



# UMC Messenger

JANUARY 2017

GROTON/CONDE

## From Pastor Thomas' Desk

Greetings Friends,

It is hard to believe that 2016 is already over. As I was thinking about 2016, I could not help but be filled with joy. I was thinking about all the awesome things we have all done for God's Kingdom.

We have 365 days to do more awesome stuff for God's Kingdom. I will be praying for each and every one of you by name as we continue to serve God's Kingdom together.

In my devotion for today, I was reading Hebrews 12:2, *"fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."*

As I was praying and reflecting about this verse I felt the need to refocus my life and ministry in 2017. I feel at times I can get busy with great stuff but sometimes I feel like my busyness can cause me to lose my focus. It is my prayer that 2017 will be a year of focusing on Jesus and what he is calling and leading me to do.

Who would like to join me on this journey of focusing on Jesus and His call for our lives this year?

Along with focusing on Jesus first in 2017, it is my prayer for all of us that Jesus



would Give us Faith, Show us Hope, and Make us Love.

May God bless you this New Year!

Pastor Thomas

## OFFICE HOURS



### Pastor's Schedule

#### Monday

in office 10 am - noon  
and 1 -3:30 pm

#### Tuesday

Sermon Writing Day

#### Wednesday

in office 12 - 3:30 pm

#### Thursday

available by appt  
10 am-5 pm

#### Friday and Saturday

Days Off

#### Emergency Calls

24/7





## Human Relations Day - Jan 15

Turn on the news or drive around the outskirts of your town and you will find what Jesus called “the least of these.” Those living in the margins of society, struggling to survive. People like: An immigrant teenager in Texas’ poorest county, being recruited by a local gang. A father struggling for sobriety in Little Rock, Arkansas. An Oklahoma woman recently released from incarceration looking for work

Over and over Jesus served people like this, embracing them. And that’s what we want to model as the people of The United Methodist Church. To continue the ministry of Jesus we established Human Relations Day as a Special Sunday that calls all of our

churches to participate in helping all God’s children to realize their potential.

Will you continue to support Human Relations Day? Will you continue nurturing at-risk youth, strengthening communities’ self-improvement efforts and advocating for the oppressed?

Rev. I Maliik Safir, whose church works with those gripped by addiction in Little Rock, sums up the work of Human Relations Day by recalling Jesus’ story of the Good Samaritan: “to meet the poor, the disadvantaged and the underserved at the places where others have robbed them and help them to recover from the wounds of social inequality.”

- 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

\*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.

## Thank You

Thank you for the Christmas Planters provided by the Twila Ruden Memorial.

Thank you to all who donated Christmas goodies for our Annual UMW Christmas Goodies Packages. We packed and delivered 58 packages this year!

### Audit Committee

will be meeting January 30. Please have all church books to be audited in the church office. Thank you. Allen Walter

### Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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



Hazel McKittrick died Dec 5



### 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

# Groton UMW Christmas Can Goodies



## Groton UMW Meeting

**January 19th**

1:30 pm – Thursday

**Program** Pledge Service  
by Jolene Townsend

**Hostesses** - Jolene Townsend

**Executive Meeting**

Membership Census Report to Dist MNO 2/15  
Plan activities/goals.

# Our Church Celebrations

## Groton

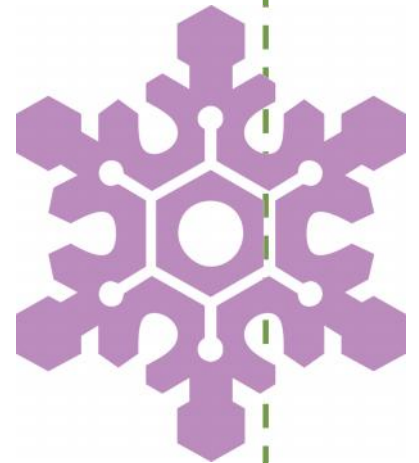
- Jan 2 Holly Walter
- Jan 3 Caroline Graf
- Jan 5 Treyton Diegel
- Jeremy & Samantha Weber
- Jan 6 Zachary Townsend
- Samantha Bahr
- Jan 7 Karla & Russell Davidson
- Jan 9 JoAnn Krueger
- Jan 10 Anita Voss
- Melissa & Neil Gilbert
- Neil Gilbert
- Jan 11 Huntley Overacker
- Myndi Kampa
- Randy Padfield
- Jan 13 Lance Hawkins
- Monte McNickle
- Jan 14 Jay & Linda Johnson
- Jan 15 Alissa Wells

- Jan 16 Hunter Bahr
- Marjorie Overacker
- Jan 18 Cheryl Graf
- Jan 19 Tim Graf
- Jan 20 David Nilsson
- Jan 21 Taryn Thompson
- Jan 26 Doris Zoellner
- Trinity Smith
- Jan 27 Kristie 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

# Birthdays & Anniversaries



## Lessons from a snowman

- It's okay to wear white well after Labor Day.
- Simply hanging out in your front yard can be fun.
- Accessories don't have to be fancy or expensive.
- We're all made mostly of water.
- You know you've "arrived" when a song is written about you.
- So what if you're a little bottom-heavy?
- Don't get too much sun.
- Sweating too much can be disastrous!





## Groton UMC Kid Zone

**Preschool through 5th graders join us...**

# Every Wednesday

## 3:30-5pm

**Bring your friends for a snack, lesson, games, & Crafts!**

**Everyone is welcome to join the fun!!**

*(We can walk kids over from Elementary school, please send a note to walk with us.)*

# Sunday School

## Schedule

- Jan 1 NO Sunday School
- Jan 8 Sunday School
- Jan 15 NO Sunday School  
(Communion in Church)
- Jan 22 Sunday School
- Jan 29 Sunday School
- Feb 5 NO Sunday School  
(Communion in Church)
- Feb 12 Sunday School
- Feb 19 Sunday School
- Feb 26 Sunday School
- Mar 5 NO Sunday School  
(Communion in Church)
- Mar 12 Sunday School
- Mar 19 NO Sunday School
- Mar 26 Sunday School
- Apr 2 NO Sunday School  
(Communion in Church)
- Apr 9 Sunday School
- Apr 16 NO Sunday School
- Apr 23 Sunday School
- Apr 30 Sunday School
- May 7 NO Sunday School  
(Communion in Church)
- May 14 Sunday School



Sunday School starts in church. After the Children's Sermon, they are dismissed to the classrooms.



# Confirmation Class

## Schedule

- Jan 4 NO Confirmation
- Jan 11 Confirmation 6-7:30
- Jan 18 Confirmation 6-7:30
- Jan 25 Confirmation 6-7:30
- Feb 1 Confirmation 6-7:30
- Feb 8 Confirmation 6-7:30
- Feb 15 Confirmation 6-7:30
- Feb 16-19 Denver Trip
- Feb 22 Confirmation 6-7:30
- Mar 1 No Class Spring Break
- Mar 8 Confirmation 6-7:30
- Mar 15 Confirmation 6-7:30
- Mar 22 Confirmation 6-7:30
- Mar 29 Confirmation 6-7:30
- Apr 5 Confirmation 6-7:30
- Apr 12 No Class Holy Week
- Apr 13 Maundy Thurs
- Apr 14 Good Friday
- Apr 19 Confirmation 6-7:30
- Apr 26 Confirmation 6-7:30
- May 3 Confirmation 6-7:30
- May 6 Confirmation Saturday

Ever wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?



vs.



What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?  
 What if we flipped through it several times a day?  
 What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?  
 What if we used it to receive messages from the text?  
 What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?  
 What if we gave it to Kids as gifts?  
 What if we used it when we traveled?  
 What if we used it in case of emergency?  
 This is something to make you go....hmm...where is my Bible?

Oh, and one more thing:  
 Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill.

Makes you stop and think, "Where are my priorities?"



**Item of the Month**  
**Laundry Detergent Pods**  
**for Journey Home in Aberdeen**



90

## Contact Preferences

Please use the following method to contact me when church is cancelled.

---

**Name \***

First                      Last

**Check the Preferred Option \***

Phone Call at Home

Phone Call on Cell

Text Message on Cell

Email Message (call auto sent to this)

**Cell Phone Number**

-

-

###                      ###                      ####

**Email Address I check and use**

**Did you receive the phone call on Christmas Eve? \***

Yes

No

Received a Voicemail

Read it in my email

# Groton One Call

It has been brought to my attention that the call we sent out Christmas Eve cancelling church on Christmas Day did not complete as successfully as it should have. So, I would like to try and make improvements to make it better if possible. First off I have had trouble with James Valley phone numbers and when I ask both companies of course it is the other ones problem so that gets me no where. So if you have a cell phone number that would be best. If you block telemarketers then you will also not receive the call. I have placed a widget on the website towards the bottom of the home page that will always have the last call made ready to replay giving you a place to check to see if a call has gone out.

Please cut out the form to the left and leave in the church office or give to Kay. Watch for a future test call once I have everyone's preferences. Thank you for your help. Kay Daly, Secretary

## A new view

The new year is an opportunity to sort out the useless tasks and plan for the important; to review the failures and resolve to be successful; to take an inventory of causes and pledge life to purpose and service. These being done, the new will truly be new, different and better.

—C. Neil Strait



# Groton February Family Committee



- ▮ **Jane & Marc Johnson**
- ▮ **Sharon & Larry Wheeting**
- ▮ Erin & Damian Bahr
- ▮ Karla & Russell Davidson, Claire
- ▮ Caralee & Gary Heitmann
- ▮ Charity Hinman
- ▮ Curtis Krueger
- ▮ AM & Laurie Mitchell
- ▮ Justin & Amanda Morehouse
- ▮ Kristi & Ben Peterson
- ▮ Randy & Sue Stanley
- ▮ Betty Strom
- ▮ Cheri & Tom Strom
- ▮ Alan & Jolene Townsend
- ▮ Anita & Gary Voss
- ▮ **Honorary Members**
- ▮ Deloris Knoll

- ) 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 2nd Sunday - give church secretary details for bulletin
- ) Serve Lenten Supper March 8th

February 2017						
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				

**Groton Stewardship Report Dec 2016**

Average Wkly Giving \$1,864

Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,347

Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 54

Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs \$195

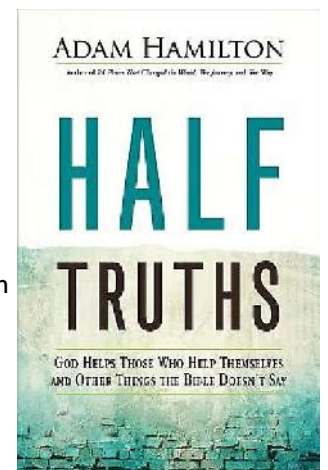
- ▮ **February Responsibilities**
- ) Check Kitchen Supplies for the month
- ) Check & Clean Oven and Fridge as necessary
- ) Coffee Hour workers (make coffee, provide cookies, launder towels, and remove trash)



## Tuesday 10 AM Bible Study

We will resume on January 24 with studying Adam Hamilton's "Half Truths" They are simple phrases. They sound Christian—like something you might find in the Bible. We've all heard these words. Maybe we've said them. They capture some element of truth, yet they miss the point in important ways. Join Adam Hamilton in searching for the whole truth by comparing common Christian clichés to the message and ministry of Jesus.

- The clichés include:
- ) Everything happens for a reason.
  - ) God helps those who help themselves.
  - ) God won't give you more than you can handle.
  - ) God said it, I believe it, that settles it.
  - ) Love the sinner, hate the sin.





# Our Church Happenings

- Jan 5 Groton MOMS Group 9:30 am
- Jan 8 Sunday School resumes.  
Children excused from church after the children's sermon
- Jan 11 Groton Kids Zone 3:30 pm (weekly)
- Jan 18 Groton Ad Council 7:30 pm
- Jan 19 Groton UMW Mtg 1:30 pm
- Jan 24 Groton Tues 10 AM Bible Study Resumes

January 2017						
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				

