



**First  
Presbyterian  
Church**

# **e-News**

November 23, 2016

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435  
815-727-9259 [firstpresjoliet.org](http://firstpresjoliet.org)

\*\*\*Worship This Sunday, November 27: We've come to the START of the church year...Advent!! Appropriately so, as so many have been chomping at the bit for "a little while now" as the rush to get on with Christmas heightens to a frenzy. There's a reason Advent precedes Christmas. Like Lent, Advent is a unique season of focus and renewal and asks a very simple question..."Are you ready?" I'm not talking about how many Black Friday sales you'll get to...I'm talking about understanding just what we celebrate at Christmas. Advent is all about looking at and understanding where we are in our journey as Christians. So, this Sunday we begin the Advent season and look to where God is leading us because without doing so, the celebration of God's First Advent in Jesus is meaningless. Join us as we look at Matthew 24:36-44 and Isaiah 2:1-5 in my sermon, "On Call 24/7". --- Dale

\*\*\*Music This Sunday:

9:00 a.m.--Chancel Choir, Glory Ringers 10:30 a.m.--Worship Band

\*\*\*Class This Sunday:

Bible Perspectives--10:15 a.m. in Room 201

\*\*\*Mid-Week Classes:

Smart Money, Smart Kids--Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in Room 217  
Balancing Life's Demands--Wednesdays, 9 to 11 a.m. in the Fireside Room

\*\*\*Adult Discussion Groups:

The Light Will Shine--Tuesdays at 12 noon in the Fireside Room; bring a sack lunch  
The Gospel of Mark--Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m. in the Fireside Room

\*\*\*Council/Committee Meetings:

PW Board--Dec. 1, 10 a.m.

\*\*\*Fellowship/Bible Studies/Small Groups:

Project Linus--Nov. 28, 9 a.m. (No meeting in Dec.)  
Men's Breakfast--Dec. 2, 7:30 a.m. at The Old Fashioned Pancake House on Jefferson St., Joliet  
Praise Yoga--Tuesdays at 7 p.m. & Thursdays at 8 a.m. in the Narthex  
Centering Prayer--Tuesdays at 1 p.m. in Room 210  
Mindfulness Practice--Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room  
Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study--Saturdays at 7 a.m. in the Fireside Room

\*\*\*Mission:

Sunday is the last day to bring in cosmetic bags and small toiletries for Stepping Stones. There is a collection box in Hoffman Hall.  
Knitted or crocheted baby blankets for Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota is an on-going PW project. Visit [knitting4peace.org](http://knitting4peace.org) for more information and patterns.  
Night Deacons' Free Pancake Breakfast is Saturday, Dec. 3, 8 to 10 a.m. Come help greet and serve those in our community who are hungry.

\*\*\*From the Pastor.....Craig Herr, Senior Pastor  
 “The Light Will Shine: Live In Hope.” Advent is a time for us to experience The Call of Jesus in our lives, The Promises of God, The Light of Christ, and The Hope that only God can give. The First Sunday of Advent is November 27. Plan to anticipate and celebrate the birth of the Savior in worship this Advent Season. This Advent Season we will focus on The Light of Christ and The Hope we have in the Savior who is born to us and all the world.

Come On Saturday for Advent Decorating. Come join us on Saturday, November 26, at 9 a.m. and we’ll decorate the church in a couple of hours. It’s a lot of fun and a time for conversation as you decorate with your church family.

Carol Sing with Churches United For Christ. We will meet in the WalMart Parking Lot on Jefferson Street on Saturday, December 10, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. to sing carols, give out hot chocolate and have a joyous presence in Christ. There are practices right here at our church in Hoffman Hall from 6:30-7:30 on Thursdays, December 1 and 8. Come and sing with a great group of people from area churches.

“Invite Your One” Sunday is on Sunday, December 11th! Invite someone to worship with us as we make our preparations for Christmas. People will come if they are invited.

Sound Room Ministry Need. If you would like to volunteer once a month in the Sound Room for Sunday services, just give me a call or e-mail [craig.herr@firstpresjoliet.org](mailto:craig.herr@firstpresjoliet.org). It’s a wonderful way to serve and we have excellent volunteers who could easily provide the training.

May you experience the love of God and see the Lord at work in your life and world this week. --Craig



\*\*\*The Stars of Hope  
 gifts can be returned this  
 Sunday (11/27) or to the

church anytime on/before November 30th. Please bring them to the church office during office hours, or Wednesday Night during Zoom on November 30th. The gifts will be picked up from the church on December 2nd. Thank you for your love and kindness to help bring the Spirit of Christmas to someone this year. May God richly bless you through your efforts. Any questions, please call Kris Hayden at 815-258-8617.



Orders are being taken for Poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary this Christmas. The order form is available in Sunday's bulletin or you can order your poinsettias on our website, [www.firstpresjoliet.org](http://www.firstpresjoliet.org). Poinsettias are \$12 each. The deadline for ordering is December 11.

\*\*\*Our Church Family. Please add the following to your daily prayers:  
 Prayers of Healing for Harry Cobourn and Sandra Penney at Presence St. Joseph Medical Center

**November 20, 2016**  
 Worship Attendance — 180

**Stewardship Report**  
 2016-2017 Budget: \$ 792,916

<b>Year to Date Receipts</b>	\$460,178
<b>Year to Date Expenses</b>	\$431,522

2016-2017 Bequest/Gift Income Received — \$38,911

<b><u>Volunteers this Sunday, November 27, 2016</u></b>	
<b><u>9:00 a.m.</u></b>	<b><u>10:30 a.m.</u></b>
<b><u>Children's Worship:</u></b>	
Megan Pritz	Sarah Lundeen
<b><u>Holy Hunters:</u></b>	
	Darryl McCormick
<b><u>Greeters:</u></b>	
Dennis & Sherry Jones	Barb Rodgers
<b><u>Lighting the Advent Candle:</u></b>	
Lennertz Family	House Family
<b><u>Ushers:</u></b>	
Jon Belfield, Capt.;	Brenda Schmitz, Capt.;
Mark Dykema	John Savage
Anita Schneidewind	Sean Yeo
Mark Schneidewind	Colleen Yeo
<b><u>Coffee Fellowship:</u></b> Jen Beck & Pat Halderson, Capts.;	
	Betsey O'Mara, Michele & Tim Gier
<b><u>Sound Room:</u></b> Rich Pool	
<b><u>Video Screens:</u></b> Matt Blaser	