeting will be changed from December 9 to December 16.
- The 2016 budget presented by Jeanne Wanous was approved on a motion by Marjorie Overacker and 2nd by Sharon Wheeting.
- The group voted to give a school athletic punch card to Pastor Thomas as pastor appreciation gift.



The meeting concluded with a lunch hosted by Marlys Rodman and Marjory Townsend.

Secretary,
Jeanne Wanous

Response Magazine Online at
<http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/>
response



Groton UMC

- 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

*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.

Groton UMW Nov Meeting

November 18th at 1:30 pm

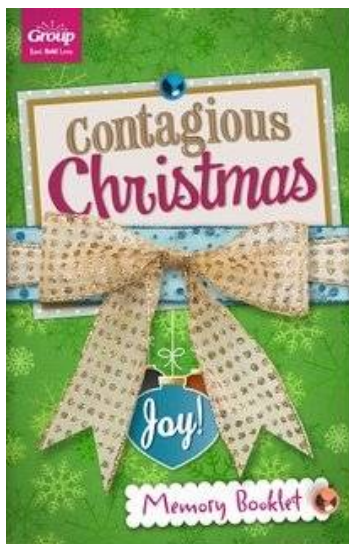
Program is "Contagious Christmas"
by Kay Daly

Hostesses Pat Dahlquist & Kay Daly

Executive Meeting at 3 pm
plan Christmas Luncheon

Finalize 2016 date book and budget
summarize 2015 UMW Year

Save Coffee Cans for December Mission!



Groton UMW Sunday

During UMW Sunday the Jewel of a Woman award was presented to Darlys Kampa. Special Recognition pins were presented to Brad Morehouse and Ida Hannon.



Thanksgiving prayer

Author and radio host Garrison Keillor put a unique spin on expressing gratitude for special meals. He painted the following table prayer on his dining-room wall, encouraging guests to sing it together before eating:

O Lord, we thank Thee for this food,
For every blessing, every good.
For earthly sustenance and love
Bestowed on us from heaven above.
Be present at our table, Lord.
Be here and everywhere adored.
Thy children bless and grant that we
May feast in paradise with Thee.

“It’s inspiring to hear 15 people find harmony around the Thanksgiving table,” Keillor writes. Singing together “sets a tone. No crying in the cranberries. ... There is much to be grateful for.”

Groton Community Trunk or Treat!!

What: Safe trick-or-treating/games from the trunk of decorated vehicles around a parking lot.

Where: Groton Methodist Church Lot (inside if bad weather)

When: Saturday, Oct. 31st 4-6pm
CONCESSIONS available in church!

If interested in sponsoring a vehicle, contact Kim 380-7148 or Pastor Thomas 277-8448 by October 26th.



Spread the Word!
Join the Fun!



Hebrews 10:24, NKJV

Our Church Celebrations

Groton

- Nov 2 Andrea Snoozy-Bahr
- Nov 3 Jon & Gayleen Voss
- Nov 7 Marva Gellhaus
Susan Odland
- Nov 11 Doug Sippel
- Nov 15 Fred & Elaine Wolken
Jack Oliver
- Nov 17 Delaney Atherton
- Nov 18 Luverne Strom
- Nov 19 Crystal Strom
Garrett Heitmann
Michael Krueger
- Nov 21 Larry & Sharon Wheeting

- Nov 23 Dwight & Eugenia Strom
Francine Sippel
- Nov 24 Ian & Karen Rose
Ian Rose
- Nov 25 Emery Sippel
Kari Hanson
- Nov 29 Audrey Thurston
Cheri Strom
- Nov 30 Tanner Johnson
- Conde**
- Nov 8 Dorothy Sanderson
- Nov 25 Bud Bruckner
Betty Geist



VETERANS DAY

Men's Fall Dinner
 Groton United Methodist Church
 Sunday, November 8, 2015
 11 am to 1:30 pm
Roast Beef Dinner
 Adults: \$8 Children 5-12: \$5
 Children 4 and under: Free

BAGS
 Building Academic Groton Students
 for tomorrow...

Food Item of the Month!

November - Soup Cups (Single Serve)
 December - Fruit or Applesauce Cups (Single Serve)

grat-i-tude
 [grat i tood]
 noun
 the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness

Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow.

—Melody Beattie



Sunday School singing during worship.

JESUS OUR
 BROTHER,
 KIND AND
 GOOD



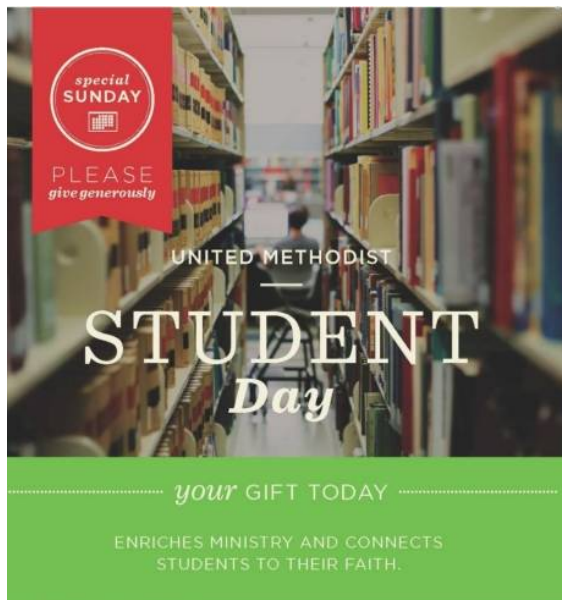
**Groton Tuesday 10 AM
 Women's Bible Study**
 Advent Study starts Nov 3rd
 5 week study called
 Everyone Welcome!



Groton All Church Decorating

November 22
 starting at 8:30 am

Rolls, fruit, and juice will be served by the November Family Committee starting at 9 am.



Groton Missions

Thank you to all who donated to our school supplies project for the Groton Elementary School. With your help we were able to help 5 students buy supplies and gave all the elementary school teachers gift cards to Wal-Mart to buy needed items for their classroom.

We held our annual chili-soup cook-off Oct 25th and had a lot of fun. A huge thank you to the judges who came in for us. They were Bud Bell, Tom & Patti Woods, and Brandon Bicek. Thank you to all who brought a pot of chili or soup to join the fun. 1st place and apron went to Doug Daly, 2nd place Laurie Mitchell, and 3rd place Jaeger Kampa. We all enjoyed great chili and raised funds for the Angel Tree.

The Angel Tree will be up Nov 22 so you may sign out a card and be able to go shopping the day after Thanksgiving. This is a great mission and outreach for all the children in our community to have a blessed Christmas. The gifts will need to be returned to the church by Sunday, December 13th and if you are unable to have your gift there on this date, please contact Karla Pasteur so she doesn't go and buy the gift to replace it as all gifts have to be returned and this is why it is important to sign out the cards in case there is a problem later.



your GIFT
TRANSFORMS
LIVES THROUGH
EDUCATION.

A once neglected dorm at Tyler Junior College now bursts with new life ... as a missional community for two colleges. The dream of a campus minister – who is also a United Methodist scholarship recipient – became reality with help from the Texas Annual Conference, local churches and the Wesley Foundation.

The new residence hall was the vision of the Rev. Sunny Brown Farley, campus minister at Tyler Junior College. The Tyler United Wesley Foundation serves both the junior college and the University of Texas at Tyler.

SCHOLARSHIPS EMPOWER STUDENTS.

"We see our role as empowering students to live into God's call on their lives," Farley said. Farley received a scholarship designated for United Methodist campus ministers seeking advanced training while she was pursuing Missional Church studies at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. "The scholarship has offset the cost so that I can ... gain useful education for the ministry we are now doing," she said.

YOUR GIFT TODAY MATTERS.

Your donation enriches ministry and connects students to their faith. The United Methodist Student Day offering makes a difference for people like the Rev. Sunny Brown Farley and the students she serves. Thank you for making a gift today!

Groton Ad Council - October

The council discussed ways to improve the interior and exterior look of our church to make it more inviting and hospitable. Some suggestions included fresh greenery and some festive décor around the outside doors.

The 2016 proposed budget was reviewed and approved after some discussion and clarification of specific line items. The council was reminded to attend the Charge Conference on November 8 at 1:00 pm in Groton.

Pastor Thomas shared a summary of his activities for the last month including attending a retreat and a week at seminary. The first

Kid Zone attracted 23 youngsters and the two youth groups remain active with approximately 40 students in attendance on Sunday nights.

Pastor Thomas talked with the council about the Life Cycle of our church and then engaged the council in a discussion of goal setting for 2016.

Groton Stewardship Report Oct 2015

Average Wkly Giving \$2,685

Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,206

Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 100

Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs \$1,210

Groton Mission Statement

"Enriching Spiritual lives through Christ."

LOVE GROW SERVE



Groton December Family Committee

Justin & Amanda Morehouse

Jane & Marc Johnson

Angela & Perryn Dobbins

Corey & Jamie Mitchell

Michelle Kramer

Robin O'Neill

Marjorie & Roger Overacker

Jesse & Jaymie Overacker

Alan Strom

Kay Daly

Marva & Lon Gellhaus

Mendy & James Jones, Marlee

Brent & Jessica Morehouse

Andrea Bahr

Randy & Sue Stanley

Honorary Members

Dick Ruden

Gerald & Ann Rix

Don Walter

Doris Strom

December 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
- 1 Greeter for each Sunday
- Straighten the Sanctuary Pews
- Maintain the Altar Flower Arrangements
- Serve at Golden Living Center – 2nd Sunday
- Help decorate church with November committee
- **Check and make sure the Christmas Eve candles are okay for the service early in the month in case we have to order new ones.**
- Prepare Candle table for Christmas Eve Service
- Setup table and lay out candles for Christmas Eve
- Shovel snow from doorways before Church
- Potluck 2nd Sunday - give church secretary details for bulletin
- 5th Sunday may buy donuts and give bill to Kay Daly
- Remind Gary & Caralee Heitmann to change banners, altar cloths and maintain candles.

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

- Oct 31 Come & Go Baby Shower for Jenna (Nick) Strom 9:30 - 11 am - hosted by friends & family
- Oct 31 Trunk or Treat 4-6 pm
- Nov 1 Daylight Saving Time Ends
- Nov 3 Groton 10 AM Bible Study starts Advent Study "Sent"
- Nov 7 Charge Conference 1 pm in Groton
- Nov 8 Groton 3rd Grade Bibles Presented during Church at 9:45 am

Nov 8 Joint Worship Service - Groton/Conde at 9:45 am

Nov 8 Groton Men's Dinner 11 AM - 1:30 pm

- Nov 11 Groton Kid Zone 6 pm
- Nov 13 Dak Youth begins in Aberdeen 6 pm
- Nov 15 Conde Shoebox Christmas gifts need to be turned in
- Nov 18 Conde UMW 10 am
- Nov 18 Groton UMW 1:30 pm and Executive Mtg at 1 pm
- Nov 18 Groton Kid Zone 6 pm
- Nov 22 Groton All-Church Decorating 8:30 am
- Nov 22 Groton Youth - Dodge Ball Night
- Nov 26 Thanksgiving Day
- Nov 29 1st Sunday of Advent
- Nov 29 Newsletter Items Due
- Nov 29 United Methodist Student Day
- Nov 29 Sunday School with special craft time

November 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					

