



CONRAD LUTHERAN PARISH

LOGOS

WORSHIP TIMES
8:30 a.m. Golden West
10 a.m. Pondera Valley

Part-time Pastor
Jeff Stoopes, 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

“Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His faithfulness to a thousand generations for those who love Him and keep His commandments...” **Deuteronomy 7:9**



☞ **LENTEN SOUP LUNCHESES** continue on **Thursdays at noon, April 3rd & 10th** at **St. Michael’s Catholic Church**. Father Matthew Christiaens speaking on the book: *Lent for Everyone: Luke, Year C* by N.T. Wright. All are welcome to attend. A free-will offering will be taken each week to benefit one of our Conrad assistance-giving agencies.

☞ **GRIEF SUPPORT** (formerly GriefShare) **continues to meet Thursdays at 1 pm at PV!**



☞ **Palm Sunday Worship April 13th.** Both churches have activities that day:

☞ Golden West will have a breakfast following **8:30 a.m. Worship**

☞ Pondera Valley will have a bake sale following **10 a.m. Worship** to help with vacation Bible School this summer, please consider making items and buying them!

☞ **Maundy Thursday Service, April 17th at 6 p.m. at Pondera Valley**

☞ **Good Friday Service, April 18th at 6 p.m. at Pondera Valley**

☞ **Easter Morning Service, April 20th -- He has RISEN! He has RISEN indeed!**

Worship at Golden West at 8:30 a.m. and at Pondera Valley at 10 a.m.

Pondera Valley will have a **breakfast served from 7 - 9:30 a.m.** - Call Tom to help, 406-576-7123



Thank you to the radio broadcast sponsors on March 2nd at 11 a.m. on KZIN, 96.7 FM: Dennis & Dawne Stokes in loving memory of *Marilyn, Dick & Jeanne Eckstein and Carson Stokes*; **AND by Michelle, Jody, & Kaia Fowler** in loving memory of *Harlan & Elaine Schram*. **God bless the hearing of His word!**

From the Pastor

We celebrate our Lord's resurrection on Easter Sunday, April 20th. The epistle lesson for the day is found in 1 Corinthians chapter 15. In that chapter, Paul lays out what Christ's resurrection means for us redeemed sinners. We, who allow our Creator to re-make us in Christ, "shall all be made alive". We, too, will be resurrected. Not into old creation but into God's "New Heavens and New Earth", that is, into New Creation. Our physical nature will be made "new" like the rest of the created order. We will have transformed bodies like that of Jesus after his resurrection. You will remember that he could appear and disappear at will after being raised from death. So the old order of physical nature will not be the new order in New Creation.

Speculations about God's new creation order by Christian theologians are interesting supposals but they can't really be any more than that. We are just going to have to wait to see what it's really like. Having admitted that, it's still okay to wonder and day dream, I believe.

C.S. Lewis did more than wonder and day dream. He put some of his speculative notions of New Creation into some of his writings, including THE GREAT DIVORCE. In that imaginary journey out of Hell to the "narthex" of Heaven, Lewis has himself revealed to be a "ghost" who can't even walk on the grass without great pain. He is so unreal in that ultimately real place that the water in a stream is solid to him. His fellow ghosts are all met by friends from their earthly life who try to convince the lost souls to follow them "further in and higher up" into the mountains. Some go into the higher country, others refuse the offer and return to the bus that brought them up from

Hell. These creatures "...would rather be miserable than have their self-will crossed." They fade and diminish until they are nothing in "the Real World." Lewis has "My Teacher" say, "All Hell is smaller than one pebble of your earthly world; but it is smaller than one atom of *this* world, the Real World. Look at yon butterfly. If it swallowed all Hell, Hell would not be big enough to do it any harm or to have any taste."



New Creation is thus a reality on a scale with which old creation can only be next to nothing in comparison. Our imaginations are not up to the task of envisioning what God has in store for us when all things are made new. But we are invited to hold on to the promise by faith and look forward with joyful anticipation being resurrected into everlasting splendor and glory.

"Listen, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we will all be changed -- in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed."
(1 Corinthians 15:51-52) Pastor Jeff

Please note: Pastor Jeff will be gone on vacation April 21st - May 24th. If there is an emergency, please call Kim Wiest, 406-450-5821.



PONDERA VALLEY MEMORIALS Received for:

SOUND SYSTEM in memory of **Ernestine Olson** - Ron & Juanita Prewett, Marian Turk

THANK YOU to EVERYONE!

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

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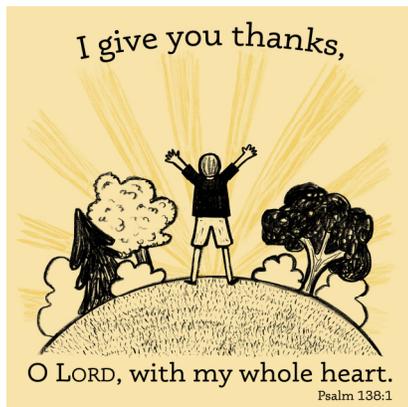
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice 2. Click on "log in" at the top right of your screen and enter your MyThrivent user ID and password. (If you haven't registered, click on "register now" to register for full 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 benefit that organization. | <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. |
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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.*

- ♥ Thank you Tom Russett for supplying coffee for Fellowship hour and other activities of our church! You are also so good to help make coffee each Sunday too!
- ♥ Keep a watch out for those whom you can thank in our church family, there are many! Let us always be ready to encourage each other!

♥ **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.



MARCH (through March 24th)
 Pastoral Acts: at Pondera Valley, Baptism of Cleo Offerdal, March 2
 Pondera Valley Offering: **\$ 8,995**
 PV Average Sunday Attendance: **65**
 Ash Wednesday: **33**



WEDNESDAY NIGHT EDUCATION

4-5 p.m. for 3 year olds - 6th grade in the Youth Room through April 9th.

PLEASE bring & buy goodies for the Palm Sunday Bake Sale on April 13th to benefit VBS for our youth! On this day also, the youth will sing in worship at 10 a.m.

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 w/ Breakfast in the F.H.**

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

☞ **Golden West Women, 2nd Tuesday of each month, 9:30 a.m.**



Pondera Valley council met on March 10th. On Easter Sunday, April 20th, there will be a breakfast from 7-9:30a.m. (10 a.m. Worship). There will



be Holy Communion at both churches that day so the next week, April 27th we won't have communion on our "normal" 4th Sunday. Pastor Jeff will be on vacation April 21st - May 14th. He has made arrangements for some pulpit supply during his absence. Kim Hofstad bought bookmarks. Some were handed out at the Ash Wednesday breakfast and some will be put in the Luther room for AA members. There has been one membership class and another coming before Pastor leaves on vacation. New members will be brought in on June 1st. The Community Worship in the Park will be June

8th. The memorial for Ernestine Olson is scheduled for June 14th, more details will be forthcoming. Kim Wiest will be on vacation March 25-April 3 and Linda Welch will be in the office in the mornings of March 25-27, 31 and April 1-3. It was decided by council to combine the May and June newsletters. July and August will continue to be combined as they have been for many years. Correspondence indicated that the ministry of the Military Bible Sticks by Faith Comes By Hearing will discontinue on March 31st of this year. There will be a bake sale on Palm Sunday, April 13th, to benefit VBS.

The next council meeting will be Monday, April 14th at 6:30 p.m. The first 15 minutes will be committees meeting.

Earth-shaking Victory

On Ash Wednesday in 2001, a 6.8 magnitude earthquake shook the Seattle area. Charlie and Ann Lewis, co-pastors in Snohomish, Washington, reflected on the timing: “While most years we prefer to think of Lent as a contemplative journey of faith as we walk with Jesus toward Jerusalem and the cross, this year we are thinking of how God turned the world upside down at Calvary. From the cross, Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and his life was finished. Then the earth shook violently, the curtain in the temple was torn in two and rocks were split apart. The God who identified with us in our humanity in the incarnation of Jesus Christ

demonstrated in that moment the depth of divine love for us — a love that leads God to choose the path of suffering and sacrifice.

“Three days later, the earth shook again — another violent earthquake, and the stone in front of the tomb was rolled away. Then the crucified Christ threw aside the burial cloths, emerging from the darkness of the tomb to walk in the dew of the grass as dawn was breaking across the sky. God had declared victory over sin and death itself. That victory was for us. ... God has given us a glorious life that extends into eternity.”



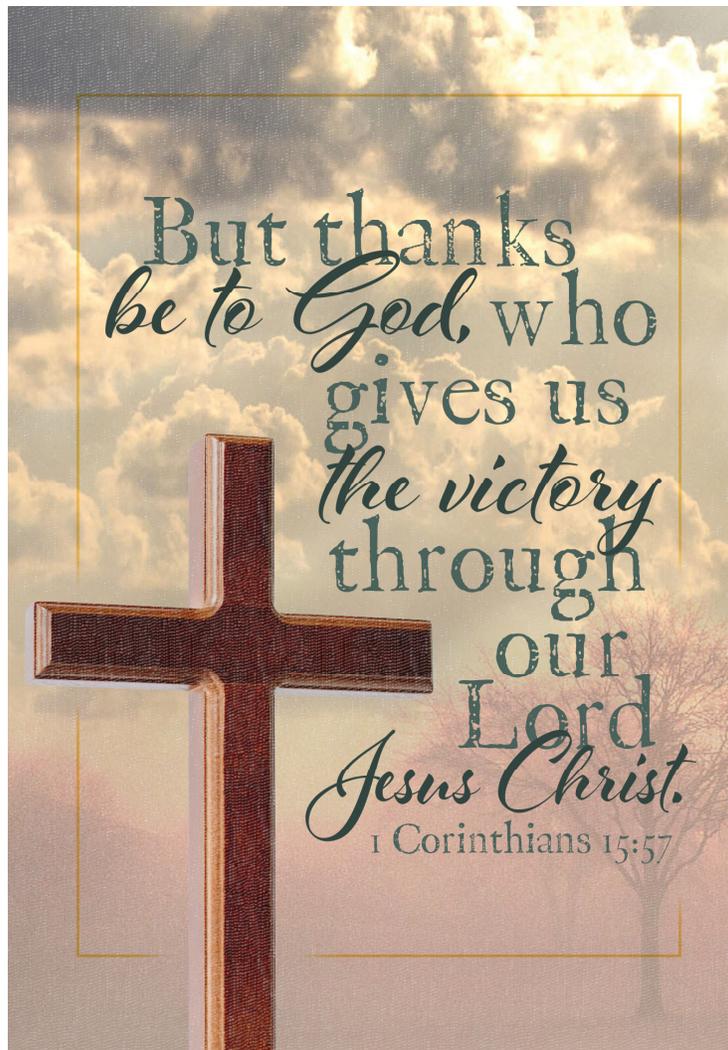
GOD IS MY SALVATION
ISAIAH 12:2

“Between the death of Christ and the Last Day it is only by gracious anticipation of the last things that Christians are privileged to live in invisible fellowship with other Christians. It is by the grace of God that a congregation is permitted to gather visibly in this world to share God’s Word and sacrament. Not all Christians receive this blessing. The imprisoned, the sick, the scattered lonely, the proclaimers of the Gospel in heathen lands stand alone. They know that visible fellowship is a blessing.”
—Dietrich Bonhoeffer





PALM BRANCH — When Jesus entered Jerusalem days before his death, crowds welcomed him by waving palm branches, common symbols of victory and rejoicing. Churches still use them to remember that on the occasion, knowing that Jesus' crucifixion was the ultimate triumph over sin and death. As early as Leviticus 23:40, God commanded Israel to use palms in a festival of rejoicing. In Revelation 7:9-10, Christian martyrs carry palm branches as they praise the Lamb before God's throne.





PLEASE UPLIFT IN PRAYER... Illnesses or other concerns: *(denotes relation to)*

Karen Sutton *(Ruth Erickson)*, John Gray, Carol Kaldor, Christopher Burns, Colby Johns, Chris Ketterling, Lori Pocock Fletcher, Ron Iverson, Rose Peterman, Art & Lori Pearson, Dave Kløver, *(Rona Matheson)*, Rose Johns, Erik Dommer, Mary, Barbara *(Carol Wood)*, Sara McLean, Tom Robinson, Ann Glimm, Kaitlyn and John Russett *(Tom Russett)*, Tristan West, David Larson, Rebekah Thaut, Kariann Thaut *(Pinky Thaut)*, Don Bandow, 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

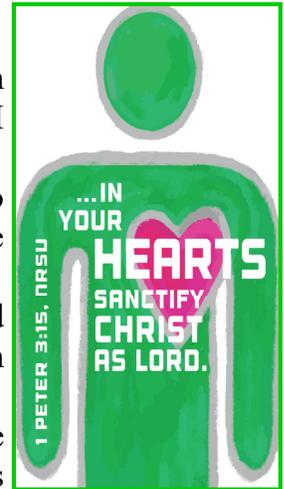
All those who mourn: Ernestine Olson, Jim Griggs, Dale & Georgia Smeltzer, Denny Hepp *(Andrew Bishop)*, and others, there are many, please keep them in your prayers...

Those deployed in the service abroad: Chance Rauscher *(Sicily)*, Brett Christensen *(Tunisia)*

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

Prayers to Prepare for Worship

- ✞ Father, I'm grateful for the mix of doubt and faith the disciples exhibited in your word; it encourages me. Bless me with increased belief, even when I cannot see you in person.
- ✞ [Palm Sunday] I imagine myself along the route you traveled into Jerusalem, dear Jesus. I lay branches along your donkey's path and praise you: "Hosanna, Son of David!"
- ✞ [Maundy Thursday] Liberating Lord, you freed Israel from slavery and offer us freedom from sin and death. We are free to love others, even in humble ways like washing feet.
- ✞ [Good Friday] What a strange throne is your cross, Jesus, but as the psalmist wrote, "Dominion belongs to the Lord" (Psalm 22:28). Help us recognize you in places that don't look like worldly power.
- ✞ [Easter Sunday] "The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation" (Psalm 118:14, NRSV).



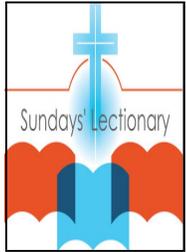
GOLDEN WEST SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30 a.m.
Ushers: Aaron & Janae Bliss; Reader: Janae Bliss;
Communion Assistant: Aaron Bliss; Communion Preparer: Janae Bliss

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.	April 6th	April 13th <small>Palm Sunday</small>	April 17th <small>Maundy Thursday</small>	April 18th <small>Good Friday</small>	April 20th <small>Resurrection Sunday!</small>	April 27th
Reader	Dick Kinyon	Dick Kinyon	Kim Hofstad	Jim Morren	Kim Hofstad	Dick Kinyon
Communion Assistants		June Hovde & Ruth Erickson	Linda Welch & Page Russett		Kim & Ray Hofstad	
Usher & Greet	Randy & Peggy Young					
Communion Preparer	Linda Carlson					
Sound Tech.	Faith Weber					
Offering Custodian	Faith Weber					



READ IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP



- April 6 - Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; Luke 20:9-20
- April 13 PALM SUNDAY-John 12:12-19; Deut. 32:36-39; Psm. 118:19-29; Phil. 2:5-11; Luke 22:1-23:56
- April 17 MAUNDY THURSDAY-John 13:1-35; Jer. 31:31-34; Psm. 116:12-19; Heb. 10:15-25; Luke 22:7-20
- April 18 GOOD FRIDAY - Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psm. 22; Heb. 4:14-16, 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42
- April 20 RESURRECTION SUNDAY-Isaiah 65:17-25, Psalm 16; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26; Luke 24:1-12
- April 27 - Acts 5:12-32; Psalm 148; Revelation 1:4-18; John 20:19-31