



CONRAD LUTHERAN PARISH

LOGOS

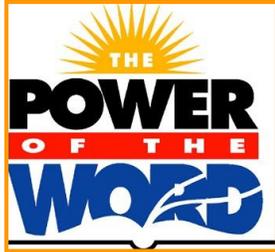
Reminder:
Clocks Ahead
1 hr on Mar.7

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES:

9 am Pondera Valley
11 am Golden West

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



I LOVE YOU, O LORD, MY
STRENGTH. THE LORD IS MY
ROCK AND MY FORTRESS AND MY
DELIVERER, MY GOD, MY ROCK,
IN WHOM I TAKE REFUGE, MY
SHIELD, AND THE HORN OF
MY SALVATION, MY STRONGHOLD.
PSALM 18:1-2



LUTEFISK DINNER
SAT., (LEAP DAY!),
FEB. 29TH 12-4pm
Pondera Valley Lutheran
Costs: Adults - \$18
Children 10 & under - \$10

Conrad Community Lent Soup Luncheons **Thursdays at Noon (11:45 for early start)**

March 5th Lunch @Pondera Valley Lutheran Church; *Devotion by First Presbyterian*

March 12th Lunch @First Presbyterian Church; *Devotion by Pastor Drew Nelson*

March 19th Lunch @First Presbyterian Church; *Devotion by Father John Abutu*

March 26th Lunch @St. Michael's Catholic Church; *Devotion by First Presbyterian*

April 2nd Lunch @St. Michael's Catholic Church; *Devotion by Pastor Drew Nelson*

- ✓ **The Pondera Valley Council is looking to fill the janitor job for the Education Building soon. If you are interested, see a member of council (posted on back bulleting board in church) or call the church office, 271-3934.**
- ✓ **Scholarships for Pondera Valley Lutheran Church Members are due back April 1st. Applications are in the church, office and online: conradlutheran.com**



RADIO BROADCASTS:

11 am March 1st on KZIN, 96.7 FM Sponsored by: *Jerry & Myrna Christensen* in memory of Roy Christensen and by *Krista Keiper, Bryce & Kelci Watterud* in memory of Brian Watterud, Nell Watterud, Faye Keiper and Liam's twin, Landon Jr. Watterud Rogers.

11 am March 29th on KZIN, 96.7 FM Sponsored by: *The Miller Family* in honor of religious freedom in our country. **Thank you! May God bless the hearing of His word!**

“Vacation”

Recently my family went away for some much needed rest. Our week started slow as we caught up with our housework and took a few days to do nothing. Hitting the road, we went first to the hot springs in Fairmont and even went down the outdoor waterslide at night. What a treasure to be able to spend a February day under the shining sun in soothing warm water with snow all around. Then we went to stay at a friend’s house in Butte. They welcomed us more warmly than I think we have ever been when brought into someone’s home as a guest. Kori and I could not say thank you enough and will continue to because of their great generosity.

Saturday was spent at Discovery Ski Area after giving a hitch hiker (Gary) a ride from Opportunity to Anaconda. Kori skied all day, Abigail took lessons, learning for the first time, and Madelyn played with me at the bottom of the mountain. Kori and Abigail’s last run was an eventful one down Gold Bug. At the end of the day we went to Phillipsburg for a few beverages and a bag of dirt from Gem Mountain. Sunday, we slept in, cleaned, packed, and said goodbye to our friends.

The drive home went quickly. With the girls in the back sleeping, we made it from Butte to Conrad without stopping. After unpacking the car and getting situated, we returned to the bag of dirt from Phillipsburg. First we started by washing all of it to better see through the dirt and find what we were looking for. The rocks inside ranged from about the size of a quarter to the tip of a needle. From Sunday night through Monday, I think we may have looked at every one. By the end of it our hands were dry and raw, but we found 20 to 30 sapphires hiding in the material. There were also hundreds of small crystals throughout, and even material we did not recognize. We are still ecstatic and it has left me thinking about something else...

Returning to work after a vacation may be even harder than waiting to go away on one. To be honest, I can often feel like I am carrying around a big bag of dirt and this time I literally brought one. Going on a vacation allowed me to put it down for some time, but now I realize the illustration and experience God has given me. The weight and responsibility of a parish has been immense for me. I am learning and growing all the time, and am beyond thankful for the way our churches and community has been so gracious to my family. Here I have to specifically name Troy Shirley with his whole family and how important they have been in not only welcoming us,

but our development and maturing over the past three years. Thank you so much! You will be missed and our prayers are with you.

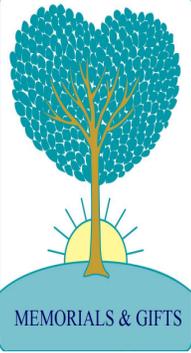
Many of you also know that the work of a church is not always clean, safe, or fun. Other times it is clear the Son is shining on us and that we are truly blessed. Returning to work on Tuesday morning, I realized I had been given the time to sift through all the dirt in my head, heart, and life. Starting with the largest of stones first I took each out and examined all that I have been given. 1 Peter 2 immediately comes to mind. Please go read the whole of it, but also look specifically at these verses 4-5:

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

To be completely honest, I realize that buying a bag of dirt to look through to many may be ridiculous. Comparing the people you serve to one may be even worse. Yet, so is the Rock, Jesus, whom we know is our God, Lord, and Savior. What we see from our flesh and the perspective of the world is nothing but muck and mire. When we look with our eyes we fail to hear the Word. Rather we are called to hear the promise for us with our ears.

This Ash Wednesday you will hear me say to your face, “From dust you have been taken and unto dust you shall return...” God formed us from the earth, and without faith it appears here we have left nothing more than a bag of dirt, but if you listen to and hear the promise for us all you will realize what is hiding in that message. God has made us more precious even than sapphires. He made us in his own image from ashes. This vacation and Sabbath, I heard God say of me and all people, “O afflicted one, storm-tossed and not comforted, behold, I will set your stones in antimony, and lay your foundations with sapphires.” This Lent season, as we enter into it, remember who made you and what He has promised will come despite the conditions of our life and world around us. We look only to the cornerstone of Jesus Christ who has accomplished all things for us, given us every blessing, and remade us into heirs. He himself entered into this world of dirt to find us and bring us home to a kingdom made more majestically with gold and gems than we can imagine. Amen.

+Pastor Drew Nelson



PONDERA VALLEY

General Fund: In memory of **Violet Klette** - Jerry & Gloria Griggs, Ron & Cathi Hemry, Everett & Karla Breeding, Gary & Becky Gollehon, Cheryl & Russell Klette, Ross & Lorrان Depner, Phyllis Rauscher, Gladys & Janice Greyn, Sally Klette.



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,



FEBRUARY
Average Worship Attendance
Golden West **13**
Pondera Valley **71**
Pondera Valley Offering **\$7,229.00**

IN FEBRUARY... We had no pastoral acts.

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.*

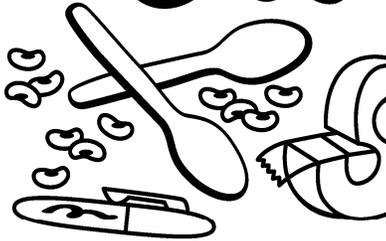


♥ It takes a village to raise a child and it takes all of us, participating in the body of the church, to maintain, improve, reach out, and minister, not only to our members but to all in our community and world. It's what we do because God first loved us. (1 John 4:19) Thanks and Glory be to GOD!

Thank you to all the worker bees involved in the Lutefisk Dinner! (As of this writing, the task is not over but continues to produce what we know will be a wonderful dinner for ourselves and the communities around us!) One year we started to add up the hours of the labor before, during and after the dinner. We exhausted ourselves before we could finish! There were several this year who stepped up to lead and it wouldn't have gotten done without you! But there were also many who quietly helped in a multitude of ways. Thank you to each and every one of you! It has been said that having the dinner is a community service and I believe that is true (even though I'm sure there could be a few jokes made about that too!). Let it be that we think about ALL that we do and how we do it and give it to the LORD. (Ephesians 6:7) We do touch others without even knowing sometimes. Thank you again, EACH AND EVERY ONE!

I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.
PSALM 146:2, NIV

Joyful noise



Use your voice and this hand-crafted percussion instrument to make joyful noises to the Lord.

What you need:

- Dry beans (about one Tbsp)
- Plastic Easter egg
- 2 plastic spoons
- Masking tape
- Markers and stickers

What you do:

1. Place the beans inside the egg and snap it closed.
2. Set the egg in a spoon and cover it with the second spoon so the spoons are holding the egg.
3. Tape the spoons to the egg. Also wrap tape around the spoons from top to bottom to make a shaker handle.
4. Decorate your shaker and use it as you sing praises to God.
5. Experiment with sounds by filling other eggs with coins, rice, and so on.



MAKE MUSIC TO THE LORD

People of the Bible used many different instruments to worship God through music.

Directions: Using the clues, unscramble the names of instruments found in Psalm 150. Then write the circled letters in order in the spaces below to complete verse 6.



- A type of horn MURTEP
- Played by King David PRHA
- Plucked to make sound IGSNSTR
- Similar to a tambourine MRBELIT
- A type of harp ELRY
- Blown through to make sound EPPI
- A percussion instrument YBLACMS

Le_ everyt_ing tha_ has _r_ath
_raise the _ORD. Psalm 150:6, NIV

Answer: trumpet, harp, strings, timbrel, lyre, pipe, cymbals. Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Psalm 150:6, NIV



Share God's Word

The Lord will save me, and we will play my music on stringed instruments all the days of our lives, at the house of the Lord.

Isaiah 38:20

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE, TO GROW



DATES to Remember...

♥ Ecumenical Lenten Luncheons begin on Thursday, Feb. 27th at NOON. See schedule on front page of this newsletter!

♥ The Northwest District Gathering, “*Small and Mighty*”, will be in Post Falls, Idaho on May 1st & 2nd, registrations available @ PV and in office.

♥ 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!

JOIN A BIBLE STUDY!

FOR EVERYONE...

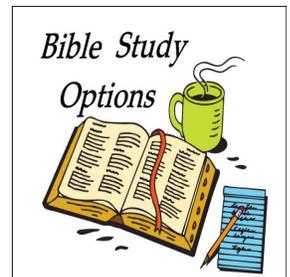
♦ 6 p.m. Tuesdays in the F.H. with Pastor Drew. “*A Journey Through Revelation*” by Armin Gothberg continues. Everyone welcome!

FOR MEN...

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

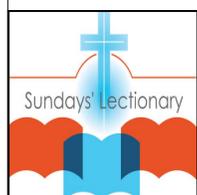
FOR WOMEN...

- ♦ 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. On March 31st we will begin a short study: *The Case for Easter* by Lee Strobel. **If you would like to join, call the church office by March 12th!!**
 - ♦ The 2nd Tuesday of each month at 1pm in the church library, Faith/Joy Circle meets, March 10th.
 - ♦ Once a month, home Bible Study “*Bless These Lips*” will meet March 19th at 7pm at Karen Lee’s.
- If you would like a reading plan, or a personal Bible Study, contact the church office, 271-3934!



www.holyfamilytime.com

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



- March 1st - Genesis 3:1-21; Psalm 32:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11
- March 8th - Genesis 12:1-9; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-8, 13-17; John 3:1-17
- March 15th - Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95:1-9; Romans 5:1-8; John 4:5-26
- March 22nd - Isaiah 42:14-21; Psalm 142; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41
- March 29th - Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:1-11; John 11:1-45



Golden West had their annual meeting Feb. 9th. The proposed budget was adopted. It was voted to change the quorum from 15 to 10 voting members. This will be an amendment to the By-Laws. There will be a brunch on Palm Sunday rather than Easter Sunday. Elected were Carl Flesch, President; Ken Johnson, V. President; Cathi Hemry, Secretary; Bill McLean, Treasurer; Steve Matheson, Trustee; Carol Gunderson, Deacon; Ron & Cathi Hemry, Ushering Committee; Jim & Chris Bjelland, Cemetery Committee; Cathi Hemry, Nominating Committee; Jim Bjelland, Auditing Committee; Steve Matheson and Jim Bjelland,

Endowment Committee; Karen Hollandsworth and Cathi Hemry, Hunger Committee; Sandy Seidler and Jenny Flesch, Board of Ed. **The next meeting TBA.**

Pondera Valley Council met on Feb. 10th. The Education Board will be meeting. Building & Grounds have been replacing many light bulbs around the education building and the church. Thank you to Lyn and Ramsey for their efforts! The WOV setting 5 has been re-introduced after many years absence and with a few hiccups we did fine! The council will be looking for individuals who would like to serve on the Evangelism Committee. Julene Peters and Carol Wood were elected on the Education Board from the council. David Widhalm was elected to also be on the Nominating Committee for this year. Narcotics Anonymous (NA)

and Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) have inquired about using our building for their meetings. Pastor Drew, although absent from the council meeting, had drafted a proposal to allow them to do so in the Youth Room. The council had discussion and agreed with Pastor's proposal. It's not for sure that they will choose to meet here but they have the go-ahead from the council. It was moved, seconded and passed to have Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday services at Pondera Valley. There will be an Easter Breakfast again but it might be held prior to the 9am service. Watch for details later! A reminder was given when using the church for meetings to be sure the thermostat is turned down.

The next council meeting will be March 9th at 6 pm in the Youth Room.



Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it. Proverbs 13:11

The truth of this verse is evident as we look at life. It is a proven fact that most of the millionaires in America are self-made. That is, they did not inherit their wealth but made it themselves through hard work.

Get rich quick schemes abound in our day. There are many promises of wealth in a few days with little investment of time or money. Don't believe it! Commentator *Adam Clarke* tells us: *"Wealth that is not the result of honest industry and hard labor is seldom permanent. All fortunes acquired by speculation, lucky hits, and ministering to the pride or luxury of others, etc., soon become dissipated. They are not gotten in the way of Providence, and have not God's blessing, and therefore are not permanent."* (*Adam Clarke's Commentary on the Whole Bible, Proverbs 13:11 notes*)

The Biblical method for the increase of wealth is first of all, be honest, and second, to work putting away a portion of our income, little by little, or in other words consistently.

The financing of God's church should also be administrated in the same way. The church should not come week after week with some drastic appeal, or emergency need. But, rather all who are blessed by the ministry of the church should give each time income and increase is received.

When the church membership practices consistent giving of our income, then the needs of the church are met; and the need for large giving appeals is not necessary.

This is God's way for increase in the family and in the church.

Today we give. Not because the need is urgent, or an emergency exists, but because we are givers. We can be counted on in our giving. We are consistent and faithful to God.



Illnesses or other concerns: (*denotes relation to*) Ron Thaut, Annie Schlosser, Mike Buechler, Zach Greene (*Carol Kaldor*), Evan Bell, Teagan Bartoo, Faith Birnel Crouch (*Ruth Fladstol*), Lucille Russell, Hayden Kellogg, Ron Widhalm, Shaun Short (*Stacie Matheson*), Virginia Kovatch, Ginny Zanuck, Billie Jean Stokes (*Kim 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 (*Carol Wood*), Dan & Juelie McLean (*Bill McLean*), Don Bandow, Ralph Swan (*Cyndi Johnson*), Cyndi Johnson, Poppy Dahl, Kimberly Peacock, Claude & Audrey Kieft, Gerald Bruner, Melvin Pocock, (*Wanda Bollinger*), Terry Smith, Tim Dolezal, (*Carolyn Widhalm*), 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... Joyce McAlister, Violet Klette

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 March 17th!

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:

March 2nd

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



Board of Education members:

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



Bible Trivia
THE COMPANY OF APOSTLES

1. Who was the first apostle to be martyred?
2. Who succeeded Judas Iscariot as an apostle?
3. What apostle was a tax collector from Capernaum?
4. According to tradition, which apostle was a missionary to India?
5. What apostle was probably crucified in Rome, head downward?
6. Who was the only one of the 12 apostles not from Galilee?
7. According to tradition, how did Simon the Zealot die?
8. Who was called the beloved disciple?

9. Who, according to tradition, preached in Assyria and Persia and died a martyr in Persia?
10. Who was not one of the original 12, though he probably labored harder for the gospel than anyone else?
11. Which apostle was traditionally supposed to have been crucified in Egypt?
12. Which Apostle, originally a disciple of John the Baptist, was supposed to have been crucified on an X-shaped cross?
13. Which of the apostles were fishermen?
14. Of all the apostles, which is the only one who is supposed to have died a natural death?

ANSWERS: 1.James; 2.Matthias; 3.Matthew; 4.Thomas; 5.Peter; 6.Judas Iscariot; 7.Crucifixion or being sawn in pieces; 8.John; 9.Jude; 10.Paul; 11.James the less; 12.Andrew; 13.Peter, Andrew, James, John; 14.John





Golden West WORSHIP Sundays 11 a.m.
Usher: Ron & Cathi Hemry; Reader: Cathi Hemry;
Communion Assistant: Bill McLean; Communion Preparer: Cathi Hemry

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.	March 1st	March 8th	March 15th	March 22nd	March 29th
Reader	Judy Ketterling	Leslee Weber	David Berg	Mary Jane Kinyon	Judy Ketterling
Communion Assistant		Karla Breeding & Betty Olson		Pat Lee & MJ Kinyon	
Ushers	Stephanie Haugestuen and Jessily Seidler				
Communion Preparer	Betty Olson & Wanda Bollinger				
Sound Tech.	Jack Judisch				
Greeter	Tom & Page Russett				
Offering Custodian	Ramsey Offerdal				



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!