



Groton & Conde & Britton UMC

Newsletter

May 2025

906 N 1st St, Groton, SD 57445

...Pastor Rob's Ponderings

"This miraculous sign at Cana in Galilee was the first time Jesus revealed his glory. And his disciples believed in him."

John 2:11

I've been pondering this verse for awhile. A couple of weeks ago I preached on the first miracle of Jesus from John's Gospel in which he changed water into wine. In the message I asked the question, "When was the last time you've seen a miracle?" (In Groton, I talked to the children about the "miracle" of running water in my grandparent's farmhouse, perhaps not the best example of a "miracle."). Over the past couple of days I've come to realize I should have asked the question in a different way. I should have asked, "When was the last time you saw the glory of God in your life?" This question is more relatable, and more importantly, like the miracle of turning water into wine, it brings the focus back to Jesus doing the work (ie. "*this* was the first time Jesus revealed his glory."). Let me give you a good example. Yesterday, I was driving my early morning bus route when



after driving into a farmyard, I was amazed to see a picturesque sky as we headed East out of the farmyard. The clouds had an amazing reddish pink color which billowed over and over from the horizon. It was so amazing several high schoolers stood on the bus and tried to capture it on their cell phones. I slowed down and even asked if they wanted me to stop for a minute so they could capture the scene. It was truly amazing! I've seen vistas in the mountains at sunrise or sunset which will take your breath away. I've viewed the wonderful expanse of the sea shimmering at sunrise and sunset from cruise ships. And it's pretty hard to describe sunsets on the rolling prairies of South

Dakota or southern Minnesota.

Yet, Jesus revealed His glory again yesterday. Perhaps He was trying to get my attention as to what His glory can really do. I don't want to trivialize miracles or even the working of God. Many of us have seen amazing pictures in the skies created by our environment, and there are many amazing things we may see, hear or touch which make us smile, shake our heads, or even feel warm inside.

What I'm describing, though, are those "glory sightings" which turn our hearts and minds back to Jesus. The miracles in John's Gospel were "signs" of Jesus – who He is and what He came to do. I'm sure I've seen the same

atmospheric conditions which caused the clouds to turn an amazing color before. What got me thinking about God's glory was I think Jesus gave me this wonderful gift.

When was the last time you saw His glory?
See you in church!

Pastor Rob wrote this article some time ago so I would have a few on hand. Well, with him in the hospital, this is a very appropriate message for us all.

OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Rob
In Office
Tuesday &
Thursday
Evenings
6-8 pm

Monday
Day Off

Olson Family Thank You



We just wanted to send a big Thank You to everyone at UMC for all of the prayers and support you've shown us over the past few months after Max was diagnosed with Leukemia. We feel very blessed to have joined this church family recently and are especially thankful to the Caring Team for their recent collection of funds. We are so very appreciative of this support. Overall, Max has responded well to treatment but some of the side effects have been tough. He has a little over 2 more years of chemotherapy left. We appreciate all of the continued prayers! Love, the Olson Family



Church Information

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Parsonage Phone 605-397-4538

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Secretary Email: grotonumc@nvcnet
Website: www.grotonumc.org
Facebook: facebook.com/grotonsdumc/
906 N 1st St Groton, SD 57445



Taylor Diegel
Mitchell Tech
Linesman



Jaden Dobbins
Working at
Rick's Heating and AC



Jaeger Kampa
Lake Area Tech
Building Trades



Karsten Jeschke
Undecided
Fishing



Emily Overacker
Lake Area Tech
Physical Therapy



May 11
During Worship
at 9:30 am
Reception following

*Gift/Card Table
in the fellowship hall*



Levi Parrow
Undecided
Farming



Turner Thompson
SDSU
Accounting



Congratulations to all our Grads!



Conde MISSION STATEMENT

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



Groton UMC
MAY 4 – SS 9:30
MAY 11 – 9:30 (Sing in church-Mother’s Day)



Groton Family Committee - June

June 2025 Chairpersons

Peggy and Harlan Place
Adrienne and Tigh Fliehs

Brian Bahr

Val Baker

Angela and Perryn Dobbins

Kristin Dolan

Adrienne and Tigh Fliehs

Cheryl Hanson

Sarah and Rick Hofer

Linda and Jay Johnson

Yvonne Lange

Shelly Lerew

Kami and Tom Lipp

Laurie and AM Mitchell

Chuck Padfield

Joey and Sabrina Padfield

Karla Pasteur

Peggy and Harlan Place

Sue and Randy Stanley

Crystal Strom

Todd Thurston

Honorary Members


Marie McClintic & Larry Schnaidt
Ida Hannon
Gloria Pharis
Judy Zeck

- ◆ 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
- ◆ 5th Sunday may buy donuts and give bill to church treasurer

GROTON UMC OFFERING STATISTICS

June 2025									
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								

	Offering Received	Needed for Budget	Average Attendance	Received for Building Maintenance
2025 Month				
January	5521	9249	44	255
February	5753	9249	42	205
March	8209	9249	55	405
April				
May				
June				
July				
August				
September				
October				
November				
December				
YTD Totals	19483	27747		865

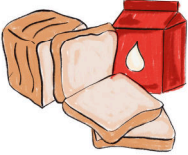


Teatime treat

Make these sweet sandwiches for a Mother's Day tea party.


What you need:

- 4 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 3 Tablespoons powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 6-10 strawberries, washed and sliced
- 6 slices of white bread
- Cellophane
- Adult help



What you do:

1. With an electric mixer, whip the cream cheese in a bowl until fluffy.
2. Add cream, powdered sugar, and lemon juice. Continue whipping on high speed until mixture is stiff.
3. On each slice of bread, spread a layer of the mixture. Then arrange some sliced strawberries on top.
4. Place the sandwiches together, with filling on the inside.
5. Wrap tightly in cellophane. Chill for two hours so the filling sets.
6. Trim off crusts with a serrated knife. Cut sandwiches in squares or triangles. Serve and enjoy!



Our Church Celebrations...

Groton

May 3 Kim Weber
 May 4 Evan Erickson
 Tom Strom
 May 5 Gary Thurston
 Marlee Jones
 Tony & Brenda Madsen
 May 6 Clint Jacobson
 May 7 Gabbie Kramer
 Rebecca Padfield
 Tigh Hank Irvin Fliehs
 May 8 Austin Jones
 Dale Kramer
 John Lowary
 Rob Wanous
 May 10 John & Anita Lowary
 Emma Davies
 May 13 Doris Strom (100)
 May 14 Linda Johnson
 Pam Rix
 May 17 Cliff & Carna Pray
 Faith Johnson
 Matt & Casey Johnson
 May 18 Kaylee Hofer
 May 19 John Erickson
 Nancy Hindricks
 Scott Kampa
 Taylor Diegel

May 20 Tom & Kami Lipp
 May 21 Mitchell & Megan Madsen
 May 24 Katie Anderson
 May 25 Adrienne Fliehs
 Beau Bahr
 Beau Madsen
 J.R. Johnson
 May 26 Dion & Sam Bahr
 May 27 Luverne & Carol Strom
 May 28 Cheryl Hanson
 May 30 Kami Lipp
 Karlie Olson
 Morgan McCranie
 Randy & Rebecca Padfield
 May 31 J.R. & Paula Johnson
 Matt Johnson

Conde

May 7 Jane Worlie

Britton

May 28 Andrew Bolzer
 May 30 Lana & Dan Schott

Please help us update this list if your celebration is missing. Thank you.



Doris Strom
May 13th

Derian Place
1801 3rd Ave SE #4
Aberdeen, SD 57401



May 2025

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

**Dakotas Annual
 Conference**
June 6-8
Mitchell,
South Dakota



**Created for
 Love**

Groton Ad Council - April

Chairman AM Mitchell called the meeting to order. Those in attendance were AM Mitchell, Jeanne Wanous, Allen Walter, Lon Gellhaus, Linda Thurston, Cliff & Carna Pray, Anita Lowary, and Jolene Townsend. Carna Atherton-Pray shared a prayer prior to conducting business.

By general consensus both the agenda and the previous minutes were approved.

Correspondence: Jeanne Wanous shared the following...

Dakotas Conf. sent out information on several companies to consider if we are thinking of making any changes in the future for insurance and liability coverage.

Kessler's of Aberdeen sent a notice to inform us that because of new ownership, any charge accounts we may have had are now closed.

Dakotas Methodist Foundations Annual Report booklets came in the mail and were made available to council members who were interested.

Committee Reports

Membership—Anita Lowary: no report

Memorial—Linda Thurston: no report

Missions - Val Baker: no report

Caring Team—Jolene Townsend:

Jolene shared that she and several Caring Team members as well as some Ad Council members had just delivered Easter cards, children's gifts, and monetary donations collected from the Groton UMC members to the Brad & Karlie Olson family to help with the costs associated with Max's

cancer treatments, and to wish them all a blessed Easter.

Jolene also suggested that we schedule a church yard clean-up. The council agreed to schedule this for Wednesday, April 30 at 10:30 am following the weekly coffee gathering. A second time is also scheduled for later that day, April 30 at 4:00 pm, for anyone who couldn't be there at 10:30 am session.

Pastor/Parish Relations: Carna Atherton-Pray

Groton/Conde/Britton Organization: The group met in April but will not meet in May. They are planning to be doing a survey/assessment of all three church congregations to gain insight into what is going well and what needs improvement. In addition, the group is scheduled to do a parsonage walkthrough with all three churches on May 28. Many in this group have never seen the parsonage.

Trustees—Cliff Pray:

Cliff shared concerns about our church's front door not always being open when people are here, which is a safety issue if attendees need to exit in a hurry out the front door. Cliff will investigate possible solutions for this issue.

Cliff has not reviewed the issue discussed at the Feb. meeting regarding our church security cameras going off and on. Anita Lowary volunteered to speak with the Groton city to see if they might have some insight.

Treasurer's Report:

Church Treasurer-Jeanne Wanous: see monthly report

Financial Secretary-Allen Walter: no report

Pastor Parish-Meri Erickson: no report

Administrative Report: Pastor Rob was not able to attend.

Old Business:

The BAGS Program: It was noted that according to the published school board minutes, the school board did approve setting up a separate account for the BAGS program to be managed by the school vs. the Groton UMC.

CPR Class: Carna Atherton-Pray stated that the CPR Class was held at our church on April 9 with four Groton UMC members attending.

New Business:

Plans are being made by the Caring Team to celebrate our Groton UMC senior graduates. The date is not yet set.











The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

Secretary, Jeanne Wanous



Groton UMC

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 2nd Sunday of Easter (White or Gold) 8:15am Conde Worship 9:30am Groton Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Coffee Hour 11:15am Britton UMC Worship	28 11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center	29 10:00am Bible Study New Study Begins - James 3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown 4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center	30  Early Bird Camp Registration Ends 9:30am Community Coffee Hour 10:30am Church Yard Cleanup 4:00pm Church Yard Cleanup Round 2	1 National Day of Prayer 10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary	2 6:30pm Swanson Piano Recital	3 10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown
4  3rd Sunday of Easter (white or gold) Communion in Worship (white) 8:15am Conde Worship 9:30am Groton Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Coffee Hour 11:15am Britton UMC Worship	5 11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center	6 10:00am Bible Study 3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown 4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center	7  9:30am Community Coffee Hour	8 10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary	9	10 10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown
11  4th Sunday of Easter (white or gold) Graduate Sunday Mother's Day 8:15am Conde Worship 9:30am Groton Worship 9:30am Sunday School (Sing in Church) 10:30am Coffee Hour 11:15am Britton UMC Worship	12 11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center	13  10:00am Bible Study 3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown 4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center 7:00pm Missions Committee Meeting	14  9:30am Community Coffee Hour	15 10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary	16	17 10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown
18 5th Sunday of Easter (white or gold) 8:15am Conde Worship 9:30am Groton Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour 11:15am Britton UMC Worship	19 11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center	20 10:00am Bible Study 3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown 4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center	21  9:30am Community Coffee Hour 7:00pm Groton Ad Council	22  Newsletter Items Due 10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary	23	24 10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown
25 6th Sunday of Easter (white or gold) 8:15am Conde Worship 9:30am Groton Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour 11:15am Britton UMC Worship	26  Memorial Day 11:00am The Pantry at Groton Community Center	27 10:00am Bible Study 3:00pm Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown 4:00pm The Pantry at Groton Community Center	28  9:30am Community Coffee Hour	29 10:00am Sunday Items Due for Secretary	30	31 10:00am Common Cents Community Thrift Store Downtown

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Our Church Happenings...

- May 11 Groton Honoring our Graduates during worship/coffee hour
- May 11 Groton Sunday School singing during worship
- May 11 Mother's Day
- May 13 Groton Missions Committee Mtg 7 pm
- May 21 Groton Ad Council
- May 22 Newsletter Items Due
- May 26 Memorial Day

