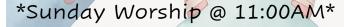
# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 2025 Newsletter www.conradfirstpres.org conpres@3rivers.net



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



\*Sunday Bible Study @ 10:00AM\*

\*Monday Exercise Class @ 10:00AM\*

\*1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays Prayer Ministry @

\*Tuesday Handbells @ 1:30PM\*

\*Wednesday Youth Sewing Class @ 3:30PM\*

\*Wednesday Night Children & Youth Group @ 6PM\*

\*Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study @ 6PM\*

\*Thursday Bible Study at the Horizon Lodge @ 2PM\*

\*1st Friday of every month Free Community Meal @ 11:30AM to 1:00PM\*





### MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR FREE COMMUNITY MEAL!!

Enjoy a home cooked meal and an opportunity to visit with old friends and meet some new ones on Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, starting at 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall at First Presbyterian Church in Conrad. The main course will be Meatloaf and Homemade Mac & Cheese. Everyone is welcome at our tables.



Winter can be a time of the moon, a time of our aging, or a time of our hearts. As James Russell Lowell says in his poem, The Present Crisis, "...behind the dim unknown standeth God within the shadow, keeping watch above his own."

#### WINTER

God, we are prone to equate winter days with barrenness and desolation. When we do, we are just as likely to believe you are as far away as the colors of fall and spring. We confess that we slam doors and lock windows and brood alone.

But into the darkness you place a star of light. Into a world that still knows its Herods, you place men and women who pack up their dreams safely in their hearts and head home a different way.

May we be among them, faithful against all odds, setting out for who-knows-where. Help us not be deterred by fatigue or rejection. Let us not consider ourselves too powerful or too wealthy to enter the homes of those who know too much of winter cold. Let us love the many faces of your world and not be afraid of the strange and new.

At every turn we are blessed by your ancient love continually and insistently sustaining us. Through your Word, give us strength to continue our winter pilgrimage, searching for your Light to guide the way.

From: Prayers & Litanies

By, Sharlande Sledge

#### PER CAPITA FOR 2025



For those of you who wish to pay your per capita for 2025, the amount remains at \$70.00 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 household.



#### PRAYER LIST



Please remember to pray for Friends & Family of Kathy Walter, Friends & Family of Andy Vandolah, JoAnn Stenerson, Ernestine Olson, Wendy Wagner, Dave Perry, Carol DayRider, Ward Orcutt, John Buckhouse, Cecil & Alice Benjamin, Kristine Ries Prewett, Helen Stordahl, Rosie Johns, Mary Sanders, Lavon & Karen Carter, Sean Carter, Dana & Marie Ahmed, Pearl Severtson, 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.

FEBRUARY LAY READERS  DEACON'S LIST							
FEBRUAL	KI LAI KEADEI	<b>W</b>	DEA	JON S LIST			
Feb. 2	Gary Klette		Feb. 2	Jeanne & Arlene			
Feb. 9	Karen Burditt		Feb. 9	To Be Determined			
Feb. 16	Martha Orcutt		Feb. 16	To Be Determined			
Feb. 23	Phil Springer		Feb. 23	To Be Determined			



#### FAMILIES OF WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH PROGRAMS ARE NEEDED TO HELP WITH DINNERS

The Call is going out for Parents to help on an occasional Wednesday in prepping, supplying a side dish, and/ or serving our evening meal. If you are willing and able to help in any way please call or text Jane Arends at 406-450-4163. This is a great ministry to our children and youth and many hands make light work. Thank You.

#### **OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

#### SCHOOL CLOSETS

The Outreach Team and Volunteers began the New Year delivering 12 pairs of new kids snow boots and about the same number of mittens and gloves to Meadowlark Elementary on January 6<sup>th</sup>. This outreach was in response to the school's article in the I-O requesting donations of children's winter clothing. After checking with the school secretary, it was determined that snow boots and mittens would be the greatest need.

#### FIRST FRIDAY COMMUNITY MEAL

The monthly community meal was postponed due to illness and weather. It was held instead on the second Friday with around 65 meals served to those who braved the icy streets and who stayed to enjoy a meal of scalloped potatoes/ham with salad, rolls and dessert. The next meal will be on February 7<sup>th</sup>. The menu will be meatloaf and Mac'n'Cheese. CASA New mittens and gloves that were collected at the PW Christmas luncheon for the CASA program were picked up by the director, Kiersta Sullivan.

#### AFTER SCHOOL SEWING CLASS

Since the first of the year, the sewing class has completed a fleece pillow and has cut out the fabric for fleece pajamas.

#### **GROW YOUNG EXERCISE**

The video exercise participants meet at 10AM in the Fellowship Hall on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

#### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

Word was received that the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes arrived in rural, isolated Mexican villages in time for Christmas.

#### **FOOD PANTRY**

Outreach purchased and delivered diapers, wipes and diaper cream. Thanks and blessings to all of our church family for their support and help.

#### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CONRAD Session Highlights from meeting held January 20, 2025

Our church was recently accepted as one of four churches to be involved with the Synergos program. This is an exciting and rare opportunity which is designed to assist rural churches who have had a difficult time locating and hiring a full-time called pastor. They will work with a leadership team from our church over the next two years with the goal of assisting us in locating and hiring a recent seminary graduate to serve as a Presbyterian called Pastor. They will even share the cost of employing this Pastor for a two-year period beginning in August 2025. We will share more information about this exciting program in the near future. Meanwhile, if you have any questions, feel free to ask any of us on Session.

Above was the good news. The bad news is that Pastor Judy shared with Session at our meeting that she has decided it is time for her to slow down; therefore, she is resigning as our Pastor effective April 1<sup>st</sup>.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE shared communion will be served on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **CHURCH FINANCES FOR DECEMBER 2024**

Operating Income: \$12,375.00

Operating Expenses: (\$11,261.79)

December Balance: \$1,113.21

Year-to-Date Balance: (\$16,328.46)

There are still a few Pledge Cards that have not been returned to the church.

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE** delivered 12 pairs of snow boots, mittens and gloves to Meadowlark Elementary on January 6<sup>th</sup>. The afterschool sewing class has been very active having just completed a fleece pillow and have started work on fleece pajamas. We received word that the Operating Christmas Child shoe boxes were delivered in time for Christmas to isolated Mexican villages. Due to weather and illness, our monthly community meal was postponed but was held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in January with around 65 meals served. The next First Friday Meal will be held on February 7<sup>th</sup>, and we hope to see you there.

The next Session meeting will be Monday, February 17, 2025 @ 7:00 PM.

The Annual Meeting will be held after church on January 26, 2025.

#### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

If you have any articles to contribute to the March 2025 Newsletter, please turn them into the office no later than Thursday, February 20th. This should provide enough time for article placement and proofreading. The newsletter will be printed and mailed out the following Monday, February 24th, 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

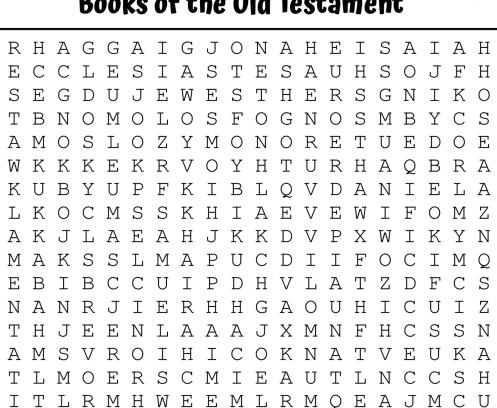
123 4th Ave SW Conrad, MT 59425 newsletter

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### **Books of the Old Testament**



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Kid's Corner - Coloring Time



## February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2 Worship 11AM 4th Sunday after Epiphany Communion 10AM Choir 10 Bible Study	3 10AM Exercise Class 6:30PM Handbells	4 10:30AM Worship Comm. 12PM Prayer Ministry	5 3:30PM Youth Sewing Class 6PM Christian Ed Programs - All Ages	6 2PM Bible Study @ Horizon Lodge	7 10AM Exercise Class 11:30AM to 1PM Free Community	8
9 Worship 11AM 5th Sunday after Epiphany 10AM Choir 10 Bible Study 12:30 PM Deacons' Meeting	10 10AM Exercise Class 6:30PM Handbells	11	12 10:30AM PW Meeting 3:30PM Youth Sewing Class 6PM Christian Ed Programs - All Ages	13 10AM Finance Comm. 2PM Bible Study @ Horizon Lodge	Meal  14  10AM Exercise Class Class	15
16 Worship 11AM 5th Sunday after Epiphany 10AM Choir 10 Bible Study	17 10AM Exercise Class 6:30PM Handbells 7PM Session	18 12PM Prayer Ministry	3:30PM Youth Sewing Class 6PM Christian Ed Programs - All Ages	20 2PM Bible Study @ Horizon Lodge  DEADLine	21 10AM Exercise Class	22
23 Worship 11AM 5th Sunday after Epiphany 10AM Choir 10 Bible Study	24 10AM Exercise Class	25	26 3:30PM Youth Sewing Class 6PM Christian Ed Programs - All Ages	27 2PM Bible Study @ Horizon Lodge	28 10AM Exercise Class	

First Presbyterian Church
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www.conradfirstpres.org
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Robin Goodheart

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