

# United Methodist Messenger

JANUARY 2016

GROTON/CONDE PARISHES



## From Pastor Thomas' Desk

Greeting Friends,

The season of Epiphany is here and I wanted to share this bible passage with you from Matthew 2:1-4, 9-12

### Visitors from the East

*Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him."*

*King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. He called a meeting of the*

*leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, "Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?"*

*After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped*

*him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.*

*When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.*

While reading this passage I couldn't help but think about the many gifts we have been blessed with. I want to challenge you to seek and find the gifts that each of you have and find ways to bless others for Christ in 2016.

My hope for all of you is that 2016 would be a year full of blessings. Also may you continue to seek after Christ and find new ways to reach new people in our broken world.

Blessings!

Pastor Thomas

### 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

# This is the Day



On your new calendar, be sure to mark important dates such as National Drinking Straw Day (January 3), National Artichoke Hearts Day (March 16) and National Crouton Day (May 13). Those pseudo-holidays are now catalogued as part of the National Day Calendar, a venture by a North Dakota businessman.

For a fee starting at \$1,500, anyone can register a national day or even give one as a gift. Special-interest groups are discovering that national days are great for marketing.

Throughout the Bible, God instructs people to set aside special days for rest and remembrance. Yet to him, every day is holy – even if it lacks a holiday, pseudo or otherwise. “This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it” (Psalm 118:24).

## Groton UMC

### Audit Committee

All church committee treasurers are requested to have their 2015 accounts and check books up-to-date and reconciled by the end of January 2016. Please leave your books in the church office by February 1, 2016.

The Audit Committee will meet on February 2 at 5:30 PM at the church.

## Sympathies

Robert “Bob” Wehde, 85, passed away Dec 21, 2015, at Banner Heart Hospital in Mesa, AZ. Memorial Service will be January 15th at 10:30 am at the Groton UMC.



## Welcome Edison

Edison was born to Desiree & Corey Foltz December 3, 2015 weighing 8 lbs 15 oz and 20.5 inches long.



### Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

### CHURCH INFORMATION

Pastor Thomas Carlson  
Office Phone 605-397-8270  
Cell Phone 605-277-8448  
Pastor Email [pastorthomas@nvc.net](mailto:pastorthomas@nvc.net)

Secretary Email [grotonumc@nvc.net](mailto:grotonumc@nvc.net)

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

906 N 1st St  
Groton, SD 57445

# Groton UMW

The Groton UMW will meet on Thursday this year. Our first meeting is January 21st at 1:30 pm with a Program "Burn a Candle" (Pledge Service) by Jolene Townsend. Hostesses are Diann Morehouse and Deloris Knoll.




There will be an executive meeting at 3 pm



UMW Packing Christmas Goodie Cans.

## 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*



**PHONE PRAYER CHAIN**  
**Groton UMC**

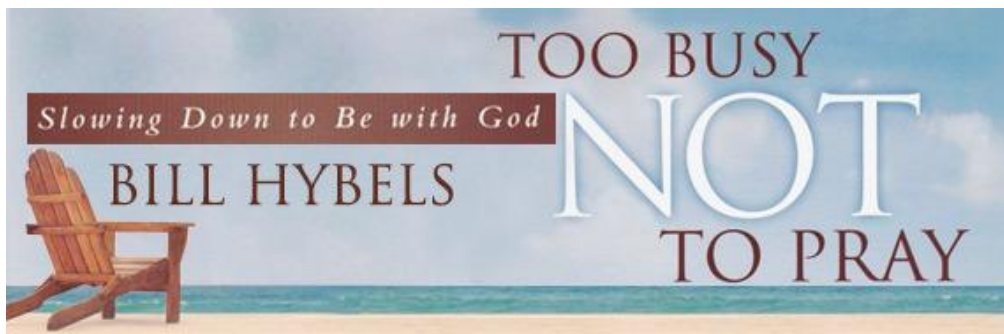
- Marlys Rodman 397-4570
- Pat Dahlquist 397-2616
- Doris Zoellner 397-2417
- Marj Townsend 298-5221
- Ann Rix 397-8478
- Darlys Kampa 395-6996
- DeLoris Knoll 397-2681
- Gloria Pharis 397-2375
- Audrey Thurston 397-8493

\*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 Tues 10 AM Bible Study

Jan 12 starting a 4 week study by Bill Hybels "Too Busy NOT to Pray" This is an ecumenical group and all are welcome to join us. We meet each Tuesday morning at 10 AM for about an hour or so.

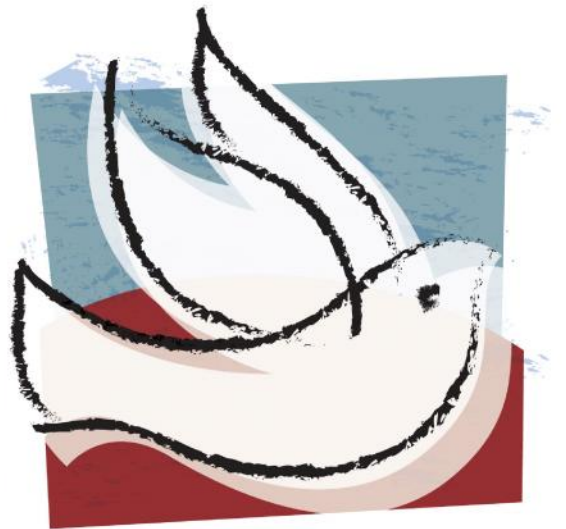


# JOIN OUR BIBLE STUDY





# Groton Youth Christmas Caroling



A **spiritual gift** is **given** to each of us so **we** can **help** each other.



# Groton Youth Christmas Program





# Kid Zone!

Calling all preschoolers - 5<sup>th</sup> graders...



Join us every other Wednesday

January 20th

@ Groton United Methodist Church

Games, Faith, and Fun!

**WANTED**  
**Sunday School**  
**needs paper towel**  
**and/or**  
**toilet paper rolls**  
**for craft time on**  
**Jan 24th.**  
**Leave in**  
**NW Sunday School**  
**Room please.**  
**Angela Dobbins**

## Sunday School Craft Time - Each Sunday at 9:30 am

**January 17<sup>th</sup>** Ruth Wreath: Making wreaths containing wheat and barley—the grain that Ruth gleaned from Boaz’s fields. Story wherever you go—Ruth.  
 Ruth 1-2, 4:9-17

**January 24<sup>th</sup>** Listening Tube: Paper towel tube to decorate and listen through.  
 Story: A voice in the night—Samuel. 1 Samuel 1; 2:11; 3

**January 31<sup>st</sup>** Marshmallow Shooter: Cup with balloon to launch marshmallows.  
 (Kids are going to love it, sorry parents) Story: Stones, Slings, giant things (David & Goliath). 1 Samuel 16-17.

## Before all else fails...

In *Too Busy Not to Pray* (InterVarsity Press), Bill Hybels cites reasons that prayers may seem to go unanswered (unconfessed sin, selfishness and so on). The most common cause, though, is prayerlessness:

“People often tell me how they have attempted to address a pressing need,” Hybels writes. “They have gone to counselors, read self-help books, claimed biblical promises, practiced self-discipline, confided in Christian friends, practiced assertiveness or submission or self-denial or positive thinking, even read books about prayer — and their need is still not met.” But when asked if they’ve prayed “fervently and regularly” about the matter, the answer is usually no.

James 4:2 says, “You do not have because you do not ask God.” So instead of thinking “When all else fails, pray,” try this: “Pray before all else fails.”

*Join Us for Bible Study!*

# Our Church Celebrations

## Groton

- Jan 2 Holly Walter
- Jan 3 Caroline Graf
- Jan 5 Jeremy & Samantha Weber  
Treyton Diegel
- Jan 6 Samantha Bahr  
Zachary Townsend
- Jan 7 Karla & Russell Davidson
- Jan 9 JoAnn Krueger
- Jan 10 Anita Voss  
Melissa & Neil Gilbert  
Neil Gilbert
- Jan 11 Huntley Overacker  
Myndi Kampa  
Randy Padfield
- Jan 13 Lance Hawkins  
Monte McNickle
- Jan 14 Jay & Linda Johnson
- Jan 16 Hunter Bahr

## Marjorie Overacker

- Jan 18 Cheryl Graf
- Jan 19 Tim Graf
- Jan 20 David Nilsson
- Jan 21 Taryn Thompson
- Jan 24 Michelle Padfield
- Jan 26 Doris Zoellner
- Jan 27 Kristi Hawkins
- Jan 28 Ruby Luce

## Conde

- Jan 3 Bruce Herman
- Jan 5 Tony & Marcene Bruckner
- Jan 8 Darrel Haskell
- Jan 10 Donna Hearnen
- Jan 11 Norman Smith
- Jan 27 Darrel & Joyce Haskell
- Jan 31 Kevin Hanlon



Thank You to all who helped with the Item of the Month collection for BAGS. In Sept we collected 19 boxes of juice pouches, Oct 146 Mac N Cheese Cups, Nov 48 cups of soup, and in Dec 40 pkgs of 6 fruit and applesauce cups.



## Human Relations Day - January 17

The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. opened doors for many people. Think of doors in your community that you can open: tutoring children and teens, teaching English to immigrants, donating new socks or gently worn coats to a homeless person or helping with housing issues.

Reflect on these words of Delia Ramirez,

former executive director of "The Center for Changing Lives," Chicago: "It doesn't matter where we work, what we do, how many degrees we have or where we grew up. What matters is having the willingness to serve God in the most unusual places." Ask other church members to list "unusual places" where they can make a difference. Work to make it happen!



# Groton February Family Committee

**Brian Bahr**

**Dion & Sam Bahr**

**Ron & Meredith Gubin**

Doug Bahr

Steve & Becky Diegel, Treyton

John & Meri Erickson

Adrienne & Tigh Flihs

Ida Hannon

Jane & Marc Johnson

Scott & Myndi Kampa

Julie & Jesse Morehouse

Janice Raap

Karen & Ian Rose

Marjae & Dan Schinkel, Jasmine

Jeanne Wanous

William Zoellner

**Honorary Members**

- Emery Sippel
- Bert Raap
- Reta Washnok

**February 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
- Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons
- Shovel snow from doorways before Church
- Potluck 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday - give church secretary details for bulletin
- Meredith & Ron Gubin change banners, altar cloths, and do candle maintenance



February 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					

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

Groton Stewardship Report Dec 2015
Average Wkly Giving \$2,342
Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,206
Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 93
Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs \$170



# Our Church Happenings

- Jan 11 Groton Sunday School meeting at 6 pm for all
- Jan 12 Groton Tues 10 AM Bible Study meets
- Jan 15 Wehde Memorial Service 10:30 am
- Jan 20 Groton Ad Council 7:15 pm
- Jan 21 Groton UMW 1:30 pm - Thursday
- Jan 31 Golden Living Center Worship

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						

