

THERAN PARISH

LOGOS

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES:

Golden West 9 a.m. Pondera Valley 11 a.m.

Pastor Drew Nelson Kim Wiest, Admin. Assistant Office # 271-3934/P.O. Box 883 **Office Hours:** Monday - Thursday, 9-Noon or call Pastor: 450-0078, Kim: 271-2060 or Pastor's email: dsnbygrace@gmail.com



MOST IMPORTANT, LIVE TOGETHER IN A MANNER WORTHY OF CHRIST'S GOSPEL. DO THIS, WHETHER I COME AND SEE YOU OR I'm absent and hear about you. Do this so that you STAND FIRM, UNITED IN ONE SPIRIT AND MIND AS YOU STRUGGLE TOGETHER TO REMAIN FAITHFUL TO THE GOSPEL. PHILIPPIANS 1:27



APRIL 1st: First Communion Class at 5 p.m. @ Pondera Valley Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m. @ Pondera Valley

Holy Week & APRIL 2nd: Good Friday service at 7 p.m. @ Pondera Valley Worship & APRIL 4th: EASTER! Worship at Golden West at 9 a.m.

Rolls & Juice at PV at 9:30 a.m.

Worship at Pondera Valley at 11 a.m. -- Kids singing!



Thank you to our sponsors for the RADIO BROADCASTS on KZIN, 96.7 FM at 11 am:

April 4th, sponsored by *Jody*, *Michelle*, & *Kaia Fowler* in loving memory of Elaine, Harlan, Robin and Terry Schram AND by Dennis & Dawne Stokes in loving memory of Marilyn, Dick & Jeanne Eckstein and Carson Stokes.

May God bless the hearing of His word!

"Spring Cleaning"

"Be glad, people of Zion, rejoice in the LORD your God, for he has given you the autumn rains because he is faithful. He sends you abundant showers, both autumn and spring rains, as before." +Joel 2:23

First off, I never really cared much for raking and bagging the yearly collection of leaves and debris. Second, I have a habit of picking the worst days to do yard work. My neighbor commented from across the street to me, "Why did you pick the windiest day of the week to pile up leaves?" My response, "Then at least my neighbors have to help a bit..." (Also, when isn't it a windy day here near the front?) Quickly then before he hopped in his car to get going he quipped back, "I better get out of here before you put me to work then!"

With winter ending we often talk about spring being a new season, one of beginning. In it we look forward to new life and the restoration of the world around us. Spring cleaning is a well-known practice, needed, but not always celebrated. Going through that dark room to discover what we have left to collect dust through the winter or many years can be a daunting task. Sometimes the job can even be grotesque or physically difficult. Those who are out with new calves have to be exhausted in body, mind, and spirit as they give every ounce of attention to their newborn stock. Others are itching to break those first holes into their vegetable gardens. Some are waiting for the wildlife to emerge from hibernation and the rest are wishing for a break like the bears get for a whole season.

At the same time, I have noticed a note of joy as people go about these tasks again. There is a reward here and now to the work we do. As stewards of creation we know that by the sweat of brow we are fed. Our daily vocations are they ways that God delivers His blessings. Instead of a curse, with faith, we receive the promise. When something is not right we feel the urge to make it straight again and have gone out in ways to accomplish it. We know there is a good order and are called to care for others and the world according to what we have been given. It is life giving. We are helping one another.

For me it has been a joy to see people step into new roles and responsibilities in our church and community. We recently lost a man who took much of his time to care for the flower gardens and landscaping around the church. Yet, only the other day did I see a group of people out in front caring for those very same gardens. We have had others shoveling in the place of those who have done it for countless years before this winter. Young people are stepping into roles of responsibility. We even had way too much food at fellowship the other day. This is simply because you all are participating. All of us are grasping at the opportunity in front of us.

What we are witnessing is the answer to the question many of us ask... "Yes my sins are forgiven. I believe in the name of Jesus and know that I have eternal life, but now what? How do I live in this moment?" From what I have seen, many of you are doing it. Our topic is actually rooted in the greatest commandment. Through it we are driven to

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involve others in the work we are doing. And what is that work? It is proclaiming forgiveness, mercy, and grace so that every person knows Jesus has done and given everything for them.

The word I have been using recently is "succession". What I mean by it is specifically the ownership we are giving to the next person. What do our words, actions, and thoughts do for or give them? The book of James warns us we will speak both blessings and curses and a simple spark from our mouths will start a wildfire in our lives. Our words have power and reflect where our heart sits. Instead of being people of the flesh, by grace we are living in the Spirit. Then our lives are fruitful and as put in the letter to the Galatians, "there is no limit or law to things like this." God calls us to live outside of ourselves. When we discover what we have been given our lives are no longer led by selfish whims. Here we are giving life through daily work God has already prepared for us and another's benefit. He loves us so we love him and love all those created in His image with the world we live in.

This is hearing the cry of the man in the Wilderness named John the Baptist who said to prepare the way. With Easter arriving we know what is coming. Through the resurrection we learn that death is not an ending but starting again without the fear of punishment waiting. As we move to the cross and tomb of Jesus we have not been closed in. Rather, we witness and are asked to live in the same boldness for others as Christ lived, died, and rose for us. For every person listening that involves not only

looking around at the mess surrounding us but in the mirror at ourselves before we are sent. We can only give what we know we need and have. Believing that we are forgiven sinners awarded grace by eternal life requires humility in our whole being, impossible without the Spirit and Word. We live gently echoing what has been done for us so that others can live in the same freedom and abundance we have. For God's glory I pray we open the doors to the kingdom for others just as we have been let in through the work and words of the saints before who only point us to Jesus Christ. Amen.

"When a king's face brightens, it means life; his favor is like a rain cloud in spring." +Proverbs 16:15

In Christ, Pastor Drew Nelson

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Remembering Dietrich Bonhoeffer

The Christian church commemorates Dietrich Bonhoeffer — pastor, theologian, anti-Nazi spy — on April 9, the anniversary of his 1945 martyrdom. Among his much-loved writings are nuggets of wisdom such as these: "Judging others makes us blind, whereas love is illuminating. By judging others we blind ourselves to our own evil and to the grace which others are just as entitled to as we are." of Discipleship) (TheCost

"In normal life we hardly realize how much more we receive than we give, and life cannot be rich without such gratitude. It is so easy to overestimate the importance of our own achievements compared with what we owe to the help of others." (Letters and Papers from Prison)

"The table fellowship of Christians implies obligation. It is our daily bread that we eat, not my own. We share our bread. Thus we are firmly bound to one another not only in the Spirit but in our whole physical being. The one bread that is given to our fellowship links us together in a firm covenant." (Life Together)

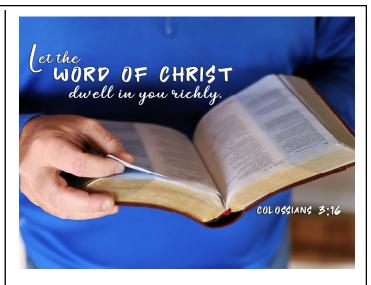
All Things Common

Just as the bread is made out of many grains ground and mixed together, and out of the bodies of many grains there comes the body of one bread, in which

each grain loses its form and body and takes upon itself the common body of the bread; and just as the drops of wine, in losing their own form, become the body of one common wine and drink — so it is and should be with us.

Through the interchange of [Christ's] blessings and our misfortunes, we become one loaf, one bread, one body, one drink, and have all things n C 0 m m

-Martin Luther, Treatise on the Blessed Sacrament



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 "unprioritize" someone else.

That leads me to ponder bigger matters: I often claim to follow Jesus, but what might I need to "unprioritize" 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 "unfollow" 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



WEDNESDAYS

2 weeks left! March 31st and April 7th for Preschool - 4th grades: 5:15 p.m.- 6 p.m. (no dinner) in Ed. Building

HOWEVER: Through April at least, Confirmation (7-9th) will continue with a 6 p.m. Meal in Fellowship Hall followed right away with class until 7:30 p.m.

The younger ages will be singing in church Easter, April 4th! Please have them there by 10:45 a.m.!

The Bake Sale for VBS & Day Camp brought in **\$534.00!**Thank you so much for all who participated!

Mark the week of June 21st on your calendar for VBS & Day Camp!! Watch for more info!



WOMEN'S CRAFT SALE May 1st 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Bring in your finished items! (There's a container in the old kitchen for them.) If you have any questions, contact Linda Van Tongeren or Kim Hofstad.

The Women of Pondera Valley are raffling a beautiful quilt, donated by Sandi Carr. (You can see it on the website or come to the church!) It will be drawn on Mother's Day. The tickets are 3/\$5 and can be purchased from Kim Hofstad or Linda VanTongeren. The money will go toward the Women's benevolent projects and ministries.



21 New members brought in at Pondera Valley on April 11th!

They are: Barbara & David Meuli, Julene Knaff, Cindy Koenig, Chris Zerbst, Brandi Wilson, Melinda & John Burns, Drew, Amanda Lesnik, Sterling, and Macy Lesnik, Casey Vandenacre, Jesse, Becky, Mesa, and Ava Fuson, Jordan Johnson, Beckham Thompson, Bruce & Diane Johnson. We welcome you and receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, and workers with us in the kingdom of God!



More notes from Golden West's Annual Meeting Feb. 21st. They decided to have a Palm Sunday Brunch this year. The Endowment Fund's recommendation for gifting was approved. These are those who will receive funding:Conrad Food Pantry, CASA, Quality Life Concepts, Grace Home for Vets, Intermountain, For the Children, INC, Shodair Children's Hospital, LCMC, Shriner's Hospital, PEG

Ministries, and a dishwasher for Nelsons. It was decided to change the missionary giving to Lutheran Asian Ministry and Matthew 25 Missionaries.

Valley Council met Pondera on March 8th. The dishwasher at the parsonage was put in by Pastor and Carl Flesch. Sounds like the ski day was a hit and they all had fun. Pastor hasn't been able to go into facilities to visit with members but will continue to try. Committee reports were given. The younger kids, Preschool through 6th will finish the week after Easter, April 7th. The confirmation class will The Worship continue on.

Committee is considering Wednesday night service. Council members will be studying their Policy books to see for what their committees are responsible. Pastor will soon present his names for the Pastoral Relations Committee. Tom Russett will organize and Easter breakfast to be served before worship at 9:30 a.m. Easter day. It will be Juice, milk, coffee and a roll. Correspondence had one benevolence request. The meeting was adjourned with the next meeting set for Monday, April 12th at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

"FROM THE MOMENT WE AWAKE UNTIL
WE FALL ASLEEP, WE MUST COMMEND
OTHER PEOPLE WHOLLY AND
UNRESERVEDLY TO GOD AND LEAVE
THEM IN HIS HANDS, TRANSFORMING OUR
ANXIETY FOR THEM INTO PRAYERS ON
THEIR BEHALF." --LETTERS AND PAPERS
FROM PRISON, DIETRICH BONHOEFFER

"WASTED TIME WHICH WE ARE ASHAMED OF,
TEMPTATIONS THAT BESET US, WEAKNESS AND
LISTLESSNESS IN OUR WORK, DISORDER AND
INDISCIPLINE IN OUR THINKING AND OUR RELATIONS
WITH OTHER PEOPLE VERY FREQUENTLY HAVE THEIR
CAUSE IN NEGLECT OF THE MORNING PRAYER. THE
ORGANIZATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF OUR TIME WILL
BE BETTER FOR HAVING BEEN ROOTED IN PRAYER." —
LIFE TOGETHER, DIETRICH BONHOEFFER



2 Corinthians 9:7

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

In college, on an Outreach Team, I learned a little ditty: "God loves a cheerful giver, Give it all you

got! He loves to hear you laughing when you're in an awkward spot. When the odds are up against you, it's time to stop and say, 'PRAISE GOD', to praise Him is a joyful thing!"

God truly provides for us. We give monetarily but also in so many other ways....ALL we give are gifts He has first given us. Praise Him!



April 1 - Maundy Thursday Ex.24:3-11; Psalm 116:12-19; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; Mk 14:12-26; WASH: Jn 13:1-35

April 2 - GOOD FRIDAY Isaiah 52:13--53:12; Psalm 22 or 31; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1--19:42

April 4 - EASTER Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 16; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Mark 16:1-8

April 11 - Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 148; 1 John 1:1--2:2; John 20:19-31

April 18 - Acts 3:11-21; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36-49

April 25 - Acts 4:1-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18

APRIL Calendar Reminders:

<u>Maundy Thursday, April 1, 7 p.m.:</u> *Roland Lee* (Reader); *Rudy King & Tom Russett* (C. Servers)

<u>Good Friday, April 2, 7 p.m.:</u> *Leslee Weber* (Reader)

Pondera Valley Worship Leaders 11 a.m. - Karen Lee (Sound); Linda Carlson (Comm. Prep.); Wanda Bandow (Greeter); Randy & Peggy Young (Ushers); Tom Russett (Offering Custodian); Dick Kinyon (Reader April 4th); Mary Jane Kinyon (Reader April 11th & 18th); Judy Ketterling (Reader April 25th); Lyn & Linda Carlson (C. Servers April 4th); Leslee Weber & Page Russett (C. Servers April 11th); Rudy King & Tom Russett (C. Servers April 25th)

Golden West Worship Leaders 9 a.m. - Aaron & Janae Bliss (Ushers); Janae (Reader & Communion Preparer); Aaron (Comm. Assistant)

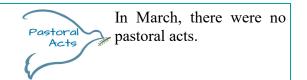
Bible Studies at Pondera Valley - Women's Mondays Noon beginning April 12th, PV Library

- Men's Tuesdays 6:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall
- Women's Tuesdays 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday Night Education Preschool - 4th grades: 5:15 p.m.- 6 p.m. (no dinner) in Ed. Building; 5th & 6th grade - Confirmation (7-9th): 6 p.m. Meal in Fellowship Hall followed right away with class until 7:30 p.m. The last day for this school year for the younger ages will be on April 7th. Confirmation will continue through April. Watch for more information on their finishing date.

New Members' Sunday at Pondera Valley April 11th at 11 a.m.

Pondera Valley Council will meet at 6 p.m. April 12th in the Fellowship Hall



Pondera Valley Offering in March: \$ 9,227.00 Bake Sale for Day Camp/VBS \$534+ PV Average Sunday Attendance in March <u>58</u>



2 Corinthians 1:3-4 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

Thank you to the anonymous donor for the Palm Sunday Palms!

 ▶THANK YOU to all who continue to send in your offerings! You can use the enclosed blue envelope or mail them to: PO Box 883, Conrad MT 59425.





The hidden surprise in these sweet rolls hints at the reason behind Easter's joy.

What you need:

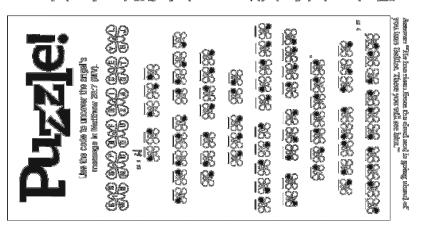
- ½ cup chopped pecans
- 10 uncooked frozen rolls, thawed
- 10 large marshmallows
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- ½ cup melted butter
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- Adult help

What you do:

- 1. Grease a round baking dish. Sprinkle pecans on the bottom.
- 2. Flatten each roll. Place a marshmallow in the center, wrap dough around it and pinch edges together.
- 3. Combine sugar and cinnamon. Dip each roll into melted butter and coat with cinnamon-sugar. Place in pan, seam side down.
- 4. Sprinkle brown sugar and remaining butter over rolls. Cover with plastic wrap and let rise 30 minutes.
- 5. Bake at 350 degrees until golden brown, about 30 minutes. Cool in pan.
- 6. As you bite into a roll, you'll see the marshmallow has melted, leaving an empty center just like Jesus' empty tomb!



Armster "Winy do you look for the Erring among the dead 'the se not been with the deal." The set





Check out this website: www.holyfamilytime.com

COMPASSION

Pray: Begin by making the sign of the cross and calling upon God's name.



From God to us, from death to life, from me to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son + and of the Holv Spirit. Amen.

Almighty Father, open our eyes to the world around us as we read your Word. Help us to see how our neighbors need our help. May your Holy Spirit help us to serve those in need, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Listen: Pay close attention as the Bible story is read in the form of a rhyme.

Two men were walking down the street, When they were quite surprised to meet A third man, who was walking, too. Could he be someone that they knew?

This third man listened, spoke and taught.

And both men really learned a lot. So when their trip came to an end, They felt as if they'd made a friend.

The stranger blessed and broke some bread

And each man ate what he was fed. Then suddenly, they both could see: Christ was alive, and this was He!

Engage: Talk about the Bible by having parents respond to children's questions.

Child: If Jesus is risen from the dead, does that mean he's alive even now? Why is it important to know that Jesus is with us?

Child: Who are some people in our lives who might not know Jesus? What are some ways we might be able to tell them how much Jesus means to us?

Affirm: Pray for God to put his Word into action in your daily life.

Lord God we know that there are many people in our world who are struggling with trials and uncertainty. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, and use us to bring the good news of Jesus' resurrection to our neighbors. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Have each person in the family bless one another with these words.

May the Lord be with you and help you to see the needs of others. Amen.



Beccy Lockyer, Dennis Fladstol, Derek Matheson, Loretta (Louise Glimm), Tim Calcagno (Betty Offerdal), Ron Thaut, Sara McLean, Don Bandow, Ernestine Olson's friend and family, Amber Miller (Jesse Parks), Zach Greene (Carol Kaldor), Evan Bell, Hayden Kellogg, Shaun Short

(Stacie Matheson), Ramona Brastrup, Teagan Bartoo, Faith Birnel Crouch (3Ruth Fladstol), Madelyn Erickson, Rose Peterman, Mike Buechler, Annie Schlosser, Wayne Smith (Linda VanTongeren), Marvin Baker, Sandy Webb (JoAnne Unger), Norman Stordahl, Debbie Ries, Mitchell Moore (Josita Montgomery), Wayne Brown (Carol Wood), Juelie McLean (Bill McLean), Ralph Swan (Cyndi Johnson), Poppy Dahl, Audrey Kieft, Gerald Bruner, Melvin Pocock, Matt Mann, (4Wanda Bollinger), Terry Smith, (Carolyn Widhalm), Ashley & William Heavy Runner, BJ Hilyard, Lorie Hasner, Jolene Wynn (Kim Hofstad), all COVID-19 frontline workers (health, grocery, truck drivers, etc), 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... Alice (Sally) Hovde Adcox

Those deployed in the service abroad: Blake Tornga, Cameron Bowen



Request<u>s</u>

Prayers to Prepare for Worship

- ** [Maundy Thursday] Foot-washing Savior, teach me to follow your example of loving others by serving them.
- ** [Good Friday] Pontius Pilate asked Jesus, "What is truth?" even as Truth stood before him. May my life be grounded in the Truth sent by God to save me.
- ** We echo the words of the man whose son Jesus heals: "I believe; help my unbelief!" (Mark 9:24).
- Lord Jesus, open my mind to understand Scripture as it is proclaimed here today.
- ** We carry worries even to worship. But our Good Shepherd says, "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" Lk 12:32





Monday, April 5th

6:30 pm at the Conrad Sr. Center It's a non-denominational event. Come to pray or listen to others pray! If you have a prayer request, give it to Kim, in the office, beforehand!

www.conradlutheran.com APRIL 2021

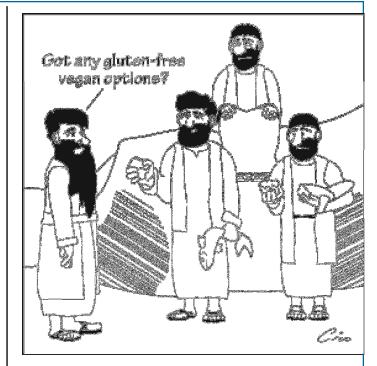


"Flood insurance is very expensive, Mr. Noah, and besides, it would have to rain 40 days and 40 nights to flood around here."

TRIVIA

Miracles of Paul and Peter

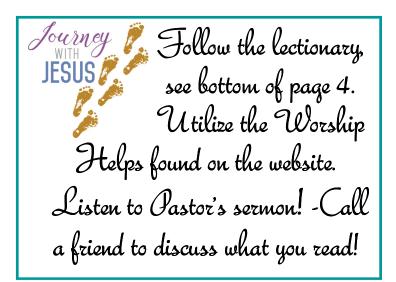
- 1. What dead man at Troas was raised up by Paul after falling out of a window?
- 2. Whom did Peter heal of long-term palsy?
- 3. Where did Paul exorcise a spirit from a possessed slave girl, whose owners then became furious?
- 4. What woman did Peter raise from the dead?
- 5. Where did Paul heal a crippled man?
- 6. Who, with Peter, healed a crippled man at the Beautiful Gate?
- 7. What sorcerer was blinded at Paul's command?
- 8. What, placed on Paul's body, brought about healings and exorcisms?
- 9. On what island did Paul heal the governor's family and many other people?
- 10. What miraculous occurrence delivered Paul and Silas from prison in Philippi?
- 11. What happened when Peter and John placed their hands on the believers at Samaria?
- 12. What part of Peter was supposed to produce healings?
- 13. What happened when Paul placed his hands on the believers at Ephesus?
- 14. What dangerous creature did not affect Paul when it bit him?
- 15. How many times was Peter delivered from prison by an angel?



ANSWERS: 1. Eutychus (Acts 20:9-10); 2. Aeneas (Acts 9:33-34); 3. Philippi (Acts 16:16-18); 4. Dorcas (Acts 9:36-41); 5. Lystra (Acts 14:8-10); 6. John (Acts 3:1-6); 7. Elymas (Acts 13:8-11); 8. Aprons and handkerchiefs (Acts 19:11-12); 9. Malta (Acts 28:8-9); 10. An earthquake (Acts 16:25-33); 11. They received the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:14-17); 12. His shadow (Acts 5:15-16); 13. They spoke in tongues and proclaimed the gospel (Acts 19:1-7); 14. A viper (Acts 28:3-6); 15. Twice (Acts 5:17-29 and 12:1-17)



"Dad, can you make dinner for me and my entire Sunday school class?"



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IT'S ABOUT US

Matuor Dot Alier is a social worker in North Dakota. A long, difficult journey — and the memory of his grandfather's words — brought him from a childhood in Africa to his life today. Alier fled with his brother and thousands of other youths when Sudanese soldiers attacked South Sudan. The children walked hundreds of miles with little food or water to a refugee camp in Ethiopia. In 2006, Alier and his brother arrived in Philadelphia, where they were sponsored and supported by a Lutheran church. Upon moving to Fargo some years later, Alier helped start a church where people who had survived war, displacement and other traumas could find healing, joy and love.

"My grandfather used to say, 'I cannot be whole unless everyone is whole," Alier shares. "I use this saying a lot to help me stay in a close relationship with others. It means that we need each other's support to survive and thrive. I don't want to be the only one doing well if others aren't doing well. It's not just about me — it's about us."

—adapted from *Living Lutheran*





There are a few things in the lost and found box and on the back bulletin board and table at Pondera Valley. There are: glasses, a hearing aid, and a couple of single earrings. Someone has to be missing

these! Please check the box and the table!!



Go to our website for videos, updates, materials to use for worship!

PLUS, the newsletter is

in COLOR!!

www.conradlutheran.com