

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



DON'T FORGET  
TO FOLLOW US  
ON FACEBOOK



**\*Secretarial Office Hours\***

**Monday through Friday 9:00AM to 12:00PM**

**\*Sunday Worship @ 11:00AM\***

**\*Sunday Choir @ 10:00AM\***

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



**\*Monday, Wednesday, & Friday Exercise Class @ 10:00AM\***

**\*Monday Handbells @ 6:30PM\***

**\*1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays Prayer Ministry @ 12PM\***

**\*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, March 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 2 types of Chili. Everyone is welcome at our tables.*



## PASTOR'S CORNER



*“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.” (Matt 5:4 NIV)*

The season of Lent is upon us and many people will be visibly confessing Christianity with crosses of ashes etched on their foreheads, March 5<sup>th</sup>, Ash Wednesday. Lent is a time to take an inventory of ourselves, consider the ways that we may have denied God's ever good grace offered to us, and meditate on how we may make amends for our short sightedness.

There is a long standing program that calls for self-inventories and corrective measures, the 12-step programs that are so often thought of only in relation to alcohol and drug recovery. I am fully convinced that the church and we Christians can learn much from the 12 step principles.

In the traditional 12 steps, the fourth and fifth steps are the scariest, even though they are the most healing and transformative. *Step 4 reads – We made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves and Step 5 – We admitted to God, ourselves and someone we trust the exact nature of our wrongs.*

This honest reflection is not meant to reduce us to a puddle of shame and regret; it's about examining ourselves, humbling ourselves, and bravely confronting patterns in our lives that do not lead to peace. A searching and fearless moral inventory related to the misuse of power or doctrine might look like admitting ways we have bought into lies of various supremacies, ways we have diminished our own person power out of fear, overpowered others to get what we want, or used power and control to cover up insecurity and self-doubt.

Step 10 reminds us that we do not stop at one inventory. *We continue to take personal inventory, and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.* It reminds me of another beatitude: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called Children of God. (Matthew 5:8-9). The 12-steps and Jesus words are intertwined for me. Perhaps the most important message for us all is that God sent Jesus to teach us not to bully and coerce people into believing a certain way but to show us how to live a life of love toward all as an example of that which we believe.

**IT'S A GIRL!!** Baby Shower for Nikki & Rolly Stevenson will be held during Coffee Hour after service at about noon on **Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Hope to see you there!

### ***PW BAZAAR WORKSHOP***

The First PW Bazaar Workshop was held on Monday, February 24th. It will be held in Rm# 3 of the Education Building from 10AM to 3PM. Anyone interested in helping create items for the Bazaar, please join us at anytime during the day.

## **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

Planning for the 2025 Women's Retreat has begun. The retreat is scheduled for August 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at Spruce Lodge at Glacier Camp. The theme for this year's retreat is "*Who Are Our Neighbors: Reports from our Indigenous Friends.*" Ruth Hazelton from Hamilton has been working very closely with a representative of the Salish-Kootenai tribe to set up various sessions. Topics to be presented include: CSKT Housing Successes and Challenges, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Crisis, Opioid Crisis and Recovery Possibilities, and the Importance of Tribal Colleges/Education. Helena has selected the book "*Women Talking*" by Miriam Toews for our book study. Carol DayRider has a copy of the book and the study questions if you are interested in reading the book. At last year's retreat, Conrad was assigned the task of table decorations. Plan now to attend this special event, to learn more about our indigenous neighbors, to renew old friendships and make new ones. There have been many improvements to Spruce Lodge, and it will be exciting to see the transformation. A ZOOM planning meeting will be held in April. Each year Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday offers a time to reflect and rejoice in the ways women enrich the life of the church. This year's Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday is March 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **LENTEN LUNCHEONS**

Lenten Lunches are coming soon. We will be hosting the March 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> luncheons. Soups have been decided on for the 6<sup>th</sup> but we need bread for that day. March 13<sup>th</sup> luncheon as of yet has no signups or soups and bread planned. If interested in providing soup or bread, there is a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

### **You're Invited to the Community Lenten Luncheons!**

**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.**

**March 6th & March 13th will be hosted by First Presbyterian Church  
(123 4th Ave SW)**

**March 20th & 27th will be hosted by Pondera Valley Lutheran Church  
(518 S Delaware)**

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

**Hope to see you there!**

## MARCH LAY READERS

March 2 David Arends  
**March 5 Ash Wednesday**  
March 9 Jane Arends  
March 16 Julie Katana  
March 23 Pat Keil  
March 30 Susan Emrick



## DEACON'S LIST

Mach 2 Phyllis & Karla  
March 5 Volunteers  
March 9 Roma Lee & Nikki  
March 16 Jeanne & Arlene  
March 23 Phyllis & Nikki  
March 30 Roma Lee & Karla

## 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.

## DEACONS

If there is anyone willing to assist with Meals on Wheels, please contact Phyllis Hammermeister at (406)271-7135. Also, if anyone would like Home Communion, please reach out to Arlene McHenry at (406)278-7742 or Carol DayRider at (406)279-3759. Finally, if anyone has any prayer requests please feel free to reach out to any of our Deacons.

## THANK YOU

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your thoughts, prayers, cards, visits, and treats during my recent health issues. It is such a comfort to know that I have such a wonderful group of people supporting me. A special thanks to my Deacon cohorts, who have picked up the slack that my absence has created. You are all truly angels. Although things are better, there are still some things that I will have to deal with in the future. Again, thanks and God bless all of you.

Carol Dayrider

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

If you have any articles to contribute to the **April Newsletter**, please turn them into the office no later than **Thursday, March 20th**. This should provide enough time for article placement and proofreading. The newsletter will be printed and mailed out the following Monday, March 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](mailto:conpres@3rivers.net) or mail to:

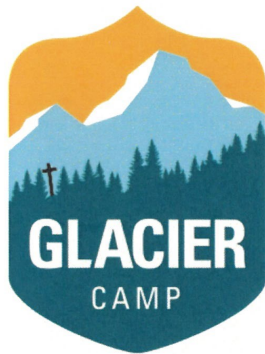
**First Presbyterian Church**  
123 4th Ave SW  
Conrad, MT 59425



## PRAYER LIST

Please remember to pray for Friends & Family of John Buckhouse, Friends & Family of Rod Snyder, Harold & Betty Olson, Joann Stenerson, Wendy Wagner, Dave Perry, Carol DayRider, Ward Orcutt, 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.

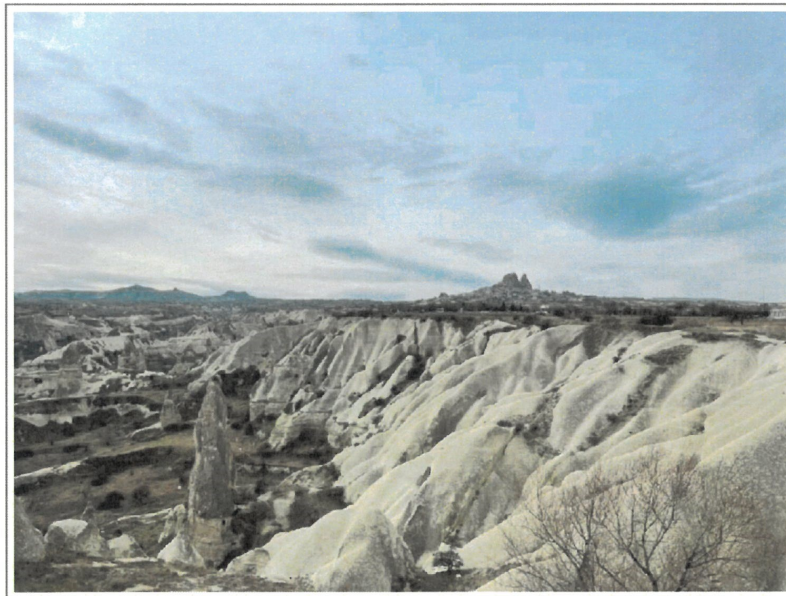


## Lenten On-Line Bible Study Galatians

Our On-Line Bible Study returns for the season of Lent. Starting on **Sunday, March 9 at 5.00 pm**, we will explore the epistle of Paul to the Galatians.

“For freedom, Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.” -- Galatians 5.1

**Overview:** Perhaps one of the earliest documents in our New Testament, Galatians has been described as “the Magna-Carta of Christian Liberty.” At issue was the critical question, which defined Christianity as a distinct and separate faith rather than one of



**SOMEWHERE IN EASTERN MONTANA? NO, THIS IS THE LANDSCAPE OF THE GALATIAN REGION**

the many different sects of Judaism: In order to belong to the body of Christ, does one have to become a Jew first? Paul answers that question most emphatically: “NO!”

Appropriate to study during the spiritually reflective season of Lent, Galatians bears witness to how quickly and easily people can stray from the

gospel’s essential message. The epistle opens not with customarily warm greetings, but a strong rebuke: “I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel!”

Galatians also testifies how the power of faith destroys the castes which separate humankind. The broad spectrum of humanity, Paul declares, is brought together in and through Christ Jesus. This unity is defined in the remarkable assertion of Galatians 3.28: “There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.”

**Dates:** March 9, March 16, March 23, March 30 @ 5.00 pm Mountain Time

**How do I sign up or get more information?** Email [timothy@glaciercamp.org](mailto:timothy@glaciercamp.org)

**Zoom Link:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81018960783>

## GLACIER CAMP

### IT'S CAMP TIME!

The theme for this year's camping program is **RUNNING THE RACE**. The scripture for this year's program is Hebrews 12:1-2b *"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith."* Below is a list of camps available, age levels, and prices.

<b>June 22-27</b>	<b>Classic Camp 1</b>	<b>Junior, Jr. High</b>	<b>\$650</b>
	<b>Adventure Camp 1</b>	<b>Jr. High, Sr. High</b>	<b>\$650</b>
<b>June 29-July 2</b>	<b>Mini-camp</b>	<b>Grades 1-2</b>	<b>\$350</b>
<b>July 6-July 11</b>	<b>Classic Camp2</b>	<b>Junior, Jr. High,</b>	<b>\$650</b>
	<b>Trailblazers Camp</b>	<b>Sr. High</b>	
		<b>Junior, Jr. High</b>	<b>\$750</b>
<b>July 13-July 18</b>	<b>Night Owl Camp</b>	<b>Senior High</b>	<b>\$650</b>
	<b>Adventure Camp 2</b>	<b>Junior, Jr. High</b>	<b>\$650</b>
<b>July 20-July 25</b>	<b>H2O Camp</b>	<b>Junior, Jr. High,</b>	<b>\$750</b>
	<b>Sr. High</b>		
<b>June 22 - July 2</b>	<b>Leadership-in Training</b>	<b>Sr. High</b>	<b>\$950</b>

For further description of the camps, register for a camp, and to apply for a scholarship, go to [glaciercamp.org](http://glaciercamp.org) or email [info@glaciercamp.org](mailto:info@glaciercamp.org). Mark your calendars for March 12<sup>th</sup>. Rev. Tim Lanham, Executive Director of Glacier Camp, will be here to give a presentation on Glacier Camp and to answer any questions you might have. Parents are welcome to join us.

**Juniors Grades 3-5**  
**Jr. High Grades 6-8**  
**Sr. High Grades 9-12**

### GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Pondera Valley Lutheran Church is once again going to hold a Grief Support Group beginning March 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM at the church. Pat Lee will be leading this. To register or if you have questions, call her, 406-278-3958. Pat has led "GriefShare" in the past. When she last ordered books, probably pre-covid, she never got to use them until now. We learned that GriefShare has since updated their books so by using the "old" books we cannot call it GriefShare. So until we have used these books we will call our group Grief Support.

# KID'S CORNER

## Lent



Y A D S E N D E W H S A H B J E S I H N V T W F  
S T H P I E E V S H L E H C C H Y C Q N Q H C D  
R T V L Q W F T G A X J R A F O T K E K Y X S S  
S J P S M J O U R N E Y V A D B B N K M A D Z F  
K U A K C H O S P T N E P E R E K U O E L E A K  
K F S F J S A N B S R S Q Y I U V H P S M S S V  
A A S X V J U E H V K N Q V J Q L U Q O S S L L  
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P J S R F C B V J Y B J V A G R O U P T G T F H  
C T X F C L W U D A H N J G P J R N W I M H A T  
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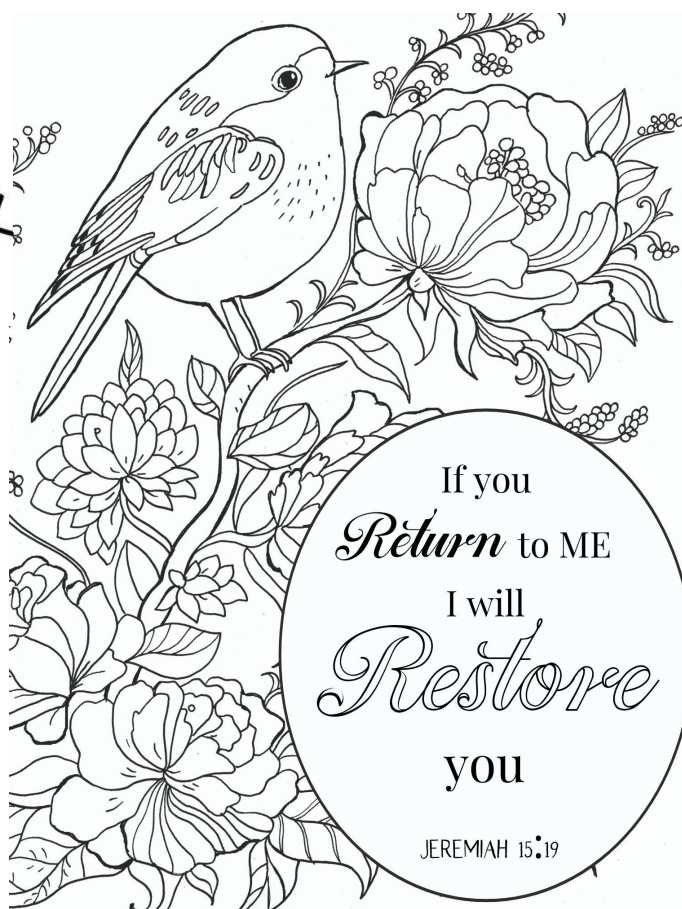
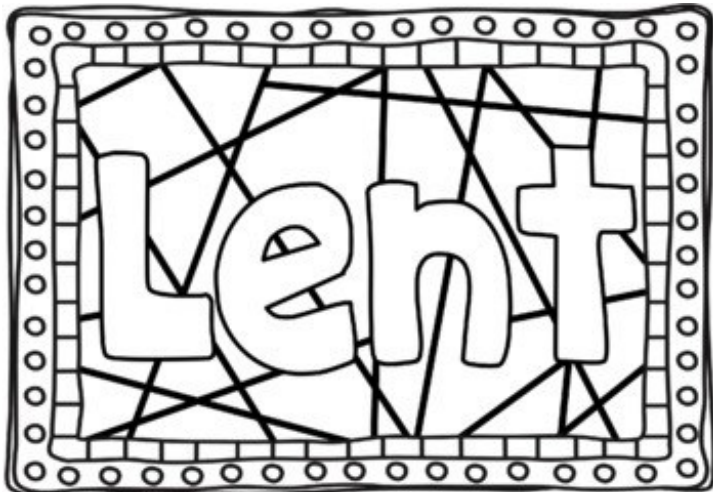
easter sunday  
reflection  
sacrafice  
clarity  
Prayer  
sin

ash wednesday  
forty days  
strength  
journey  
Bible

resurrection  
almsgiving  
purpose  
fasting  
Jesus

Palm Sunday  
Holy Week  
passion  
Repent  
cross

# Kid's Corner - Coloring Time



If you  
*Return* to ME  
I will  
*Restore*  
you

JEREMIAH 15:19



# March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Worship 11AM Transfiguration of the Lord Communion 10AM Choir 10 Bible Study 	3 10AM Exercise Class 6:30PM Handbells	4 12PM Prayer Ministry	5 3:30PM Youth Sewing Class 6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Dinner & Service	6 10:30AM Worship Comm. 12 PM Lenten Luncheons - Presbyterian	7 10AM Exercise Class 11:30AM to 1PM Free Community Meal	8
9 Worship 11AM 1st Sunday in Lent Bible Sunday 10AM Choir 10 Bible Study 12:30 PM Deacons' Meeting	10 10AM Exercise Class 6:30PM Handbells	11	12 3:30PM Youth Sewing Class 6PM Christian Ed Programs - All Ages	13 10AM Finance Comm. 12 PM Lenten Luncheons - Presbyterian	14 10AM Exercise Class	15
16 Worship 11AM 2nd Sunday in Lent 10AM Choir 10 Bible Study	17 10AM Exercise Class 6:30PM Handbells 7PM Session	18 12PM Prayer Ministry	19 3:30PM Youth Sewing Class 6PM Christian Ed Programs - All Ages	20 12 PM Lenten Luncheons - Lutheran 	21 10AM Exercise Class	22
23 Worship 11AM 3rd Sunday in Lent 10AM Choir 10 Bible Study	24 10AM Exercise Class 6:30PM Handbells	25	26 3:30PM Youth Sewing Class 6PM Christian Ed Programs - All Ages	27 12 PM Lenten Luncheons - Lutheran	28 10AM Exercise Class	29
30 Worship 11AM 4th Sunday in Lent 10AM Choir 10 Bible Study	31 10AM Exercise Class 6:30PM Handbells					

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**123 Fourth Avenue SW**  
**Conrad, MT 59425-2302**  
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*March Birthdays*

4 Kale Martin  
Jody Habets  
8 Marlene Hill  
11 Irva Jean Schultz  
12 Alan Finlayson  
21 Tyler Bucklin  
Douglas Moritz  
22 Juanita Prewett

27 Mary DiBiase  
David Elings  
28 Karli (Martin) Redd  
31 Ralph Fuson

*March Anniversaries*

3 Dana & Marie Ahmed  
27 Mark & Maureen Orcutt



*Happy Anniversary!*

