



CONRAD LUTHERAN PARISH

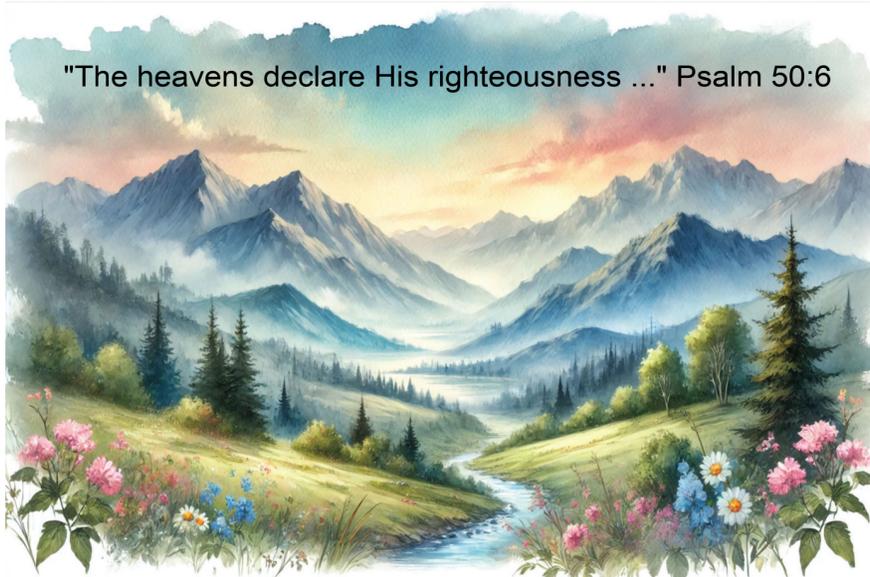
NOTE: This newsletter is a combined newsletter for May AND June.

LOGOS

WORSHIP TIMES
8:30 a.m. Golden West
10 a.m. Pondera Valley

Part-time Pastor
Jeff Stoores, Sun.-Tues.
Kim Wiest, Admin. Assistant
Office # 271-3934/P.O. Box 883
Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday, 9-4
In an emergency call:
Pastor Jeff, 390-5449 or
Kim Wiest, 450-5821.
conradlutheran@gmail.com

“The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact expression of his nature, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.” **Hebrews 1:3** CSB



Thank you to the radio broadcast sponsors on May 4th at 11 a.m. on KZIN, 96.7 FM: Marian Turk & Family in loving memory of *Wayne Turk*; **AND by** Cheryl Tornga, Douglas & Paul Bellamy and families in loving memory of *Clayro, Hellen, Kurt and Rodger Bellamy*.



Thank you to the radio broadcast sponsors on June 1st at 11 a.m. on KZIN, 96.7 FM: Lyle, Patti, David, Lacey, Brody, Hadley & Jennifer Orcutt in loving memory of *George & Bernice Orcutt, George Ellingsen, Geraldine Barry, Greg Olson, and Bob Hermance*. **God bless the hearing of His word!**

From the Pastor

As you read this, Lord willing, I'll be on vacation. I'm taking a month off to drive my Jeep from Montana to the east coast. I'm billing this as "My Last Paid Vacation." Which is sort of catchy and would make a great book title. As a matter of fact, I'm thinking of self-publishing a book with that as the title - *My Last Paid Vacation: Montana to Maryland and Back Again*.

But first I have SIX sermons to write and this article to finish. I'm hoping my brain and right hand are up to the strain. I'm a bit stressed and pressed for time to get all my ducks in a row before heading east on Easter Sunday. We all get pressed for time sometimes to get all our work done, don't we?

Our Creator is never pressed for time or stressed out. Is there anything too hard for God to cope with? Not according to the Bible. Consider these passages:

Genesis 18:14 "Is anything too hard for the LORD?" That's the Lord's question to Abraham and Sarah about the promise of Sarah having a son when it seemed impossible.

Jeremiah 32:17 "Ah, Sovereign Lord, You have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. **Nothing is too hard for you.**"

Luke 1:35-37 In this passage, the angel answered Mary's question "How will this be?" Mary is a virgin and can't have a baby on her own. "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, the angel said, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the Holy One to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age and she who was said to be barren is in her

sixth month. **For nothing is impossible with God.**"

Mark 10:24-27 Jesus said, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, "Who then can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, **but not with God; all things are possible with God.**"



I have a wooden wall plaque hanging in the entryway of the parsonage with those words of Jesus engraved on it. It serves to remind me that my life is in the hands of our gracious God who is ready, willing, and able to save me from all that would harm or destroy me. In faith, I can respond as Mary did to the angel's message - "I am the Lord's servant ... may it be to me as you have said."

Dear Friends in Christ, may God's grace be upon us all as we trust ourselves into our Creator's care -- for whom all things are possible.

Pastor Jeff Stoopes

Please note: Pastor Jeff will be gone on vacation April 21st - May 24th. If there is an emergency, please call Kim Wiest, 406-450-5821.



PONDERA VALLEY MEMORIALS Received for:

SOUND SYSTEM in memory of **Ernestine Olson** - Nancy Herman Pringle. in memory of **Harold Olson** - Larry & Rose Banka, Marian Turk, Jim & Joann Adamson, Lynn Ostrom, Everett & Karla Breeding, Pat Lee, Robert & Veronica Wardlow, Ron & Juanita Prewett, Laurel & Larry McBride, Ron & Jeanne Moon, Carol Miller, Ron & Bev Widhalm, Darryl & Karen Burditt. in memory of **Dan Felska** - Dennis & Dawne Stokes in memory of **Ernestine Olson** and **Harold Olson** - Larry & Rose Banka, Bruce & Vicki Kallemeyn, Richard, Kelly, and Reagan Schadtle, Rad, Kameron, Rhody, and Rogan Daly

GENERAL FUND in memory of **Torval Halvorson** - Lucille Russell

PONDERA VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION in memory of **Harold Olson** - Lyn & Linda Carlson

YOUTH FUND in memory of **Harold Olson** - Ray & Kim Hofstad. in memory of **James Rouns** - Marilyn Waite

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY & BREAKFAST in memory of **Dale Smeltzer** - George & Cheryl Tornga

THANK YOU to EVERYONE!

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

Online:

1. Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice
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.)
3. Look for your designated Choice Dollars amount on the right side of the screen.
4. Click on "Direct Choice Dollars" in the Thrivent Choice box on your MyThrivent page.

5. Search the catalog of organizations to find your choice, ex. "Pondera Valley Lutheran Church".
6. Click on "Direct Choice Dollars Now" to direct your designated Choice Dollars to benefit that organization.

By phone:

1. Call 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted, say, "Thrivent Choice".
2. When prompted, say, "Choice Dollars."

3. Say or enter your Social Security number.
4. Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars or press 2 to hear the Thrivent Choice program terms and conditions.
5. A representative will then work with you to direct Choice Dollars.

Help choose where Thrivent Financial for Lutherans gives back! If you don't, Thrivent Financial chooses.

- ♥ Thank you to all who've helped with the funeral receptions we've had! You are awesome!
- ♥ Thank you to Tom & Page Russett, Ray & Kim Hofstad, and Jim & Joann Adamson for cooking & serving the Easter Breakfast! It was Yummy!

♥ **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.

APRIL (thru 21st)

Pastoral Acts: at Pondera Valley, **Funerals for: Harold Olson 4/5; Dan Felska 4/11; Eileen & Torval Halvorson 4/12**

Pondera Valley Offering: **\$ 9,100**

PV Palm Sunday Attendance: **116**

Maundy Thursday: **30**; Good Friday: **27**; Easter: **100**

GW Average Sunday Attendance: **7**; Easter: **14**



VBS & DAY CAMP *are coming!*

Keep the dates of August 4th - 8th free and watch for more details next newsletter! If you can help on any scale, please contact any education board member: *Donna Fowler, Julene Peters, Linda O'Brien, Mary Klette, Amanda Lesnik, Faith Weber, Kim Hofstad*

2025 Scholarships were awarded to: Trinity VandenBos, Xavier Wood, Tala Eneboe, Julia Salois, Amanda Moulton, Brae Eneboe, and Kyleigh Salois. Each will receive \$800. CONGRATULATIONS!

Join a Bible Study!



- ☞ Mondays at Noon for Women in the church library, through June 9th
- ☞ Tuesdays at 6:30 a.m. for Men w/ Breakfast in the F.H.
- ☞ Tuesdays at 9 a.m. in the F.H., watching THE CHOSEN series until they break for summer.
- ☞ Golden West Women, 2nd Tuesday of each month, 9:30 a.m.

Pondera Valley council met on April 7th. Work



continues on the sound wiring in the Fellowship Hall, putting in internet boosters, and three TVs have been ordered. (FYI: The tvs are here! Two will go in the sanctuary, one will hang in the FH instead of the one that is there, which will go down to the Youth Room, and the one in the Youth Room will go to the library!) The council reviewed the results of the congregational meeting held April 14, 2024. The Ketterling house was available for purchase. With funds on hand and God's hand of provision in so many ways, the council voted to purchase the Ketterling home for a new parsonage! There was a committee set up to

work through the details. More will be coming on this soon. Easter breakfast is planned for 7-9:30 a.m. April 20th. Pastor leaves on his 5 week vacation following worship that day. Four new members will join PVLC on June 1st. A letter was received from Willet offering us to have the stained glass windows inspected for free. It was discussed and decided to give them a call for an appointment. It might be an opportunity to ask some questions about the FH side windows, to see what is involved to make them more vibrant from the sanctuary side.

The next council meeting will be Monday, May 12th at 6:30 p.m. The first 15 minutes will be committees meeting.



- ♦ The Lenten Lunches at PVLC brought in \$351.35 to go toward the Conrad Food Pantry! Thanks to those who participated!
- ♦ The VBS/Day Camp Bake Sale on Palm Sunday brought in \$1,208! THANK YOU!
- ♦ The Easter Breakfast brought in \$339 and was given to benefit Conrad's Senior Surrey.
- ♦ May 1st is the National Day of Prayer Event at the Conrad Baptist Church at 6 p.m. Please attend if able!

- ♦ We will be honoring the graduates that we have at PVLC at 10 a.m. Worship on May 18th and during the coffee fellowship following worship. They are: Trinity VandenBos, Xavier Wood, Thomas King, and Logan Winfield. Congratulations & Best Wishes!
- ♦ June 1st at PVLC we will honor our new members: Tara Offerdal, Lisa Salois, Chelsea Fowler, and Gary Boe during worship and in the fellowship time. WELCOME!
- ♦ June 8th will be Community Worship in the City Park at 10 a.m. (or in case of inclement weather: CHS) Bring a lawn chair! We need to bring donuts, call the church if you can help.

ATTENTION! On June 14th there will be a celebration remembering the life and music of Ernestine Olson. A gathering of musicians and friends will be singing together to honor her. All those interested are invited to participate. There will be one practice, either the day before or the morning of the 14th. Details to follow. Please contact Karen Lee if you are interested. 406-289-0261. 33karenlee@gmail.com

NEW PARSONAGE

A special PVLC congregational meeting was held on April 14, 2024 following the worship service. By majority vote the congregation authorized the PVLC Council to purchase a new parsonage, gave them the authority to secure a loan for the purchase of said parsonage and the authority to sell the existing parsonage, called the Montgomery house. Pastor Stoope will be leaving his position of Pastor of PVLC at the end of 2025 and therefore the Call Committee is actively pursuing candidates for his position. In preparation, the Council has been watching for the availability of a suitable house. Recently, it was made known to the PVLC Council that the home of Roman Ketterling and the late Judy

Ketterling, PVLC long time members, was available for purchase. Council members viewed the house by invitation of Karla Breeding, their daughter who is also a member. Karla graciously availed herself for multiple showings of the home and answered all questions regarding the house and lot which were posed to her by Council members. Impressed with the property and satisfied with the favorable terms of purchase, the Council voted at its April 7, 2025 meeting to purchase the Ketterling home for a new parsonage. A committee which included PVLC Treasurer, Lyn Carlson, was established to work through the details of said purchase.



Susan Gustafson, PVLC Council President

HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN



During his earthly ministry, Jesus could be physically present in only one place at any given time. “Only those could speak to him who came to where he was,” explained Archbishop William Temple. “If he was in Galilee, people could not find him in Jerusalem; if he was in Jerusalem, they could not find him in Galilee” (from *Readings in St. John’s Gospel*).

Spiritually speaking, Christ’s Ascension means he is with us wherever we find ourselves. Christ desires to be present with us everywhere we go. His presence is universal. He is here now. “Believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory” (1 Timothy 3:16, NRSV) — that is what the Ascension affirms.

A careful man I ought to be;
a little fellow follows me;
I do not dare to go astray, for
fear he’ll go the self-same
way.

I cannot once escape his eyes;
whate’er he sees me do, he
tries —
Like me, he says, he’s going to
be, the little chap who follows
me.

He thinks that I am good and
fine, believes in every word of
mine:
The base in me he must not
see, the little chap who follows
me.

I must remember as I go,
through summer’s sun and
winter’s snow,
I’m building for the years to
be, for a little fellow follows
me.

—Author unknown



ECHOZ BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN begins May 11th on Mother’s Day. Pick up a baby bottle at church - add coins, cash or checks and return on Father’s Day, June 15th!

Special Dates

National Day of Prayer, *May 1, 2025*
Mother’s Day, *May 11, 2025*
Armed Forces Day, *May 17, 2025*
Victoria Day (Canada), *May 19, 2025*
Memorial Day, *May 26, 2025*
Ascension Day, *May 29, 2025*

Pentecost, *June 8, 2025*
Flag Day, *June 14, 2025*
Trinity Sunday, *June 15, 2025*
Father’s Day, *June 15, 2025*
Juneteenth, *June 19, 2025*
First day of summer, *June 20, 2025*

PRAYER list

PLEASE UPLIFT IN PRAYER... Illnesses or other concerns: (*denotes relation to*)

Karen Sutton (*Ruth Erickson*), John Gray, Carol Kaldor, Christopher Burns, Colby Johns, Linda Van Tongeren, Chris Ketterling, Don Dezelsky, Jim Skipper (*Linda O'Brien*), Ron Iverson, Chance Rauscher, Rose Peterman, Art & Lori Pearson, Dave Kluver, (*Rona Matheson*), Rose Johns, Erik Dommer, the Alicia Wood Family, Mary, Barbara (*Carol Wood*), Sara McLean, Tom Robinson, Ann Glimm, Kaitlyn and John Russett (*Tom Russett*), Tristan West, David Larson, Rebekah Thaut, Kariann Thaut (*Pinky Thaut*), Don Bandow, 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

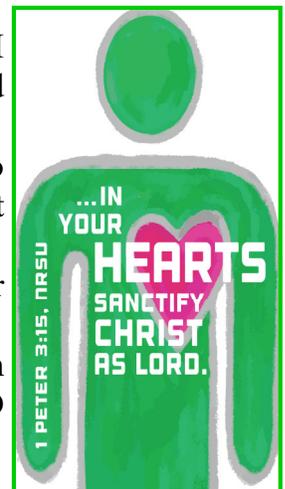
All those who mourn: Lori Pocock Fletcher, Harold Olson, Mike (*Adamson*), and others, there are many, please keep them in your prayers...

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

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

Prayers to Prepare for Worship

- ☞ “Weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning” (Psalm 30:5, NIV). Whatever emotion each of us is feeling right now, may this time of worship grant nourishment. Amen.
- ☞ Thank you, God, for the special women in my life [mom, grandmas, aunts, nieces, friends, wife, daughters]. I pray for their well-being.
- ☞ Jesus, you are the stable rock on which I stand, the warm water in which I float peacefully, the fragrant air that energizes my being. In you I rest and am strengthened for faithful living.
- ☞ Jesus says: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid” (John 14:27, NRSV).
- ☞ “And what is so rare as a day in June?” (J.R. Lowell). Thank you, God, for this beautiful first day of the first month of summer.
- ☞ “How many are your works, Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures” (Psalm 104:24, NIV). I worship and praise you, O God!
- ☞ Thank you, God, for the special men in my life [dad, grandpas, uncles, nephews, friends, husband, sons]. I pray for their well-being.
- ☞ In 1 Kings 19, when Elijah was at his wits’ end, God gave him rest and nourishment. May each of us here today be nourished and rejuvenated in God’s love.
- ☞ The seeds of your good fruit are planted in us, loving God. Water us today so we sprout with patience, kindness, generosity, self-control and, above all, love (Galatians 5:22-23).



GOLDEN WEST MARCH SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30 a.m.
Ushers: Bill & Elaine McLean; Reader: Elaine McLean;
Communion Assistant: Bill McLean; Communion Preparer: Elaine McLean

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 10 a.m.	May 4th	May 11th	May 18th	May 25th
Reader	Jim Morren	Jim Adamson	David Berg	Jim Adamson
Communion Assistants		Ruth Erickson & Linda Welch		June Hovde & Linda O'Brien
Usher & Greet	Betty Olson & Wanda Bollinger			
Communion Preparer	Carol Wood			
Sound Tech.	Mike & Linda O'Brien			
Offering Custodian	Dick Kinyon			



READ IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP



- May 4 - Acts 9:1-22; Psalm 30; Revelation 5:1-14; John 21:1-9
- May 11 - Acts 20:17-35; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30
- May 18 - Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 150; Revelation 21:1-7; John 16:12-22
- May 25 - Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27; John 16:23-33

GOLDEN WEST JUNE SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30 a.m.

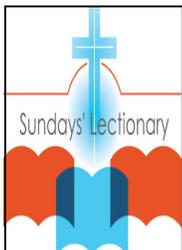
**Ushers: Roy & Karen Hollandsworth; Reader: Karen Hollandsworth;
Communion Assistant: Karen Hollandsworth; Communion Preparer: Karen
*Worship in the Conrad City Park 10 a.m. June 8th**

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 10 a.m.	June 1st	June 8th WORSHIP IN THE CITY PARK 10 a.m.	June 15th	June 22nd	June 29th
Reader	Faith Weber	----	Dick Kinyon	Linda O'Brien	Faith Weber
Communion Assistants		-----		Mike & Linda O'Brien	
Usher & Greet	Jessily Seidler & Stephanie Haugestuen				
Communion Preparer	Betty Offerdal				
Sound Tech.	Betty Offerdal				
Offering Custodian	6/1:Faith Weber; 6/8:NONE; 6/15:Dick Kinyon; 6/22: Mike O'Brien; and 6/29:Faith Weber				



READ IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP



June 1- Acts 1:12-26; Psalm 133; Revelation 22:1-20; John 17:20-26
 June 8 PENTECOST - Genesis 11:1-9; Psalm 143; Acts 2:1-21; John 14:23-31
 June 15 HOLY TRINITY - Prov.8:1-4,22-31; Psm. 8; Acts 2:14a,22-36; John 8:48-59
 June 22 - Isaiah 65:1-9; Psalm 3; Galatians 3:23--4:7; Luke 8:26-39
 June 29 - 1 Kings 19:9b-21; Psalm 16; Galatians 5:1,13-25; Luke 9:51-62