



April 2021

906 N 1st St, Groton, SD 57445

...from Pastor Brandon

Hello Church Family,

*Lord how you loved me,
I don't deserve
Grace on top of Grace
More than I've asked for,
more than I'm worth
Grace on top of Grace*

*Hallelujah! I am free,
from my sin and penalty
At the cross
you took my place
With your Grace
on top of Grace*

This has become one of my favorite songs of worship over the years as I have seen church after church be swept up in the joy of that declaration. Our Savior has come with abundant grace.

As we have progressed through this Lenten season, I have found myself often reminded of Lent 2020. Unable to celebrate in the way we had expected, we all lamented our loss while we sat and watched Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday from home; the church dispersed; the building left closed.

Now 1 year later, as we walk our final steps to the cross this Easter, I pray that we find the faith to recognize the ways God



has blessed us over this last year... with strength, stamina, and maybe even most importantly... a renewed hunger for His presence. We are given an opportunity we should no longer take for granted... the ability to step to the cross together this Easter.

I don't think we've done anything to really deserve this opportunity being given, but God continues to break through in powerful ways with an affection that I cannot fully understand. Throughout history God has consistently interceded for the good of those He loves. And that's us. Can you believe it?! Thank you Jesus! It's the weak. It's the poor. It's the broken. It's the lonely. It's the mistake makers. It's the imper-

fect. It's the undeserving. The people who live down the street. It's the people who hold positions of power. It's the children who live in our community. It's every living human you have ever and will ever meet...

When I stop to think how good God has been to me, and then I remember His love for every other person I see... I'm overwhelmed by the grace of God. Aren't you? The grace that has given us a second chance. The grace that said, "I created you for a purpose that is still in the works. I have not given up on you and I will not give up on you. You are incomplete and I've come to make you full." THAT is grace on top of grace. THAT is a

love that does not stop. THAT... is our God. Have a truly beautiful Easter church. Hope to share in it with you!

Blessings,
Pastor Brandon Dunham



Pastor
In Office
Tuesday &
Thursday
Mornings

Friday
Day Off



Children's Ministry News

Here is the Groton Sunday School schedule for the rest of the year.

- Apr. 4 - No Sunday School (Easter)
- Apr. 11 - Sunday School
- Apr. 18 - Sunday School
- Apr. 25 - Sunday School
- May 2 - Last Day of Sunday School



Confirmation



Confirmation Sunday was March 14th. Those being confirmed were: Karsten Jeschke, Jaeger Kampa, Emily Overacker, Jaden Dobbins, and Levi Parrow.

Good Friday, April 2nd

As we did last year, we will be observing the last moments of Jesus before his betrayal and crucifixion through daily devotions throughout Holy week. Beginning on Monday the 29th at 7am and reaching it's end on Friday, we will be sharing the story as well as words of reflection on our Facebook page Facebook.com/grotonsdumc as well as through email. If you are receiving the messages each week through our mail ministry you will also receive these.

Easter Sunday, April 4th

All are invited to join as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord! Worship will still be at 9:00am in Conde and 11:00am in Groton. Because of an increase in expected attendance, we ask that you wear masks and remember our other social distance practices.



Church Information

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 906 N 1st St Groton, SD 57445

Closing Thoughts on Lenten Sermon Series

Hopefully we saw through the last 6 weeks that Jonah is not “just a kid’s story”, but a truly beautiful and prophetic writing of God’s relentless pursuit of Jonah (His prophet) and the world (through His prophet). I invite you to, if you haven’t read it on your own in a while, to read the short book of Jonah with fresh eyes. While you do so will you take note and ponder these three things:

1. Even though Jonah is running, God is still working. Whether it be through the sailors on the boat or the entire city of Nineveh, God is restoring what is broken with or without Jonah’s consent. How does this change the way you view what is happening in our world today?

2. Jonah has a picture in his mind of who God is and he’s disappointed because he wishes God’s values lined up more with his own. Are there beliefs that you have about God that may not be as true as you think, but you hold onto them because they make you feel comfortable? True spiritual growth comes through knowing the true God. Are you willing to let go, in order to receive what is real?

3. Ultimately this is a story of God’s love bursting forth in unlikely places. For Jonah he was shocked to see it brought to the Ninevites, but for us it’s amazing to see it consistently brought to Jonah. This selfish, nationalistic, whiny prophet... is the very person God

continues to work on, in, and through. God chose Jonah to be a vessel of love to all those who carry the image of God (that’s everyone). So how might you model this same calling that is placed on us? How might you extend the love of God into your context?

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord.

Jonah 3:1-3a



Upcoming Sermon Series



Robert MacKee wrote, “Stories are the best way to get ideas into the world.” It’s no coincidence that Jesus used stories to teach people about the kingdom of God, about the grace of God, and about the love of God. In the scriptures, these sometimes quite perplexing stories are called parables, and we invite you to join us as we explore just a few of the many Jesus had to tell.



Groton April Missions

What an amazing response to our March Mission! We loaded over 5 clothes hampers full of donations along with 7 big boxes of diapers at last count for Safe Harbor in Aberdeen. What a gift.

This month we are going to be offering another meal to the community through our parking lot drive-through on April 11th right after worship!

We will be serving fried chicken, mashed potatoes, and corn with a variety of desserts and water.

Part of what made our Fall Dinner so beautiful to be a part of was the number of people that came through the drive-through and took extra meals so they could deliver to friends who were unable to come themselves. This time around we are going to be helping that cause by making some deliveries of our own as well. So if you or someone you know is going to be unable to make it in on April 11th, and they live in the Groton area, please email Pastor at pastorbrandon@nvc.net with a name, address, and number of meals, and we'll make sure to get a warm lunch out!

GROTON UMC WILL BE HOSTING A DRIVE-THROUGH

SPRING MEAL

MENU

FRIED CHICKEN DINNER

FREE WILL OFFERING
(SUGGESTED DONATION \$7)

APRIL 11TH, 2021
12 PM TO 1 PM
906 N 1ST ST, GROTON, SD 57445

Groton United Methodist Church

Bible Quiz

We know the name of only one of the two disciples to whom the risen Jesus appeared on the road to Emmaus. Who was he?

- A. John
- B. Paul of Tarsus
- C. Joseph of Arimathea
- D. Cleopas

Answer: D (See Luke 24:18.)



Thank you to the Bert Raap family for the electrical upgrades and repairs in the fellowship hall and kitchen.

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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



took place on March 21st

WORSHIP JESUS NIGHT!





Welcome!

Back in October during COVID, Vee was welcomed into the family of Adrienne and Tigh Fliehs. She joins four brothers: Tigh, Rae, Bo, and Vic. Greetings may be sent to 12247 40th Ave, Claremont, SD 57432



Megan Novak, bride-to-be of Mitchell Madsen are planning a May wedding. A bridal shower took place on March 27th in Groton





Our Church Celebrations...

Groton

- Apr 3 Marc Johnson
Myndi & Scott Kampa
Nolan Rose
- Apr 4 Mitchell Madsen
Sue Stanley
- Apr 5 Desiree & Corey Foltz
- Apr 6 Elise Pharis
- Apr 7 Reilly Ell
Shelly Lerew
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

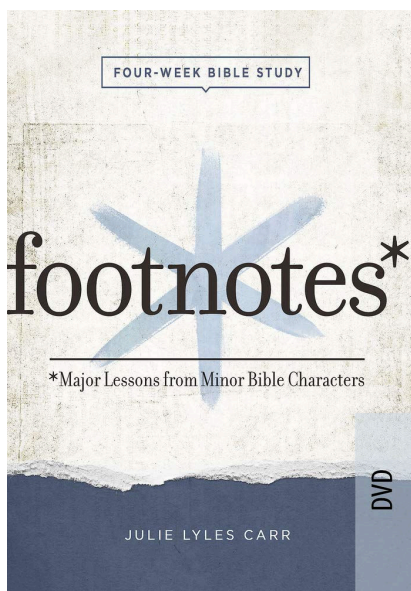
- Apr 16 Dale & Traci Kramer
Tom Tietz
Rodney Boehmer
- Apr 18 Merrie Atherton
Jenna Strom
Dylan Vogel
- Apr 19 Amanda Morehouse
- Apr 21 Val Baker
- Apr 23 Colton Morehouse
- Apr 24 Rae Fliehs
- Apr 28 Kevin Pharis
- Apr 30 Breslyn Jeschke

Conde

- Apr 11 Tim Geist
- Apr 18 Loren Siefken
- Apr 22 Curtis Haskell

Tuesday 10 AM Bible Study

April 6 we will be starting a new 4 week DVD study called "footnotes*" Major Lessons from Minor Bible Characters by Julie Lyles Carr.



The hidden surprise in these sweet rolls hints at the reason behind Easter's joy.

What you need:

- ½ cup chopped pecans
- 10 uncooked frozen rolls, thawed
- 10 large marshmallows
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- ½ cup melted butter
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Grease a round baking dish. Sprinkle pecans on the bottom.
2. Flatten each roll. Place a marshmallow in the center, wrap dough around it and pinch edges together.
3. Combine sugar and cinnamon. Dip each roll into melted butter and coat with cinnamon-sugar. Place in pan, seam side down.
4. Sprinkle brown sugar and remaining butter over rolls. Cover with plastic wrap and let rise 30 minutes.
5. Bake at 350 degrees until golden brown, about 30 minutes. Cool in pan.
6. As you bite into a roll, you'll see the marshmallow has melted, leaving an empty center – just like Jesus' empty tomb!

May 2021						
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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					

Groton Family Committee

Valerie Baker

Chris & Tyke Nyberg

Darlyne Daly, Ryder

Evan Erickson

Sydney & Trent Kurtz

JoAnn & Richard Krueger

Chuck Padfield

Joey & Sabrina Padfield

Randy & Rebecca Padfield

Betty Strom

Crystal Strom, Holden

Linsey & Tom Tietz, Lane

Joyce & Allen Walter

Jeanne Wanous

Honorary Members

- Jean Walter
- Darlys Kampa

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 or poster board in library
- Maintain the Altar Flower Arrangements

- Order and pickup Graduation Cakes for coffee hour
- Gifts are organized by UMYF Leaders
- Hospitality sets up gift table for Graduation Sunday
- Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons
- 5th Sunday may buy donuts and give bill to church treasurer



Native American Ministries Sunday - April 18

In the account of Jesus walking on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35), the disciples do not recognize Jesus until they invite him to stay with them and he sits and breaks bread. Similarly, in our churches, it is through sharing with one another that we experience Christ among us.

The Covid-19 crisis has an increased impact on those who live paycheck to paycheck and weren't able to stockpile basic needs. And in places like the Yankton Sioux Tribe on the White Swan Reservation in South Dakota, the nearest substantial grocery stores are 60-90 miles away. The community was still recovering from 2019

flooding when they were further compromised by the pandemic.

The Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference sent a grant to the tribe to purchase food and supplies and distribute them during the crisis.

Through our giving, we celebrate United Methodist Native American Ministries. As we share in community for this and other denominational giving opportunities, our offerings connect us in ways that recognize Christ among us.

Beyond times of crisis, the special offering supports Native American outreach within annual conferences and across the Unit-

ed States and provides seminary scholarships for Native Americans.

When you give generously on Native American Ministries Sunday, you equip seminary students who honor and celebrate Native American culture in their ministries. You empower congregations to find fresh and culturally appropriate ways to minister to their communities with Christ's love.





Our Church Happenings...

During Holy week, there will be Daily Devotions on Facebook at 7 am

April 4 Easter Sunday - Conde Worship 9 AM
- Groton Worship 11 am

April 6 Groton Tues 10 AM Bible Study starting new study

April 7 Groton Missions Committee Meeting 7 pm

April 14 Groton UM4F 7 pm

April 15 Groton UMW 1:30 pm

April 18 Native American Ministries Sunday

April 20 Conde Ad Council 5 pm

April 21 Groton Ad Council 7 pm

April 28 Groton UM4F 7 pm

April 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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	