



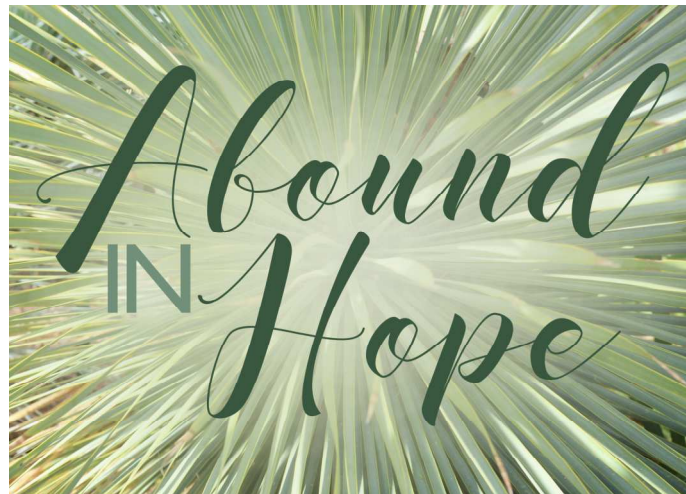
January 2022

906 N 1st St, Groton, SD 57445

...from Pastor Brandon

Hello Church Family,

Well, Happy New Year! Welcome to 2022! So far has it been all it was hyped up to be?! The arrival of a new year brings a great opportunity to renew our faith and love for God and Jesus. It's also a wonderful time to renew the joy of salvation that we should feel in our hearts.



Whether 2021 brought you success, fulfillment, and joy or whether you faced grief, setbacks, and struggle... as we saw in the Christmas story you can look forward to 2022 with hope. Jeremiah 29:11 tells us *"for I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

And so as we jump into a new year together, my prayer is that we move forward together towards that future God promises. And the best way to do anything as a group is to get us all on the same page.

What does it mean to be human? Have you ever tried to come up with an answer to that? Who are we? Why are we here? If this is going to be MY year, then what would that look like in relation to my deepest longings? What does it mean to be human? I would propose that the way we answer that question will define how we each live our lives, and how we move forward together this year.

To kickoff 2022, I want to dive deeper into this question and I want to propose to you that in the first few chapters in the book of Genesis, God actually answers it.

And over the first seven weeks, we're going to pull this thread even more and see that what it means to be human it's attached to all sorts of different things. From who we are, to what we were designed to do, to how we were created to work together. All sorts of things that really matter to every single life in this church and my hope is that our worship would in some way touch and give hope to the deep longings of your souls.

Blessings,
Pastor Brandon Dunham



OFFICE HOURS

Pastor
In Office
Tuesday &
Thursday
Mornings

Friday
Day Off





At the beginning of any project, you need to begin by evaluating where you are and what you have. Please join us as we begin the year pulling on the thread of what it means to BE human and how that impacts the way we were designed to DO as humans. Who are we? Let's find out.



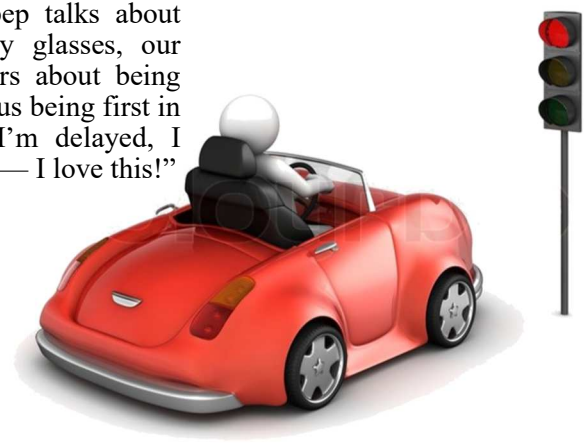
First in Line

We were rushing to our next destination when yet another traffic light turned red. As usual, I had packed too many tasks into the day. Now we'd be even later. While I stewed in frustration, my son had a completely different reaction to being stopped. "Yes — I love this!" he shouted as we sat. "We're first in line!"

What an important lesson on perspective. I focused on the negative, but he saw the good in the situation. As Proverbs 15:13 says, "A joyful heart brightens one's face, but a trou-

bled heart breaks the spirit" (CEB).

Now instead of pep talks about half-full or half-empty glasses, our family offers reminders about being stopped by a light versus being first in line. The next time I'm delayed, I hope I can think, "Yes — I love this!" —Janna Firestone



J.O.Y. Bible Study

Will start meeting on January 18th at 10 am with the entire video of Really Bad Girls of the Bible with Liz Curtis Higgs. Everyone is welcome to join us as we laugh together.

We will start a new study on Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible by Liz Curtis Higgs on January 25th at 10 am. I will be ordering books from eBay so if you plan to join us, please let Kay Daly know.



Church Information

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906 N 1st St Groton, SD 57445

Human Relations Day - Jan 16

On Human Relations Day, we participate with other UMC congregations in a special offering to support neighborhood ministries through Community Developers, community advocacy through United Methodist Voluntary Services and work with at-risk youth through the Youth Offender rehabilitation Program. Our gifts work together for the common good, building community and sharing God’s love. The

Human Relations Day offering supports programs like those started in New York City during the COVID-19 pandemic for churches to provide food to their neighbors.

We know how systemic inequality affects those most vulnerable. When neighbors experience poverty and live in communities that have limited access to resources, as a denomination,

our gifts on Human Relations Day work together to empower faith-based volunteer programs, community developers and programs that work with at-risk teens.

How to give: Write a check to your local church and write “human Relations Day offering” in the memo line. To give online or set up monthly giving, go to umc.org/ssgive

Do you just belong?

Are you an active member,
The kind that would be missed?
Or are you just contented
That your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings,
And mingle with the flock,
Or do you stay at home,
And criticize and knock?

Do you ever go to visit
A member that is sick,
Or leave the work to just a few
And talk about a clique?

There’s quite a program scheduled
That I’m sure you’ve heard about,
And we will all appreciate it
If you’ll come and help us out.

So come to the meetings often
And help with hand and heart;
Don’t be just a member,
Dig in, do your part.

Think it over brother,
You know right from wrong;
Are you an active member,
Or do you just belong?

Anonymous

Poem brought to the church office from a mother’s belongings from a long long time ago. Thank you.

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



Dough Holy Night was enjoyed by all!





DOUGH
Holy Night

A Sweet Celebration
of Our Dear Savior's Birth

Groton Sunday School Christmas Program



Our Church Celebrations...

Groton

- Jan 2 Holly Walter
- Jan 3 Caroline Graf
- Jan 5 Treyton Diegel
Jeremy & Samantha Weber
- Jan 6 Samantha Bahr
Zachary Townsend
- Jan 7 Karla & Russell Davidson
- Jan 9 JoAnn Krueger
- Jan 10 Anita Voss (75)
Melissa & Neil Gilbert
Neil Gilbert
- Jan 11 Huntley Overacker
Myndi Kampa
Randy Padfield
- Jan 13 Lance Hawkins
Monte McNickle
- Jan 14 Isabella Daly
Jay & Linda Johnson
- Jan 15 Alissa Wells
- Jan 16 Hunter Bahr
Marjorie Overacker
Ryder Johnson

- Jan 18 Cheryl Graf
- Jan 19 Tim Graf
- Jan 21 Taryn Thompson
- Jan 23 Jed Morehouse
- Jan 26 Trinity Smith
- Jan 27 Kristie Hawkins
- Jan 28 Ruby Luce

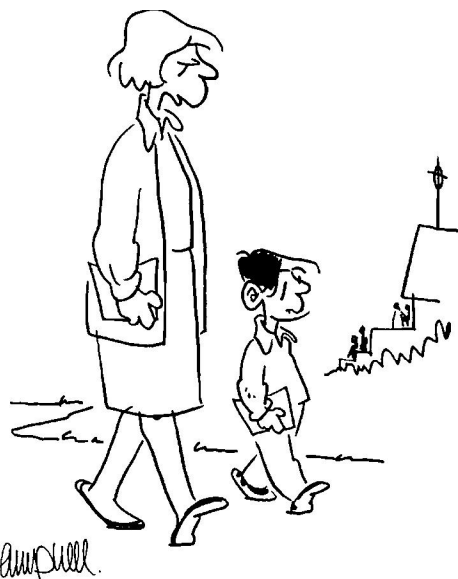
Conde

- Jan 3 Bruce Hermon
- Jan 10 Donna Hearnen
- Jan 11 Norman Smith
- Jan 31 Kevin Hanlon



Winter wonder

If you're tired of shoveling snow by now, just be glad you didn't live in what's now Keogh, Montana, in January 1887. Two years before that area became a U.S. state, personnel at an army fort saw a Frisbee-sized flake falling from the winter sky. Scientists say the flake, estimated at 15 inches wide, likely was the result of numerous smaller flakes merging before landing on the ground. That massive dose of winter still holds the title of largest snowflake, according to Guinness World Records.



Campbell
 "Next time Pastor Bob asks if you know what the sermon was about, the answer is not 'about three hours.'"



Groton Feb Family Committee

Adrienne & Tigh Fliehs

Kami & Tom Lipp

Brian & Elizabeth Bahr

Dion & Sam Bahr, Ashtyn

Steve & Becky Diegel

Lucy & Andy Daly

John & Meri Erickson

Jane & Marc Johnson

Scott & Myndi Kampa,
Tristan, Jaeger

Julie & Jesse Morehouse

Karen & Ian Rose

Marjae & Dan Schinkel, Emma

Randy & Sue Stanley

Nick & Jenna Strom

William Zoellner

Honorary Members

- Ida Hannon

February 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
- Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons
- Shovel snow from doorways before Church
- Serve at Avantara Nursing Center - 4th Sunday
- Potluck 2nd Sunday - give church secretary details for bulletin.



Groton Stewardship Report Nov 2021

Average Wkly Giving \$2,073

Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,285

Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 57

Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs \$5

February 2022						
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					



Lighting the way for others

When Ida Nelson, head tribal clerk of a remote Alaskan village, heard an airplane flying low after dark, she knew something was wrong. Igiugig (Iggy-yaw-gigg), population 70, isn't normally a nighttime destination. Indeed, the medevac flight was coming to pick up a sick child.

Because the local airstrip's lights had been vandalized, the plane was having trouble landing. Nelson began alerting neighbors, and within minutes, villagers

lined the runway with their vehicles, headlights blazing. The pilot was able to land and then safely deliver the sick child to an Anchorage hospital. The airlift service praised the residents' determination, but Nelson describes their effort as "normal" and "ordinary."

What everyday actions can you use to provide light amid darkness? How can you shine Jesus' light in a world that needs him?



January 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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...

- Jan 11 Groton Missions Meeting 7 pm
- Jan 12 Groton UM4F 7 pm
- Jan 16 Human Relations Sunday
- Jan 18 Groton 10 am Bible Study Movie for all to join! 1 Hour Long
- Jan 18 Conde Ad Council 6 pm
- Jan 19 Groton Ad Council 7 pm
- Jan 21 Newsletter Items due for February News
- Jan 23 Groton Hospitality Committee Meeting following worship at noon
- Jan 25 Groton 10 am Bible Study starting new study
- Jan 26 Groton UM4F 7 pm