



Groton & Conde
United Methodist Church

Newsletter

April/May 2022

906 N 1st St, Groton, SD 57445

...from Pastor Brandon

Hello Church Family,

I am so incredibly excited. It's almost here! Weeks of Lenten anticipation, prayer, and devotion finding it's resolution in God's work and our praise on Easter Sunday. And it's been a long journey for those who have intentionally taken this time to reflect on, not just the cross, but the reason why the cross happened. The tearing of the veil and opening of the door between YOU and YOUR Father in Heaven.

But why do we do this each year? Wouldn't it be better served to remember and celebrate the love and sacrifice of Jesus every day? In a word... yes! But we are human beings with human souls who cannot help but be swept along by this world we walk. Tragedy strikes unexpectedly, loss always occurs, and expectations of ourselves rise. Before too long our eyes have begun to drop below the glory of heaven and we do what we feel we must...

Lent is an opportunity. It's a time defined by new life and resurrection which is why traditionally people have used it to repent and renew their covenant to love and serve, by faith, our God with the lifting of their eyes once more.

I'm reminded of a story from Luke 24, where two



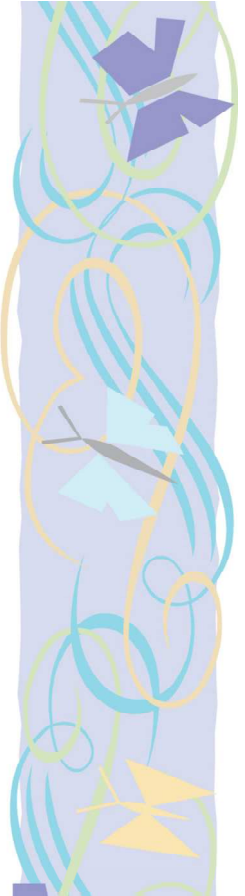
disciples are walking away from Jerusalem after Jesus has been crucified. They are heartbroken and confused that Jesus is actually "gone". Not having any reason they feel to stay in Jerusalem, they leave; returning to the lives they once had perhaps. But then who should appear? JESUS. He asks them what is wrong and then reminds them not only was Christ's crucifixion foretold, but of all the other wonderful things that had led the people of God to this moment in history. The Bible says their eyes were then "opened" to the presence of Jesus STILL ALIVE and well and then Christ disappeared to restore the sight of more.

The truth of the matter is, friends, that for you and I, the focus of our eyes determines the life that we live and there's a number of things that determine where

our eyes are fixed. Although we seek to the world through a lens of faith in all moments, sometimes our eyes are drawn to the immediate events that take place in our lives and then, likewise, the way that we process and understand those events can lower them even more. It can be so easy, can't it, to decide that hope is lost and we need to be "sensible" when something unexpected/unbelievable/ or painful happens. But THAT is why we celebrate the Resurrection. To see once more His goodness.

We celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the invitation to taste and see that He is good for all of eternity.
Hosanna in the highest!

Pastor Brandon Dunham,



OFFICE HOURS

Pastor
In Office
Tuesday &
Thursday
Mornings

Friday
Day Off

Groton Graduation Sunday - May 8th

Ryder Daly

Andrea Davidson

Christina Zoellner

Graduate Photos Wanted!



Groton UMYF

UMYF Schedule at 7 pm each night

April 6th

April 13th

April 27th

May 11th

May 25th (Bonfire at the Parsonage with games and food)

Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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



Groton May Day Baskets

May Day baskets will be made on Sunday, May 1st during Sunday School and Coffee Hour. All are invited to participate as we put them together at the church and then take them to Rosewood and Avantara residents after worship.



Church Information

Pastor Brandon Dunham

Office Phone 605-397-8270

Parsonage Phone 605-397-4538

Pastor Email: pastorbrandon@nvc.net

Secretary Email: grotonumc@nvc.net

Website: grotonumc.org

Facebook: facebook.com/grotonsdumc/
906 N 1st St Groton, SD 57445



CONFIRMED
In Faith

March 13, 2022

MARCH 13, 2022

Groton UMW

Next meeting is April 21st at 1:30 pm. Jolene Townsend has the program and Val Baker is the hostess.

The hostess for the May 19th meeting is Pat Dahlquist. If you would like to volunteer for a program, please let Jolene know.

Focus Days is Saturday, April 23rd in Clear Lake, SD starting at 9 am to noon. If you plan on going, please let Jolene know by April 18th. Car pool from the church at 7 am.



Groton Schedule

Sunday School

April 10 - SS during church
(11:10 am)

Sing in Church

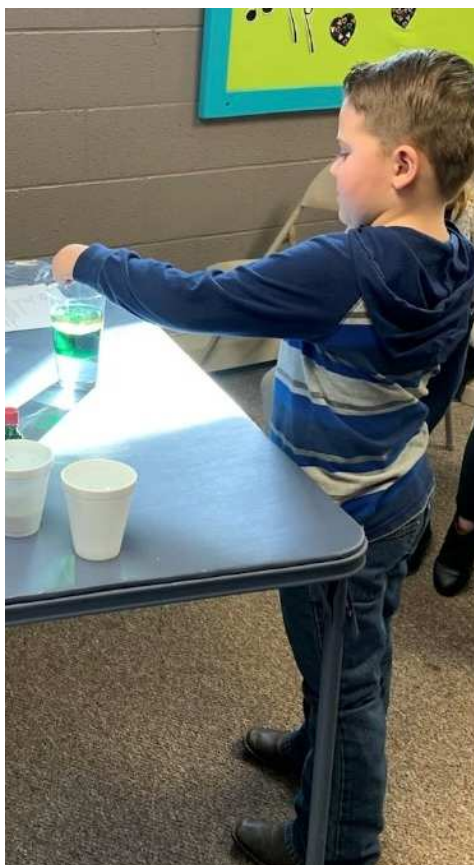
April 17 - No SS - Easter

April 24 - SS at 10 am

May 1 - SS at 10 am

May 8 - SS at 10 am

Sing in church Mother's Day





We Remember

More than 150 years ago, Memorial Day took shape amid the backdrop of the U.S. Civil War. Before it ended, women began decorating the graves of fallen soldiers. In 1868, when May 30 was designated as Decoration Day, loved ones placed flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers alike.

By 1882, Decoration Day became known as Memorial Day, and soldiers who died in other wars were honored too. Over time, it became a day to remember all loved ones who have died — in war and otherwise. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be observed on the last Monday in May. On Memorial Day, we pause to remember people who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country and for our freedom. We also pray for those who continue serving, especially those in harm's way.



Sunday - April 10th

Palm Sunday

Conde Service at 9 am
Groton Brunch Served 9:30 – 10:30 am
Groton Service at 11 am
Groton Sunday School Sings during Worship

Wednesday - April 13th

Community Coffee Hour

Groton UMC Fellowship Hall
Each Week at 9:30 – 10:30 am

Stations of the Cross

SEAS Catholic Church
At 7 pm by SEAS Students

Thursday - April 14th

Maundy Thursday

Conde Service 6:00 pm
(with meal)

Friday - April 15th

Good Friday

Groton Community Service
7 pm at Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Sunday - April 17th

Easter Sunday

Conde Service 9 am
Groton Coffee at 10 am
Groton Service 11 am

IF CHURCH LADIES WERE IN CHARGE OF THE LAST SUPPER



Groton May Family Committee

Marva & Lon Gellhaus

Mendy & James Jones, Marlee

Amber & Adrian Daly,

Tyson, Levi

Kay & Doug Daly

Angela & Perryn Dobbins, Jaden

Brent & Jessica Morehouse

Robin O'Neill

Jesse Overacker, KayLynn, Emily

Harlan & Peggy Place

Alan Strom & Shelly Lerew

Jolene Townsend

Jeanne Wanous

Jim & Judy Zeck

Honorary Members

♦ Doris Strom

♦ Ruby Luce

May Responsibilities

- ♦ Check Kitchen Supplies for the month
- ♦ Check & Clean Oven and Fridge as necessary
- ♦ Coffee Hour Workers (make coffee, provide cookies, laun-

der 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 announcements
- ♦ Order and Pickup Graduation Cake for coffee hour
- ♦ Gifts are organized by UMYF Leaders
- ♦ Hospitality sets up gift table
- ♦ Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons
- ♦ Serve at Avantara Nursing Center - 4th Sunday
- ♦ 5th Sunday may buy donuts and give bill to church treasurer

May 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
29	30	31				



Native American Ministries Sunday - May 1st

Without your generosity, this ministry could not be achieved! You gave **\$453,155** in 2021 towards ministries funded by the **Native American Ministries Special Sunday** offering. Because of you, we are able to develop and strengthen Native American ministries in the Annual Conferences, Native American rural, urban, reservation ministries and communi-

ties relating to the General Board of Global Ministries. It also provides scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist schools of theology. This fund is distributed by the [General Board of Higher Education and Ministries](#) and The [General Board of Global Ministries](#).



Groton June Family Committee

Melissa & Neil Gilbert

Carna & Cliff Pray

Josh & Merrie Atherton

Pernell Graf, Alex

Kelli & Lars Hanson

JR & Paula Johnson

Yvonne Lorenz

Brenda & Tony Madsen

Joe & Belinda Nelson

Tim Olson

John Padfield

Kevin & Kara Pharis

Marc Sippel

Carol & Luverne Strom

Honorary Members

- ♦ Gloria Pharis
- ♦ Pat Dahlquist
- ♦ Louise Thoreson

June 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
- ♦ Serve at Avantara Nursing Center - 4th Sunday

June 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	29	30		

Groton Stewardship Report Feb 2022

Average
Wkly Giving
\$1,824

Needed Wkly for
Church Mission
\$2,353

Average Weekly
Attendance Sunday
63

Total Building Fund
Donations
for Repairs
\$5

Groton Stewardship Report March 2022

Average
Wkly Giving
\$2,639

Needed Wkly for
Church Mission
\$2,353

Average Weekly
Attendance Sunday
72

Total Building Fund
Donations
for Repairs
\$205

J.O.Y. Bible Study

After a short break, the Tuesday 10 am group will be starting a new study on May 3rd. We will study 1 & 2 Peter and Jude by Carolyn Nystrom over the summer.

No Bible Study April 19th and 26th.



Our Church Celebrations...

Groton

Apr 3 Marc Johnson
Nolan Rose
Myndi & Scott Kampa
Elleit Severson
Apr 4 Mitchell Madsen
Sue Stanley
Apr 5 Desiree & Corey Foltz
Apr 6 Elise Pharis
Apr 7 Jackson & Lindsey Strom
Reilly Ell
Shelly Lerew
Apr 8 Lon Gellhaus
Apr 10 Pauline Luce
Apr 11 Taylor Thompson
Apr 12 Erin Bahr
Apr 13 Jessica Morehouse
Apr 14 Toby Dobbins
Apr 15 Brady Graf
Nolan Bahr
Apr 16 Tom Tietz
Rodney Boehmer
Dale & Traci Kramer
Apr 18 Jenna Strom
Merrie Atherton
Dylan Vogel
Apr 21 Valerie Baker
Apr 23 Colton Morehouse
Apr 24 Rae Fliehs
Apr 28 Kevin Pharis
Apr 30 Breslyn Jeschke

May 3 Kim Weber
May 4 Evan Erickson
Tom Strom
Desiree Foltz
May 5 Gary Thurston
Marlee Jones
Tony & Brenda Madsen
May 6 Clint Jacobson
May 7 Rebecca Padfield
Tigh Hank Irvin Fliehs
Gabbie Kramer
May 8 John Lowary
Dale Kramer
Rob Wanous
Austin Jones
May 10 John & Anita Lowary
Emma Davies
May 11 Ashley & Brandon Dunham
May 12 Jack & Maggie Oliver
May 13 Doris Strom
Leroy Severson
May 14 Linda Johnson
Henry Pharis
Pam Rix
May 15 Mary Nelson
Carol & Trevor Lien
May 17 Cliff & Carna Pray
May 18 Jean Walter
Kaylee Hofer
May 19 John Erickson
Scott Kampa
Taylor Diegel
May 20 Tom & Kami Lipp
May 21 Cody Hanson
May 25 J.R. Johnson
Beau Bahr
Adrienne Fliehs
Jon Voss
May 26 Dion & Sam Bahr

May 27 Luverne & Carol Strom
Emmett Morehouse
May 28 Cheryl Hanson
Jesse & Julie Morehouse
May 29 Gary & Anita Voss
May 30 Randy & Rebecca Padfield
Kami Lipp
Macy Knecht
May 31 J.R. & Paula Johnson

Conde

Apr 11 Tim Geist
Apr 18 Loren Siefken
Apr 22 Curtis Haskell
May 3 Janette Imsland
May 7 Jane Worlie
May 10 Marion Jensen
May 11 Ashley & Brandon Dunham
May 25 Greg Bonn
Floyd & Carol Smith
May 28 Grant & Janice Hanson
May 30 Curtis & Cindy Haskell



Groton Ad Council - March

Groton United Methodist Church Administrative Council met on Mar 16, 2022 at 7pm with the following members present: Sherwin Nyberg, Marj Overacker, Anita Lowary, Val Baker, Linda Thurston, Jolene Townsend, Meri Erickson, and President Lars Hanson presiding.

The agenda was approved on a motion by Jolene and seconded by Meri. All members present voted aye.

The minutes were approved as read on a motion by Jolene and seconded by Marj. All members present voted aye.

Anita presented the corrected (more information from the conference) annual audit report. She reported no correspondence from the IRS on the 2018 wage dispute.

Marj presented the monthly treasurer's report. No bills were presented for payment. She reported no correspondence from the IRS on the quarterly 941 payment.

Meri reported the Pastor Parish treasury has reached the point when grant proceeds have been expended and this month would restart monthly church donations from Groton and Conde. Several WiFi upgrades have been installed and will come from PPR funds.

Linda gave a breakdown of the \$14,304.56 Memorial Funds available. The kitchen cabinet door project is estimated to be \$12,000 to \$14,000.

Tyke reported Trustee projects included the parking lot needs resealing, door stops on the Fellowship Hall doors will be replaced, and he is investigating the floor upheaval in the kitchen with fear that water or sewer pipes may be leaking below the concrete.

Jolene reported that UMW was hosting the District meeting Sept 17, 2022 at 9am for 50-60 members. She stated that during the next UMW meeting, a Palm Sunday brunch would be discussed since there would be no Easter Sunrise service this year. This was enthusiastically endorsed for a 9:30-10:30am serving time.

Anita reported that Ashley Dunham would try adding names to the Pastor's Window after school ended this spring.

Marj reported that 3 have already signed up for camp this summer. Moved

by Anita and seconded by Val to have the church pay 75% of the camping registration for children and youth under 18 wishing to attend camp this year. Adults would not be legible for these grants. All members present voted aye. Funds will come from the annual distribution from the Mamie Johnson Camping endowment and other donations.

Discussion was again held on requests for changing church times to be earlier than 11am for Groton. There has been no word on Conde's feelings on this proposal.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm on a motion by Val and seconded by Anita.

Anita Lowary
Temporary Secretary

Groton Ad Council - Feb

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Chairman, Lars Hanson. Those in attendance were: Pastor Brandon Dunham, Marjorie Overacker, Anita Lowary, Val Baker and Jane Johnson.

Pastor Brandon opened with a prayer.

AGENDA:

The agenda was approved on a motion by Anita Lowary and 2nd by Val Baker. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

The previous minutes were approved on a motion by Val Baker and 2nd by Anita Lowary. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Anita Lowary reported she is still working with the IRS regarding 2018 W-2s. The IRS has now accepted Anita as an authorized person in this matter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Audit Committee Report: Anita Lowary reported everything was good.

Treasurer's Report: Marjorie Overacker reported the light and heat bills for this month were only up about \$20 each. Not another huge increase like the previous month. Everything else is good.

BILLS: None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Pastor Brandon reported he is in the process of lining up Lenten services. Ash Wednesday may be an 11:00 am to 1:00 pm drive through. Good Friday may be a

collective service, possibly with 2 other churches. Emanuel Lutheran is interested in hosting. There was going to be a meeting to discuss it. Maundy Thursday service will be in Conde. Pastor is recommending no Sunrise Service in Groton. Lenten Study is taking place on Monday nights. Pastor has devotional books for this study.

OLD BUSINESS:

Pastor Brandon asked about the Pastor's window. Anita wants to first clean up the IRS issue.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lars mentioned he has been contacted by a few people asking why Groton service is always at 11:00. They were questioning the possibility of taking turns with Conde regarding the 9:00 and 11:00 services. There was discussion as to how it came about Groton stays with the 11:00 service. There was discussion an earlier service may increase our attendance. Pastor suggested maybe an 8:30 and 10:30 service. Pastor was going to visit with people in Conde and get their thoughts on the matter.

Pastor Brandon was approached by someone wanting to know who was in charge of stocking the supplies. Jane Johnson volunteered to get the plates and cups from CWD.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18.

Secretary Pro Tem
Jane Johnson





Our Church Happenings...

April 10 Palm Sunday

April 14 Maundy Thursday service at Conde UMC 6 pm with meal

April 15 Good Friday Service at 7 pm at

April 17 Easter Sunday - Conde Worship at 9 am
and Groton Worship at 11 am

April 19 Conde Ad Council

April 20 Groton Ad Council 7 pm

April 21 Groton UMW 1:30 pm

April 30 Dakotas Conference Camping Early Bird Deadline

May 8 Graduation Sunday to honor 2022 graduates

May 17 Conde Ad Council

May 18 Groton Ad Council 7 pm

May 19 Groton UMW 1:30 pm

June 4 Love Groton Event

April 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	29	30

