



April 2024

906 N 1st St, Groton, SD 57445

...from Pastor Rob

Isaiah 42:1-4 - Here is my servant! I have made him strong. He is my chosen one; I am pleased with him. I have given him my Spirit, and he will bring justice to the nations. He won't shout or yell or call out in the streets. He won't break off a bent reed or put out a dying flame, but he will make sure that justice is done. He won't quit or give up until he brings justice everywhere on earth, and people in foreign nations long for his teaching. (Contemporary English Version)



Living God who humbled Himself to even death on the cross (Phil. 2:5-11). But He's also the one who gives life and energy to each of His children. Happy Easter!

See You in Church.

It's a few days before Palm Sunday so I'm getting swamped with "last minute ideas" for Holy Week. One of the bible websites sending me things sent out, "Scriptures for Holy Week" and this passage from Isaiah was at the top. It has struck a chord with me.

A couple of weeks ago I made the trip to Rapid City to cheer on our Groton Boys Basketball team at the State Tournament. It was fun to be with so many Groton fans cheering on our boys. Besides the families from our church who have players on the team, I visited with several other church people. Even though the outcome of the tournament wasn't in our favor, we finished with a win and our boys gave everything on the court.

A unique aspect to the game of basketball (actually you could apply this to almost any team sport) is the role of the "star" player(s) and the role of the "role" player(s).

Star players are the ones who usually end up with the most points, who make the key shot or hit the homerun or hit the most spikes. People will often keep their eyes on the stars and sometimes go to the games just to watch them. Role players are so named because they "play a role." They might score many points, hit a homerun, or make a few saves, but they are more likely to get rebounds from missed shots, set the ball so someone can get a spike, or get an out in a key spot. Role players do not get noticed or interviewed in the newspaper after the game. They are not out front.

I realize when it comes to Holy Week and Easter Jesus is out at center stage; the focus is on him. He is literally the sacrificial lamb "which takes away the sins of the world." (John 1:29) It is the

work of Jesus through his death on the cross and then his resurrection on Easter Sunday which brings about not only the forgiveness of sin but new life and a restored relationship with God. There is no doubt Jesus is not only the main actor in this drama, he is the star. Nothing in this story happens without him.

Yet Isaiah seems to also suggest Jesus is also a "role player" in these events. He is the servant who is not yelling or screaming, who is not giving up until the job gets done, who God the Father has chosen for the job and is well pleased with him.

I like this side of Jesus. I like watching the role players in sporting competition; they are the ones who "give life" and energy to their teammates.

Yes, Jesus is the star of Easter. He is the Son of the



OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Rob In Office Tuesday & Wednesday Mornings

Monday Day Off



## 3rd Grade Bibles

3rd graders receiving their bibles at the Groton UMC were Rae Flihs, Kaleb Hofer, Haley Erickson, Maci Dunbar.



## Membership Update Letter - Groton

**VIEW OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE!**

FREE App for iPhone, iPad & Android



Our church directory is a great resource tool that allows you to get to know our church family better!

Simply go to the App Store, search for *Instant Church Directory*  and download the FREE app to begin.

You will use your email address listed in the directory to **CREATE A LOGIN** the first time you use the directory app.

If you're not listed in the directory, **OR** if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.

Membership Committee is still working on updating our church directory. You can add the app to your phone with the email address we have on record and submit changes directly through the app. We look forward to your changes and updates!



### Church Information

Pastor Rob Moorlach  
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Parsonage Phone 605-397-4538

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



Confirmation Sunday was March 10 during worship at Groton UMC. Those confirmed were: Brooklyn Spanier, Asher Johnson, Rylie Rose, Easton and Chesney Weber.

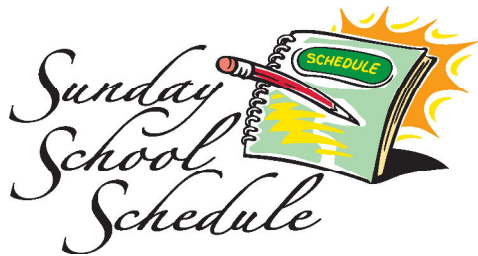


## Senior Recognition - May 5th

The Groton UMC will be honoring our graduates on Sunday, May 5th during coffee hour and the worship service. The seniors are Holden Sippel, Lane Tietz, Tristan Kampa, and Emma Jo Schinkel. Please let the office know of any corrections to this list. Would like to have the seniors email the office a photo and their graduation plans. [grotonumc@nvc.net](mailto:grotonumc@nvc.net)

A final list will be published soon....





April 7 – SS 10:30  
 14 – SS 10:30  
 21 – SS 10:30  
 28 – SS 10:30  
 May 5 – SS 10:30  
 12 – Last Day of SS – Carnival 9:30  
       Sing in church 10:30 (Mother's Day)



## Spring Tea - Bible Study

The Groton Tuesday 10 AM Bible Study hosted a spring tea. We had a short program with the -Tea's found in our Bible Verses. Lunch was served and the conversation was enjoyed by all. All were invited in the community. Special Thank You to Linda Thurston for sharing her tea pots

and china and making cream puffs for dessert.

If you missed our Spring Tea, watch for other events our group may host.

**Program excerpt:**

**Laughabili-TEA** (Proverbs 17:22)  
*A joyful heart helps healing,*

*but a broken spirit dries up the bones.*

Be sure to get a full cup. This blend of tea has medicinal purposes and I sure feel good when I drink this one. May I have a refill, please?

Our next study starts April 9th. It will be Max Lucado "In the footsteps of the Savior" Join us each Tuesday at 10 am.





# *Cinco de Mayo* Taco Bar

**Sunday, May 5th at 11:30 am**

After the Groton UMC  
Worship Service at 10:30 am



*Everyone Welcome!*

*free-will donations*

Hosted by the Groton UMC Missions Committee



**YOU  
BELONG  
HERE!**



**Dakotas  
Annual Conference 2024  
June 6-8,  
Bismarck, North Dakota**



**Jesus.  
Redeemer.**

# Groton Family Committee - May

## Merri & Josh Atherton

## Laurel & Monte McNickle

Evan Erickson

Meri & John Erickson

Marva & Lon Gellhaus

Melissa & Neil Gilbert, Carly

Paula & JR Johnson, Ryder, Asher

Justin Morehouse

Rebecca & Randy Padfield

Marc Sippel

Crystal Strom, Holden, Gage

Tom Strom

Jolene Townsend

Jeanne Wanous

William Zoellner

## Honorary Member

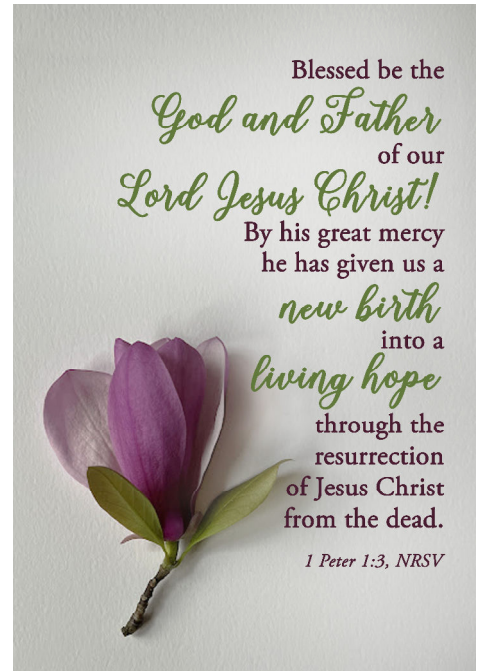
- Rose Tewksbury

## May Responsibilities

- Check Kitchen Supplies for the month
- Check & Clean Oven and Fridge as necessary.
- Coffee Hour workers (make

coffee, provide cookies, laundry 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday - give church secretary details for bulletin
- **Order and Pickup Graduation Cake for coffee hour. Honor the Graduates on Sunday, May 5, 2024**
- 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



May 2024						
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	



# Blessed are You

The Beatitudes receive little attention, lamented novelist Kurt Vonnegut. “But, often with tears in their eyes, [Christians] demand that the Ten Commandments be posted in public buildings. And, of course, that’s Moses, not Jesus. I haven’t heard [anyone] demand that the Sermon on the Mount, the Beati-

tudes, be posted anywhere.”

Jesus’ Beatitudes have much to teach about selflessness, mourning, peacemaking and more. Jim Berger, author of *Being Sermon on the Mount Christians*, explains that those teachings were once “viewed as a mandate for the

faithful.” Post-Reformation, they became less law-like and more of a “liberating directive.” Berger writes, “For Jesus, being and doing are inseparable. The Sermon is at once theory and praxis. It is not enough to read it or hear it. Jesus intends it to be how we live.”



## Our Church Celebrations...

### Groton

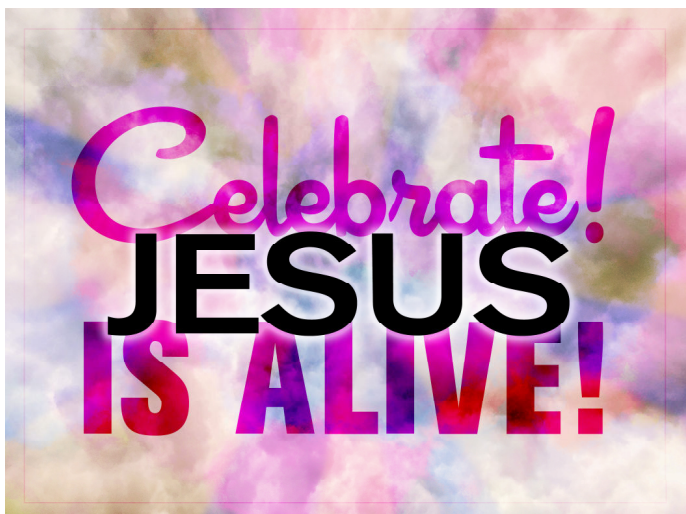
- Apr 3 Elleit Severson  
Maliyah McCranie  
Marc Johnson  
Myndi & Scott Kampa  
Nolan Rose
- Apr 4 Mitchell MNadsen  
Sue Stanley
- Apr 5 Desiree & Corey Foltz
- Apr 7 Jackson & Li8ndsey Strom  
Reilly Ell  
Shelly Lerew
- Apr 8 Lon Gellhaus
- Apr 10 Pauline Luce
- Apr 11 Taylor Thompson
- Apr 12 Erin Bahyr
- Apr 13 Jessica Morehouse
- Apr 14 Toby Dobbins
- Apr 15 Brady Graf  
Nolan Bahr
- Apr 16 Dale & Traci Kramer  
Tom Tietz
- Apr 21 Val Baker
- Apr 22 Ali Pasteur
- Apr 23 Colton Morehouse

- Apr 24 Rae Flihs
- Apr 30 Breslyn Jeschke  
Michael McCranie

### Conde

- Apr 11 Tim Geist  
Audrey Imsland
- Apr 18 Loren Siefken
- Apr 22 Curtis Haskell

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



Use scrap paper to fuel new growth and make a gift that keeps on giving.

**What you need:**

- Scrap paper
- Water
- Herb or flower seeds
- Blender
- Strainer
- Cookie sheet
- Towel
- Adult help

**What you do:**

1. Tear the scrap paper into strips and place in a bowl. Cover the paper with water and let it soak overnight.
2. Pour the mixture into a blender and blend about 10 seconds.
3. Strain and squeeze the paper pulp to remove excess water. Place in a bowl.
4. Sprinkle seeds over the pulp and mix to incorporate them into the pulp.
5. Shape the pulp into a flat layer on the cookie sheet. Use a towel to soak up excess water. Allow the paper to dry completely.
6. Tear paper into shapes or fold into a card. You can plant the paper directly into soil. Water it and then watch your plants grow!

## Ad Council - March Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, AM Mitchell. Those in attendance were Linda Thurston, Carna Atherton-Pray, Anita Lowary, Roger Rix, Lon Gellhaus, Meri Erickson, and Jeanne Wanous. Pastor Rob shared a prayer prior to the discussion of business.

The agenda was approved on a motion from Carna Atherton-Pray.

The previous meeting minutes were approved on a motion from Anita Lowary.

**Correspondence:** Jeanne shared the following items from Dakotas Methodist Foundations: An announcement about a new short-term investment option through Wespath Institutional Investments. From Dakotas Methodist Foundations: A copy of their 2022/2023 Annual Report.

### Committee Reports

Annual Audit: Anita Lowary shared copies of the 2023 audit. She reviewed the components showing: 1) Beginning funds; 2) Revenues; 3) Expenses; and 4) Ending Funds. There were no concerns, however Anita suggested we discontinue keeping a separate account for the Building Fund and combine it with the General Fund. After some further discussion, Roger Rix motioned to go forward with Anita's suggestion. The motion passed.

Membership: Anita shared her report stating that membership letters were sent out to 138 separate families or individuals. There was no response received from 52 families/individuals. This could be because they had no changes, or because they weren't interested. For those members who requested to be withdrawn from our membership list, the committee will go ahead and remove them from the list.

Memorial Report: Linda Thurston reported the following memorial funds:

- Undesignated = \$ 11,186.40
- Designated = \$ 14,762.44
- Total = \$ 25,948.84

Linda shared that memorial funds will be used for new speakers to be installed in the fellowship hall on March 21. In addition, a suggestion by the SS department to

also purchase two microphones at a cost of \$326.98 was agreed to. This will make it possible for the children to be heard by those watching services on the internet. There was additional discussion on going forward with kitchen remodeling using memorial funds. Pastor Rob suggested we have a committee put together recommendations on kitchen remodel details. Meri Erickson & Carna Atherton-Pray volunteered to be on the committee.

**Trustees:** Pastor Rob reported that a new garbage disposal was installed at the parsonage as the other one was impossible to fix.

### Treasurer's Report:

Church Treasurer-Jeanne Wanous: Jeanne stated that she and Kay are working on completing an audit requested by Grinnell Insurance for the period of Nov 7, 2022 – Nov 7, 2023.

Financial Secretary-Allen Walter: no report

Pastor Parish-Meri Erickson: no report

**Bills to be Presented:** Carna presented bills in the amount \$156.35 for replenishment of paper and plastic products for the kitchen. In addition, she presented a bill in the amount of \$207.00 for a second set of adult patches for the new AED, which is now installed in the sanctuary. Linda Thurston motioned to pay both bills, the motion passed.

### Administrative Report:

Pastor Rob: Our upcoming schedule includes Palm Sunday service at 10:30 am, Maundy Thursday service with communion at 6:30 pm and we will share a Good Friday service with Emmanuel Lutheran at their church at 7:00 pm. Carna Atherton-Pray will fill in for Pastor Rob on April 7.

### Old Business:

Fellowship Hall speakers: see above

### New Business:

- Anita Lowary--IRS certified letter received: Anita explained a situation with the IRS where they believe we

didn't pay payroll taxes for one quarter in 2018. After some discussion, the board suggested the fastest way to resolve this would be to go directly to the IRS office in Aberdeen to get a resolution to the issue.

- vMix Request by Kay Daly: Kay would like permission to buy a vMix live production video mixer and switcher for Windows at a cost of \$350 if the free version she applied for does not come through. This will allow us to stream services on both Facebook and YouTube at the same time. Anita Lowary moved to approve Kay's request and the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Secretary,

Jeanne Wanous
















<b>Groton Stewardship Report Feb 2024</b>
Average Wkly Giving \$1,369
Needed Wkly for Church Mission \$2,393
Average Weekly Attendance Sunday 60
Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs \$7,030





April 2024

Groton UMC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>31</p>  <p>(white or gold)  <b>Easter Sunday</b>                      7:00am Groton Sunrise Service                      8:00am Coffee Hour with Egg Hunt                      8:30am Conde Worship                      10:30am NO Groton Worship                      10:30am NO Sunday School</p>	<p>1</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>11:00am Bible Study MTG AT DQ                      3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown                      4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>3</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>
<p>7</p>  <p>2nd Sunday of Easter (white or gold)                      Communion in Worship (white)                      8:30am Conde Worship                      9:30am Coffee Hour                      10:30am Groton Worship                      10:30am Sunday School                      11:30am Missions Meeting</p>	<p>8</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>10:00am Bible Study (New Study Begins)                      3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown                      4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>10</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>12</p> 	<p>13</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>
<p>14</p> <p>3rd Sunday of Easter (white or gold)                      Native American Ministries Sunday                      8:30am Conde Worship                      9:30am Coffee Hour                      10:30am Groton Worship                      10:30am Sunday School</p>	<p>15</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study                      3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown                      4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>17</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour                      7:00pm Groton Ad Council</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>
<p>21</p> <p>4th Sunday of Easter (white or gold)                      8:30am Conde Worship                      9:30am Coffee Hour                      10:30am Groton Worship                      10:30am Sunday School</p>	<p>22</p>  <p><b>Earth Day</b>                      11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study                      3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown                      4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>24</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Newsletter Items Due                      10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>26</p> 	<p>27</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>
<p>28</p>  <p>5th Sunday of Easter (white or gold)                      Missions creating May Baskets for Aventara &amp; Rosewood                      8:30am Conde Worship                      9:30am Coffee Hour                      10:30am Groton Worship                      10:30am Sunday School</p>	<p>29</p> <p>11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study                      3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown                      4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center</p>	<p>1</p>  <p>9:30am Community Coffee Hour</p>	<p>2</p>  <p><b>National Day of Prayer</b>                      10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary</p>	<p>3</p> 	<p>4</p> <p>10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown</p>



## *Our Church Happenings...*

Apr 9 Groton Tuesday 10 AM Bible Study will start a new study

Apr 17 Groton Ad Council

Apr 28 Groton Missions Committee Creating Baskets during Coffee Hour

May 5 Groton Honoring Graduates

May 5 Groton Missions Committee serving a Taco Bar at 11:30 am

April 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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