SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES:

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

THERE IS ONLY ONE LAWGIVER AND JUDGE, HE WHO IS ABLE TO SAVE AND TO DESTROY. BUT WHO ARE YOU TO JUDGE YOUR NEIGHBOR? JAMES 4:12

Due to the pandemic, the scheduled VBS in June has been cancelled. The Education board will be meeting this week to plan one for July. Watch for more information in the coming weeks!

May 21, 2020 COVID Update for Pondera Valley: We will continue to follow the state’s protocols. Please help us by doing these things so that we will have success and can continue moving toward normal gatherings once again! Phase Two in our state starts June 1st but most of Phase One still applies.
We will have worship open to all who feel comfortable. If we have more than 50, we will have more than one service. If you would prefer a home visit with pastor or a phone call, please advise the office, 271-3934, or his phone, 450-0078.
Individuals who attend need to practice good hygiene: washing hands, avoid touching face, covering your cough or sneeze, and do not attend when sick!
We will still adhere to social distancing of 6 feet apart outside of your household. You can wear a mask if you choose.
Offering will continue to be taken at the back of

RADIO BROADCAST: 11 am June 7th on KZIN, 96.7 FM  Sponsored by:
Lyle, Patti, David, Lacey, Brody, Hadley & Jennifer Orcutt
in memory of George & Bernice Orcutt, George Ellingsen, Geraldine Barry, and Greg Olson.
“Phase II”

Grace and Peace to you from God the Father and Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...

Since the COVID-19 outbreak, our congregations began our own recovery by meeting as quickly as April 26th. Together we know the importance of Word and Sacrament while also realizing that meeting in fellowship cannot be replaced by anything virtual. One Horizon Lodge service has also occurred, and I pray we are able to work with PMC and the Beehive to reinstate regular services for the residents in those places. Simply shaking hands with a neighbor and say, “Peace be with you,” has been one of the greatest points of connection for many of us. Being able to receive Holy Communion amidst those we spend every Sunday with causes me to pause in a moment of thankfulness. I am very grateful for being able to see your faces when I proclaim the Gospel to you again. Please join us again for worship when you are comfortable and feel safe.

At the same time, we realize that this is not over yet. Globally we can observe the instability of the world. Locally we witness stalwarts of our congregations missing to protect their health. There is still uncertainty for many people, and where we do not have confidence fear can quickly rule. Foolish things have already begun to happen, and you have witnessed it on the nightly news. In only 30 years of living, I have never seen people so divided and scared as this, but perhaps that is not saying all that much considering we fade and wither like grass. Still I am pondering the question I asked last Sunday to each congregation when I said, “Have you ever been a part of something that was truly one?”

To be honest, there is only one thing I can think of... Jesus prays for us to be exactly that. Specifically as He and the Father are one, Jesus intercedes in this way for those that know Him and keep the Word. What I am beginning to say is that no human effort in history may claim complete unity in heart, mind, strength, and soul. Only the Word of God has the power to make us one. This completeness comes from outside the flesh and world in the form of prayer and promise from a specific person. That person being the One and Only God Almighty, who is three-in-one and one-in-three, Father, Jesus, and Holy Spirit.

Yes, we are being called to seize the opportunity in front of us to repent, reform, and innovate. Yet, we cannot neglect how this must take place. By faith we work in unison for one mission. Faith is a gift from God himself and is given apart from our merit so we cannot brag about how hard we work. There are many good works prepared for us to do. We are fighting for the education of all our youth to continue and need dedicated people willing to go on a retreat with confirmation students or help make sure our VBS/DaY-camp happens. Technology needs have also arisen and we have learned we reach a wider audience with it. People are tuning in from all over the world and even regular members when they cannot be with us in person. Several hope we can begin live-streaming our services and archiving them so they can be watched later. Even bible studies are excited to use new tools to include everyone they can.

At the start of this, I said and thought, God is closing the building in order for us to see how big the church really is and who it is made up of. We have been sent out to our neighbor both near and far in ways we never thought of before. As disciples we are being called to follow Jesus. It is the name that makes us one. Here is the only sanctuary from the divisions of our sin, world, and satan. Jesus prays for us to be one and the Word is effective. What God says is done by the power of the Holy Spirit every day in our lives. From our daily bread being provided, to caring for orphan and widow, and loving our neighbor we do so because we believe every person is made in the image of God. By faith we are one with the Jesus and have the power to give the forgiveness of sins and eternal life to both friend and enemy. The Gospel makes us one.

“I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.” +Ephesians 4:1-7

In Christ, Pastor Drew Nelson
There will be a Community Blood Drive on Thursday, June 11, 2020 11 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Conrad Mission Church (205 2nd Ave. NW) To make an appointment, call the American Red Cross at 868-0911 or www.redcrossblood.org Your help is needed!

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We are offering a Fellowship time after church if you feel comfortable doing that. All the protocols above should be followed. Pondera Valley Council has decided to allow small church groups to meet. We ask that they notify the church office that they will be meeting again and follow the guidelines (below) that PV council and the health department have approved. (Part of notifying the office is so that we can have a handle on scheduling and be able to share that with others.)

EVERYONE who uses the kitchen, Fellowship Hall, etc., will be responsible to:
- follow 6’ distancing.
- use only paper products at their event.
- following each event: wipe down with disinfecting solution ALL surfaces that the group has made contact with i.e. tables, chairs, counters, salt & pepper shakers, kitchen faucets, etc.
Rubber gloves will be in the kitchen for your use if you desire.
The disinfecting solution will need to be mixed up each time. Using the plastic coffee can provided, add a few drops of Dawn Dish soap, 1 T bleach and room temperature water (Do NOT USE warm or even hot water! It neutralizes the bleach! Also because it is a bleach solution, please be careful not to spill in the carpeted areas!) Wipe with a rag and leave wet, it will dry fairly quickly and the wet contact is important. If you have no bubbles you need to refresh your solution. Dump left over solution and rinse container.
If you have any concerns, contact the office or any council member. Thank you!

The PV Council met on May 12th. Education plans and possibilities were discussed, waiting to see how to accomplish what is needed. The main topic was polices for COVID-19. (This was prior to PHASE TWO announcement which came May 19th, effective for June 1st.) It was decided to allow small church activity groups to meet if they want. They will need to follow the new guidelines which will be written up and posted in the kitchen. Mainly that they are to follow 6’ distancing, use only paper products at their event, and following each event they will be responsible to wipe down ALL surfaces with disinfecting solution. (The instructions will be in the kitchen.) It was also decided to begin having fellowship hour after worship, following the protocols, for anyone interested. Other discussion was to look into Zoom, a subscription service that allows for services and Bible studies to be done online. The church also needs to bolster their Wi-Fi in the future. The next council meeting will be Tuesday, June 8th at 6 pm in the Youth Room.
HYMN SING!

We might have to do several Sundays of hymn singing but let’s begin this process. In order to make it fair, we’re asking each person to pick only ONE hymn and submit it either by dropping it in the offering, calling it in, or going to the website (find the dialogue box) and fill it in that way. Whichever way you choose, include your name so that we can acknowledge it when we sing it. Okay?

Pondera Valley Offering thru May 24th $ 7,194.00

Average Attendance in May
PV 35
GW 16

The olive branch is a symbol of peace, harmony and healing. Olive trees provide shelter, as well as oil used for ointment and consecration. The olive branch also represents deliverance from hardships and anxiety because a dove brought an olive leaf back to Noah’s ark after the flood ended (Genesis 8:11).

Dear Church Family,
It's been almost a year since our house, garage, shed and small barn burned down. You have been outstanding with all your caring prayers, donations, and cards. Your gifts just keep coming! Maynard and I thank you all so very much! We are trying to get our lives back together and get back to normal but like everyone else, this virus keeps us at home. (Thank GOD we do have a home again!) We have been so blessed by each of you. We, again, thank you all so much.

Maynard and Linda Van Tongeren

Pondera Valley will be giving one scholarship this year to Faith Weber! Congratulations Faith!

♥ THANK YOU to all who have sent in your offerings! They help us continue with our ministry! You can use the enclosed blue envelope for your offering or mail them to PO Box 883, Conrad MT 59425.
Don’t bad-mouth each other, friends. It’s God’s Word, his Message, his Royal Rule, that takes a beating in that kind of talk. You’re supposed to be honoring the Message, not writing graffiti all over it. James 4:11 The Message
Go to our website for videos, updates, materials to use for worship! PLUS, the newsletter is in COLOR!!
www.conradlutheran.com

DATES to Remember...

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

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

You can pick up your new June-August OUR DAILY BREAD devotional at either church or in the entryway of Pondera Valley!!

June 7 HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY - Genesis 1:1--2:4a; Psalm 8; Acts 2:14a, 22-36; Matt. 28:16-20
June 14 - Exodus 19:2-8; Psalm 100; Romans 5:6-15; Matthew 9:35--10:8
June 21 - Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 91:1-10; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:5a, 21-33
June 28 - Jeremiah 28:5-9; Psalm 119:153-160; Romans 7:1-13; Matthew 10:34-42

You have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.
3 John 1:4

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.
3 John 1:4
Illnesses or other concerns: (denotes relation to) Ron Thaut, Mike Buechler, Annie Schlosser, Zach Greene (Carol Kal dor), Evan Bell, Teagan Bartoo, Faith Birnel Crouch (Ruth Fladstol), Lucille Russell, Hayden Kellogg, Ron Widhalm, Shaun Short (Stacie Matheson), Ginny Zanuck, Billie Jean Stokes (Kim Wiest), Baby Andrew (Roland Lee), Marvin Baker, Sandy Webb (JoAnne Un ger), Norman Stordahl, Debbie Ries, Debbi Gage, Rose Peterman, Mitchell Moore (Josita Montgomery), Connie Wolf, Wayne Brown (Carol Wood), Juelie McLean (Bill McLean), Don Bandow, Ralph Swan (Cyndi Johnson), Cyndi Johnson, Poppy Dahl, Kimberly Peacock, Audrey Kieft, Gerald Bruner, Melvin Pocock, Wanda Bollinger), Terry Smith (Carolyn Widhalm), BJ Hilyard, Lorie Hasner, Jeff Elings, Jolene Wynn (Kim Hofstad), Kat O’Brien and 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... Jack Hurley
Those deployed in the service abroad: Mark Thompson, Brett Christensen, Blake Tornga, Guthrie Oiestad

Preparation for Worship Prayers

♥ God, search my heart LORD. Shine Your light on any sin I commit so that I might think on them and see them for what they are, a sin against You. I repent of those and ask for Your forgiveness and help to avoid them in the future. Amen.
♥ God, I thank You for the relationship I have with You - show me any relationships I need to nourish in special ways today. Where there is unforgiveness, help me to forgive and let go. Amen.
♥ Thank you, Creator God, for this new day and for Your glory we can see in nature. Hallelujah!
♥ Dear Jesus, I pray for anyone today who is hurting. May they know Your love and presence. May they be comforted and encouraged. Amen.
♥ Father God, we thank You for male mentors who have been in our lives, whether they are our fathers, uncles, friends or neighbors. We give You thanks. Amen.

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

“No man stands taller than when he stoops to help a child.” -Abraham Lincoln

MOTHER’S DAY to FATHER’S DAY
Give to Echoz Pregnancy Center in Great Falls, place it in a baby bottle, (you can pick them up at either church or in the entryway of PV). Bring them back to the church by June 21st!
Bible Trivia

THE BIBLICAL GREENHOUSE

1. What plant sprang up miraculously to give shade to the prophet Jonah?
2. Who used rods of poplar, hazel, and chestnut trees to make genetic changes in his sheep?
3. What kind of tree did the weary Elijah sit under?
4. What plant had such a bitter taste that it became a symbol for sorrow and disaster?
5. What, according to the New Testament, produces the smallest seed of any plant?
6. Which book mentions the rose of Sharon and the lily of the valley?
7. What mythical creature eats grass—according to the book of Job?
8. What is the only book of the Bible to mention the apple tree?
9. What kind of tree did Zacchaeus climb in order to see Jesus?
10. What tree was a symbol of grace, elegance, and uprightness?
11. What kind of wood was Noah’s ark made of?
12. What miraculous event was the eating of bitter herbs supposed to commemorate?
13. What unusual food was said to have resembled coriander seed?
14. What tree’s spice was used in making oil for anointing?


The story is told about a pastor who was into telling stories to the children. He'd bring all the children up, and they'd sit on the floor, and he'd tell them a story. One day he said, "Boys and girls, I want to tell you a story about someone who likes to live in the woods, but sometimes we can see him in our yards. Anybody have any idea who I am talking about?" No takers. He said, "I want to tell you about a creature that lives in the woods and sometimes in our yards, has a big bushy tail, eats nuts. Anybody have any idea what I'm talking about?" No takers. He said, "I'm talking about a creature that lives in the woods, sometimes in our yards, big bushy tail, eats nuts, likes to climb trees, jumps from tree to tree--now, does anybody know what I'm talking about?" One kid raised his hand to take him out of his misery. The pastor said, "Do you know what I'm thinking about?" The kid said, "Yeah. I know the answer should be Jesus, but it sounds like a squirrel to me."