

UMC Messenger

APRIL 2019

GROTON/CONDE



From *the* Pastor

Can checking your email be holy? Can doing your laundry or shoveling snow or going to a meeting be spiritual activities? Every Sunday in worship we end with benediction—a fancy word for blessing—and we are

sent forth. Week after week we are blessed and sent, blessed and sent. We are blessed with the awareness of God with us. We are blessed with the reminder of the Holy Spirit living in us. We are blessed with the mission to live that presence of God in the world. And then we are sent forth.

But we are often not sent to those big dramatic moments we may picture when we think of embodying the presence of God. Instead we are sent back home where there is laundry to be done, dishes to wash, and other chores to manage. We are sent back to our jobs where there are emails and meetings waiting. We are sent back to our everyday lives and routines.

So, can checking our email be holy? Can we carry that blessing of God's presence back into the humdrum routines of our days? Of course! In *Liturgy of the Ordinary*, author Tish Harrison Warren

writes, "I want to do the big work of the kingdom, but I have to learn to live it out in the small tasks before me—the work of God in the daily grind." Our identity as people who are blessed and sent into the world transforms how we live in the world, not just in the big moments but also even in our unremarkable days.

Tish Harrison Warren writes that the Protestant Reformation 500 years ago was not just about a conflict in doctrine, but also about living vocation. "The idea that all good work is holy work was revolutionary. The Reformation toppled a vocational hierarchy that had placed monks, nuns, and priests at the top and everyone else below. The reformers taught that a farmer may worship God by being a good farmer and that a parent changing diapers could be as near Jesus as the pope. This was a scandal."

We sometimes are tempted look at some work as holier than others. And we certainly see some work as more glamorous than others. But the scandal we receive when we are blessed and sent into the world is that God's Spirit lives inside us, and so all work that does good and not harm is equally holy, equally overflowing with God's presence.

What would it look like to practice that awareness the next time you are doing a chore in your daily life? How would it change us to remember that we are blessed by God's presence and sent to live that presence even in those small daily tasks?

Blessings to you all
Pastor Brandon Dunham

OFFICE HOURS

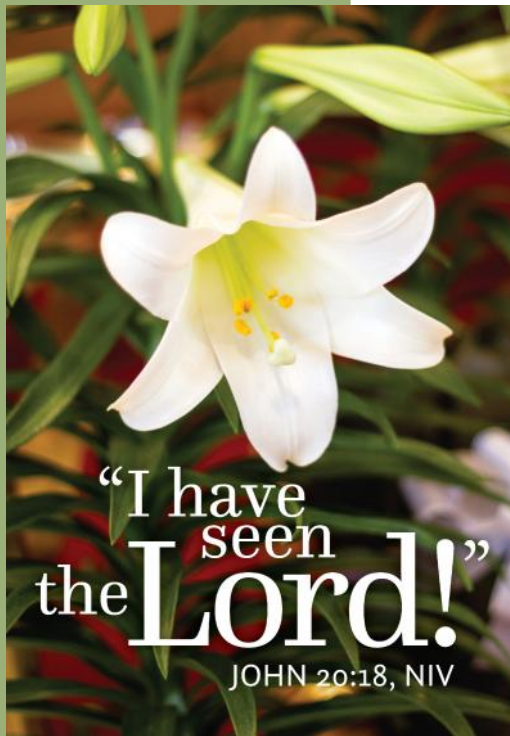


Pastor
In Office
Tuesday &
Thursday
Mornings

Friday
Day Off



Sunday - May 12
During Coffee
Hour and Worship



Sign up today! The early bird discount is \$5 per night. For example, a 5-night camp would have a \$25 discount. Early bird deadline is April 30th.

Pick up a camp book at the back of the church sanctuary and get signed up today and head to Lake Poinsett Camp, Storm Mountain Center, or Wesley Acres Camp. Celebrate Camp Sunday with us on April 28th!

Confirmation Sunday

May 5th is Confirmation Sunday. We will be welcoming the following students to our church.

- J Jackson Bahr
- J Ashtyn Bahr
- J KayLynn Overacker
- J Tyson Parrow



Confirmation NEWS

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/
 906 N 1st St Groton, SD 57445

2019
Holy Week

Maundy Thursday Service - April 18
 Conde UMC at 7 pm

Good Friday Service - April 19
 Groton UMC at 7 pm

Easter Sunday

Easter Worship - April 21
 Conde UMC 9 am and Groton UMC 11 am

Sunrise Service at Groton UMC 7:30 am
 followed by breakfast
 Easter Egg Hunt for the Children

Groton United Methodist Women
Salad & Dessert Buffet
Wednesday, May 1st
from 11 am - 1 pm
Please join us for lunch or make your own to-go!

Men & Women \$8 – Children 6 and under free
at the Groton United Methodist Church
Proceeds to UMW Missions

Groton UMW Mtg

April 18th

1:30 pm - Thursday

Program by Caralee Heitmann

Hostess Laurie Mitchell

Executive Meeting at 4 pm

Newsletter Updates

Spring Event Updates

Groton UMW Notes...

UMW Focus Day training at Aberdeen First UMC 9 am - 1 pm. Car pool leaving at 8:30 am from the church. Please notify Jolene Townsend if you are interested in going.

Pledge to Mission is due to Marj Overacker April 28th.



United Methodist Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

Groton UMW - March

The Groton United Methodist Women met Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 1:30 pm with twelve members present. Anita Lowary presented the program “Easter history”. She shared with us the reason why Easter is the most celebrated season of the Christian calendar. Exploring the history of the Easter season, she explained that the moon and the seasons of harvest were sources used in the selection of the dates for Lent and Easter. In numerous religious cultures, Easter celebrations vary. Lamb is the traditional meal for many. This led to a discussion of our church’s traditions.

Pres Jolene Townsend called the meeting to order. The UMW Pledge was recited by all followed by the secretary and treasurers report. No correspondence or committee reports.

Old business

- J Included the continuation of the “Celebration of 150 Years in Mission”. We will be celebrating in various ways all year.
- J Our individual financial “pledge to missions” is due April 28th to Marj Overacker.
- J Our 2nd anniversary of the Wednesday morning coffee was celebrated with cake and coffee on March 6th.
- J A new collection basket located in the kitchen will be used for grocery receipts, etc.

New Business:

- J Congratulations to Ashley and Pastor Brandon as we celebrate with a “ Wedding Blessing Shower” on April 7th after church service, along with potluck.
- J “ Focus Day training” for UMW members will be held at 1st UMC in Aberdeen on April 13th at 9:00 to 1 pm. Please contact Jolene if you would like to attend, carpool available.
- J UMW will be hosting the Sunrise Easter Brunch with egg bake/rolls/ muffins/ etc. on Easter Sunday, April 21st. An Easter egg hunt will follow! Please call Jolene or Kay if you can help.
- J Marjory Overacker lead an open discussion on the plans for the UMW Salad and Dessert Buffett to be held Wednesday May 1st from 11 am to 1 pm. Many ideas were shared and the final plans will be discussed at the next meeting.
- J Anita shared with us of a Poet grant that is available. A small group of concerned citizens gathered and sent the application. It is to be used for strengthening our children’s resources dealing with today’s challenges and assisting our community in a positive way. Good luck team.

Jolene closed the meeting with prayer, including many from our church and community. A delicious lunch was served by Pat Dahlquist and Sharon Wheeting. Next meeting will be April 18th at 1:30 with Caralee Heitman leading the program and Laurie Mitchell as hostess.



Wedding Blessing Shower
Ashley Farrand &
Pastor Brandon Dunham

Sunday, April 7th, after 11 am worship
Noon Potluck

Groton UMC

Couple is registered at amazon.com and Target



There's a legend that the dogwood was once the size of the oak and other forest trees. It was so strong and firm that it was chosen as the timber for Christ's cross. This greatly distressed the tree. Jesus, nailed upon it, sensed the tree's regret and told it:

"Because of your sorrow for my suffering, never again shall the dogwood grow large enough to be used as a cross. It shall be slender, bent and twisted. Its blossoms shall form a cross - two long and two short petals. And at the outer edge of each petal will be nail prints, brown with rust and stained with red. In the center of the flower shall be a crown of thorns. And all who see it will remember"





Meanings in the Meal

Jesus instituted Communion while celebrating the Jewish Passover with his disciples. The meal's ritual foods hold meaning for Christians, too, because our faith story is interwoven with that of Judaism.

Matzoh: This unraised bread recalls the Israelites' hasty departure from oppression in Egypt. Jesus used the Passover bread to symbolize his body, which delivers us from bondage to sin and death.

Salt water: It symbolizes the tears of the Hebrews and of all who suffer in any time and place. Christians believe that in Jesus, God embraced human suffering so we need never face it alone.

Parsley: Dipped in the salt water, this green, leafy vegetable represents the Hebrews' rebirth out of sorrow into the joy of freedom. Easter's celebration of resurrection

proclaims a coming day when God "will wipe every tear from [our] eyes [and] there will be no more death" (Revelation 21:4, NIV).

Shankbone: A lamb slaughtered for each Hebrew household meant life for those within. The meat strengthened them for the escape journey, and the blood, swabbed on their doorframe, signaled for Death to "pass over." Jesus used wine at the Passover meal to symbolize his blood — of the Lamb of God — which he would shed for our salvation.

Egg: For Jews celebrating Passover, an egg symbolizes memory of the Exodus and renewal of faith. For Christians at Easter, eggs — especially open, empty ones — call to mind Jesus' empty tomb, renewal and abundant life.



Our Church Celebrations

Groton

- Apr 3 Marc Johnson
Nolan Rose
Elleit Severson
Myndi & Scott Kampa
- Apr 4 Sue Stanley
Mitchell Madsen
- Apr 5 Wyatt Kurtz
Desiree & Corey Foltz
- Apr 6 Elise Pharis
- Apr 7 Shelly Lerew
Reilly Ell
Jackson & Lindsey Strom
- Apr 8 Lon Gellhaus
- Apr 10 Pauline Luce
- Apr 11 Taylor Thompson
- Apr 12 Erin Bahr
- Apr 13 Jessica Morehouse
- Apr 14 Toby Dobbins
- Apr 15 Nolan Bahr
Brady Graf

- Apr 16 Tom Tietz
Rodney Boehmer
Dale & Traci Kramer
- Apr 18 Merrie Atherton
Jenna Strom
Dylan Vogel
- Apr 19 Amanda Morehouse
- Apr 21 Val Baker
- Apr 22 Ali Pasteur
- Apr 23 Colton Morehouse
- Apr 24 Rae Fliehs
- Apr 28 Kevin Pharis
- Apr 30 Breslyn Jeschke

Conde

- Apr 14 Dylan Stark
- Apr 18 Loren Siefken
- Apr 22 Curtis Haskell

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

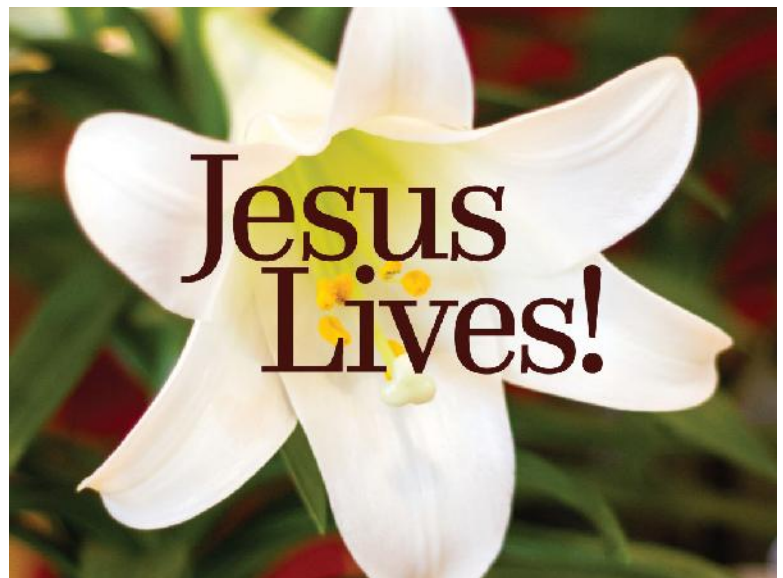
“The Conde United Methodist Church is seeking to satisfy the spiritual and physical needs of all.”



What Easter Does

Jesus’ resurrection from the dead is life-changing and life-giving for his followers. But, as Henry Knox Sherrill notes, Easter’s “joyful news ... does not change the contemporary world.” On earth, we still must deal with sin, pain, death and brokenness. And “still before us lie work, discipline, sacrifice,” Sherrill adds. What Easter does, though, is provide Christians with “the spiritual power to do the work, accept the discipline and make the sacrifice.”

By defeating the grave, Jesus empowers us to bear our worldly troubles with joy, peace and hope. His resurrection assures us that trials, tears and suffering are only temporary, while eternal victory and life with Jesus are permanent



Groton Family Committee - May

John & Meri Erickson
Scott & Myndi Kampa

- Brian Bahr
- Dion & Sam Bahr
- Steve & Becky Diegel, Treyton
- Lucy & Andy Daly, Chloe Crosby
- Adrienne & Tigh Fliehs
- Kami & Tom Lipp, Tanae
- Julie & Jesse Morehouse
- Janice Raap
- Karen & Ian Rose
- Marjae & Dan Schinkel, Anthony
- Carol & Luverne Strom
- Nick & Jenna Strom
- Jeanne Wanous
- William Zoellner

Honorary Members

-) Ida Hannon



Christ has triumphed

Tomb, thou shalt not hold him longer;
 Death is strong, but life is stronger.
 Stronger than the dark, the light;
 Stronger than the wrong, the right.
 Faith and hope triumphant say,
 Christ will rise on Easter Day.

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
-) Straighten the Sanctuary Pews
-) Change the banners as needed as per schedule in back of committee book
-) Maintain the altar flower arrangements
-) Potluck 2nd Sunday - give church secretary details for bulletin
-) **Order and Pickup Confirmation & Graduation Cakes for coffee hour**
-) Gifts are organized by Confirmation Leaders & UMYF Leaders
-) Hospitality sets up gift table for both events
-) Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons

May 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	



Groton Stewardship Report Feb 2019
Average Wkly Giving \$1,280
Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,347
Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 53
Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs \$15



Our Church Happenings

April 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				

**Apr 7 Groton Wedding Blessings Shower & Potluck
for Ashley & Pastor Brandon at noon**

Apr 9 NO Groton Trustee Mtg

Apr 13 UMW Focus Days Aberdeen First UMC 9 am

Apr 14 Palm Sunday

Apr 17 Groton Ad Council 7 pm

Apr 18 Conde Maundy Thursday Service 7 pm

Apr 19 Groton Good Friday Service 7 pm

**Apr 21 Groton Easter Sunday - Sunrise Service 7:30 am
followed by breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt
Worship at 11 am**

Apr 21 Conde Easter Sunday Worship 9 am

April 28 Camp Sunday

Apr 30 Dakotas UM Camps Early Bird Deadline

May 1 Groton UMW May Salad Buffet 11 am

