



Groton & Conde  
United Methodist Church

# Newsletter

November 2022

906 N 1st St, Groton, SD 57445

## ...from Pastor Brandon

Hello Church Family,

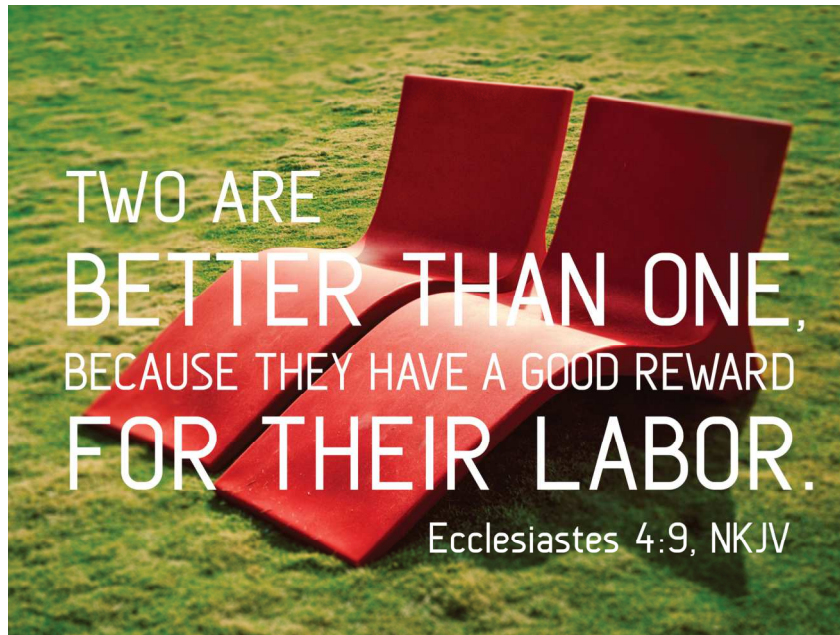
### ***The Believers Form a Community***

<sup>42</sup> All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.

<sup>43</sup> A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. <sup>44</sup> And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. <sup>45</sup> They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. <sup>46</sup> They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity — <sup>47</sup> all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

*Acts 2:42-47*

Last month I wrote about an idea sociologists call "third places", and with fond memories of the



church always being a "third place" for me growing up I hope for our church to be that same place for all of you.

With that in mind, I look to not just our leadership, but to all of us who call Groton or Conde UMC home and ask: how might we better equip our spaces for community engagement? In Groton our Wednesday morning coffee has been a wonderful ministry for creating space for relationships to flourish, but are there other things in the evenings or weekends that would better serve those

who cannot attend Wednesday morning? Game nights? Movie showings? Would providing child care increase your likelihood of participating?

King Saul once wrote, "Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed." (Ecclesiastes 4:9)

My prayer is that we might see the importance of making time for one another and reclaim our churches as the place we find peace.

May it be so in us,  
Pastor Brandon Dunham



Pastor  
In Office  
Tuesday &  
Thursday  
Mornings

Friday  
Day Off

.....

## In Christian Sympathy



Becky Diegel

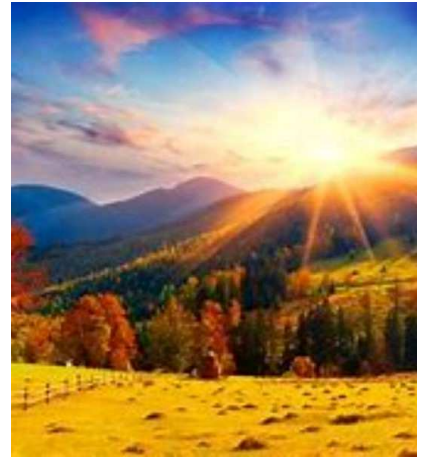
(photo on left)

Died October 22

and

Anita Voss

Died October 26



## Advent Study 2022

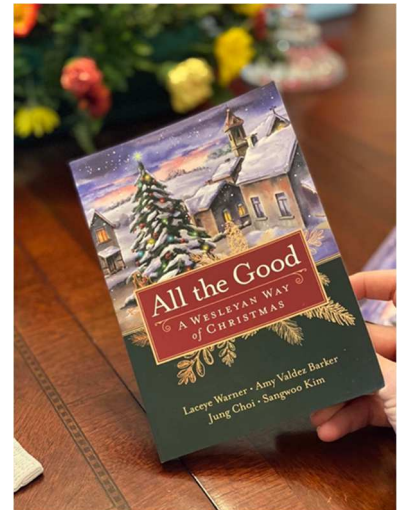
“The season of Advent offers time and space for Christians to prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas through reflecting on the story of salvation.”

This Advent Pastor Brandon will be leading studies in both Groton and Conde through the book *All the Good: A Wesleyan Way of Christmas*. If you wish to participate, books and Advent devotions will be available in both Groton and Conde’s Fellowship Hall’s the week before.

In this season of Advent remember and know God’s goodness and love for us.

Groton Advent Study which begins Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup> will gather Monday evenings at 6pm ending on December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Conde Advent Bible Study which begins Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> will continue to gather Tuesday evenings at 6pm ending on December 21<sup>st</sup>.



### Church Information

Pastor Brandon Dunham  
Office Phone 605-397-8270  
Parsonage Phone 605-397-4538

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



Just like year's past, we will be hosting a Fall dinner in our Fellowship Hall following our worship service on November 13<sup>th</sup>. This is a free meal to all who wish to join us for a time of fellowship and good food, so make sure to spread the word!



GROTON UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH IS HOSTING A

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# FALL DINNER

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**Menu:**  
Roast Beef and  
gravy meal

**Free will offering**  
(Suggested \$7  
donation)

November 13, 2022  
11:30 AM to 1:00 PM  
906 N 1st St, Groton, SD 57445





groton UMYF Events








*Come & Join the*

**FUN!**





  
**2022 GROTON COMMUNITY  
THANKSGIVING DINNER**  
  
**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24**  
  
**GROTON COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**109 3RD STREET**  
  
**DINE IN, CARRY OUT OR HOME DELIVERY**  
  
**FROM 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM**  
  
**FOR RESERVATIONS CALL**  
**397-6693**  
  
**FREE WILL DONATIONS BENEFIT THE  
GROTON COMMUNITY**  
  
**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**  
**TOM & BARB PAEPKE 395-7134 OR 395-7259**

#### Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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



- November 6 – Sunday School 10:30 (Lesson & Begin on Christmas Program)
- November 13 – Sunday School 9:30 (Lesson & Christmas Program)
- November 20 – Sunday School 9:30 (Lesson & Christmas Program)
- November 27 – No SS – Thanksgiving
- December 4 – Sunday School 9:30 (Lesson & Christmas Program)
- December 11 – Sunday School **9:30-11:30** (We will go into church for children's sermon and have a snack, then continue practicing.)
- December 18 - Sunday school Christmas practice 9:30
- **Sunday School Christmas Program (10:30 during church)**
- December 25 – No SS



New Christmas Study "To Live Again" begins on Nov 8 at 10 am. An Advent journey using the Christmas classic "It's A Wonderful Life" by Sheila Jacobs. Be sure to join us for 4 weeks of fun!



## Groton December Family Committee

### Melissa & Neil Gilbert

#### Carna & Cliff Pray

Josh & Merrie Atherton

Pernell Graf, Alex

Kelli & Lars hanson

JR & Paula Johnson

Jane & Marc Johnson

Yvonne Lorenz

Brenda & Tony Madsen

Joe & Belinda Nelson

Tim Olson

John Padfield

Kevin & Kara Pharis

Marc Sippel

Randy & Sue Stanley

### Honorary Members

- Gloria Pharis
- Pat Dahlquist
- Louise Thoreson

### December 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
- 1 Greeter for each Sunday
- Straighten the Sanctuary Pews
- Change the banners as needed as per schedule in back of committee book
- Maintain the Altar Flower Arrangements
- Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons
- Help decorate church with

### November committee

- Prepare Candle table for Christmas Eve Service
- Setup table and lay out candles for Christmas Eve and put them away after the service.
- Shovel snow from doorways before Church.
- Serve at Avantara Nursing Center - 4th Sunday
- Potluck 2nd Sunday - give church secretary details for bulletin

December 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

**SPECIAL  
SUNDAY**

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY

“There is in this world, no such force as the force of a person determined to rise. The human soul cannot be permanently chained.”

—W.E.B. Du Bois

November 27th



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®





## Groton UMW - Oct

The Groton United Methodist Women met on the above date at 1:30pm at the church with 10 members present.

President Jolene Townsend called the meeting to order. The members recited of the UMW Purpose.

Jeanne Wanous read the newsletter announcement of this meeting to decide the future of this unit.

Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

The current treasurer's report is \$1,449.40. An additional \$100.60 was given for missions.

A pastor appreciation card for Pastor Brandon Dunham was signed and a gift of \$50 will be sent to him.

Discussion was held on the options for the future of the organization: 1) Dissolve and empty the bank account. 2) Become an Inactive Unit. 3) Remain as an active unit, but cut back to 2 meetings per year. 4) Continue as an active unit and meet as we are. A paper ballot was distributed to all in attendance. The results were: 10 votes to Dissolve.

Active projects were discussed. Wednesday Coffee will continue under the guidance of Gloria Pharis, Sharon Wheeting, and Val Baker. The books from the reading program will be donated to the church library. Greeting cards will be donated to the church hospitality committee. The church hospitality committee will be encouraged to continue the Secret Angels Program.

The balance of money will be donated to Bags= \$500; Family Crisis= \$400; Groton Transit= \$400 UMC coffee supplies= \$200 on a motion by Val Baker and seconded by Gloria Pharis. All members present voted aye.

Final adjournment of the Groton United Methodist Women was made on a motion by Jeanne Wanous and seconded by Gloria Pharis.

Marjorie Overacker served a delicious lunch.

Anita Lowary, Secretary

### GROTON'S EVENTS

**Nov. 11-13** Front Porch  
605 Christmas at the Barn  
10am-5pm each day

**Nov. 12** American  
Legion Post #39 Turkey  
Party 6:30pm

**Nov. 24** Community  
Thanksgiving at the  
Community Center  
11:30am-1pm

**Dec. 3** Holiday Tour of  
Homes & Silent Auction  
at Olive Grove Golf  
Course 4-7pm

**Dec. 10** Santa Claus  
Day at Professional  
Management Services  
9am-12pm

**Jan. 29, 2023** Groton  
Robotics Pancake Feed  
at the Community  
Center 10am-1pm

**Jan. 29 2023** 85th Carnival of  
Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm



## A Veteran's Service

American hero Eddie Rickenbacker (1890-1973) led a life of daring and risk, from racing cars as a teen to piloting warplanes. Throughout his experiences, Rickenbacker grew in faith while discovering that "life had no meaning except in terms of helping others."

In the first issue of *Guideposts* magazine, Rickenbacker described spending four agonizing months of 1941 in the hospital after an accident. While recovering, he pondered life and death, concluding that he couldn't give up because he still "had work to do, others to serve."

Less than two years later, that ordeal came in handy. After crashing in the South Pacific, Rickenbacker and "seven other starving men" were adrift on a raft for 21 days. Most were "so young they needed the strength and understanding of a man who had been down in the valley of the shadow, who had suffered and made sense out of his suffering," he said. "It was clear to me that God had a purpose in keeping me alive. ... I had been saved to serve."





## Our Church Celebrations...

### Groton

Nov 2 Andrea Eisenbeisz  
 Nov 3 Jon & Gayleen Voss  
 Nov 7 Marva Gellhaus  
 Susan Odland  
 Nov 8 Kodi Hinman  
 Nov 13 Lindsey Tietz  
 Nov 14 Sydney & Trent Kurtz  
 Nov 15 Fred & Elaine Wolken  
 Jack Oliver  
 Nov 17 Delaney Atherton  
 Nov 18 Luverne Strom (85th)  
 Roman Bahr  
 Nov 19 Crystal Strom  
 Garrett Heitmann  
 Michael Krueger  
 Nov 21 Ava Strom  
 Trey Tietz  
 Nov 22 Calli Wilkinson  
 Nov 23 Dwight & Eugenia Strom  
 Francine Sippel  
 Nov 24 Ian & Karen Rose  
 Ian Rose  
 Nov 25 Kari Hanson  
 Raven Bahr

### Conde

Nov 8 Dorothy Sanderson  
 Nov 25 Bud Bruckner  
 Nov 25 Betty Geist



### Addresses for Birthday Cards

Susan Odland  
 321 9th Ave NE Apt 308  
 Aberdeen, SD 57401  
  
 Jack Oliver  
 1907 S Lawson St  
 Aberdeen, SD 57401  
  
 Luverne Strom  
 5702 E Lockwood St  
 Mesa, AZ 85215



Remembering Larry Wheeting - Nov 6th

## A challenging word

Do you not know that God entrusted you with that money — all above what buys necessities for your families — to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to help the stranger, the widow, the fatherless; and, indeed, as far as it will go, to relieve the wants of all mankind? How can you, how dare you, defraud the Lord, by applying it to any other purpose?

—from a sermon by John Wesley

## Groton Ad Council - Oct

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Vice Chairman Lon Gellhaus. Chairman Lars Hanson then arrived and led the meeting. Those in attendance were Jeanne Wanous, Tyke Nyberg, Marjorie Overacker, Allen Walter, Lars Hanson, Meri Erickson & Val Baker.

**Agenda:** The agenda was approved on a motion by Tyke Nyberg.

**Minutes:** The previous minutes were approved on a motion Marjorie Overacker.

**Correspondence:** none

**Committee Reports:** none

**Trustees:** Tyke Nyberg reported that McGannon's have checked our boiler and it is ready to go for the winter.

**Treasurer's Report:**

**Church Treasurer:** Marjorie Overacker explained that an annual check issued in Jan. 2022 for \$7,863.02

from the United Methodist Endowment Fund to Groton UMC to help pay for annual camping fees and building fund needs has been reissued as it was apparently lost in the mail. Once the check is received it will be deposited and used to pay for our camping bill for 10 youth and 3 adults amounting to \$1,320.75. The camping funds are in an endowment given by Mamie Johnson. The balance of the endowment check will be used to reimburse our building fund for the parking lot chip & seal and for upcoming building fund needs. These funds are part of the gifts made to our church by Jerry & Ann Rix and by Dick Voss.

**Bills to be Presented:** none

**Administration Report:** No report as Pastor Brandon was attending the youth hay ride.

**Old Business:**

Apportionment currently at 25%, should we increase?: Meri Erickson

suggested that we table making any increases until January, 2023. All agreed.

**New Business:**

Approve Budget for 2023: After reviewing the proposed budget, Allen Walter made a motion to approve. The motion passed.

Christmas Program: Meri Erickson announced that the annual Children's Christmas Program will be held on Dec. 18 at 10:30 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Secretary,  
Jeanne  
Wanous

**Groton  
Stewardship  
Report Sept 2022**

Average  
Wkly Giving  
\$1,707

Needed Wkly for  
Church Mission  
\$2,353


Average Weekly  
Attendance Sunday  
56

Total Building Fund  
Donations  
for Repairs  
\$5

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ?

Which of the following is not called a "fruit of the Spirit" — but probably could be?

- A. love
- B. faithfulness
- C. self-control
- D. gratitude
- E. gentleness



Answer: D (See Galatians 5:22-23.)





November 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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			

 **NOVEMBER** 2022



## *Our Church Happenings...*

Nov 2 - Groton UMYF Bible Study/ Fellowship 7 pm

Nov 6 - All Saints Sunday

Nov 6 - Daylight Saving Time Ends

Nov 8 - Groton Tues 10 am Bible Study starts Christmas Study

Nov 9 - Groton UMYF Bible Study/ Fellowship 7 pm

**Nov 13 - Groton Fall Dinner 11:30 am - 1:00 pm**

Nov 15 - Conde Ad Council

Nov 16 - Groton UMYF participates with GHS Food Drive 6 pm

Nov 16 - Groton Ad Council 7 pm

Nov 17 - Newsletter items for Dec due

Nov 24 - Thanksgiving Day

Nov 27 - Advent Begins

Nov 27 - UM Student Day Special Offering