

SEPTEMBER



Hello fall



Groton & Conde UMC

Newsletter

September 2024

906 N 1st St, Groton, SD 57445

...from Pastor Rob

Proverbs 3:5-6. *Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.*

I have an issue so I thought I would bring it here and get us all thinking about it and perhaps while I'm typing this I can come to some clarity with you.

Recently, one of my nephews recommended I start listening to Apple Music. It is a subscription service in which you can choose from a wide variety of music to play. He said, "Uncle Robert you can even listen to Christian music," knowing how much I enjoy some of the Christian music of the 1980's. I followed his suggestion downloading Apple Music on my phone and choosing the "Christian Music" section. And now I have an issue.

The issue is not with the music generally. I knew it would sound different from the 1980's and there are some selections I enjoyed. The issue is one particular song, "Take It All Back" by Tauren Wells. Here is the first verse and the chorus:

*Fear's got me living with the lights out
Chained down like a prisoner in my own house
Shame cycles like a daily medication
I try, but I can't change my situation
'Cause the liar comes to rob my joy
Yeah, I'm bruised, but I'm not destroyed
I'm rising like an army, and you're gonna hear the sound
I'm calling the angels down
I'm storming the gates of hell
Tell the devil he don't own my soul*



*I'm taking back what the enemy stole
I'm raising the battle cry
I'm holding the banner high
With the power of the Holy Ghost
I'm taking back what the enemy stole,
oh-oh-oh*

At first glance (and first hearing) the words don't seem so bad. Talking about overcoming the situation depending on the Holy Spirit is not a bad thing. But have you ever had a song repeat inside your head for a day? You might even find yourself humming the tune to yourself. As I found myself doing that with this song, I started asking myself, "Should I be humming along with it? Is this (storming the gates of hell and taking back what the enemy stole) something I should aspire too?"

I think I've come to two conclusions: First, the enemy is real and can steal many things from

us. Have you ever had someone say or do something which made you depressed, doubtful about who you are, or downright sad? It could even be a cloudy rainy day robbing us of joy, of our confidence in being a child of God. There are many things the enemy can "steal" from us. Joy is just one of them.

Second, while the author refers to the "power of the Holy Ghost" I'm going to go a step further and say it is Jesus and the Holy Ghost "storming the gates of Hell" on my behalf. One of the things I noticed almost immediately in the lyrics was the use of "I'm" doing this or doing that. In my case I always want Jesus to be out front, leading the charge.

Acts 3 has the story of Peter and John healing a lame man. When they are confronted by

curious people in how they healed him, Peter says, "it is through the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob giving glory to His Son, Jesus, that this man is healed. It is nothing we did. (v. 13).

It is nothing I do. It's all about Jesus. I think I just resolved my issue. I'm going to go back to the 1980's (haha).

See you in church!



OFFICE HOURS



Pastor Rob
In Office
Tuesday &
Wednesday
Mornings

Monday
Day Off

Groton

Sunday School Kick-off will be
September 15 at 9:30 a.m.
with a carnival for the kids.
See you there!



All-Church Potluck

Groton Missions Committee will be hosting a potluck picnic on Sept 15th welcoming everyone back to church and kick-off Sunday school. Missions will be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs and ask the church family for help with sides, salads, and desserts. Thank you for all your help making this day special.

3rd Graders Receiving Bibles

September 15th during worship

Calli Wilkinson, Bo Flihs, Nolan Rose,
Ava Strom, and Bentley Johnson



Church Information

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Facebook: [facebook.com/grotonsdumc/](https://www.facebook.com/grotonsdumc/)
906 N 1st St Groton, SD 57445

Groton VBS Thank You

Our VBS at Outback Rock was a great success! We had 25 kids in attendance. The kids learned that *God Is Always with Us – Believe It!* A special thank you to those who helped with VBS: Pastor Rob, Meri Erickson, Megan Erickson, Sydney Kurtz, Carna Pray, Jolene Townsend, Mendy Jones, Melissa Gilbert, Marjae Schinkel, Emerlee Jones, Chesney Weber, Brooklyn Spanier, Riley Rose, and Brooklyn Gilbert. We would also like to thank all of you who donated to VBS to make it a success! The kids had a great time and it is all very appreciated.

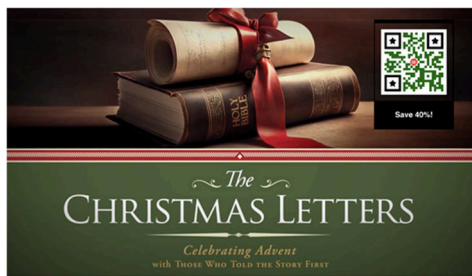






Bishop Advent Study

Bishop Lanette Plambeck will lead a virtual Advent study, *The Christmas Letters*, on Tuesday evenings, November 26 through December 17. Author Magrey deVega invites you to hear about the miracle of Christ's birth from those who first told the story. [Order your book from Cokesbury by August 31 to save 40%.](#)



DakYouth | Oct. 11-13

Join [The Skit Guys](#), [Winona Avenue](#), and [Matt Rawle](#), along with middle and high school youth in Aberdeen, South Dakota for DakYouth 2024. This year's theme is "Crossroads" with a scripture focus on Joshua 24:15. [Register by Sept. 19 to get a t-shirt and discount on lodging.](#) If interested please contact Kay Daly 605-397-8389

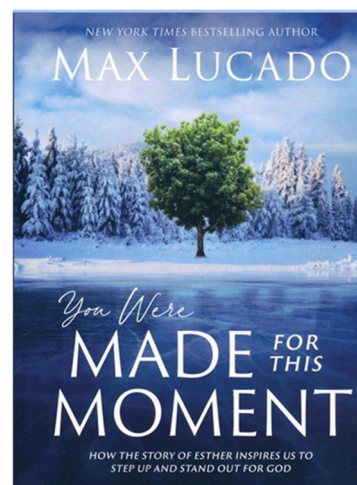


Fall Bible Study - Tuesday 10 AM

Our new study begins
Sept 17th

Are you facing an uncertain future filled with fear, doubt, and hard choices during an impossible season in life? In

the *You Were Made for This Moment* video Bible study, Max Lucado explores the story of Esther in 5 sessions and encourages you reclaim your identity and discover the path God has marked for you. **Session 6 will be the movie on Esther.**





Young at heart

I like to walk with Grandpa and Grandma,
 Their steps are short like mine.
 They don't say, "Now hurry up."
 They always take their time.

I like to walk with Grandpa and Grandma,
 Their eyes see things like mine do ...
 Wee pebbles bright, a funny cloud,
 Half-hidden drops of dew.

Most people have to hurry,
 They do not stop and see.
 I'm glad that God made Grandpa and Grandma
 Unrushed and young like me

The gift of work

Missionary and author Elisabeth Elliot considered work a gift and a blessing. Ponder the following quotes of hers as you celebrate Labor Day. How do they mesh with your own views of work?

"This job has been given to me to do. Therefore, it is a gift. Therefore, it is a privilege. Therefore, it is an offering I may make to God. Therefore, it is to be done gladly, if it is done for him. Here, not somewhere else, I may learn God's way. In this job, not in some other, God looks for faithfulness."

"Work is a blessing. God has so arranged the world that work is necessary, and he gives us hands and strength to do it. The enjoyment of leisure would be nothing if we had only leisure. It is the joy of work well done that enables us to enjoy rest, just as it is the experiences of hunger and thirst that make food and drink such pleasures."



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Our church directory is a great resource tool to get to know our church family better!

Simply go to the App Store, search for **Instant Church Directory** and download the FREE app to begin.

You will use your email address listed in the directory to **CREATE A LOGIN** the first time you use the directory app.

If you're not listed in the directory, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.

Available on the App Store

GET IT ON Google play

Heavenly Father,

In this season of change, we are comforted and guided by Your unchanging love and care. Lead us through these shifting days, filling our hearts with peace and our minds with Your wisdom. Help us to trust in Your eternal constancy as we navigate the beautiful yet fleeting seasons of this life.

In Your loving name, we pray, *Amen.*



Groton Family Committee - October

Kami & Tom Lipp

Lindsey & Tom Tietz, McKenna

Valerie Baker

Steve Diegel

Myndi & Scott Kampa, Jaeger

Sydney & Trent Kurtz

Peggy & Harlan Place

Pam & Roger Rix

Joyce & Allen Walter

Honorary Members

- Gloria Pharis
- Pat Dahlquist
- Louise Thoreson

October 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 this book.
- Maintain the Altar Flower Arrangements
- Potluck 2nd Sunday - give church secretary details for bulletin
- Serve at Avantara Nursing Center – 4th Sunday
- Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons
- **Check and make sure the Christmas Eve candles are okay for the service early in the month in case we have to order new ones.**
- **Check and make sure the Advent Wreath Candles are okay in case they need to be ordered as well.**



October 2024						
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		

The extraordinary amid the ordinary

A violinist once performed in the New York City subway, entertaining passersby for 45 minutes. A few tossed him cash, totaling about \$30 by the time he concluded.

Little did anyone know, Joshua Bell was one of the world's best violinists. That day, he played one of the most complex musical pieces ever written on an instrument worth \$3.5 million. Indeed, a few days earlier Bell had performed a sold-out concert in Boston, where tickets averaged \$100.

Sometimes God does extraordinary things right in the middle of our ordinary lives, yet we don't notice. You're offered an opportunity you almost pass up, thinking it's not worth your time or effort. But upon taking part, you find it leads to your life's calling. Or someone crosses your path, but overlooking their worth, you brush them aside, missing out on a blessing God had for you through them. And what about you? Do you undervalue yourself as "nothing special," just an "ordinary"

person? Look closer; think again. For an ordinary baby born long ago to an ordinary couple in an ordinary stable in an ordinary town was none other than ... God's Son! And you? Why, you are also an extraordinary child of God!



Our Church Celebrations...

Groton

- Sep 6 Justin Olson
Laurie & AM Mitchell
Perryn Dobbins
- Sep 7 Alana White
- Sep 8 Laurel & Monte McNickle
- Sep 9 Clint & Audrey Jacobson
- Sep 10 Bryce Hanson
- Sep 11 Audrey Jacobson
- Sep 12 Cliff Pray
Ryder Daly
- Sep 13 Karsten Hinman
Richard Krueger
- Sep 14 Rick & Sarah Hofer
- Sep 15 Karen Rose
Mason Madsen
- Sep 17 Jackson Strom
Kyler Ell
- Sep 19 Diann Morehouse
Jace Hofer
- Sep 20 Michael & Monica McCranie
- Sep 22 Madison McNickle
- Sep 24 Jesse Overacker
- Sep 25 Joey Padfield
Sabrina Padfield
- Sep 26 Alejandra Heitmann

Conde

- Sep 7 Richard Worlie
- Sep 13 Shane Bruckner
- Sep 29 Bud & Julie Bruckner



Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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



a Brainy breakfast

Add a smart start to your school day with

SUPERFOODS

that promote a healthy body and mind.

What you need:

- Large bowl
- 1 medium avocado
- 3 hard-boiled eggs
- Salt
- Whole wheat toast
- Pumpkin seeds, chopped
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Mash the avocado in the bowl.
2. Chop the eggs into cubes and add to the bowl.
3. Add salt to taste. Mix well.
4. Spread over two pieces of toast. Top with chopped pumpkin seeds.
5. Adjust this recipe with your favorite flavors. Add herbs, “everything bagel” seasoning or hot sauce.
6. Refrigerate leftovers in an airtight container.

Groton Ad Council - July

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, AM Mitchell. Those in attendance were, Pastor Moorlach, AM Mitchell, Carna Atherton-Pray, Jolene Townsend, Tyke Nyberg, and Jeanne Wanous. Pastor Rob shared a prayer prior to the discussion of business.

The agenda was approved on a motion by Carna Atherton-Pray.

The previous meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Carna Atherton-Pray.

Correspondence:

Jeanne Wanous shared a Thank You note from Lane Tietz for his graduation gift from the church.

Jeanne Wanous shared that we received a monetary gift from the Gary Ruckdaschel family in appreciation of our help with Gary's celebration of life.

Committee Reports

Membership—Anita Lowary: no report

Memorial—Linda Thurston: no report

Missions--Val Baker: Val was not present but communicated via email that the Missions committee will be collecting hygiene items and some clothing for the high school students closet.

Caring Team—Jolene Townsend: Jolene shared that the team has been sending out cards (sympathy, etc.) as needed.

Trustees: Tyke Nyberg stated that the boiler work for leaks still needs to be done and has contacted Heartland Heating to remind them.

Treasurer's Report:

Church Treasurer-Jeanne Wanous: YTD through June, we have spent 45% of our budgeted expenses for the year.

Financial Secretary-Allen Walter: no report

Pastor Parish-Meri Erickson: Meri was not present, but she shared that in June she paid a total of \$442.40 for materials & work on the parsonage sump pump. And in July, she paid a total of \$328.08 for work & materials on the parsonage furnace.

Bills to be Presented: none

Administrative Report:

Pastor Rob: There will be an upcoming funeral in Conde followed by a family get together in our fellowship hall after burial in the cemetery. Vacation Bible School will be on August 6-7.

Old Business:

IRS Certified Letter Update—Anita Lowary: no update

Cleaning of Hanging Alter Flame: This was cleaned, and a new bulb has been ordered.

Hanging Orb Pulley: A pulley system was installed by Allen Walter and we thank him!

Fresh Expressions Ministry (card playing group)—Carna Atherton-Pray: Carna explained again what her vision is. She explained that it is aimed at high school students and adults who want to learn to play cards. She plans to advertise and is thinking of having this on Wednesdays when there is no Youth Group. There would be a light meal served followed by a Jesus story and then the teaching and learning of various card games.

Christmas Manger Figures & Manger Updates:

AM Mitchell said that the manger is currently stored at the Morehouse's. It was agreed that we should bring the manger to the

church site now and discuss ways to store it on site. Carna will see if she and her husband can help make this happen, along with others. Council members looked at the figures after the last meeting and the council felt that we should take each one out now and determine if they need touch-ups done.

New Business:

August Council Meeting: On a motion by Carna Atherton-Pray, members agreed unanimously to cancel the August meeting due to the Brown County Fair.

Kitchen Remodel: It was reported that the committee is still working on design & options.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48pm.

Secretary, Jeanne Wanous














Groton Stewardship Report July 2024

Average Wkly Giving	\$1,044
Needed Wkly for Church Mission	\$2,393
Average Weekly Attendance Sunday	28
Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs	\$205



September 2024

Groton UMC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>15th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 8:30am Conde Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Groton Worship</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>Labor Day</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown 4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>
<p>8</p>  <p>16th Sunday after Pentecost (green) Communion in Worship (white) Grandparents Day 8:30am Conde Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Groton Worship</p>	<p>9</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center 7:00pm PEO Mtg (outside group)</p>	<p>10</p>  <p>10:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Caring Team Meeting 3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown 4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>11</p>  <p>Patriot Day 9:30am Community Coffee Hour</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>13</p>  <p>Taylor Holm & Paxton Bonn Wedding</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>
<p>15</p>  <p>17th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 8:30am Conde Worship 9:00am Sunday School Kick-Off Event 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am 3rd Graders receive Bibles 10:30am Groton Worship 11:30am Picnic Potluck</p>	<p>16</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>17</p>  <p>10:00am Bible Study (Max Lucado - Esther) 3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown 4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour 7:00pm Groton Ad Council</p>	<p>19</p>  <p>DakYouth registration deadline Newsletter Items Due 10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>
<p>22</p>  <p>18th Sunday after Pentecost (green) First Day of Autumn 8:30am Conde Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Groton Worship</p>	<p>23</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown 4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>25</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>
<p>29</p> <p>19th Sunday after Pentecost (green) 8:30am Conde Worship 9:30am Coffee Hour 10:30am Groton Worship</p>	<p>30</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>1</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown 4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>

September 2024						
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					

Our Church Happenings...

Sept 10 Caring Team Meeting 1 pm

Sept 15 Sunday School Kick-Off 9:30 am Carnival

3rd Graders receiving Bibles during worship

Potluck after 10:30 am worship at Groton UMC

Sept 17 Groton 10 AM Bible Study beginning a new fall study

Sept 18 Groton Ad Council 7 pm

