



UMC Messenger

MARCH 2017

GROTON/CONDE

From Pastor Thomas' Desk

Greeting Friends,

As we enter this Holy Lenten journey together it is my hope that each one of us would take time to reflect on the condition of our heart. After all Lent is a time to slow down and examine our relationship with Jesus. Let's take this time to slow down and see what it is in our lives that may be keeping us from Jesus.

As we continue on this Lenten journey to the cross on Good Friday and the risen Savior on Easter Sunday, it is my prayer that we hear the Holy Spirit speaking to our hearts. I know we live in a fast paced world and slowing down enough to hear the whispering voice of Jesus can be difficult.

During this time of reflection, I would love to hear what God is laying on your hearts. I believe we have lots of dreams and desire that sometime go unspoken because we feel it is not the right idea, or it will never work out. God calls us to dream about the desire of our hearts. In fact, in Psalms 20:4 it reads, "*May he grant your heart's desires and make all your plans succeed.*" This Lenten season let's begin to dream about what God maybe leading us to do next.

I invite you to pray this prayer with me.

**Lord,
Enlighten what's dark in me,
Strengthen what's weak in me,
Mend what's broken in me,
Heal what's sick in me, and lastly,
Revive whatever peace and love has
died in me.
Amen**

Remember that only God can turn our mess into a message, our test into a testimony, our trial into a triumph and a victim into a victory. Our struggles we face today don't define who we are but they develop within us the strength we need for tomorrow.

May God richly bless you this Lenten season!

Pastor Thomas Carlson

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





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

*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

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Groton Lenten Service/Coffee

- March 1 - January Committee
- March 8 - February Committee
- March 15 - March Committee
- March 22 - April Committee
- March 29 - May Committee
- April 5 - June Committee

Each family committee is responsible to prepare, serve, and cleanup one Lenten Dessert & Coffee. Take free-will offering which should be turned over to the

church financial secretary or treasurer. It will help defray costs.

Lenten Services will be held each week in the sanctuary at 7 pm followed by coffee and dessert at approx 7:45 pm. Everyone is welcome.



Open House Shower

Open House Wedding Shower for Bethany Hansmeier (Bride-to-be of Cody Hanson) will take place April 22 from 10 am till noon at the Groton United Methodist Church.



Bridal Shower



Joyce Haskell, Conde
 Died February 17th

Groton UMW - February

The February 16 United Methodist Women met in the church fellowship hall at 1:30 pm. The meeting began with the program of Doreen Nelson giving a slide presentation of her trip to France. Lunch was then served by Marjorie Overacker, hostess. Following lunch Jolene Townsend called the business meeting to order with 13 members present.

Pledge to Mission was discussed. Pledges are to be turned into Marjorie Overacker. Focus Days will be held on either April 8 or April 22 with a location to be announced later. The reading program needs to be completed by August 1. Jolene is working on combining the Shepardess visit with other UMW's to

reduce travel.

The May Salad Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, May 3. Diann Morehouse offered to be in charge of decorations. Discussions were held on possible fund raisers of a lefse sale, an era wedding day luncheon and hosting a weekly morning community ladies coffee hour. No decisions were made at this time.

The meeting closed with reciting the Purpose. The next meeting will be on Thursday, March 16, at 1:30 pm. The program will be given by Linda Thurston and hostess will be Diann Morehouse



Groton One Call

The church office has been trying to update the One Call list that we use for special announcements and calling off church. After some not receiving the call on Christmas Eve, I started collecting cell phone numbers hoping to text and have everything go more smoothly. I am afraid to tell you that this is the 2nd service we have used and they both have had problems with James Valley numbers. Some text messages came back that they were a non-mobile phone numbers and so will see if I can fix that.

If you are ever wondering if church is on or off, there are other ways you can find out before you venture out. First, check your email as the message is also delivered to the email the church has on file. Second, I have placed the file on the bottom of the home page on our website at grotonumc.org and of course, you can always call someone to check. Thank you for your patience. Kay



MOMs Group and Kids Ministry received Grant Money from UMW. Thank You UMW for donating matching funds!! This money will be a great start for MOMs Group and help our Kids Ministry stay active!



Groton UMW

Meeting

Thursday

March 16

At 1:30 pm

Program by

Linda Thurston

Hostess Diann

Morehouse

Sunday School

Schedule

- 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



Confirmation CLASSES

- Mar 1 No Class Spring Break
- Mar 8 Confirmation 6-7:00
- Mar 15 Confirmation 6-7:00
- Mar 22 Confirmation 6-7:00
- Mar 29 Confirmation 6-7:00
- Apr 5 Confirmation 6-7:00
- Apr 12 No Class Holy Week
- Apr 13 Maundy Thurs
- Apr 14 Good Friday
- Apr 19 Confirmation 6-7:00
- Apr 26 Confirmation 6-7:00
- May 3 Confirmation 6-7:00
- May 6 Confirmation Saturday
- May 7 Confirmation Sunday

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.)



Groton
Sunday School
Sang in Church
In February



I Hate WINTER Party!

Groton UMC Kid Zone
March 15th
3:30-5:00



Join us for snack, games, and activities!
Kids will be able to bring or change into "summer" attire if wish to. Share the fun... Bring a FRIEND!

UMCOR Sunday - March 26

When disaster strikes around the globe—Haiti’s 2010 earthquake or Typhoon Haiyan in 2013—so many watching the drama unfold on our living room televisions feel entirely helpless. How could any one person make a difference in the wake of such widespread devastation? As responders around the globe scramble to help survivors, the United Methodist Committee on Relief, UMCOR, is prepared to act.

So don’t be fooled by the word committee.

Since 1940, when UMCOR’s forerunner was established to meet the needs of those suffering overseas at the onset of World War II, we’ve continued to respond to those in desperate need—today throughout more than eighty countries around the world.

The response of UMCOR isn’t something “they” do, it’s something “we” do.

When You Give You Equip Christ’s Body to Serve in His Name

That’s because your generous giving to UMCOR Sunday (**formerly One Great Hour of Sharing**) is what allows UMCOR to act as the arms and legs of Christ’s church, moving toward the most vulnerable in their darkest days. Convinced that all people have God-given worth and dignity—without regard to race, religion or gender—together we are assisting those impacted by crisis or chronic need.

Because you give, the United Methodist Church’s compassionate response to human suffering continues today:

- ∫ When tornadoes ripped through Oklahoma, we responded
- ∫ When children in Zimbabwe lost parents to AIDS, we responded
- ∫ When a massive tsunami devastated lives in Japan, we responded
- ∫ And when the next mass crisis occurs, we

will be prepared to respond UMCOR will be able to offer aid in Jesus’ name to those who suffer because United Methodists give through UMCOR Sunday, (**formerly One Great Hour of Sharing**). In fact, it’s your generous giving that allows us to respond when disaster strikes.

Not “they.” We.

Ensure the United Methodist Church Can Keep Helping

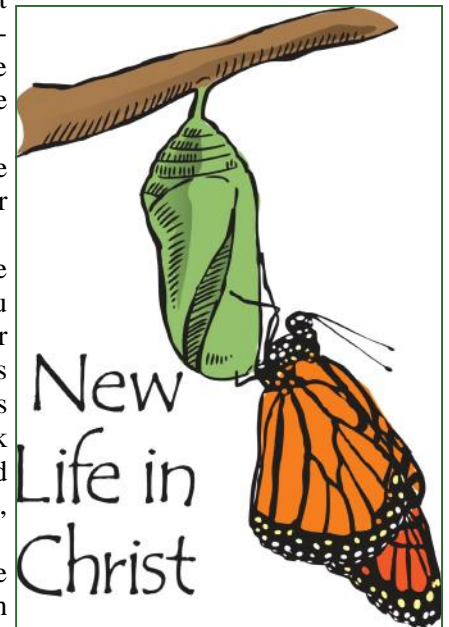
Will you continue to give to UMCOR Sunday (**formerly One Great Hour of Sharing**)?

Will you continue to meet the needs of the children, families and communities who’ve experienced devastation in the wake of disaster?

When we meet the needs of those who suffer we actually minister to Jesus, who said:

“I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.” (Mt. 25:35-36, CEB)

As we respond, we recognize Jesus in those who are reeling in the wake of disaster.



Our Church Celebrations

Groton

- Mar 3 Tristan Kampa
- Mar 4 Britni Carlson
Kay Daly
Christina Zoellner
Kale Pharis
- Mar 5 Chance Strom
- Mar 7 Brian Bahr
Dale Strom
Richard & JoAnn Krueger
- Mar 8 Lindsey & Tom Tietz
- Mar 9 Betty Strom
- Mar 14 Mendy Jones
Sydney Erickson
- Mar 15 Samantha Weber
- Mar 16 Lane Tietz
- Mar 18 Ron Gubin
- Mar 21 Harlan Place
Kaelee Morehouse
- Mar 24 Emerlee Jones
- Mar 25 Laurel McNickle
Murdock McNickle

- Mar 26 Chloe Crosby
Clare Davidson
Clayton Kurtz
Justin Morehouse
Mark Thompson
- Mar 27 Dwight Strom
Michelle Walter
Stella Meier
- Mar 29 Sharon Wheeting
Zara Maag
- Mar 31 Aiden Strom
Caralee Heitmann

Conde

- Mar 4 Britni Carlson
- Mar 6 Stacey Bonn
- Mar 14 Katie Lyren
- Mar 17 Myron Fahrenwald
- Mar 23 Greg Peterson
Greg Stark
- Mar 27 Cindy Haskell
- Mar 31 Renee Hanlon

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Blessed is he
who comes in
the name of
the LORD!
Psalm 118:26, ESV



Relentless prayers

Are you reluctant to bring the same prayers to your heavenly Father over and over? Maybe you don't want to trouble God; after all, he already knows what you're going to say. Plus, you're not worthy to ask for anything!

If those thoughts surround you, think about Patrick, Ireland's patron saint. At 16, he was dragged from his home to be a slave. Patrick tended sheep in the cold. Hungry and miserable, he begged God for mercy and deliverance.

In his Confessio, Patrick recalls praying "a hundred times in the day and almost as many at night." Without ceasing, he told God of his needs, wants, thanksgiving and confession. And God heard his prayers.

Pray relentlessly. God is always listening!

—MaryAnn Sundby

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Groton April Family Committee

Marva & Lon Gellhaus

Marjorie & Roger Overacker

Kay & Doug Daly

Angela & Perryn Dobbins

Andrea & Scott Eisenbeisz

Mendy & James Jones, Marlee, Austin

Brent & Jessica Morehouse

Robin O'Neill, Grady

Jesse & Jaymie Overacker

Roger & Pam Rix

Brett & Anna Schwan

Alan Strom

Honorary Members

) Gerald & Ann Rix

) Doris Strom

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

) Potluck 2nd Sunday - give church secretary details for bulletin (Easter is April 16)

) Serve at Golden Living Center - 5th Sunday

) 5th Sunday may buy donuts and give bill to church treasurer

) Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons

) Carna Atherton Pray and Diann Morehouse will change banners and altar cloths and fill the candles.

) Serve Lenten Supper on March 22nd

April 2017						
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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						

Groton Stewardship Report Feb 2017

Average Wkly Giving \$3,841

Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,347

Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 62

Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs \$305



Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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



Our Church Happenings

- Mar 1 Ash Wednesday Service at 7 pm in Groton followed by coffee and dessert
(Lenten Services will continue each week at 7 pm with coffee and dessert following)
- Mar 1 Ash Wednesday Service at 5:30 pm in Conde
- Mar 2 Groton Prayer Group at 7 pm
- Mar 3 MOMs Group 9:30-11 am
- Mar 8 Groton Wednesday Coffee starting for members and communtiy 9 - 10:30 am
(We will be hosting this each week)
- Mar 12 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- Mar 15 Groton Ad Council 7:30 pm
- Mar 16 Groton UMW 1:30 pm
- Mar 19 Newsletter Items due
- Mar 20 Hospitality Mtg at Marj Townsend home at 7 pm
- Mar 26 Groton 3rd Graders Receive Bibles/SS Teacher Recognition
- Mar 30 Groton UMW Pledges due to Marj Overacker
- April 9 Palm Sunday - Groton SS singing in Church
- April 22 Groton Open House Shower for Hanson/Hansmeier 10 am - noon
- May 3 Groton UMW Salad Luncheon

March 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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	