

CONRAD LUTHERAN PARISH

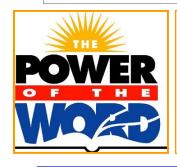
LOGOS

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES:

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

Due to Covid-19, Pondera Valley Education Hour will be suspended for at least the next 2 weeks, Sept. 30 and Oct. 7 until the Public School returns. We will follow their lead.

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IS THERE ANY ENCOURAGEMENT FROM BELONGING TO CHRIST? ANY COMFORT FROM HIS LOVE? ANY FELLOWSHIP TOGETHER IN THE SPIRIT? ARE YOUR HEARTS TENDER AND COMPASSIONATE? THEN MAKE ME TRULY HAPPY BY AGREEING WHOLEHEARTEDLY WITH EACH OTHER, LOVING ONE ANOTHER, AND WORKING TOGETHER WITH ONE MIND AND PURPOSE. PHILIPPIANS 2:1–2



Due to COVID-19, the Sixty-Second Annual Praise and Thanks Celebration will not be held this year. However, we will continue to praise God and thank Him for His many blessings of even this last year and those before. He is so good! In the past, this event has helped to provide resources for the women of Golden West to do their benevolent ministry. That ministry will continue and so we ask you to prayerfully consider contributing to Golden West Praise & Thanks. Your offering can be given directly to Golden West Women c/o Cathi Hemry 14095 Brady Rd Brady MT 59416 or if you give at Pondera Valley, make sure it has "Golden West Praise & Thanks" in the memo. Thank you!



RADIO BROADCAST: 11 am October 4th on KZIN, 96.7 FM Sponsored by: Nancy Herman Pringle in loving memory of her parents, Robert & Evelyn Herman. Thank you! May God bless the hearing of His word!

Dear Pondera Valley and Golden West,

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

The summer is over and now we not only start what we did again, many are left uncertain and wondering about what is next. Our little boy Uriah has been born during a tumultuous time. The girls, Abigail and Madelyn, are growing up through it. As parents we often wonder what it would be like to look through their lens. What do they think all these "grown-ups" around them are doing? If we are uncertain I really begin to worry about them.

So, how do we answer this call not only as a family but also as the church? If we need to give what we ourselves our lacking, who do we turn to fill up our cup? Where do we get what we need to give? Even more specific, what is it exactly we are giving to the little children?

In my experience the answer to the question of uncertainty began with Hebrews 11. The first verse says, "Faith is assurance in what we hope for and certainty in what we do not see." Hope is not a question mark but a confident punctuation! Because we know the ending our hope is identified as Christ coming into the world with the whole kingdom, returning a second time. Can we see this? No. We hope... We wait and wonder and doubt... Our nature is to trust sight over hearing but faith comes according to Romans 10:17. We trust in a promise that is still to come fully. There is no way to see it. We only hear about it from preachers and the folly of words.

Yet, God calls us to take those fools serious. They pour out God's Word and give the Holy Spirit. There it is said to each and every one of us, "Do not be afraid, I am with you always." Even though we cannot see, Jesus calls us to certainty. Reflecting on this causes me to be thankful for everything that I do not have to be anxious about in life. I have never been hungry or thirsty. There has always been a roof over me. None of it has been my doing. From the smallest merit to my salvation we know in comparison to the Good News of Jesus it is filthy rags. I am thankful that by the time you read this my 3rd child will be baptized. Again, I cannot take any credit for what my whole family has been given.

Here we identify the source. It is Jesus Christ of course. During uncertain times what else would be give than bold bravery to our children. Through Word and Water we know God works in them and already has. Now as they grow and observe the world they already have questions. Many of them the same Kori and I had as kids. Growing together we know to use the tools of Law and Gospel, God's Word to guide them. Bringing them constantly to worship creates a foundation grounded in biblical and historic songs, creeds, and prayers. Together I get to listen to my whole family worship. Let God have all the glory, because while many miss out, we are given grace and peace.

This is our prayer for everyone else. Where there is no peace or grace we ask that God's Word be used to be a solid rock. In a time where people need someone to lean on trust is lacking and more of the populous has become uneasy. It is visible and as I describe it, haunting. You can see who is in fear like I never have before. As Christians we should hear the clear call here. Remember that Jesus walks out to the disciple's boat in the middle of the storm. He goes to them. They are even so frightened they mistake him as a ghost. Today perhaps this same person scares those who try to use their eyes rather than listen to Jesus' voice. Bring his commentary into any situation of today and ask truthfully what he would say. It is only the questions that have changed. The answer stays the same.

Why are we so certain? What do we give to our children? Hope! We give full confidence that the kingdom is already won and each of us is an heir to it. How do we explain what is happening around us? Simply, sin is reigning. People are not listening. They are living by sight in a world of flesh. Their ears are itching, and look at the effect of it. No one can do anything about it. Here again we only rely on the Almighty God who provides for us and sustains us daily amidst us even struggling to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." We always want responsibility but Jesus has already taken all of it. During this pandemic people will be brought to their knees. This is a time for us to confess the truth of our sin and need for forgiveness. Jesus is the only one who accomplishes it for us forever. This is a call to the cross, nothing else.

Finally, in our days then we extend the kingdom to those around us. We give as generously as God continues to give so richly. We love our neighbor as ourselves and should go running to Jesus with our children. Do not forget he said, "Let them! Do not be afraid. I love you. You are forgiven." So let God's kingdom come for all of us. Amen.

In Christ, Pastor Drew Nelson

Pondera Valley Lutheran Church will not have Education Hour for the next 2 weeks at least. (9/30 & 10/7) They will follow the public school's lead when they return.

www.conradlutheran.com

When we can safely return, here is the schedule: Preschool - 4th grades: 5:15 p.m.- 6 p.m. (no dinner) in Ed. Building

5th & 6th grade - Confirmation (7-9th): 6 p.m. Meal in Fellowship Hall followed right away with class until 7:15 p.m.(5th & 6th pick up Ed. building) and until 7:30 p.m. for 7th-9th grades

We would welcome more teachers, helpers, & substitutes! We don't know who you are, please volunteer!!



The Council met September 14th. October 25th will be Confirmation Sunday at Pondera Valley. Office hours will be 9-12 a.m. Monday -Thursday and Pastor will be available other hours by cell phone. Pastor will be

Wednesday Night Education is in full swing at the reading of these minutes. More teachers Communion Class will be given during Lent with their Communion during Holy Week. insurance. There is discussion of having an adult membership Applications for a new janitor for the Education building will be circulating soon. Call the church

presenting numbers to the councils office if you are interested. The to discuss housing allowance. church had to change the locks to correct the issues we had with the old keys. Most people who use the key a lot have received a key. Talk substitutes are needed. A First to Kim Wiest in the office if you need one. There will be a first committee formed to look at health

> class. The next council meeting will be Monday, October 12th at 6 pm in the Youth Room.



1 Timothy 6:10

For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.

Rich and poor alike can fall into this evil of loving money so much that it ruins their lives. There are many "get rich schemes" out there and many who suffer from falling for them. You know the old adage, "if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is"? Many people compromise their values and beliefs to acquire money. Many choose not to serve God because they don't have time. Some choose not to give money because they need all of it.

Remember, God is the MAKER of ALL things and EVERYTHING we are, have, and acquire belong to GOD! Living as if this is not true leads to every kind of evil. Cutting God out of the picture is NEVER the answer to our life and the way we are to live it. (Again, because God is our Creator, we need to read the "owner's manual"/BIBLE to know best how to live our life!) When we give God our time, He leads us to do healthy habits: reading and meditating on His word, listening to sermons, attending Bible studies, caring for others, giving to your local church as well as other needy causes. Being self-less not selfish! When they are done out of love for God, not out of "what we will get out of it", God is pleased with our obedience to His will for our lives. AND our lives will be a blessing to others!

Calendar Reminders:

Pondera Valley Worship Leaders - Karen Lee (Sound); Tom & Page Russett (Ushers and Comm. Prep. Tom Reader Oct. 25th, Page Comm. Server Oct. 25th); Linda O'Brien (Greeter and Reader Oct. 4th); Julene Peters (Offering Custodian); Barb Judisch (Reader Oct. 11th); David Berg (Reader Oct. 18th); Karla Breding (Comm. Server Oct. 11th & 25th); Pat Lee (Comm. Server Oct. 11th); Mike O'Brien (Council Devotional Sept. 14th)

Golden West Worship Leaders - Sandy Seidler (Usher, Reader, and Comm. Preparer); Elaine McLean (Comm. Assistant)

Bible Studies at Pondera Valley - Men's Tuesday 6:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall - Women's Tuesday 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Reformation Sunday, Oct. 25th, is Confirmation Sunday at Pondera Valley! Those who may confirm their faith are: *Jaxon Arvidson*, *Tala Eneboe*, *Eliese Henke*, *Julia Salois*, *Aiden Walter*, *and Kaeleigh Winfield*



MEMORIALS Received:

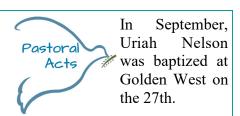
General Fund:

from Shirley Klette in memory of Donna Sorlie From Doris Peterson in memory of Arthur Huyghe <u>Youth Fund</u>:

from Marilyn Waite in memory of Donna Sorlie and Mr. & Mrs. John Maki



Overflowing With Thanks



Pondera Valley Offering in September: \$ 5,451.00 Average Attendance in September: PV 42; GW 11

♥THANK YOU to all who continue to send in your offerings! As you can see we were down quite a bit this last month. Please continue to help with our ministry! You can use the enclosed blue envelope or mail them to PO Box 883, Conrad MT 59425.



SEED impressions Create autumn-themed artwork using items from plants. What you need: Seed pods, nuts, pine cones Mixing bowl 2 cups flour 1 cup salt 1 cup warm water Adult help

What you do:

- 1. Go on a nature walk and collect seeds with interesting textures.
- 2. In the bowl, mix flour and salt. Gradually add water. On a table, knead the dough. (If too dry, add more water; if too sticky, add more flour.)
- 3. Flatten a ball of dough and stamp impressions in it with the seeds.
- 4. If desired, bake for several hours at 150 degrees until dry and hard. Or, to reuse dough, store in an airtight container up to 6 months.

A Planting Parable

Jesus had to explain his Parable of the Sower to the confused disciples.

Directions: Use the word bank to answer the clues. Then fill in the correct words below to complete Matthew 13:23, NIV.

WORD BANK: sow, soil, wither, root, thorn, crop, seed, farmer
1. Plant part that absorbs water
2. Contains what's needed to grow a plant
3. To plant
4. Sharp part of a plant
5. What is harvested
6. To dry up and shrivel
7. Person who plants
8. The earth a plant grows in
"But the falling on good refers to
someone who hears the word and understands it.
This is the one who produces a $_{$
hundred, sixty or thirty times what wasn."
MATTHEW 13:23, NIV

crop, sow

Answer: root, seed, sow, thorn, crop, wither, farmer, soil; seed, soil,





Go to our website for videos, updates, materials to use for worship!
PLUS, the newsletter is in COLOR!!
www.conradlutheran.com

OPPORTUNITY FOR GIVING:

Donate Men's, Women's, and Children's socks (NEW) for the Highline Help for Abused Spouses. There's a tub in the Fellowship Hall for them until November!

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

Because of COVID-19 it will be limited to 250 attendees and so the business will be done differently this year. WATCH ONLINE!



WOMEN'S FALL BAZAAR COMING!! Friday, Nov. 6th

BAZAAR Get started now thinking about what you want to bring! And if you have a finished product and wish to bring it to the church now, put it in a Ziploc bag and place in "marked" bin in the basement kitchen of PV. Thank You!



Check out this website: www.holyfamilytime.com Here is just a taste of some of the resources

you will find there.... Letting Children Ask Questions "When in time to come your son asks you, 'What does this mean?' you shall say to him, 'By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery." (Ex. 13:14) In the ancient Hebrew tradition, parents had the opportunity to pass on the faith through questions God put in the mouth of their children. In the same way, throughout the Small Catechism Martin Luther uses the question "What does this mean?" — as an opportunity for the young to ask their parents basic questions of faith. The Holy Family Time devotional uses a similar technique to prompt faith conversations between parents and children. As part of each day's devotion, discussion starters are provided in the form of two questions intended to be asked by the children. It may not always seem like it, but children really do want to know what their parents think about matters of importance. Do not underestimate the importance of vour witness in shaping children's vour understanding of faith. A Word of Encouragement "Do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to

you in that hour. For it is not you who speak, but the Father speaking Spirit of your through you." (Matthew 10:19-20) It may seem intimidating at first to open yourself up to your children's questions — especially questions about faith and the Bible. But this kind of conversation is essential! It is your opportunity to bear witness to the promise of God in your life. Some encouragement to keep in mind: 1. The questions provided in the devotional are intentionally written to allow parents to speak from their own life experience. (They are not academic questions requiring obscure biblical knowledge.) 2. If you are looking for an "answer key" — take your cues from the Bible verses and the prayers included in the devotional. These were intentionally written to point parents in the right direction. 3. When speaking to your children about your experience in faith, be honest about your own faith and doubts. A real life of faith is one that has both joys and struggles. Tell your kids how life really is, but also let them know that God is with us in whatever we face. 4. Don't be afraid to admit when you are unsure about something. If there is a question you don't know how to answer, tell your kids that you will try to find out. In this way, you model genuine curiosity and study. You may even suggest that you can ask the pastor together on Sunday!



October 4th - Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:7-19; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

October 11th - Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4:4-13; Matthew 22:1-14

October 18th - Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 96:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

October 25th - Revelation 14:6-7; Psalm 46; Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36



Ron Thaut, Herb & Rose Peterman, Mike Buechler, Annie Schlosser, Zach Greene (*Carol Kaldor*), Evan Bell, Dennis Fladstol, Teagan Bartoo, Faith Birnel Crouch (*2Ruth Fladstol*), Hayden Kellogg, Ron Widhalm, Shaun Short (*Stacie Matheson*), Beth Roen (*Kim Wiest*),

Wayne Smith (Linda VanTongeren), Marvin Baker, Sandy Webb (JoAnne Unger), Norman Stordahl, Debbie Ries, Debbi Gage, Mitchell Moore (Josita Montgomery), Connie Wolf, Wayne Brown (2Carol Wood), Juelie McLean (Bill McLean), Don Bandow, Ralph Swan (Cyndi Johnson), Poppy Dahl, Kimberly Peacock, Audrey Kieft, Gerald Bruner, Melvin Pocock, (4Wanda Bollinger), Terry Smith, (Carolyn Widhalm), BJ Hilyard, Lorie Hasner, 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... Arthur Huyghe, Esther Zerbst

Those deployed in the service abroad: Mark Thompson, Blake Tornga, Guthrie Oiestad, Cameron Bowen



Requests

Prayers to Prepare for Worship

- ** God our sustenance and rest, thank you for these moments of quiet before worship. Help me center my attention on You.
- Dear Jesus, show me who needs a special reminder of Your love today, and help me share it.
- ** Jesus, You told the Pharisees to "give...to God what is God's" (Matthew 22:21). Show me how to give my whole self to You, for I am Yours.
- * Holy Spirit, You are always doing "a new thing" (Isaiah 43:19). Help me welcome Your new ways of love, justice and creativity in the church, the world and my life.

What Does This Mean? "Bearing Witness" Jesus said: "You are witnesses" (Luke 24:48). In biblical terms, "witnessing" or "bearing witness" refers to sharing our faith with others by speaking about what God has done in our lives — specifically, telling others what it means for you, yourself, to trust and belong to Jesus Christ. Genuine witnessing does not take a confrontational approach. It is not an argument to be won, or a lecture about what someone else should do. It is also not a "sales pitch" where you try to "sell" listeners on faith and close the deal. Witnessing is a matter of simply telling your own experience — how you have felt, heard, and seen God at work in your life and in the world around you.



Monday, September 14th
6:30pm at <u>Coaches Corner</u>, in the back
room. This is an opportunity for all to
come together in prayer! Please come to
pray or listen to others pray! If you
have a prayer request, give it to Kim, in
the office, beforehand!

Bible Trivia SPEAKING OF CHURCHES

- 1. What church was neither hot nor cold?
- 2. What church began in the home of Lydia, the seller of purple?
- 3. At what church was Paul accused of turning the world upside down?
- 4. What church had two bickering women named Euodia and Syntyche?
- 5. In what church did Paul raise up Eutychus, who had fallen to his death out of a window?
- 6. What church was the scene of a burning of wicked books?
- 7. At what church were believers first called Christians?
- 8. Who founded the church at Colossae?
- 9. What church had a false prophetess named Jezebel as a member?
- 10. Who visited the church at Babylon?
- 11. What church suffered because of the "synagogue of Satan"?
- 12. What member of the Colossian church received a letter from Paul?
- 13. What church received epistles from two different apostles?
- 14. At what church did Paul preach his first recorded sermon?
- 15. What church had a former demon-possessed girl as a member?
- 16. What was the first church to appoint deacons?



- 17. Who helped Paul establish the church in Corinth?
- 18. What church tolerated the heresy of the Nicolaitans?
- 19. What church had fallen prey to the legalistic Judaizers?
- 20. What is the most commended church in Revelation?
- 21. What church received from Paul an epistle that has never been found?
- 22. What church took up a large love offering for the needy believers in Jerusalem?
- 23. On what Greek island did Titus supervise the churches?
- 24. What church saw the martyrdom of faithful Antipas?
- 25. What was the first church to send forth missionaries?

ANSWERS: 1. Laodicea (Rev. 3:15-16); 2. Philippi (Acts 16:15,40); 3. Thessalonica (Acts 17:6); 4. Philippi (Phil. 4:1-3); 5. Troas (Acts 20:7-12); 6. Ephesus (Acts 19:19); 7. Antioch (Acts 11:26); 8. Epaphras (Colossians 1:7); 9. Thyatira (Rev. 2:18-29); 10. Peter (1 Peter 5:13); 11. Smyrna (Rev. 2:8-11); 12. Philemon; 13. Ephesus (the Letter to the Ephesians from Paul and Revelation 2:1-7 from John); 14. Antioch of Pisidia (Acts 13:16); 15. Philippi (Acts 16:18); 16. Jerusalem (Acts 6:1-7); 17. Priscilla and Aquila (Acts 18:2); 18. Pergamos (Rev. 2:12-17); 19. Galatia (Galatians 1:6-9); 20. Philadelphia (Rev. 3:7-13); 21. Laodicea (Col. 4:16); 22. Antioch (Acts 11:30); 23. Crete (Titus 1:5); 24. Pergamum (Rev. 2:13); 25. Jerusalem (Acts 15:34)



"This is the fifth 'Get Well' card this week from your Sunday school substitute teacher."