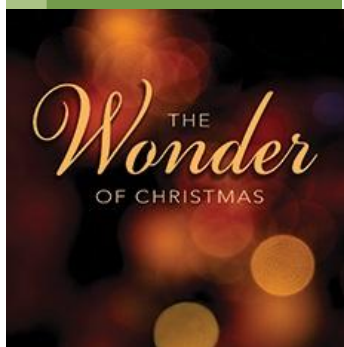




UMC Messenger

DECEMBER 2018

GROTON/CONDE



From *The* Pastor

Which leads us perfectly into our season of Advent as we explore the "Wonder" of Christmas. Christmas is a gift that invites us to see the world through the lens of what God has done and will do. It is a time to remember God's faithfulness and celebrate God's promises. A time to reflect on Jesus and discover how the events leading up to his birth can reawaken us to the wonder of Christmas.

Season's Greetings!

It has truly been a wonderful first fall together. We have accomplished so much as Christ's body in terms of missions, presence, and healing.

We are not in the same place we were when the fall began, and as we get closer to the end of the year, I hope we can take a moment to look back and acknowledge our growth. Not just attendance, but our growth as humble servants of God. The number of people knocking on my door with a concern or frustration has dropped substantially since my first week here, and I know that for the sake of progress and transformation we will still need to talk things out sometimes, but I am so encouraged by the readiness of these two churches to forgive and move forward into a better future.

My prayer for us is that this season we can be captivated by the wonder of Christmas. That we would rediscover the magic we all feel as children as we hear the Christmas story and share the gift of joy with others. That Jesus' birth on Christmas morning would be known as the greatest present this world has ever known and that we are still captured in the miracle today. I love you all so much and cannot wait for another month of joy.

Happy Holidays

Pastor Brandon Dunham

OFFICE HOURS



Pastor
In Office
Tuesday &
Thursday
Mornings

Friday
Day Off



KEEP SEEKING HIM



Christmas Eve Service

Groton 5 pm

Conde 7 pm



The Angel Tree is up in the fellowship hall. Please take a card and help a family have a blessed Christmas!



Clayton Morehouse was baptized Nov 25th. He is the son of Justin and Amanda. Sisters are Kaelee and Jaeden



Thank You

The Fall Church Dinner committee would like to thank everyone who helped make it a wonderful day, by working, baking a pie, donating money, or with a prayer. We appreciate each of you. Again thanks. Blessings to all, The Fall church Dinner Committee

CHURCH INFORMATION

Pastor Brandon Dunham

Office Phone 605-397-8270

Parsonage Phone 605-397-4538

Pastor Email: pastorbrandon@nvc.net

Secretary Email: grotonumc@nvc.net

Website: grotonumc.org

Facebook: [facebook.com/grotonsdumc/](https://www.facebook.com/grotonsdumc/)

906 N 1st St Groton, SD 57445

Living Christmas Tree

The 30th Annual Living Christmas Tree presents "The King is Here".

Saturday, December 1, 7pm, and
Sunday, December 2, 3pm & 7pm.

Aberdeen Civic Arena, 203 S Washington St.

Admission is Free.

Attendees are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item for the Salvation Army Food Drive.



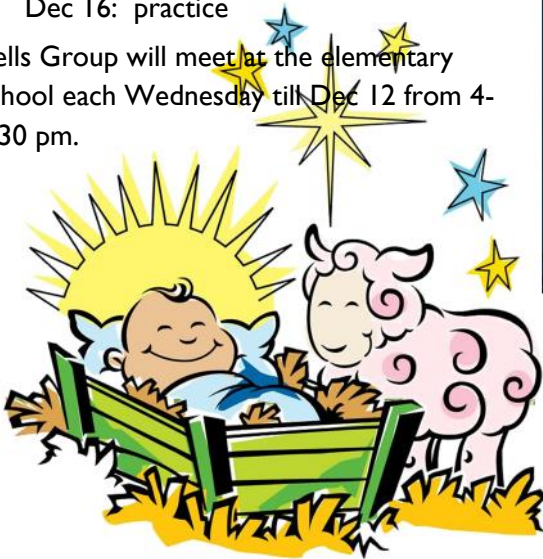
Groton Sunday School Christmas Program

**Program is Sunday
Dec 16th at 5 pm
"Light of the World"
Meal Following
By High School Youth Group**

Sunday 9:30 am Practice Schedule

-) Dec 2: practice
-) Dec 9: practice
-) Dec 16: practice

Bells Group will meet at the elementary school each Wednesday till Dec 12 from 4-4:30 pm.



The LORD your God...
will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love.

ZEPHANIAH 3:17, ESV



Groton UMW - November

There were eleven members in attendance at our November meeting. Kay Daly gave an entertaining program using candy bars to describe the Nativity and Christmas story. She also included a "right/left" game passing a few beautifully embroidered Christmas kitchen towels in the game which ended with some players winning the towels as gifts.

President Jolene Townsend opened the meeting with devotions followed by the members repeating the UMW Purpose. She asked each member to share what they were thankful for and their Thanksgiving plans. Jolene asked for joys & concerns from those in attendance.

Jeanne Wanous shared minutes of the previous meeting and gave the financial report stating our current balance of \$3,486.18. She also shared a thank you note from the Rose family. Additional business included approval of the 2019 UMW budget on a motion by Valerie Baker. The slate of officers for 2019 was approved on a motion by Anita Lowary. The officers will be: President, Jolene Townsend; Vice-President, Gloria Pharis; Secretary, Chris Nyberg; and Treasurer, Jeanne Wanous.

Jolene shared that a Love Ribbon Grant written by Valerie Baker and approved by the Dakotas Conference had been approved. The grant received was for \$150 to help fund the purchase of milk for students attending the weekly Groton Area School Table Talks. On a motion by Anita Lowary, our UMW voted to approve giving a matching \$150 to the Table Talks program.

Jeanne Wanous shared the results of a survey taken by our UMW members at the October meeting for end-of-year missions giving. One change

was made to the suggested giving amounts. Jeanne will issue checks before the end of November and close the books for 2018. All 2018 missions giving by the UMW will be listed in the 2019 UMW book. In addition, on a motion by Diann Morehouse, members voted to give a monetary gift to Pastor Brandon for Christmas.

Jolene reminded members that our UMW book & card cart is now in the library. Anita Lowary stated she would participate in the 2019 reading program but would use books previously purchased. There have been very few cards selling so we will not replenish them for next year.

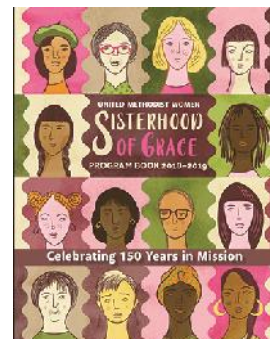
Jolene shared the 2019 UMW theme of "Sisterhood of Grace" and that UMW will be celebrating their 150th year in mission in 2019.

Final discussion was our fundraisers for next year. A motion by Kay Daly to return to a salad luncheon for our May fundraiser was approved. Anita Lowary motioned to plan another fall rummage sale fundraiser at our church, but to rent out more tables than last year. The motion passed.

Members were reminded that our December 12 meeting will begin at 12:00 pm with a Christmas Luncheon prepared by the officers followed by packing and delivering of Christmas treat boxes to individuals in the community.

Jolene ended the meeting with a prayer and a delicious dessert prepared by Marjorie Overacker was enjoyed by all.

Jeanne Wanous
UMW Secretary/Treasurer



2019 Theme



December 21st

Groton UMW Delivering Gift Boxes of Treats

December 20th, Thursday at noon will be the UMW Christmas Luncheon by the Officers. There is no program but we will be packing Gift Boxes of Treats to deliver around Groton.

Please, all UMW members and friends, bring goodies for this mission project. Goodies should be packaged individually in

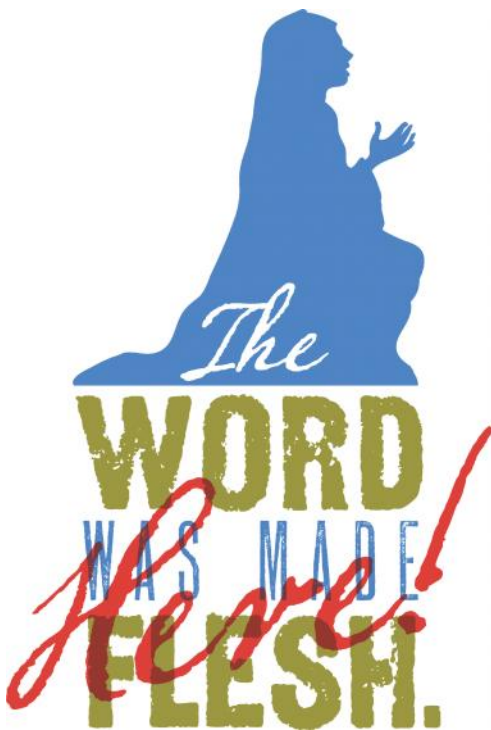
snack size bags and enough for approx 30-40 boxes. Goodies may be dropped off at the church before noon on December 20th.



Every Wednesday Morning
 Community Coffee Hour
 At the Groton United Methodist Church
 9:00 am - 10:30 am

*Come and Go
 Time to Relax and Visit!*

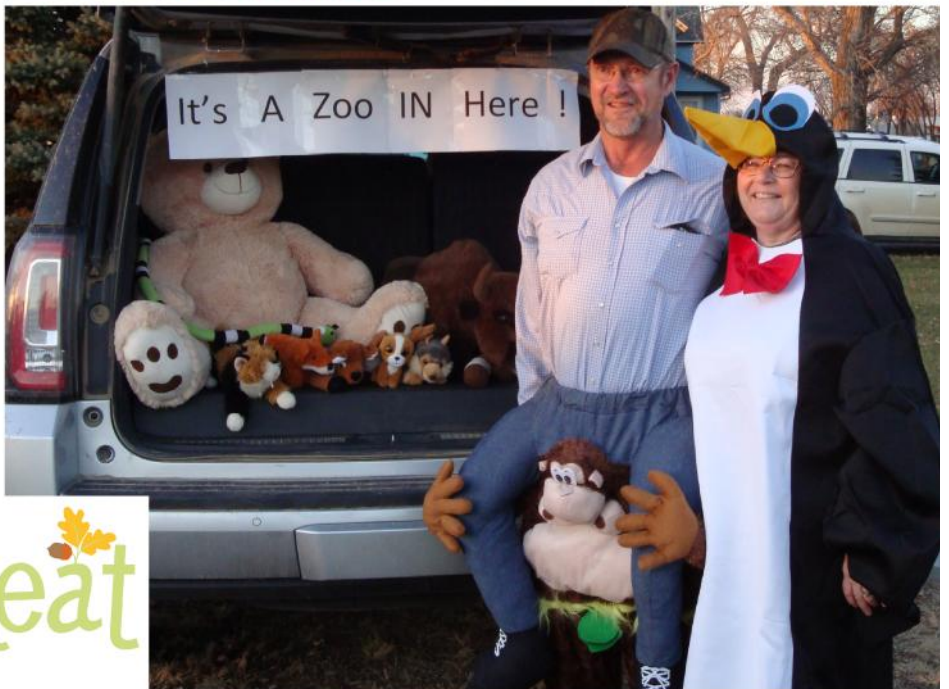
Free Coffee and something sweet provided



Here and now

The motto for Hershey’s Kisses used to be “Big things come in small packages!” That also could be a motto for Bethlehem, for Baby Jesus and, indeed, for us. It’s an important message to remember when we fear we’re too weak to fix the world’s problems, too small to fight the gigantic terror that threatens a loved one or too lacking in abilities we see in others.

“But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah,” God declares through the prophet Micah (5:2, NRSV), “from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel.” Bethlehem was a mere village. God’s ruler for Israel started as an infant. His birthplace was a small stable, not a palace or temple. But size isn’t everything. Big – that is, great – things can come in small packages. And thanks to the tiny baby who grew up to share immeasurably huge love with the world, God can do great things through you, too!



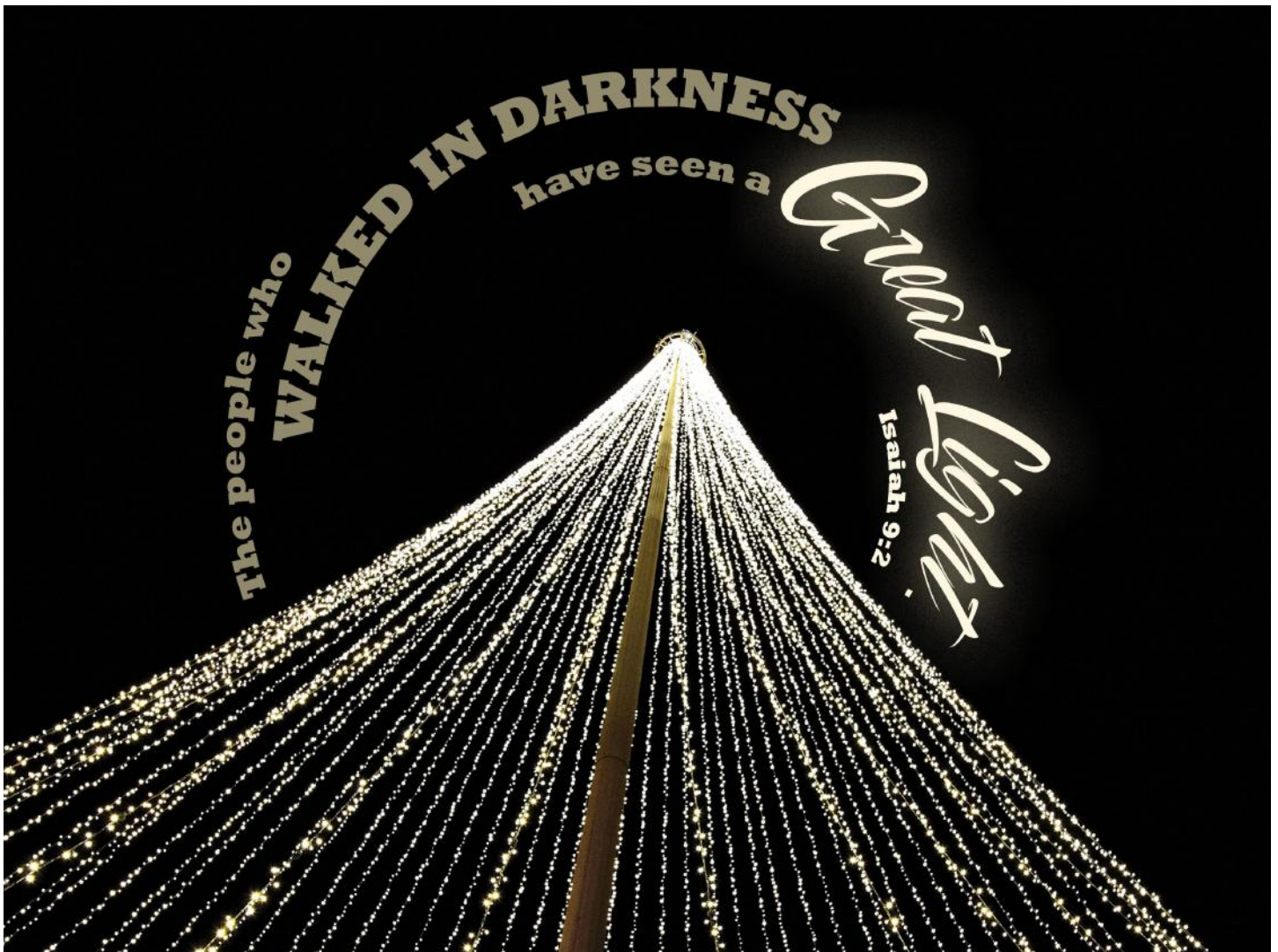
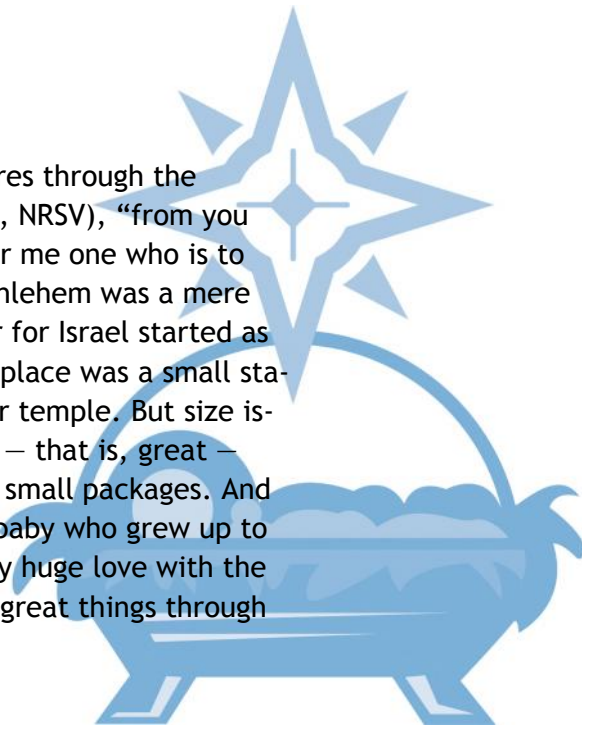
Trunk OR Treat

Small packages, great things

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Groton Ad Council Minutes - Nov

Chairman Brad Morehouse called the meeting to order: In attendance were Jolene Townsend, Richard Krueger, Roger Rix, Diann & Brad Morehouse, Jeanne Wanous, Pastor Brandon Dunham, Lon Gellhaus, Karla Pasteur, and Linda Thurston. Pastor Brandon shared a prayer before the business meeting began.

Minutes: Previous meeting minutes and agenda were approved on a motion by Roger Rix

Correspondence: none

Treasurer's Report: Anita Lowary reported that our October expenses and income were close to breaking even. On a motion by Roger Rix, the council gave their approval to begin paying 50% of our monthly apportionments starting in November with the hope that we can gradually increase that percentage in the future.

Bills to be paid: none

Administrative Report

Pastor Brandon thanked those who attended the Annual Charge Conference on November 11. He shared that all of our financial items were approved, but not our nominations as they weren't complete. We should complete these nominations and vote to approve at our January meeting.

Committee Reports:

Trustees: (see new business)

Memorial: Linda Thurston stated that new banner scroll bars have been purchased with undesignated memorial funds are being used.

Missions: Karla Pasteur stated that she has names for the annual Angel Tree and would make them available by Sunday, November 18.

Old Business:

Men's Dinner: Approximately 180 people attended similar to other years. The funds raised are currently undesignated.

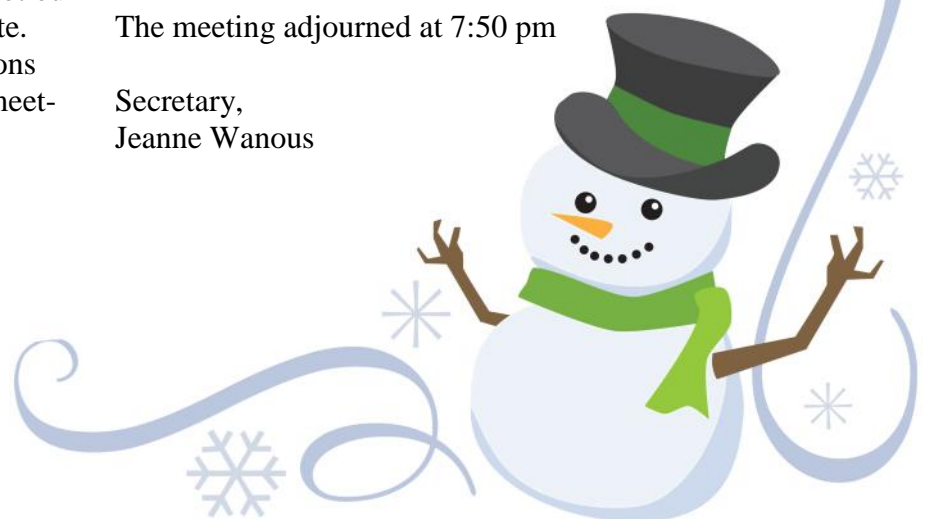
New Business:

December Meeting Date: Chairman Brad Morehouse suggested that a short meeting be held on Dec. 12 at 6:00 pm followed by a social for council members and their spouses hosted by Diann & Brad Morehouse. All members were in agreement.

Carpet Cleaning: Members felt that carpets should be cleaned in April prior to Easter.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

Secretary,
Jeanne Wanous



Our Church Celebrations


Groton

- Dec 2 Meri Erickson
- Dec 3 Anthony Sippel
Edison Foltz
- Dec 4 Darlys Kampa
- Dev 7 Morgan McNickle
- Dec 9 Ann Rix (90th)
Brooklyn Gilbert
Wesley Morehouse
- Dec 10 Jim Zeck
- Dec 11 Dave & Connie Nilsson
- Dec 13 Melissa Gilbert
- Dec 15 Marjae Schinkel
- Dec 16 Dan Schinkel
Sage Mortenson
- Dec 17 Pastor Brandon Dunham
Alan Townsend
- Dec 18 Dylan Hanson
Michaela Oleson
- Dec 20 Lon & Marva Gellhaus
- Dec 21 McKenna Tietz
Bo Garrett Flihs
Kent Webb
- Dec 22 John Padfiled
- De 23 Marc & Fran Sippel


- Dec 27 Jane Johnson
Karla Pasteur
Emily Overacker
- Dec 28 Jaden Dobbins
- Dec 29 Andrea Davidson
- Dec 30 Alec Oleson
Alex Graf

Conde

- Dec 1 Betty Haskell
- Dec 4 Greg & Stacey Bonn
- Dec 17 Pastor Brandon Dunham
- Dec 24 Floyd Smith
- Dec 27 Richard & Dorothy Sanderson



Ann Rix
December 9th
Send Greetings To:
1305 N 5th St
Groton, SD 57445



Pastor Brandon's Birthday
 December 17th
 Greetings can be mailed to
 9 E 9th Ave
 Groton, SD 57445



Groton Family Jan 2019 Committee

Valerie Baker

Chris & Sherwin Nyberg

Evan Erickson

Jay & Linda Johnson (Jan)

JoAnn & Richard Krueger

Chuck Padfield

Joey & Sabrina Padfield

Randy & Rebecca Padfield

Gloria & Harry Pharis

Mark & June Thompson (Jan)

Lindsey & Tom Tietz

Joyce & Allen Walter

Kim & Craig Weber (Jan)

Sydney Wilkinson

Honorary Members

Jean Walter

Marjory Townsend

Pat Dahlquist

January 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
 -) Straighten the Sanctuary Pews
 -) Change the banners as needed as per schedule in back of this book.
 -) Maintain the Altar Flower Arrangements
 -) Shovel snow from doorways before Church
 -) Take down Christmas decorations with all church helping
 -) If tree lights need replacing, do so before putting them away
 -) Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons
 -) Potluck 2nd Sunday - give church secretary details for bulletin
- Serve Lenten Supper on March 6th**



Groton UMC Mission

ENRICHING SPIRITUAL LIVES THROUGH CHRIST



January 2019						
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		

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

Groton Stewardship Report Oct 2018
Average Wkly Giving \$2,252
Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,347
Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 78
Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs \$155



“Yes, it’s beautiful — but can we talk about its placement?”



Our Church Happenings

Dec 5 Groton UMYF will go Angel Tree Shopping

Dec 12 Groton Ad Council Christmas Mtg/Social 6 pm

Dec 16 Newsletter Items for January are due.

**Dec 16 Groton Children's Christmas Program 5 pm
followed by meal**

Dec 17 Pastor Brandon's Birthday

Dec 19 Groton UMYF will go Caroling

Dec 20 Groton UMW Christmas Dinner at noon
& Deliver Goodie Cans (donate your goodies!)

Dec 24 Christmas Eve Services

Groton at 5 pm and Conde at 7 pm

Dec 30 Groton Nursing Home Coffee and Worship 3 pm

December 2018						
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					

