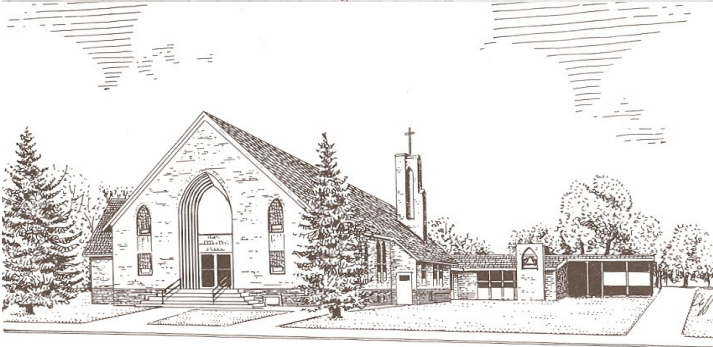


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



February 2024 Newsletter
www.conradfirstpres.org
compres@3rivers.net



DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW
US ON FACEBOOK



Mark Your Calendars!!



FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

Friday, February 2nd, 2024

11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

At First Presbyterian Church

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

BRING A FRIEND!!

**HOPE TO SEE YOU
THERE!!**

- *Sunday Worship @ 11:00 AM*
- *Sunday Bible Study @ 10:00 AM*
- *1st & 3rd Tuesdays Prayer Ministry @ 12:00 PM*
- *Tuesday Handbells @ 1:30 PM*
- *Wednesday Discipleship Programs - All Ages @ 6:00 PM*
- *Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study @ 6:00 PM*



Secretarial Office Hours
Monday through Friday
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM



You're Invited to the Community Lenten Lunches!

Everyone is welcome to attend this short time of fellowship which begins with prayer at noon on Thursdays during Lent.

Soup and bread will be served at NOON and it is intended that we will finish by 12:50 PM so that those who are on their lunch break can attend.

February 15th & 22nd will be hosted by Pondera Valley Lutheran Church (518 S Delaware)

February 29 & March 7th will be hosted by St. Michael Catholic Church (110 S Maryland)

March 14th & March 21st will be hosted by First Presbyterian Church (123 4th Ave SW)

Hope to see you there!



PASTOR'S CORNER



THE SEASON OF LENT

As followers of Christ, Presbyterians along with Methodists, Episcopalians, Anglicans, Catholics and others observe the Season of Lent as a time of spiritual preparation for the celebration of Easter. It is a time of fasting, sacrifice, prayer and repentance. During the Lenten season, beginning with Ash Wednesday and lasting 46 days to the Saturday before Easter Sunday, many Christians engage in practices such as these to deepen their connection with God and to reflect on the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. The 40 days of Lent (not including Sundays) are symbolic of the 40 days after Jesus' baptism when he was led into the desert by the Holy Spirit to be tempted by Satan.

Fasting during Lent typically involves abstaining from certain foods or luxuries as a form of self-discipline and solidarity with the sufferings of Jesus. Many Christians also use this time for introspection, repentance, and personal growth. The Lenten season serves as a time to renew their faith and draw closer to the core tenets of Christianity.

This time of repentance is not a time of feeling shame but an awareness that sin separates us from God and what Christ endured to save us from sin and death. Repentant sinners seek cleansing from sin, but also freedom from shame. True repentance leads to a 180 degree change of direction and requires true brokenness. Repentance starts with a regretful acknowledgment of sin with a commitment to change.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The class members have chosen N.T. Wright's study series, "The New Testament in It's World" for their study in the new year. It is an introduction to the history, literature, and theology of the first Christians. This is a video/ discussion study and was written and filmed to help in deepening an understanding of the New Testament books, not only from an early Christianity view, but also as an aid in reading these texts responsibly today. Please join us. Coffee's on and the doughnuts are fresh.



FEBRUARY LAY READERS

- Feb. 4 Kim Cooney
- Feb. 11 Julie Katana
- Feb. 18 David Arends
- Feb. 25 Jan Carter



DEACON'S LIST

- Feb. 4 Karen & DJ
- Feb. 11 Amy & Nikki
- Feb. 18 To Be Determined
- Feb. 25 To Be Determined

PRAYER LIST

Please remember to pray for Deloris Burdick, Family & Friends of Corleen Norman, Family & Friends of Larry Thorsen, Dell May, Dwayne Miller, Mary Sanders, June Champlin, Elsie Lamma, Lavon & Karen Carter, Robin Goodheart, Sean Carter, Dana Ahmed, Brandon Newmiller, Helen Elliott, Pearl Severtson, Gloria Schultz, Barb Malone, and Hazel Jones.



If there is a name that you would like to add or remove from the prayer list in the bulletin, please call the church office, 406-278-3043. For **Prayer Chain Requests**, please call either Martha Orcutt, 406-868-1890 or Karen Burditt, 406-271-5295.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP



The Youth Group started back up January 3rd. The calendar is set for our Wednesday Nights with our 2023-24 season wrapping up on April 3rd.

The 8th - 12th grade class have started the hard work of changing up a couple church spaces. The Nursery has been cleaned up and the carpet removed. It is ready for new paint and flooring. The Choir will be moving into that space when it is complete. The Youth have plans to freshen up the downstairs room currently used by the choir. It will be a comfortable space for the Youth to meet. Please be on the lookout for fundraisers the Youth will be having to help with this project. If you are inclined to donate to the renovations and upgrades, you can do so by marking your donation "Youth Group Room".

As we started the year with the idea of "A Fresh Start", we are thrilled with the supported changes and the enthusiastic students.

CHURCH SCHOOL

Wednesday Night Church School is back in full swing after the holiday break. I am most appreciative to Jane Arends for taking over for me during my absence. She did a wonderful job and presented an amazing Christmas Pageant for the congregation.

Coming up on February 25th, we will celebrate Bible Sunday. As is customary in our church, Bibles are given to our third-grade students. This year we have two third graders, Fynn Martin and Kenny Thiessen. The children will also be performing that morning during worship. Please plan to join us on this special Sunday.

Looking ahead, the children will again be processing in with the palms on Palm Sunday, March 24th.

We do so much appreciate you sending your children to us on Wednesday evenings. We also have been holding the children until 7:30 PM. It is a convenience for parents who have students in the older groups, but you are always welcome to pick up your children earlier if necessary.

Thank you all for participating in our Children/ Youth Ministry on Wednesday Nights.



PER CAPITA FOR 2024

For those of you who wish to pay your per capita for 2024, the amount remains at \$63.50 per member. Per Capita is the way our congregation is assessed for denominational support, which furthers the mission of the whole church, regional and national. It is called "Per Capita" because our fair share of support is determined by the number of active members in our congregation. We thank you for your willingness to make your giving to our congregation go further by including a gift to cover the per capita for each member in your

*God doesn't call the qualified,
He qualifies the called.*

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

If you have any articles to contribute to the **March Newsletter**, please turn them into the office no later than **Monday, February 19th**. The next couple of days will provide time for article placement and proofreading. The newsletter will be printed and mailed out the following week, providing enough time for the newsletter to be delivered with any time sensitive articles.

If you have any articles or information you would like to submit, please send them either by email to conpres@3rivers.net or mail to:

First Presbyterian Church
123 4th Ave SW
Conrad, MT 59425



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CONRAD

Session Highlights - January 2024

The Session would like to remind members that another way of financial support is for members to pay their annual per capita fee of \$63.50.

The Church Finances:

December 2023:

Operating Income:	\$ 15,872
Operating Expenses:	\$ 9,086
Balance:	\$ 6,786
Year-to-Date Balance:	\$ 19,852

The Finance Committee reports:

1. The Committee reported that because of everyone's support 2023 ended with a positive balance.
2. The 2024 Stewardship Campaign was successful with more than two-thirds of the Estimate of Giving Cards returned.

The Property Committee reports:

1. They have been replacing some lights with new LED lights, got the dishwasher cleaned and working again and had some bad breakers in the breaker box replaced.

The Worship Committee reports:

1. Communion was served on Sunday, January 7th and will be served on Sunday, February 4th.
2. Upcoming Church Events:
 - a. February 14th – Ash Wednesday
 - b. February 25th – Bible Sunday

The Discipleship Committee reports:

1. Ash Wednesday is February 14th and Bible Sunday will be February 25th.

The Outreach Committee reports:

1. Their First Friday Luncheon will be Friday, February 2nd.

The next Session meeting will be Monday, February 19, 2024, at 7:00 PM.



KID'S CORNER

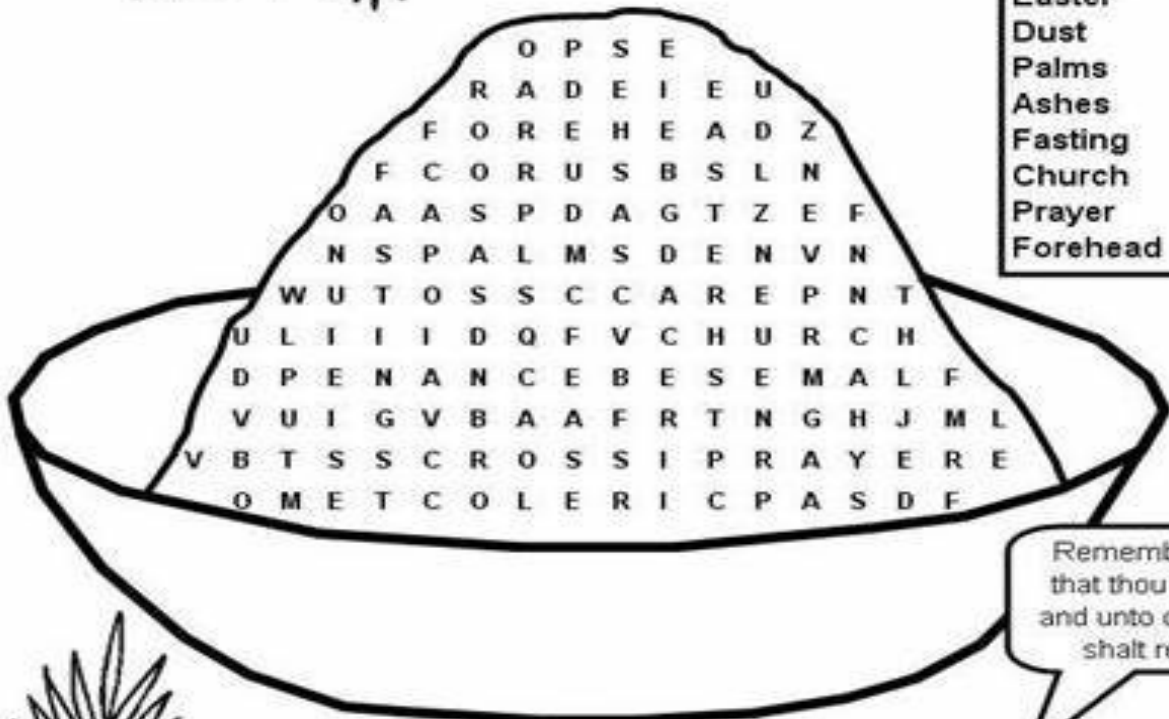


Ash Wednesday

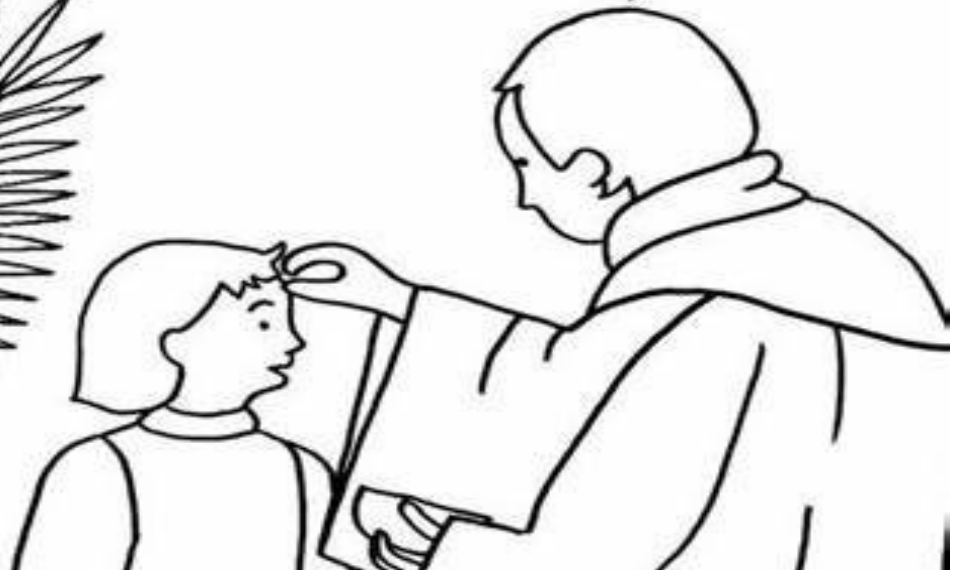


Find these hidden words and circle them in the puzzle below.

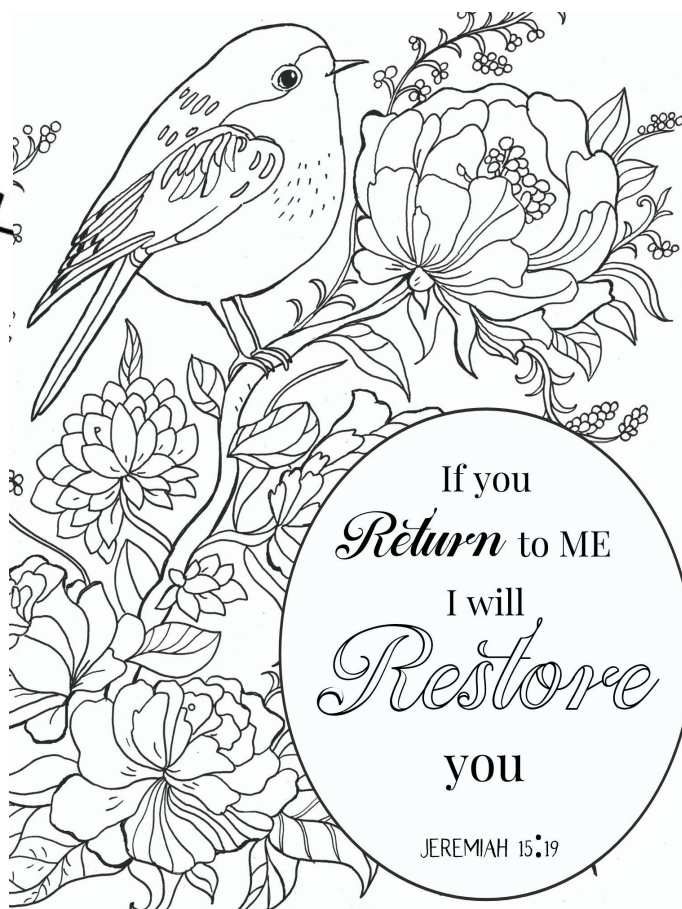
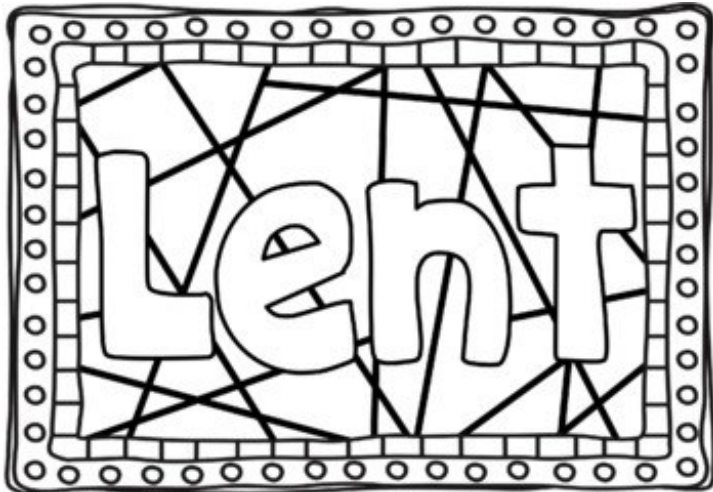
- Cross
- Lent
- Rite
- Penance
- Easter
- Dust
- Palms
- Ashes
- Fasting
- Church
- Prayer
- Forehead



Remember man that thou art dust and unto dust thou shalt return!








Kid's Corner - Coloring Time



If you
Return to ME
I will
Restore
you

JEREMIAH 15:19

February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00 AM PW Meeting 2:00 PM Bible Study @ Horizon Lodge	2 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM Community Meal	3
4 Worship 11:00 AM 5th Sunday after Epiphany Communion 10:00 AM Choir 10:00 AM Bible Study 	5	6 11:00 AM Worship Committee 12:00 PM Prayer Ministry 1:30 PM Handbells	7 6:00 PM Christian Ed Programs 6:30 PM Adult Bible Study	8 2:00 PM Bible Study @ Horizon Lodge	9	10
11 Worship 11:00 AM Transfiguration of the Lord Souper Bowl of Caring 10:00 AM Choir 10:00 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Deacons' Meeting	12	13 10:00 AM Finance Committee 1:30 PM Handbells		15 12:00 PM Lenten Luncheons	16	17
18 Worship 11:00 AM 1st Sunday in Lent 10:00 AM Choir 10:00 AM Bible Study	19 7:00 PM Session 	20 12:00 PM Prayer Ministry 1:30 PM Handbells	21 6:00 PM Christian Ed Programs 6:30 PM Adult Bible Study	22 12:00 PM Lenten Luncheons	23	24
25 Worship 11:00 AM 2nd Sunday in Lent 10:00 AM Choir 10:00 AM Bible Study	26	27 1:30 PM Handbells 	28 6:00 PM Christian Ed Programs 6:30 PM Adult Bible Study	29 12:00 PM Lenten Luncheons		

First Presbyterian Church
123 Fourth Avenue SW
Conrad, MT 59425-2302
www.conradfirstpres.org
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February Birthdays

- 1 Charlotte Meyer
- 2 Dania Jones
- 3 John Goodheart
- 10 Tawnya Broesder
- 13 Molly Springer
- 16 Reed Harris
- 17 Michael Kellogg
- 17 Rebecca Meier

- 20 Della Kellogg
- 22 Jackie Miller
- 23 Maureen Orcutt
- 25 JoAnn Stenerson
- 26 Matt Wittmier
- Stacy Aaberg
- 27 DJ Burditt
- 28 Robin Goodheart

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

