



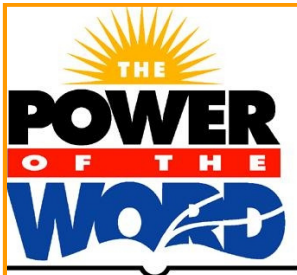
CONRAD LUTHERAN PARISH

LOGOS

Pastor Drew Nelson
 Kim Wiest, Admin. Assistant
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 Pastor's phone: 450-0078

WORSHIP TIMES CHANGE in JANUARY!!:

9 am Pondera Valley
 11 am Golden West



"HAVE THIS MIND AMONG YOURSELVES, WHICH IS YOURS IN CHRIST JESUS, WHO, THOUGH HE WAS IN THE FORM OF GOD, DID NOT COUNT EQUALITY WITH GOD A THING TO BE GRASPED, BUT EMPTIED HIMSELF, BY TAKING THE FORM OF A SERVANT, BEING BORN IN THE LIKENESS OF MEN." PHILIPPIANS 2:5-7



WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY Saturday, December 7th at 2 p.m. Fellowship Hall

All women are encouraged to attend! There will be a short business meeting, followed by a program and refreshments.

PONDERA VALLEY'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
 during Worship, Sunday, December 15th at 11 a.m.,
 followed by a **Community Potluck and Christmas Carols**
ALL Giving Tree gifts need to be back in morning of 15th!

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
 with Holy Communion
 Pondera Valley 5 p.m.
 Golden West 7 p.m.

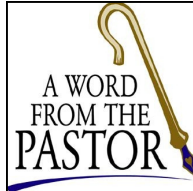


Worship With Us



RADIO BROADCAST: 11 am December 1st on KZIN, 96.7 FM

Sponsored by: *Norman & Shirley Stordahl* in memory of Martha and Lowell Stordahl, and their parents: Walter & Fannie Snortland and Albert & Mabel Stordahl and by *Kathy Walter* in memory of her husband Gerry, father-in-law Don Walter, parents Hildur & Palmer Gustafson, and brother Marlin. **Thank you! May God bless the hearing of His word! The Christmas Eve Radio Broadcast sponsors are continued on page 3.**



“Is it Better to Give or to Receive?”

Stewardship begins and ends with thanksgiving. For us we can take that statement quite literally. We began our short emphasis on giving this year by recognizing that God gives first. The best place for us to start is with praise and thanks. Before we ever wonder what more we might do, we are called back to what has already been done for us.

Knowing that all things have been given, consequently our resources and reach becomes unlimited. There is opportunity and potential as near as your next door neighbor to across the world. Stewardship is not selfish; it looks outward to those in need. Having it revealed to us that all we have is a gift allows and empowers us to give with that same condition, no strings attached.

The reality is that our very being was created out of the benevolence of God. Then out of love and grace he gave us the world and all that is on it to care for and have dominion over. Yes, we lost that with the fall and sin, yet Jesus has won back everything for us again. The cross is a reclaiming of all of creation. It is a foretaste of what God will do with this world he made for us. What we receive today is an overflow of blessings.

Ironically, the heavens and earth will be destroyed. What our sin has done has to be put to death, but we are not left with nothingness. Instead, we are given the whole kingdom. The gift is reinstated and won back for us. Just as Jesus was crucified and raised, our world and flesh needs to be destroyed and recreated with all God’s perfection and glory.

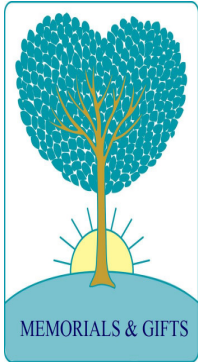
While the full inheritance arrives in the future, the reality can be lived presently in faith. Believing that all things will pass away allows us to use our resources boldly, dynamically, and with confidence. We can take risk and chance to advance God’s kingdom because the fight has been fixed. Jesus wins and comes back to claim all of us.

The question remains, “What has God given you today?” Then I call you to look at the people standing in front of you, the ones you are to love, and imagine how you might improve their life. What is in your pockets or purse that could help someone else? Here and now, that is God’s call on us as stewards. True religion is to care for the orphan and widow. It is to visit the prisoner and sick.

Yet, any example of what a person might give to another should only point to where we have begun. We give because it is a reflection of being given everything, grace, mercy, joy, peace, life, and salvation. We give generously because we are heirs to God’s kingdom, the maker, ruler, and sustainer of all. Our giving has value only when it points to Jesus Christ.

So, in this season of praise, thanks, and giving, I pray we each hear the needs brought before us. Those are the works that God has prepared for you to do. As we prepare for our Lord to arrive this Advent, who might you give the Good News to? How will you share what Jesus has given to you with your family and friends? Open your heart to simple deeds that may bring about the opportunity to proclaim God’s coming kingdom. Lord, make us strong enough to give to others what you have given us. Amen.

In Christ, Pastor Drew Nelson



PONDERA VALLEY

General Fund:

In memory of **Barb Shephard** - Vernon & Kathy Gjullin
 In memory of **Bernice Boucher** - Wade & Janet Spears, Lyn & Linda Carlson
 In memory of **Leonard Armstrong** - Larry & Rose Banka, Roman & Judy Ketterling

Kitchen Fund:

In memory of **Bernice Boucher** - Ray & Jana O'Brien

Wednesday Night Meals:

In memory of **Leonard Armstrong** - Wanda & Don Bandow



Pondera Valley's program for grieving the death of a loved one will be taking a break.

However, if you have any questions or are interested in future dates, please call the church or the group leader, Pat Lee, 278-3958.



NOVEMBER

Average Worship Attendance

Golden West **36**

Golden West Praise & Thanks **55**

Pondera Valley **80**

Pondera Valley Offering **\$8,418.00**

IN NOVEMBER... There was a funeral at GW for Gerald Gunderson on the 18th, at PV for Leonard Armstrong on the 23rd; AND three baptisms at PV: Corbin Marney on the 10th and Macy Lesnik on the 17th, and at GW: Annie Flesch on the 24th.

HOLY COMMUNION... is offered monthly at the Horizon Lodge and at the PMC Extended Care facility, as well as some Vesper services. *If you yourself or someone you know would like a visit from Pastor, please let the church office know, 271-3934.*



Thank you Herb Peterman for fixing the slow cooker in the kitchen and for all the work you do around our church! Bless You!

♥ If you are reading this...Look forward to LEAP DAY LUTEFISK @ PV!!! Sign up to help in the Fellowship Hall!



Thank you Sponsors of the Christmas Eve radio broadcast on December 24th at 7 p.m. over KSEN, 1150 AM:

Doris Peterson in memory of her late husband, parents, brothers and sisters.

Madelyn Erickson in memory of George Erickson, Edna & Oscar Hovde, Howard, Arthur, John, and Ed, Anna Evers, Hans & Emma Erickson, Clara, Bert, and Harry.

Larry & Rosemarie Banka in memory of John, Pat and Mike Banka.

Jack & Barb Judisch & family in memory of Clark Judisch and other family and friends.

Jim & Shauna Ellefsen and family and Tim & Amy Salois and family in memory of Bob, Eleanor and Scott Salois.



Symbols of the *season*

Many traditional decorations convey the meaning of Christmas.

Directions: Use the picture clues to the right to complete the words. Then write the boxed letters in order to complete 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV.



shepherd's staff _ _ _ _

tree that keeps its leaves _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

shines to lead the way _ _ _ _

green for eternal life,
red for Jesus' blood _ _ _ _ &
_ _ _ _ _ _

sounds to announce
good news _ _ _ _

has no beginning or end _ _ _ _ _

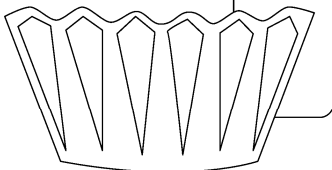
Th ks b to od fo is
indesc ba le gif !

2 CORINTHIANS 9:15, NIV

Answer: candy cane, evergreen, star, holly & berries, bell, wreath. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV

Light the way

Make some Christmas candles to remember Jesus, the Light of the world.



What you need:

- Unlined white notecards
- Hot glue (and adult help)
- Yellow tissue paper
- Mini muffin liners
- Clothespins

What you do:

1. Roll a notecard from side to side into a "candle" tube. Secure with glue.
2. Insert a piece of tissue paper "flame" in one end.
3. Glue the other end to a muffin liner. Then glue the liner to a clothespin.
4. Repeat to make many paper candles. Pin them to the branches of a Christmas tree.



Share God's Word

Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Philippians 2:4

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE, TO GROW



The test of our faith seems to come when we see the needs of others. It is then that God proves us in our obedience to Him. A little boy who had enough food for himself was asked to share. (*John 6:4-13*) When the

boy shared, Jesus multiplied it so that there was enough for both himself and the multitude. (12 baskets of food were left over!)

We may have provided only enough for ourselves, but if we will share what we have with

Jesus, it will be used to supply the needs of others, and yet somehow miraculously, we will still have enough for ourselves.

We give to help others and by doing so we glorify God.

JOIN A BIBLE STUDY!

FOR EVERYONE...

- ◆ 6 p.m. Tuesdays in the F.H. with Pastor Drew. "A Journey Through Revelation" by Armin Gothberg. Everyone welcome!

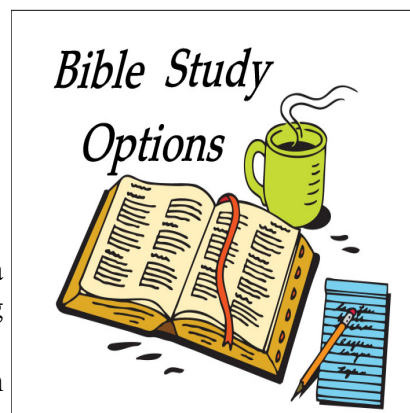
FOR MEN...

- ◆ 6:30 a.m. Tuesdays Breakfast & Bible Study in the F.H. They're working their way through the Bible.

FOR WOMEN...

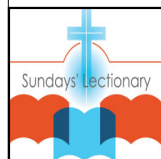
- ◆ Mondays @ Noon, in the Fellowship Hall, this Bible Study will take a break through December but come January, they will be starting something new, watch for details!
- ◆ Tuesdays @ 9 am Women's Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall on "The Case for Christmas". In January we will begin "Jesus the One & Only". Call the church office to order a book, 271-3934.
- ◆ Usually the 2nd Tuesday of each month, Faith/Joy Circle will take a break in December.
- ◆ Once a month, home Bible Study "Bless These Lips" will take a break in December also.

If you would like a reading plan or a suggested personal Bible study, contact the church office, 271-3934!



www.holyfamilytime.com

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



1st Sunday in ADVENT Dec. 1st - Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44

2nd " " " Dec. 8th - Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12


3rd " " " Dec. 15th - Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146; James 5:7-11; Matthew 11:2-15

4th " " " Dec. 22nd - Isaiah 7:10-17; Psalm 24; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25

Christmas Eve - Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 110:1-4; 1 John 4:7-16; Matthew 1:18-25

Christmas Day - Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 2; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-14

Dec. 29th - Isaiah 63:7-14; Psalm 111; Galatians 4:4-7; Matthew 2:13-23



Golden West and Pondera Valley will have their Joint Council Meeting on Dec. 3rd at 6pm @ Golden West followed by their regular monthly meeting. Carpool from PV @5:20pm!

The **12 Days of Christmas Song** was written by Catholics in England as a catechism song to help their children remember the teachings of the faith. "True Love" refers to God. "Me" refers to every Christian. Each "gift" follows...

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Partridge in a Pear Tree = Jesus Christ | 7. Swans-A-Swimming = The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:8-10) |
| 2. Turtle Doves = The Old & New Testament | 8. Maids-A-Milking = The Eight Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-10) |
| 3. French Hens = Faith, Hope and Charity or the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit...the Trinity | 9. Ladies Dancing = The Nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) |
| 4. Calling Birds = The Four Gospels | 10. Lords-A-Leaping = The Ten Commandments |
| 5. Golden Rings = First Five Books of the Old Testament | 11. Pipers Piping = Eleven Apostles, not Judas |
| 6. Geese-A-Laying = The Six Days of Creation | 12. Drummers Drumming = The Twelve Points of Doctrine in the Apostle's Creed |

“WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?”
MARK 8:29, NIV

ALPHA AND OMEGA
GLORY
CHRIST
LORD
BREAD OF LIFE
PEACE
GOD
ETERNAL
JESUS
LOVE
MESSIAH
FAITHFUL
SAVIOR
KING OF KINGS
MIGHTY
LAMB OF GOD



Illnesses or other concerns: (*denotes relation to*) Ron Thaut, Mike Buechler, Zach Greene (*2Carol Kaldor*), Casey Jo Burrows, Evan Bell, Teagan Bartoo, Faith Birnel Crouch (*2Ruth Fladstol*), Lucille Russell, Linda Griggs, Hayden Kellogg, Ginny Zanuck (*Kim Wiest*), Patti Winterrowd, Carter Gemar, (*Rose Peterman*), Marvin Baker, Derek Matheson, Sandy Webb (*JoAnne Unger*), Norman Stordahl, Debbie Ries, Debbi Gage, Rose Peterman, Donna Sorlie, Mike Harding, Mitchell Moore (*Josita Montgomery*), Gavin Foth (*Arlyn Seidler*), Juelie McLean, (*Bill McLean*), Don Bandow, Ralph Swan (*Cyndi Johnson*), Cyndi Johnson, Poppy Dahl, Kimberly Peacock, Meghan Pickell, Claude & Audrey Kieft, Gerald Bruner, Terry Smith (*Dave Widhalm*), Melvin Pocock, (*7Wanda Bollinger*), Hanna Peterman, Karla (*Ann Glimm*), Carolyn Widhalm, Lorie Hasner, Julie Parks (*Carol Wood*), all PMC Extended Care Residents, Missionaries and Christians all around the world who are being persecuted - and their persecutors, All in crisis due to weather conditions, CASA-the kids and all who work with them. **All those who mourn...** Leonard Armstrong, Gerald Gunderson, May Richard. **Those deployed in the service abroad:** Brett Christensen, Blake Tornga, Nathan Young, Justin Kjos, Guthrie Oiestad.



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

The Conrad Food Pantry is happy to get food donations and paper products.

Please be sure they are not outdated, however.

Monetary donations are always helpful! Some of the staples they give out are:

individual packets of powdered milk, canned milk,

toilet paper rolls, sugar, flour,

pancake mix, syrup, salt, tomato sauce, tomatoes in a can.

Here is a monthly list of items useful at any time:

January: tuna fish **February:** canned fruit **March:** canned vegetables

April: instant potatoes **May:** shampoo/toothpaste

June: soap (hand/washing) **July:** peanut butter/Jelly

August: Hamburger Helper **September:** soup **October:** Mac & Cheese

November: cooking oil **December:** Jell-O/Pudding

Each church has a basket where you can leave your donated items for the pantry.

Address for donations: 220 S Front Street Conrad MT 59425



Pondera Valley Stewardship Day
 Making Quilts for Lutheran World Relief
 on the **3rd Tuesday of each month**
 from **9 a.m. - Noon** in the church
 basement. **There will be no**
Stewardship Day in December!

WE HAVE MORE YARN!! Those of you who knit, crochet, or weave will have what you need to complete a prayer shawl to aid our ministry! Come pick up some today!! **AND...if you know someone who is in need of a prayer shawl, call the office!**



Community Prayer Night

Come, join our community to pray for our town, state, nation, world! The next prayer night:

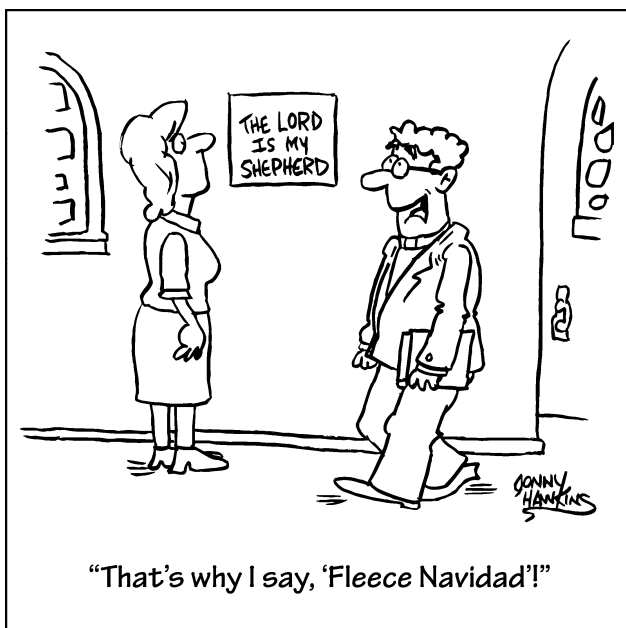
December 2nd

6:30pm @ Conrad Sr. Center
Everyone Welcome!



Board of Education members:

*Kathy Walter, Kara Baker, Tricia Patterson, Julene Peters, Lori Pearson,
Co-Superintendents: Barb Judisch and Donna Fowler*



"That's why I say, 'Fleece Navidad!'"



Tricky Phrases....

This will wet your appetite. The smell of food may be mouthwatering, but it's spelled "whet" (to sharpen or stimulate).

For intensive purposes. No matter how intense a situation, the correct phrase is "for all intents and purposes."

We had free reign. Unless you're royalty, use "free rein," or freedom to act on your own authority.

We'll tow the line. Use "toe the line," which means to follow rules.

The physical year budget. When money is involved, the correct word is "fiscal."

One in the same. Use "one and the same."

Once and a while. This should be "once in a while."



"That's not what he meant by giving of your time!"



December 2019

Golden West WORSHIP Sundays 9 a.m.
Usher: Ken & Cyndi Johnson; Reader: Cyndi Johnson;
Communion Assistant: volunteer!; Communion Preparer: Ken Johnson

Pondera Valley: If you are interested in volunteering to help with ushering, greeting, reading the scripture lessons, serving or helping with communion set-up, please call the church office, 271-3934. Info /instructions would be made available.

SUNDAY WORSHIP 11 a.m.	Dec. 1st	Dec. 8th	Dec. 15th Xmas Program	Dec. 22nd	XMAS EVE, 5pm	Dec. 29th
Reader	Judy Ketterling	Kara Baker	Program	Mary Jane Kinyon	Lyn Carlson	David Berg
Communion Assistant		Pat Lee & Wanda Bandow		Betty Olson & MJ Kinyon	B.Olson, Kinyons	
Ushers	Ramsey & Betty Offerdal					
Communion Preparer	Kori Nelson					
Sound Tech.	Tom Russett					
Greeter	Jack & Barb Judisch					
Offering Custodian	Troy Shirley					



COOKIES & KITCHEN HELP NEEDED FOR SUNDAYS! See the list in the Fellowship Hall! Thank you! Barb Judisch is in charge of keeping the kitchen stocked with dry and paper products. If you see something the kitchen needs or would like to donate items, please contact her first, 278-5387. (*Liquid coffee creamer is a donated item.*) The kitchen needs to be cleaned after each event. We are all responsible for that! If anyone sees that the dishcloths/towels need to be washed, please take them home and return them when done. Thank you for doing this!