



e-News

December 7, 2016

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435
815-727-9259 firstpresjoliet.org

*****Worship This Sunday, December 11:** The Light of Christ continues to shine in our world down through the centuries. Jesus is alive and at work in our lives and all over the earth. People of every race, country and culture keep on following the Savior and singing His praise! Come worship with us this Sunday as we seek to live in the Light of the Christ.

This Sunday I am preaching on "Live In The Light." This the third week of Advent and our "The Light Will Shine: Live In Hope" sermon series. The scripture passages for this week speak to us of the light and life of our Savior; Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 and John 1:1-5, 9-14.

Our Children's Choir will be singing at both morning worship services presenting "Sing a Song of Christmas."
-- Craig Herr

*****Music This Sunday:**

9:00 a.m.--Children's Choir, Chancel Choir 10:30 a.m.--Children's Choir, Worship Band

*****Class This Sunday:**

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

*****Mid-Week Class:**

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--tonight at 5:15 p.m. in the Fireside Room

*****Council/Committee Meetings:**

Parish Council--Dec. 8, 5 p.m.
Executive Committee--Dec. 8, 6 p.m.
Session--Dec. 8, 7 p.m.
Night Deacons--Dec. 13, 6 p.m.
Worship Council--Dec. 15, 4:30 p.m.

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

Thursday Morning Circle--Dec. 8, 9:15 a.m. in the Fireside Room
Mary Circle--Dec. 8, 12 noon in the Fireside Room
Women's Bible Study--Dec. 14, 10 a.m. in Room 217-219
Quilt Group--Dec. 15, 6 p.m. at the home of Jackie Brooks
Men's Dinner--Dec. 16, 6 p.m. at Larry's Diner, 24522 W. Lockport Rd., Plainfield
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.



Youth Group Change in Date:
We are going to "Feed My Starving Children" on Saturday, February 18 (instead of December 31). Meet at the

church at 8 a.m. and we will travel to Feed My Starving Children for the 9 - 11 a.m. meal packing session. We'll eat lunch together after we pack hundreds of meals for children and families in need. Transportation will be provided from the church.

*****From the Pastor.....Craig Herr, Senior Pastor**

“There are Many Opportunities for Inviting Others to Church.” We can share the Light of Christ by just inviting someone to come to church with us to be influenced and inspired by the music, scriptures, sermon, conversation with other friends in Christ, etc. Think and pray about inviting someone to one or several services.

December 11th- "Sing a Song of Christmas"- Children’s Choir both services
and Chancel at 9:00 a.m. and Worship Band at 10:30 a.m.

December 18th- "Advent For All" Cantata 9:00 a.m.

"Our God is Born" Christmas Hymns and Music at 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Eve Services- 5:30 p.m. Contemporary Candlelight Service

- 7:30 p.m. Lessons and Carols Candlelight Service

-11:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service with 10:30 p.m. Musicale before.

Start Inviting! Pray for others to be open to your invitation and Invite early and often! 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.

It’s Easy to Order Poinsettias on the Church Website. How can I say that? I can say it and write it because I just ordered a poinsettia on our church website! Yep, that’s right. Go to www.firstpresjoliet.org and click on the picture of “Order Your Poinsettias” and just fill in the information and presto, you’ve done it! Easy,...you can do it if you wish.

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 is a practice right here at our church in Hoffman Hall from 6:30-7:30 on Thursday, December 8. Come and sing with a great group of people from area churches.

Good Sound is Great. We are in need of more volunteers in the sound room. 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. It’s a wonderful way to serve and we have excellent volunteers who could easily provide the training.

May the Light, Love, and Life of Christ Jesus be present to you in many ways this week. -- Craig



THIS SUNDAY, DEC. 11,
9 & 10:30 A.M.
WORSHIP SERVICES



This is the premiere of the jazz-infused original Christmas Cantata by our own Jacob Darley with Chancel Choir, Glory Ringers, String Quartet, Organ & Piano



December
18,
10:30 a.m.

A Contemporary service blending favorite Christmas hymns, new music & scripture, with Worship Band, Glory Ringers, piano, keyboard & percussion

Give the Gift of the Wonder of the Christ Child's Birth in Message & Music.
Invite someone to our Special Christmas Music Worship Services on Dec. 11 & 18!

*****Our Church Family.** Please add the following to your daily prayers--
Prayers of Healing for Betsey O'Mara and Chuck Bailey at Presence St. Joseph Medical Center

December 4, 2016
Worship Attendance — 224
Stewardship Report
2016-2017 Budget: \$ 792,916
Year to Date Receipts \$481,411
Year to Date Expenses \$457,437
2016-2017 Bequest/Gift Income Received — \$38,911

Volunteers this Sunday, December 11, 2016	
9:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
<u>Children's Worship:</u> Bo Mircea	Sarah Lundeen
<u>Holy Hunters:</u>	Darryl McComick
<u>Greeters:</u> Jim & Thea Boness	
<u>Lighting the Advent Candle:</u> Paul Family	Wilson Family
<u>Ushers:</u> Russ Brown, Capt.;	, Capt.;
Don Barnes	Lisa Kasper
Henry Province	Wayne Zoellick
Reed Mott	Edna Droz
<u>Coffee Fellowship:</u> Judy Turner & Jon Belfield, Capts.;	Hunter Belfield, Jim Huey
<u>Sound Room:</u> Rich Pool	
<u>Video Screens:</u> Dale Endres	