



Groton & Conde
United Methodist Church

Newsletter

August 2020

906 N 1st St, Groton, SD 57445

...from Pastor Brandon

I have a question for you. In a season that for many of us has meant pumping the breaks on “busy” and staying within the confines of our homes for extended periods of time... do you feel at peace?

Who doesn't love traveling? I know I do. In fact one of the most disappointing things about this entire pandemic is the number of trips my wife Ashley and I have had to cancel because it's not right for us to be out and about. We love to get out and explore, try new foods, take in new cultures, and all the while compare the coffee to what we have at home (we have the good stuff). But without fail, there comes a point in our trip when we are ready to be home. We miss home. And when we pull into the driveway and walk over the threshold of our front door... peace. Does anyone else feel that after being away for a while? There is something so rejuvenating and healing about home.

The question I've been wrestling with over the last 2-3 months is... I'm at home, so why can't I find peace? The slowing down of our lives has been so



needed in many ways because I believe it revealed just how unhealthy we were living before... “Go, go go!” But now that I'm home all the time, I still feel restless; like I can't sleep. My body is in its comfortable place, but something is off.

I began to think about my soul; my inner self. If I need home to find rest for my body... where would home be that would bring rest to my soul? Do you remember the moment you accepted Jesus into your heart? For me it happened in a church service, and I came to this moment where I stopped trying to earn His

love, but I simply allowed myself to be me. When was the last time you sat with Christ and allowed yourself to be vulnerable? Allowed yourself to simply sit and be with Jesus? Psalm 90:1 says, “Lord, through all the generations you have been our home!” and my prayer for each of you would be that you find peace in the presence of God. My prayer would be that you take time for your inner self and bring your soul home. God Bless you all.

Pastor Brandon Dunham



Pastor
In Office
Tuesday &
Thursday
Mornings

Friday
Day Off





Groton UMC

At our last Groton Administrative Council meeting on July 14th, we agreed to move from Phase #1 into Phase #2 of our plan to get back into our church routines. This move meant that small groups and Bible Studies may resume in person OR virtual gatherings (with modified hygiene and social distancing practices).

August 9th was also agreed upon to be our shift from Phase #2 into Phase #3, meaning we would move worship from the parking lot into the Sanctuary and would offer coffee only prior to worship. We

have been planning and organizing the best practices to ensure the safety of those who wish to join us including:

blocking off pews, offering single-use masks and hand sanitizer by doors, while still avoiding passing the offering plates, handing out bulletins, greeting time, or singing. We also have chairs set up in the Fellowship Hall if you wish to enjoy worship at a greater distance.

If you have any questions, feel free to call the church office or email grotonumc@nvc.net.

Groton 10 AM Tues Morning Bible Study

Currently studying Couples of the Old Testament. We are meeting in the church fellowship hall and social distancing. Clorox Wipes are available for use before and after on the tables along with hand sanitizer. Join us as you are comfortable!



Thank You

Thank you for the 8 Deep Blue Kids Bible Celebrate Wonders edition to be given to the 3 graders in memory of Ralph Breitzkreutz.

Thank you for the 13 ESV gift bibles for the confirmation students in memory of Mickey Padfield.

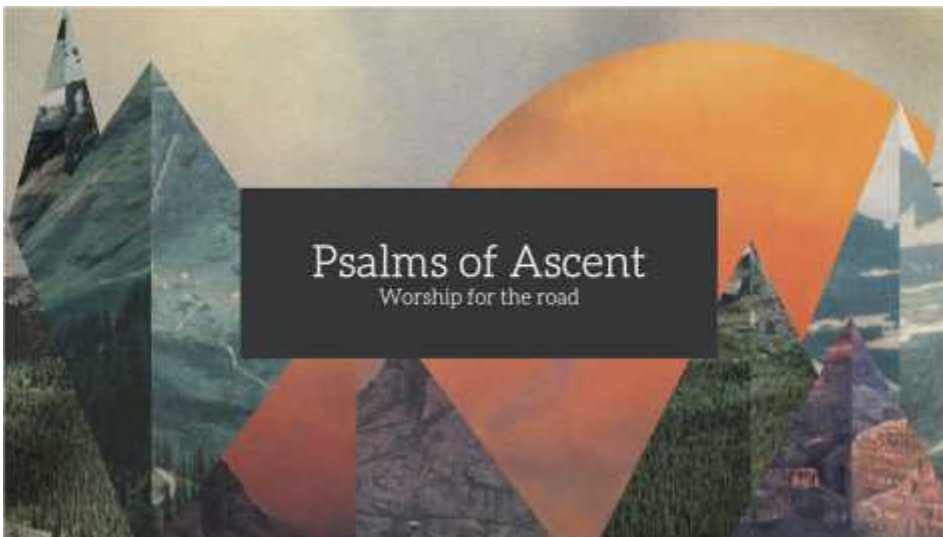
Thank you for the 2 brass tops and 6 wicks for the altar candles in memory of Deloris Knoll.



Church Information

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906 N 1st St Groton, SD 57445



Pastor Brandon's Current Sermon Series

New Worship Series began July 12th The Christian life is a climb—a journey of constant growth, sacrifice, and trusting God for what we cannot see. As Eugene Peterson said, we are pilgrims, but we are also disciples—always moving and always learning. The Psalms of Ascent (Psalms 120-134) were sung by worshipers as they made the journey up to Jerusalem for the annual feasts. These songs helped the people orient their lives along their journey of worship and these same Psalms help us today learn how to journey with God well. It may surprise you how honest these Psalms are about life's struggles. As we learn how to interact with God through the journey of life, we learn God's faithfulness to walk the journey with us, and we learn to worship well.



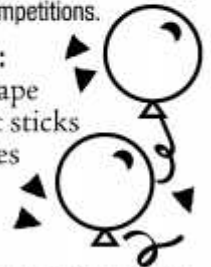
Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.

GREAT SUMMER GAMES

Though this year's Summer Olympics were postponed, you can host friendly neighborhood competitions.

What you need:

- Masking tape
- Large craft sticks
- Paper plates
- Balloons
- Ribbon
- Scissors
- Green construction paper
- Craft glue



What you do:

Balloon Badminton: Make rackets by taping a stick "handle" to each plate. Blow up and tie a balloon. Use the rackets to pass the balloon back and forth, without letting it touch the floor.

Rhythmic Routines: Using tape, firmly attach one end of a 4-foot ribbon to a craft stick. Display style and skill by waving it around. Try choreographing a routine to a praise song.

Champion Crown: Cut a large hole out of the center of a paper plate. Cut 2-inch ovals from green paper. Glue those "leaves" to the ring as garland. Crown a winner of each game!

Conde Announcements

The Conde Administrative Board met Thursday evening, July 16th. The things that were discussed include the following:

Vacation Bible School - It was decided that it would not be wise to have the event this summer. The plan is to send out letters to the children that were contacted last year, and include some little gift for them. The purpose being that we are thinking of them, and hope to have the event next summer.

UMCOR Kits - The Dakotas Conference will not collect or distribute ei-

ther Health or School Kits. Churches are encouraged to support their local schools with supplies. At a later date, there will be more information on Conference Mission Projects.

Church Services - Conde will continue to have worship in the Sanctuary, with fellowship following the service. The seating in the Fellowship Hall is spaced, so that everyone is at a required distance. Those preparing the coffee and treats have been wearing gloves and masks.

Humidifiers - It was decided to purchase two units, one for the Sanctuary

and one for Fellowship Hall.

Study Group - No definite plans were made, but those who have attended before, would like to start meeting again in September. They will try and find a book that can be read and discussed.

The Board will meet again on Tuesday, August 18th at 7:00 pm.



Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

Welcome
Back!

Blueberry Coffee Cake

2 cups flour
 3/4 cup sugar
 2 1/2 tsp baking powder
 1/4 tsp salt
 1/4 cup soft butter (cut in)

Add:

1/4 cup milk
 12 cup sour cream
 1 egg
 2 cups blueberries

Top With:

1/2 cup sugar
 1 3/4 cup flour
 1 tsp cinnamon
 1/4 cup melted butter
 Bake 45 minutes at 375 degrees
 Drizzle with 1/2 cup powdered
 sugar and water while still warm

Taste and See Tuesday 10 AM
 Bible Study, Thank you Melinda
 Eikamp for sharing.

Groton Stewardship Report June 2020

Average
Wkly Giving
\$2,336

Needed Wkly for
Church Mission
\$2,285

Average Weekly
Attendance Sunday
28

Total Building Fund
Donations - Repairs
\$15

Roof Repairs
\$650

Peanut Butter Fingers

1/2 cup butter
 1/2 cup sugar
 1/2 cup brown sugar
 1 egg
 1/4 tsp salt
 1/3 cup peanut butter
 1 cup flour
 1 cup quick oats
 1/2 tsp soda
 1/2 tsp vanilla

Cream butter and sugars, add
 peanut butter and egg. Mix well.
 Add remaining ingredients.
 Spread in greased 9X13 pan.
 Bake at 350 degrees 20-25 min.

TOPPING:

6-12 oz pkg semi sweet choco-
 late chips
 1/2 cup powdered sugar
 1/4 cup peanut butter
 2-4 Tbs milk

Spread chips over hot bars and place back in
 oven for a min or two to melt, then spread
 evenly over bars. Chill. Mix remaining ingre-
 dients and spread evenly over top. Let sit till
 set. Cut into bars and enjoy.

These are my go to when I don't know what
 else to make for comfort. Val Baker



Sept Family Committee

Dale & Traci Kramer

Carol & Luverne Strom

Cheryl Hanson

Lance & Kristi Hawkins, Kaycie

Rick & Sarah Hofer

Yvonne Lange

Laurel & Monte McNickel

Diann & Brad Morehouse

Karla Pasteur

Carna & Cliff Pray

Dwight & Eugenia Strom

Mark & June Thompson

Linda & Gary Thurston

Todd Thurston

Anita & Gary Voss

Honorary Members

Susan Odland

Rose Tewksbury

Sept Responsibilities

Guidance from Hospitality Committee and Ad Council what they will be.



September 2020						
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			

Mom's Almond Crusted Tilapia

4 tilapia fillets
 1 egg, beaten with 1 tsp water
 1/2 cup almonds, ground
 1/2 cup panko
 1/4 cup grated parmesan cheese
 1/2 teaspoon garlic salt
 1 tablespoon olive oil
 1 tablespoon butter
 lemon and parsley for garnish

1. Mix almonds, panko, parmesan, and garlic salt in small bowl.
2. Dip fillets in egg mix. Press coating onto fish.
3. Sauté in olive oil and butter on one side until golden brown, about 2 minutes. Turn and cook another 2 minutes.
4. Garnish with lemon and parsley and enjoy.

Taste & See Book
 Favorite of Kay Daly

How to get out of potlucks for the rest of your life



Our Church Celebrations...

Groton

Aug 2 Dylan Graf
David Strom
Jessica & Brent Morehouse
Max Erickson
Aug 3 Lance & Kristie Hawkins
Aug 4 Craig & Kim Weber
Aug 5 Tigh Fliehs
Aug 6 Damian Bahr
Aug 7 Kelli Hanson
Tyke Nyberg
Aug 8 Yvonne Lange
Brad & Diann Morehouse
Margaret & Clint Jr Jacobson
Aug 9 Loel Schott
Jackson Wells
Aug 12 Tom Lipp
Amber Wolken

Aug 13 Logan Nilsson
Aug 16 Jim Jones
Rose Tewksbury (85)
Jenna & Nick Strom
Alissa & Michael Wells
Aug 17 Chanda Nilsson
Aug 19 Jaeger Kampa
Chris & Tyke Nyberg
William Zoellner
Tia Johnson
Aug 20 Marc Sippel
Tyson parrow
Aug 21 Clayton Morehouse
Aug 22 Belinda Nelson
Aug 23 Haley Erickson
Lisa Pray

Aug 27 Rachael Dobbins
Ellianna Jacobson
Aug 28 Rob & Jeanne Wanous
Aug 29 Chuck Padfield
Aug 30 Emma Jo Schinkel
Jase Bahr
Nathan Atherton
Aug 31 Katelyn Hawkins
Conde
Aug 6 Loren & Pat Siefken
Aug 10 Cindy Smith
Aug 12 Cody Evans
Aug 20 Richard & Jane Worlie
Aug 26 Pamela Hanson
Aug 31 Collin Ragels



85TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

AUGUST 16TH

ROSE TEWKSBURY

603 N MAIN ST #2

GROTON, SD 57445

Groton Ad Council - July

Chairman Alan Townsend called the electronic Zoom meeting to order.

Treasurer's Report:

- J Marjorie Overacker stated that all current bills have been paid however we still haven't paid our apportionments for several months. She also mentioned that we have received \$650 for the roof fund. The treasurer's report was approved on a motion by Anita Lowary.
- J Allen Walter, Finance Chair, mentioned that July giving has been low but he is expecting more based on member conversations.

Pastor Parish: Meri Erickson stated that the parsonage water heater went out and has been replaced and that there was money in the budget for this.

Administrative Report:

Pastor Brandon shared that he is working on a new sermon series to last until our fall kickoff. In addition he is also working on a VBS program. Pastor Brandon also asked that the council talk about shifting to our next phase of church activity as it relates to Covid and he is hoping for a team effort in working on the "back to worship" plan.

Committee Reports:

Trustees: Richard Krueger also mentioned the purchase of the new water heater for the parsonage from S&S Lumber. He added that an expansion tank was suggested by McGannon's and installed as well. Richard also shared that even with no activities at the church our most recent monthly utility bill was about \$200. He was informed that the roof work will be delayed due to wind & heat which has put Hub City Roofing behind schedule. Richard is assuming that work will begin the first part of August.

Old Business:

- J Sanctuary Front Sidewalk: Richard K still needs to visit with Roger Rix and Joe Foertsch regarding the deterioration of the cement work.

- J Memorial Projects: Linda Thurston asked the council if they would like to go ahead with the purchase & installation of a wall mounted TV in the fellowship hall as well as the purchase of a camera for the purpose of recording Sunday services. She stated the TV would be on a swing arm so it could be swung in flush with the wall or swung out for viewing purposes. Linda shared that Chuck Padfield stated that \$1500 left from his wife Mickey's memorial could be used for this purpose or any other need. Linda also said that Lang's would be starting work on the Harry Pharis memorial project in the next couple of weeks and we should decide if we would like to include wiring for future electronic needs at that time with undesignated memorial money. In additional discussion Linda T. pointed out this would be the opportune time to rearrange the organ, piano & choir pews to their original locations allowing for a better arrangement for the laptop & electronics and for Yvonne and other musical equipment & opportunities.

- J Anita Lowary motioned to proceed with the Pharis donation work, including wiring work, fellowship hall TV installation, and including choir loft remodel. The motion also included purchase of a camera to record services. Motion was 2nd and approved by the council.

- J Just for clarification, the Pharis memorial work includes a projector, laptop, software & TV in the back of the sanctuary plus labor. Richard K agreed to get the trustees together to iron out the details of this work.

New Business:

- J Bible Study Request: The Bible Study group requested permission to begin meeting in the fellowship hall beginning July 21 while following social distancing and sanitizing their space used when leaving. Anita Lowary motioned to allow the request and it was 2nd and approved by the council.
- J Moving to Phase 2: After some discussion the council approved a motion by Linda Thurston to move to Phase #2 of our 4-phase plan to return to the new normal. This means all small groups and Bible studies may resume in person or virtual gatherings with modified hygiene and social distancing practices. It was suggested that we ask for donations of hand sanitizer and masks from our congregation.
- J Moving to Phase 3: The council felt that our Hospitality Committee should begin to organize details for coming back to indoor worship.

Jeanne Wanous, Secretary

August 2020						
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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...

- Aug 5 Groton Sunday School Teacher Mtg 7 pm fellowship hall
- Aug 9 Groton Inside Worship at 11 am (details inside newsletter)
Coffee Only served at 10 am with social distancing
- Aug 18 Conde Ad Council Mtg 7 pm
- Aug 19 Groton Ad Council Mtg 7 pm
- Aug 26 Groton UMYF begins at 7pm - at parsonage outside
- Sept 2 Groton Confirmation Parent Mtg 7 pm
in fellowship hall (7-8 graders)
- Sept 13 Groton Sunday School begins 10 am

