

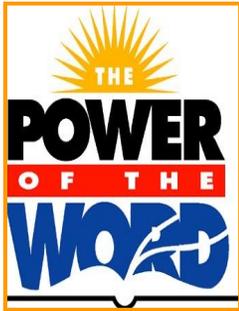


CONRAD LUTHERAN PARISH

LOGOS

WORSHIP TIMES May - August
Golden West at 9 a.m.
Pondera Valley at 11 a.m.

Part-time Interim Pastor
Jeff Stoope, Sun.-Tues.
Kim Wiest, Admin. Assistant
 Office # 271-3934/P.O. Box 883
Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday, 9-4
In an emergency call:
Kim Wiest, 271-2060, Barb
Judisch, 289-0964, or Lyn &
Linda Carlson, 271-3507



*And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to follow Me [as My disciple], he must deny himself [set aside selfish interests], and take up his cross daily [expressing a willingness to endure whatever may come] and follow Me [believing in Me, conforming to My example in living and, if need be, suffering or perhaps dying because of faith in Me]. For whoever wishes to save his life [in this world] will [eventually] lose it [through death], but whoever loses his life [in this world] for My sake, he is the one who will save it [from the consequences of sin and separation from God]. **John 9:23-24** (Amplified version)*

God's Vision, God's Mission

LCMC NW Gathering 2022

May 13-14, 2022 ~ Faith Lutheran Church, Great Falls, MT
 To register and for more information: lcmc-nw.com



Prior to the gathering there's a Women's event "**Women of the Word**" (WoW!) **May 13th** at **10 a.m.-Noon** at **Faith Lutheran Church, Great Falls.**

Theme: † CHILD OF GOD, YOU ARE LOVED † **Speaker:** Heather Boberg from Echoz: Pregnancy Resource Center - a free-will offering will be taken

Also included: refreshments, devotional, visiting and getting to know one another and sharing ideas!

Childcare: might be a possibility, contact Kim Wiest, if it would be helpful to you, 406-271-3934



Thank you to our 3 sponsors for the RADIO BROADCAST on KZIN, 96.7 FM at 11 am
May 1st: *Linda Griggs & Family* in loving memory of Eugene Knobel and Earl Duncan;
Marian Turk & Family in loving memory of Wayne Turk; and by *Douglas & Paul Bellamy*
and Cheryl Tornnga and families in loving memory of Clayro, Hellen, Kurt, and Rodger
 Bellamy. **May God bless the hearing of His word!**

Pastor's Letter

After a long winter (which dumped snow on us at Easter) we are longing for spring to come along at last. Oh for refreshing green to overcome the sere and somber palate of our hibernating northern plains environment!



Of all the turns of the seasons, spring is perhaps the most welcome and looked for. It has certainly inspired poets down through the ages, not least during the Romantic period in English literature. We might wander lonely as a cloud on a spring day like William Wordsworth and have our hearts uplifted to dance with the daffodils. Wordsworth's poem "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud" is a famous lyric poem inspired by a walk he took with his sister Dorothy in 1802. Walking through a forest they came upon a "long belt" of daffodils by a lake. The "crowd" of daffodils in the poem were "tossing their heads" and engaged in "sprightly dance." Some readers discern an allusion to the angelic host in this poem. If reading the poem inspires you to go out and dance with your daffodils your neighbors may think you odd -- but I wholeheartedly approve.

Jesus observed that the lilies of the field out-shown the splendor of Solomon's royal apparel (Matthew 6:28-29). If God cared enough to clothe mere ephemeral flowers so richly, we should, Jesus asserted, trust ourselves into our Creator's care for all our daily needs. God help so to do.

Pastor Jeff Stoope

ELECTRONIC DIRECTORY



**Pastoral
Pictorial
Directory**

The current Conrad Lutheran Parish pictorial directory is from 2013 -- which means it's nine years old and, not to put too fine a point on it, IS NOT CURRENT!

So Pastor Stoope has come up with a cunning plan to help him and the next pastor to recognize all the fine folks currently members of this parish -- yes, you guessed it, by developing an electronic directory. Faith Weber has kindly volunteered to be the curator for this project.

This will not be a public directory but might morph into one at a later date. This is for the private ministry use of the pastor only.

So here's the deal: please send an email attached photo of yourself or family to: pvlcdirectory@gmail.com . Faith and others will also be taking photos at church in the next few months of folks who prefer that way of being included in the directory.

The Call Committee is working hard and we are asking for your prayers for us and for the candidate that we know God has already chosen for our church. We recently had a devotional, written by Ben Simpson, that we thought was great. We wanted to share it with you. Please read!

6 Biblical Truths When in Transition

1. God will be with this church at all times.

You are not forsaken. God is with our congregation. “I will never leave you or forsake you,” (Heb 13:5). Pastors will come and go. Only God will never leave us. And the presence of God is more vital to the life of the church.

2. God is in control.

God “works all things according to the counsel of His will” (Eph. 1:11). Do you believe that? This pastoral transition is not happening outside of the will of God. God is working this according to the counsel of his will. So the question is not, “Who is in control?” God is in control. The question is, “Will you rest in him by trusting him?”

3. God plans good out of this transition.

It might not feel good right now, but God has promised that he works all things together for the good of his people (Rom 8:28). Is your church part of his people? If so, this transition is included in “all things”? Therefore, you can rest assured that good will come from it. That’s how awesome God is: even those things that don’t feel good are used for good. It might not be the good you have in mind, but it is good. Therefore, walk forward in faith.

4. It’s okay to weep.

While good will come out this pastoral transition, that doesn’t remove the deep sadness. Losing your pastor hurts. I’m reminded of how the Ephesian elders wept at Paul’s goodbye: “And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship” (Acts 20:36-38). I believe the Ephesians knew that God would be with them, that he was in control, and that he was going to bring good out of this transition. Nevertheless, they wept. And it’s okay to weep. It’s actually a way of saying thank you to both God and your pastor.

5. Ministry must go on.

Notice what the Great Commission does not say, “Go therefore and make disciples . . . if you have a pastor.” One church that I used to work with lost their pastor. When I’d call their lay leaders about a ministry opportunity, their answer was always, “Well, you see, we just don’t have a pastor right now.” They had forgotten that ministry must continue in the interim. The Great Commission doesn’t include any conditionals. Does ministry become a bit harder without a pastor leading? Probably so, but if he was a good pastor, he will have obeyed Ephesians 4:11-12 by equipping the saints for the work of the ministry. In the interim, you and the lay leadership of the church must make sure ministry continues. Get to work!

6. The church must not scatter.

Jesus promised the flock would scatter at his crucifixion (Mat 26:31). For a season, that’s exactly what happened. The same often happens in churches during pastoral transition. Because “their” pastor is no longer there or ministry begins to lag, folks trickle out. Some reasons for going might be legitimate, but this may also be the time in which the congregation should most strongly gather together for support and encouragement. Recognize the temptation to scatter and work more diligently to stay bound together in unity and love.

This will be a season of testing for us and yes, I know you didn’t ask for it, but with God’s help, you’ll endure it. For our church currently in this situation: let’s make the interim bring blessings we never expected, and pray that God provides a new pastor for our church soon.

Call Committee Members: Kim Hofstad (chair), Betty Olson, Shauna Ellefsen, Faith Weber, Terry Peters, Bill McLean, and Ken Johnson.



April 12th there was a Pondera Valley Council meeting. The new front door of the church is in. A new garage door opener has been put at the parsonage by Everett Breeding, no charge! Thanks Everett! Still waiting for the new furnace for the Education Building. One had come in but it was damaged. Call committee will be posting the pastor's job description soon. The Care Ministry group has created a mission statement: *"The Mission of the*

Care Ministry is to reach out with caring hands to help the congregation and Pastor in their ministry of the shut-ins and those in need of extra support in times of illness, bereavement, or loneliness." \$400.65 came in from the Lenten lunches at Pondera Valley. The council voted for it to go toward the Giving Tree. Everyone was reminded of the Northwest LCMC District Gathering coming up in Great Falls at Faith Lutheran May 13th & 14th. Also there will be a Women's event preceding the gathering. It is hoped that with it being so close, many of our members will attend.

The next PV Council meeting will be Tues., May 10th at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

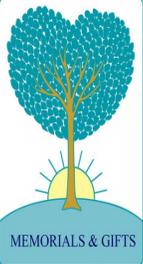
May 8th!



History of Memorial Day

More than 150 years ago, Memorial Day took shape amid the backdrop of the U.S. Civil War. Before it ended, women began decorating the graves of fallen soldiers. In 1868, when May 30 was designated as Decoration Day, loved ones placed flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers alike.

By 1882, Decoration Day became known as Memorial Day, and soldiers who died in other wars were honored too. Over time, it became a day to remember all loved ones who have died — in war and otherwise. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be observed on the last Monday in May. On Memorial Day, we pause to remember people who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country and for our freedom. We also pray for those who continue serving, especially those in harm's way.



MEMORIALS Received:

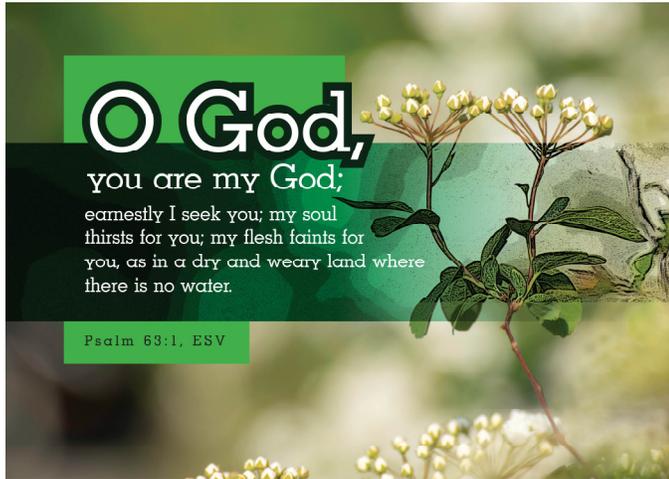
LANDSCAPING *in memory of:* **Maureen DeVries** - Carol Bain, Rick & Sally Aschim, Laurie & Terry Philipps, Robert & Annette Inabnit

LANDSCAPING *in memory of:* **Douglas Martin** - Larry Martin

THANK YOU!

WORDS OF WISDOM

- ♥ “If at first you don’t succeed, try doing it the way mom told you to in the beginning.” -Unknown
- ♥ “The world goes on because of those who close their lips when they meet hostility from others.” - Rebbe Nachman
- ♥ “Prayer is a moment of incarnation -- God with us. God involved in the details of my life.” -Paul E. Miller



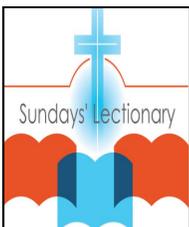
THANK YOU!

- ☺ Thank you Everett Breeding for buying and installing the new garage door opener at the parsonage!
- ☺ Thank you to Ray & Kim Hofstad, Tom & Page Russett, John & Melinda Burns for the delicious Easter breakfast!
- ☺ Thank you to all who brought and bought baked goods on Palm Sunday! \$556 was made for VBS this summer!
- ☺ Thank you to our teachers for this school year: Julene Peters, Kathy Walter, Karli Redd, Amanda Lesnik, Linda & Mike O’Brien

No PASTORAL Acts in April
Pondera Valley April Offering \$9,579
Average April Sunday Attendance
PV=66; Maundy Thursday=43;
Good Friday=41; Easter=96

♥ **THANK YOU to all who give! Your offerings are much appreciated. You can use the enclosed blue envelope or mail them to:**
PO Box 883, Conrad MT 59425.

⚔ **Offering envelope boxes: If you didn’t get one for Pondera Valley, and want one, stop by the church office!**



May 1st - Acts 9:1-22; Psalm 30; Revelation 5:1-14; John 21:1-19
May 8th - Acts 20:17-35; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30
May 15th - Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 150; Revelation 21:1-7; John 16:12-22
May 22nd - Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27; John 16:23-33
May 29th - Acts 1:12-26; Psalm 133; Revelation 22:1-20; John 17:20-26



**JUNE 27, 28, 29 is VBS
with CEF (Christian Evangelism
Fellowship)**

www.cefomontana.com
for ages 5 - 12, mornings with an
evening program on June 29th.

**Board of Education members: *Julene Peters,
Carol Wood, Kara Baker, Linda O'Brien,
Kathy Walter and Co-Superintendents: Barb
Judisch and Donna Fowler***



May 29th is graduation day for our local High School Seniors. We would like to honor them on **Sunday, May 22nd at our 11 a.m. service.**

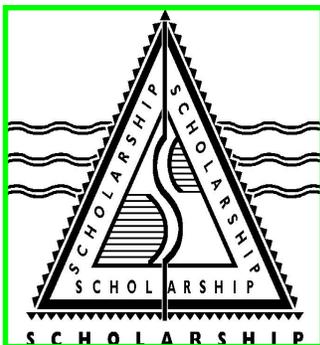
This year we honor: Brae Eneboe and Owen Calahan from Conrad High School, Kami Gossard from Valier High School, and Starla Suta from Sunburst High School.

Mr. Rogers, To Grads — and To Us All

Our world hangs like a magnificent jewel in the vastness of space. Every one of us is a part of that jewel, a facet of that jewel, and in the perspective of infinity, our differences are infinitesimal. We are intimately related. May we never even pretend that we are not. Deep down, we know that what matters in this life is more than winning for ourselves. What really matters is helping others win too, even if it means slowing down and changing our course now and then.

[Roman philosopher] Boethius wrote this sentence: “Oh happy race of mortals if your hearts are ruled, as is the universe, by love.” ... [There is a] deep part of you that allows you to stand for those things without which humankind cannot survive: love that conquers hate, peace that rises triumphant over war, and justice that proves more powerful than greed. So in all that you do, in all of your life, I wish you the strength and the grace to make those choices which will allow you — and your neighbor — to become the best of whoever you are.

—Fred McFeely Rogers, 2002



This year a scholarship have been awarded to Brae Eneboe, a graduating Senior from High School who is planning on attending Miles City Community College. She plans to play basketball there as well as major in Animal Sciences. Congratulations Brae!

Also being awarded a scholarship is Grace Weber who will be a Junior at the University of Providence, Great Falls. She also plays basketball and is majoring in Biology. Congratulations Grace!

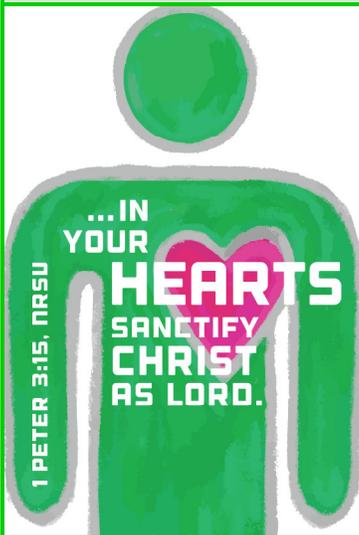
God bless you both as you further your education!



Illnesses or other concerns: (*denotes relation to*) Heath Poser, Ashley Bissett (*Mark Hinricksen*), Beccy Lockyer, Derek Matheson, Ron Thaut, Dugan Family, Tristan West, Doug Mason (*3Betty Olson*), Linda Iverson, Sara McLean, Don Bandow, Judy Ketterling, Marilyn Waite, Rachael Hitchcock (*Amber Hofstad*), Tia Robinson, Georgia Smeltzer, (*2Carol Kaldor*), Evan Bell, Roger Brastrup, Teagan Bartoo, Faith Birnel Crouch (*3Ruth Fladstol*), Madelyn Erickson, Rose Peterman, Annie Schlosser, Marvin Baker, Sandy Webb (*JoAnne Unger*), Norman Stordahl, Debbie Ries, Mitchell Moore (*Josita Montgomery*), Juelie McLean (*Bill McLean*), Poppy Dahl, Gerald Bruner, Melvin Pocock, (*2Wanda Bollinger*), Terry Smith, (*Carolyn Widhalm*), Jolene Wynn (*Kim Hofstad*), all: Logan Health Ext. Care, Bee Hive, and Horizon Lodge 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

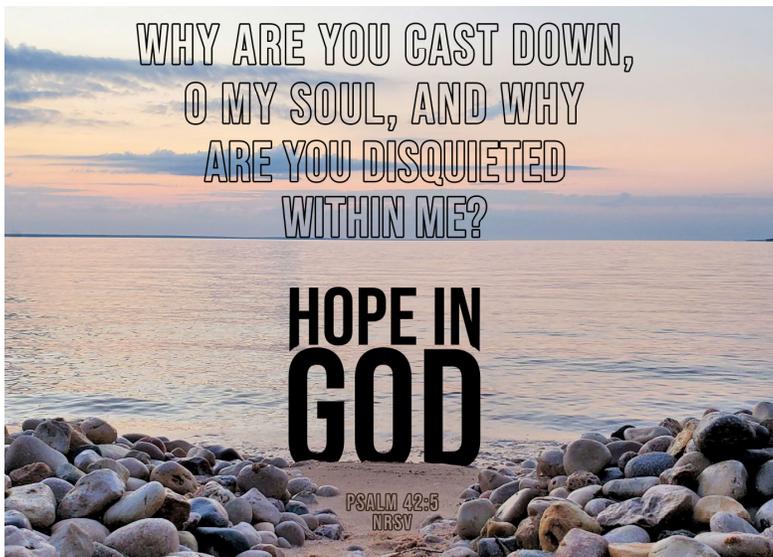
All those who mourn...

Those deployed in the service abroad: Cameron Bowen (*England*), Shane Hofstad & family (*Japan*)



Prayers to Prepare for Worship

- ** Jesus, I'd love to have breakfast and visit with you, as the disciples did by the lakeshore. During worship, I will imagine we're doing that. Please pass the bread!
- ** God, like a mother you are both tender with your children and fierce on our behalf. Thank you for modeling motherly love for us all.
- ** Hallelujah! I worship you, God! Thank you for showing goodness to me and for working through me to bless others.
- ** Quiet my heart and mind, dear Jesus. Help me sense the peaceful rhythm of your heartbeat against me.
- ** My spirit is thirsty. Refresh me, O Water of Life.



**Thursday, May 5th at 7 p.m.
at the Conrad Baptist Church
Please attend!**

National Day of
PRAYER

⌘ Remember!! Worship Times change in May!!

Golden West WORSHIP Sundays 9 a.m. Usher: Bill & Elaine McLean; Reader: Elaine; Communion Assistant: Bill; Communion Preparer: Elaine

Pondera Valley: VOLUNTEER! to help with ushering, greeting, reading the scripture lessons, serving or helping with communion set-up, call the church office, 271-3934. Info /instructions would be made available.

PONDERA VALLEY SUNDAY WORSHIP 11 a.m.	May 1st	May 8th	May 15th	May 22nd	May 29th
Reader	Linda O'Brien	Faith Weber	John Burns	Jim Morren	Lyn Carlson
Communion Assistant		Faith & Grace Weber		Karla Breeding & Pat Lee	
Ushers	Olsons & Bollingers				
Communion Preparer	Carol Wood				
Sound Tech.	Faith Weber				
Greeter	Linda Carlson				
Offering Custodian	1st & 8th: Barb Judisch; 15th & 22nd: Lori Pearson; 29th: Faith Weber				

