



July 2019

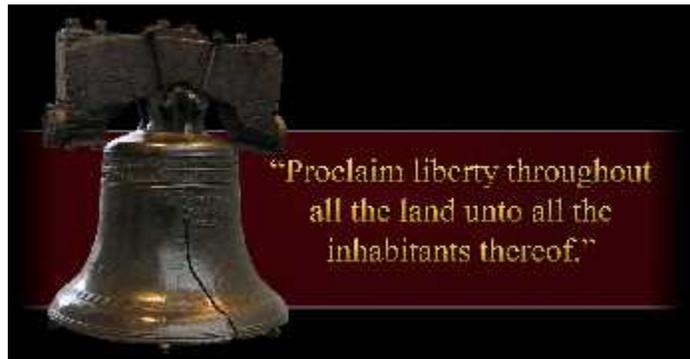
906 N 1st St, Groton, SD 57445

## ...from Pastor Brandon

Welcome Church Family,

I love you all so much and Jesus tells us to love God, the Father, by the way we love each other, His children. It has been such an honor to be your pastor for the last year. You took in a young man on July 1<sup>st</sup> of 2018 with a heart burning for God's word, but relatively little experience in sharing it without a guitar. You welcomed myself, and more importantly to me you welcomed my eventual wife Ashley with wide open arms. We have been so blessed by this family you have and hope that this is just the beginning for our churches. That God did not create us to survive, but to flourish in His gifts. We have a lot of gifts in our communities and I pray that we can grow to recognize that truth more and more each day so as to reach a point that says, I'm ready to take a step. I'm ready to do more with what I've been given. And by the grace of God we will be led into not just survival, but fruitfulness!

Hebrews 10:25 tells us to not neglect gathering out of love and the ability to



encourage one another in our individual pursuits.

When I bump into folks around town usually the first thing I hear is, "Sorry we haven't been around in a while." I don't want that to be the way people view myself or the church; a symbol of guilt. I want us to see the value in our gatherings, see the opportunities they present us to worship together as a body of God's children, and see the blessing that is afforded to us by His grace. I want us to gather because I love you, but more so than that... I love you, so I hope you gather even if I'm not there.

The summer is a busy time with so much traveling and fun to be had in the sun, but what I value more than your attendance is your standing with Christ. And so, I encourage you to

go to the lake in the summer, take those trips, but remember to use your sabbath as a time of rest and celebration to God. Find a church by the lake! Bring a devotional on the boat! Find time around the fire to pray together. Have your fun, that's what God created us for; to enjoy this gift of life, but please remember to also bring glory to God in the midst of it.

On July 4<sup>th</sup> we celebrate our nation's independence from England in 1776 that was won on the backs of great men and women. This isn't a religious holiday but is still a time for many to reflect on God's goodness not just to us as a church, but a nation. A nation founded on its faith in Jesus Christ and God the Father. A nation seeking to be led not by men, but by

the Holy Spirit. Etched into the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia are these words from the book of Leviticus 25:10, "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." We live in a country grounded in faith.

The late Billy Graham once said, "While we look with gratitude to the past on this July 4<sup>th</sup>, may we also look in faith to the future, and commit it and our lives to God and His will. The ancient words of the Psalmist are true: "Blessed is the nation whose God is Lord" (Psalm 33:12)." God is Able... God is with us... Amen.

## OFFICE HOURS

Pastor  
In Office  
Tuesday &  
Thursday  
Mornings

Friday  
Day Off

## Just Married...

Hello, everyone! It's Ashley here. I know, I know. You're used to my other half, but I just wanted to pop in, say hello, and share a little about Brandon and I. We have so loved getting to know all of you, so we wanted to help you all get to know us a bit better. Let's start off with probably the most important thing you need to know...Brandon's favorite color is green and mine is cream, which you'll probably see reflected in some of our color choices from time to time.

This first month of marriage has been full of love, laughter and a few tears as we learn to navigate spending our lives together. We have been enjoying building our home together with a bunch of fixer-upper projects and are completely convinced we would crush it on HGTV's Flee Market Flip! We've been learning the do's and don'ts of marriage like make sure that I ALWAYS have coffee in the morning before trying to ask important questions or make sure that Brandon NEVER touches my very specific (maybe too specific) system for doing laundry. Figuring life out together has been such a joy and we are so happy that we get to figure it out alongside you all.



## Groton UMW

**There is no July Unit Meeting. An executive meeting will be called if necessary.**

**Reading Program is due August 1st so keep reading!**

**Mission Today Report and Names for the Memorial Roll are due Aug 15th.**



### Church Information

Pastor Brandon Dunham  
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Parsonage Phone 605-397-4538

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Secretary Email: [grotonumc@nvc.net](mailto:grotonumc@nvc.net)  
Website: [grotonumc.org](http://grotonumc.org)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/grotonsdumc/](https://www.facebook.com/grotonsdumc/)  
906 N 1st St Groton, SD 57445

**Giddyup for two days of frontier fun!**

Mark your Calendars!

August 8th-9th  
from 6-8:30pm

Registration will open July 7th  
register online at  
[grotonumc.org](http://grotonumc.org)

VBS at the Groton UMC



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**Conde VBS  
will be July 25-26th  
from 6-8:30**



**Registration is Open!**

**Conde MISSION STATEMENT**

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

**Little Free Library**

Stories, Activities, Light Snack, and Surprise Guest Authors will all be a part of the Little Free Library Story Time in the church front yard. It will start Wednesday, June 5 through Wednesday, July 31 each Wednesday at 10:30 am. There is no story time the week of July 3rd. There is no story time if rainy weather.



**Thank you in memory of Twila Ruden for the repair of the head set microphone.**

**Memorial Committee**

## A prayer for the 4th

Loving God, we thank you – the true Father of our country – for the blessings of this land and the gifts of cultures around the world. Prompt us to strive for justice for all, at home and abroad. Remind us, in the words of the hymn, that “this is our Father’s world” and that your goodness prevails. Amid tragedies and conflicts, guard us against despair. Help us focus on the kindness evident daily: from generous

neighbors to conscientious public servants (because most are). On Independence Day and every day, “O let [us] ne’er forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.” Amen.

–Sandy Hyland



## Groton UMW - June

There were ten women in attendance for the monthly UMW meeting.

Vice President Gloria Pharis called the meeting to order. Members recited the UMW Purpose. Jeanne Wanous read the minutes from the previous meeting. She also shared the most recent Treasurer’s report .

**Old Business:** None

### New Business:

- ) Membership, Nurture, and Outreach: Pat Dahlquist, committee member, stated that we find that “Thinking of You” cards are used frequently and that we may need to place another order in the near future for more of them. Fortunately we have had some additional cards donated recently.
- ) Thank You Received: Val Baker shared a thank you note and picture from a young boy who was a

recipient of a pool pass made possible by our UMW donation to the City Pool scholarship program.

- ) Donation to Youth Ministry Cohort Program: Jeanne explained that the Groton UMC was selected by Dakota Conference as one of 10 churches to participate in a Youth Ministry Cohort Program where 4 or 5 of our youth leaders meet with a coach quarterly to learn ways to expand and enhance our children & youth ministries for a cost of \$250. On a motion by Val Baker & 2<sup>nd</sup> by JoAnn Krueger, we voted to donate the \$250 to the church to make our participation possible.
- ) Donation to Groton Bene Anonymous Meals: On a motion by Diann Morehouse and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Val Baker, members voted to make a \$250 donation to the Groton Area Schools Bene Anonymous Meals fund.

- ) Fall Rummage Sale Fundraiser: Members were reminded that we will be holding our next fundraiser on Sept. 7 by renting space to people who want to sell rummage sale items and by selling food. A sheet was passed around to sign up if you can help that day. Members were reminded that we are not soliciting items to be sold; we are just renting space and selling food.

The meeting ended with a prayer given by Val Baker and we were all then treated to a great lunch prepared by Diann Morehouse.

Jeanne Wanous  
Secretary Pro Tem



## Groton Ad Council - June

Chairman Brad Morehouse called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Those in attendance were: Brad & Diann Morehouse, Meri Erickson, Marjorie Overacker, Richard Krueger, Allen Walter and Jeanne Wanous. Pastor Brandon offered a prayer prior to the business meeting.

The agenda & previous minutes were approved on a motion by Richard Krueger.

**Treasurer's Report:** It was noted that we continue to pay 50% of our monthly apportionments. The report was approved on a motion by Allen Walter.

**Bills:**

There was discussion regarding a large bill from Dave McGannon for work completed in 2017 & 2018 on the church building and a small amount for the parsonage. It was noted by Meri Erickson that \$90 of the bill was for the parsonage and was paid. Since there isn't enough money to pay the complete bill at once, the council approved a partial payment to come from the building fund.

Bills for confirmands flowers and gifts were not turned in for reimbursement as they were taken care of by church members as a donation.

There was discussion amongst the council that we have a budget shortfall of approximately \$2000 each month. This prompted more discussion of having stewardship talks with the congregation in the near future.

**Administrative Report:**

Pastor Brandon reported that the dates for Vacation Bible School will be August 8 & 9. Brandon also shared that the Groton UMC has been selected along with nine other churches to participate in the Youth Ministry Cohort Program. A team of 4-5 people from our congregation will participate in quarterly workshops which will provide training and development of a plan to create a healthy and sustainable youth ministries program for children and youth in our church. The only cost to our church is \$250. You can read more about it at: <https://www.dakotasumc.org/leadership-development/youth-ministry/children-and-youth-ministry-cohort>

**Committee Reports:**

) Trustees: Richard Krueger had Brandon comment on recent water damage to the NE room of the parsonage basement. It is unknown how water got in, perhaps from snow melt, but the carpet and paneling need to be removed immediately. Then a plan needs to be developed to make the room a pleasant & usable space for Brandon & Ashley.

**Old Business:**

) Refacing of Kitchen Cabinets: Kitchen Tune-Up will be coming the week of June 24 to give an estimate to reface the cabinets. Monies for this would come from the Memorial fund.



**New Business:**

- ) Church Use Request: Use of the church was approved by the council on the following dates: June 24-27 & July 15-18 from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. It will be used for transition camp (as it has in the past 5 years) by students with disabilities. They will be learning life skills and in addition will perform cleaning in our church as well as make a \$100 donation.
- ) Community Free Produce Table Request: Kay Daly made a request on behalf of the Tuesday morning Bible Study group to be allowed to offer free garden produce from our church parking lot to community members in need. The council OK'd the request.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Jeanne Wanous  
Ad Council Secretary



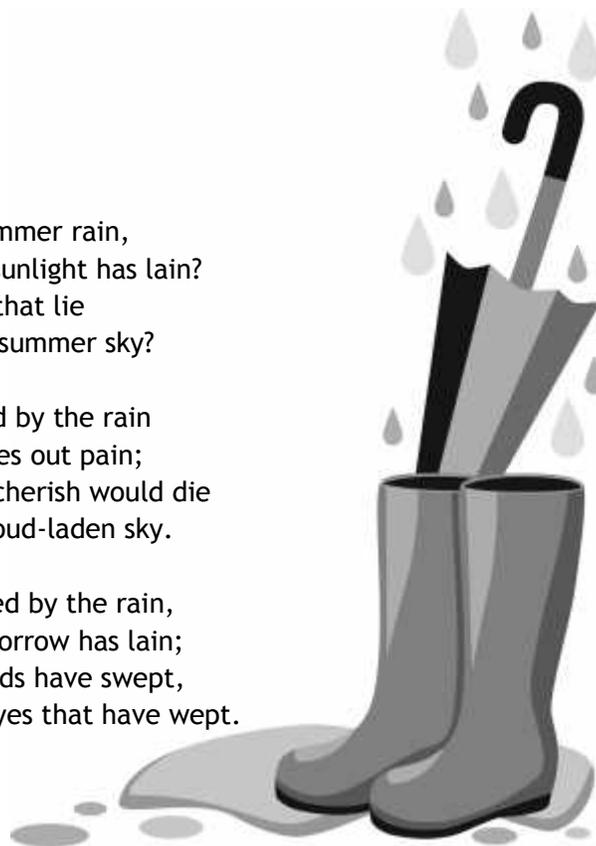
## Summer Rain

Oh, what is so pure as the glad summer rain,  
That falls on the grass where the sunlight has lain?  
And what is so fair as the flowers that lie  
All bathed in the tears of the soft summer sky?

The blue of the heavens is dimmed by the rain  
That wears away sorrow and washes out pain;  
But we know that the flowers we cherish would die  
Were it not for the tears of the cloud-laden sky.

The rose is the sweeter when kissed by the rain,  
And hearts are the dearer where sorrow has lain;  
The sky is the fairer that rain-clouds have swept,  
And no eyes are so bright as the eyes that have wept.

—Fannie Sherrick



# Groton Community Table of Plenty

**Gardeners donate extra produce from their gardens...**

**AND**

**Anyone can get the extra garden produce free...**

Extra produce may be dropped off at the table **OUTSIDE** of the United Methodist Church  
north door Monday evenings through Tuesday Noon.

Produce may be picked up from the table Tuesday 9 am - 7 pm.

**July 23 - August 27**

**Weekly on Tuesdays**

(2 weeks longer if successful & gardens still producing!)

Hosted by the Tuesday Morning Bible Study Ladies from the Emmanuel Lutheran Church and United Methodist Church.  
Questions: Contact Kay Daly 608-397-8389



## Our Church Celebrations...

### Groton

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

July 2019						
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

# PATRIOTIC PINWHEEL

Create this colorful July 4<sup>th</sup> craft.

**What you need:**

- Decorated card stock square (5" x 5")
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- 2 one-inch circles of card stock
- Glue
- Pipe cleaner (3 inches)
- Drinking straw

**What you do:**

- Fold the square corner to corner to form an X. Unfold.
- To make spokes, cut the four creases until an inch from the center.
- Punch a hole in the middle of the square, near the tips of each spoke, and in the middle of each circle.
- Fold each spoke toward the center, lining up the holes. Glue in place.
- Wrap one end of the pipe cleaner around the top of the straw. Thread a circle, the pinwheel, and the remaining circle onto the pipe cleaner.
- Roll the pipe cleaner end into a ball. Then spin!



# August Family Committee

- Mendy & James Jones**  
**Marlee, Austin**  
 Kay & Doug Daly  
 Angela & Perryn Dobbins  
 Andrea & Scott Eisenbeisz  
 Marva & Lon Gellhaus  
 Brent & Jessica Morehouse  
 Mike & JoAnn Nehls  
 Robin O'Neill, Grady  
 Jesse & Jaymie Overacker  
 Harlan & Peggy Place  
 Alan Strom & Shelly Lerew  
 Jim & Judy Zeck

**Honorary Members**

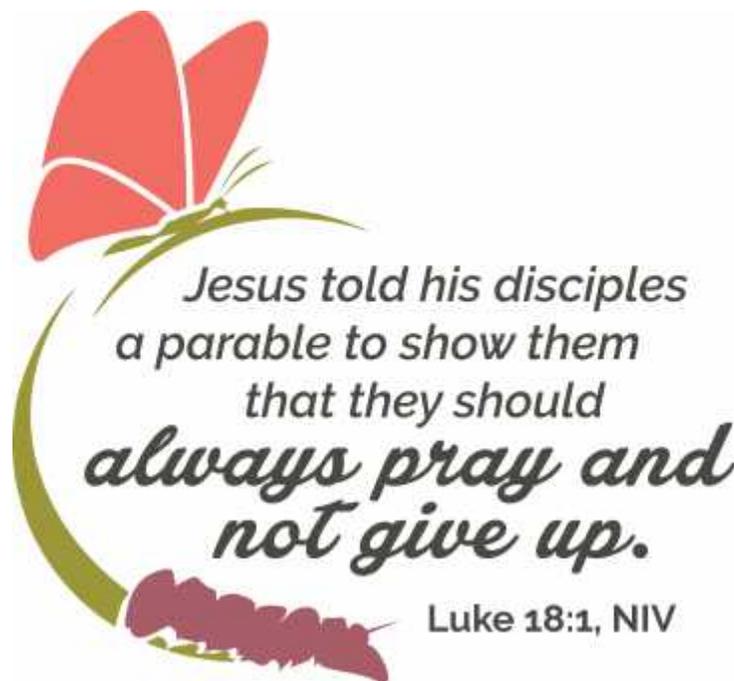
- ) Ann Rix
- ) Doris Strom
- ) Ruby Luce

**August 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
- ) Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons

<b>Groton                  Stewardship                  Report May 2019</b>
Average Wkly Giving \$1,565
Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,347
Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 72
Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs \$115

August 2019						
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	31



July 2019

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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 17 Groton Ad Council 7 pm

July 25 & 26 Conde VBS 6-8:30 pm

August 8 & 9 Groton VBS 6-8:30 pm

**SIGN UP FOR VBS TODAY!**

