SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES:
Golden West 9 a.m.
Pondera Valley 11 a.m.
Please don’t come if you are sick, wear a mask, practice social distancing.
See more details below and on page 3.

I GIVE THEM ETERNAL LIFE, AND THEY WILL NEVER PERISH, AND NO ONE WILL SNATCH THEM OUT OF MY HAND. MY FATHER, WHO HAS GIVEN THEM TO ME, IS GREATER THAN ALL, AND NO ONE IS ABLE TO SNATCH THEM OUT OF THE FATHER'S HAND. I AND THE FATHER ARE ONE.” JOHN 10:28-30

COVID-19 PHASE ONE DETAILS FOR WORSHIP
For everyone’s protection, please read everything to the end!
April 26th we began to hold worship services at Pondera Valley and Golden West Lutheran churches. Worship times in May, will be Golden West at 9 a.m. and Pondera Valley at 11 a.m.
We will follow the state’s protocol recognizing that there will be regular evaluations guiding us if we can move further or have to back up in our ability to meet together. Everyone working together will provide the best success to continue to move forward.
✔ There are no guarantees that you will not get sick if you attend so please, use good judgment whether or not you should attend yet.
✔ Individuals need to practice good hygiene: washing hands, avoid touching face, covering your cough or sneeze, and do not attend when sick!
✔ It is strongly recommended to wear a facial mask and absolutely adhere to social distancing of 6 feet apart outside of your household.
✔ You will find, at Pondera Valley anyway, that some hymnals have been removed to help us with distancing. We ask that when you come in, you fill in from the front to back, finding a pew with a hymnal. And when we leave, it will be from the back to the front to help with distancing.
✔ There will be an offering basket in the back to place your offering there.
✔ Pastor will likely not be wearing a mask so that he can be heard well so please respect his “space”.

To be continued on page 3

RADIO BROADCAST: 11 am May 3rd on KZIN, 96.7 FM  Sponsored by:
Thank you! May God bless the hearing of His word!
“Phase One”

On Sunday the 26th of April we were able to return to our buildings to worship together again. It had been over a month since this type of gathering had taken place. Feeling like we skipped over Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter many of us may feel like something is still very different. You may have experienced it in our sanctuary seeing hymnals spaced safely apart for social distancing. Perhaps, the lack of Word and Sacrament in your life took effect more quickly than you suspected. The question I am beginning to ask though is, “Do we really want to go back to normal or as it was?”

With us all being shut-in and learning to be the church differently there have been ways for us to grow in ministry presented. First is the internet presence we can have. While most the analytics and some comments behind the videos were discouraging, one statistic stood out to me. From the videos uploaded 500 unique people from around the world listened to at least a moment of what was posted. Again, that is who may have heard the Gospel in a way I never have preached before over the last couple months. Some said that they watched videos more than once. For the 8 videos put out, people watched over 108 hours of that content. To me this says we should consider a permanent online presence or even invest in streaming our services live every Sunday. May the glory be to God only.

All of this to say, no we should not simply go back to normal. It is not possible. There are still risks involved with gathering together during a pandemic. If you come to church, you may get sick, but you are welcome. Take every precaution. Within the next year I fully expect to contract this virus. This is not to say that we shouldn’t meet together or live in fear. It is to point out the reality that we are living in a changed world still fraught with dangers and death. While some of us will gather together in person, others will not and cannot, but desire deeply to be a part of our fellowship. What being away from our buildings has exposed is that we have an opportunity to provide this very ministry to our own people and others around the world in need of it desperately. We cannot leave our brothers and sisters in isolation.

Yes, we will continue to diligently work in order to continue every program and ministry of the church as traditionally done. We are called to proclaim the Good News and love our neighbor as ourselves. I am unsure of how to do many of those things if I am not there and in person. At the same time, remember we are in “phase one” of recovering from this. That means that currently Sunday will be our only time of public gathering. Other essential groups like AA and NA will also be encouraged to meet while taking the same precautions. Please also continue to email and call for visitation. Bible studies and other meetings will continue later as we observe the “success” of Sunday services. Fully expect that we will need to adjust again and learn as we go. I appreciate your patience with me and the whole church as we try best to serve you during this time. Council members are also working hard to develop plans for our church to move forward.

Another way we may consider doing ministry different is by partnering with the Horizon Lodge. Since the stay-at-home orders PMC and the Bee Hive have not had regular services as they did before. Horizon Lodge was abandoned by local pastors years ago to the point of a minimum of services being done there already. We also need to address those shut into their homes. These are the first places where we may innovate and cooperate to hold outdoor/indoor/online services that would meet the needs of residents at every place. This is also keeping in mind the fact that we cannot gather on Sunday in such a large group, taking me to my final point.

There may be a need to have multiple services throughout the week in order to keeps the crowds as small as possible. We may even want to hold some in other places as suggested above. If too many people are there on Sunday morning, would you be willing to worship during any of the following days and times instead: Sat. Evening, Sun. Evening, or Wed. Evening? Also, consider that this gives the chance for us to have variety in our services (i.e. setting, music, etc.) that may draw others in. It is a service to our community and members who want to be able to safely worship with us. I will also be working on videos at a slower pace in the hopes that they will continue to engage our online audience.

Amidst this I pray each of us hears and remembers that Jesus is the Great Physician. Every bit of effort we put in has to be an overflow of what

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Pastor’s message continued from page 2

His name has given us. The tools we have and are learning about are to be used for the same thing. The call of our church is to bring Word and Sacrament that is the promises of Jesus Christ to every sinner we speak to. We are to say because of God’s only Son, your sins are forgiven, sickness and death have no hold over you, do not fear, the Father gives you the kingdom with the Holy Spirit not just then, but now and always. Amen.

Peace be with you, Pastor Drew Nelson

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles.

ISAIAH 40:31, NIV

COVID-19 continued from page 1

✔ Pastor will not shake hands with people as they leave.
✔ Pastor is still available to speak with people so if you want a call or a visit, please call the church office 271-3934 or his phone 450-0078 to let him know.
✔ Don’t stop to visit with people in the entryway but continue through so others can enter or leave as needed.
✔ If numbers attending any of our services get too high at Pondera Valley where we cannot be at a distance, we might do overflow for that service so that you might be asked to sit in the Fellowship Hall. It would be a good problem to have that we might need to have 2 services, and then we might ask you to commit to one so we can have a good balance of attendance at each.
✔ This is all new to all of us so be patient with each other, love on each other from a distance, and God bless you all for your diligence!
LET’S PLAN A HYMN SING!

Think back to your childhood...Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and up to now in church worship songs. Write them down to share for a later use. We will then schedule a Hymn Sing Sunday soon!

We remember, O Lord, all those people throughout the years who have made the supreme sacrifice for our country, for liberty, for us. Whenever we breathe the air of freedom or claim the right to justice or enjoy the privilege of worship, fill us with gratitude for those who selflessly gave the last full measure of devotion — their very lives — for our benefit.

May these brave men and women now know the joy of eternity and your presence. And may the families of the fallen receive comfort and peace amid their grief. Help us as we minister to their needs. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We honor our graduate members:

Kaylin Gossard and Declan Fladstol

May God bless and guide you now and forever more! Best wishes to you in your future endeavors.

Please pray for these and all graduates.

Pondera Valley Offering
3/22-4/26 $11,972.63

Attendance 4/26
PV 29
GW 17

♥ 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.

PONDERA VALLEY
General Fund: In memory of Lola Arvidson - Scott & Pam Arvidson
If you don’t have pom-poms, think outside the box: maybe macaroni? A stick from your backyard? Take a picture of your creation and have your parents email it to the office or post it on Facebook!

Therefore, if _____ is in ______, the _______ has _____:

The _____ has _____,

the _____ is _____!

2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV

Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy.

Psalm 98:8
RESTART YOUR HEART

Pain and loss are inescapable on this earth; fortunately, the Great Physician specializes in fixing hearts. Our participation is vital to recovery, though, as Danny Gokey sings in “Tell Your Heart to Beat Again.” The song was inspired by a pastor asking to watch a cardiac surgeon — one of his congregants — in action. When the doctor attempted to restart the patient’s heart after repairing it, the organ wouldn’t cooperate. The surgeon knelt to speak to his patient: “We have fixed your heart. We have repaired it. There is nothing wrong with your heart. If you can hear me, I need you to tell your heart to beat again.” And it did — because she did. “You can get back up again,” says Gokey, who faced loss when his first wife died. “You can move forward with your life, and you don’t have to walk with a limp.” God has fixed our hearts, Gokey says, but we need to recognize that — and begin to hope again.
TIME OF NEED
Let me remember
In this valley of heartache
God’s hand is not shortened,
Neither will He forsake.
Gods Word is an anchor
Secure, moorings will hold,
For greater is the Lord God
than the god of this world.
Lord, should I stand idle,
Leaning on Your Almighty
power?
I seek to know Your will, O Lord,
In this desperate hour.
Written 6/18/1995

DEAR LORD WE THANK YOU
For Your abundance of love and compassion,
for the courage that led You to the cross.
O, let our lives respond with praise
and, brim-full, our hearts with thanksgiving!
As is written in Psalm 103:
“He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
For as far as heaven is above earth
so great is His mercy toward us—
As far as the east is from the west, so far
has He removed our transgressions from us.”

MONTANA
Sing me a song of waving wheat,
of prairies wide and mountains steep.
Ring out the bells of country churches,
their steeple’s ever pointing upward.
Remember the courage of pioneer folk,
of cowboys in their saddles praying.
Sing a song of endless skies
bringing heaven right down to earth.
O fill my heart with native pride,
God bless this place on earth!
God bless Montana.

GOD’S MERCY
Has not God trusted us
to care for bird and beast,
Scattering crumbs of mercy
that fall from tables heaped?
Dear God, I am happy
You note the sparrow’s fall
And feed and satisfy each creature—
wild and tame, large and small!
Your love encompasses all the world.
You are an awesome God!
You are an awesome God!

REST FOR THE WEARY
The sun, pausing on the edge of the weary world
declines and sinks out of sight.
 Darkness descends, day becomes night.
Birdies with sleepy eyes chirp to each other,
“Good night,” and snuggle down in cozy nest.
God rocks them to sleep with the gentle breeze.
Illnesses or other concerns: (denotes relation to) Ron Thaut, Mike Buechler, Annie Schlosser, Zach Greene (Carol Kaldor), Evan Bell, Teagan Bartoo, Faith Birnel Crouch (Ruth Fladstol), Lucille Russell, Hayden Kellogg, Ron Widhalm, Shaun Short (Stacie Matheson), Ginny Zanuck, Billie Jean Stokes, Baby Andrew (Roland Lee), 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 Unger), 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... Donna Sorlie, Dan McLean
Those deployed in the service abroad: Mark Thompson, Brett Christensen, Blake Tornega, Guthrie Oiestad (Alanna Schlosser Oiestad)

Preparation for Worship Prayers

Heart Sanctify Christ as Lord (1 Peter 3:15, NRSV)

*Three-in-One, thank you for teaching us the holiness of relationship and for modeling how we can be different from one another yet live in unity.
*Father God, newness is springing to life all around us! Thank you that Your divine resurrection is revealed here on earth.
*Loving God, thank You for all the women who’ve shown me Your grace and brought peace and joy into my life. Amen.
*Two millennia ago, your Spirit sounded like a mighty wind and looked like dancing fire. Show us, Holy One, how You’re revealing yourself today -- what You sound like and where You’re dancing. May 31st - Pentecost Sunday - Wear RED!
*Lord, You are my Shepherd. Thank You for providing everything I need. Amen
*Jesus, You promised Your followers power and ability to be Your witnesses. By Your Spirit, help us bear witness to You with our words and lives. Amen.

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

Conrad Splash Park now has a Facebook Fundraiser page to post items you want to sell and turn them into proceeds for the Splash Park. Ask to join the page for more details!

MOTHER’S DAY to FATHER’S DAY

Begin to collect for Echoz Pregnancy Center in Great Falls, NOW!
National Day of Prayer  
May 7, 2020

‘PRAY GOD’S GLORY across the earth.’ For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.’ Habakkuk 2:14 NIV ”

Suggested areas for which to pray:  Church   Family   Government   Education   Business   Military   Media   Entertainment

Bible Trivia  
BEGINNING AT THE END  
Each of the following is the last verse of a book of the Bible. Name the book in each case.

1. Remember me, O my God, for good.  
2. But thou has utterly rejected us; thou art very wroth against us.  
3. And they were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.  
4. For he served Baal, and worshiped him, and provoked to anger the Lord God of Israel, according to all that his father had done.  
5. And Eleazar the son of Aaron died; and they buried him in a hill that pertained to Phinehas his son, which was give him in Mount Ephraim.  
6. And for his diet, there was a continual diet given him of the king of Babylon, every day a portion until the day of his death, all the days of his life.  
7. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.  
8. So Joseph died, being a hundred and ten years old; and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.  
9. And David built there and altar unto the Lord, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. So the Lord was entreated for the land, and the plague was stayed from Israel.  
10. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.  
Praise ye the Lord.  


JUST FOR PUN!
• Every calendar’s days are numbered.  
• A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.  
• If you've seen one shopping center, you’ve seen a mall.  
• Acupuncture is a jab well done.  
• A man’s home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.  
• Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?  
• Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.  
• When two egotists meet, it’s an I for an I.  
• A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.  
• The worker who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.  
• Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know basis.
At his graduation, a young man tasked with giving a speech began reading from some notes. “I want to talk about my mother and the wonderful influence she had on my life,” he said. “She’s a shining example of parenthood, and I love her more than words can ever do justice.”

The graduate then paused, appeared to struggle a moment and looked up at the audience with a mischievous smile. “It’s really hard to read my mom’s handwriting,” he said.

God Is For Me  “GOOD NEWS”
God’s will for us is good. Romans 12:2
God’s purpose for us is good. Philippians 2:13
God’s work in us is good. Philippians 1:6
The hope God has given us is good. 2 Thessalonians 2:16
The works God created for us are good. Ephesians 2:10
The fight God calls us to win is good. 1 Timothy 1:18-19
The fruit God produces in us is good. James 3:17
The gifts God gives us are good. James 1:16
God equips us with everything good. Hebrews 13:21
God works all things together in our lives for good.
   Romans 8:28