



CONRAD LUTHERAN PARISH

LOGOS

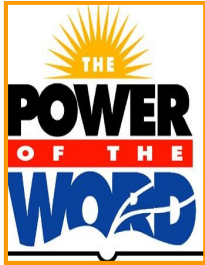
NEW WORSHIP TIMES

September - December

9 a.m. Golden West

11 a.m. Pondera Valley

Part-time Pastor
Jeff Stopes, Sun.-Tues.
Kim Wiest, Admin. Assistant
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AH, LORD GOD! IT IS YOU WHO HAVE MADE THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH BY YOUR GREAT POWER AND BY YOUR OUTSTRETCHED ARM! NOTHING IS TOO HARD FOR YOU. Jeremiah 32:17



- Sept. 4th - Labor Day, Office Closed
- Sept. 10th - PV Vision Meeting #1 9:30-10:45 a.m. "The Parsonage"
- Sept. 11th - Noon Women's Bible Study, PV Library*
- Sept. 12th - 6:30 a.m. Men's B-Fast & Bible Study, Fellowship Hall*
- Sept. 12th - 9 a.m. Women's Bible Study, Fellowship Hall*
- Sept. 17th - PV Vision Meeting #2 9:30-10:45 a.m. "The Ed. Building"
- Sept. 19th - PV Vision Meeting #3 6:30-8 p.m. "Technology Updates"

- Sept. 20th - 5 p.m. Wednesday Christian Education*
- Sept. 24th - PV Vision Meeting #4 9:30-10:45 a.m. "North End of FH"
- Sept. 24th - St. Michael's Kickball Tourney, ages 7 & up, begins at Noon (see more info page 6)

***Ongoing activities. Everyone is welcome!**



Thank you sponsors for the September RADIO BROADCAST on KZIN, 96.7 FM at 11am on September 3rd: Norman & Shirley Stordahl in loving memory of their parents: Walter & Fannie Snortland and Albert & Mabel Stordahl, and Martha and Lowell Stordahl, Marilyn Moritz and Everett Snortland.

May God bless the hearing of His word!

Pastor's Letter

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11; NIV)

The ancient “Hippocratic Oath” is an ethical code attributed to the ancient Greek physician Hippocrates which was meant to guide the conduct of those in the medical profession and is still used in graduation ceremonies of many medical schools. One of the promises within the oath is, “first, do no harm” (or “*primum non nocere*,” the Latin translation of the original Greek). In fact, although “first, do no harm” is attributed to Hippocrates, it wasn’t a part of the original oath but from another of his works called “*Of the Epidemics*”. Be that as it may, the principle of “first, do no harm” is an ethical standard worth reverence and practice with all the alacrity one can muster, in my considered opinion. Not only for health care professionals like my RN wife, Grace, but for all human beings in all circumstances.

While it is a fine ethical idea, a fence post or pile of rocks could keep it inviolate. It is merely negative and doesn’t require any *positive* action. In contrast, ethical ideas or prescriptions that require positive action are needed if any *real good* is to come to others through our efforts.

The Golden Rule, as its called in the Western Tradition, is expressed in its positive form by Jesus in Luke 6:31, “Do unto others what you



would have them do to you,” and also in Matthew 7:12, “So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the law and the Prophets.” The negative form of the rule has been expressed in many other traditions, for example, in an Egyptian papyrus text (c. 664-323 BCE) we have, “That which you hate to be done to you do not do to another.” This ethical rule seems to be rather incorruptible but I’ve heard it used to promote selfish and evil desires. A rule can never take the place of a well-formed character. And a well-formed character can only be formed by our Creator. Which is why Jesus insisted that we must love one another *as he has first loved us* (John 15:9-17). Only by abiding in, remaining in, living in divine love -- “agape” -- can we be transformed and be empowered to lay down our lives for others.

May our Lord Jesus so live in our hearts and minds that His supernatural love passes through us to all we meet in our daily lives.

Pastor Jeff Stoopes

Echoz Pregnancy Center in Great Falls NEEDS Volunteers!

Join us for root beer floats, tour, and learn
about areas to serve!

Tues. Sept. 12th 6:30-7:30 p.m.

RSVP: 406-727-1850 or email:
patientservices@echoz.org

Great Falls Rescue Mission 59th Annual Banquet Tues. Sept. 26th at 6 p.m. at the Heritage Inn

To purchase tables or reserve individual
seats, call 406-761-2653.



PONDERA VALLEY MEMORIALS Received:

Technology Updates in memory of **Annie Schlosser, Madelyn Erickson and Tom Eckstein** - Matt & Donna Fowler;
in memory of **Everett Snortland** - The Snortland Family, Raymond & Charlotte Anderson, Ann Boettcher, Pat Lee, Howard & Julie Bergstrom

MUSIC in memory of **Linda Griggs and Frances Larson** - Matt & Donna Fowler

GOLDEN WEST MEMORIAL FUND in memory of **Grace Fladstol Hewitt** - Linda Mathew

THANK YOU!



We had a wonderful 1/2 day of VBS with many wonderful teachers and helpers:

♥ Thank you Cassie Andrews, Linda O'Brien, Amanda Lesnik, Amanda Moulton, Julene Peters, Kim Wiest, Kendra Dyer, Lori Pearson, and Kathy Walters! Great group of kids too! We had 15. It was fun.

In July we hosted the group Bike the US for MS. They were a delightful group of people of all ages and backgrounds. They were also very appreciative of our hospitality.

- ♥ Thank you to those who provided food for them: Linda Carlson, Linda VanTongeren, Shauna Ellefsen, Mike & Linda O'Brien, Kim Wiest, Louise Glimm, and Pastor Stoo pes.
- ♥ Thank you to Don Bollinger for building a hand railing up to the organ and piano at Pondera Valley. It looks great Don!

♥ **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.**



JULY PASTORAL ACTS: Baptism (PV) for Seeley Marie Andrews on July 9th; Wedding for Ramsey & Tara Offerdal on July 15th

AUGUST PASTORAL ACTS: Baptism & Confirmation (PV) of Tripp Rosales on August 6th; Interment for Denis Grigsby on August 19th.

**Pondera Valley Offering (July): \$9,407
(August): \$ 7,423
Average PV Sunday Attendance (July): 54
(August): 57**

**Average GW Sunday Attendance (July): 12
McLean's Reunion hosting worship 7/2: 63
(August): 16**

CONTINUING EDUCATION



In September, Christian education programs are in full swing. How wonderful to see classrooms of children learning about Jesus! But what about the grown-ups? Some parents who make sure their kids get to Sunday school don't attend Bible study themselves.

Following and learning about Christ are lifelong pursuits. If we are to love God with our *mind* (as well as with our heart, soul and strength), then we must keep learning even into old age. Plus, when we are well informed about God's Word and our faith, we can share it with non-Christians and express the reason for our hope (see 1 Peter 3:15).

To love God with "all your mind" (Mark 12:30), find an adult Bible study or small group that dives into Scripture. Then humbly wear the label of lifelong learner, knowing that God still has new things to teach even the most seasoned Christian.

COME! Be a part of a Bible Study at Pondera Valley!



☞ **Men's 6:30 a.m. Bible Study with Breakfast on Tuesdays, in the Fellowship Hall. Come check it out!**

☞ **Women's Noon Bible Study on Mondays in the Library, beginning Sept. 11th. All are welcome!**

☞ **Women's 9 a.m. Bible Study on Tuesdays in the Fellowship Hall, beginning Sept. 12th. We'd love to have you join us!**

Pondera Valley Council met July 11th.

There wasn't a quorum present so no votes were taken but there was discussion. The



Education Committee reported that 15 came for VBS and it was a success. The Buildings & Grounds committee met and discussed maintenance issues and are working on several different areas.

The group discussed the visionary ideas that came in from the congregation. Some items will go to the appropriate mission team committees. As the rest was categorized, 4 areas of potential capital campaign areas emerged: 1) The parsonage; 2) the

Education Building; 3) Technical Updates; and 4) North end of the Fellowship Hall. It was discussed that in order to include the congregation vision meetings could be held this September; each of the areas with its own meeting. Dates suggested were: Sunday mornings prior to 11 a.m. worship on Sept. 10th, 17th, and 24th from 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. and on Tuesday, Sept. 19th 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

The Bike the US for MS will stay at our church July 18th. Kim Wiest will contact them to see if we can feed them dinner and breakfast the next morning.

There will be no council meeting in August.

The next PV Council meeting will be Tuesday, September 12th at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



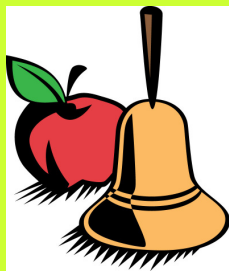
As we begin to prayerfully consider what God has for us to do our church family, in this community, and world, let us begin conversations considering 4 major areas of physical improvements in our facility here at Pondera Valley.

In September, we plan to have 4 vision meetings on each of the 4 areas being considered at this time.

- 1) The Parsonage...what work needs to be done to the Montgomery house for starters...
- 2) The Education Building ...what work needs to be done to improve and utilize the space?
- 3) Technology Updates ... what does the future hold for us for tv/screen/ power points/ online access to our services?
- 4) The north end of the Fellowship Hall, making it safe and accessible during the winter.

These meetings are intended to begin the process of gathering information to make more informed decisions. We need everyone to participate, especially in the areas that you want to help discern direction. Please put these dates on your calendar and come! September 10, 17, 24 from 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM and Sept 19 from 6:30 to 8 PM. (The dates coincide with the order of the areas listed above. i.e. The Vision Meeting on the Parsonage will be Sept. 10th. SEE Page 1.)

The list of potential projects is available in the back of the church or the office. Some will be maintenance or ideas that the council will be addressing without putting them with the capital campaign ideas. Your help is always welcome!



Wednesday Night Education

Will begin Wednesday, September 20th at 5 p.m. in the Youth Room (basement of church)

St. Michael's Catholic Church in Conrad is hosting a Kickball Tourney on Sunday, Sept. 24th at Noon for ages 7 and up.

All is free and fun! Free BBQ too!

Hoping to have teams from all the churches in Conrad!

If you'd like to know more you can call, 406-278-7517

Who, Me? Yes, You!

The Bible is filled with people who don't feel up to the challenge of serving God, speaking for God or leading his people. But God always knows what he's doing. Pastor Haviland Houston issues this challenge: "When you are hesitant to act, or feel a failure of nerve coming on, when courage lags, or even if laziness and the 'I don't care' blues get you down, may the words of Mordecai to Esther

burn in your hearts and minds: 'And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?'" (See Esther 4:14.)

Max Lucado offers a similar reminder in *You Were Made for This Moment*. "God always has his person," he writes, also citing the book of Esther. "When we feel as though everything is falling apart, God is working in our midst, causing everything to fall into place. He is the King of quiet providence, and he invites you

and me to partner with him in his work."

Lucado continues: "[God] has a Joseph for every famine and a David for every Goliath. When his people need rescuing, God calls a Rahab into service. When a baby Moses needs a mama, God prompts an Egyptian princess to have compassion. He always has his person. He had someone in the story of Esther. And in your story he has you."



Instruments of Connection

Following Jesus involves much more than attending worship, as Pastor Stan Purdum points out in a sermon titled "The Hug": "The spiritual life, in addition to some outwardly religious and inwardly devotional acts, also includes such mundane activities as sending thank-you notes for gifts received, returning phone calls, greeting fellow worshippers Sunday after Sunday, surprising

our spouse with a spontaneous act of appreciation, helping out at funeral dinners, seeking common ground during disagreements, listening to our children, working at not being a grouch, visiting friends and relatives and, perhaps, even sending an electronic hug. All those things are instruments of connection. The spiritual aspect is the intentionality behind them."



www.holyfamilytime.com A great resource!



SEARCHING FOR SILVER

Godly, biblical wisdom is more valuable than gold or silver. Make this do-it-yourself toy to practice your searching skills.

What you need:

- 12 small, smooth rocks
- An empty, clean egg carton
- Paintbrush
- Acrylic paint (gold or silver)
- Black permanent marker

What you do:

1. Clean the rocks and egg carton. Place newspaper on a table to protect it from paint.
2. Paint all sides of the rocks and carton. Let dry. Add a second coat, if desired.
3. When rocks are dry, number each rock (1-12) with marker. Place rocks in the carton.
4. Play hide-and-seek with a friend. Take turns hiding the rocks in a room, sand-box or backyard. Give clues, if needed, and count the rocks as they're returned.
5. Use your imagination to incorporate a treasure hunt into study time or family devotions.

PUZZLE

A PATH TO PRAYER

God's Word offers lots of insights about how to pray.

Directions: Use the code to fill in the blanks and complete a Bible passage about prayer.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
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Illnesses or other concerns: *(denotes relation to)*

Norman Stordahl, Tom Robinson, Ron Iverson, Bob Beck (*Karen Lee*), Art & Lori Pearson, Steve Matheson, Rolene, Dave Kluver (*2Rona Matheson*), *Kenny Matheson*, *Jeff Elings*, *George Wood*, Roman Ketterling, Sandy Webb (*Joanne Unger*), Kaitlyn and John Russett (*Tom Russett*), Brad Stuart (*Kenny Matheson*), Susan Stoopes, Tom Stoopes (*2Pastor Stoopes*), Derek Matheson, Ron Thaut, Tristan West, Julia (Judy) Haun, Dani, Michelle (*3Kim Wiest*), Sara McLean, Don Bandow, Ann Glimm, Brenda, Loretta (*Louise Glimm*), Marilyn Waite, Georgia Smeltzer, (*Carol Kaldor*), Evan Bell, Roger Brastrup, Teagan Bartoo, Faith Birnel Crouch (*3Ruth Fladstol*), Rose Peterman, Marvin Baker, Debbie Ries, Mitchell Moore (*Josita Montgomery*), Juelie McLean (*Bill McLean*), Poppy Dahl, 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: Denis Grigsby

Those deployed in the service abroad:



Prayers to Prepare for Worship

✠ It's Labor Day weekend, Lord — a good time to think about work and vocation. Guide me in the work, paid or unpaid, you most need me to do right now.

✠ “Give me understanding, that I may keep your law” (Psalm 119:34); “The one who loves another has fulfilled the law” (Romans 13:8). God, help me love my neighbor and so keep your law.

✠ We tend to think of clouds as gloomy, Lord, but your pillar of cloud protected the newly escaped Hebrews from their Egyptian enslavers. May we sense your protection in the clouds of life. Amen.

✠ Jesus, like a mother hen you gather us — your squawking, demanding, frenetic brood — in safety beneath your wings (Luke 13:34). Quiet us, warm us, feed us, O Lord. Amen.

✠ Ever aware of my flaws and failures, as I prepare for worship I pray with St. Paul, “Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!” (Romans 7:25, NIV).



Conrad Community Night of Prayer
 will be September 11th at 6:30 p.m. at
 the **Conrad Sr. Center**
EVERYONE encouraged to attend!

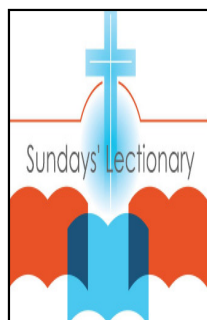


Golden West WORSHIP Sundays 9 a.m.

**Ushers: Ruth Fladstol; Reader: Ruth; Communion Assistant: Jim Bjelland;
Communion Preparer: Jenny Flesch**

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.	September 3rd	September 10th	September 17th	September 24th
Reader	Jim Morren	Linda O'Brien	Linda O'Brien	Roland Lee
Communion Assistants		June Hovde & Karla Breeding		Roland & Karen Lee
Ushers	Ray & Kim Hofstad			
Communion Preparer	Patty Larson			
Sound Tech.	Linda Carlson			
Greeters	Kim & Ray			
Offering Custodian	Susan Gustafson			



Sept. 3rd - Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 26; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

Sept. 10th - Ezekiel 33:7-9; Psalm 32:1-7; Romans 13:1-10; Matthew 18:1-20

Sept. 17th - Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103:1-12; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

Sept. 24th - Isaiah 55:6-9; Psalm 27:1-9; Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30; Matthew 20:1-16