



e-News

April 19, 2017

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



Children's Musical—This Sunday,
April 23, 9 & 10:30 a.m.
Our Children's Choir leads us in worship! With a constant barrage of Selfies, Tweets, and Snaps, it's easy to get caught up in today's self-absorbed culture. Join our children on an adventure where they learn the importance of being unselfish in today's selfie world by sharing the transforming love of Jesus.

Worship This Sunday

“THE UNSELFISH CHURCH, Dispelling Cultural Opinion.” Possibilities for Life in the Parables of Jesus

This Sunday we begin a new Sermon Series, “The Unselfish Church.” Our society is questioning the value and usefulness of the Church in today's world. We hear that the Church is unnecessary and that religion contributes to selfishness, violence, and discord in society. Here's the truth the Culture doesn't tell you. The Church is a transforming force for good in our world. Join us to think about the difference Jesus makes in us, the church, and the world. See you Sunday.

Sunday, April 23. This Sunday as we begin “The Unselfish Church Series,” I am preaching on “Don't Underestimate Yourself.” We will consider the Parable of the Mustard Seed in Mark 4:30-34. What if faith was our first response to life? We will consider the difference faith and the church makes in us and our world. Christ Is Risen! Come and celebrate in worship!
--Craig Herr

Music: 9:00 a.m.—Children's Choir
10:30 a.m.—Worship Band, Children's Choir

Volunteers this Sunday, April 23, 2017

9:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Children's Worship: Megan Pritz	Val Koehne
Holy Hunters:	Pam LeVasseur
Greeters: Andrea Warren & Karen Luebbe	
Acolytes: Stewart Paul	Zach Koehne
Ushers: Adam Halatek, Capt.;	Ed Schultz, Capt.;
	Judy Turner
Coffee Fellowship: Barb Rodgers, Capt., Jon Belfield	
Sound Room: Keith LeVasseur	
Video Screens: Matt Blaser	

The Week Ahead

***Council/Committee Meetings:

Parish Council—April 20, 5:30 p.m.
Executive Committee—April 20, 6 p.m.
Session—April 20, 7 p.m.

***Fellowship/Bible Studies/Small Groups:

Quilt Group, April 20, 7 p.m.
Project Linus—April 24, 9 a.m.
Women's Bible Study—April 26, 10 a.m.
Men's Dinner—April 28, 6 p.m. at McBride's on 52,
2727 W. Jefferson St., Joliet
Praise Yoga—Tuesdays at 7 p.m. & Thursdays
at 8 a.m.
Centering Prayer—Tuesdays at 1 p.m. in Room 210
Mindfulness Practice—Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.
Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study—Saturdays
at 7 a.m. in the Fireside Room

KIDS

15 Minutes with Education Council
April 23, 10 to 10:15 a.m. in the Fireside Room

Parents of children through high school age, join us for a conversation on the impact of the digital world and your kids. We hope we'll be able to help you start a conversation with your kids and teens about the safe and good practices of living in a digital world.



Maker Fun Factory Vacation Bible School
—June 19—23
Register on-line at
www.firstpresjoliet.org

Sports Camp

Basketball — July 17—20
Soccer — July 24—27
Brochure and registration form is on-line
on our website.

YOUTH

Graduation—if you or someone in your immediate family is graduating this spring from Jr. High, Sr. High, or college, send us the info, along with a picture of your graduate. Pick up a form at church this Sunday! We'd like the info by April 30 so we can prepare the Graduates' Board.

Worship With Us, on this Second Sunday of Easter! We will celebrate the Risen Christ in song, Children's "Unselfie" Musical, and sermon. Come to Hoffman Hall between services for good conversations, refreshments and fellowship.

A Compassion International and Children's Focus. We are planning a Compassion International Sunday focus for May 14. Please send me (or the office) a picture of the child you are supporting and his/her name. We'd like to share the Good News of all the children our members and friends are supporting each year. Some of our members are supporting a child from the Matsiko World Orphan Choir. If so, we'd like those children's pictures as well.

Two Months Until VBS! It's time to encourage children to attend our Summer VBS. Start talking up VBS with your family, friends, and neighbors. Think about volunteering and being part of one of the best weeks of the summer.

Our E-News Format Is New. We gave our E-News a new look. Take a look through it. You can click on the buttons to read about a specific area of our life, ministry, and mission. That way if you wish to print anything from the electronic newsletter, you can just print the section you want. We think this will be more user friendly as you can click on any area of ministry that you choose each week. Of course, you can read the whole newsletter if you wish as well.

In Christ,
Craig

April 16, 2017
Worship Attendance — 401

Stewardship Report
2017-2018 Budget: \$ 792,000

Year to Date Receipts	\$29,347
Year to Date Expenses	\$28,725

2017-2018 Bequest/Gift Income Received—\$0

Have you considered electronic giving? Visit our website or call Tracy Norris to learn of several convenient options available.

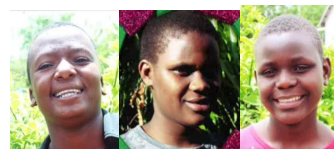
Many thanks for supporting the Youth Group Palm Sunday Breakfast and Drawing.

Winners of the drawing were: Jan Weber—Knitted Hats; Quilt—Carla DeYoung; Table Runner—Mary Caisley; iPad—Emma Sticklen. Proceeds from the Breakfast and Drawing help support the Youth Mission Trips this summer.

150 Loving Acts of Service Beyond the Walls of Our Church.

We have 92 blocks! Watch for coming opportunities to sign up to help with a Habitat for Humanity house this spring and summer. Remember, if you are part of a church-sponsored project, the CHURCH creates one block; if you serve as an individual, YOU create one block.

Angel House— Thank you for your financial support of Lucy, Bhoki and Rhobi, the three



Lucy Bhoke Rhobi

young women we support at Angel House Orphanage in Tanzania. If you haven't given yet and wish to give, you can still do so—by check or online at www.firstpresjoliet.org. Just click on Give, then use the Quick Give option or register. There's a menu of options; click on General Budget, scroll down and choose Angel House Mission.

Selfie Challenge

"Who is that?" — "What's their name?"...the list of 'I don't know who that is' questions is long and it's time to turn it around. Just because you don't know someone as well as your best friend or family member shouldn't stop you from getting to know those you don't know at church. Parish Council wants to make it easy for you to get to know someone new and it is as simple as asking really easy ice breaker questions like: Cubs or Sox? What's your favorite holiday? Favorite season? Favorite movie? You get the idea...so here are 3 easy steps:

- 1) Find someone new...seek them out—Introduce yourself and be intentional and admit you don't know who they are but really would like to get to know something about them.
- 2) Parish Council has provided laminated question cards to help you break the ice; so, ask a question.
- 3) Walk over to the photo booth in the Narthex and take a "selfie"—you know, a picture you take of the 2 of you with your cell phone...really simple. If you have an Instagram account, tag the picture with #firstpresjoliet, #firstpresjolietsundayselfie (ask someone to help you if you don't know how) or you can email it to the church office.

That's it! It's really simple and you will have met someone new and now know something about them!!

Ladies' Day Retreat
May 13, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Ladies, this is a special day set aside just for you to unwind and relax, to meet some new friends, and to take time to grow stronger in God's Word.

Cost is \$10 per person and includes a light breakfast, lunch from Panera, workshops, a special gift, worship, and a spiritual message from Mary Lynn Keir.

There will be 3 break-out sessions; please pick up to 3 that are of interest to you:

*** *Healthy Weight Management*—**

5 Proven Strategies from Registered Dietitian Heather Smith, MS, RD, CDE. Whether you're trying to maintain or lose weight, or just learning to make better food choices, walk away with 5 tips for becoming a healthier YOU!

*** *Perk Up Your Wardrobe*—**

Can you accessorize your Spring and Summer wardrobe responsibly—and on a budget? Yes! Join Anna Johnson to get stylish tips and ideas using the Fair Trade products of Trades of Hope. From beachy-casual to formal bling, Trades of Hope will help you customize your look affordably while empowering women out of poverty around the world.

*** *Recharging Smoothies and Salads*—**

Koren Finnestad from Drover's Trail Natural Farms, will discuss how to incorporate healthy probiotic rich foods such as yogurt, kefir and kombucha into delicious smoothies. She'll also demonstrate a few easy homemade salad dressing recipes. Samples and recipes will be provided. A table of Drover's produce for purchase will be in Hoffman Hall.

*** *"You Can Do It" Creative Floral Arrangement*—**

Floral Arrangement techniques for Amateurs with Sue Lee. Simple techniques will be demonstrated for silk and fresh floral arrangements. Handout provided.

*** *Introduction to Handbells*—**

Members of the First Pres. Glory Ringers will teach you the basics of handbell and handchime ringing. No experience is needed. Discover the joy of making music as part of a group in a fun and relaxed atmosphere.

*** *Meditation/Chair Yoga with Emma Sticklen*—**

Yoga/Meditation is prayer in heart, mind, and body. Through deep breathing and gentle movements and poses we find a quiet place within. In this quiet place we experience "...hope in the Lord, who will renew our strength." (Isaiah 40:13)

*** *"Best Face Forward" Skin Care Q & A*—**

Our own Leslie Clapp, Licensed Esthetician, will present tips on better skin care. Please bring any jars and bottles from home and she will suggest the best use.

*** *"Goodbye Stress" Creative Coloring*—**

One of the highly recommended ways to decompress. Create your own beautiful bookmark.

*** *Chair Massage*—**

Several massage therapists will give mini chair massages. Sign up for times at the retreat.

Register online at www.firstpresjoliet.org or on Sunday mornings at church, or mail your registration form to the church office.