



# United Methodist Messenger

April 2016

Groton/Conde Parishes

## From Pastor Thomas' Desk

Greeting Friends,

I was remembering just the other day that spring is here, in fact, the first day of spring was March 20<sup>th</sup>. Farmers have already started calving and soon they will start working long days preparing their fields. I would ask that you keep all of our farmers and their families in our prayers.

I invite you to prayer with me this prayer as we think about our farmers this season.

“God may you watch over every farmer as they work long and strenuous hours. May your hands be upon them as they work hard. May you go before them in the barns, machine shops, farm equipment and the fields with protection. God may you bless their animals and fields. God be with the families of our farmers. We ask this in Jesus' precious name, AMEN!”

It is hard to believe that it is already April. Friends, summer is soon approaching which means it is time to get EXCITED and FIRED up about camping! Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” Matthew 19:14

One of my favorite parts of summer is going to our camps where we are intentional about bringing our children, youths and even adults to Jesus to experience the love of Christ. I'm personally involved with three of our camps.

The first camp is HIGH POINT on June 19<sup>th</sup> – June 24<sup>th</sup> which is open to grades 9-12 at Storm Mountain in Rapid City. This is an energizing week while God takes us to new heights! There will also be three great days of giving back through some off site mission projects! The second camp is ROCK THAT DOESN'T ROLL on July 10<sup>th</sup> – July 15<sup>th</sup> which is open to grades 6-8 also at Storm Mountain. This camp will challenge you to dig deep in your faith. The last camp is Leadership Training Camp (LTC) on July 24<sup>th</sup> – July 30<sup>th</sup> at Lake Poinsett just outside of Watertown which is open to grades 9-12. This camp challenges our youth to lead in bold ways in our churches and world.

If your child might be nervous about going to camp. While the ROCK THAT DOESN'T ROLL is going on there is also THE NEXT NORMAL on July 10<sup>th</sup> – July 15<sup>th</sup> which is open to grades 4-5 at Storm Mountain. This camp will help create the new normal...ignite the love of Christ within the world! I'm not directly involved with this camp but will be at the camp at the same time.

Blessings!

Pastor Thomas Carlson



Church Camp



Pastor's  
Office Hours

And 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



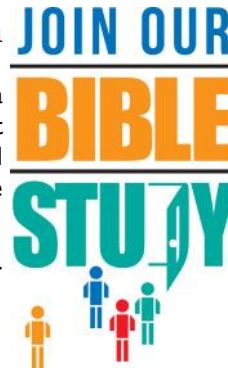
**Blessings  
wedding shower  
for Traci Davies  
and Dale Kramer  
April 10th during  
coffee hour  
By the Groton  
UMC family**

**Registered at  
Target**

## New Bible Study - Groton

Watch for details coming about a new evening Bible Study Group that will be starting. The first study will be Adam Hamilton's "Making Sense of the Bible"

If you are interested, please contact Valerie Baker at 541-653-1753



**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



**Making Sense of the Bible**  
Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today

*Making Sense of the Bible* helps readers make sense of the Bible and leads them to a deeper appreciation for it, and a desire to read it and live by its precepts.

## Groton Graduates & Confirmands Honored May 8th

Graduates will be honored during coffee hour and worship on Sunday, May 8th. Join us as we congratulate Marlee Jones, Brady Graf, Tia Johnson, Kari Han-son, Hannah Webb, and Emily Raap.

This will also be Confirmation Sunday. Watch the bulletin for the list of those to be confirmed May 8th.

\*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.



## Church Information

Pastor Thomas Carlson  
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website  
grotonumc.org  
906 N 1st St  
Groton, SD 57445



Adrienne and Tigh Fliehs are proud to announce the birth of their son, Bo Garrett. He joins brothers Tigh and Rae.



*Bo Garrett Fliehs  
December 22, 2015  
7 lbs 3oz.*



### His Glory

God sends rainbows after showers arching 'cross the freshened skies. Every rainbow shows God's glory. Every wonder tells his story.

God sends Jesus down from heaven offering mercy, hope and life. On the cross he showed God's glory. Every blessing tells his story.

God sends me forth into this world sharing love that offers life. And I hope to show God's glory In the way I tell his story.

—MaryAnn Sundby

Groton United Methodist Women

# May Luncheon

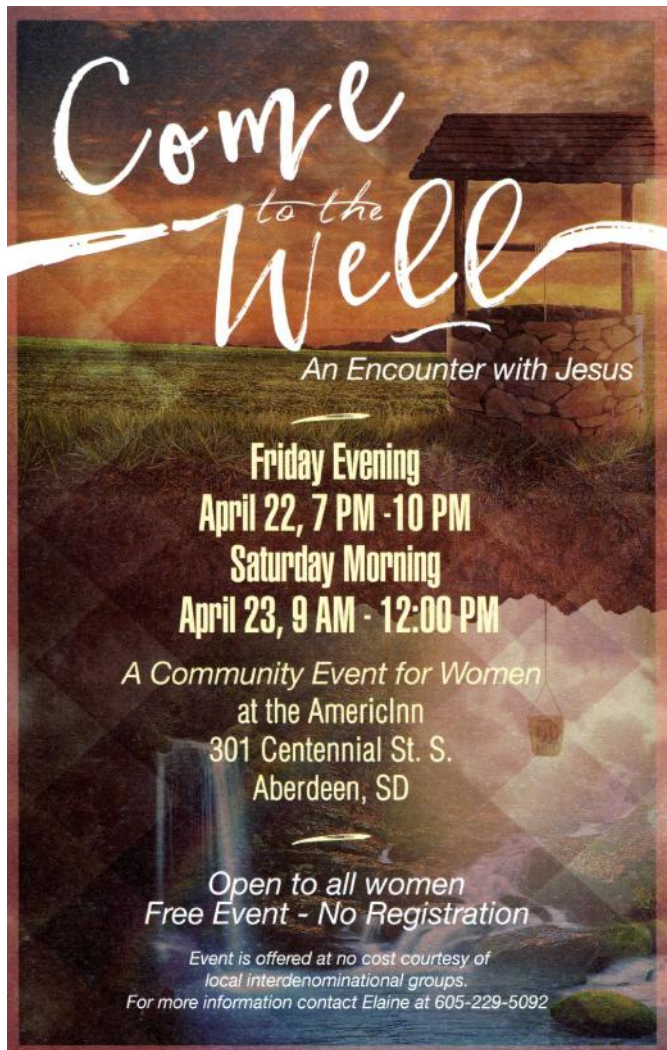
## Wednesday, May 4th

Serving from 11 am - 1 pm  
No Reservation Required



Men & Women \$8 - Children 6 and under free

Come and join us for lunch OR Make your own lunch to go at the Groton United Methodist Church



# Come to the Well

An Encounter with Jesus

Friday Evening  
April 22, 7 PM - 10 PM

Saturday Morning  
April 23, 9 AM - 12:00 PM

A Community Event for Women  
at the AmericInn  
301 Centennial St. S.  
Aberdeen, SD

Open to all women  
Free Event - No Registration

Event is offered at no cost courtesy of local interdenominational groups.  
For more information contact Elaine at 605-229-5092



Worship Service  
Bible Study 9:00 am  
First Service 10:00 am

ENGESSER

"Let's give 'em a good start with some holy water!"

## Groton UMW - March

Pres. Jolene welcomed 10 members and guests to the Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> meeting at 1:30 pm. Marjory Townsend read the devotions. The UMW purpose was recited by all. The program consisted of a group discussion of the origin of the Easter bunny, Easter trivia and everyone sharing their Easter traditions when they were children as well as their Easter traditions today.

The business meeting consisted of plans for the Spring Luncheon on May 4<sup>th</sup>, hosting UMW Focus Day on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> and supporting the Post-Prom activities at the Groton Area High

School.

In celebration of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual UMW Day of Giving on March 23<sup>rd</sup> it was decided to help sponsor passes for those in need at the Groton Swimming Pool.

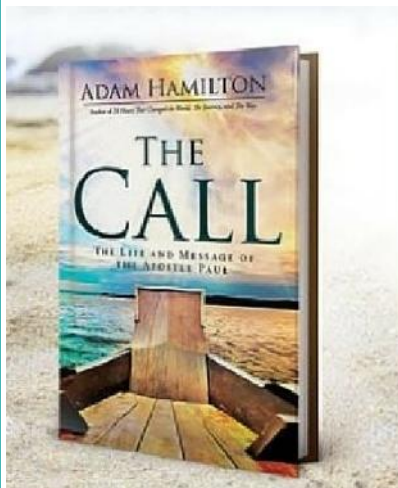
The Hugs and Kisses Program, UMW Reading Program, and the Secret Angel program were all shared. We concluded our meeting with joys and concerns followed by prayer. Marjorie Overacker served a delicious dessert. Our next meeting will be Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm. Hostesses will be Sharon Wheeting and Pat Dahlquist.



Groton UMW will be hosting Focus Day, Saturday, April 9th from 9:00 am to 3 pm, providing morning coffee/muffin and a lunch.

**April 14 UMW Meeting**  
**1:30 pm on Thursday**  
 Program is "Shepherdess Visit" Margie Alvin  
 Hostesses are Sharon Wheeting and Pat Dahlquist  
**Executive Meeting at 3 pm**

**Tuesday 10 AM Women's Bible Study**  
**April 5th Starting "The Call"**



"In this book, I aim to share Paul's story, hear his message, and reflect on the meaning of his life and message for our own lives and our world today."

ADAM HAMILTON

Coffee  
and  
Prayers



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



## Conde UMW - March

The UMW met at 10:00 on Wednesday March 16th. Patty Knoll gave the lesson on Call to Prayer and Self Denial entitled "Women At Work". This lesson gave information on Women in Mission many years ago and also in present time. The ladies were asked to bring their favorite recipe, then share why it is a favorite, and if it brought back special memories of a certain time it was served. This was an interesting discussion with mostly joyful times being recalled.

Cards were sent to Betty Taylor and Betty Jensen. We miss them and wanted to let them know that we are thinking of them.

The May Friendship night was discussed and a few more plans were made. It will be at 6:30 on May 11th with a opening welcome, a short skit by some of the ladies, and then closing with a salad luncheon and time for visiting. The group decided it should be Spring by then, so this event will be called "Spring Fling". We hope to get the word out, so we will have a good crowd. We haven't had this evening program for a few years.

UMW Sunday was discussed and



Pat Siefken will talk with Pastor Thomas about when he might be gone, and the UMW would do the service instead of getting a substitute Minister or Lay Speaker.

Focus Day will be in Groton on Saturday April 9th. No one was sure about being able to attend. It seems everyone had tentative plans for that day.

Donna Hearnen served a hot dish lunch at noon before we had our weekly Lenten Study.

The group that has been meeting to study and discuss the Adam Hamilton book, "Making Sense of the Bible" had their last session on Tuesday, March 15 at 7:00. We finished the book and decided that this had been an interesting study.

The next UMW meeting will be at 2:00 on April 20th. Donna Hearnen will have the lesson, "Blessed are the Poor - Poverty and Possibility". Pat Siefken will serve an afternoon lunch.

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

**Conde UMW Mtg**  
 April 20 at 2 pm  
 "Blessed are the Poor" Poverty & Possibility  
 By Donna Hearnen

Hostess is  
 Pat Siefken

**April 10**

I Support  
**NATIVE AMERICAN  
 MINISTRIES SUNDAY**



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.  
 The people of The United Methodist Church®

### Job Description for a Christian

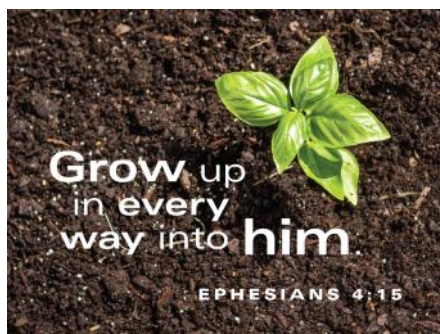
As a follower of Jesus, you'll share his love and gospel with everyone. Kindness and humility are vital as you speak about your hope in him. To battle evil, you'll receive a complete set of armor. Use it to defend against attacks by a prowling lion or the temptation to place self above others.

Preferred qualifications:

- complete surrender to God
- a desire to follow his commandments
- a servant heart
- courage to face fiery furnaces or shipwrecks

Everyone's welcome, and training and support are provided. Though you can expect persecution and adversity, the rewards are life-changing — and eternal!

—MaryAnn Sundby



### Kid Zone Photos







# M.O.Ms

*(Moms Offering Moms Support)*

**April 1<sup>st</sup> & May 6<sup>th</sup>**

**9:30am-10:30am**

@ Groton United Methodist Church

Jaymie Overacker 605-228-1891

\*First Friday of every month

*Parents of infants to kindergarteners are welcome!*

**Jump  
for JOY!**

Let's have a play date!  
Join us for constructive and open play, small snack,  
and a devotional with other parents.



Movie Night Photos



**S U R F S H A C K**

Join us for the Emmanuel Lutheran/ United Methodist VBS

**May 9-11 2016**  
**3:30-6pm**

**@ Groton UMC**  
**Preschool - 5th Grade**

**Our Church Celebrations**

**Groton**

- Apr 3 Marc Johnson
- Myndi & Scott Kampa
- Nolan Rose
- Apr 4 Mitchell Madsen
- Sue Stanley
- Apr 5 Desiree & Corey Foltz
- Wyatt Kurtz
- Apr 6 Elise Pharis
- Apr 7 Reilly Ell
- Apr 8 Lon Gellhaus
- Apr 10 Pauline Luce
- Apr 11 Taylor Thompson
- Apr 12`Erin Bahr
- Apr 13 Jessica Morehouse
- Apr 14 Reta Washnok (100)
- Toby Dobbins
- Apr 15 Brady Graf
- Nolan Bahr
- Apr 16 Kristi Peterson
- Rodney Boehmer
- Tom Tietz
- Apr 18 Dylan Vogel

- Merrie Atherton
- Apr 19 Amanda Morehouse
- Apr 20 Marlys Rodman
- Apr 21 Valerie Baker
- Apr 22 Ali Pasteur
- Apr 23 Colton Morehouse
- Apr 24 Rae Flihs
- Apr 28 Kevin Pharis
- Apr 30 Breslyn Jeschke
- Conde**
- Apr 14 Dylan Stark
- Apr 18 Loren Siefken
- Apr 22 Janette Imsland



**100th Birthday**

Greetings for Reta Washnok may be sent to  
1020 N Jay St,  
Apt 209,  
Aberdeen, SD  
57401





## Groton May Family Committee

**Angela & Perryn Dobbins**

**Mendy & James Jones, Marlee**

Andrea Bahr

Kay & Doug Daly

Marva & Lon Gellhaus

Brent & Jessica Morehouse

Robin O'Neill

Marjorie & Roger Overacker

Jesse & Jaymie Overacker

Randy & Sue Stanley

Alan Strom

Carol & Luverne Strom

### Honorary Members

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

### May 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 - 5th Sunday
- Mow Lawn if needed
- Potluck 2nd Sunday - give church secretary details for bulletin
- Order and pickup confirmation & graduation cakes for coffee hour
- Gifts and Table organized by Youth Leaders and Hospitality
- 5th Sunday may buy donuts and give bill to church treasurer
- Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons
- Remind Sherwin & Chris Nyberg for changing banners, altar cloths, and to do candle maintenance

### Groton Stewardship Report March 2016

Average Wkly Giving \$2,860

Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,347

Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 114

Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs \$725

May 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				

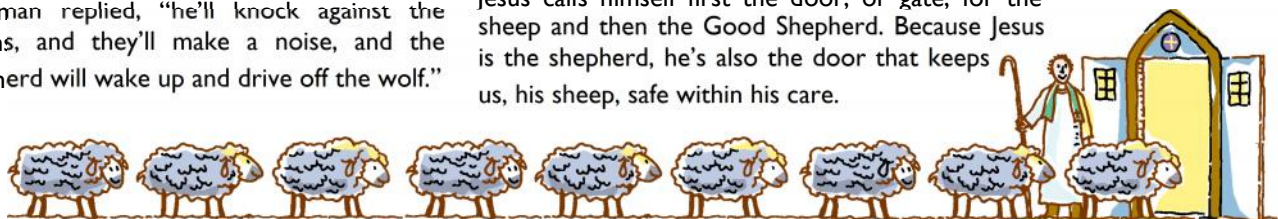
**Groton Mission Statement**  
 "Enriching Spiritual lives through Christ."

## A Shepherd's Role

While traveling in Iran, writer Eric Bishop asked a villager about an earthen enclosure topped with dry thorns. The man said sheep stayed in the round space at night for safety. "What are the thorns for?" Bishop asked. "If a wolf tries to break in and attack the sheep," the man replied, "he'll knock against the thorns, and they'll make a noise, and the shepherd will wake up and drive off the wolf."

Pointing out the enclosure's doorless entrance, Bishop asked why a wolf wouldn't just enter there. Because, replied the villager, "that's where the shepherd sleeps; the shepherd is the door."

Suddenly Bishop understood why in John 10 Jesus calls himself first the door, or gate, for the sheep and then the Good Shepherd. Because Jesus is the shepherd, he's also the door that keeps us, his sheep, safe within his care.



## Surf Shack VBS 2016

Hey everybody I am so excited and ready to have a great time at VBS! We will be at the Surf Shack! Nothing would be better than sitting at the beach after a SD winter! That's exactly what we will be doing!

We are pairing up with Emmanuel Lutheran Church again this year. We will host at our Church. *Offering will go to the Groton School playground equipment.*

The dates are set for **May 9th through 11th** with a program and pizza party to follow at 5:30pm on the 11th.

We are looking for any beach items you may have around your house! We would like to borrow them. If you would please put a "return to" with your name, we will get your items back to you. **Also we are in need of 20oz plastic bottles!**

I am inviting you all to join me at the Surf Shack for VBS. Do you think

you can hang with our surfers? We will gather at the Recreation Station. We will expand our mind with cool science activities at the Discovery Dunes and chow down on some tasty Shack Snacks! Why don't you join us!?

**Registration is going on at** <http://2016.cokesburyvbs.com/ml2016>.



### Important Dates:

April 1: MOMs Group	9:30-10:30
April 3: SS & Craft Time	9:30-10:55
April 10: SS & Craft Time	9:30-10:55
April 13: Kid Zone	3:30-5
April 17: SS & Craft Time	9:30-10:55
April 24: SS & Last Craft Time	9:30-10:55
April 27: Kid Zone	3:30-5

## Vacation Bible School May 9th-11th from 3:30-6:00pm

### Kid Zone

We just started a new lesson about the Arrrrrmor of God! Pirate Rev. Long John Silverware is teaching us about the Arrrrmor of God!

Jolene Townsend has started exploring with the kids for the lesson. She is doing such a wonderful job!!

We made paper pirate hats for our helmets of Salvation. Then we played Crash Helmet game to help demonstrate the lesson.

We average 20-25 kids afterschool and will continue to do afterschool.



### Look at May:

- May 1st: Sunday School
- May 4th: Last Kid Zone 3:30-6 (Parents Picnic at 5pm)
- May 6th: MOMs Group 9:30-10:30am
- May 8th: Kids Sing in Church—Last Sunday School. Volunteer recognition.
- May 9-11 VBS!



## April 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



[www.grotonumc.org](http://www.grotonumc.org)

## Our Church Happenings

- Apr 1 Groton M.O.M.s Group 9:30-10:30 am
- Apr 5 Groton 10 AM Bible Study starting "The Call" by Adam Hamilton
- Apr 9 UMW Focus Days 9 am - 3 pm
- Apr 10 Native American Ministries Sunday
- Apr 10 Groton Blessings Shower for Davies/Kramer during coffee hour
- Apr 13 Groton Kid Zone 3:30 pm
- Apr 14 Groton UMW 1:30 pm
- Apr 20 Conde UMW 2 pm
- Apr 20 Groton Ad Council 7:15 pm
- Apr 27 Groton Kid Zone 3:30 pm
- Apr 30 Camping Registration Deadline
- May 4 Groton UMW Luncheon 11 am - 1 pm
- May 4 Groton Kid Zone with Picnic 6 pm
- May 6 Groton M.O.M.s Group 9:30-10:30 am
- May 8 Groton Confirmation & Graduates Honored & Sunday School Sings in Worship
- May 11 Conde Spring Fling 6:30 pm

**May 9-11 Groton Vacation Bible School 3:30 - 6 pm**