

Groton Assembly of God

JULY 2025 NEWSLETTER

PASTOR'S PEN

Chosen

Do you remember how when you were a child in gym class, teams were picked by a team captain pointing out people one at a time? In my illustrious early career as an athlete, I was chosen last or next to last pretty much every time until a new classmate became a friend and began choosing me earlier.

Some of us feel in our lives as though we are still being picked last. While we are not being chosen for a sports team, that feeling of rejection and shame hangs on us. We approach every new situation with a mindset that we are somehow unworthy. We anticipate not seeing any more donuts, receiving the smallest piece of pizza, having to eat all of the cabbage and carrots that remain in the salad bowl.

But I have good news for you, my friend: You *are* chosen, if you have received Christ as your Lord and Savior. You are a child of God, whom God chose before the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:4). Yes, He looked down through time, saw you, and *chose you*.

Some will say, "Well God chooses everyone." That could not be more wrong. While He creates every person, those who actually love Him and follow Him—who are chosen—are very few (Matthew 7:13-14).

Not only has God chosen you, but He has called you *special* and made you a *royal*

priest (1Peter 2:9-10). Do you hear that? You are *royalty*. And you are a *priest*—part of the royal priesthood that serves Jesus.

The next time the thoughts come that somehow you were created less than wonderful or that all of creation sees you as less than desirable, look at yourself in the mirror and say this: "I have been chosen by God Almighty, and He has made me a member of His royal priesthood. He calls me *special*."

And when the enemy comes around and whispers, "Loser. You'll always be last," say to him, "I am chosen by God to be a royal priest for Jesus!"

July Service Schedule

Sunday, July 6 (No livestream)

9 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. – Life Groups
10 a.m. – Missionaries from sensitive country

Sunday, July 13

9 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. – Life Groups
10 a.m. – "For Intimacy with God"

Sunday, July 20

9 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. – Life Groups
10 a.m. – "For Living with God" water baptisms

Sunday, July 27

9 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. – Life Groups
10 a.m. – "For God's Work: Hear This"

July Birthdays:

- 1 Linda Hull
- 3 Sariah Rivera
- 4 Lucas Rivera
- 5 Corrine Jaquith
- 7 Linda Garv
- 9 Tony Lanzilotta, Caesar Torres
- 11 Laurie Wright, Peggy Cortright
- 13 Leilani Norman
- 14 Samantha Rivera
- 15 Zachary Hurlbut
- 16 Paul Eveleigh, Solomon Lamb
- 17 Charlotte Webb
- 18 Dave Hull
- 19 Diana Buckingham
- 19 Andrew Woodard
- 20 Malaki Morse, Mike Sears, Jr.
- 21 Martin Sears
- 22 Tyler Fausel
- 23 Levi Starnier, Joyce Landcastle
- 24 Joan Price
- 28 Jim Hacker
- 30 Clifford Ostrander, Emma Clark

July Anniversaries:

- 7/1/23 Keith & Marcia Blanchard
- 7/15/95 John & Tammy Conner
- 7/16/22 Cody & Sammie Price
- 7/16/22 Paul & Oksana Morse
- 7/18/81 Sam & Cheryl Rose
- 7/18/15 Tyler & Sarah Fausel
- 7/18/98 Chuck & Penny Hendrickson
- 7/24/16 Elias & Samantha Rivera



Adopt a Missionary

The program was started a few years ago to solicit prayer coverage for our missionaries and missions programs. As our missionary family grew, it became evident that we needed the congregation to take ownership of a "missionary." From those early years, we grew to where we are today, supporting 24 world missionaries, 7 U.S. missionaries, and 5 missions ministries.

Would you pray and ask the Lord if you should be involved? The requirements are simple:

- ☐ There is no financial commitment.
- ☐ You do not need to correspond with your missionary.
- ☐ You do not need to send gifts (birthdays/anniversaries).
- ☐ You do need to pray for your missionary/mission program at least one minute every day. For this reason, it is important that you contact your missionary/ministry to be put on their mailing list. That way, you will receive updates and timely prayer needs.

The following missionaries/missions programs STILL need prayer coverage:

- ☐ Steve & Jill McCarty, Uruguay
- ☐ Doug & Jackee Raught, IMM (International Media Ministry), Spain
- ☐ Hope Twitchell, Thailand
- ☐ Stephen & Sonia Wallace, Finland
- ☐ 107th Psalm Christian Family, Williams Street, Groton

If interested in committing to pray for one of these missionaries/ministries, please see the display in the foyer. There is a form on the table for you to fill out and return to Laurie Wright, Coordinator for A-A-M. You will also find information about all our missionary family. If you would like to "adopt" someone else, please note that on the form.

JULY EVENTS

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Sign-up with P. Sam and Penny Neno (607) 898-5163. Must attend both Sundays: **July 13 & 20** immediately following 10 am service. Bring a dish-to-pass.



CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

9 a.m. Sundays.

This Life Group for youth & adults will help you answer **WHY WE BELIEVE** not just what we believe as followers of Christ.

- July 6. P. Sam, Gender Dysphoria
- July 13. Penny Neno, Eternal Security
- July 20. Alan Kress, Positive Confessions
- July 27. Gabriella Kress, Wm in Ministry
- August 3. Steve Chandler, Alcohol
- August 10. Alan Kress, Beginning of Life
- August 17. Gabriella Kress, End of Life
- August 24. P. Sam, Kingdom of God
- August 31. Penny Neno, Final Judgment



Life Group Kids (K-4), Preschool & Nursery Rescue Ready: Fire, Police, Paramedic, Sea Rescue, and Mountain Rescue.

AUGUST EVENTS

Vacation Bible School, August 10-14 , 6-8:30 p.m. **Journey to the Wild West!**



Howdy there, partner! Grab yer stirrups and lasso, and hightail it out west to Wonder Junction where kids will marvel at Jesus and learn that we live for His glory.

Come Join the Parade

You are invited to join us as we represent Groton Assembly of God in this year's Groton Old Home Days Parade (GOHD). The date for this year's parade is **Saturday, August 23, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** If you are marching with us, we really want you to wear a BLUE "You Matter" T-shirt. We will be placing another order for T-shirts in mid-July. See the display in the foyer, and sign-up for a T-shirt. Please mark your calendars and reserve this date for the parade! Speak with Laurie Wright if you have questions. NOTE: We hope to offer an alternative mode of transportation for those who want to participate but are unable to march the entire parade route.

Names withheld, Morocco

Supported by Groton AG

We have returned to our mission field: Morocco. When we landed, we officially stepped into our new roles as the team leaders. We have such an amazing group of people on our team. Currently it's us, another family, and a single gal from Romania. It's been a joy getting to do life with them! The other family here has a 2-year-old boy that our girls have loved getting to play with.

We found a new home and moved in shortly after arriving! The home is unique as it has been lived in by other believers for decades. The landlord knew that we were searching for a new home, and he called us to see if we wanted to move in! It's been such a neat thing moving into a home that has been covered in prayer for years and years. We have a beautiful garden, lots of outdoor space for our girls to play, and plenty of space to host our team as well as visiting groups. We're all very happy with our new home.

There has been a door open to work alongside a local church leader. They asked if we could host their weekly church gathering each Sunday, and we've been doing that since February. It's a small group of believers. Usually, it's anywhere between 2 and 4 people that attend each week. A local guy leads the group, and we are just there to support him! The men go out together weekly for Bible study and encouragement with other men who are new believers.



My wife also meets with 2 ladies on our team who have also been hosting a weekly Bible study with a few local ladies.

Right now, it's just 2 local girls coming, but we are praying that this little group would grow, not only in quantity but in depth of their love for Jesus! She and the girls also befriended a young lady who works at a shop in our neighborhood. She tries to stop by and see her at least once a week. She has been able to share several Bible stories with her. After sharing the Easter story with her, the girl asked if she could read it somewhere. She sent her the whole story from the

Bible. Would you be praying for this girl as she's showing interest in learning more?

Prayer Requests:

1. Pray for the local church meeting at our home. Pray for a boldness to come upon these local believers and that all would view themselves as disciplinarians.
2. Pray for the girl who read the Easter Story in the Bible. Pray that her eyes would be opened to the truth of the gospel.
3. Back in February, she accidentally cut her finger really deep while slicing a lemon. She still has pain in that finger and nerve damage. Would you pray for healing?
4. We are in need of finding a trustworthy person to watch our girls a few times each week. All our other childcare options have fallen through. Would you pray that we can find someone?



**Names
withheld,
India
Supported by
Groton AG**



[Editor's note: At least two attacks on Christians are being reported every day in India this year, according to new figures released by the Christian advocacy group United Christian Forum.]

We leave July 8th! We are going home! Asia is home to us. While we are sad to say goodbye to the people we love here in America, we are thankful to be able to say yes to Jesus. We are believing in faith for the following needs and ask for your prayers:

Wisdom as we make final decisions and plan for our big move. Our remaining projected budget to be raised. Pray that all the paperwork (and in turn, our business visas) to be completed and approved in a timely manner. We are still waiting on this. The Lord's leading and discernment as we look for and rent a home in India. We know that the location is key to our ability to openly share the gospel in our home. We are asking the Lord to part the waters and lead us to the right home. Sensitivity to the needs of our children. There is so much for their little hearts to process.

Terry & Bridget Rosch, Panama Supported by Groton AG

We need you! We are asking God to send laborers for the harvest in Panama. We need the next generation to come alongside of us in Panama.

Please pray for healing for our hearts as we grieve the loss of Bridget's beloved father. Pray for more opportunities to work in the unreached areas of Panama. Pray for favor with landowners as churches in some areas are having difficulty purchasing land for their buildings. And pray for our young adult children who remain in the United States.

Jason and Sheila Fisher, England Supported by Groton AG

While overall church attendance In Great Britain is in decline, people are flocking to Catholic and Pentecostal churches. Reports also show that church attendance for people ages 18-33 has more than doubled since 2018. They are calling it a "quiet revival."

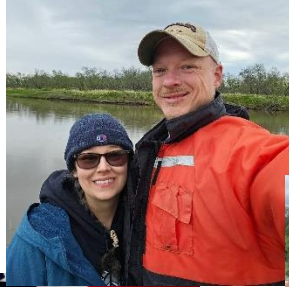
At the AG Great Britain in May 2025, we celebrated 10 new church plants in 3 years. Our 6-year goal is 400 churches. Pray for the XM team and the new training and strategic systems that need to be put into place to accelerate our efforts. Pray for our colleagues in Liverpool who are planting Heart Liverpool church this summer. Pray for LifeChurch as we look for more ways to engage with the lost in our community.

Our daughter, Grace begins high school (6th grade) next year. Pray for us as we navigate Grace's school transition in the coming months.

**Rev. Phillip and Rev.
Amy Boswell, U. S.
Missionaries, Alaska
Friends of Groton AG**

Greetings from Anchorage Native Assembly of God church! Every year, I am privileged to serve at Camp Agaiutim Nune, The Place of God, near Emmonak, AK. Camp A.N. is located in remote western Alaska, in the Lower Yukon delta.

This unusual camp was made possible by the help of the Holy Spirit and many donors throughout the country. Electricity is provided with the camp's diesel generator. Such amenities as running water or sewer, telephones, stores, or any other conveniences are not available in the area. All our supplies (including drinking water) and equipment are shipped from Anchorage into the village of Emmonak then taken by boat the last 17 miles to the campsite. Our only neighbors are a handful of fish camps and the wildlife in the area.



We held the 2025 Kids Camp June 16-21 and Teen Camp June 23-29. This year before camp began, we completed a second dorm for the boys. And this year, for the first few days of camp, it also snowed.

Morning chapel and evening services are distinctly marked by God's presence through worship, singing, God's Word and the time around God's altar. Several young adults have come through Kid's Camps, Teen Camps, and Teen Discipleship Camps and today are leading ministry in youth groups in Alaska's villages.

During the week, the kids and teens also participate in activities, crafts, recreation, and hanging out at the "Moose Canteen." Every day is aimed to help them learn there is a God in heaven that loves them and wants a personal relationship with them.

The last night of Teen Camp is a special service called Family Camp. Families come from the local villages to enjoy the presence of God and Christian fellowship. The songs vary from the traditional Yupik language to English. Many testimonies are shared and there is always a powerful time of ministry of the Word of God and at the altar afterward.