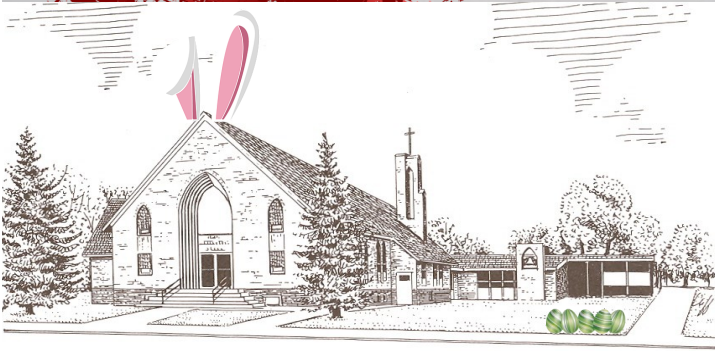


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



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

DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW
US ON FACEBOOK



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

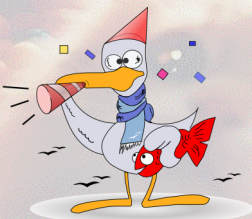


GOOD NEWS!



The members of the Finance/Personnel Committee are delighted to announce that effective February 15, 2024, the Session, and the Committee on Ministry have worked out the details and have entered into a new pastoral contract with Pastor Judy Sibley. Therefore, the Pastor Nominating Committee has now been disbanded as there is no longer a need for their services. Pastor Judy is now our permanent pastor.

Greg Kellogg, Pat Keil,
Terry Utterback, Norm Ballantyne



Mark Your Calendars!!

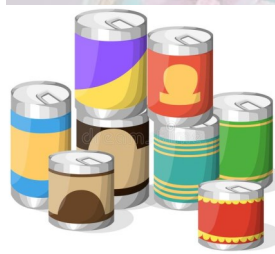


FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

Friday, March 1st

11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

At First Presbyterian Church



Items needed at the Food Pantry are canned stew & chili as well as newborn diapers & wipes.

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 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!

PRAYER LIST



Please remember to pray for Family & Friends of Gloria Schultz, Family & Friends of Marjorie Jones, Rosie Johns, Opal Ayers, Dell May, Mary Sanders, Elsie Lamma, Lavon & Karen Carter, Robin Goodheart, Sean Carter, Dana Ahmed, Brandon Newmiller, Helen Elliott, Pearl Severtson, 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.

MARCH LAY READERS

March 3	Gary Klette
March 10	Della Kellogg
March 17	Martha Orcutt
March 24	Sean McHenry
March 29	Good Friday - Pastor Judy
March 31	Kim Cooney



DEACON'S LIST

March 3	Jeanne & Karla
March 10	Amy & Nikki
March 17	Carol & Karla
March 24	Jeanne & Arlene
March 29	Volunteers
March 31	Karen & DJ



CHURCH SCHOOL

The young people have begun a new course of study entitled "Follow Jesus". When we choose to follow Jesus, to become a disciple, we are choosing to be taught and formed into someone who is Christlike. Through this unit we will explore what it means to follow Jesus in our daily lives, and experience fellowship with God.

We continue to eat downstairs with the older students. Jane and I have opted to take a co-teaching approach. This has been very helpful to me, especially with all of the ice and snow we have experienced lately. Bible Sunday will be February 25th. Our third graders will be receiving their Bibles, and the children are already practicing a song to present to the congregation. Please make plans to join us. Looking ahead to the Lenten season, the children will be processing into the church with palms on Palm Sunday, March 24th. The children will also be singing in church that Sunday. Plans are being made for our annual Spring Fling. This has become a tradition since 2020. The children look forward to it and really seem to enjoy it. Tentatively, the date for the Spring Fling will be Wednesday, March 27th. The year is moving along swiftly to its conclusion. We have enjoyed having your children with us and, in some small way, hope that we have nurtured their Christian growth. It's not too early to start thinking about sending your child to church camp at Flathead Lake. Brochures should be available in the near future.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ANNUAL SPRING FLING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27th at 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM



PIZZA
STORY TIME
CRAFTS



COOKIE DECORATING
EASTER EGG HUNT

PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING
ALL CHILDREN AGED THREE THROUGH 6th GRADE WELCOME!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women met on February 1st at 10:30 AM. The meeting was called to order by Karla Wittmier. Karen opened with prayer and Roma Lee led a devotional on Joy. The minutes of the January 11th meeting were read and approved. Martha gave the treasurer's report. Election of officers was held. The officers for 2024 are Karla Wittmier and Jean Baringer, Co-moderators, Carol DayRider, Secretary, and Martha Orcutt, Treasurer. Lenten Luncheons begin February 15th. First Presbyterian Church will host the luncheons on March 14th and March 21st. The March meeting of PW will be held on Thursday, March 7th at 10:00 AM, to accommodate the luncheon schedule. There was some discussion about beginning a knit group. It was decided to ask the Session for permission to hold a Knit Night on Saturdays from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Karla has begun sending Birthday, Anniversary, and Thinking of You cards. PW will pay for the postage. The Outreach Committee reported on First Friday meals, Christmas boxes, and the Sewing Class. The girls are currently making quilts. Carol presented a budget plan for her and Kim Cooney to attend the PW Churchwide gathering in St. Louis August 8th - 11th. Kim has already purchased tickets; PW voted to reimburse Kim for the price of the tickets. They will also hold a fundraiser later in the spring. Martha talked about the Birthday Offering and told us about the two recipients for 2024. It was moved and seconded to round the Birthday Offering up to \$100. The meeting was dismissed with prayer. The next meeting of Presbyterian Women will be held March 7th at 10:00 AM. Mark your calendars: Presbyterian Women of Glacier will hold their annual Women's Retreat August 16th - 18th, 2024, at Glacier Camp.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN 2024 CHURCHWIDE GATHERING

Held every three years, the Gathering is an event that celebrates and can deepen one's engagement with all that PW does. There are opportunities to connect with other PWs from the Synod and throughout the church, in a variety of settings. This year's gathering will be held in St. Louis, MO August 9th - 11th. The theme for the gathering is "Do everything in Love" 1 Corinthians 16:14. The gathering will be an exciting, faith-filled time to renew connections within and across PW groups from across the county. Kim Cooney and Carol DayRider will be representing Conrad First Presbyterian Church and Glacier Presbytery at the Gathering. Carol has been selected to attend the business meeting August 7th - 8th as a voting delegate from Glacier Presbytery. There will also be an opportunity to connect with other Presbyterian Women's groups from the Synod of the Rocky Mountains. The Gathering will provide many valuable resources that can strengthen the PW program in our own church.



God grades on the cross, not the curve.

*God loves everyone, but probably prefers 'fruits of the spirit'
over 'religious nuts!'*

God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.



BOARD OF DEACONS

*“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.”
1 Cor. 12:4-6*

The Book of Order describes the ministry of deacon as one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress.

So, what do the Deacons at First Presbyterian Church in Conrad do? The most visible task of the deacons is to make sure that the church building is open and ready for Sunday service, and to act as greeters and hand out bulletins. On Communion Sundays, the Deacons prepare the elements and the communion table. Along with these very visible tasks, the deacons also contribute to our church family and the Conrad community in the following ways:

- Hosted a spaghetti supper fundraiser, silent auction, and auction to benefit a family in our community who had lost their home to a fire.
- Organized meals for 8 households, as well as Meals on Wheels tickets and a luncheon for a family gathering for a funeral.
- Helped to provide desserts for Norman Stordahl’s funeral luncheon at Pondera Valley Lutheran Church.
- Financial assistance requests for utilities, electrical repair, fuel, overnight lodging at a motel, diapers, bottles, and share in the cost of a replacement appliance, along with assistance provided by the Pondera Food Pantry for emergency food needs.
- Handmade Easter cards sent to members of our congregation, as well as our annual Christmas card crafting to go with 20 plates of homemade cookies and gift bags delivered to members of the congregation, Beehive Home, and Logan Health Extended Care.

As you can see, being a member of the Board of Deacons is more than handing out bulletins on Sunday morning. The Board of Deacons is an important representative of our congregation to the community that we call home.



With enthusiasm and a commitment to serve our congregation and community your Board of Deacons welcomes 2024! Your Co-Moderators for 2024 are Arlene McHenry and Carol Dayrider. Secretary is Nikki Koosmann. Treasurer graciously provided by Kim Cooney.

If you have a need for comfort from a loss, someone to talk to, meals, ride to church etc., please feel free to contact the church office to let them know that you need a Deacon, and always feel comfortable contacting Arlene or Carol directly, or any other Deacon.

Your Deacon Board members for 2024 include: Arlene McHenry, Carol Dayrider, Karen & DJ Burditt, Nikki Koosmann, Jeanne Stordahl, Karla Wittmier, and Amy Zimbelman.

UPCOMING EVENT

Deacons annually craft home-made Easter cards under the tutelage of Karla Wittmier. These cards will be mailed to our friends at Horizon Lodge, Beehive Home, Logan Health Extended Care, & those in their home we don't see as often as we'd like. This year join in on the fun and fellowship! **Come join us in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 AM, Tuesday, March 12th** for an hour or two! The coffee pot will be on & I'll bet there will be some baked treats to enjoy!!

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

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

If you have any articles to contribute to the **April Newsletter**, please turn them into the office no later than **Monday, March 18th**. 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 - February 2024

The Church Finances:

January 2024:

Operating Income:	\$ 19,018
Operating Expenses:	\$ 19,004
Balance:	\$ 14
Year-to-Date Balance:	\$ 2,114

- c. March 27th, 2024 – Wednesday Church School Spring Fling 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM
- d. March 28th, 2024 – Maundy Thursday
- e. March 29th, 2024 – Good Friday – Taizé Service 7:00 PM
- f. March 31st, 2024 – Easter Sunday with Communion

The Finance Committee reports:

1. The 2024 Pre-Capita was paid in full.

The Property Committee reports:

1. They have been dealing with dishwasher issues.

The Worship Committee reports:

1. Communion was served on Sunday, February 4th, 2024, and will be served on Sunday March 3rd, 2024.
2. Upcoming Church Events:
 - a. February 25th, 2024 – Bible Sunday with a Bake Potato Bar lunch following the worship service
 - b. March 24th, 2024 – Palm Sunday

The Discipleship Committee reports:

1. Bible Sunday will be February 25th, 2024, followed with a Bake Potato Luncheon.
2. The Annual Spring Fling will be held on Wednesday, March 27th, 2024 from 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM for the Wednesday Church School Students.

The Outreach Committee reports:

1. Their First Friday Luncheon will be Friday, March 1st, 2024.

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

KID'S CORNER

LENT



D O B A N R Q G Q Q V P Q L G O F I N U U K K C
K V V G H T U X H B A M F J A N D U N A L D R H
G P N H K O C G O O P C U E M W L Y M G D O Q R
S R T D Q U F Y P O R Y B E Z E E U G T I Y Q I
H A X S C C D Y E O G F I Q N N E F T N T Y C S
H J I A V A O T S N X X V V O Q L H I E M J G T
A E Q C S N G S A E C S L H I I B Q L L Y F I I
V S Z R A D U E J S F M Q P S G I L L E H J V A
I U N I X L I Z G I Y H M Z S W B X F R Y D I N
D S A F H E V M L R Z I H H A N F Z D X L F N I
R M H I A Q D A M F F I Q J P M L E U I O N G T
J U K C D E A T H B X P R A Y E R B L J V K G Y
N F I E C O M M U N I O N G L N D Z Q X E N I C
Q E B L N S S G C S A W W E A S T E R V C I G I
T O M E D D W A F P S W A E P Y M J Q D L V Z Q
Z K G A R J Y W E H A E O B R P H G R G E S H M
W C A K O D J O B R F N N I J E I L A V A U H W
C H U G L O M S K L J D C R A E A Z G M N X I O
W U S G Q H G D A L J T A A E A R S N J S L I T
Y R J G A Z N Q F S Q E I K K D M D H U E Q J F
L C T E M P T A T I O N C O N E L F S F C D V B
L H S W R O T K U K E R Z Z G V S I E K M W H K
A G V R M L K B G E S Z K N J O P A W P H E V L
W A B Q Z P W C N X G Q X X U L U Y R H T K C R

**CANDLE
PASSION
LOVE
PANCAKES
PRAYER
CROSS
LENT**

**CLEANSE
GIVING
LIFE
ASH
AMEN
SACRIFICE
LORD**

**RISEN
CHRISTIANITY
HOPE
CHURCH
BIBLE
JESUS
GOD**

**DEATH
WILDERNESS
TEMPTATION
COMMUNION
TOME
EASTER**

Kid's Corner - Coloring Time

HE IS RISEN!



Happy Easter!



March 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 11:30 AM to 1 PM Community Meal	2
3 Worship 11 AM 3rd Sunday in Lent Communion 10:00 AM Choir 10:00 AM Bible Study 	4	5 11 AM Worship Comm. 12 PM Prayer Ministry 1:30 PM Handbells	6 6 PM Christian Ed Programs 6:30 PM Adult Bible Study	7 10 AM PW Meeting 12 PM Lenten Luncheons	8	9
10 Worship 11 AM 4th Sunday in Lent 10:00 AM Choir 10:00 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Deacons' Meeting 	11	12 10 AM Finance Comm. 1:30 PM Handbells	13 6 PM Christian Ed Programs 6:30 PM Adult Bible Study	14 12 PM Lenten Luncheons	15	16
17 Worship 11 AM 5th Sunday in Lent 10:00 AM Choir 10:00 AM Bible Study 	18 7:00 PM Session	19 12 PM Prayer Ministry 1:30 PM Handbells	20 6 PM Christian Ed Programs 6:30 PM Adult Bible Study	21 12 PM Lenten Luncheons	22	23
24 Worship 11 AM Palm/Passion Sunday 10:00 AM Choir 10:00 AM Bible Study Palm Sunday Brunch	25	26 1:30 PM 	27 No Christian Ed Programs & Adult Bible Study (Easter Break)	28 2 PM Bible Study @ Horizon Lodge	29 	30
31 Worship 11 AM Easter Day Communion 10:00 AM Choir 10:00 AM Bible Study 						

First Presbyterian Church
123 Fourth Avenue SW
Conrad, MT 59425-2302
www.conradfirstpres.org
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Conrad, MT 59425
406-278-3043



March Birthdays

- | | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|---------------------|--|
| | | 21 | Tyler Bucklin | |
| 4 | Kale Martin | | Douglas Moritz | |
| | Jody Habets | 22 | Juanita Prewett | |
| 8 | Marlene Hill | 27 | Mary DiBiase | |
| 9 | Alan Finlayson | | David Elings | |
| 11 | Irva Jean Schultz | 28 | Karli (Martin) Redd | |
| | | 31 | Ralph Fuson | |



March Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|-----------------------|
| 3 | Dana & Marie Ahmed |
| 27 | Mark & Maureen Orcutt |

Happy Anniversary!

