



September 2019

906 N 1st St, Groton, SD 57445

## ...from Pastor Brandon

Hello Church Family,

Another Summer has come and gone. I've thought it is so interesting how much the school calendar affects us even after we graduate. But for those who are beginning another year of classes or teaching or administrating, this time of the year brings an incredible amount of adjusting.

I remember reading a book a couple years back that came to me in this same time of the year that was so helpful. It was in my reading I found a phrase that I have carried with me since and it's called the "pace of grace."

I remember being a senior in high school and believing I was as busy, if not busier than most other people. That lasted until I went to college and was exposed to 10,000 new people my age, 200 different student organizations, much higher classroom expectations, night labs, RENT... As I continued to grow older my desire for doing things grew too. I would feel boring if I didn't have my complete day scheduled. I would get together with friends and we'd all sit around and talk about how much we had going on like it was some sort of gauge of relevancy.

What I found though, as



years passed, was that I wasn't sustaining that same level of excitement about all that I had on my plate. In fact, I was starting to grow tired of just how much I had chewed off.

When we think of the life of Jesus many words come to mind. Teacher, Lord, Compassionate... but how many of us would think *relaxed*?

Something about that word, relaxed, feels uncomfortable to me. It feels like I'm saying lazy or unmotivated. But when I first heard Jesus being described to me as relaxed it was life changing.

Throughout scripture we see evidence of a man with the weight of humanity on his shoulders, and yet, remarkably unhurried?

After waiting nearly thirty years to begin His min-

istry, His first act in ministry was to follow the Spirit into the wilderness for 40 days. Afterwards He seemed frustratingly unhurried on his way to heal the synagogue official's daughter in Mark chapter 5, and to visit his sick friend Lazarus, who died during Jesus' two-day delay in John chapter 11.

The influences and temptations around Jesus seemed to be geared towards trying to speed Jesus up to grab the promises that God had already promised.

This is a season of change and with that can come anxieties and pressure that makes us feel like we need to speed up to keep up, but often I find when I'm rushing through a season of life even though I'm getting more done, my sense of why I'm doing it all fades.

Jesus left a blueprint for

a pace in life that not only brings us into the promises of God but brings a peace to our hearts that understands the importance of the moment we are in. Hurried doesn't equal important just like God didn't command us to get more done. We are told to love God with every ounce of our being, and then to love others. How does Paul first describe love in his famous 1 Corinthians 13 passage? Love is patient.

As we begin this new school year, I encourage you to seek the quiet moments. The still moments. Allow time for you to connect with God and the work He has set for you, and find peace in Jesus' "pace of grace."

Blessings  
Pastor Brandon Dunham



Pastor  
In Office  
Tuesday &  
Thursday  
Mornings

Friday  
Day Off

## New Sermon Series



We are going to be carrying our love of baseball into the Fall season as we explore a series based on Pastor Kevin Meyers' book "Home Run Life." Using a baseball diamond as an analogy for following God's plan for life, we are going to be discussing how to succeed God's way. The pattern?

- ) Connection with God: Winning Dependence
- ) Character: Winning Within
- ) Community: Winning With Others
- ) Competence: Winning Results

Join us each Sunday as we explore the story of Joseph in Genesis and the pattern God has given throughout scripture on God's game plan for a Home Run Life.

## Groton Sunday School

This year Sunday School will be kicking off on Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> in Groton with some fun activities and will be featuring a new curriculum by Group, the same company who brought us "Yee-Haw VBS".

**Digging Into: The Heart of God** brings a fresh approach to growing a lifelong relationship with God. As kids explore God's character throughout the Bible, God transforms them from the inside out. Kids discover what it means to reflect the heart of God in everyday life.

Make sure to stop in with your child on the 15<sup>th</sup> to fill out a registration form, or you can go on our website, [grotonumc.org](http://grotonumc.org) and register there!

**We are also still looking to grow our Education Team for Sunday School, Confirmation, and Youth Group. If you are interested in participating in any of these ministries, just let Pastor Brandon know!**



### Groton UMW

September 19th Meeting

1:30 pm on Thursday

Program by Chris Nyberg

Hostesses JoAnn Krueger &

Caralee Heitmann

Nominations Committee Meets

to prepare Slate of Officers,

Continue Date Book Plans for

2020, and Prepare Budget for

2020

### Church Information

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 906 N 1st St Groton, SD 57445



# Highlights From VBS

YEE-HAW! What a wonderful turn out we had for our Groton Vacation Bible School this last month and a huge thank you to all who helped put it on. We had kids, but even more so, we had a lot of fun sharing the message that God loves us all so very much.

We explored that message through songs, teachings, science experiments, games, stories, mission projects, and even through our snack! Its through the work these two churches we welcomed nearly 40 children into the presence of God and that is worth celebrating!

Be on the lookout for next year's Bible School theme coming this winter!







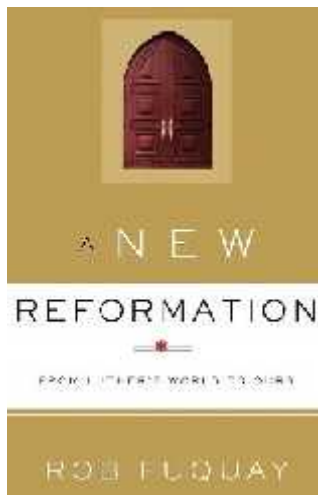




**Conde MISSION STATEMENT**  
 "The Conde United Methodist Church is seeking to satisfy the spiritual and physical needs of all."

**Tuesday 10 AM Bible Study**  
 Starting New Study  
 September 3  
 Everyone is Welcome to Join Us!

A New Reformation  
 By Rob Fuquay  
 with DVD Video



"Wow, Mrs. Hoover — 40 years of teaching Sunday school. You were in it for the long hall!"



*Adults and Students . . . come  
learn what social issues are  
involving our youth  
in our community.*

# **GOSPEL Solutions to Social Issues**

## **SPONSORED BY LOCAL CHURCHES**

Youth Groups Welcome ~ Large Groups please RSVP 605/377-0709

Seminars are:

**September 11 at United Methodist Church:  
Drugs & Alcohol**

**October 9 at Groton Christian & Missionary Alliance Church:  
Sex Trafficking and Date Violence**

**November 6 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church:  
Suicide and Bullying**

**Light Meal at 5:45 p.m. ~ Seminar begins at 6:30 p.m.**

### **TAKE ONE AS A REMINDER!**

Gospel Solutions to Social Issues Sponsored by local churches

Adults and Students . . . come learn what social issues are involving our youth in our community.

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## Our Church Celebrations...

### Groton

- Sep 2 Kylie Hawkins
- Sep 6 Justin Olson  
Perryn Dobbins  
Laurie & AM Mitchell
- Sep 7 Alana Wolken
- Sep 8 Laurel & Monte McNickle
- Sep 9 Clint & Audrey Jacobson
- Sep 11 Audrey Jacobson
- Sep 12 Ryder Daly  
Cliff Pray  
Alexa Nilsson
- Sep 13 Richard Krueger  
Karsten Hinman
- Sep 14 Rick & Sarah Hofer
- Sep 15 Karen Rose  
Mason Madsen

- Sep 16 Camille Sippel
- Sep 17 Kyler Ell  
Jackson Strom
- Sep 19 Diann Morehouse  
Jace Hofer
- Sep 20 Marjory Townsend
- Sep 22 Madison McNickle
- Sep 23 Carolyn Snyder
- Sep 24 Jesse Overacker  
Turner Webb
- Sep 25 Joey Padfield  
Sabrina Padfield
- Sep 26 Alan Strom  
Alejandra Heitmann

### Conde

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



## Groton October Family Committee

### Carna & Cliff Pray

- Roger & Pam Rix**
- Cheryl Hanson
- Lance & Kristi Hawkins, Kaycie
- Rick & Sarah Hofer
- Dale & Traci Kramer
- Yvonne Lange
- Laurel & Monte McNickle
- Diann & Brad Morehouse
- Karla Pasteur
- Dwight & Eugenia Strom
- Linda & Gary Thurston
- Todd Thurston

### Honorary Members

- ) Susan Odland
- ) Rose Tewksbury

### 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 the back of the Committee Booklet
- ) Maintain the Altar Flower Arrangements
- ) Potluck 2nd Sunday - give

church secretary details for the bulletin  
Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons.



October 2019						
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		





## Groton Ad Council - August

Vice Chairman Alan Townsend called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. Those in attendance were: Pastor Brandon, Richard Krueger, Alan Townsend, Marjorie Overacker and Jeanne Wanous. Pastor Brandon shared a prayer prior to the business meeting

The agenda & previous minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer's report was approved.

**Financial Secretary:** Finance committee met recently and has plans to share stewardship information with church members in the near future.

**Bills:** There were no bills presented, although VBS bills will be turned in soon.

**Administrative Report:**

Brandon shared that he will be the Sunday School Superintendent along with Meri Erickson as organizer. A meeting with the Sunday school teachers was held on Sunday, August 18 where SS curriculum as agreed upon. A personal gift has

been offered to help with curriculum expenses.

**Committee Reports:**

Trustees:

- ) Richard Krueger reported that a furnace inspector was here on August 14. He found that the boilers are in good shape, but the condensation tube is plugged.
- ) Pastor Brandon pointed out the fire extinguisher by the north door was last inspected in June 2017.
- ) Leak by south kitchen door: Richard stated that he is still puzzled as to where the leak is coming from.
- ) Richard also noted that he is waiting for Aberdeen Glass to inspect the east side of the Sanctuary as moisture has been discovered running down the inside wall.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Jeanne Wanous  
Ad Council Secretary

<p><b>Groton Stewardship Report July 2019</b></p> <p>Average Wkly Giving \$1,757</p> <p>Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,347</p> <p>Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 42</p> <p>Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs \$15</p>
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June 2019



September 2019

September 2019						
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...

Sep 3 Groton Tues 10 AM Bible Study begins new study

Sep 4 Groton Youth Group 7 pm

Sep 15 Groton Sunday School starts 10 am

Sep 17 PPR Mtg 7 pm in Groton

Sep 18 Groton Ad Council 7 pm

Sep 18 Groton Youth Group 7 pm

Sep 19 Groton UMW 1:30 pm

Sep 20-21 Annual NE Dist UMW Mtg at Fargo First UMC

Sep 25 Groton Confirmation Parent Mtg 7 pm