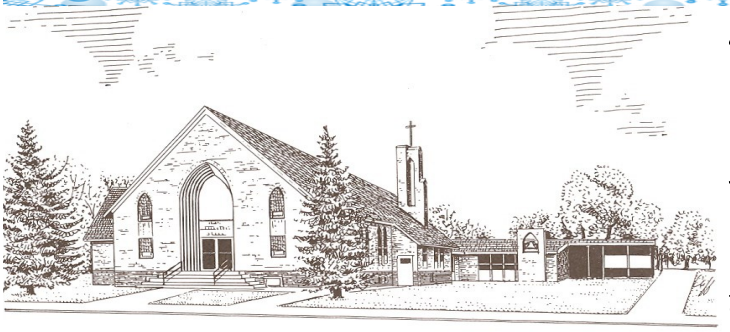
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

123 4th Ave SW
Conrad, MT 59425
(406) 278-3043

December 2022 Newsletter
www.conradfirstpres.org
conpres@3rivers.net



Sunday Worship at 11:00 AM

Wednesday Night Church School, Youth, & Adult Program @ 6:00 PM

Office Hours are Monday through Friday 1:00 Pm to 4:00 PM

COMMUNITY MEAL
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2ND
11 AM TO 1 PM

At the First Presbyterian Church
123 4th Ave SW in Conrad

All are welcome!
Come in, out of the cold, and share some good food and quality time together.
Bring a friend! See you there!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

CHRISTMAS NO-HOST LUNCHEON

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8th

HOME CAFÉ, 11:30 AM

Sign up for the luncheon in the Fellowship Hall by December 4th

Bring mittens and hats to contribute to the CASA program

Make plans to join us

DECEMBER GUEST SPEAKERS

Dec. 4	Judy Powell Sibley
Dec. 11	Gary Klette
Dec. 18	Children's Program
Dec. 25	David Arends

DECEMBER LAY READERS

Dec. 4	Carol Bain
Dec. 11	Martha Orcutt
Dec. 18	Youth Group
Dec. 24	Jane Arends & Amy Zimbelman
Dec. 25	Carol DayRider

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTERS

Nov. 27	Martha Orcutt, Arlene McHenry, Sean McHenry
Dec. 4	Susan Emrick, Julie Katana, Jane Arends
Dec. 11	Jan Carter, Pat Keil, Gary Klette
Dec. 18	Youth Group
Dec. 24	Karla Wittmier, Barb Perry, Carol DayRider

ANNUAL REPORT

Annual reports are due in the church office ***the week after Christmas.*** The office will be closed that week beginning December 26th. If the office is not open when your report is ready, you may put it in an envelope and slip it through the mail slot or you can email your report to conpres@3rivers.net. We need as many annual reports in as early as we can, so that the office can publish our annual report booklet in time for members to take home and read it before the annual meeting in January. So please, bring in your reports as soon after.

FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP NEWS

The 2023 Stewardship Campaign is now underway. By now you should have received a letter containing a stewardship letter, brochure, and estimate of giving card with return envelope in the mail. Thank you to those that have already returned their giving cards to the church. To those who have not replied, prayerfully consider what you can give to the church for 2023 and return your estimate of giving card as soon as possible. Thank you!

ALL HANDS-ON DECK!!

Conrad 1st Presbyterian Church will be hostesses for the annual Presbyterian Women Retreat in August 2023.

The retreat will be held on Glacier Camp and Conference Center Spruce Lodge the third weekend in August.

Our PW is responsible for planning the program for this event.

WE NEED ALL PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN TO HELP!

A meeting will be held in January 2023 to begin the planning process. Please plan on joining us.

DEACONS

The Deacons will be putting together Christmas Cookie Plates for our shut-ins on Tuesday, December 20th at 10:00 AM. Anyone that would like to contribute homemade cookies for this project please have them to the church no later than 9:30 AM on the 20th.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women met on Thursday, November 8th at 10:30 AM, with Arlene Newmiller as hostess. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. No Treasure's report was available.

The final report on the Bazaar is not completed yet. Estimated returns are around $2200. Karla reported 65 tickets for soup and pie, 10 bowls of soup only and 17 pieces of pie only. The estimate for the luncheon was about $750. After some discussion, it was decided to plan for 80-100 people and 3 soups: clam chowder, vegetable beef and a soup to be determined by the luncheon committee. Other suggestions for future bazaars were discussed, including ideas for "off year" fund raisers, such as a rummage sale, pancake meal, and Taco in a Bag. Basket Raffle Basket ticket sales are $155 to date.

Karen and Martha reported that the Operation Christmas Child boxes will soon be ready to ship. To date 6 out of 20 boxes have been sponsored. Church members will have a final opportunity to participate this coming Sunday.

It was moved and seconded to donate up to $500 toward the purchase of padded chairs for the Fellowship Hall.

PW Christmas Luncheon will be held December 8th, 2022, at Home Café at 11:30 AM. Please sign up by December 4th. The sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring mittens, gloves, scarfs, or hats for the CASA project.

Jean reminded everyone to pick up pans and dishes that have been left in the kitchen.

Conrad 1st Presbyterian Church will host the PW Retreat in August 2023. It is important that we begin planning for that event. We need everyone to participate. A meeting will be scheduled following the holidays.

The meeting was adjourned with the benediction.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH PROGRAMS STAGE THANKSGIVING EXTRAVAGANZA

On Wednesday, November 16th the Wednesday Night Youth Programs hosted the congregation for a Thanksgiving service. David and Jane Arends have been working very hard with the youth and that evening, all the hard work paid off in a big way. Dinner was served at 6:30 PM. Following the dinner, the young people presented their Thanksgiving service for approximately 65 people. The group sang several songs: "We Gather", "We're a Family", "How Great", and "The Family of God". Junior and Senior High young people led the service and presented scripture readings to the congregation. The children in grades Preschool through Grade 4 presented the skit "Oswald the Ostrich" as a sermonette. The skit was about an ostrich, played by Jasper Sanders, who was sad because he couldn't find anything he was good at. He saw many other groups of animals (bunnies, eagles, and tweedy birds) and tried to do the same thing they were, with disastrous results. When a lion came out of the bushes and roared, Oswald finally found something he was good at (running) and was very happy. Everyone who was at the service enjoyed it a great deal. Congratulations to our youth for presenting such an inspiring message to the congregation.

The next project that the young people will be working on is the annual Christmas program. That program will be presented to the congregation during the Sunday worship service on December 18th. The program will be followed by treats and coffee in the Fellowship Hall. We hope that everyone will join us for this special event.

There will be a Christmas party for the children in grades Preschool through Grade 4 on Wednesday, December 21st. There will be stories, craft activities, games and cookie decorating. The same evening the older youth will go Christmas caroling. Church school will then recess until January 4th.

PRAYER LIST

Please remember to pray for Friends & Family of Georgia "Gigi" Lanham, Dana Ahmed, Ernestine Olson, Kristie Diedrich, Brandon Newmiller, June, Jackie Miller & family, Jane & Dwayne Miller, Helen Elliott, Corleen Norman, Pearl Severtson, Gloria Schultz, Margaret Rigby, 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.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CONRAD

Session Highlights - November 2022

The Church Finances:

October 2022:		
Operating Income:	**$**	**12,428**
Operating Expenses:	**$**	**3,830**
March Balance:	**$**	**8,598**
Year-to-Date Balance:	**$**	**17,290**

The Finance Committee reports:

1. The Committee has mailed the Stewardship Campaign letters to members and friends of the church.
2. It was reported that per capita will be $63.50 per member this coming year.
3. The Christmas Eve Offering will be given to the Deacon's Fund.

The Property Committee reports:

1. The new snow removal team seems to be working well.

The Worship Committee reports:

1. Communion was served on Sunday, Nov 6th and will be served on Sunday, Dec 4th
2. Upcoming Church Events:
   a. Nov 27th – 1st Sunday of Advent
   b. Dec 18th – Wednesday Church School and Youth Group Christmas Program
   c. Dec 24th – Christmas Eve Services
   d. Dec 25th – Christmas Day Services

The Discipleship Committee reports:

1. The Wednesday Church School and youth group presented the Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday, Nov 16th. It was well attended by parents and members of the congregation.
2. Starting November 30th all students will practice for the Christmas Program that will be presented on Sunday, Dec 18th.
3. The 5th – 12th grade students are scheduled to go caroling and give hand crafted ornaments to residents at the Beehive and possibly the Extend Care.

The Community Outreach Team reports:

1. The Samaritan's Purse/Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes have been mailed.
2. During November the Team again served donuts and coffee at the Food Pantry.
3. The next Community Free Luncheon will be served on Friday, Dec 2nd.

The next Session meeting has not been scheduled.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for January's newsletter is no later than Friday, December 16th. The following week will provide time for article placement and proofreading The newsletter will be printed December 22nd and mailed out the following morning due to the church secretary being gone the week of the 26th.

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

KID'S CORNER

Bible Pathway Adventures

WORD SEARCH

AN ANGEL VISITS MARY

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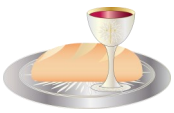
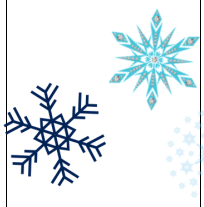
H A Z J Y V K E A D U S H Q L H I N D Z
V Z Y N O M V Q R L C P R H O P A M A K
M J Q Z B S A Q S F I I I O T N H F H R
C X V R W V E R E O I R F Y W Z H T N D
R N K Z W R Z P Y Z M I M G E P Q U T Y
Q J Q I Q H K E H A K T Q Z X L G S J S
M Z A N G E L B E T R O T H E D O R R W
F L W B P R E G N A N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

SON OF GOD	SHALOM	MARY
VIRGIN	NAZARETH	ELOHIM
BETROTHED	MESSIAH	PREGNANT
HOLY SPIRIT	ISRAELITE	GALILEE
BABY	JOSEPH	ANGEL
GABRIEL	YAHWEH	YESHUA

Coloring Time

December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:00 PM Choir	2 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM Community Meal	3
4 Worship 11:00 AM 2nd Sunday of Advent Guest Speaker Judy Powell Sibley Communion 10:00 AM Bible Study 	5 1:00 PM PNC Meeting	6 11:30 AM Worship Comm. 1:00 PM Handbells	7 6:00 PM Christian Ed Programs All Ages	8 11:30 AM PW Christmas Luncheon 6:00 PM Choir	9 	10
11 Worship 11:00 AM 3rd Sunday of Advent Guest Speaker Gary Klette 10:00 AM Bible Study 	12 1:00 PM PNC Meeting 2:00 PM Deacons' Meeting	13 1:00 PM Handbells	14 6:00 PM Christian Ed Programs All Ages	15 6:00 PM Choir	16 	17
18 Worship 11:00 AM 4th Sunday of Advent Annual Christmas Pageant 10:00 AM Bible Study 	19 1:00 PM PNC Meeting	20 1:00 PM Handbells	21 6:00 PM Christian Ed Programs All Ages	22 6:00 PM Choir	23	24 **7:00 PM** **Christmas Eve** **Candlelight** **Service**
25 Worship 11:00 AM Christmas Day Guest Speaker David Arends 	26 1:00 PM PNC Meeting	27 1:00 PM Handbells	28	29 6:00 PM Choir	30	31

The Church Secretary will be on vacation the week of December 26th

First Presbyterian Church
123 Fourth Avenue SW
Conrad, MT 59425-2302
www.conradfirstpres.org
Address Service Requested

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U.S. Postage
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Permit #1
Conrad, MT 59425
406-278-3043

December Birthdays

1 Elin Hohman
2 Llew Jones
4 David Oien
5 Bernard Ries
7 Tyrell Kallstrom
8 Jay Hould
Ethan Wittmier
11 John Baringer
13 Shawn Mellinger
Annabell Wittmier

15 Burns Brown
Amy Weis
16 Charleen Utterback
Dylan Kellogg
18 Carol Miller
19 Jerry Cowie
Michelle Finlayson
21 Phyllis Hammermeister
Jerry Bishop
25 CHRISTMAS
Carol DayRider
Daniel Jones

December Anniversaries

11 Bill & Linda McFarland
20 Roma Lee & Ralph Fuson
27 Terry & Charleen Utterback
31 James & Tonya Sanders