



January/February 2025

906 N 1st St, Groton, SD 57445

...from Pastor Rob

"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life" (1 John 1:1).

How are you living? I've been noticing something in our prayer times at Conde and Groton during Sunday morning worship. When I ask for prayer requests, if we hear anything, it is usually requests concerning someone who is sick, a family member who has died, or someone in an accident. On some Sundays, we hear about someone celebrating an anniversary or a birthday.

In my devotions recently, I've been following devotions based on the Book of Exodus. I'm thinking about preaching on this this Summer. There has been some really good stuff in this study. One of the key elements in the study is the fact after the Hebrews left Egypt they were in the wilderness for over 40 years before they arrived in the Promised Land. Based on this fact, the author of the study poses the question, "What if



the wilderness isn't a punishment for disobedience but a lesson into how to live as a child of God?" In other words, what if the occasional illnesses, deaths, even birthdays and anniversaries are "not so special or unique" but just facts of our daily lives we learn to "live through." Thus the question, "How are you living?"

I used to have a church member who I had to visit with after a few Sundays in a church I served many years ago. In that church, when I asked for prayer requests, this person would raise her hand and say, "Pastor Rob, I want to thank God for the weather." After her 3rd or 4th Sunday saying this, I thought I should say some-

thing to her. We had a nice visit and she understood my concern about "common, repeated requests."

But now that I've been thinking about it, isn't thanking God for the weather (or complaining to God about it for that matter) as important as a birthday, anniversary, death or accident? We say we believe God cares about all of us. Living in South Dakota, the weather is an important part of our lives.

The Apostle John makes this point in his letter. The authors of scripture wanted to tell us everything about Jesus. He really does care about all of our lives. So, how are you living?

New Year Service Times 2025

Conde UMC
8:15

Groton UMC
9:30

Sunday school at 9:30
coffee hour at 10:30

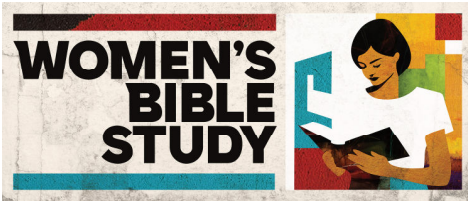
Britton UMC
11:15

coffee hour will be before church



Pastor Rob
In Office
Tuesday &
Thursday
Evenings
6-8 pm

Monday
Day Off



January 21st - **Tuesday 10 am Bible Study** resumes with a movie. "Miracle of Christmas" from the Sights and Sounds Theatre in Branson, MO

Watch for further announcements as to what our new study will be following the video.



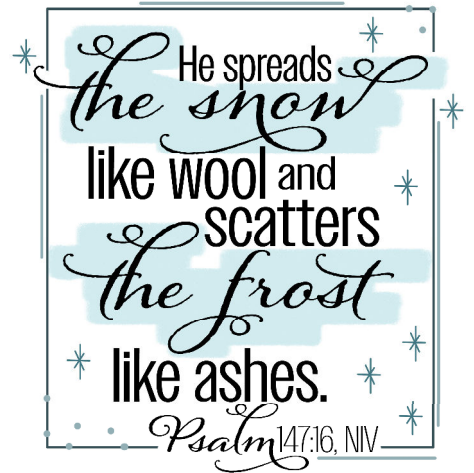
To My CHURCH FAMILY
Thank you! Thank you!
for the many CARDS,
prayers, & BIRTHDAY blessings
I received for my 90th
BIRTHDAY. I Am BLESSED
To have lived a wonderful
life with so many wonderful
friends.

Love
DARLYS

We are honoring our
mom by giving her
church our blessings
Please accept these
birthday gifts in her
honor to be used as
needed.

Love

Rita Kampa
Cheryl Kampa
Darwin Kampa
Derwin & Amy Kampa
Michael Kampa
Darlyne Daly
Tyler Kampa grandson



Thank You - Christmas 2024

What a surprise to receive a lovey gift from a "Secret Santa" which proves there is still love and kindness in our world today. And I have been the recipient of it. "It is more blessed to give than to receive," still holds true today. So whoever you are. God Bless you. Prayerfully, Pat Dahlquist



Church Information

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

Blessings Shower & Baptism

Welcome Jett William Kurtz with a **Blessings Shower** hosted by the Caring Team on January 12th as he is baptized into our family. Jett was born Dec 10th to Trent & Sydney Kurtz and joins siblings, Calli & Nash; and many more family members.



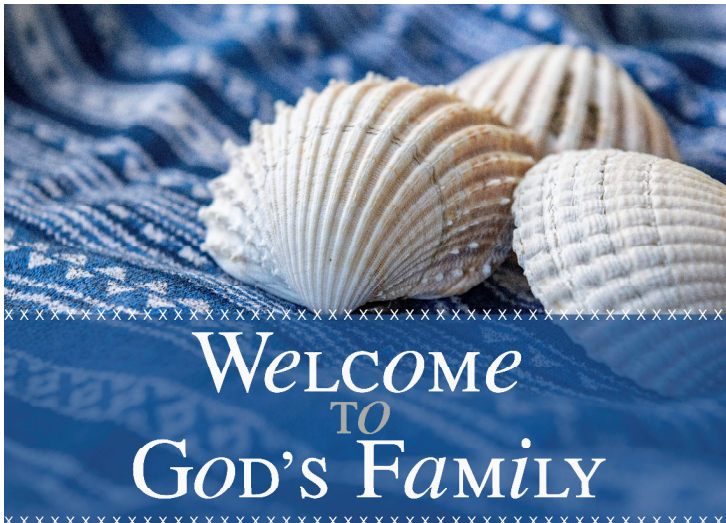
The Blessings Shower during coffee hour is a chance for you to bless Jett as he is welcomed into our church family with good wishes, a card, or small gifts. He is a new blessing to our church family.

God's provision while we wait

A November 2023 landslide trapped 41 construction workers in a tunnel they'd been excavating for a Himalayan highway project. For 17 days, they were stranded nearly 3 miles from freedom. When rescuers' drilling equipment broke, miners drilled through the last 2 meters of rock and gravel by hand. Finally, all the workers were pulled to safety through a 3-foot-wide steel pipe. Because they had received food, water, medicines, oxygen and even light through a narrow pipe

while underground, all were in good health.

We are trapped in sin and brokenness: our sin and that of others, fragmented relationships and systems, nearby and across the globe. Christianity teaches that God's way of goodness will win in the end. But before full rescue comes, what keeps us alive and hopeful — even healthy?



a lovely aroma

Make this sweet-smelling gift for a friend or valentine.

What you need:

- Colored felt
- Scrap paper
- Permanent marker
- Scissors
- String
- Essential oils (rose, lavender, etc.)

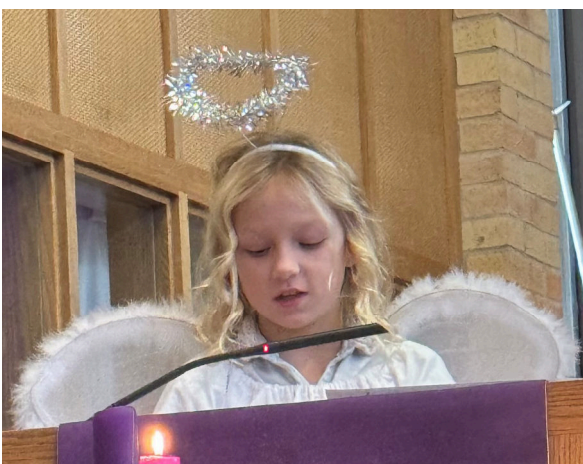
What you do:

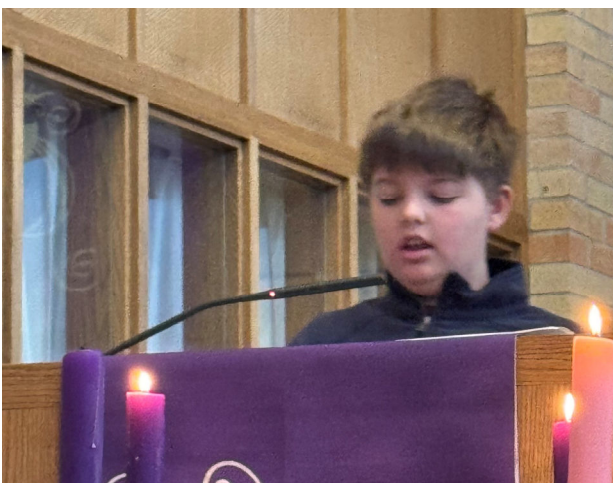
1. Draw a flower shape on paper and cut it out.
2. Place the flower template on felt and draw around it with the marker.
3. Cut out the felt flower. Then cut a small slit or hole through it.
4. Cut 8 inches of string. Thread it through the felt flower and tie to form a loop for hanging.
5. To the felt, add 3 to 5 drops of essential oil. This air freshener will last about 2 weeks.
6. Revive the scent, as needed, by adding a few drops of essential oil.

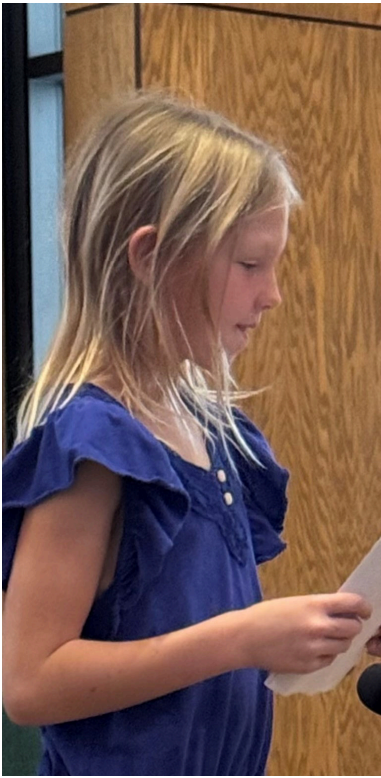


2024 Christmas Pageant

- JAN. 19 – SS 9:30
- JAN. 26 – SS 9:30
- FEB. 2 – SS 9:30
- FEB. 9 – SS 9:30
- FEB. 16 – NO SS (Pres. Day Weekend)
- FEB. 23 – SS 9:30
- MAR. 2 – 9:30 (Sing in church)
- MAR. 9 – SS 9:30
- MAR. 16 – SS 9:30
- MAR. 23 – NO SS (Spring Break)
- MAR. 30 – SS 9:30
- APRIL 6 – SS 9:30
- APRIL 13 – 9:30 (Sing in church-Palm Sunday)
- APRIL 20 – NO SS (Easter)
- APRIL 27 – SS 9:30
- MAY 4 – SS 9:30
- MAY 11 – 9:30 (Sing in church-Mother’s Day)








YOUTH GROUP NEWS



O Lord, let my
New Year's resolution
be to 
follow you
more closely
and to
trust in your
loving guidance.



Groton Family Committee - February & March

February 2025 Chairpersons

Laurie and AM Mitchell
Yvonne Lange

- Brian Bahr
- Val Baker
- Angela and Perryn Dobbins
- Kristin Dolan
- Adrienne and Tigh Flihs
- Cheryl Hanson
- Sarah and Rick Hofer
- Linda and Jay Johnson
- Yvonne Lange
- Shelly Lerew
- Kami and Tom Lipp
- Laurie and AM Mitchell
- Chuck Padfield
- Joey and Sabrina Padfield
- Karla Pasteur
- Peggy and Harlan Place
- Sue and Randy Stanley
- Crystal Strom
- Todd Thurston

Honorary Members

Marie McClintic & Larry Schnaidt
Ida Hannon
Gloria Pharis
Jim & Judy Zeck

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
- Maintain the Altar Flower Arrange-

ments

- Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons
- Shovel snow from doorways before Church
- Potluck 2nd Sunday - give church secretary details for bulletin

March 2025 Chairpersons

Jolene Townsend
Andrea and Scott Eisenbiesz

- Tyson Daly
- Erin and Damian Bahr
- Sam and Dion Bahr
- Steve Diegel
- Andrea and Scott Eisenbeisz
- Evan Erickson
- Meri and John Erickson
- Marva and Lon Gellhaus
- Melissa and Neil Gilbert
- Marc Johnson
- Myndy and Scott Kampa
- Traci and Dale Kramer
- Monica and Mike McCranie
- Matthew & Morgan McCranie
- Mitchell McCranie
- KayLynn Overacker
- Pam and Roger Rix
- Lindsey and Tom Tietz
- Jolene Townsend

Honorary Members

Pat Dahlquist
Darlys Kampa
Doris Strom
Rose Tewksbury

March 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)
- Potluck 2nd Sunday - give church secretary details for bulletin
- 2 Ushers for each Sunday
- Straighten the Sanctuary Pews
- Change the banners as needed
- Maintain the Altar Flower Arrangements
- Shovel snow from doorways before Church
- Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons
- 5th Sunday may buy donuts and give bill to church treasurer

February 2025

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March 2025

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



Our Church Celebrations...

Groton

- Jan 2 Holly Walter
- Jan 3 Caroline Graf
- Jan 5 Treyton Diegel
Jeremy & Sam Weber
- Jan 6 Sam Bahr
Zachary Townsend
- Jan 10 Neil Gilbert
Melissa & Neil Gilbert
- Jan 11 Myndi Kampa
Randy Padfield
Huntley Overacker
- Jan 13 Monte McNickle
- Jan 14 Isabella Daly
Jay & Linda Johnson
- Jan 16 Laurie Mitchell
Hunter Bahr
Ryder Johnson
- Jan 18 Cheryl Graf
- Jan 19 Tim Graf
- Jan 21 Taryn Thompson
- Jan 23 Jed Morehouse
- Jan 24 Doris & Ron Anderson
- Jan 28 Ruby Luce
- Jan 30 Major Dolan
- Jan 31 Daniel Townsend

- Feb 4 KayLynn Overacker
Tim Olson
- Feb 5 Scott Eisenbeisz
Todd Thurston
- Feb 7 Gary Voss
- Feb 8 Gage Sippel
- Feb 10 Brenda Madsen
Dion Bahr
June Thompson
Nori Hinman
Andrea & Scott Eisenbeisz
- Feb 12 Skyler Kramer
Yvonne Lorenz
- Feb 13 Monica McCranie
- Feb 14 Diane Nissen
- Feb 16 Pernell Graf
- Feb 19 Gaylene Voss
- Feb 20 Jim & Judy Zeck
- Feb 22 Anthony Schinkel
- Feb 25 Brent Morehouse
Greg Heitmann
Luke Johnson

Conde

- Jan 3 Bruce Herman
- Jan 10 Donna Hearnen
- Jan 11 Norman Smith
- Jan 31 Kevin Hanlon
- Feb 4 Donna Walter
- Feb 5 Richard Sanderson
- Feb 9 Vicki Stark
- Feb 15 Tim & Betty Geist
- Feb 19 Tyler Stark
- Feb 22 Horace Walter (85)

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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



**Love is patient,
Love is kind.**

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4

**Groton
Stewardship
Report Nov 2024**

Average
Wkly Giving
\$2,943

Needed Wkly for
Church Mission
\$2,393

Average Weekly
Attendance Sunday
57

Total Building Fund
Donations
for Repairs
\$205

Groton December Ad Council

Vice Chairman Lon Gellhaus called the meeting to order. Those in attendance were Pastor Rob, Jolene Townsend, Anita Lowary, Jeanne Wanous, Tyke Nyberg, Linda Thurston, Meri Erickson, Val Baker, Carna Atherton-Pray, and Kay Brandt. Pastor Rob shared a prayer prior to conducting business.

The agenda & previous meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Anita Lowary.

Correspondence: A Christmas card was received from Peggy & Harlan including photos of some of the places they've visited while on an extended vacation.

Committee Reports

Membership—Anita Lowary: One person has indicated their desire to be removed from membership.

Memorial—Linda Thurston: Linda shared that some design work on kitchen cabinets has been requested.

Current Memorial Funds are:

Undesignated: \$ 7,948.83

Designated: \$ 16,033.78

Total: \$ 23,982.61

Missions--Val Baker:

- All Spirit Lake items collected from our church have been delivered.
- The Pantry Food collection has been delivered to the Groton Pantry. In addition, a check for cash collected will be delivered directly to the Pantry.

Caring Team—Jolene Townsend:

The group continues to send cards to those persons they are made aware of who could use an uplifting message.

Pastor/Parish Relations:

- Carna Atherton-Pray shared a summary of the first Groton/Conde/Britton SPRC (Staff Parish Relations Committee) organizational meeting held on Dec. 10 in Groton. Our District Superintendent, Kris Mutzenberger, chaired the meeting. Specific

members from all three churches were in attendance. Specific items discussed and agreed to are:

The new Groton/Conde/Britton organization will begin on Jan. 1, 2025.

Church Service Times will be:

Conde: 8:15 am

Groton: 9:30 am – with Sunday school also at 9:30 am & coffee hour after church

Britton: 11:15 am

% Parish Financial Splits will be:

(these are determined by each church's membership total reported at the 2024 Charge Conference in Oct. 2024.

Groton membership =184 = 71%

Conde membership = 27 = 10%

Britton membership = 48 = 19%

Trustees: Tyke Nyberg:

- Snow Removal: Initial snow removal of sidewalks was done by Weber Landscaping. Since then, Evan Erickson has volunteered to do complete snow removal as a donation to Groton UMC. Tyke reviewed this with Weber Landscaping, and they ok'd the change.
- Our church insurance company, MGT, contacted Tyke and offered to send free smoke detectors and water leak detectors to the church to evaluate. If we feel they would be helpful, there is no charge.

Treasurer's Report:

Church Treasurer-Jeanne Wanous: No Report

Financial Secretary-Allen Walter: No Report

Pastor Parish-Meri Erickson: No Report

Bills to be Presented: none

Administrative Report:

Pastor Rob stated that he has signed us up for Worship Lyric Videos to enhance our worship services both in house and on-line.

Old Business:

- **New Printer Copier:** The board revisited a motion that passed in the November meeting that would have allowed us to proceed with a lease for a new copier machine. Since that meeting it came to the attention of the board that:
- This is not a board decision, rather it is a Pastor Parish Relations committee decision.
- The current printer does "large print", but the new one would not.
- The current printer is still working fine.
- After discussion, Anita Lowary motioned to rescind the November motion to lease a new printer. The motion was 2nd by Val Baker. The motion passed.

New Business:

Val Baker Church Use Request: Val asked for permission to use the church on Christmas Day so that she could prepare a free meal for those who have no place to go. After discussion, the board moved to approve the use of the church by Val, but only if she makes specific invitations to her friends to attend vs an open invitation to the community, to avoid any liability concerns for the church. The motion was 2nd Anita Lowary and passed.











The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Secretary,
Jeanne Wanous











Groton UMC

January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>29</p> <p>1st Sunday after Christmas Day (white or gold)</p> <p>8:30am Conde Worship</p> <p>9:30am Coffee Hour</p> <p>10:30am Groton Worship</p>	<p>30</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>31</p> <p>3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p> <p>4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>1</p>  <p>New Year's Day</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>
<p>5</p>  <p>Communion in Worship (white)</p> <p>8:15am Conde Worship</p> <p>9:30am Groton Worship</p> <p>10:30am Coffee Hour</p> <p>11:15am Britton UMC Worship</p> <p>4:00pm Church De-Decorating</p>	<p>6</p>  <p>Epiphany</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>7</p> <p>3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p> <p>4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>8</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>
<p>12</p>  <p>8:15am Conde Worship</p> <p>9:30am Groton Worship</p> <p>9:30am Kurtz Baptism</p> <p>10:30am Coffee Hour & Blessings Shower</p> <p>11:15am Britton UMC Worship</p> <p>11:30am Kurtz Family using Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>13</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p> <p>7:00pm PEO Mtg (outside group)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p> <p>4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>15</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour</p> <p>7:00pm Groton Ad Council</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>
<p>19</p>  <p>8:15am Conde Worship</p> <p>9:30am Groton Worship</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Coffee Hour</p> <p>11:15am Britton UMC Worship</p>	<p>20</p>  <p>Martin L. King, Jr. Day</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study</p> <p>3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p> <p>4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>22</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p> <p>1:30pm PEO - Outside Group</p>
<p>26</p> <p>8:15am Conde Worship</p> <p>9:30am Groton Worship</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>10:30am Coffee Hour</p> <p>11:15am Britton UMC Worship</p>	<p>27</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study</p> <p>3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p> <p>4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>29</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>

Groton UMC

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>26</p> <p>8:15am Conde Worship 9:30am Groton Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Coffee Hour 11:15am Britton UMC Worship</p>	<p>27</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown 4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>29</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>
<p>2</p>  <p>Communion in Worship (white) Groundhog Day 8:15am Conde Worship 9:30am Groton Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Coffee Hour 11:15am Britton UMC Worship</p>	<p>3</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown 4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>5</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>
<p>9</p> <p>8:15am Conde Worship 9:30am Groton Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Coffee Hour 11:15am Britton UMC Worship</p>	<p>10</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center 7:00pm PEO Mtg (outside group)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown 4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>12</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	 <p>Valentine's Day</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Newsletter Items Due 8:15am Conde Worship 9:30am Groton Worship 9:30am NO Sunday School 10:30am Coffee Hour 11:15am Britton UMC Worship</p>	 <p>Presidents' Day 11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown 4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>19</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour 7:00pm Groton Ad Council</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>
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January 2025

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February 2025

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23	24	25	26	27	28	

Our Church Happenings...

New Year Worship Service Times 2025

Conde UMC 8:15

Groton UMC 9:30

Sunday school at 9:30 coffee hour at 10:30

Britton UMC 11:15

coffee hour will be before church

Jan 5 Groton UMC Church De-Decorating, 4 pm

Jan 12 Groton Kurtz Baptism/Blessings Shower

Jan 15 Groton Ad Council 7 pm

Jan 19 Groton Sunday School Resumes, 9:30 am

Jan 21 Groton 10 am Bible Study Resumes

Feb 19 Groton Ad Council 7 pm

Watch weekly emails for changes and new happenings!