



CONRAD LUTHERAN PARISH

LOGOS

NOTE: This newsletter is a combined newsletter for July and August.

WORSHIP TIMES

8:30 a.m. Golden West, fellowship at 8 a.m.

10 a.m. Pondera Valley, fellowship afterward

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



Pastor Jeff Driscoll
Kim Wiest, Admin. Assistant
Office # 271-3934
P.O. Box 883
Office Hours:
Pastor: Mon. - Weds., 9 -12
Kim: Mon. - Thurs., 9-4
In an emergency call:
Pastor Jeff, 360-631-4707 or
Kim Wiest, 406-450-5821.
conradlutheran@gmail.com
Kim will be out of the office
6/29-7/2; 7/31-8/5; 8/26-8/31

July 5th 11:30 a.m. Community-wide Potluck Picnic in the Pool Park, (following regular worship). Sponsored by the Conrad Ministerial Assoc. Meat provided, bring: salad or dessert to share, your own plate, utensils, drink, chair/blanket



Get excited for

Day Camp & VBS!
at Pondera Valley Lutheran Church

DAY CAMP is July 13-17, 9 - 1:30 each day for campers 1st grade through 6th grade. They need to bring a sack lunch each day.

VBS is July 13-15, 9 - 11 for campers in Preschool through Kindergarten.

REGISTER on the morning of or pick up a form at the church or online, www.conradlutheran.com/informed

Potluck & Program Thurs. July 16th at 5:30 p.m. for all campers. Everyone is invited!

Help Provide: Cookies, Lunches and Dinners for Counselors; See sign-ups at church



Thank you to the radio broadcast sponsors of: **July 5th at 11 a.m. on KZIN, 96.7 FM:** Linda VanTongeren in loving memory of her husbands: **Jerry Smith and Maynard VanTongeren** and her 3 children: **April, Teresa, and Jeffrey** and grandson **Timothy.** **AND BY** Ryan & Elodie Rauscher in loving memory of her parents: **Leonard & Marie Armstrong.**

August 2nd at 11 a.m. on KZIN, 96.7 FM: Ray & Kim Hofstad in loving memory of their parents: **Harris & Bernadine Hofstad** and **Math & Doris Dasinger** and their grandparents.
God bless the hearing of His word!

From the Pastor

"The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear."

— Mark 4:28

Drive through the countryside in the season after Pentecost and you will see it everywhere: field upon field of wheat standing tall under a wide summer sky, green deepening toward gold, heavy heads beginning to bow with the weight of grain not yet ready to harvest. It is one of the most patient sights in all of creation — life doing its quiet, unhurried work beneath the sun.

It is no accident that the Church colors her altar cloths green during this long stretch of Ordinary Time, the season that runs from Pentecost Sunday all the way to the end of November. Green is the color of growth. Not the dramatic green of spring's first shoots, nor the urgent green of seedlings racing for light — but the steady, confident green of something that has taken root and is, by God's grace, becoming what it was always meant to be.

The farmer who plants wheat in the spring does not stand in the field each morning demanding that the grain grow faster. He prepares the soil, he sows the seed, he tends to what needs tending — and then he trusts. He trusts the rain. He trusts the sun. He trusts the slow, invisible work happening beneath the surface, in the dark, where no human eye can follow. Jesus knew this world intimately. He walked through grain fields on the Sabbath. He told stories about seeds and sowers, about wheat and weeds growing side by side until the harvest. He understood that the kingdom of God does not arrive with noise and spectacle but grows the way wheat grows — quietly, persistently, according to a timetable that belongs to God alone.

This is precisely what the green season invites us to remember about our own lives of faith. After

the great feasts — Christmas, Easter, Pentecost — the calendar settles into something more ordinary. There are no trumpets in late June. There are no candlelit processions in August. There is simply the long, green work of becoming. The work of reading Scripture slowly and letting it take root. The work of prayer that sometimes feels dry and unproductive, like a field in a rainless week. The work of service rendered without applause. The work of staying faithful when nothing feels particularly dramatic or holy.

Martin Luther knew this kind of ordinary faithfulness well. He wrote that a Christian's life is not one long mountaintop experience but a daily dying and rising — small, repeated, unglamorous. The farmer rising before dawn to check the soil knows something about this. The faith that endures is not the faith of great spiritual highs but of daily return: returning to the Word, to the Table, to prayer, to the neighbor in need. Returning, even on the days when the field looks unchanged and the growth is invisible.

But the wheat does grow. Slowly, cell by cell, it fills out and rises, and in its own time it bends toward harvest. So too the soul tended by Word and Sacrament. God is not idle in the ordinary. He is, in fact, doing his most patient and profound work precisely when we cannot see it — knitting faith deeper into the bones, shaping character through the steady rhythms of faithfulness, preparing a harvest that will one day exceed anything we imagined when the Holy Spirit first planted the first small seed of trust.

The green altar cloth is not a sign that nothing is happening. It is a sign that everything is happening — quietly, steadily, in God's own good time.

— Pastor Jeff



PONDERA VALLEY

Sound: *In loving memory of Dawne Stokes - Betty Olson, Agnes Fowler,
In loving memory of Diana Hoy - Betty Olson*

General PV& GW: *In loving memory of all recently deceased - Robert Skorupa
In loving memory of Jim Havens - Keith & Helen Hruska*

Youth/Ed.: *In loving memory of Dawne Stokes - Marilyn Waite*

GOLDEN WEST GW Women: *In loving memory of Virginia Bliss - Jim & Chris Bjelland,
Ron & Cathi Henry; In loving memory of Dawne Stokes - Jim & Chris Bjelland*

If You're a Thrivent Member, You Can Direct Dollars to the church....Here's How!

Online:

1. Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice
2. Click on "log in" at the top right of your screen and enter your MyThrivent user ID and password. (If you haven't registered, click on "register now" to register for full access.)
3. Look for your designated Choice Dollars amount on the right side of the screen.
4. Click on "Direct Choice Dollars" in the Thrivent Choice box on your MyThrivent page.

5. Search the catalog of organizations to find your choice, ex. "Pondera Valley Lutheran Church".
6. Click on "Direct Choice Dollars Now" to direct your designated Choice Dollars to benefit that organization.

By phone:

1. Call 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted, say, "Thrivent Choice".
2. When prompted, say, "Choice Dollars."

3. Say or enter your Social Security number.
4. Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars or press 2 to hear the Thrivent Choice program terms and conditions.
5. A representative will then work with you to direct Choice Dollars.

Help choose where Thrivent Financial for Lutherans gives back! If you don't, Thrivent Financial chooses.



♥ Thank you volunteers delivering Meals on Wheels some of you twice in May and June!: Jordan Johnson & Kim Wiest, Linda Carlson, Ryan & Elodie Rauscher, Page Russett, Kim & Ray Hofstad, Shauna Ellefsen, Karla Breeding & Flying S Title & Escrow, and Gail & Mike Klette. If any one would like to volunteer for Meals on Wheels, please call the office, 406-271-3934.

♥ Thank you to the volunteers that carried the office while Kim was gone: Page Russett, Betty Olson, Linda & Lyn Carlson, and Pat Lee. You are all awesome and appreciated!!

♥ Thanks to everyone who donated storage containers, sorted fabric, cleaned, cut scraps into blocks, hauled trash, and put fabric into labeled containers: Stacy Eneboe (chief organizer!), Carolyn Widhalm, Linda Carlson, Marlene Moon, Erik Eneboe, Tala Eneboe, and Kim Wiest. The basement looks great!

♥ **THANK YOU to all who give! Your offerings are much appreciated. You can use the enclosed blue envelope or mail them to: PO Box 883, Conrad MT 59425**

MAY & JUNE Pastoral Acts: Wedding @PV for Riley & Katie Stokes 5/9; **Baptisms** @ PV for Braxton O'Keefe, Oliver Sanchez, Isabella Gossard, Grayson O'Keefe 5/10 and Kolyns Peterson 6/14; @GW for Charlie Bliss 5/24 and Banks Ogletree 6/7;
Pondera Valley Offering: May-June 21 \$18,381
May/June PV Average Sunday Attendance: 62
May/June GW Average Sunday Attendance: 23



SUMMER CONFIRMATION CLASS for those going into 9th grade and up will be held in the Education Building July **13-17 from 9 a.m.—1:30 p.m.** Students are *required to attend all of the classes* in order to be confirmed in October, other wise they are welcome to attend regular confirmation in the fall. Please call the church office if you are planning to attend so we can have materials and snacks ready, 406-271-3934! **Also, you will need to bring sack lunches each day!**

Pondera Valley will hold Day Camp (grades 1-6) on **July 13-17 from 9-1:30**
AND Preschool VBS July 13-15 from 9-11!

- **Day Campers will need to bring a sack lunch each day.**
- **There will be a potluck and program for all participants on Thursday, July 16th at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited to attend!**
- **Get your registration forms: www.conradlutheran/inform**



In the summer, the only active Bible Study is for MEN @ PV — Tuesdays at 6:30 a.m. for breakfast and Bible Study.

All the women studies are taking a summer break. See you next fall!

The women's Potluck & Bible Study in August has been cancelled for now.



Golden West Council had a meeting May 5th. They are planning for their VBS June 3-5 from 9-12 and have an Honor Day on Sunday, June 7th at 10 a.m. worship. The Tiber water leak was repaired. **The next council meeting will be Sept. 8th.**

Pondera Valley Council had a meeting May 11th. Pastor Jeff reported on his summer confirmation class schedule. He will be sending out letters soon to those involved. Building and Grounds have some repairs to do on the roof of the Ed. Building. Ed Erickson fixed a memorial sign that will be placed again outside the entrance. (Thanks Ed!!) Randy Rossmiller has been running wire throughout the church and soon Jerry Beumer from Show Imaging of Columbia Falls will come to hook things up and balance the sound. Lyn Carlson has all the sprinklers working on the property. The power outage knocked out our router at the church so it

will be replaced and also surge protectors will be placed wherever they are needed. Kim Hofstad bought some banners for the Fellowship Hall. Kim Wiest has volunteers lined up to help cover the necessary things whenever she is gone this summer. Tom Russett is looking into scheduling a Parish Voyager's Game in Great Falls this summer. Pastor's tentative summer office hours are Monday-Wednesday, 9 a.m.—Noon. We will join the community worship in the Pool Park at 10 a.m. June 7th. **The next council meeting was June 8th.** Reports from the Treasurer and Pastor on their duties and from the different committee activities: VBS & Day Camp coming the week of July 13th; Confirmation class the same week if anyone is interested; continued work on the sound and video updates; and community-wide picnic, sponsored by the Conrad Ministerial Assoc. July 5th at 11:30 in the Pool Park. **Unless something comes up, it was decided not to meet again until Sept. 14th.**

New
opportunities
are blooming

Meals on Wheels — *We can always use more volunteers, it only takes about an hour to do!*

NEED: Ushers for December at PVLC!

For Day Camp, July 13-17, Need: (see sign-up sheet F.H.)

- 4 days of lunches for 2 counselors
- 4 evening meals for 2 counselors
- Cookies for 5 days for all participants in Day Camp, VBS, and Confirmation Class.

If you can volunteer or provide for any thing listed here, please call the church office: 406-271-3934.
THANK YOU!



Working for God, Serving Others

No matter your occupation, each day brings opportunities to honor God by helping other people. This applies to everyone from a prince to a laborer, as Martin Luther said: “The prince should think: ‘Christ has served me and made everything to follow Him; therefore, I should also serve my neighbor, protect him and everything that belongs to him. That is why God has given me this office, and I have it that I might serve Him.’”



“The same is true for the shoemaker, tailor, scribe or reader. If he is a Christian tailor, he will say: ‘ I make these clothes because God has bidden me to do so, so that I can earn a living, so that I can help and serve my neighbor.’ When a Christian does not serve the other, God is not present; that is not Christian living.”

Because many Americans have never known life without freedom, it can be easy to take our liberties for granted. The Israelites, however, knew the harsh reality of slavery. Yet even after God led them out of Egypt, they struggled to embrace their newfound freedom. Faced with uncertainty, they grew fearful and complained against Moses and Aaron, longing for the familiarity of their former bondage rather than trusting God’s provision.

Their story feels surprisingly familiar. As Christians, we have been set free through a far greater deliverance. Our freedom was secured at a great cost through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. And yet, we sometimes drift back toward old habits, attitudes and patterns that once held us captive.

Scripture reminds us to stand firm in the freedom we have been given. As Paul writes in Galatians 5:1 (NKJV), “Stand therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.”

True freedom is not simply the absence of restraint. It is the opportunity to live fully in God’s grace, walking in obedience, joy and purpose. This kind of freedom is worth celebrating, protecting and living out every day.





Reverse Economy

In *Love Does* by Bob Goff, he describes his childhood interactions with a storekeeper. Goff would choose some candy, spread his change on the counter and let the man count out what was owed. One morning, judging by the man’s face, Goff could tell there wasn’t enough money.

“We’re one penny short,” the storekeeper said. After a

long pause, he took one of Goff’s pennies, rubbed it with some vinegar and revealed a coin that looked brand new. Returning it to the pile, the man said, “In my store, shiny pennies are worth double.”

Goff says that was an important lesson about Christians’ role in Jesus’ economy, where the poor are rich and we must give to

receive: “We get to decide that people, including ourselves, are worth more than others might figure and that following Jesus means doing the math differently sometimes,” he writes. “Because actually we’re all on the same side of the counter when it comes to needing a little help and grace and a shiny penny now and then.”

Special Dates for July & August 2026

- Canada Day, *July 1*
- Independence Day, *July 4*
- Community Picnic, July 5, 11:30 a.m.
- Day Camp, *July 13-17, 9 - 1:30* @ PV for grades 1-6, bring a sack lunch
- VBS, July 13-15, 9 - 11 @ PV Youth Rm
- Day Camp/VBS Program and Potluck, July 16, 5:30 p.m.


Pondera Valley Women are selling RADA (Made in the USA kitchen tools) to raise money for benevolent projects! Check out the RADA catalog online:
<https://radafundraising.com?rfsn=1818332.f1ff6>

- BENEFIT DATES:** You can donate to either/ both at Stockman Bank.
- For **Roger Schlosser** (ALS) **July 18th 6 pm** Conrad Golf Club
 - For **Jody Brown** (cancer) **July 24th 5 pm** Conrad Moose



www.holyfamilytime.com A great resource!

COOKIE SMILE POPS



Transform slice-and-bake cookies into cheerful lollipop treats and share a few edible smiles.


What you need:

- 1 roll refrigerated sugar cookie dough
- Knife
- Baking sheet
- Wooden craft sticks
- Frosting
- Sprinkles
- Clear treat bags
- Ribbon



What you do:

1. Freeze the cookie dough for 15 to 20 minutes to firm it up, then slice into 1/4-inch rounds.
2. Place cookies on a baking sheet about 2 inches apart.
3. Bake at 350 degrees for 5 minutes.
4. Remove from the oven and gently press a wooden stick halfway into the bottom of each cookie.
5. Return to the oven and bake 3 to 5 more minutes, until lightly golden.
6. Let cookies cool completely.
7. Decorate with frosting to create smiling faces and add sprinkles.
8. Slip each cookie pop into a treat bag and tie with ribbon.




JOYFUL PSALMS

Psalm 146, 147, 148, 149 and 150 are happy songs of praise. They all begin and end with the same sentence.

Put the words below in alphabetical order in the boxes. Then read down the second column to discover the special sentence from Psalms!



- FEAST
- KHAKI
- MOUTH
- ESSAY
- LLAMA
- ORBIT
- CARRY
- UDDER
- BRUSH
- ITEMS
- APPLE
- LEARN
- CIDER



Answer: Praise the Lord!

PRAYER list...

PLEASE UPLIFT IN PRAYER... **Illnesses or other concerns:**

Sherry Warner Aschim (*Lisa Judisch*), Roger Schlosser, Ruth Erickson, John Gray, Cindy Fuson, Kelly Johns Leisinger, Molly Donath Kavanagh, Lori Wetendorf, Ruth Fladstol, Amber Miller (*Sharon Parks*), Linda VanTongerren, Bob & Sue Kovatch, Dave Bliss, Christopher Burns, Chris Ketterling, (*Karla Breeding*), Jim Skipper, Kathy (*Linda O'Brien*), Art & Lori Pearson, Dave Kluver, Casey Kluver, (*Rona Matheson*), the Alicia Wood Family, Mary, Cheryl, (*Carol Wood*), Sara McLean, Ann Glimm, Kaitlyn and John Russett (*Tom Russett*), Tristan West, David Larson, Rebekah Thaut, Kariann Thaut (*Pinky Thaut*), Butch Johns, Kailey Judisch, Brenda Rhone, Loretta (*Louise Glimm*), Roger Brastrup, Teagan Bartoo, Faith Birnel Crouch (*Ruth Fladstol*), Poppy Dahl, Barb Brookhart (*Rose Banka*), all Logan Health Ext. Care, Bee Hive, and Horizon Lodge Residents, Missionaries and Christians all around the world who are being persecuted and their persecutors, All in crisis due to weather conditions, war and other issues, CASA-the kids and all who work with them

All those who mourn: Karen Sutton, and others...grief has no time table; please keep all who come to mind in your prayers...

Those deployed in the service abroad: Brett Christensen (*Central Republic of Africa*)

For an updated prayer list, or to update the list, call the church office, 406-271-3934.

Prayers to Prepare for Worship

- ✠ Ignite our hearts with the fire of your Holy Spirit so that we may know we have had fellowship with you, Lord of all.
- ✠ Enable us to keep our minds and hearts focused on you, O Lord. Make us alert and aware of your loving presence among us. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.
- ✠ Lord, come to us, as individuals and as a group. May each of us be stirred up to love you completely and to serve you with fervor. Amen.
- ✠ Quiet our spirits, O Lord, so that we might focus upon your presence and know that we are properly worshipping you, our Creator, Redeemer and Comforter. Amen.
- ✠ Ignite our hearts with the fire of your Holy Spirit so that we may know we have had fellowship with you, Lord of all.
- ✠ Enable us to keep our minds and hearts focused on you, O Lord. Make us alert and aware of your loving presence among us. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.
- ✠ Lord, come to us, as individuals and as a group. May each of us be stirred up to love you completely and to serve you with fervor. Amen.
- ✠ Quiet our spirits, O Lord, so that we might focus upon your presence and know that we are properly worshipping you, our Creator, Redeemer and Comforter. Amen.



JULY GOLDEN WEST SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30 a.m.

**Ushers: Steve & Rona Matheson; Reader: Steve;
Communion Assistant: Steve; Communion Preparer: Rona**

Pondera Valley: VOLUNTEER! to help with ushering, greeting, reading the scripture lessons, serving or helping with communion set-up, call the church office, 271-3934. Instructions would be made available.

JULY PONDERA VALLEY SUNDAY WORSHIP 10 a.m.	July 5th	July 12th	July 19th	July 26th
Reader	Kim Wiest	Jim Adamson	David Berg	Kim Hofstad
Communion Assistants		Karla Breeding & June Hovde		Lyn & Linda Carlson
Usher & Greet	Kim Wiest			
Communion Preparer	Pat Lee			
Sound Tech.	Tom Russett			
Offering Custodian	Linda Welch			



READ IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

July 5 - Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:1-14; Romans 7:14-25a; Matthew 11:25-30
 July 12 - Isaiah 55:10-13; Psalm 65; Romans 8:12-17; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
 July 19 - Isaiah 44:6-8; Ps. 119:57-64; Rom. 8:18-27; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
 July 26 - Deuteronomy 7:6-9; Psalm 125; Romans 8:28-39; Matthew 13:44-52



AUGUST GOLDEN WEST SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30 a.m.

Usher: Sandra Seidler; Reader: ___;

Communion Assistant: Bill McLean; Communion Preparer: Ruth Fladstol

Pondera Valley: VOLUNTEER! to help with ushering, greeting, reading the scripture lessons, serving or helping with communion set-up, call the church office, 271-3934. Instructions would be made available.

AUGUST PONDERA VALLEY SUNDAY WORSHIP 10 a.m.	August 2nd	August 9th	August 16th	August 23rd	August 30th
Reader	Jim Morren	Jim Morren	Faith Peebles	Kim Hofstad	Leiko Judisch
Communion Assistants		Pat Lee & Page Russett		Pat Lee & Page Russett	
Usher & Greet	Dave & Carolyn Widhalm				
Communion Preparer	Kim Wiest				
Sound Tech.	Linda Carlson				
Offering Custodian	2- ;9- ;16- ;23- ; 30- COUNCIL MEMBERS—CALL OFFICE!				



READ IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

August 2—Isaiah 55:1-5, Psalm 136; Romans 9:1-13; Matthew 14:13-21

August 9 - Job 38:4-18; Psalm 18:1-16; Romans 10:5-17; Matthew 14:22-33

August 16 - Isaiah 56:1,6-8; Ps. 67; Rom. 11:1-2a,13-15,28-32; Matt. 15:21-28

August 23 - Isaiah 51:1-6; Psalm 138; Romans 11:33—12:8; Matthew 16:13-20

August 30 - Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 26; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

