



CONRAD LUTHERAN PARISH

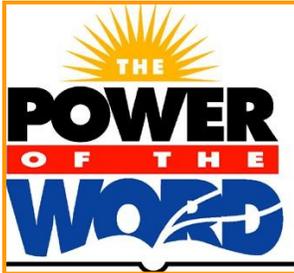
LOGOS

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

Office Hours:
9-12/1-4 Mon-Thur
pondera@3rivers.net
Pastor's email:
dsnbygrace@gmail.com
Pastor's phone: 450-0078

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES:

9 am Pondera Valley
11 am Golden West



AND NOW, ISRAEL, WHAT DOES THE LORD YOUR GOD REQUIRE OF YOU, BUT TO FEAR THE LORD YOUR GOD, TO WALK IN ALL HIS WAYS, TO LOVE HIM, TO SERVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL ... DEUTERONOMY 10:12

Golden West's Annual Meeting
Sunday, February 9th
following 11am Worship and Waffle Dinner



LUTEFISK DINNER
SATURDAY, (LEAP DAY!), FEB. 29TH
12-4pm
at Pondera Valley Lutheran Church
Sign-up to help in the Fellowship Hall!
Costs: Adults - \$18
Children 10 & under - \$10

Sign-up to make Lefse
on Feb. 13, 14, & 15
@9am!



RADIO BROADCAST: 11 am January 5th on KZIN, 96.7 FM
Sponsored by: *Roland and Karen Lee* in honor of the PVLC choir members and accompanists, both past and present. **Thank you! May God bless the hearing of His word!**

“Another Annual Meeting”

I think I have heard every year that our annual meeting keeps getting shorter. Thankfully this is followed by joyful relief. In the almost three years my family has spent here we have seen growth. Yes, we mean numerically, but more so we have observed passion for passing on what we have been given already to who will follow. Of course, we cannot thank the stalwarts of the church enough for their efforts, but I write today celebrating those who have found a passion again for faith and our fellowship. New people are sitting in the pews with people who have been there for years. We have people who have never served on council before now currently participating in leadership. Our new Vice President of the PV council may be one of the youngest yet.

Others are also moving away in the near future and more work will appear for the next person to do. I cannot thank Troy Shirley enough for the role he has not only played for our church, but for me in my own personal development. His family will be missed as they move on to another adventure in life. With this we must also thank Debbi Gage immensely for all the work she has done. A major discussion of our new council's first meeting was filling the gap left by this wonderful woman. She shoveled, mowed, cleaned, and helped take care of things for us in the education building. **We are now searching for a person to fulfill her duties and are listing the position first to our membership then will open to the general public for applications. A committee within council has been formed to take care of the details . Please contact Pastor Drew or a council member if you are interested or know someone qualified.**

Again, our annual meeting this year was much easier than I anticipated. There were no foreseeable conflicts, but I always worry and want to make sure we are taking care of what we can. Our committees have also stepped up tremendously as they provided us with great reports. Knowing what our budget contains and how our giving is being used is vital to the health and operation of our congregation. Lyn Carlson even mentioned he may attempt to go for 40 years as our treasurer.... Thank you also to Brett Peters for joining in on the review of the Treasurer's books this year.

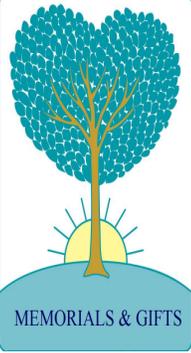
Linda O'Brien also gave an excellent report summarizing our benevolence giving. Changes have been made to focus our efforts intentionally. The money that goes out from our congregation attempts to be split into thirds, one-third to local, then national, and last internationally. Please take a look at what this committee has put together and learn about the organizations we support outside our church walls. This also goes for our foundation, which also made great changes to their giving this year, and even paid for a student's seminary tuition for a year at a new school in India.

As for what is coming, the calendar is filling quickly. Keep an eye on your Logos for important dates and announcements. **(SEE PAGE 5 for starters!)** The lutefisk supper is closing in. Ash Wednesday, Lent, Holy Week, and Easter will soon be arriving. I would also like to take the confirmation students on a retreat when they are ready.

Finally, my family will be taking vacation February 10th -16th (4 week days and 1 Sunday). We also hope to take a more extended trip later (tbd). Concerning pulpit supply, with the Duffey family moving, this causes us to search for another pastor or option for when I am gone. There are several close by with their own parishes, but we may need to call as far as or further than Great Falls. We may also need to consider more innovative ideas. Just like Wednesday night, we are growing in ways that will give us opportunity. With more than 50 people gathering, my intention will be to eventually host a contemporary service in conjunction with our youth programming. This would be designed to bring the whole family, and congregation, to eat, fellowship, worship, and learn together.

Most of all, as we continue into another year, may the work we do be according to God's will. Let what we do proclaim no one other than Jesus Christ. We pray that we are empowered to give in the way we have received. Our God has been generous with his gifts and I cannot wait to see what is in store for us. Thank you to all those who are serving, continuing, returning, or beginning in ministry with us, and to God only is the glory. Amen.

In Christ Always, Pastor Drew Nelson



PONDERA VALLEY

Banners: In memory of **Donald Rose** - Don & Wanda Bandow

General Fund: In memory of **Leonard Armstrong, Sam Van Dam, Sandi Becker, Harvey Dahl, Al Vanden Bos** - Robert Skorupa



GRIEF SHARE is a program at Pondera Valley for those grieving the death of a loved one. It is held **Mondays at 6:30pm** in the Fellowship Hall. It is led by Pat Lee. If you have any questions, call Pat, 278-3958.



Thrivent members can direct their Thrivent Choice Dollars to the Splash Park fundraiser for Conrad under the title: **Pondera Coalition for Progress**. If you need help doing this contact Mary Klette,



JANUARY
Average Worship Attendance

Golden West **18**

Pondera Valley **64**

Pondera Valley Offering **\$8,622.00**



Thank you for all your prayers, cards, and kindness shown to me during my recent heart bypass surgery. I am getting stronger each day and it is truly a blessing to know people care.
Thank you, **Linda Duncan Griggs**

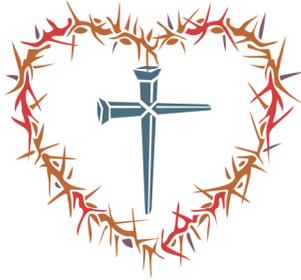
IN JANUARY... There was a funeral for Violet Klette at Pondera Valley on Jan. 31st.

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,*

♥ Thank you to Rudy King for all the work you did dusting and cleaning the sanctuary! It has been sorely needed but no one knew how to tackle it, until YOU! Thank you very much!



Lent, the church-year season that begins on Ash Wednesday, is a time of penitence and spiritual renewal. Some people give up a luxury or vice during Lent as a form of self-denial; others undertake a project that benefits others. The point isn't to denigrate ourselves or to see how much we can do without. Instead, Lent helps us reflect on Jesus' death. As Timothy Keller writes in *The Reason for God*: "The Christian Gospel is that I am so flawed that Jesus had to die for me, yet I am so loved and valued that Jesus was glad to die for me. This leads to deep humility and deep confidence at the same time. It undermines both swaggering and sniveling. I cannot feel superior to anyone, and yet I have nothing to prove to anyone. I do not think more of myself nor less of myself. Instead, I think of myself less."



Friendship Squares

This tasty treat doubles as a game to play with a buddy.



What you need:

- Graham crackers
- Chocolate chips
- Microwave-safe bowl
- Zippered baggie
- Scissors
- Raspberries
- Blueberries

What you do:

1. Gently break cracker sheets in half to form squares.
2. Heat chocolate chips in microwave for 30 seconds. Stir, then continue heating for 30 seconds at a time until melted.
3. Spoon melted chocolate into baggie and snip a small triangle from one bottom corner.
4. On each cracker, squeeze chocolate lines to form a Tic-Tac-Toe board. Let cool.
5. Using the fruit as X's and O's, play Tic-Tac-Toe with a friend. The winner gets to eat the treat!

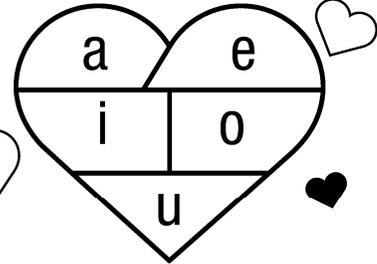


A friend in Jesus

In the Bible, Jesus shares what it means to be a true friend.



Directions: Use the heart key to fill in the missing vowels from John 15:14, 17, NIV.



“Y _ _ r _ my fr _ _ nds _ f
y _ _ d _ wh _ t _ c _ mm _ nd. ...

Th _ s _ s my c _ mm _ nd:

L _ v _ _ _ ch _ th _ r.”

JOHN 15:14, 17, NIV

Answer: “You are my friends if you do what I command. ... This is my command: Love each other.” John 15:14, 17, NIV



I am the good shepherd.
The good shepherd lays
down his life for the sheep.

John 10:11

Share God's Word

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE, TO GROW



DATES to Remember...

- ♥ **Sunday, Feb. 16th the Accordion Band** will be at Pondera Valley to lead us in a joint worship with Golden West at 9am and tentatively following we hope to have an **Appreciation/Farewell Reception for Pastor Bill & Karen Duffey** who are moving to Arizona.
- ♥ **ASH WEDNESDAY is February 26th** PV Women will once again host an **Ecumenical Breakfast and time of Devotion. It will be at 9am. Betty Olson is our speaker.** **ALSO on ASH WEDNESDAY, we will have a Joint Worship Service at 7pm at Pondera Valley.**
- ♥ **Ecumenical Lenten Luncheons begin on Thursday, Feb. 27th at NOON.** We are changing it up a bit this year so the first two

luncheons are at Pondera Valley with the Pondera Valley cooking! **Watch for sign up sheets to help!** More will be in next month's newsletter but our first speaker is Father John Abutu.

- ♥ **The Northwest District Gathering will be in Post Falls, Idaho on May 1st & 2nd.**



- ♥ **LCMC 20th Annual Gathering & Convention will be October 4-7 in Arden Hills, MN.** In case you didn't know, Mark VanderTuig, service coordinator for LCMC will be retiring this fall and at this convention a new service coordinator will be installed. If you want to know more information about that process or other news from LCMC, go to www.lcmc.net

JOIN A BIBLE STUDY!

FOR EVERYONE...

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

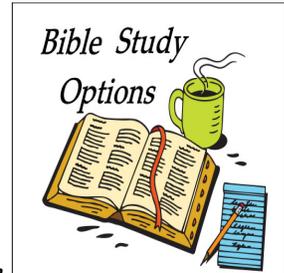
FOR MEN...

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

FOR WOMEN...

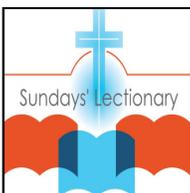
- ♦ **Mondays @ Noon**, in the Fellowship Hall, *Understanding Your Blessings in Christ* on Ephesians by Elizabeth George.
- ♦ **Tuesdays @ 9 am** *Jesus the One & Only* with Beth Moore.
- ♦ **The 2nd Tuesday of each month at 1pm** in the church library, Faith/Joy Circle meets, **Feb. 11th.**
- ♦ **Once a month**, home Bible Study *"Bless These Lips"* will meet **Feb. 13th at 7pm at Lori Pearson's.**

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!



Feb. 2nd - Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

Feb. 9th - Isaiah 58:3-9a; Psalm 112:1-9; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12; Matthew 5:13-20

Feb. 16th - Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; 1 Cor. 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

Feb. 23rd - Exodus 24:8-18; Psalm 2:6-12; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

ASH WEDNESDAY, Feb. 26th - Joel 2:12-19; Psalm 51:1-13; 2 Cor. 5:20b--6:10; Matt. 6:1-6, 16-21



Golden West had a meeting following the Joint

meeting in December. The proposed budget was amended and passed to propose it at the annual meeting Feb. 9th. The Christmas offering went to the Pondera Food Pantry. Steve Matheson will purchase the supplies for the Waffle Dinner on Feb. 9th. The council approved new members, Steve & Rona Matheson, to be on the Pastoral Relations Committee. The next meeting will be the Annual meeting in February.

Pondera Valley had their annual meeting January 26th. Forty three attended the annual meeting. It was a successful

meeting. The Treasurer's report was approved - thanks Lyn Carlson! The Foundation Board recommendations were approved for outreach giving, the proposed budget was approved and all the elections were done with a unanimous ballot with outstanding nominees agreeing to work on the council, Foundation or Education board, Benevolence or Nominating Committee. Thank you EVERYONE! If you would like to pick up an annual book that will tell you the specifics, they are in the Fellowship Hall. The Lenten lunches begin on Feb. 27th and Linda Carlson volunteered to chair the first one and Betty Offerdal will chair the second one on March 5th. Watch for sign-ups to help in the near future! The Lutefisk Dinner on Feb. 29th was

discussed and a rally cry to step up and help went out and several more signed up. (More help is needed, look at the list or call the church office to volunteer...we need YOU!)

PV Council met following the annual meeting. The first meeting is always organizational. The new council signed up for various duties. Also, elected as officers were: Tom Russett, President; Ramsey Offerdal, Jr, V. President; Lori Pearson, Secretary. Lyn Carlson was elected as Treasurer and Betty Offerdal as Financial Secretary. *(Please pray for our pastor and council members through out the year!)* The Education building Janitor position was discussed, see Pastor's page.

PONDERA VALLEY WOMEN'S NEWS

Ash Wednesday Breakfast, Feb. 26th 9am, Betty Olson speaker



FALL BAZAAR is COMING!! Friday, Nov. 6th

Get started now thinking about you want to bring!



He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every

way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. 2 Cor. 9:10-11 In this brief passage of scripture, Paul gives us several important lessons concerning our giving. First, it is God who supplies our needs. God gives us both seed to sow and bread for food. Second, multiplication only takes place in our lives when we sow the seed that God gives us.

In the natural world any farmer knows that every crop harvest has two purposes. One is food and the other is seed that should be used to produce a crop for next year.

In the area of our finances, these two purposes are still relevant for us today.

1. God gives us financial resources to enjoy; that is bread for food.
2. God gives us financial resources for the purpose of sowing; that is seed for sowing in order that we receive our next harvest.

It is only when we sow that God promises multiplication. Therefore, as believers we have the wonderful opportunity to enjoy a portion of God's resources in our own lives; and also to sow a portion of these resources into the lives of others.

When we are obedient, then our resources are continually multiplied, and at the same time the church and others are blessed by our giving.



Illnesses or other concerns: (*denotes relation to*) Ron Thaut, Mike Buechler, Zach Greene (*2Carol Kaldor*), Evan Bell, Teagan Bartoo, Faith Birnel Crouch (*2Ruth Fladstol*), Lucille Russell, Linda Griggs, Hayden Kellogg, Shaun Short (*Stacie Matheson*), Tim Dolezal (*Carolyn Widhalm*), Virginia Kovatch, Paul Wallner (*Ernestine Olson*), Ginny Zanuck, Billie Jean Stokes (*2Kim Wiest*), Elizabeth and baby (*Roland Lee*), 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*), Connie Wolf, Wayne Brown (*2Carol Wood*), Gavin Foth (*Arlyn Seidler*), Juelie McLean, Nat Wilburn (*2Bill McLean*), Don Bandow, Ralph Swan (*Cyndi Johnson*), Cyndi Johnson, Poppy Dahl, Kimberly Peacock, Meghan Pickell, Claude & Audrey Kieft, Gerald Bruner, Melvin Pocock, (*6Wanda Bollinger*), Carolyn Widhalm, Terry Smith, Lorie Hasner, 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... Casey Jo Burrows **Those deployed in the service abroad:** Mark Thompson, 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. **ANYONE who is able is**
encouraged to help on February 18th !

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:

February 3rd

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***



Bible Trivia

1. *Who was the first high priest of Israel buried by Moses and Eleazar?*
2. *Who gave Moses his name?*
3. *What was the name of Ruth's first husband?*
4. *How many times was Paul shipwrecked and beaten?*
5. *How many years did it take Solomon to build his palace?*
6. *Who was told, "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground."?*

7. *Who was told, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart."?*
8. *Who was told, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated."?*
9. *Who was told, "There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."?*
10. *Who said, "I shall now perish one day by the hand of Saul."?*

ANSWERS: 1.Aaron; 2.Pharaoh's daughter; 3.Mahlon; 4.3 and 5; 5.13; 6.Moses; 7.Jeremiah; 8.Rebekah; 9.Satan about Job; 10.David





IT'S LEAP YEAR!

Golden West WORSHIP Sundays 11 a.m.
Usher: Carl & Jenny Flesch; Reader: Jenny Flesch;
Communion Assistant: Steve Matheson; Communion Preparer: Rona Matheson

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 9 a.m.	February 2nd	February 9th	February 16th	February 23rd
Reader	Mary Jane Kinyon	Karen Lee	David Berg	Stacy Eneboe
Communion Assistant		Betty & Harold Olson		Pat Lee & Erik Eneboe
Ushers	Jack & Barb Judisch			
Communion Preparer	Wanda Bandow			
Sound Tech.	Lynn Utterback			
Greeter	Judy Ketterling			
Offering Custodian	Barb Judisch			



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!