



Groton & Conde
United Methodist Church

Newsletter

June/July 2020

906 N 1st St, Groton, SD 57445

...from Pastor Brandon

Hello Church Family,

We have missed you all so much, and are excited to share that our in-person gatherings are coming back slowly but surely. I want to thank you for your patience as we have attempted to not stop having church, but found ways to do church differently and I am so encouraged by our success. It's because of your adaptability that we have made it through.

A chart, on the next page, that maps out our plan to get to a new normal and I wanted to make sure it was accessible for you. We are currently in Phase 1 which means at this time we are still being aware to the reality of Covid-19 possibilities and keeping your safety at the forefront of our decisions. We are meeting for worship online as well as in the parking lot on days that weather allows (so far wind and



rain haven't stopped us). As things improve, we will, as an Administrative Council, decide when it is appropriate to move to the next phase of our plan.

We hope that you join us for this never before seen time in the church where we are gathering outside in lawn chairs as well as cars to share in a service, but I would also like to give you something to be praying over. This is a time like the church has never seen. A time where we closed the doors and took a step back. As we move towards relaunching our ministries...

what kind of church do you want to see open? Are there things about our ministry processes that you have always wanted to see adjusted? Are there ministries you wish we had that we don't? This is an opportunity we could have only dreamed of, where we have the power to relaunch a new chapter in our history. So, what might that look like? I encourage you to join with me in prayer over the next month or two as we seek that answer together.

Pastor Brandon
Dunham

"We"
the Church
have
continued
worship
outside
the building!

Enjoy the
photos
this month
showing our
church
at work!



Pastor
In Office
Tuesday &
Thursday
Mornings

Friday
Day Off

Phase	1	2	3	4
Recommendation for High-Risk Populations	Stay Home, Stay Healthy	Stay home, Stay healthy	Stay home, Stay healthy	Resume public interactions with physical distancing
Office	Normal operating hours	Normal operating hours	Normal operating hours	Normal operating hours
Worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual worship on Facebook, mailed out worship packets, Drive-in services. New hygiene and physical distancing practices Please note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No passing of offering plates or greeting time Send prayer requests through email or Facebook page 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue modified worship both in person, mailed, and virtually, with previous stipulations and hygiene and physical distancing practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Move in person worship inside Continue modified worship both in person and mailed, with hygiene and physical distancing practices Virtual worship moves to live-stream 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In person gathering resumes while maintaining hygiene and physical distancing practices Virtual live-stream worship continues Mailed worship packets continue Introduce communal singing
Fellowship (Wednesday coffee or Sunday morning before church)	None at this time	None at this time	Coffee only	Fellowship may resume with modified hygiene and social distancing practices
Small Group Bible Studies, and Ministry Committee/ Team Meetings	Virtual gatherings only	Small groups and Bible Studies may resume in person or virtual gatherings with modified hygiene and social distancing practices	Continue virtual and/or in person gatherings with hygiene and social distancing practices	Continue virtual and/or in person gatherings with hygiene and social distancing practices
Outside Groups and Facility Usage	Virtual gatherings only- no outside groups to use facility yet	Virtual gatherings only- no outside groups to use facility yet	Virtual gatherings only- no outside groups to use facility yet	May start to resume in person or virtual meetings with modified hygiene and social distancing practices

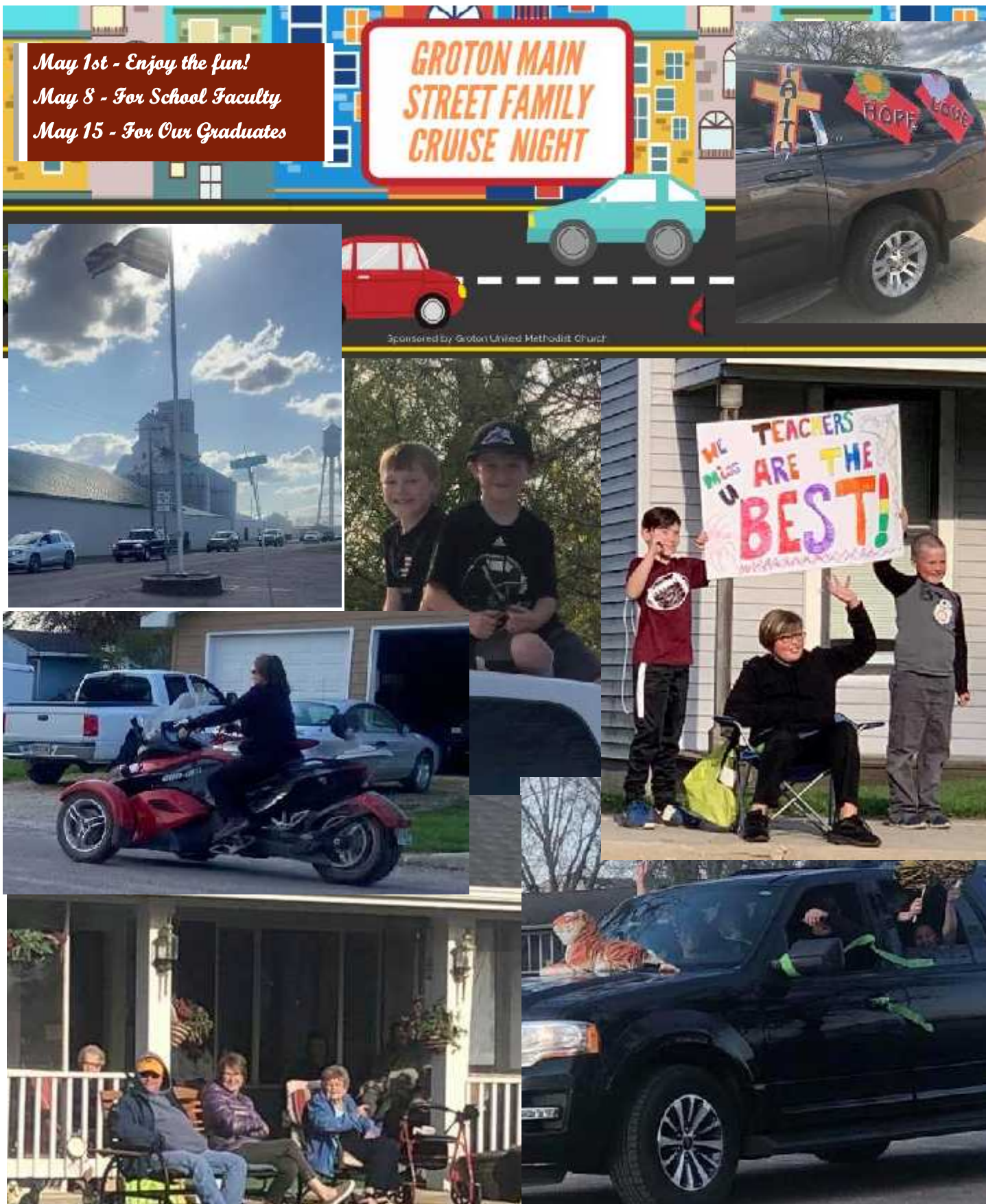
Coming Soon!



Church Information

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Parsonage Phone 605-397-4538

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Secretary Email: grotonumc@nvc.net
Website: grotonumc.org
Facebook: facebook.com/grotonsdumc/
906 N 1st St Groton, SD 57445





*Took Place on May 30th
at the Groton City Park*



Groton Worship starts outside - even in the rain!

June 14th and 21st photos



Groton Tues 10 AM Bible Study Continues...

Using Ring Central and one nice day outside, we have continued our studies. We will not be meeting July 7th and 14th. July 21st we will start a new study.



Groton UMW

Reading Program sheets are due to Yvonne Lange by August 1st

No planned meeting until September. So, watch to see if and how that should happen.



Marion Jensen celebrated 100th birthday in May



Greek Tortellini Salad

Salad

1 20 oz pkg refrigerated cheese tortellini

1 1/2 cups grape tomatoes cut in half

1 lge cucumber chopped

1 cup kalamata olives pit removed and chopped

1/2 red onion chopped

3/4 cup crumbled feta cheese

Dressing

1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil

3 Tbs red wine vinegar

1 clove garlic minced

1/2 tsp dried oregano

salt and pepper to taste

Instructions

1. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Cook the tortellini ac-

ording to the pkg directions.

Draine the tortellini and rinse with cold water.

2. Place the tortellini in a large bowl. Add the tomatoes, cucumber, olives, red onion, and feta cheese.
3. In a small bowl, whisk together the olive oil, vinegar, garlic, oregano, salt, and pepper. Pour the dressing over the salad and stir until salad is well coated. Serve immediately or place in the refrigerator.
4. Note this salad will keep in the fridge for up to 3 days.
5. 8 servings

submitted by Linda Thurston

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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

Taste & See

The Tuesday 10 AM Bible Study came to a halt with the virus while we were studying food in the Bible. Months later we started looking for ways to meet again and I asked everyone what has been their favorite recipe at this time. So, I have included some as I have room for you to enjoy this summer.

Susan Odland's favorite was Pepper Jack Cheese on Graham Crackers. Try it! A Great Contrast she says.

June Ackman's favorite recipe is called "Take Out!"

More Next Month! Kay

Our Church Celebrations...

Groton

Jul 1	Charity Hinman Graham Rose	Jul 14	Jeff Voss Christine Nyberg Ava Kramer
Jul 4	Seth Erickson	Jul 15	Margaret Jacobson
Jul 5	Jasmine Schinkel Allen & Joyce Walter	Jul 16	Linda Thurston
Jul 7	Ida Hannon Julie Morehouse	Jul 17	Mackenzie Atherton
Jul 8	Kelby Hawkins	Jul 18	Doug & Kay Daly Josh & Merrie Atherton Kaitlin O'Neill Kevin Pray
Jul 9	Judy Zeck Jordan Voss Severson	Jul 19	Carol Strom
Jul 11	Roger & Marj Overacker Scott Hinman	Jul 21	Levi Parrow
Jul 12	Ashtyn Bahr Beckett Rose	Jul 23	Joyce Walter Chanda & Logan Nilsson
Jul 13	Jolene Townsend Stephanie Townsend	Jul 24	Ashley Dunham Maggie Oliver Roger & Pam Rix

Jul 25	Hannah Webb
Jul 26	Angela & Perryn Dobbins Laila Roberts
Jul 27	Damian & Erin Bahr Ryland Strom Tony Madsen
Jul 28	Craig Weber
Jul 29	Curtis Krueger
Jul 30	Megan & Seth Erickson
Jul 31	Lynette Severson

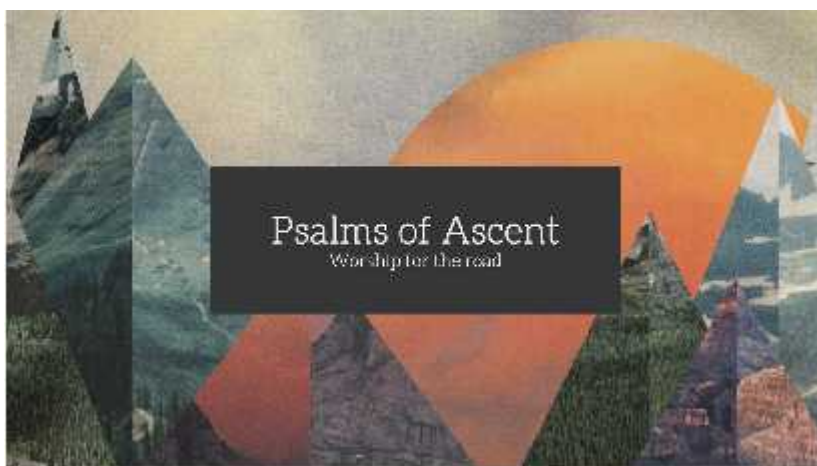
Conde

Jul 3	Guy & Renee Hanlon
Jul 6	Shanna Geist
Jul 23	Patty Knoll
Jul 24	Ashley Dunham
Jul 27	Horace & Donna Walter

New Sermon Series - July 12

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.



Groton Ad Council - June

Chairman Alan Townsend called the electronic Zoom meeting to order.

Treasurer's Report: Marge Overacker reported that our current balance looks good and that our Finance Secretary, Allen Walter just reported to Marge that he recently received additional donations which will help our balance going into July. A bill was paid for one fire extinguisher update in the furnace room & inspection.

Pastor Parish Treasurer: Meri Erickson reported that everything is fine. She has received a few bills from S&S Lumber for recent parsonage maintenance.

Pastor Parish: Pastor Brandon stated that an email is coming out for an upcoming meeting.

Trustees: Richard Kruger reported that he recently checked the air conditioning system and saw no problems. He stated that spraying of the church lawn had been done. Work on the sanctuary roof is still on schedule for July. Richard did note that the new cement in front of the church is flaking and he will work with Roger Rix to evaluate the situation.

Administrative Report:

Pastor Brandon thanked the Administrative Council and congregation for being adaptable to worship options

presented in the last several months. He reported that we had over 40 people at the first parking lot service. He has some helpers to set up on Sunday mornings. Plans are to continue to do online services also. With the council in agreement, we will be partnering with Aberdeen First church for a joint online service on July 5 through Facebook.

Pastor Brandon also shared that he is working on figuring out some broadcasting software that would make it easier & less time consuming for him to put together online services. The cost would be a couple hundred dollars.

Old Business: Brandon will working on a letter to send out to the congregation explaining the upcoming sanctuary roofing project and opportunities for the congregation to share in the cost of the new roof.

New Business: Annual Audit Report: Treasurer Marge Overacker, stated that she was aware that an audit of the church books had been completed but was wondering if a report needed to be submitted to the pastor or to the conference. Pastor Brandon said he had not received one. Alan Townsend said he would follow up with Roger Rix who did the 2019 audit.

Groton Stewardship Report April 2020

Average
Wkly Giving
\$2,538

Needed Wkly for
Church Mission
\$2,285

Average Weekly
Attendance Sunday
0

Total Building Fund
Donations
for Repairs
\$15

Groton Stewardship Report May 2020

Average
Wkly Giving
\$1,468

Needed Wkly for
Church Mission
\$2,285

Average Weekly
Attendance Sunday
0

Total Building Fund
Donations
for Repairs
\$15

Sweet & Savory Bacon Crackers

36 Club crackers

1 lb thin sliced bacon

3/4 cup parmesan cheese

3/4 cup brown sugar

Place crackers on wire rack over a rimmed baking sheet. Top 18 crackers with 1 Tbs Cheese and

the other 18 with 1 Tbs sugar.

Wrap each cracker with half piece of bacon folding ends under. Bake at 250 degrees for 2 hours.

NOTE: you may serve both on the same platter, or on separate platters so guests can choose

what they would like.

NOTE: When I did these they were done within 1 hr 15 min - 1 hr 30 min. Just keep an eye on them.

Valerie Baker

Groton Ad Council - May

Chairman Alan Townsend called the electronic Zoom meeting to order.

Treasurer's Report: Margorie Overacker reported that we are sitting really well financially, but have not yet paid any apportionments. She mentioned that our Northwestern Public Service bill is very low compared to previous months.

Financial Secretary: Although Allen Walter was not present it was noted that he had been looking into the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) to see if it was worth it to apply. Further discussion was tabled.

Pastor Parish: Brandon said that he and Brent Morehouse may schedule a meeting soon.

Trustees: Richard Krueger reported that a contract has been signed with Hub City Roofing to reroof the sanctuary in July for a cost of between \$15,050 and \$17,000. The higher cost would be if plywood would also need to be replaced. The work would be completed with rubber and would have a 15 yr. guarantee. The original roof was done in 1968. The church will solicit donations with a portion of the donations being matched by Richard Krueger. It was felt that a letter of explanation should be sent to the con-

gregation requesting donations. Lon Gellhaus stated that Dick Ruden's gift to our church would meet Dick's criteria for using some of his money if necessary toward the roofing project. Lon Gellhaus motioned that we repair the roof using Hub City Roofing and that we send out a letter explaining that gifts would be matched by Richard Krueger and if necessary it would be ok to dip into the Dick Ruden fund. The council approved the motion.

Additional trustee's discussion included a request that Richard Krueger check to see if the church grounds had been sprayed for weeds.

Administrative Report:

Pastor Brandon chaired a discussion on when to resume in-sanctuary church services. He reviewed the recent survey results and talked about other ways to begin meeting, including the possibility of a parking lot service. Brandon volunteered to put together a phased approach to opening for the council to consider.

The council approved a private Baptism to take place at our church.

Brandon also shared with the council that he is thinking of things we can do this summer like showing a

movie, especially since we have the FM transmitter. We have the speakers and an old projector but would need to pay approximately \$350 for the rights to show a movie.

Memorial Committee: Linda Thurston reported that she met with the Trustees, Kay Daly from the office, and the Harry Pharis family regarding their desire to donate money in memory of Harry Pharis for some electronic updates for our sanctuary. The approximate cost would be \$10,000. After some explanation & discussion the board unanimously approved purchasing a projector, TV for the back of the sanctuary, computer, & software with the Harry Pharis memorial money. Discussion of future electronic updates were a TV for the fellowship hall, a camera to record our services, and a possible remodel/rearranging of the choir loft & organ area are still being discussed. It was noted that people would like live-stream services to continue.

Thank Yous!!:

-) Thank you Pastor Brandon for purchasing the FM transmitter!
-) Thank you Richard Krueger for matching donations for re-roofing our sanctuary!

Jello Poke Cake

B White Cake Mix

B 1 3 oz Jell-O Raspberry,
Cherry, or Strawberry

B 1 cup boiling water

B 1 cup cold water

B 1 tub Cool Whip for topping

Prepare the cake mix as directed

on the box in a 9X13 pan. Let Cool.

Poke the cake with fork 1/2 inch intervals.

Prepare Jell-O as directed and spoon over cake until Jell-O liquid is gone.

Chill 3 or 4 hours and then top

with whipped cream.

Keep refrigerated.

Enjoy! I had not made this for years.

JoAnn Krueger

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July 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	31	

Our Church Happenings...

July 5 Worship Service will be on Facebook at 11 am as we partner with Aberdeen first. We will not be having any in-person worship this 4th of July weekend.

Jul 12 New Sermon Series Begins

Conde at 9 am in the sanctuary

Groton at 11 am in the parking lot

Jul 15 Groton Ad Council 7 pm

Jul 21 Tues 10 AM Bible Study starts a new study.

Aug 1 Groton UMW Reading Program sheets due to Yvonne Lange

VBS Details Coming Soon!!

United Methodist Church
 Groton – Conde Parish
 906 North First Street
 Groton, SD 57445-2192
 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

June/July 2020

Conde Worship 9:00 a.m.
 Groton Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
 Groton Worship 11:00 a.m.

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