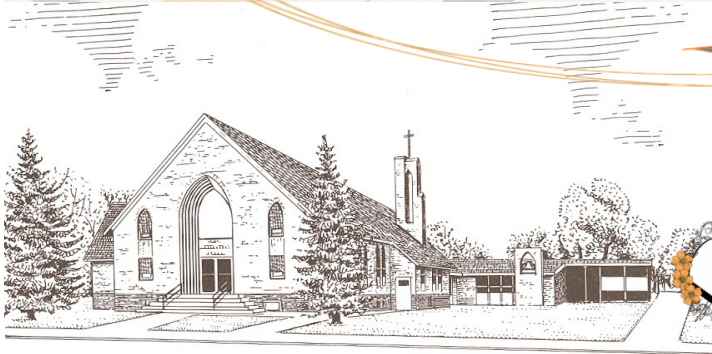


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



Sunday Worship @ 11:00 AM

Secretarial Office Hours
Monday through Friday
8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Sunday Bible Study @ 10:00AM

Monday Handbells @ 6:00PM

***1st & 3rd Tuesdays**

Prayer Ministry @ 12:00PM*

***Wednesday Learn 2 Sew Class**
@ 3:30PM to 5:00PM*

***Wednesday Adult Discipleship**
Class @ 6:00PM*

***Wednesday Children/Youth**
Program @ 6:15PM to 7:45PM*

Thursday Choir @ 7:00PM

***1st Friday of Every Month Free**
Community Meal @ 11:30AM to
1:00PM*

HAPPY

HALLOWEEN



Mark Your Calendars!!



Come and enjoy a home cooked meal and an opportunity to visit with old friends and meet new friends on Friday, October 3rd, starting at 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall at First Presbyterian Church in Conrad. The menu will be Meatballs, Chessy Potatoes, Green Beans, and Pumpkin Dessert. Everyone is welcome at our tables.

PASTOR'S CORNER

After five months away it is good to be back in the pulpit for a while. I thought I was retiring, but who knows the mind of God. His ways remain a glorious mystery to me.

We had an arrangement with Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation to help find an ordained pastor for our church and three others; however, there must not be many adventurous ordained Presbyterian first call pastors who want to come to a lovely and unique little town near the Rocky Mountains. The search resulted in one church of the three (Helena) receiving a new pastor.

One of the perks, even so, of our relationship with the Foundation was a workshop for the leadership team entitled "Conflict and System Dysregulation." I think that equates to the now outdated title, "Conflict Management." Is it any surprise that churches from the beginning of time experienced, sometimes resolved, or sometimes dissolved over internal conflict? From Moses to David to Jesus to Paul, the Bible's greatest figures found themselves in conflict with someone over land, kingship, position, women, or a bowl of stew.

Christians struggle daily with inner conflict. We have given our lives to Jesus, but our old nature still exists, and we can't keep it out of the church any more than we can consistently bring our Godly ways out to the community. We are perpetually imperfect. We know the attitudes and behaviors that Jesus desires of us, but we also know how hard it is to live that way all the time. Who doesn't know from personal experience the negative consequences of differing opinions. What we may not think about is that some conflict can have positive results.

Conflict can present valuable information, for example. You can learn more about the personalities, the values and the needs of a person by asking non-violent, non-threatening questions aimed at understanding why you differ. It is an opportunity to learn and grow when you understand the other person's values, needs, background, and objection to change. Change especially can result in conflict. But if you know that what you propose to change will create disagreement with the preparation, involvement of those who will object, and thoughtful communication prior to change can make all the difference in a healthy negotiated outcome.

The Bible supports the claim that there is nothing inherently wrong with conflict. Disagreements happen. But the way we resolve our conflicts is extremely important. Conflict can become the catalyst to greater understanding, intimacy, and depth of relationship; or it can bring anger, bitterness, and broken relationships. How you deal with conflict literally shapes the direction of your life. *"God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God."* Matt 5:9.

Blessings,

Pastor Judy



OCTOBER LAY READERS

Oct. 5	Kim Cooney
Oct. 12	Pat Keil
Oct. 19	Jane Arends
Oct. 26	Roma Lee Fuson



DEACON'S LIST

Oct. 5	Karla & Phyllis
Oct. 12	Nikki & Jeanne
Oct. 19	Carol & Roma Lee
Oct. 26	Arlene & Amy



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Spruce Lodge at Glacier Camp on Flathead Lake provided a beautiful setting for the 2025 Women's Retreat sponsored by Presbyterian Women. *"Partnering in Solidarity"* was the theme of this year's program, which was held August 15th – 17th. 32 women from 10 churches within the Presbytery attended this 2-day event and enjoyed almost perfect weather (one rainstorm) and smokeless skies, along with fellowship, sharing, and worship. The three presenters, all from the neighboring Flathead Reservation, represented the Confederated Salish/Kootenai tribes. The three speakers focused on the struggles faced by our indigenous neighbors, with regards to addiction recovery, housing, and education. I can speak only for myself, but I certainly learned a lot.

The agenda was jam-packed with a variety of activities. Colleen and Ede, our sisters from Harlem, did an outstanding job providing us with wonderful music. They also led a Vespers service based on Micah 6:8, *"He has shown you, O Man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, show mercy, and walk humbly with your God"*. Carol Gneckow led a lively discussion on the book *"Women Talking"* by Miriam Toews. Rev. Tim Lanham led a prayer workshop on Friday evening. Marge Suek from Havre led an Early Risers Yoga session both mornings. During the business meeting, the various groups reported on what they have been doing. Sally Wright gave a treasurer's report, which indicated much improvement over previous years. Donna Maddux talked with us about what we would consider our "line in the sand", or what would be the one thing that we would not back down from. Planning for 2026 has begun; assignments will be the same as they were this year. Terri and Jenna showed us how to make a charcuterie board. Helens brought Cuddle Buddies to stuff, which will be distributed to hospitals and law enforcement agencies, to be given to children in their care. Cheryl Thompson from Seeley Lake led a workshop in worship and art. With all of the activities available, there was still plenty of time for visiting and fellowship.

Just a little side note about our special "visitor" on Saturday evening. That evening a beautiful bald eagle landed in one of the pine trees near the lodge. It might interest you to know that in Native American culture, the bald eagle is revered as a sacred creature, symbolizing a connection between the Creator and embodying qualities like strength, courage, wisdom, and freedom. Given the topics that were discussed during these two days, I felt that this was an appropriate symbol for our retreat.

The retreat concluded with worship and communion, led by Tim Lanham, and based on Hebrews 12:1-2. During the worship service, candles were lit in memory of those women who have left us within the past year. We left the retreat renewed and refreshed and well fed by the staff at Spruce Lodge.

Make plans now to attend the 2026 Renewal in the Rockies-Women's Retreat. It will be held the first weekend in August, August 7th – 9th, 2026.

HELP WANTED

Could you spare an hour or two **just once a month**
to help some tired ladies?

The Outreach Committee would be very grateful if you could.

Set up, Servers, Cooks, Clean Up are the areas of help needed.

OR

**JUST COME AND ENJOY
GOOD FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP
FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH.**



LEARN 2 SEW

The Learn 2 Sew will be starting on October 1st at 3:30PM and will last until 5:00PM. All 4th through 6th graders are welcome to attend as long as we have machines available. If you know of someone who may be interested, please have them contact me at 406-450-5295. There is no charge for the class and we provide all of the materials also. A light snack will be provided.

We will be selling Christmas Cactus soon to help defray some of the costs associated with the class. Contact Karen at the above number if you are interested. There are multi colored ones, white, pink with white edge, red with white edge, magenta, and peach.

Thank you to Helen and Ralph Stordahl, Danna Evje, and DJ Burditt for helping to get the machines and room ready for the class.



Our small but mighty choir is geared up for another year of worship! We have new music and will bring back some of our older favorites, sharing our gifts to the glory of God. We sincerely hope the offering of the choir enhances your worship experience and draws you closer in your walk with our Lord. We always appreciate new members in the choir and would love to see some new faces. David is happy to teach music-reading and singing skills to anyone who might be interested but may be feeling unprepared to join. You are most welcome to join us! Please let David know of your interest and we can get you started!



WEDNESDAY NIGHT CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAM

Our Wednesday Night Children and Youth Program started on Wednesday, September 17th and we have exciting plans for this new year with the youth! We are so happy to announce that Carol Dayrider is back again to lead the K- 4th grades! David Arends has also returned to lead our Youth Bible Study for grades 8th to 12th and Jane Arends will be leading the students in grades 5th to 7th. Pam Wittmier once again has a lot planned in the games and crafts department! We have plenty of meaningful activities lined up for the kids in opportunities to serve in the name of Jesus, including collecting food for the Food Pantry and holiday visits to the Horizon Lodge and Extended Care. It's going to be a busy and exciting year for our youth!

We have a new time schedule for the program and will begin each evening with supper at 6:15PM and the program ending at about 7:45PM. We are short-handed this fall in dinner helpers, so if you can contribute part of a meal and/or come in to prep and serve on occasion, please leave your name and phone number at the Church Office, or come see us any Wednesday evening before 6:15PM. We are here to serve the young people of our community. We will always welcome anyone who would like to visit and see what we are about. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Jane Arends at 406-450-4163.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Join us at 10:00AM on Sunday mornings in Room 3 for a video study and discussion titled “*Sojourners and Exiles-The Message of First Peter*” with Sinclair Ferguson. The Apostle Peter wrote this letter to some of the first Christians to teach them how living the gospel of Jesus Christ works even in the hostile society they find themselves in. In his letter, Peter also offers comfort to his readers by showing them how the gospel can work in their lives. Christians today often feel like cultural outsiders and this study addresses the need to know and understand how the gospel works everywhere and in any age. Even here in Conrad. Coffee is on and donuts are fresh.



FOOD PANTRY

The churches of all denominations in Pondera County once again are supporting the collection of foods for the Pondera Food Pantry Thanksgiving Baskets. First Presbyterian Church has been asked to provide 100 cans of green beans. A collection table will be located in the Narthex from Sunday October 5th through Sunday November 2nd. Sign up applications for a Thanksgiving Basket will be available at the Food Pantry beginning Friday, October 3rd. You need only be a resident of Pondera County to receive a basket, no other qualifying factors. Please pass the word along to friends, acquaintances, and families who might be in need of help preparing a Thanksgiving meal.

This year the Food Pantry will distribute the baskets to those who complete an application, from the Pantry and not the Shooting Sports Complex, a week earlier than in the past, on Thursday, November 20th and Friday, November 21st, this gives more time for folks to get the turkey defrosted! For questions contact Amy Zimbelman 406-899-9522.



FPC OUTREACH SUMMER ACTIVITIES & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

The Outreach Team and volunteers stayed active this summer with various projects and goals. There were 3 First Friday Free Community meals served this past summer. Eighty meals were served each month in June and July. At the August meal, the Outreach Team celebrated their 3rd Anniversary with a Hawaiian Luau, serving about a 100 people. The meal announcement for August invited the guests to wear their Hawaiian shirts and leis were given out at the door. It was fun to see so many dressed for the celebration and enjoying sharing a meal together. For the CASA program, the team filled 18 school backpacks for kids K through 11 and provided flip flops for summer activities. Once each month, our team served coffee and doughnuts to clients at the Food Pantry. To help fill the need for non-food items, laundry detergent and shampoo were purchased and delivered to the pantry in August. Outreach participated in a Presbytery-wide mission project purchasing 8 pairs of sweatpants and 8 t-shirts to add to other items for duffel bags going to children in Child Protective Services in Montana. Items will be going with our church Presbytery representative to the October meeting. Duffel bags will be filled at that time and one filled bag will return home with each church representative to be given to their local CPS agency. The focus now is on gathering and preparing 275 treat bags for October's Trunk 'or' Treat Halloween event in Conrad. If anyone would like to participate by donating a bag of candy, please make sure that the candy is individually wrapped. A basket for candy or monetary donations will be placed on the table in the Narthex. Some preparation has begun for the 30 Christmas Shoeboxes. The congregation will again be invited to sponsor a box. This project serves as our global mission project and the team appreciates the response from our congregation to help defray the cost of filling and shipping the boxes.

That does it for the Outreach team's summer activities. Thanks to all who helped in large and small ways. This program is successful because of congregational support. God bless each one of you.

Martha Orcutt
Della Kellogg

Karen Burditt
Phyllis Hammermeister

Pat Keil
Karla Wittmier

And all the angels who help in this outreach.





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CONRAD



Session Highlights - September 2025

THE CHURCH FINANCES FOR AUGUST 2025:



Operating Income:	\$5,741.50
Operating Expenses:	<u>(\$5,964.03)</u>
August Balance:	<u>(\$222.54)</u>
Year-to-Date Balance:	(\$4,426.09)



Worship Committee:

1. Communion will be served on October 5th and November 2nd.
2. Pastor Judy will preach on September 21st, October 5th & 26th and November 30th.
3. David Arends will preach on October 19th and November 9th.
4. Gary Klette will preach on September 28th, October 12th, and November 23rd.

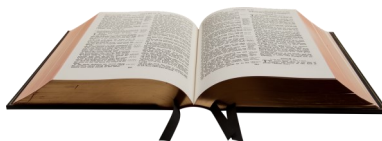
The Discipleship Committee:

1. The Wednesday night youth program had their first meeting on Wednesday, September 17th beginning with dinner at 6:15PM.
2. We also have an Adult Bible Study held on Wednesday evenings led by Kim Cooney. Martha Orcutt is also leading a study on Sunday mornings before church.

The Outreach Committee:

1. Served donuts and coffee at the Food Pantry in August.
2. Purchased shampoo and laundry detergent for the Food Pantry.
3. Purchased clothing for children ages 4-10 as part of a Presbytery-wide Mission Project.
4. Served 79 people at our September Community Meal.
5. Will serve barbecued meatballs, funeral potatoes (hashbrown casserole), and pumpkin dessert on October 3rd.
6. Several students have signed up for the sewing class which is scheduled to begin October 1st.

The next Session meeting will be Monday, October 20, 2025 @ 7:00 PM.



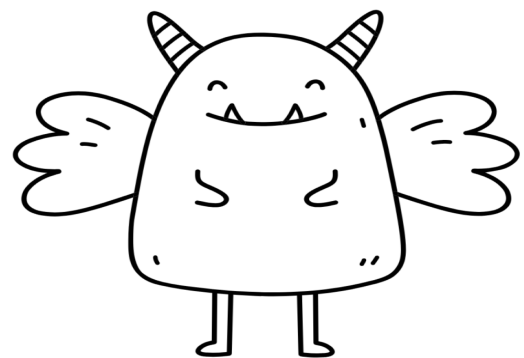
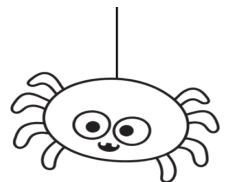
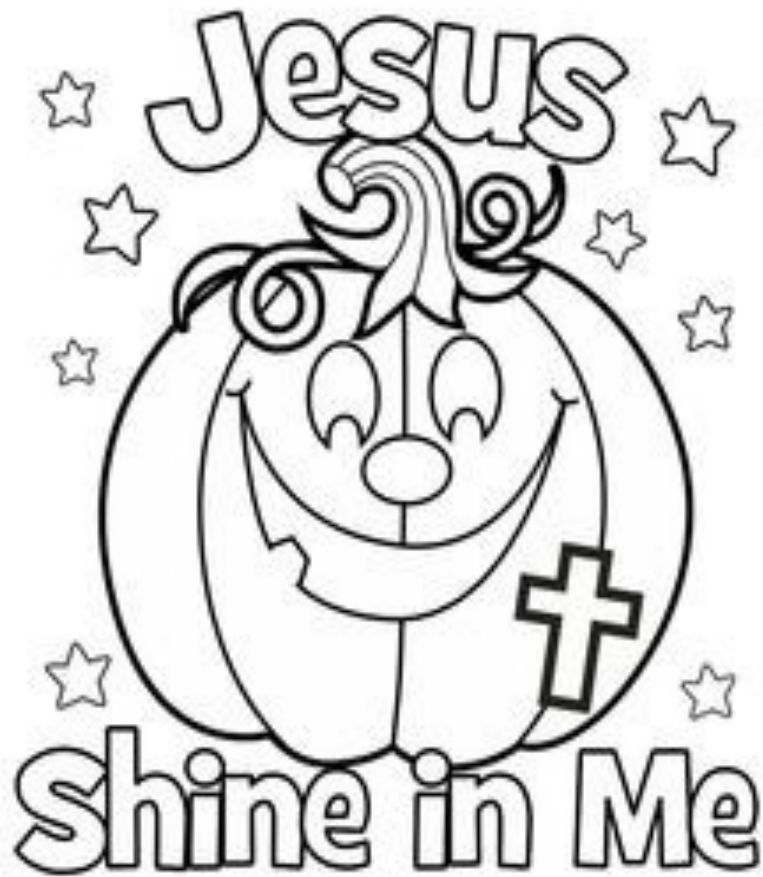
PRAYER LIST



Please remember to pray for Robin, Christopher Burns, Amy Zimbelman, Barb Perry, Jason Halverson, Arlene Newmiller, Wally McHenry, Wendy Wagner, Dave Perry, Ward Orcutt, Cecil & Alice Benjamin, Kristine Ries Prewett, Helen Stordahl, 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.

Kid's Corner Coloring Time



Let your light
shine.
Matthew 5:16

KID'S CORNER



BIBLE WORD SEARCH

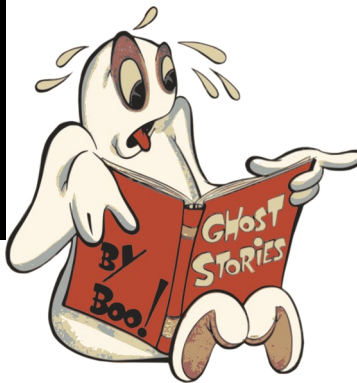
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ISAIAH	KINGS	JEREMIAH	MICAH	AMOS	PROVERBS
JOB	PSALMS	REVELATION	JUDE	JONAH	HOSEA
JUDGES	HEBREWS	TITUS	SAMUEL	JOSHUA	DEUTERONOMY
ECCLESIASTES	LEVITCUS	NAHUM	MALACHI	HAGGAI	EZEKIEL
EZRA	JOEL	DANIEL	NEHEMIAH	RUTH	NUMBERS
ACTS	EXODUS	GENESIS	ROMANS	JESUS	JOHN
	LUKE	MARK	MATTHEW	BIBLE	

October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 3:30PM Learn 2 Sew Class 6PM Adult Discipleship Class 6:15PM Youth Program	2 10:30AM Worship Committee 7PM Choir	3 11:30AM to 1PM Free Community Meal 	4
5 Worship 11AM 17th Sunday after Pentecost World Communion 10 Bible Study	6 10AM Exercise Class 10AM PW Bazaar Workshop 6PM Handbells	7 12PM Prayer Ministry	8 10:30AM PW Meeting 3:30PM Learn 2 Sew Class 6PM Adult Discipleship Class 6:15PM Youth Program	9 7PM Choir	10	11
12 Worship 11 AM 18th Sunday after Pentecost 10AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Deacons' Meeting	13 10AM Exercise Class 10AM PW Bazaar Workshop 6PM Handbells	14	15 12:40PM Learn 2 Sew Class 6PM Adult Discipleship Class 6:15PM Youth Program	16 10AM Finance Committee 7PM Choir	17 	18
19 Worship 11 AM 19th Sunday after Pentecost 10AM Bible Study	20 10AM Exercise Class 10AM PW Bazaar Workshop 6PM Handbells 7PM Session	21 12PM Prayer Ministry	22 3:30PM Learn 2 Sew Class 6PM Adult Discipleship Class 6:15PM Youth Program	23 7PM Choir 	24	25
26 Worship 11 AM 20th Sunday after Pentecost 10AM Bible Study	27 10AM Exercise Class 10AM PW Bazaar Workshop 6PM Handbells	28	29 3:30PM Learn 2 Sew Class 6PM Adult Discipleship Class 6:15PM Youth Program	30 7PM Choir 	31  HAPPY HALLOWEEN	

First Presbyterian Church
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www.conradfirstpres.org
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October Birthdays

1 Cashley Redd
3 Wendy Goodheart
5 Emma Naylor
6 Matt Kellogg
8 Paula Hudson
13 Afton Lamoreaux
Zach Orcutt
15 Wally McHenry



17 Zach Lettenga
20 Marilyn Nyberg
23 Susan Emrick
24 John Silvernale
26 Alex Finlayson
Shannon Naylor
28 Judy Buechler
29 Adam Eisenberg Oien
30 Ralph Diedrich
Tom Bishop

October Anniversaries

3 Kenn and Elin Hohman
4 Doug and Kim Moritz
25 Matt and Pam Wittmier
27 Darryl and Karen Burditt
29 Todd and Patti Mellinger
29 Barbara and Don Perry

Happy Anniversary!

