



CONRAD LUTHERAN PARISH

LOGOS

WORSHIP TIMES

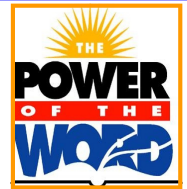
8:30 a.m. Golden West, fellowship at 8 a.m.

10 a.m. Pondera Valley, fellowship afterward

**GOLDEN WEST MEMBERS! Don't forget your Annual Meeting
February 1st following 8:30 a.m. Worship & Waffle Dinner!**

Pastor Jeff Driscoll
Kim Wiest, Admin. Assistant
Office # 271-3934
P.O. Box 883
Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday, 9-4
In an emergency call:
Pastor Jeff, 360-631-4707 or
Kim Wiest, 406-450-5821.
conradlutheran@gmail.com

For in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3:26-28



**Get your tickets now for the Valentine's Day Dinner at
Pondera Valley Lutheran Church 6 p.m. Saturday, February 14th.**
Tickets are limited! You don't want to miss it!
Check out how special this event is going to be: page 5.



ASH WEDNESDAY begins Lent. It is on **February 18th**. There will be a **breakfast and devotional at 9 a.m.** This is sponsored by the Women of Pondera Valley. Pastor Jeff Driscoll will be our speaker this year. All are invited!
Ash Wednesday Service will be at 6 p.m. at Pondera Valley Lutheran Church

NOON LENTEN LUNCHESES are on **THURSDAYS** beginning **February 19th**. This year's topic will be on Henri Nouwen's book, "The Prodigal Son". The **Presbyterians** will host on **Feb. 19th & 26th** with **Pastor Judy Sibley speaking**. The **Catholics** will host **March 5th & 12th** with **Father Nicetas speaking**. The **Lutherans** will host **March 19th & 26th** with **Pastor Jeff Driscoll speaking**.



Thank you to the radio broadcast sponsors on February 1st at 11 a.m. on KZIN, 96.7 FM: Ramsey & Betty Offerdal in loving memory of their parents: *Oliver & Christine Offerdal and Chet Newell and Betty's sisters: Mary Ann Wolery and Lela Kaiser. God bless the hearing of His word!*

From the Pastor

Some of you know I have a hydroponic garden. It is my attempt to raise year-round vegetables, lettuce and greens. I recently lost my Roma tomato plant, and a number of my greens appeared to be drying out. I looked into my watering schedule and concluded that these were not getting sufficient water to stay green and edible, so I increased the water supply. The visual of dry lettuce leaves crumbling to powder is the precise image John uses in his writing to describe what happens to us when we fail to abide in Christ. "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. (John 15:4)." Your source of life, your "water" is Christ, and without abiding in him, you will run dry and, like my Roma tomatoes, finally die off. With those Romas I never even grew flowers let alone produced fruit.

This word "abide" occurs around 120 times in the new testament with half of those occurrences found in the gospel and epistles of John. It is a favorite word of Jesus in John, calling us always to recognize our source of life is in Jesus Christ. He also says that he abides with the Father. At its simplest definition the word abide comes from the Greek meno, translated remain, stay or dwell continuously with Christ. Abide is used to acknowledge that all life, both in this world and in the eternal kingdom comes from Christ and apart from him you not only do not live, you die off. You dry out. You crumble. But if you abide in him, you are nourished, and you flower and bear fruit.

But how do we abide? Well, let's start by pointing to the waters of your baptism. It was not just mere water, but water used together with the living (dwelling, abiding) Word of God, who is the Son of the Father, Jesus Christ. As you abide

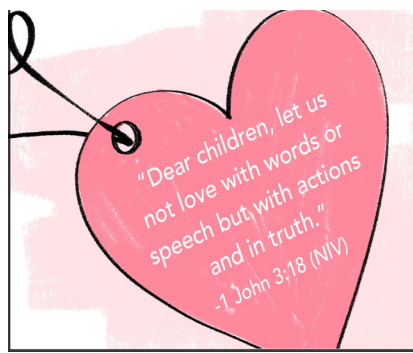
in that Word you will feel yourself strengthened and bearing fruit as the living word flows through you, like water through a vine strengthens its branches and flowers and fruits. If that Word proceeds from the mouth of God, then it "flows through you somehow, or else how can you abide in it? To abide in Christ it is necessary to open your ears, or better said recognize that the Holy Spirit opens your ears to hear, and your heart to believe. But what if you cut that word off? How will you not dry up and crumble?

The Word of God is found in scripture, in the preaching of the Word, in the receiving of the sacraments and in the mutual conversation and consolation of believers (talking among believers). Notice that those sources require other believers. This is why we have church, so that you are put into places where the Holy Spirit can open you ears to hear the promises of Christ. But I can read my Bible at home. Honestly, do you? I can feel the presence of God out on my boat fishing. You may feel close to God but what can he say to you? Can he say, this is my body, given for you? Here is my blood shed for you? How can you claim to be a Christ follower then you appear to be trying to subsist on the minimal amount of water and nutrients as possible?

God has not called you to subsistence living, he has called you to abide, to receive and abundant, eternal life. To live in the garden that draws its life from the very waters of our baptism into Christ and draws our life from abiding in his word.

He who has ears, let him hear.

— Pastor Jeff



♥ A Sunday school teacher asked her class, “What do you think the Bible means when it speaks of loving-kindness?” A young boy thought for a moment and replied, “Well, if I were hungry and someone gave me a piece of bread with butter on it, that would be kindness. But if they added a spoonful of jam, that would be loving-kindness.”

♥ “We love because he first loved us.” — 1 John 4:19 (NIV)

♥ “There is a net of love by which you can catch souls.”
—Mother Teresa

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.
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.

By phone:

1. Call 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted, say, “Thrivent Choice”.
 2. When prompted, say, “Choice Dollars.”
- Help choose where Thrivent Financial for Lutherans gives back! If you don't, Thrivent Financial chooses.*

♥ Let's thank our council members, committee members, Foundation/Endowment Fund members for all the work they do—seen and unseen—throughout the year.

We appreciate YOU! Susan Gustafson, PV President; Linda Welch, PV V. President; Lyn Carlson, PV Treasurer; Stacy Eneboe, PV Secretary; Karla Breeding, PV Financial Secretary; Terry Peters; Faith Weber; Kim Hofstad; Ruth Erickson; Dick Kinyon; Lisa Judisch; Tom Russett; Carol Wood; Linda O'Brien; Amanda Lesnik; Mary Klette; Julene Peters; Donna Fowler; Carol Johns - and how about that organ music!; Linda Carlson; Louise Glimm; Page Russett; Wanda Bandow; Pat Lee; PV Foundation: Ray Hofstad, Brett Peters, Jeanne Moon, Jesse Parks, Drew Lesnik; Elaine McLean, GW President; Ken Johnson, GW V. President; Bill McLean, GW Treasurer; Cathi Hemry, GW Secretary; GW Deacons: Carol Gunderson-& organ!, Aaron Bliss, Carl Flesch; GW Trustees: Steve Matheson, Ron Hemry, Rona Matheson; GW Endowment: Jim Bjelland; Chris Bjelland; Sandra Seidler; Ruth Fladstol.

LOOK AT THIS LIST! REACH OUT AND THANK THEM!

They've put some time in for all of us!



♥ **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**

JANUARY Pastoral Acts: none
Pondera Valley Offering: **\$9,051**
PV Average Sunday Attendance: **61**



WEDNESDAY EDUCATION CLASS
Wednesday, at 3:45 p.m.—5 p.m. for 3 year
olds - 5th grade in the Youth Room
 (NO CLASS ON FEB. 18TH—ASH WEDNESDAY)
CONFIRMATION Class for 7th & 8th grades
6-7:30 p.m. Sundays
with Pastor Driscoll in the Fellowship Hall



FOR MEN — Tuesdays at 6:30 a.m. for breakfast and Bible Study

FOR WOMEN — Mondays at Noon in church library

— Tuesdays at 9 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

— 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. @ Golden West Church



Pondera Valley had their annual meeting January 25th. There were 33 members signed in for a quorum.

The Treasurer's report was approved. Lyn Carlson always does such a nice job. Mike O'Brien and Erik Eneboe reviewed his books and reported that everything was in good order. The proposed budget was approved. The annual report has several reports in it and there are extras for people to take in the church to read. The Foundation report was given with the proposed expenditures which were approved. (This is also in the book.) Elections were held. For the council: Lisa Judisch, Stacy Eneboe, Tom Russett, and Lyn Carlson were elected for 3 year terms. Amanda Lesnik was elected for the Education board and Lynn Utterback was elected for the Foundation board. We have Brett Peters going off the Foundation board this year and we thank him for all his work and time he has put in the last 6 years. The Benevolence Committee

was elected but it was noted that if anyone would like to join them, they are most welcome to do so. Also the nominating committee for next year was elected. **On the bulletin board in the back of the church, all the elected council, committees and boards are listed for anyone to make contact with any of them if they have questions.* The Valentine Dinner was discussed, there are only 50 tickets being sold! Get your ticket! Also the Noon Lenten Lunches are set (see page 1). Watch for ways to help when it is our time to serve. Linda Carlson said she would head up the March 19th Lenten lunch and Kim Hofstad said she would take the March 26th lunch. **The PV Council had a meeting following.** Officers and committees were set up, see *bulletin board. **The next meeting for Pondera Valley will be Feb. 9, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.**

GW's Annual Meeting will be February 1, 2026 following 8:30 a.m. Worship and Waffle Dinner.

This past November Mark Grubb invited me (Gary Boe) to travel with the “Men for Missions” team that he is very involved with, to Medellin, Columbia. While there we worked with Columbian Parishioners on a church roofing and wall construction project. We also did mission outreach with church members in the upper reaches of Medellin and met with a very involved, Prison Ministry group. Mark has put together a slide presentation on our mission experience that we would like to share with you during and after the church service at Pondera Valley Lutheran on Sunday, February 1st.



PVLC To Host VALENTINE'S DINNER

Looking for a special way to enjoy an evening out in recognition of Valentine's Day, February 14, 2026?

Dr. Dick Kinyon will be preparing a delicious specialty dinner of his, Cornish Game Hen, along with some of his most popular sides all topped off with a chocolate delight!!

Rock and Janiel Perkins, local favorites, will treat everyone by performing timeless love songs. Dave Matthews fan, Pastor Jeff Driscoll, is taking his guitar center stage for some movin music and Conrad native, Wylie Gustafson will share his immeasurable talent to round out the entertainment for the evening event which begins at 6:00 PM at the Pondera Valley Lutheran Fellowship Hall.

Dinner, music, games and door prizes ...how could you ask for more? Please call (406) 271- 3934 or (406) 799-4723 to reserve your tickets....\$20.00 per person. Hurry.....they are sure to go fast!! Everyone is welcome!!

THE LOVE GOD DESIRES

God's love is never meant to stop with us; it's meant to flow through us. When we love others, we reflect his very heart. As 1 John 4:12 (NIV) reminds us, "If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us."

This is the true mark of a Christian — love that reaches beyond comfort zones, opinions and differences. Jesus said in John 13:35 (NIV), "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

The world is watching, not to see how loudly we profess our faith but how deeply we practice it. Every act of compassion, every gentle word and every moment of grace reveals something divine — God's love at work in us. The more we give that love away, the more it grows within us, mirroring the heart of Christ, who gave Himself for all.

So ask yourself: Does the world recognize you as his disciple by the way you love?



This thank you is late because this Secretary lost it, forgot it, and is correcting her mistake—my apologies! Kim Wiest



The Golden West Women would like to Thank everyone that attended our Praise and Thanks Festival. A special Thank You to the Pondera Valley members that joined the Golden West Choir.. What a joyful noise we made, We were totally humbled and blessed with each and every one that contributed to our offering. This is our only fund raiser and God truly had his hand in the generous giving. Thank you so much for making our Praise and Thanks a huge success!

Why Should We Observe Lent?

We observe Lent because it causes us to STOP. Lent says, "Stop and rest awhile." Lent says, "Stop doing wrong."

We observe Lent because it tells us to LOOK. Look inward for an honest self-examination. Look upward to see the cross of Christ with healing and love. Look forward to the hope of the Resurrection.

We observe Lent because it tells us to LISTEN. Listen to the words of Christ. Listen to the voice of God. Listen to the winds of the Spirit of God.

Stop, look and listen. These three words are important for our safety in travel, but they may also be helpful for our journey through the days of Lent.



Special Dates for February 2026


- Black History Month, *February 1-28, 2026*
- Groundhog Day, *February 2, 2026*
- Valentine's Day, *February 14, 2026*
- Presidents Day, *February 16, 2026*
- Ash Wednesday, *February 18, 2026*

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>



www.holyfamilytime.com A great resource!




LOVE IS Action!

Love isn't just a feeling — it's something we do! This simple activity reminds us that acts of love, big or small, can grow and bless others.


What you need:

- Construction paper (brown for the trunk, pinks and reds for hearts)
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Markers or crayons



What you do:

1. Cut a large tree trunk and branches out of brown paper and glue it onto a sheet of paper or poster board.
2. Use colorful paper to cut several hearts — these will be your "leaves."
3. On each heart, write loving actions like "share my toys," "pray for others," or "help clean up."
4. Glue the hearts onto the branches to create a full, love-filled tree.
5. Hang it somewhere visible as a reminder to put love into action every day!

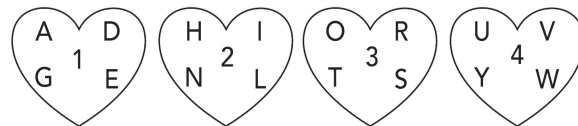


Puzzle!

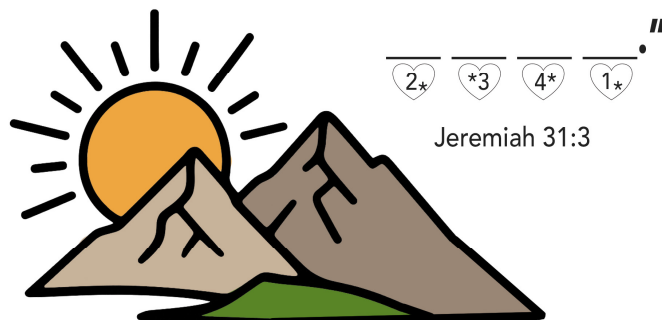
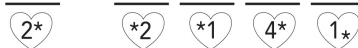
We see hearts everywhere and love sharing cards and greetings with friends and family.

Use the code to discover a special message from God — perfect for any day, any month.

CODE:



"



Jeremiah 31:3

Answer: "I have loved you with an everlasting love."



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

(denotes relation to) Karen Sutton (*Ruth Erickson*), John Gray, Cindy Fuson, Kelly Johns Leisinger, Molly Donath Kavanagh, Lori Wetendorf, Tiller Judisch, Bob & Sue Kovatch, Kathy Hodgson, Christopher Burns, Chris Ketterling, (*Karla Breeding*), Don Dezelsky, Jim Skipper (*Linda O'Brien*), Art & Lori Pearson, Dave Kluver, Casey Kluver, (*Rona Matheson*), the Alicia Wood Family, Mary, (*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, *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: Carol Kaldor, Kale VandenBos (baby of Meagan & Kyle), Clifton Gustafson 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*), Tyler Rauscher (*Ben's wife, in the Middle East*) ***For an updated prayer list, inquire at the church***

Prayers to Prepare for Worship

Quiet us LORD...

- ✠ Lord, teach me to walk in kindness this month and beyond. May my actions reflect your love, and may others see your heart through mine. "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you" (Ephesians 4:32, ESV).
- ✠ Lord, teach me to love in action today. "Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth" (1 John 3:18, NIV).
- ✠ [Ash Wednesday] Lord, as we begin this journey of Lent, remind me of your grace and renew a right spirit within me. "Create in me a clean heart, O God" (Psalm 51:10, ESV).
- ✠ If we are spiritually blind, Lord, open our spiritual eyes. If we are deaf to your voice, keep speaking until we hear you. If our hearts and mouths do not properly praise you, be patient with us until we get it right. Amen.
- ✠ Help us, O Lord, to be still and patient before you as we wait for the touch of your hand upon our hearts. Amen.



O Lord my God When I in awesome wonder Consider all the works Thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy pow'r throughout The universe displayed! Chorus Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee; How great Thou art, How great Thou art! Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee; How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

GOLDEN WEST SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30 a.m.**Ushers: Carl & Jenny Flesch; Reader: Jenny Flesch;****Communion Assistant: Jim Bjelland; Communion Preparer: Chris Bjelland*****NOTE: February 22nd is the Community Worship at 10 a.m. in H.S. Auditorium**

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.

PONDERA VALLEY SUNDAY WORSHIP 10 a.m.	February 1st	February 8th	February 15th	February 18th ASH WEDNESDAY	February 22nd Please join in:
Reader	Linda O'Brien	Jim Ad- amson	Jim Adamson	Kim Wiest	Community Worship @ H.S. Auditorium 10 a.m.
Communion Assistants		Karla Breiding & Pat Lee			—
Usher & Greet	Erik & Stacy Eneboe				
Communion Preparer	Wanda Bandow				
Sound Tech.	Lynn Utterback				
Offering Custodian	Stacy Eneboe				

**READ IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

February 1—Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

February 8—Isaiah 58:3-9a; Psalm 112:1-9; 1 Corinthians 2:1-16; Matthew 5:13-20

February 15, TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD—Ex.24:8-18; Ps.2:6-12; 2Peter 1:16-21; Matt.17:1-9

February 18, ASH WEDNESDAY—Joel 2:12-19; Psalm 51; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

February 22—Genesis 3:1-21; Psalm 32:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

