



# CONRAD LUTHERAN PARISH

## LOGOS

### WORSHIP TIMES

8:30 a.m. Golden West

10 a.m. Pondera Valley

Pastor Jeff Driscoll  
Kim Wiest, Admin. Assistant  
Office # 271-3934  
P.O. Box 883  
Office Hours:  
Monday - Thursday, 9-4  
In an emergency call:  
Pastor Jeff, 360-631-4707 or  
Kim Wiest, 450-5821.  
conradlutheran@gmail.com

"As for God, his way is perfect: The Lord's word is  
flawless; he shields all who take refuge in him."

Psalms 18:30



**Pastor Jeff Driscoll  
has accepted our call!**

He will arrive sometime on the 3rd or  
4th of September. If you can help  
unload his U-Haul, would you please  
call the church office (406-271-3934)  
and leave your number so that we can  
let you know when he arrives?

His first Sunday services will be  
September 7th

**WELCOME PASTOR DRISCOLL!**



Thank you to the radio broadcast sponsors on September 7th at 11 a.m. on  
KZIN, 96.7 FM: Donna & Matt Fowler in loving memory of *Lucas Fowler, Oscar  
& Edna Totdahl, Luann McLain, Terry Bakken, Kathleen Fowler, and Dave  
Kovatch.* God bless the hearing of His word!

## From the Pastor

During my recent stay in southern California, I visited the Huntington Library and Gardens in San Marino. When our family lived in Rosemead, we often toured the grounds and museums. It's a favorite place of mine in that neck of the woods. While poking about in the gift shop and book store, I happened upon a book by Ray Robinson titled, "Famous Last Words: Fond Farewells, Deathbed Diatribes, and Exclamations Upon Expiration."

One of the deathbed exclamations included in Robinson's collection is that of world-famous Russian ballerina, Anna Pavlova, who was acclaimed for her superb performances in Tchaikovsky's ballet, Swan Lake. She left these final words for posterity: "Get my swan costume ready." The ballet tells the story of Odette, a princess turned into a swan by an evil sorcerer's curse. In the last act she and her lover leap into a lake and drown. So Anna's last words were a humorous allusion to the tragic end of her character in the opera. She was a wit to the end—good for her!

Speaking of swans and death, you are probably aware that a "swan song" is a metaphor used to refer to a final gesture before retirement—or death! The term originated in ancient Greek culture. Its first reference is found in Aeschylus' Agamemnon written in 458 B.C. The Greeks believed that swans remained silent most of their lives, singing an exquisite, heart-rending lament only at the moment of their death. The great classical

philosopher Plato believed this tale. You see, even the wise can be fooled.

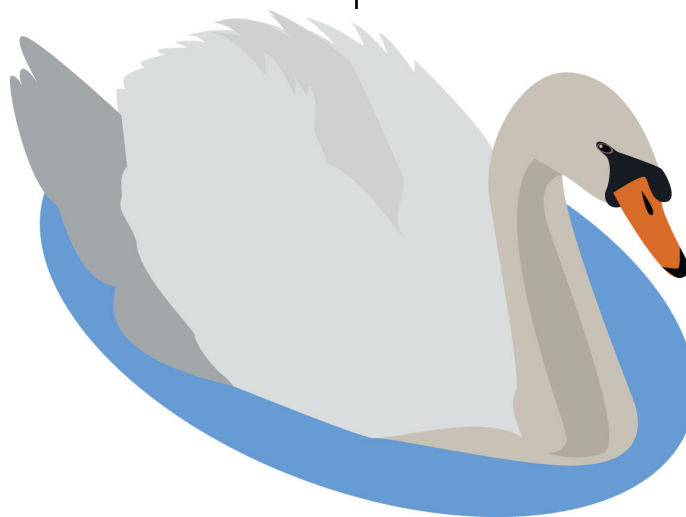
My swan song—so to speak—will be my sermon on August 31st. I'm pretty sure I won't be wearing a swan costume ... [pause for laughter]. My retirement from regular called pastoral ministry (and interims!) will be the end of one chapter—or act—in my life story. The next chapter will still include pastoral acts like preaching, baptisms, weddings and funerals, special assignments here and overseas, and God only knows what else. Only time will tell.

I want to take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude for the privilege of serving Golden West and Pondera Valley Lutheran Churches for 4 1/2 years (2011-2012; 2022-2025). Your prayers and encouragement have helped sustain me in my calling as an ordained minister of the gospel.

I'm reminded of St. Paul's farewell words to the Ephesian elders recorded in the 20th chapter of Acts. Paul had been with these folks for over three years and asserted, "You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you..." I have tried—like Paul—to declare to all "that they must turn to God in repentance, and have faith in our Lord Jesus."

In closing, I want to express my hope for you in these words of St. Paul: "Now, I commit you to God and to the word of His grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified."

Pastor Jeff Stoores



**PONDERA VALLEY MEMORIALS Received for:****OFFICE EQUIPMENT & TECH UPDATES** *in memory of Don*

**Bandow** - Ross & Susan Kesler and family, Lyn & Linda Carlson, Gary & Becky Gollehon, Pat Lee, Jack Hadcock, Gale & Susan Gustafson, Wade & Janet Spears, Marla Bruner, Everett & Karla Breeding, Steve & Rona Matheson, Joanne Unger, Kip & Adele Stenson, Dan & Terri Aakre, Betty Olson, Darryl & Karen Burditt, Neil & Jodie Weisgram, Bernard & Patti Ries, Keith & Leiha Vanden Bos, Darryl & Julie Gernaat, George Yeager, Lucille Russell

*In memory of* **Ernestine Olson** - Kenneth & Karen Boulet, Pat Lee, Douglas Vandolah

*In memory of* **Douglas, Clifford, & Donna Martin** - Larry Martin

*In memory of* **Jerry Kovatch** - Lucille Russell

*In memory of* **Jennifer DeVries** - Keith & Helen Hruska

*in memory of* **Rose Peterman**— Larry & Rose Banka, Marian Turk, Mike & Edna Buechler, Ed & Leslie Beniger, Lynn Ostrom, Art & Lori Pearson, Keith & Mary Jean Brophy, Laurie Philipps, Dale & Patricia Flinders, Ron & Cathi Hemry, Pat Lee, Gale & Susan Gustafson, Malvin & Marilyn Copenhaver, Ernest & Marguerite Mains, Nancy Herman Pringle

**PVLC FOUNDATION** *in memory of* **Rose Peterman**— Lyn & Linda Carlson

**GOLDEN WEST MEMORIALS Received for:**

**GW MEMORIAL FUND** *in memory of* **Kenny Matheson** - Bill & Elaine McLean, Steve & Deb Kaphammer, Arlyn & Sandy Seidler, Roy & Karen Hollandsworth, Ruth Fladstol, Malvin & Marilyn Copenhaver, Bernice Johnson, Elaine Gray, Betty Stuart, Bob & Alice Copenhaver, Larry & Rose Banka, Steve & Rona Matheson, Randy & Anne Stordahl, Pinky Thaut, Ron & Cathi Hemry, Lynn Ostrom, Marcia Hollandsworth

**GW CEMETERY FUND** *in memory of* **Kenny Matheson** - Phyllis Stordahl

**THANK YOU to EVERYONE!**



- ♦ Thank you to the many people who mowed, weeded, maintained, and blessed us with your countless services. You know who you are! THANK YOU!
- ♦ Thank you to all who taught, housed, brought meals, cookies, kids for Day Camp & VBS this year! Special thanks goes to Donna Fowler, Shauna Ellefsen, Keltey Fowler, Elise Miller, Julene Peters, Faith Weber, Lisa Salois, and Lisa Judisch!

♥ **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 & August Pastoral Acts:**

**Funerals for:** Jennifer DeVries @ PV July 29th w/Pastor Ken Waag;  
Rose Peterman @ PV August 13th;

Pondera Valley July Offering: **\$ 9,039**; August: **\$ 9,145**

PV Average July Sunday Attendance: **54**; August: **57**

GW Average July Sunday Attendance: **16**; August: **10**

## If You're a Thrivent Member, You Can Direct Dollars to the church....Here's How!

### Online:

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Visit <a href="http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice">Thrivent.com/thriventchoice</a></li> <li>2. Click on "log in" at the top right of your screen and enter your MyThrivent user ID and password. (If you haven't registered, click on "register now" to register for full access.)</li> <li>3. Look for your designated Choice Dollars amount on the right side of the screen.</li> <li>4. Click on "Direct Choice Dollars" in the Thrivent Choice box on your MyThrivent page.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Search the catalog of organizations to find your choice, ex. "Pondera Valley Lutheran Church".</li> <li>6. Click on "Direct Choice Dollars Now" to direct your designated Choice Dollars to benefit that organization.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Say or enter your Social Security number.</li> <li>4. Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars or press 2 to hear the Thrivent Choice program terms and conditions.</li> <li>5. A representative will then work with you to direct Choice Dollars.</li> </ol> |
|--|---|---|

### By phone:

1. Call 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted, say, "Thrivent Choice".
  2. When prompted, say, "Choice Dollars."
- Help choose where Thrivent Financial for Lutherans gives back! If you don't, Thrivent Financial chooses.*

## Carmen DeVries Speaks on Her Work in Papua New Guinea

Ever since I was little, I have enjoyed working with children. I became a teacher and began taking short term missions trips with students.

Little did I know what God was preparing next. In 2009, I began teaching missionary kids in Papua New Guinea. I serve with Ethnos360 and am seconded to New Tribes Mission in Papua New Guinea. Ethnos360 desires to see a thriving church in every people group. Papua New Guinea, just north of Australia, has over 860 different languages. The goal of our mission is to learn the culture and language of these remote places. Often, this means creating a written language. Next the church planters will teach literacy. Then, as they work on translating God's Word in the heart language of the people, they will share God's Truth and plan for salvation.

I serve at the support center for those church planters. My role is to teach children of missionaries. The parents of my students serve as pilots, nurses, teachers, supply buyers, and other support ministries. Our school has about 100 students from kindergarten to grade 12. I teach grade 6 students and coach volleyball.

God has blessed my adventure with His faithful care. I am grateful to be a part of what God is doing to grow churches and disciples in many

remote places.

[Kim Wiest asked more questions and Carmen's answers follow.]

I live on our support center. It is about 70 acres, with about 40 houses. It is about 20 minutes from town. Our center has a medical clinic, a headquarters office, business office, maintenance, and a small store. We get food from America and from Australia. We also have a vegetable / fruit market outside the gate twice a week, (think farmer's market).

Our center and school is predominately American. Almost all the teachers are American. The majority of our students are American, but we do have students from about 10 other countries. I teach 6<sup>th</sup> grade using American curriculum. We try to balance our social studies classes with all the countries our students represent.

I do know a little of the local trade language. But the remote locations with our tribal church planters have very difficult languages. For the most part, my life is very "American" looking when I am in our center. There is a lot more information on the ethnos360 website if people are interested.

*Thank you Carmen. I had this article before she went back in July but because of her sister's untimely death she came back and is still here for a while. We hope to have her speak in church.*





# WELCOME TO WEDNESDAY EDUCATION!

Begins September 24th...

4 p.m.—5 p.m. (Preschool—5th)

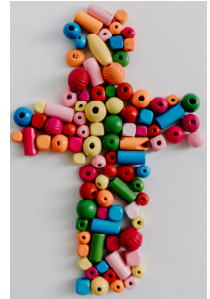
Confirmation Pending

Pondera Valley's Bazaar coming!

Friday, November 14th!

Watch for more details soon.

Meanwhile, be thinking of your projects!



**BIBLE STUDIES** ... *It is important to stay in God's Word! Please consider attending one of these or if there is a better time for you, we can help you start another one!*

**FOR MEN—Tuesdays at 6:30 a.m. for breakfast and Bible Study!**

**FOR WOMEN—Mondays at Noon in church library, beginning Sept. 8th**

**Tuesdays at 9 a.m. in Fellowship Hall, begins Sept. 9th**

**2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. @ Golden West**

**Pondera Valley council met on July 14th.** The



Call Committee recommended to the council to call Pastor Jeff Driscoll. Discussion was held and it was moved and seconded to call a special congregation meeting on August 3rd.

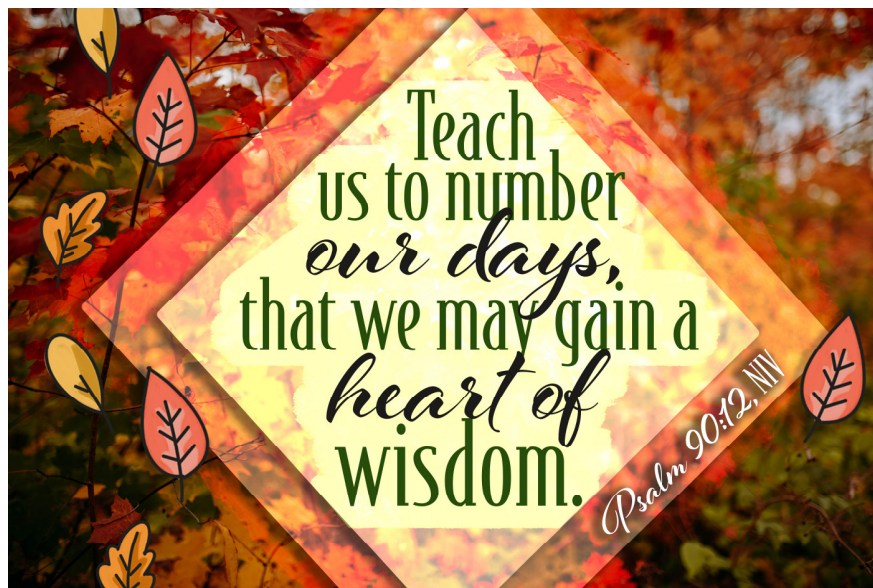
The old parsonage has a buy sell signed for \$155,000 with a proposed closing date of August 15. The MS Bicycle Group will stay at PVLC the night of July 29th. Those who attended the Voyagers game on July 6th had a good time. It was agreed to change internet from Starlink to Century Link. It's faster and cheaper. Some policies were reviewed and updated. Thank you to Erik Eneboe and Lyn Carlson for climbing up on the roof and taking pictures for insurance purposes. That ladder is heavy and the height is high! Day Camp and VBS will begin August 4th! It was decided with congregational meeting and the house closing that it was important for the council to have a meeting in August which will be held on **Monday, Aug. 11th at 6:30 p.m.** At

the August meeting, the letter of call specifics were talked about. A group was going to create and finalize it after the council meeting. Pastor Jeff is working on getting his things out of the old parsonage. He has kept things very neat. The closing for the selling of this house is in just a few days, the 15th. The new parsonage is ready to go. A parsonage agreement was drawn up by Gale Gustafson. Thank you, Gale! A couple of the council members and Pastor Driscoll will go over it when he gets here. We had 36 bicyclists raising money for MS from as far away as England here on July 29th. Their thank you is on the bulletin board. The Secretary's office has a new computer. It's wonderful! Century Link will be here on the 14th to install internet and we will cancel StarLink. It is cheaper and faster. Thank you to Erik Eneboe for all the yard work he's done on the old parsonage!

**The next PV Council Meeting will be Monday, September 8th at 6:30 p.m. with committees meeting first.**



VDMA is an acronym that stands for the Latin phrase *Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum*, which translates to "The Word of the Lord Endures Forever". It was a significant motto during the Lutheran Reformation, symbolizing the enduring power and authority of God's Word.



I wish to see all arts, principally music, in the service of Him who gave and created them. Music is a fair and glorious gift from God. I would not forego my humble share of music. Singers are never sorrowful, but are merry, and they smile through their troubles in song. Music makes people kinder, gentler, more staid and reasonable. I am persuaded that after theology, music is the only art capable of affording peace and joy of heart ... the devil flees before the sound of music almost as much as before the Word of God.

—Martin Luther



Dear PVLC Members,

I am pleased to report, that as authorized by PVLC, the parsonage which was generously gifted to PVLC by Felix and Josita Montgomery has been sold to a local young Conrad couple as of August 15, 2025. The sale made it possible for our Church to retire the bridge loan with Stockman Bank used to assist in the purchase of the new parsonage from Roman Ketterling. After retiring the bridge loan and taking care of any closing expenses, there was still a profit from the sale of the Montgomery property. Pastor Stoores graciously moved his belongings from the old parsonage along with help from some of you thoughtful parishioners. The move is bittersweet, as it has been a blessing having Pastor Stoores living in our community and leading our Congregations. We are thankful that Pastor Driscoll has accepted our call and that he will be in the pulpit on September 7, 2025. Thank you to all of you who welcomed Pastor Driscoll when he visited our community in July. We are excited to introduce him to his new home in our new parsonage.

Sincerely, Susan G Gustafson



The Bible affirms both the value and dignity of work. From the beginning, God placed Adam in the garden “to work it and keep it” (Genesis 2:15, ESV). In the fourth commandment, we are reminded not only to observe the Sabbath, but also to labor diligently throughout the week: “Six days you shall labor, and do all your work” (Exodus 20:9, ESV).

Work is more than a routine obligation; it is an opportunity to engage our God-given abilities in meaningful ways. Whether using our hands, minds, or hearts, we reflect the image of our Creator—

bringing order, care, and creativity into the world.

Our labor allows us to contribute to the common good, find personal fulfillment, and practice faithful stewardship of the talents and strengths God has entrusted to us. As Paul writes, “We are God’s fellow workers” (1 Corinthians 3:9, ESV).

On this Labor Day, may we take time to recognize the blessing of work and celebrate those who serve, build, teach, lead, and labor with purpose and care.

—Author unknown



Romans 12:4 “For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office.”



“While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease” (Genesis 8:22, NASB).

As autumn begins, we watch the world transform before our eyes. Leaves change color, the air turns crisp, and a new rhythm settles in. In these seasonal shifts, we are reminded of God’s faithful hand over all of creation.

Genesis 8:22 assures us that the cycles of nature—seedtime and harvest, summer and

winter—are part of God’s ongoing promise. Each season speaks of His order, care, and presence. Autumn, in particular, invites reflection. Just as the trees release their leaves, we are called to let go of what no longer serves us and make space for renewal.

This season also marks a return to routines: school schedules, church programs, and community events. As we step into new responsibilities or revisit familiar ones, may we do so with gratitude and trust. God is

not only present in the harvest but in the quiet letting go.

Let this autumn be a time to embrace God’s steady rhythm, find beauty in change, and rest in His faithful promises that never cease—even as the world around us shifts.



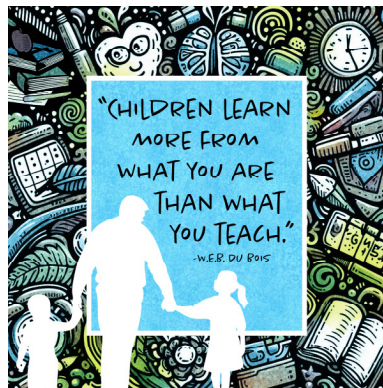
You may recall that many followers of Jesus called him “Rabbi.” In essence, the word means teacher. Clearly the word describes the brilliant Nazarene who was constantly teaching his listeners about God and God’s expectations of humans.

In a secular society, it is of paramount importance that the teachings of Christ be proclaimed and affirmed wherever possible. In the early days of our country, it was customary for public schools to teach reading, writing and arithmetic as well as Christian principles. Subjects being taught were presented in a setting of morality, religion and character

development.

The reading book compiled by William H. McGuffey in 1836 focused on such themes as self-denial, temperance, obedience, and warned against laziness, profanity, stealing and vanity.

In our time, however, when it is difficult to focus on God and



spiritual matters in public schools, our churches and families have a great responsibility. Sunday school attendance, not only for children but for adults as well, must be of primary importance. Prayer, as well as discussion of social issues from a Christian point of view, must be practiced in the home and church. We must learn and teach about Christ.

“Learn from me,” Jesus said. “Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls” (Matthew 11:29 NRSV). Where shall we learn of him or from him if not in our churches and homes?

### Special Dates

- Labor Day, September 1
- Nat’l Grandparents Day, September 7
- Patriot Day, September 11
- Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept.15-Oct.15
- First Day of Autumn, September 22, 2025



[www.holyfamilytime.com](http://www.holyfamilytime.com) A great resource!

### God's Left Hand

A 6-year-old and his grandma went for a walk one autumn day. "Look at the gorgeous leaves!" Grandma exclaimed. "Just think, God painted each one of them just for us!"

"Yep," said her grandson, "and he did it left-handed."

Perplexed, Grandma asked, "Why do you think God used his left hand to create all this beauty?" "Because," said the boy matter-of-factly, "we learned in Sunday school that Jesus sits on God's



## Sweet little sheep treats

Create adorable sheep using graham crackers, marshmallows, and a little imagination!

**What you need:**

- Graham cracker squares
- White frosting or marshmallow fluff
- Mini marshmallows
- Large marshmallows
- Candy eyes or mini chocolate chips
- Black gel icing or mini Oreo cookie

**What you do:**

1. Spread white frosting or marshmallow fluff on each graham cracker square.
2. Stick mini marshmallows all over to make the sheep's wool.
3. Cut a large marshmallow in half and stick it near the top for the head.
4. Add candy eyes and a dot of black gel for the nose. Or use a mini Oreo cookie half for a more defined face.
5. Let kids decorate their sheep however they'd like!

**Lesson tie-in**  
Use this treat to remind kids that Jesus is our Good Shepherd.

I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

John 10:11, KJV

# PUZZLE

## WHO WERE JESUS' FRIENDS?

Jesus spent a lot of time with his friends. Whom did Jesus consider his friends?

Beginning at the arrow and moving clockwise, write every other letter on the spaces below.

Y \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_

John 15:14, NIV

Answer: "You are my friends if you do what I command." John 15:14, NIV



## PLEASE UPLIFT IN PRAYER... Illnesses or other concerns:

(denotes relation to) Karen Sutton (*Ruth Erickson*), John Gray, Cindy Fuson, Carol Kaldor, Christopher Burns, Chris Ketterling, (*Karla Breeding*), Don Dezelsky, Jim Skipper (*Linda O'Brien*), Art & Lori Pearson, Dave Kluver, (*Rona Matheson*), the Alicia Wood Family, Mary, Barbara (*Carol Wood*), Sara McLean, Ann Glimm, Kaitlyn and John Russett (*Tom Russett*), Tristan West, David Larson, Rebekah Thaut, Kariann Thaut (*Pinky Thaut*), Butch Johns, Karla Breeding, Shannon Kaldor, Brenda Rhone, Loretta (*Louise Glimm*), Roger Brastrup, Teagan Bartoo, Faith Birnel Crouch (*Ruth Fladstol*), Poppy Dahl, 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 weather conditions and other issues, CASA-the kids and all who work with them

**All those who mourn:** Lita Erickson, Dan Picard, Rose Peterman, and others, grief has no time table, please keep them and others who come to mind in your prayers...

**Those deployed in the service abroad:** Chance Rauscher, Brett Christensen (*Tunisia*)

*For an updated prayer list, inquire at the church office.*

## Prayers to Prepare for Worship

- ✝ Thank you, God, for the gift of grandparents and spiritual mentors — for their steady love and faith passed down through generations (2 Timothy 1:5). Help us treasure their wisdom and honor their lives through how we live.
- ✝ You are the Good Shepherd, Lord — you lead, protect, and restore (Psalm 23). As I enter worship, guide my heart back to your peace.
- ✝ God, I confess I don't always understand your ways. But like Peter, I say, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (John 6:68). Help me trust you more today.
- ✝ Jesus, you welcomed the little children (Mark 10:14). Help me come to you today with childlike faith — curious, honest, and ready to receive your love.



## The Power of Prayer Warriors

Prayer warriors are spiritual soldiers—men and women who faithfully lift others in prayer, often behind the scenes. Though their work may go unnoticed by the world, it is deeply valued by God. Their intercession can strengthen the weary, comfort the grieving, and open doors for God's will to be done.

In Scripture, we are urged to "pray one for another" (James 5:16, KJV), reminding us that healing and restoration often come through the prayers of the faithful. A prayer warrior stands

in the gap, bringing needs before the Lord with boldness and persistence.

The Apostle Paul recognized the power of prayer, often asking others to pray for him as he shared the gospel. In the same way, prayer warriors today uphold churches, pastors, families, and communities.

Their prayers may be silent, but their impact is mighty. Never underestimate the difference a praying heart can make.



# **GOLDEN WEST SEPTEMBER SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30 a.m.**

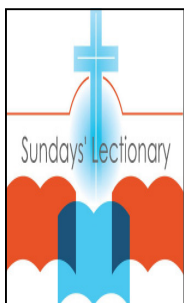
**Usher: Ruth Fladstol; Reader: Ruth;  
Communion Assistant: Jim Bjelland; Communion Preparer: Jenny Flesch**

**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.

<b>PONDERA VALLEY SUNDAY WORSHIP 10 a.m.</b>	<b>September 7th</b>	<b>September 14th</b>	<b>September 21st</b>	<b>September 28th</b>
<b>Reader</b>	<b>Linda O'Brien</b>	<b>Linda O'Brien</b>	<b>Jim Morren</b>	<b>David Berg</b>
<b>Communion Assistants</b>		<b>Ruth Erickson &amp; Linda Welch</b>		<b>Ruth Erickson &amp; Linda Welch</b>
<b>Usher &amp; Greet</b>	<b>Ray &amp; Kim Hofstad</b>			
<b>Communion Preparer</b>	<b>Patty Larson</b>			
<b>Sound Tech.</b>	<b>Linda Carlson</b>			
<b>Offering Custodian</b>	<b>Kim Hofstad</b>			



## **READ IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**



Sept. 7 - Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 1; Philemon 1-21; Luke 14:25-35  
 Sept. 14 - Ezekiel 34:11-24; Psalm 119:169-176; 1 Tim.1:5-17; Luke 15:1-10  
 Sept. 21 - Amos 8:4-7; Psalm 113; 1 Timothy 2:1-15; Luke 16:1-15  
 Sept. 28 - Amos 6:1-7; Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Luke 16:19-31