



CONRAD LUTHERAN PARISH

LOGOS

WORSHIP TIMES
8:30 a.m. Golden West
10 a.m. Pondera Valley
Don't forget to spring forward your clocks March 8th!

Part-time Pastor
Jeff Stoores, Sun.-Tues.
Kim Wiest, Admin. Assistant
Office # 271-3934/P.O. Box 883
Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday, 9-4
In an emergency call:
Pastor Jeff, 390-5449 or
Kim Wiest, 450-5821.
conradlutheran@gmail.com

“ BUT AS FOR ME, I WILL SING ABOUT YOUR POWER. EACH MORNING I WILL SING WITH JOY ABOUT YOUR UNFAILING LOVE. FOR YOU HAVE BEEN MY REFUGE, A PLACE OF SAFETY WHEN I AM IN DISTRESS.” Psalm 59:16



**ASH WEDNESDAY: 9 a.m. Breakfast at Pondera Valley with Lori Pearson as our speaker, “*Seeing Light Through the Darkness*”. All are welcome!
6 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service at Pondera Valley**

GRIEF SUPPORT (formerly GriefShare) will meet on **Thursdays beginning March 6th at 1 pm at Pondera Valley!** To register, call **Pat Lee, 406-278-3938** (*Because of the Lenten lunches at PV, Grief Support will meet at 1 pm on Wednesday, March 19th & 26th instead of those Thursdays.*)

LENTEN SOUP LUNCHESES BEGIN on Thursday, March 6th. The community is invited to attend this nourishing and enjoyable event. Soup and bread will be served at Noon followed by either Pastor Judy Sibley, Pastor Jeff Stoores, or Father Matthew Christiaens speaking on the book: *Lent for Everyone: Luke, Year C* by N.T. Wright. The first two weeks (March 6th & 13th) will be at First Presbyterian Church; the next two weeks (March 20th & 27th) will be at Pondera Valley Lutheran Church; and the final two weeks (April 3rd & 10th) will be at St. Michael’s Catholic Church. A free-will offering will be taken each week to benefit one of our Conrad assistance-giving agencies.

🎗 PV Scholarship Applications are available in the office, at church and on the website! **They’re due back April 1st!**

 **Thank you to the radio broadcast sponsors on March 2nd at 11 a.m. on KZIN, 96.7 FM: Krista Keiper, Bryce, Kelci & Liam Watterud in loving memory of *Brian, Nell, and Larry Watterud, and Landon*; **AND by Carol Kaldor & June Hovde** in loving memory of *their families*. **God bless the hearing of His word!****

From the Pastor

Spring is coming! Officially spring starts here in Montana at 3:01 a.m. Thursday the 20th of March. Spring Equinox - or vernal equinox can land between March 19 and 21 in the Northern Hemisphere. The further north you go in the Northern Hemisphere, the later “real” spring comes along. Altitude also has a bearing on when spring - in effect - begins to melt the snow pack in the mountains. There’s a difference between the declared, astronomical event and the weather. Both are “real” but they may not be synchronous - happening at the same time.

A similar thing happens in our spiritual life with God. Christians are declared right with their Creator at baptism. But right living - sanctification - is a gradual melting away of the icy grip of sin on our behavior and the bursting forth of new life - the flowering of spiritual maturity.

This reality is taken up by the author of Hebrews when he tells his intended audience, “We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are slow to learn. In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God’s word all over again. You need milk, not solid food. Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.”

Being trained by practice in using the Bible with the guidance of the Holy Spirit to distinguish between good and evil motives, ideas, and actions is a life-long growth in

sanctification. It is not an easy school to attend. But it is the one our Lord has enrolled us in. Our faith must lead to obedience. “Blessed ... are those who hear the word of God and obey it,” Jesus declared (Luke 11:28).



“May the God of peace, who through the blood of eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (Hebrews 13:20-21).

Pastor Jeff Stoope

There will be another new members’ class following 10 a.m. worship (and a bit of fellowship!) on March 16th for an hour in the library at PV. Any who can’t make that day but are interested in membership, may make arrangements to come into the office for an hour on any Monday or Tuesday morning between March 3rd and April 7th. New members will be brought in during worship on June 1st.

PONDERA VALLEY MEMORIALS Received for:

YOUTH EDUCATION FUND in memory of **Kathy Walter** - Jim & Joann Adamson, Carol Wood

GENERAL FUND in memory of **Charlie Hardeland** - Jim & Joann Adamson, Carol Wood

STEWARDSHIP QUILTS in memory of **Charlie Hardeland** - Ray & Jana O'Brien

SOUND SYSTEM in memory of **Charlie Hardeland** - Harold & Betty Olson

THANK YOU to EVERYONE!

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

Online:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 that organization. <p>By phone:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Call 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted, say, "Thrivent Choice". 2. When prompted, say, "Choice Dollars." | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 to: Cassie Andrews, Julene Peters, Karli Redd, Mary Klette, Amber Brown, Lisa Salois, Lisa Judisch, and Landen Klette for teaching our youth this year on Wednesday nights! You are AWESOME!!

- ♥ Thank you to those who head up the funeral reception committees: Linda Carlson, Betty Offerdal, and Julene Peters. And thanks to all who work at and bring food for funerals. It is a wonderful ministry to give to grieving people. Thank You!
- ♥ Thank you to Ruth Erickson and Linda Welch for providing lunch for the New Members' Class on Feb. 23rd. You gals are awesome!
- ♥ Keep a watch out for those whom you can thank in our church family, there are many!

♥ **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.

February

Pastoral Acts: at Pondera Valley, Funeral for Merl Gall, Feb. 7th
 Pondera Valley Offering: **\$10,139.00**
 PV Average Sunday Attendance: **53**
 GW Average Sunday Attendance: **5**



WEDNESDAY NIGHT EDUCATION

4-5 p.m. for 3 year olds - 6th grade in the Youth Room

Education Board: *Donna Fowler, Julene Peters, Linda O'Brien, Mary Klette, Amanda Lesnik, Faith Weber, Kim Hofstad*

Join a Bible Study!

☞ Sundays at 9 a.m. for Women in the Youth Room

☞ Mondays at Noon for Women in the church library

☞ Tuesdays at 6:30 a.m. for Men with Breakfast in the F.H.

☞ Tuesdays at 9 a.m. for Women in the F.H.

☞ AT GOLDEN WEST, 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m.

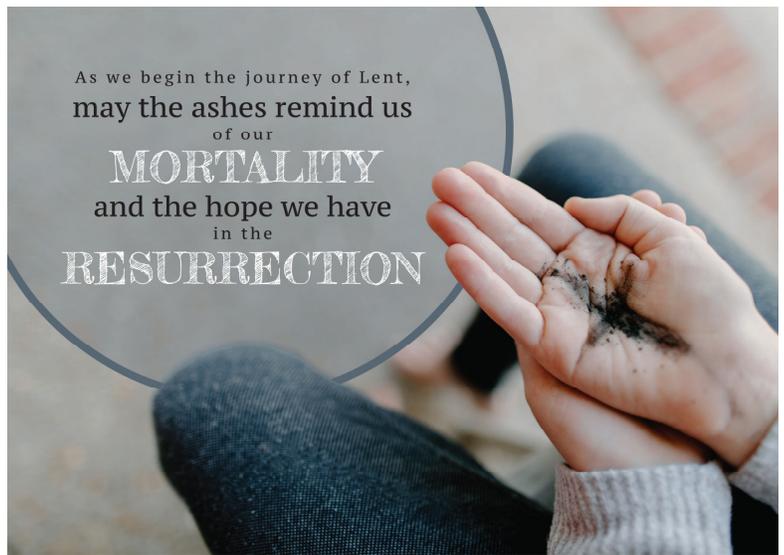


NEW MEMBERS' CLASS

There will be another new members' class following 10 a.m. worship (and a bit of fellowship!) on **March 16th** for an hour in the library at PV. Any who can't make that day but are interested in membership, may make arrangements to come into the office for an hour on any Monday or Tuesday morning between March 3rd and April 7th. New members will be brought in during worship on June 1st.



As we begin the journey of Lent,
may the ashes remind us
of our
MORTALITY
and the hope we have
in the
RESURRECTION



Pondera Valley council met on February 10th.

Pastor reported that the Pre-Super Bowl Supper and Game night went well. There were 19 there and \$135 was raised for the Conrad Food Pantry. Pastor Stoope will be on vacation April 21 - May 24. He has Pastor Beth Roen coming for 2 of the 4 Sundays and hopefully Pastor Ken Waag for one. He will write one sermon and would like someone to read it and someone to lead worship.

That date has yet to be decided ... sometime in May. Buildings & Grounds are working on a few repairs in the church. Updating the sound and visual areas of the church is moving forward. There are sign-up sheets for both Ash Wednesday breakfast and the Lenten lunches in the Fellowship Hall. **The next council meeting will be Monday, March 10th at 6:30 p.m. The first 15 minutes will be committees meeting.**



During the Lenten season, which begins on Ash Wednesday (March 5 this year), Christians figuratively follow Jesus into the desert. Just as our Savior spent 40 days fasting and facing temptation, we focus on self-reflection and contrition.

In an 1873 hymn, Claudia Hernaman wrote, “O Lord, throughout these forty days, you prayed and kept the fast. Inspire repentance for our sin, and free us from our past.”

The desert experience of Lent serves a clear purpose, filling us up rather than depleting us. “This is what Lent is meant to be,” writes theologian Ron Rolheiser. “Time in the desert to courageously face the chaos and the demons within us and to let God do battle with them through us. The result is that we are purified, made ready, so the intoxicating joy of Easter might then bind us more closely to God and each other.”



We do not lose heart.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:1

An old hymn declares:

I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Come unto me and rest.

Lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast.”

I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn and sad.

I found in him a resting-place, and he has made me glad. (Horatius Bonar, 1846)

Many people these days feel exhausted by division, the news, hatred that seems louder than love. More than ever, we who are “weary, worn, and sad” need to hear Jesus say, “Come unto me and rest.”

Jesus wants to be our resting place — but not so we can hide forever from reality. Instead,

he offers a place of refreshment where we can relax long enough to remember that not everything is bad; there is gospel to share. Not everything is hatred; God’s love is stronger.

Resting in Jesus, we focus on God’s goodness. We are reminded of love shown by kind people to those in trouble, bold voices speaking for justice, warm friendships that brighten our days. Gladdened by rest, we rise again. Jesus walks with us, as always. We can lean on him every step of the way.

—Heidi Hyland Mann



BIBLE READING PLAN: *From Death to Life*

During Lent, Christians observe 40 days of confession, prayer and renewal. Just as our Savior fasted and faced temptation in the desert for 40 days, we use this season to grow our faith and prepare to minister.

Use this Bible Reading Plan to follow Jesus to the cross and then rejoice at his empty tomb on Easter. Travel through Scripture to reflect on who Jesus is and what he lovingly endured to give us life.



The Dry Desert

- Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 [Ash Wednesday]
 - Genesis 3
 - Psalm 63:1-8
 - Matthew 4:1-11
- Sunday: Hebrews 4:14-16



Hope on the Horizon

- Numbers 21:4-9
 - 2 Samuel 7:1-16
 - Job 19:23-27
 - Isaiah 42:1-9
 - Daniel 7:13-14
 - Zechariah 9:9-17
- Sunday: Romans 8:22-30



Our Sacrificial Lamb

- Genesis 22:1-18
 - Exodus 12:1-17
 - Psalm 23
 - John 1:1-34
 - John 10:1-18
 - 1 Peter 1:18-23
- Sunday: Revelation 5



Hatred & Persecution

- Psalm 22
 - Jeremiah 20:7-13
 - Matthew 24:1-31
 - John 11:45-57
 - John 15:18-25
 - 2 Timothy 3:10-17
- Sunday: 2 Corinthians 4



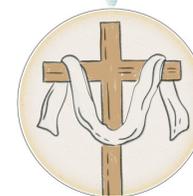
Hosannas for a King

- Psalm 24:7-10
 - Jeremiah 23:5-6
 - Matthew 21:1-11
 - John 18:33-40
 - John 19:1-16
 - Hebrews 1:1-12
- Sunday: Revelation 7:9-17



Journey to the Cross

- John 2:13-22
 - Mark 14:1-11
 - John 13:1-17
 - Matthew 26:26-30
 - Luke 22:39-46
 - Mark 14:27-31, 66-72
- Palm Sunday: Ephesians 1:18-23



Victory Through Christ

- Isaiah 53
 - Matthew 26:47-56
 - Mark 15:16-20
 - John 6:47-58 [Maundy Thursday]
 - Matthew 27:32-54 [Good Friday]
 - Psalm 16:5-11 [Holy Saturday]
- Easter Sunday: Luke 24:1-8;
1 Corinthians 15:47-57

Note: Sundays, known as "mini-Easters," are excluded from Lent's 40 days. But this reading plan includes verses for each day from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday.



sweet soil



This snack's layers mimic properties of our planet's crust.



What you need:

- 1 cup rolled oats
- ½ cup nut butter (divided)
- ½ cup chocolate chips
- Microwave-safe bowl
- Silicone mini baking cups

What you do:

1. Combine the oats and ½ cup of the nut butter. Mix until oats stick together.
2. Place 2 teaspoons of oat mixture in each baking cup. Press with a spoon. Freeze for 10 minutes.
3. Spread remaining nut butter atop the cups. Freeze for 10 more minutes.
4. Microwave the chocolate chips 30 seconds. Stir and keep heating for 30-second intervals until melted.
5. Spread melted chocolate atop the cups. Freeze until chocolate is firm.
6. Remove from the molds and enjoy! Refrigerate leftovers in an airtight container.



www.holyfamilytime.com A great resource!

PUZZLE



FROM WORD TO WORLD

Words are important! God spoke and created all things.
What does the psalmist declare about creation?

Directions: Using the word clues, unscramble the letters to complete Psalm 102:25, NIV.

A preposition	NI	--	}
An article	HTE	---	
Genesis means this	NINBEEIGN	-----	
A second-person pronoun	OUY	---	
Past tense of to lay	IDAL	-----	
An article	HET	---	
A plural noun meaning base	SOOTAINFONU	-----	
A preposition showing possession	FO	---	
An article	TEH	---	
A concrete noun meaning world	HRTEA	-----	

Psalm 102:25, NIV

Answer: In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth. (Psalm 102:25, NIV)

BIBLE QUIZ

Complete this sentence which introduces a well-known Bible story: “The hand of the LORD was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of _____.”

A. flowers

B. sheep

C. rocks

D. bones



Answer: D (See Ezekiel 37:1, NIV.)



PLEASE UPLIFT IN PRAYER... Illnesses or other concerns: (*denotes relation to*) Karen Sutton (*Ruth Erickson*), John Gray, Carol Kaldor, Christopher Burns, Kenn Hohman (*Linda Van Tongeren*), Chris Ketterling, Colby Johns, Lori Pocock Fletcher, Richard Adamson, Jolene (*Joann Adamson*), Chance Rauscher, Karla Breeding, Ron Iverson, Ernestine Olson, Rose Peterman, Art & Lori Pearson, Dave Kluver, (*Rona Matheson*), Rose Johns, Erik Dommer, Mary, Barbara (*Carol Wood*), Sara McLean, Denny Hepp (*Andrew Bishop*), Tom Robinson, Ann Glimm, Kaitlyn and John Russett (*Tom Russett*), Tristan West, David Larson, Rebekah Thaut, Kariann Thaut (*Pinky Thaut*), Don Bandow, Brett Stanley, Brenda Rhone, Loretta (*Louise Glimm*), Roger Brastrup, Teagan Bartoo, Faith Birnel Crouch (*Ruth Fladstol*), Poppy Dahl, 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 and other issues, CASA-the kids and all who work with them

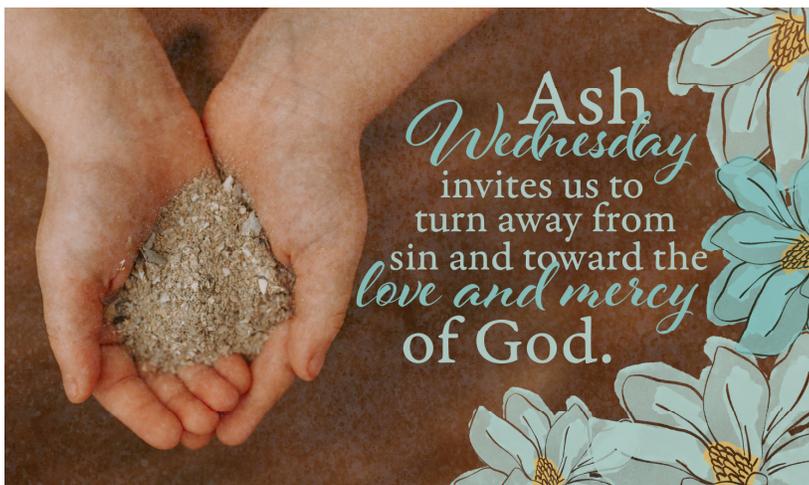
All those who mourn: Merl Gall *and others, there are many, please keep them in your prayers...*

Those deployed in the service abroad: Chance Rauscher

For an updated prayer list, inquire at the church office.

Prayers to Prepare for Worship

- ☞ [Transfiguration Sunday] I love a good “mountaintop experience,” Jesus, but life isn’t always like that. As you call me into daily, “down-to-earth” ministry, help me follow in good faith.
- ☞ [Ash Wednesday] I am dust, and to dust I shall return — but marked with the sign of your saving cross, Lord Jesus.
- ☞ God, when I’m tempted to trust other people or things more than you, lead me by your Spirit, as you led Jesus in the wilderness. Amen.
- ☞ Lord, prepare our hearts for worship. Still our souls. Ground us in your grace.
- ☞ “O God, you are my God; I seek you. ... Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you” (Psalm 63:1, 3, NRSV).
- ☞ As we continue through Lent — which means “spring” — prepare our heart-soil, dear Jesus, to sprout with new life and blossom in faith. Amen.



Special dates

- Transfiguration Sunday, *March 2, 2025*
- Ash Wednesday, *March 5, 2025*
- World Day of Prayer, *March 7, 2025*
- Daylight saving time begins, *March 9, 2025*

GOLDEN WEST SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30 a.m.
Ushers: Ron & Cathi Hemry; Reader: Cathi Hemry;
Communion Assistant: Bill McLean; Communion Preparer: Cathi Hemry

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. Info / instructions would be made available.

PONDERA VALLEY SUNDAY WORSHIP 10 a.m.	March 2	March 5 <small>ASH WEDNESDAY</small>	March 9	March 16	March 23	March 30
Reader	Faith Weber	Kim Wiest	Linda O'Brien	Faith Weber	Jim Adamson	Jim Adamson
Communion Assistants			Linda & Mike O'Brien		Karla Breeding and Linda Welch	
Usher & Greet	David & Carolyn Widhalm					
Communion Preparer	Betty Olson and Wanda Bollinger					
Sound Tech.	Erik Eneboe					
Offering Custodian	Susan Gustafson					



READ IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP



March 2 TRANSFIGURATION - Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 99; Hebrews 3:1-6; Luke 9:28-36
 March 5 ASH WEDNESDAY - Joel 2:12-19; Psm. 51:1-19; 2 Cor. 5:20b--6:10; Matt. 6:1-6, 16-21
 March 9 - Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-13; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13
 March 16 - Jeremiah 26:8-15; Psalm 4; Philippians 3:17--4:1; Luke 13:31-35
 March 23 - Ezekiel 33:7-20; Psalm 85; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9
 March 30 - Isaiah 12:1-6; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32