

CONRAD LUTHERAN PARISH

LOGOS

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES:

As you know, we have had to suspend getting together to worship but there are other ways to worship! Look through this newsletter for other options! Watch for this symbol for ideas >



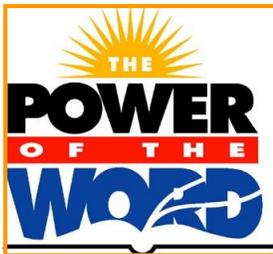
Pastor Drew Nelson
Kim Wiest, Admin. Assistant
Office # 271-3934/P.O. Box 883

Office Hours:

We can check messages at the office or call Pastor's phone: 450-0078, Kim's as a back up:

271-2060 or

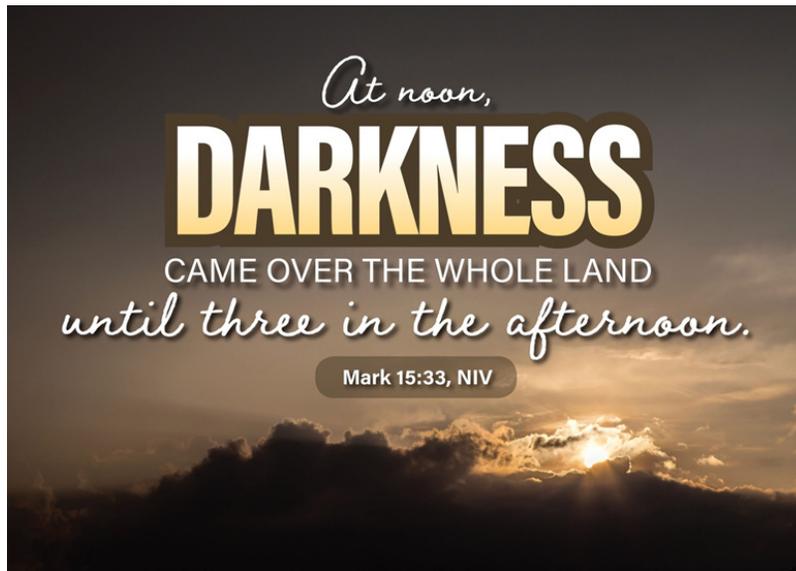
Pastor's email:
dsnbygrace@gmail.com



FOR GOD SAVED US AND CALLED US TO LIVE A HOLY LIFE. HE DID THIS, NOT BECAUSE WE DESERVED IT, BUT BECAUSE THAT WAS HIS PLAN FROM BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF TIME—TO SHOW US HIS GRACE THROUGH CHRIST JESUS. 2 TIMOTHY 1:9 NLT



Remember God is with YOU! Remember what Jesus did for you... Jesus had total isolation from GOD on that cross because of our sins. While being in our homes isolated is difficult, think on Jesus. It was a price He paid willingly for us so that NOTHING would separate us from GOD! What He did is ETERNAL and cannot be taken away!



RADIO BROADCASTS: 11 am April 5th on KZIN, 96.7 FM Sponsored by: Elaine Schram in memory of her husband Harlan, daughter Robin, and son Terry and by Dennis & Dawne Stokes in memory of Marilyn, Dick & Jeanne Eckstein and Carson Stokes.
Thank you! May God bless the hearing of His word!



“A People of Prayer”

I am beginning to think there is a reason this phrase keeps echoing in my ears. From my own family to the church we serve and throughout the association we are a part of, prayer keeps coming up. Telling on my wife somewhat she was worried when we first met that I did not pray enough. You see, her favorite verses are from Philippians 4:6-7...

“...do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

My wife, Kori, grew up with the Word being a daily part of her life. My parents, grandparents and pastors tried. Living according to my experience quickly led to rejecting any sort of outside authority, especially one seeming to be peddling a benevolent promise. Prayer never seemed to work during my early youth so I thought perhaps everything people claimed of this God was false. To be honest, there have been long stretches of my life void of any speaking with the Almighty. Those were some of the worst.

We prayed at meals and sometimes before bed in my adolescence. That was when we were all together, but while alone my conversations with God took a different voice. Most often I was found cursing God for being absent or perhaps ceasing to exist. After leaving home the conversation stopped altogether.

Maybe some of us feel that way today. We are cut off from our congregation. It makes me wonder if we each needed the experience of being a “shut-in”. Not being able to gather together compels concern for our brothers and sisters. Yet, none of this means that the church no longer exists. What I explained to Kori when she asked me about my own practice of prayer was simply that I

preferred to pray in private. (Ironically, now I mostly pray in public.) I pointed her to the Lord’s Prayer and said look at what Jesus says before he gives the petitions.” Matthew 6:5-8...

“And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.”

Before I even utter a word of prayer these verses resonate from my heart to my ears. The words that follow are certainly what we pray, but the verses here are how. The Service Coordinator of the LCMC, Mark Vander Tuig, consistently called our church to be people of prayer and so far the response I have observed is an attempt to invent new ways to do what scripture already says. If you want to learn how to pray, this pandemic is your opportunity to find a quiet place.

Yes, we can ask for good and blessings in our prayers and do it in with groups of any size, but more often I read the prophets of our Old and New Testament crying out to God in distress and fear while abandoned. They ask where He is and if He has forgotten about them. Psalmists lament God sounding silent during moments of their lives. The Disciples, just like Jonah, called out in the middle of a storm. The sick sought to merely touch a piece of Jesus clothing. Prayer is calling upon God’s promises. It is believing despite the circumstance and holding God accountable to



his Word and promise.

Faithful prayer believes in God's answer. Look to Moses and Elijah hiding in clefts and caves for Old Testament stories like this, but no one fulfills God's Word for us like Jesus. When we look the Lord's Prayer we see this in every part. Each phrase is concise so we know exactly what we are asking for and do not forget. Yet, do not neglect the instructions given before, take confidence. As you go about saying each petition you should witness Jesus coming into the word and fulfilling all of them no matter where you are or who you pray with. If you have questions for God, bring them forward, the Word has answered them. This is also a worthy way for us to pray and what better time than this. God wants us to bring our anxiety and uncertainty to Him. When we go to him with doubt we are sent away with a courageous heart. He says to us, "Do not be afraid, you are forgiven, because I love you and you are mine."

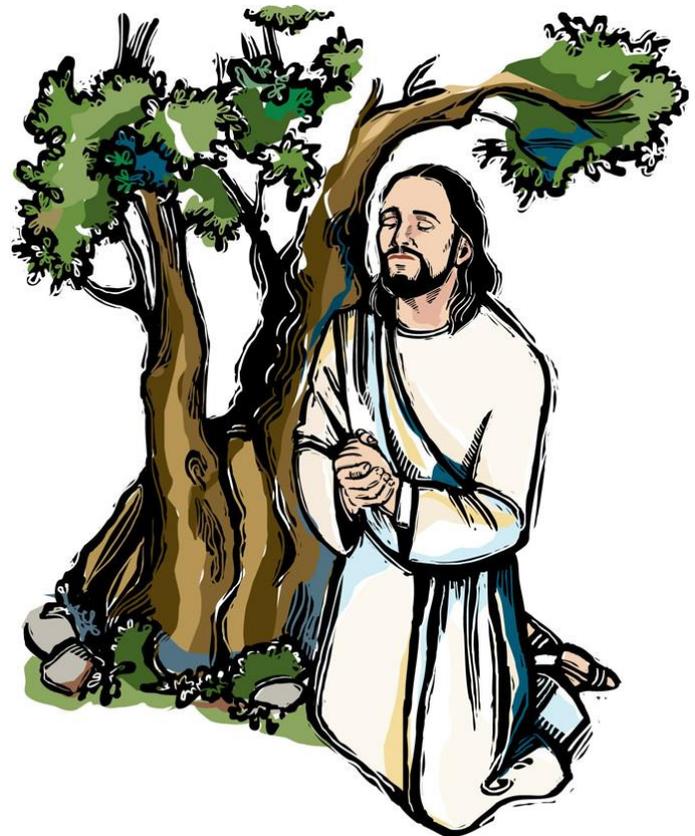
Even Jesus' cry to the Father from the cross proclaims this. "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" Then before he dies, Christ cries out with a loud voice, but we do not know what he said. Those were His prayers, not ours. I believe some things are meant to be kept private between the Son and Father and the same for us. We should see the opportunity to pour out our whole soul to God in these days. Remember we are in the middle of the Lent season. This is when we go without and God has certainly crucified our flesh this season of it. We are being forced to fast from fellowship, food, and toilet paper, not worship and prayer. We have been shut-out not shut-in. Perhaps we might see where our true idols have been placed.

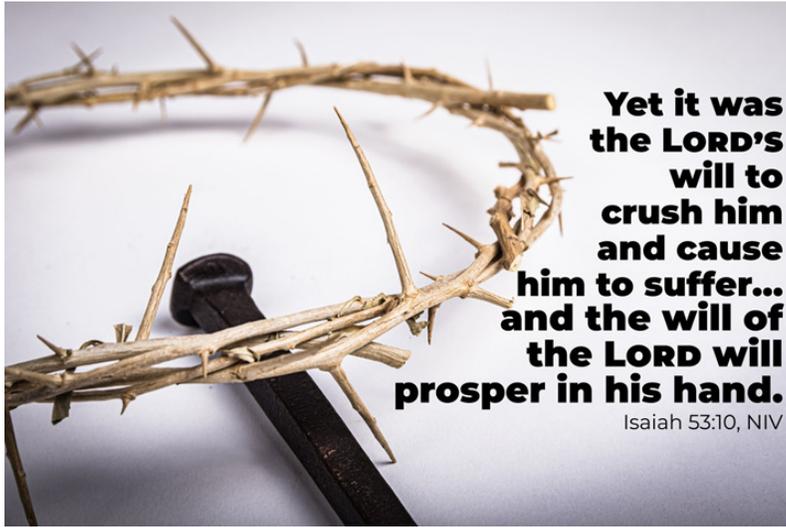
For believers this is an opportunity to bring the Gospel to the world in new ways, but also to return to our God in our own lives. We should each be spending more time in quiet prayer than on the internet. Maybe God is calling us to a Sabbath, saying, "Rest, abide in me, I am with you always." Listen for the still small voice.

Finally, a word of encouragement for all of us, every restriction has told us not to

gather together, and we will submit ourselves to authorities appointed by God to serve and protect us. Yet, Scripture records that where 2 or 3 are gathered in Jesus' name, He is with them. **The church is not closed. We have been sent out.** My prayer for each of us is that we connect with people that need to hear that their sins are forgiven. People are in fear of their lives and being alone, and our message is one of Good News that promises eternal life and fellowship. We live in a time when we have never been more connected. Before you pray, take a deep breathe, let the Holy Spirit remind you that each of us is a disciple called to spread the Gospel throughout the world. **"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."** (+Hebrews 11:1) We are never alone, we know death has been defeated, and we look forward to the Day of the Lord to come. Amen

Peace be with you always, Pastor Drew Nelson





“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”
*I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;
 I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;
 Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,
 My sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.*

—Elizabeth C. Clephane



FYI: The first 2 Lenten Lunches held at Pondera Valley raised \$357 for the Conrad Food Pantry!

IN MARCH... On the 8th, Jaxon Smith was baptized at Pondera Valley. And on the 28th, Roger & Annie Schlosser brought Avery, Isaac, and Hope for baptism!



HOLY COMMUNION... WHILE WE CONSIDERED DOING A “DRIVE BY COMMUNION”, THE HEALTH MANDATES CHANGED MAKING IT NOT ADVISABLE. READ THROUGH THE LAST SUPPER AND MEDITATE ON IT.



♥ Thank you to Rudy King and “company” and others who helped clean the basement so that others can enjoy it!



♥ This would be a good time to think of people you want to write a note or give a call to, just to say “I miss YOU!” “I sure appreciate YOU!” “Just thinking of YOU!” “I want to thank YOU...” As the body of Christ uplifts others, may GOD be glorified!



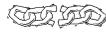
PUZZLE

Picturing the Lord's Supper

Jesus ate the Passover meal with his disciples as a symbol of the new covenant.



Directions: Use the picture clues to fill in key words from Luke 22:19-20, NIV.

And he took , gave  and  it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my  given for you; do this in  _____ of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This  is the new  in my blood, which is  out for you."

LUKE 22:19-20, NIV

Answer: bread, thanks, broke, body, remembrance, cup, covenant, poured

Make a beautiful Butterfly

The butterfly is a symbol of new life and is often associated with Easter. Make your own butterfly.

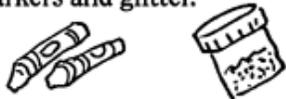
You will need:

- ✿ paper
- ✿ scissors
- ✿ crayons or markers
- ✿ glitter
- ✿ glue



Directions:

1. Fold a piece of paper in half.
2. Draw the outline of half a butterfly on one side of the paper with the middle of the body on the fold.
3. With the paper still folded, cut along the outline.
4. Open the butterfly and decorate it with crayons, markers and glitter.



Share God's Word

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.



John 15:12, NRSV

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE, TO GROW



DATES to Remember...

♥ The Northwest District Gathering, scheduled for May 1st & 2nd in Post Falls, Idaho has been cancelled! :(

So far....

♥ LCMC 20th Annual Gathering & Convention will be October 4-7 in Arden Hills, MN, lcmc.net/annual-gathering



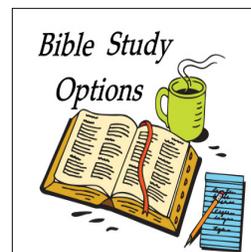
WOMEN'S FALL BAZAAR is COMING!! Friday, Nov. 6th
Get started now thinking about you want to bring!



BIBLE STUDY!

EVERYONE SHOULD BE READING THE BIBLE!

1. Check out the handouts on the website or study the lectionary below, bottom of page.
2. In the "Our Daily Bread"* devotionals, you can read the whole text given at the top of each page prior to reading the devotional each day.
3. Again, in the "Our Daily Bread"* devotionals, at the bottom of each page, there is a reading schedule that if you continue from this day to next year at this time, you will have read the entire Bible in a year!
4. Again, in the "Our Daily Bread"* devotionals, in the back is a topical index that you could focus on a certain topic. OR same kind of idea, in the back of most Bibles is a concordance that has topics that you will give you a wonderful time in God's word, reading topics that are of interest to you.
5. If you'd do better with a friend, do any one of these above over the phone!

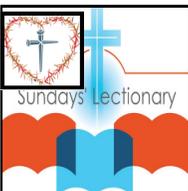


*If you don't have a Daily Bread Devotional, go to: odb.org and click on "read now" OR scroll down and find other plans to read and enjoy! There are many things on the internet but the VERY BEST practice is to read the Bible. Pray as you begin for Him to help you understand what you read. God is so faithful to help us!



www.holyfamilytime.com

A great resource for all... share with your family!



April 5th PALM SUNDAY - Proc. John 12:12-19; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 118:19-29; Phil. 2:5-11; Matthew 26:1--27:66

MAUNDY THURSDAY - Exodus 24:3-11; Psalm 116:12-19; Hebrews 9:11-22; Matt. 26:17-30

GOOD FRIDAY - Isaiah 52:13--53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9; John 18:1--19:42

April 12th RESURRECTION SUNDAY - Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 16; Colossians 3:1-4; Matt. 28:1-10

April 19th - Acts 5:29-42; Psalm 148; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

April 26th - Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-14; 1 Peter 1:17-25; Luke 24:13-35



The next GW Council meeting TBA.

Pondera Valley Council met on March 9th. So many things the council discussed were things in the future that now because of COVID-19 might not even happen or it will take a while before it will. The Worship committee would like to meet as soon as they can. Also, it was suggested that the Building & Grounds committee draw up a work order of things needing to be addressed. A new job description for the janitor of the Ed. Building was compiled by Carol Johns and Julene Peters. Members from the council for the Evangelism committee are Barb Judisch and

Mary Jane Kinyon. More discussion was held on the Luther room, address the problems so it can once again be utilized.

There were 170 in attendance at the Lutefisk Dinner. 150 pounds of Lutefisk was cooked and served! It was a good turnout and people travelled as far as Havre and East Helena to attend! A virtual meeting is currently taking place online to assemble all the notes of putting together a dinner so that a book for future times will be in the church office.

Because we have several different groups using the Youth room space and the time it takes to raise the temperature, it was decided to keep the thermostat set at 65 degrees and observing costs and warmth for further discussion. Pastor Drew would like to pursue an opportunity to be the NW

District Coordinator. There were several pros and concerns discussed.

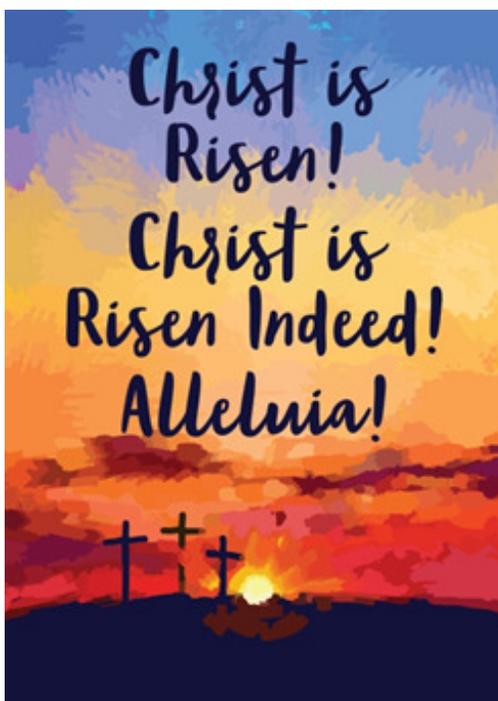
Our church was approached by another Lutheran church, not LCMC, who might like to use our church for a funeral service. It was agreed that Pastor Drew needs to be present at the funeral but that their pastor could lead and they would be welcome to use our facilities. Whether or not this will happen is yet to be seen but it helps for Pastor to have a policy in place for other times as well.

The next council meeting would tentatively be April 13th but watch your emails council members, you might do any necessary business online. And remember any decisions made will need a quorum so "weigh in"!



Please DO send your offerings in during this season away!

Use the enclosed blue envelope. Send to PO Box 883 Conrad MT 59425



I know we will all miss our "normal" Easter Sunday Service. Say the proclamation (picture left) out loud where you are, to any one present. Call a loved one, friends, neighbors and say it to them too. If they don't know their response, teach it to them! Share the Gospel!

IDEA for us ALL: Do you have a bell? Stand outside your door at 9 a.m. on Easter morn and RING a bell like crazy! Wave to your neighbor as they ring theirs! GLORY be to our RISEN LORD and SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST! (Pass it on!)





Illnesses or other concerns: *(denotes relation to)*

Ron Thaut, Mike Buechler, Annie Schlosser, Nettie Klette, Zach Greene (*2Carol Kaldor*), Evan Bell, Teagan Bartoo, Faith Birnel Crouch (*2Ruth Fladstol*), Lucille Russell, Hayden Kellogg, Ron Widhalm, Shaun Short (*Stacie Matheson*), Virginia Kovatch, Ginny Zanuck, Billie Jean Stokes (*2Kim Wiest*), Baby Andrew (*Roland Lee*), Marvin Baker, Sandy Webb (*JoAnne Unger*), Norman Stordahl, Debbie Ries, Debbi Gage, Rose Peterman, Donna Sorlie, Mitchell Moore (*Josita Montgomery*), Connie Wolf, Wayne Brown (*2Carol Wood*), Dan & Juelie McLean (*2Bill McLean*), Don Bandow, Ralph Swan (*Cyndi Johnson*), Cyndi Johnson, Poppy Dahl, Kimberly Peacock, Audrey Kieft, Gerald Bruner, Melvin Pocock, (*5Wanda Bollinger*), Terry Smith, Tim Dolezal, (*2Carolyn Widhalm*), BJ Hilyard, Lorie Hasner, Jeff Elings, all PMC Extended Care Residents, Missionaries and Christians all around the world who are being persecuted - and their persecutors, All in crisis due to COVID 19, weather conditions, CASA-the kids and all who work with them **All those who mourn...** Claude Kieft, Patty Wiest (*Kim Wiest*), Margaret Thomas (*Kori Nelson*) **Those deployed in the service abroad:** Mark Thompson, Brett Christensen, Blake Tornga, Nathan Young, Justin Kjos, Guthrie Oiestad (*Alanna Schlosser Oiestad*)



Preparation for Worship Prayers

- ♥God, increase our faith as we journey through this Holy Week and its roller coaster of emotions. We pray in Jesus' name.
- ♥[Maundy Thursday] Jesus, help us learn from you how to love one another deeply and selflessly. Amen.
- ♥[Good Friday] "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom" (Luke 23:42).
- ♥May we recognize you, Risen Lord, when you call us by name as you did Mary, and may we be eager to tell others the good news.
- ♥Jesus, through Thomas the disciple, I learn that questions and even doubt can be stepping-stones to deeper faith. LORD, increase my faith!
- ♥Come, LORD Jesus!
- ♥May our hearts burn within us, Lord Jesus, as you open the Scriptures to us this day. (See Luke 24:32.)



**Donate to the
Conrad Food Pantry
through the mail! Send to:
220 S. Front Street
Conrad MT 59425**



Community Prayer Night

FOR NOW...we cannot meet but please continue to pray for each other, our churches, community, state, world and all therein! **For ideas, see page 10.**

Those of you who can knit or crochet, please continue to work on the prayer shawls! And for EVERYONE, if someone comes to mind that you would like to have a prayer shawl, make a note to yourself. When we are able we can give them one!





See(k) first

On Facebook, I can “follow” as many people as I want, viewing their messages, photos and activities. But I can choose only 30 to “see first” — that is, to prioritize in my news feed. As of this writing (Facebook changes often), if my “see first” list is full and I want to add someone new, I must “un-prioritize”

someone else. That leads me to ponder bigger matters: I often claim to follow Jesus, but what might I need to “un-prioritize” to make him not just a priority but the priority in my life? To what do I devote time and attention but ought to let go to follow Christ more closely? What activities, behaviors and values do I need to not just bump from my “see first” list but “un-follow” or “block” entirely? Perhaps they

are antithetical to discipleship or simply take too much time away from prayer, Scripture and service.

This dilemma isn’t unique to the digital age. Facebook parlance is about what we “see first,” but in Matthew 6:33 Jesus says, “Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness” (ESV, italics added).

—Heidi Mann



Bible Trivia
FROM THE MOUNTAINS

1. On what mountain did Elijah challenge the priests of Baal?
2. From what mountain did Balaam plan to curse Israel?
3. From what mountain did Moses see the Promised Land?
4. What mountain did Deborah and Barak descend to defeat Sisera?
5. Where did Noah’s ark land?
6. Where did Jesus’ transfiguration occur?
7. Where did the Samaritans build their temple?

8. Where did Moses see the burning bush?
 9. On what mountain did Solomon build the temple?
 10. Where did Jesus weep over Jerusalem?
 11. What mountain range did the wood for Solomon’s temple come from?
 12. What mountain did David cross on his flight from Absalom?
 13. Where did Jesus deliver his final discourse?
- ANSWERS: 1. Carmel (1Kings 18:19); 2. Pisgah (Numbers 22-24); 3. Nebo (Deuteronomy 34:1-4); 4. Tabor (Judges 4:6-15); 5. Ararat (Genesis 8:4); 6. Harmon (Matt. 17); 7. Gerizim (John 4:20-21); 8. Horeb (Exodus 3:1); 9. Moriah (2Chronicles 3:1); 10. The Mount of Olives (Luke 19:41); 11. Lebanon (1Kings 5:6-14); 12. The Mount of Olives (2 Sam. 15:30-32); 13. The Mount of Olives (Matthew 24-25).*





In your homes around the kitchen table or sitting in the living room gather your family members, those with you and maybe over the phone. Some of us have probably never prayed with our spouse, our children, or as a family. And not just reading prayers, but simply talking with God. You don't need fancy language. Just bring every care to the throne of Grace.

What prayer concerns might you have? I have many, here are just a few:

- Pray for our government leaders (Romans). Ask the Lord of Heaven and Earth that they would be able to come together to make wise and common sense decisions to protect the vulnerable and ease the financial burden on those affected by all the shutdowns.
- Pray for those families who will be challenged to both continue to work to provide an income and at the same time care for their children who will not be in school, pre-school or day care.
- Pray for the businesses in our communities who will be drastically affected by the mandatory shutdowns that they might survive, recover and thrive once again.
- Pray for those who are working in the health care fields, those who will have direct contact with folks who are showing symptoms of Covid-19.
- Pray for our congregations, leaders, and pastors that together we might be light in the darkness and salt to a world that still cries out in pain, hurt, confusion, and frustration.
- And for all, in every nation that are suffering illness now because of this pandemic.

What about adding fasting in with prayer? There are many ways to fast. Not all of us can avoid nutrition without causing some serious consequences. You can fast from watching television—might be a good idea to not be bombarded with troubling news 24/7. You can fast from sweets, from broccoli, from anything else that takes up time and spend that time in prayer. You can fast from Facebook social media, and even video games. You can fast from your usual TV viewing and watch a Christmas movie. Fasting is not an attempt to show God what a wonderful person you are or to gain any stars in your crown, but it is a good discipline that gives us more time for prayer and getting in to God's Word.

Here are some words from the Scriptures that I hang on to in times of trouble:

- *"Cast all your cares on Him, for He cares about you."* – **I Peter 5:8**
- *"Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you."* – **Matthew 6:33** (the whole chapter is good)
- Let today's trouble be enough for today (one day at a time). -- **Matthew 6:34**
- **Romans 8:28:** *In all things, God works for good for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose.*
- **Psalm 23** Most everyone knows and loves this comforting Psalm.
- And finally, the three most often said words in the Bible: *Be not afraid.*

Let's remember that God is faithful. He is still the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Our God is greater than any virus or anything else in this world! We will get through this, and there is a better day coming!



Here we wanted to insert a letter from the city because it has pertinent information for all of us and in case you haven't seen it...

CITY OF CONRAD COVID-19 RESPONSE PRESS RELEASE March 20, 2020

Dear Citizens of Conrad, In consideration of the health and safety of our community and in response to the recent directives by Governor Bullock, the City of Conrad has signed a Declaration of Emergency. This Declaration not only directs our community to do our part to “flatten the curve” of the COVID-19 outbreak, it also allows our community businesses and their employees access to Federal and/or State assistance programs that may become available.

Along with the Declaration, the City of Conrad will enact the following Emergency procedures until further notice:

1.) City Hall will be closed to public access. City Office Staff will be at City Hall and available by phone 406-271-3623 or email for any questions during normal business hours 8:00am-5:00pm Monday through Friday. Cash, check or money order Utility payments can be made via mail or drop box located at City Hall, please ensure service address and name are included with all payments. Credit or debit card payments can be made by calling city hall or online via City website. www.cityofconradmt.com

2.) Conrad Public Library will be closed to public access. The library will be available by phone at 406-271-5751. Their website is www.conradlibrary.com

3.) Public Works Department will continue their operations. IMPORTANT REMINDER: Due to the shortage of Toilet Paper, customers are reminded that paper towels, napkins, sanitary wipes etc. are NOT to be flushed. Please dispose of those items in your trash. The City Shop can be reached at 406-271-5821 with questions during normal business hours of 7:00am-3:30pm Monday through Friday. For afterhours emergencies, please call dispatch at 406-271-5723.

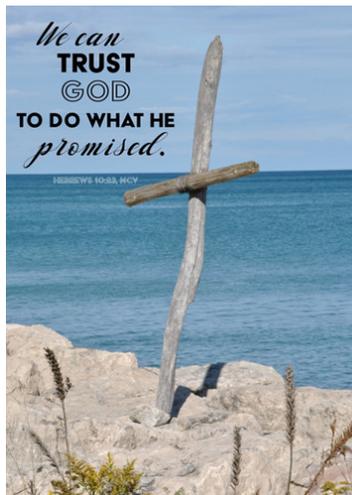
4.) Police Department will continue their operations. You can call the City office 406-271-3623 for questions during normal city business hours. For any other assistance or emergency, please call 911 or dispatch at 406-271-5723.

5.) City Court will continue their operations. Court fines can be placed in City Drop box. City Judge will be available by phone at City Hall 406-271-3623 during normal business hours.

6.) City Fire Department will continue their operations as normal.

We will continue to keep the public updated as more information becomes available. I encourage you to keep informed of what's going on in your community through the City of Conrad website, the Chamber of Commerce website and Chamber Facebook page. Thank you all for your patience, understanding and resiliency during these challenging times. I continue to be proud of the community I serve and will continue to do my best to keep our community vibrant, healthy and safe. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely, Wendy Judisch, Mayor City of Conrad



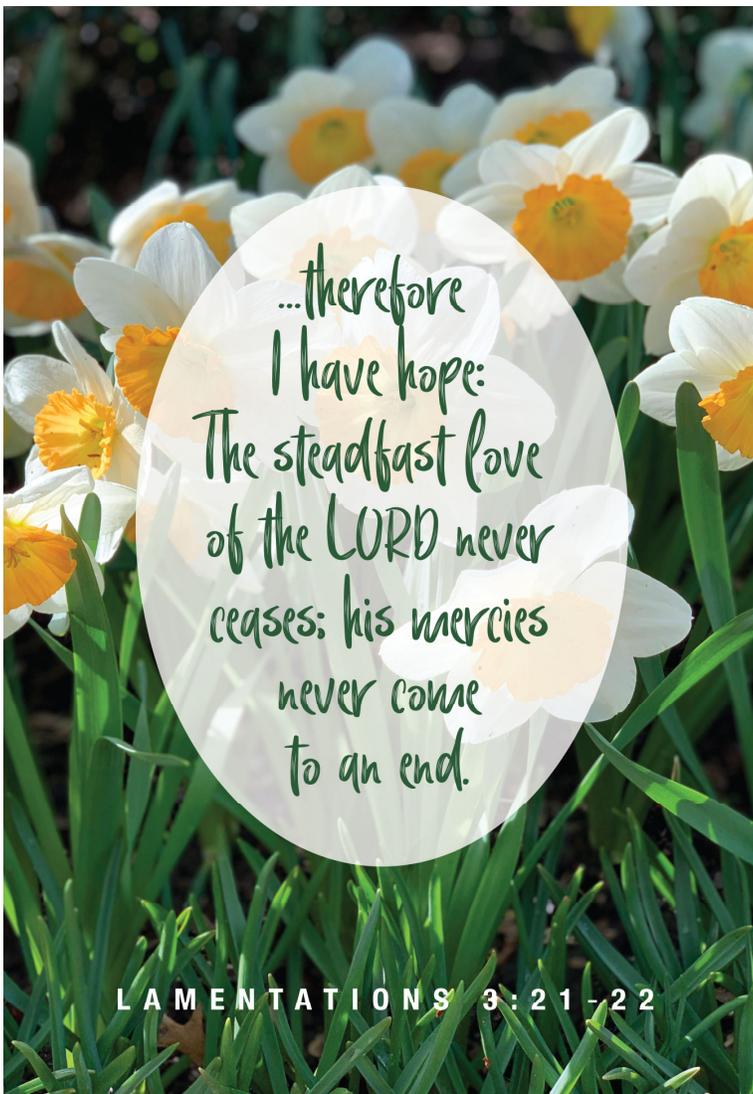
Almost 100 years ago, one-time U.K. poet laureate John Masefield wrote a play called *The Trial of Jesus*. In it, the centurion who oversaw Jesus' execution returns to give Pontius Pilate an official report. When Pilate's wife requests and receives details about the crucifixion, she asks, "Do you think he is dead?" Despite what he had witnessed, the centurion answers, "No, lady, I don't."

Let loose in the world,

WHERE NONE CAN



Confused, Pilate's wife inquires, "Then where is he?" The man's response: "Let loose in the world, w h e r e n o n e c a n s t o p h i s t r u t h . " Indeed, as 2 Timothy 2:9 (ESV) attests, "The word of God is not bound!"



...therefore
I have hope:
The steadfast love
of the LORD never
ceases; his mercies
never come
to an end.

L A M E N T A T I O N S 3 : 2 1 - 2 2

CHECKLIST

- ✓ Watch www.conradlutheran.com for added information, as well as Conrad Lutheran Parish FB page (If you want to be included on the page, you will need to add Kim R. Wiest as a friend and I will add you on!)
- ✓ Check on your friends, neighbors by phone, email, notes. Remember, you are called to be the church!
- ✓ If anyone would like to visit with Pastor Drew please call his home phone 450-0078 and leave a message and he will call you back. OR his email: dsnbygrace@gmail.com
- ✓ Remember to spend some time in stillness and in prayer.