

# UMC Messenger

FEBRUARY 2019

GROTON/CONDE



## From *the* Pastor



A winter welcome

OFFICE  
HOURS

Pastor  
In Office  
Tuesday &  
Thursday  
Mornings

Friday  
Day Off

Hello Church Family!

It has been a cold month and it makes even the simplest tasks more difficult. Those of you whom live out in the country and take care of animals our prayers are with you all as you don't have the option of staying indoors until the weather warms up!

In our cold season I have missed many of you in worship, and I obviously wish we could see our family in full each weekend, but I care more about your spiritual rejuvenation than our numbers. I wanted to give you a couple tips and suggestions this month on how to continue the discipline of prioritizing Christ in these winter months even if it doesn't mean with us. I know I don't always feel like getting out of bed and into the car on days like we've had but I still pursue my faith with the same fervor... just in different ways.

1. Devotions- I have include a Valentines week-long devotional this month as it is the month of love , but also to provide extra materials for those of you that look for a more directed daily reading. Devotionals are incredible tools that can be ordered or found online for free! Our pursuit of Jesus

shouldn't be a once a week endeavor anyways and devotionals are great keeping yourself on track!

2. Speaking to God- Something we should be doing regularly but increasingly important when away from your church family for extended periods of time. Allow Him to speak to you during intentional quiet time that would have been spent in church.
3. Online Services- One thing that always helped me when I was unable to attend church due to weather or traveling was, I would tune into another churches broadcast. Many churches both in the area and outside stream their services online and can be found with a simple Google search. If you can't worship with us, use Sunday mornings to still worship with another church as a family.

As Christians we are challenged by Jesus to love God and love each other. I love you all and miss the days of full sanctuaries, children during service, more prayer requests than I can write down... If you cannot join us this winter, I ask that Christ and your church remain a pursuit on Sundays in whatever way can be managed. You are my church.

"Think of ways to encourage one another to outbursts of love and good deeds. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage and warn each other, especially now that the day of his coming back again is drawing near." Hebrews 10:24-25

Peace be with you.

Pastor Brandon Dunham



**Groton Online Church Directory**

Included with this newsletter is information on how to access the online church directory. This is a wonderful tool for addresses and phone numbers of our friends and members. In order to access this you have to use the email address the church office has on file. If you have trouble, please contact Kay Daly. As you download this and look through it, please inform the office of any updates and corrections. Thank you.

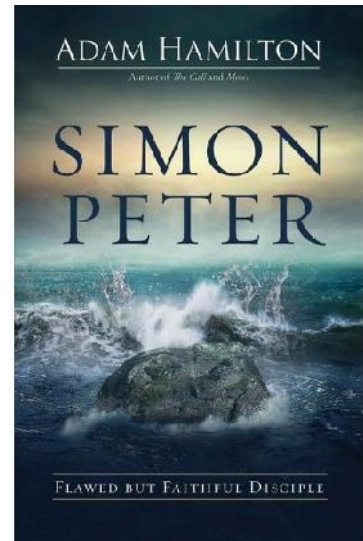
**CHURCH INFORMATION**

**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

**Lenten Studies**

“Simon Peter” study led by Pastor Brandon, groups will meet in Conde on Tuesdays at 7pm beginning March 5th and Groton on Wednesdays at 6pm beginning February 27th.

Tuesday 10 am Bible Study will also be doing “Simon Peter” by Adam Hamilton starting March 5th. Study led by Kay Daly.



**Groton UMW Meeting**

UMW will be meeting on February 21st, Thursday, at 1:30 pm. Program will be by Jolene Townsend, “150 years in Mission”. Hostess will be Val Baker.

Continue working on the Reading Program, Ash Weds is March 6th, and Focus Days will be in April.



**FEBRUARY 8TH - GROTON ARENA**  
 Groton vs. Warner Basketball Double Header

Come out and help us support Becky and her family in her fight against colon cancer!  
 Pork Sandwich Meal - Cookies by Kelli Hanson  
 Silent Auction Items - Donuts for Diegels

*Sponsored by Boys Basketball*

**Sympathies**

Eva Lyren  
 Conde UMC Member  
 died Jan 18



## Groton Ad Council - Jan

Chairman Brad Morehouse called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. In attendance were Alan and Jolene Townsend, Richard Krueger, Marjorie Overacker, Roger Rix, Karla Pasteur, Amanda Morehouse, Pastor Brandon Dunham, Jane Johnson, Meri Erickson, and Diann Morehouse. Pastor Brandon shared a prayer before the business meeting began.

**Treasurer's Report:** Marjorie Overacker reported that she & Pastor Brandon will be working with the conference to assure going forward the treasurer's report is uniform regardless of who is our church treasurer. The Treasurer's report was approved.

**Pastor Parish:** Meri Erickson reported they ended the year with some money. Pastor Brandon's expenses are lower – due to his age.

**Bills to be paid:** Bills totaling \$260.91 were approved for the Christmas program meal.

**Administrative Report:** Pastor Brandon discussed the new committee member nominations. Approval for nominations with the change of Brent Morehouse and Lon Gellhaus as Co-Chairmans of the PPRC was given by the council.

### New Business:

**Rosewood Visitation:** Pastor Brandon said he took the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday and Saturday to go to Rosewood. The new part-time pastors in the community were going to take the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday.

Pastor Brandon discussed the coat collection project. His vision was to do a “one thing ministry” and then have an event at the Community Center in which people could come and pick up a coat. Most of the coats collected were for adult women. There were very few children's coats collected. He contacted the UMC in Aberdeen. They take their coats to the Reservation and suggested we could join them in that project. There was discussion that Safe Harbor could possibly use the coats. UMW will help do an inventory of the coats.

Pastor Brandon shared a “Thank You” card Kim Weber had dropped off. This was for “special donations” monies that went to the school for classroom libraries.

Richard Krueger motioned for the meeting to adjourn and second Meri Erickson. Meeting adjourned at 8:00.

Secretary Pro Tem,  
Jane Johnson



## The church as mosaic

A mosaic consists of thousands of little stones. Some are blue, some are green, some are yellow, some are gold. When we bring our faces close to the mosaic, we can admire the beauty of each stone. But as we step back from it, we can see that all these little stones reveal to us a beautiful picture, telling a story none of these stones can tell by itself.

That is what our life in [the church] is

about. Each of us is like a little stone, but together we reveal the face of God to the world. Nobody can say: “I make God visible.” But others who see us together can say: “They make God visible.” [Christian] community is where humility and glory touch.

—Henri J.M. Nouwen



# Our Church Celebrations



## Groton

- Feb 2 Journey Zieroth
- Feb 4 KayLynn Overacker  
Tim Olson
- Feb 5 Scott Eisenbeisz  
Todd Thurston
- Feb 7 Gary Voss
- Feb 8 Gage Sippel  
Larry Wheeting
- Feb 10 Alan & Jolene Townsend  
Andrea & Scott Eisenbeisz  
Brenda Madsen  
Dion Bahr  
June Thompson  
Nori Hinman
- Feb 12 Skyler Kramer  
Yvonne Lorenz
- Feb 14 Diane Nissen
- Feb 16 Pernell Graf

- Feb 19 Gaylene Voss  
Robin O'Neill
- Feb 20 Judy & Jim Zeck  
Michael Wells
- Feb 21 Joe Nelson  
Wyatt Morehouse
- Feb 22 Anthony Schinkel
- Feb 23 Karl Rekow
- Feb 25 Brent Morehouse  
Greg Heitmann

## Conde

- Feb 4 Donna Walter
- Feb 5 Richard Sanderson
- Feb 9 Vicki Stark
- Feb 10 Greg & Vicki Stark
- Feb 15 Tim & Betty Geist
- Feb 19 Tyler Stark
- Feb 22 Horace Walter

### Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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



## Three in One

Everyday objects can serve as simple lessons about biblical truth. To illustrate the profound concept of the Trinity, for example, some teachers use an apple, an egg or a three-leaf clover. During winter, you can point to a kid-friendly snowman to describe how God is Three in One.

The ball of snow on the base represents God the Father, our Creator and strong foundation. The middle ball, with stick arms reaching to the side, reminds us of Jesus, who died on the cross. And the snowman's head stands for the Holy Spirit, our ever-present Counselor who helps us and speaks God's truth to us.



# Instant Church Directory™ Online

## Login Instructions for the Online Member Directory



### Online Member Directory (only available if your church has this feature enabled)

1. Go to [members.InstantChurchDirectory.com](http://members.InstantChurchDirectory.com)
2. Click on the link: First time signing in? [Create a login now.](#)
3. Enter the email address as it is listed in the family portion of the directory.
4. Create a password. The password must be 8 characters long, and contain at least two of the following special characters: capital letters, numbers or symbols.
5. Retype the password to confirm it and click "Request Login."
6. Check your inbox for an email from [service@instantchurchdirectory.com](mailto:service@instantchurchdirectory.com).
7. To complete the sign-up process, you will need to verify your email address by clicking on the link sent to you in that email.
8. Once you confirm your email, you may sign at [members.InstantChurchDirectory.com](http://members.InstantChurchDirectory.com).

Your email with the password you created will work on all the Instant Church Directory apps on any device.

**Need help signing in? Please see your directory Administrator.**



## Mobile App Login Instructions for Android™ & Kindle® Devices



### NEW MEMBER - Android & Kindle Devices (Version 2.0 or Newer)

The instructions below are for members who have downloaded the App and are creating a login for the very first time. If you have previously logged into your church's directory and upgraded your app, please follow the ALREADY HAVE A PASSWORD instructions below.

1. Download the App from the Google Play (android devices) or Amazon's Appstore (Kindle devices). Search for "Instant Church Directory" and look for this icon:



2. Open the app and click on "Create Login".
3. Enter the email address as it is listed in the family portion of the directory.
4. Create a secure password. The password must be 8 characters long and contain at least two of the following special characters: capital letters, numbers or symbols. Retype your password to confirm.
5. Check your inbox for an email from service@instantchurchdirectory.com.
6. To complete the login process, you will need to verify your email address by clicking on the link sent to you in that email.
7. Once you confirm your email, close the browser window – do not log in on the browser. Open the app and click on "Sign In" to sign into your church's directory.

### UPGRADED to Version 2.0 or Newer - or - ALREADY HAVE A PASSWORD

1. Open the app and click on "Sign In".
2. Enter the email address as it is listed in the family portion of the directory.
3. Enter your password and click the sign in button.

If you do not remember your password or the password we supplied you in the past, please select "**Forgot Password**" and follow the instructions to reset your password.



### Android & Kindle App (version 1.6 or Older)

1. Download the App from the Google Play (android devices) or Amazon's Appstore (Kindle devices). Search for "Instant Church Directory" and look for this icon:



2. Enter the email address as it is listed in the family portion of the directory.
3. Check your inbox for an email from service@instantchurchdirectory.com. We will send you a password to log into the App.
4. Go back to the App. Enter the password from the email and the directory will upload to your phone.

THINGS TO CHECK: Anything that looks like a 0 should be entered as a zero and check that anything that is a capital letter is being entered as a capital letter.

Need help signing in? Please see your directory Administrator.

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## Mobile App Login Instructions for iPhone®, iPad® and any iOS Device



### NEW MEMBERS - iOS App (Version 2.0 or newer)

The instructions below are for members who have downloaded the App and are creating a login for the very first time. If you have previously logged into your church's directory and upgraded your app, please follow the ALREADY HAVE A PASSWORD instructions below.

1. Download the App from the App Store. Search for "Instant Church Directory" and look for this icon:



2. Open the app >> Click on "Create Login".
3. Enter the email address as it is listed in the family portion of the directory.
4. Create a secure password. The password must be 8 characters long and contain at least two of the following special characters: capital letters, numbers or symbols. Retype your password to confirm.
5. Check your inbox for an email from [service@instantchurchdirectory.com](mailto:service@instantchurchdirectory.com)
6. To complete the login process, you will need to verify your email address by clicking on the link sent to you in that email.
7. Once you confirm your email, close the browser window go back to the App >> Click on "Sign In" to sign into your church's directory using your email and password.

### UPGRADED to Version 2.0 or Newer - or - ALREADY HAVE A PASSWORD

1. Open the app and click on "Sign In".
  2. Enter the email address as it is listed in the family portion of the directory.
  3. Enter your password and click the sign in button.
- If you do not remember your password or the password we supplied you in the past, select "Forgot Password?" and follow the instructions to reset your password.



### iOS App (Version 1.2)

1. Open the app and enter the email address as it is listed in the family portion of the directory.
2. Create a password. The password must be 8 characters long, and contain at least two of the following special characters: capital letters, numbers or symbols.
3. Retype the password to confirm it.
4. Check your inbox for an email from [service@instantchurchdirectory.com](mailto:service@instantchurchdirectory.com).
5. To complete the sign-up process, you will need to verify your email address by clicking on the link sent to you in that email.
6. Once you confirm your email, you may open the app and sign into your church's directory. The directory will upload to your device.
7. If you already have created a password, click on "Sign In" on the bottom of the screen to log in.

**Need help signing in? Please see your directory Administrator.**  
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### February 9: God's Love Shown

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."

We start this week reading a verse that completely captures the love God has for us. The word "so" at the beginning of this verse emphasizes the intensity and greatness of God's love. God loved the world so deeply that He gave His one and only beloved Son to die on behalf of sinful men and women. If we choose to believe in the Son who died in our place on the cross, we will have eternal life with God, who loved us so much.

Why was it important for God to send His Son Jesus to die for the world? Do you believe in Jesus and God's great love for you?



### February 10: Love God and Love Others

Matthew 22:37-39

"And Jesus said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and will all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'"

Today we are reading the very words of Jesus during His time on earth. In this story, a man is asking Jesus what He thinks is the most important Law to be kept. The Old Testament Law consisted of 613 commandments to be strictly followed. While the Pharisees were trying to corner Jesus into which of the 613 commandments was essential to their religion, Jesus instead says that the two most crucial and fundamental beliefs are to love God with all your heart, soul and mind, and to love your neighbor as yourself.

What does it look like to love God with all your heart, mind and soul? Who are your neighbors and how can you love them as yourself?

### February 11: Put on Love

Colossians 3:12-14

"So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. Beyond all these things, put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity."

In all that God has done through His Son Jesus for Christians, we are commanded to live our lives with a behavior and attitude that is honoring to God. To "put on" is similar like that of putting on a jacket or t-shirt. In order to be a fully-clothed Christian, we must put on compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Above all though, we are to put on love, which unifies and brings harmony amongst believers.

Which "piece of clothing" is hardest for you to "put on"? In what ways can you bring harmony and unity with others today?

### February 12: Love Ever-Present

Romans 8:38-39

"For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus."

God's love has lavishly been poured out to us through His Son, Jesus Christ. This passage highlights and focuses on the security we have in our faith with God. No matter what comes our way, no matter what we have or will do, nothing can separate us from the great love of God. God has put in our hearts the Holy Spirit, which is evidence that we will always belong to Him. Through the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives, we can love the One who first loved us.

What does it mean to have security in your faith with God? How will you live today knowing that nothing can or will separate you from the love of God?

### February 13: Love One Another

John 13:34-35

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Jesus has given this command for us to model the love He has shown us through His death on the cross. Jesus's love for us was a sacrificial, unconditional love. He offered His life in order that we may have eternal life through Him. In the same way, we are to love others sacrificially, even if we feel they don't deserve our love. We are commanded to love others in this way because through our actions, Jesus will be glorified and others will see that we know Jesus as our Savior.

What does it look like to love others sacrificially? Will other people see that you know Jesus by the way that you love?





# Lenten Sermon Series

## Return to Me with All Your Heart

In this season of formation and preparation, we again approach the 40 days of Lent from a variety of different perspectives and points along the Christian journey. During this season, new and long-time Christians alike hear the call to return to God with all their hearts, thus entering a season historically characterized by much prayer and fasting. These works of discipline have for hundreds of years served as a means by which new converts prepare for baptism, which occurs as a part of the Easter Vigil. Using the words of Wesleyan theology, we believe all this work is initiated by God, who invites us to come before God with all our hearts.

- Week 1: God’s Generous Heart
- Week 2: Imitating
- Week 3: Repenting
- Week 4: Coming Together
- Week 5: Making a New Thing
- Palm Sunday: Preparing
- Easter Sunday Believing

**February 14: To Love is to Obey**  
 John 14:15  
 “If you love Me, you will keep my commandments.”  
 Though Jesus spoke these words to the twelve disciples, they are all the more true for us today. Jesus is encouraging and affirming that love and obedience are synonymous. We show God that we love Him through obeying His word and the commands that are given to us in the Bible. This obedience is not meant to be burdensome, but instead, we should delight in serving the very God who has given us eternal life through His Son. Genuine faith in God produces obedience to Him in our daily life.

How can you show your love to God by obeying what the Bible says?

# Groton March Family Committee

**Melissa & Neil Gilbert, Brooklyn**

**Brenda & Tony Madsen**

- J Josh & Merrie Atherton
- J Darlyne Daly, Ryder
- J Pernel Graf, Alex, Caroline, Dylan
- J Kelli & Lars Hanson
- J JR & Paula Johnson
- J Carol Knecht
- J Yvonne Lorenz, Sage
- J Anita & John Lowary
- J Joe & Belinda Nelson
- J Tim Olson
- J John Padfield
- J Kevin & Kara Pharis, Kale
- J Francine & Marc Sippel



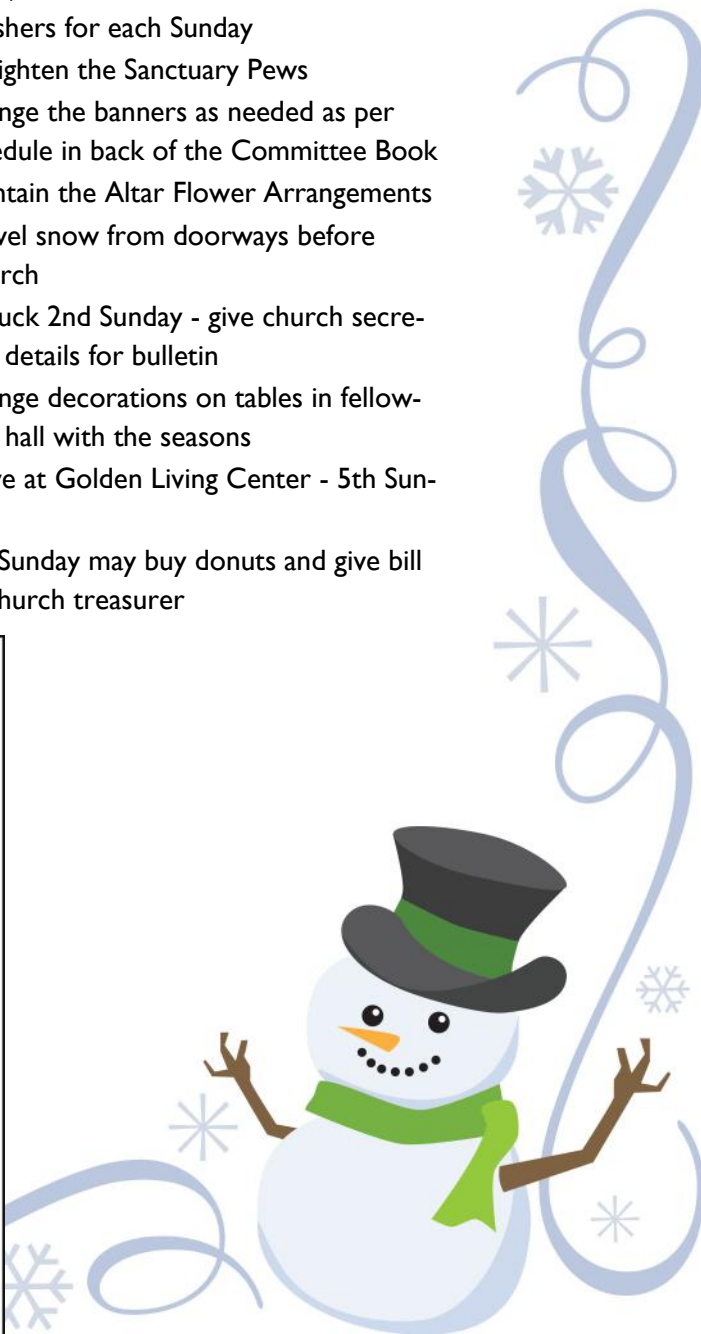
**Honorary Members**

- J Darlys Kampa
- J Marie McClintic & Larry Schnaidt

**March Responsibilities**

- J Check Kitchen Supplies for the month
- J Check & Clean Oven and Fridge as necessary
- J Coffee Hour workers (make coffee, provide cookies, launder towels, and remove trash)
- J 2 Ushers for each Sunday
- J Straighten the Sanctuary Pews
- J Change the banners as needed as per schedule in back of the Committee Book
- J Maintain the Altar Flower Arrangements
- J Shovel snow from doorways before Church
- J Potluck 2nd Sunday - give church secretary details for bulletin
- J Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons
- J Serve at Golden Living Center - 5th Sunday
- J 5th Sunday may buy donuts and give bill to church treasurer

March 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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						





# Our Church Happenings



- Feb 14 Valentine's Day
- Feb 17 Newsletter Items Due
- Feb 18 President's Day
- Feb 20 Groton Ad Council 7 pm
- Feb 21 Groton UMW 1:30 pm

February 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		

**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**