



e-News

January 4, 2017

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

***Worship This Sunday, January 8: "Love Does" Sermon Series and Study Starts January 8, 10, and 11! On Sunday, January 8, we begin an 8-Week Sermon Series on "Love Does." It's based on the foundation of Love God and Love your Neighbor--in that order. Love is practical. Love takes action...Love Does! We will be using Bob Goff's book, "Love Does," as we take a fresh look at what it means to love God and love others. On Tuesdays at noon, bring your lunch for an adult discussion group led by Dale Ambler, starting January 10. Or come on Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m. for an adult discussion group led by Dale Ambler, starting January 11.

Sunday Worship, January 8. God is With Us, God is For Us, and God Loves Us! That's the message of the Scriptures and the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. This Sunday we are going to celebrate and explore this life-changing news as we begin our "Love Does" focus in this New Year.

"I used to want to fix people, but now I just want to be with them." This Sunday as we begin our "Love Does" series, I am preaching on "With Others." The scripture passages for Sunday are Matthew 9:9-13, Philippians 2:5-11, and John 1:14. I like Bob Goff's insight, "I used to want to fix people, but now I just want to be with them." What might happen, this year, if we take time to be with others? What would come to life if we dream God's dreams for us? Let's see in 2017.

We celebrate the Lord's Supper at both the 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services this Sunday. Come to the Lord's Table this Sunday with your church family.
-- Pastor Craig

***Music This Sunday:

9:00 a.m.--Chancel Choir

10:30 a.m.--Worship Band

***Class This Sunday:

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

***Council/Committee Meetings:

Stewardship Council--Jan. 4, 3:30 p.m.

Day Deacons--Jan. 9, 9:30 a.m.

Night Deacons--Jan. 10, 7 p.m.

Parish Council--Jan. 12, 5 p.m.

Executive Committee--Jan. 12, 6 p.m.

Session--Jan. 12, 7 p.m.

***Our Church Family. Please add the following to your daily prayers:

Prayers of Healing for Betty Schuck at Presence St. Joseph Medical Center

Mary Haas wishes to thank church friends for their cards, calls and prayers during her recent hospitalizations.

Joan & Ed Schultz and family wish to thank all our wonderful friends at First Pres for your kind expressions of sympathy and support after the passing of Bill Jacques, our beloved father and grandpa. We are so grateful to be part of this awesome congregation!

***Fellowship/Bible Studies/Small Groups:

Men's Breakfast--Jan. 6, 7:30 a.m. at The Old Fashioned Pancake House

Women's Bible Study--Jan. 11, 10 a.m. in Room 217-219

Thursday Morning Circle--Jan. 12, 9:15 a.m. in the Fireside Room

Mary Circle--Jan. 12, 12 noon in the Fireside Room

"Balancing Life's Demands"--Wednesdays at 9 a.m. in the Fireside Room

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

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

Looking Forward to Sunday, January 15. We will introduce Will Ward, our new Director of Youth Ministry, to you on Sunday, January 15, at both the 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services. Kari Endres, Mark Schneidewind and I worked together from the beginning of April through November in the search process. We are excited for you to meet Will Ward. I invite you to be praying for Will Ward, our Advisers, and our Youth.

Is God Calling You to Serve? Perhaps God is calling you to serve as a Day Deacon or Night Deacon. Both ministries are important in the life and ministry of our church. Day Deacons visit those who are unable to attend church. Night Deacons provide coffee fellowship and lead the ushering teams on Sunday. Pray about God's calling to serve as a Day Deacon or Night Deacon, and let us know.

A Big Fun Decoration Take Down! We need your help in taking down the Christmas Decorations throughout the first floor of the church. We are going to take them down on Saturday, January 14, starting at 9:00 a.m. We will be done by 11:00 a.m. It's a lot of fun being together and having conversation as the decorations come down. So, join us on Saturday, January 14 for a few hours.

Video Projection Ministry. We need more volunteers in the video projection room for Sunday Worship. The hymns, songs, sermon slides and video clips add an essential visual element to our worship of God. If you would like to volunteer once a month in the Video 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 will easily provide the training you need to get on board.

May you dream Christ's dream for you this year and bring it to life, as the Lord so leads! -- Craig

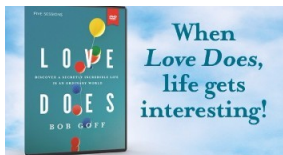
***"Love Does" Adult Discussion Groups:

Tuesdays, 12 noon in the Fireside Room (beginning Jan. 10)

Wednesdays, 5:15 p.m. in the Fireside Room (beginning Jan. 11)

***Mission:

Night Deacons' Free Pancake Breakfast--Dec. 7, 8 to 10 a.m. Come on out and help welcome and serve our guests!



"Love Does" Sermon Series and Studies

This Sunday, January 8, we begin an 8-week sermon series, "Love Does,"

based on the foundation of Love God and Love Neighbor, using Bob Goff's book, Love Does. There will also be two Adult Discussion Groups--Tuesdays at 12 noon and Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m., both in the Fireside Room and both led by Dale Ambler. Books will be available at \$11 each, beginning this Sunday.



Youth Group meets this Sunday evening, January 8, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. There are some surprise gifts you could win in a game we will play.

Come ready for fun, great fellowship, and growing in our faith. And come to learn more about our new Director of Youth Ministry, Will Ward, who will begin his ministry with us on Sunday, January 15. Come and help us get ready to welcome Will Ward to our church family!

Volunteers this Sunday, January 8, 2016

9:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Children's Worship:

Stefanie Young

Jacob Riebe

Holy Hunters:

Bo Mircea

Greeters: Emma Sticklen

Acolytes:

Nicholas Clemens

Nolan Watson

Ushers:

Barb Rodgers, Capt.;

Capt.;

Mark Dykema

Karen Repko

Carol Zettergren

Coffee Fellowship: Pat Haldorson, Capt.; Jill Strimel, Sue

Mueller

Sound Room: Rich Pool

Video Screens: Dale Endres

January 1, 2017

Worship Attendance — 70

Stewardship Report

2016-2017 Budget: \$ 786,000

Year to Date Receipts \$545,040

Year to Date Expenses \$540,217

2016-2017 Bequest/Gift Income Received — \$41,911

Christmas Joy Offering — \$2,068

Mission Offering — \$4,098