



# e-News

March 22, 2017

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

“Jesus Way” —Jesus has a heart for broken, hurting and lost people. He said of his ministry, “For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost” (Luke 19:10) and “But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners” (Matthew 9:13). Come and worship this Sunday as we rejoice and reflect upon the amazing grace and love of God for all people, even sinners, even notorious failures.

**Sunday Worship and Sermon, March 26.** We are focusing on the life, ministry, and person of Jesus each Sunday in the “Look to Jesus” Sermon Series. We are using our S.E.R.V.A.N.T. values as we “Look to Jesus.” The sermon title this week is “Visibly Seeking Out: Lost and Found.” The sermon texts are Luke 19:1-10, Luke 15:1-7, and Acts 1:6-8. Jesus invites us to join him in seeking and serving the unchurched and those who do not know him. --Craig Herr

**\*\*\*Music This Sunday:**

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

**\*\*\*Classes This Sunday:**

Jr./Sr. High Sunday School--10 a.m. in Room 206  
Bible Perspectives--10:15 a.m. in Room 201

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

Education Council--March 23, 7 p.m.

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

Quilt Group--March 23, 7 p.m.

Men's Dinner--March 24, 6 p.m. at Old Town Restaurant, 113 Stephen, Lemont

Project Linus--March 27, 9 a.m. in Hoffman Hall; Show your love for area children in need by joining us in making no-sew fleece blankets and easy quilts. Call Tari at 815-351-2544 for more information.

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

**\*\*\*Adult Discussion Groups During Lent:**

"Romans and the Reformation"--Tuesdays at 12 noon in the Fireside Room with Dale Ambler  
(bring a sack lunch)

"Creed" Men's Discussion Group (a study of the Apostles' Creed and what we believe)--Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m. in the Fireside Room with Dale Ambler

"deeplove" Marriage Enrichment--Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m. in Room 210 with Craig Herr using Drs. Les and Leslie Parrot's 4-week discussion-video seminar (March 29 last meeting)

**\*\*\*Parent Meeting Sunday, March 26, 10:10 to 10:25 a.m.** in the Fireside Room Education Council has decided to have a Parent Meeting once a month to discuss various topics, including Ed Council's vision for our Children's and Youth Ministries, and topics that may be of interest to parents. This month's Parent Meeting will be this Sunday, March 26, when parents of children birth through high school are invited to join us in the Fireside Room between services. We'll talk about why mission is important for our children and youth, and Will Ward will tell us about this summer's Youth Mission Trips.

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

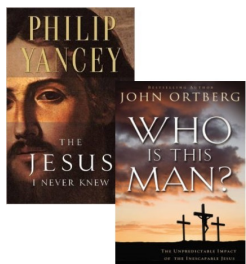
**Our Easter Egg-stravaganza is on Saturday, April 8, from 9-11 a.m.** Share the news of our Easter Egg Hunt with your friends, neighbors and family and invite them to come. Volunteer to help in this outreach to our community. It's an indoor event, so rain or shine, we will be having a great Easter Egg-stravaganza. It's a great time of greeting people and helping the children play games, hunt eggs and learn about Jesus.

**Stephen Ministry Training Class.** We would like to add more Stephen Ministers to our team. Stephen Ministers are laypeople—Christian men and women—trained to provide one-to-one care to people experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, relocation, or separation due to military deployment. We currently have 5 Stephen Ministers, 4 who are serving and caring for a person in need. We are looking to move forward and grow our Ministry Team. This would call for a training class to begin late Spring. We are looking for both men and women who feel God's calling to give distinctively Christian care through this ministry.

**Ordering Easter Flowers.** You can order flowers online if you wish to do so. Right on the front page of our Website you will find an "Order Easter Flowers" Button (box). Just click on it and place your order. Or you can order them in church using the tear off from the bulletin.

**Palm Sunday Breakfast, April 9.** Our youth are planning a delicious breakfast on Palm Sunday, 8:15 to 10:30 a.m. This is their major fund-raiser for the summer mission trips. Our Sr. Highs are going to Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota, while our Jr. Highs will serve locally. Watch for more details next week.

In Christ, Craig



**Lenten Reading**

As we "Look To Jesus" this Lenten season, you may want to read one of the books available at a discounted price in Hoffman Hall. We have the following offerings available:

- The Jesus I Never Knew by Philp Yancey
- Who Is This Man? By John Ortberg and Love Does by Bob Goff

Pick up one to share with a friend too! Payment envelopes may be returned to the church office or placed in the offering plate.

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

Prayers of Healing for Harry Cobourn at Presence St. Joseph

Prayers of Comfort for the family of Betty Schuck on her passing on March 16

The Memorial Service for Betty Schuck is Wednesday, April 5, here at First Pres. with visitation at 9:30 a.m. to time of service at 10:30 a.m.

Shirley Hill expresses her thanks for the cards, phone calls and well wishes from First Pres. friends as well as visits from the ministers. She expects a full recovery, though it will take some time.

**EGGS-TRA, EGGS-TRA!**

Our Easter Egg Hunt Is Around The Corner!

Our annual Easter Egg-stravaganza is coming up. Highlights include breakfast, the telling of the Easter Story, arts & crafts, pictures with the Easter Bunny, and a fun Easter Egg Hunt! We need lots of volunteers to make this an egg-stra special event for the children in our community. Call Bo Mircea at 815-727-9259 and let him know you can help out on April 8.

**March 19, 2017**

Worship Attendance — 224

**Stewardship Report**

2016-2017 Budget: \$ 786,000

<b>Year to Date Receipts</b>	\$679,221
<b>Year to Date Expenses</b>	\$683,140

2016-2017 Bequest/Gift Income Received — \$41,911  
 Angel House Mission — \$3,569

Visit [firstpresjoliet.org](http://firstpresjoliet.org) or call Tracy Norris, 815-727-9259, to learn of several convenient options for electronic giving.

**Volunteers this Sunday, March 26, 2017**

9:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Children's Worship:

Megan Pritz

Val Koehne

Holy Hunters:

Bo Mircea

Greeters:

Betsey O'Mara

Leslie Herr

Acolytes:

Cameron Paul

Nick Clemens

Ushers:

, Capt.;

Jen Beck, Capt.;

Nick Kasper

Coffee Fellowship: Adam Halatek, Capt., Pat Costion, Bob & Jean Smietanski

Sound Room: Rich Pool

Video Screens: Matt Blaser