



# e-News

May 24, 2017

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

## Worship This Sunday

## The Week Ahead

**Worship and Celebrate what God is doing in the World, in your Church, and in your Life this Sunday.** I encourage you to prepare for worship by praying to see and understand what God is doing in our world, in our church, and in our lives this week. Read Psalm 136 and consider the breadth, width, height and scope of God's enduring love. Consider how God set his people free and swept evil oppressors away. Let's pray for the suffering people of Manchester and pray for protection from evil. Let's pray for our enemies that God would change their hearts and bring them to faith in Christ Jesus, just as the Lord stopped Paul from being an evil oppressor and brought him to faith. Paul, who inflicted much suffering on Christians, would live for Christ and suffer greatly for his Savior, even being executed for his faith. Let us pray that the love of God would flow from us to others wherever we go.

**Sunday, May 28.** This Sunday Jim Mullins is preaching on "Spring Cleaning or Emptiness is not Godliness." The sermon texts are Matthew 12:43-45 and Psalm 136. For the context of Matthew 12:43-45 you should read the beginning of the chapter, Matthew 12:1-42. Jesus is receiving biting, misguided, and evil criticism from the Pharisees and Teachers of the law. They wish to get rid of Jesus. However, Jesus is not so easily dismissed.

--Craig Herr

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

- Men's Dinner—May 26, 6 p.m. at Katie O'Connor's Pint House & Pub, 13717 S. Route 30, Plainfield
- 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

### \*\*\*Adult Discussion Groups:

- Parables Discussion Group—Tuesdays at 12 noon (bring a sack lunch), May 30-June 13, July 11-25
- Men's Discussion Group—Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. May 18, June 1 and other dates in June and July to be decided.

## NEW MEMBERS CLASS

The date has been changed—to Sunday, June 4! If you would like to know more about the life, ministry, and mission of First Pres. and widen the circle of people you know, then please join us for the New Members Class.

If you would like to become a member of the church, you are most welcome. If you just want to learn more about the church, that's great too!

We will meet on Sunday, June 4 @ 11:45 a.m. in the Fireside Room. We will have lunch and spend two hours together getting to know each other and talking about First Pres.

Please let one of our pastors know if you would like to come to the class.

### May 21, 2017

Worship Attendance — 171

### Stewardship Report

2017-2018 Budget: \$ 792,000

<b>Year to Date Receipts</b>	\$95,301
<b>Year to Date Expenses</b>	\$87,391

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

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

## THE PASTOR'S CORNER...

Craig Herr, Senior Pastor

**Compassion Children Supported.** Seven families decided to support Compassion International Children on Sunday, May 14. You can go to the Mission section of the newsletter and find out more information if you wish to support a child. We have many families and individuals in the congregation who support either a Compassion Child or a Matsiko World Orphan Choir child. That's wonderful and exciting to know and hear about. One child at a time we are making a vital difference for children and for Christ and his Kingdom!

**New Members Class to Meet on June 4th.** If you would like to know more about the life, ministry, and mission of First Pres. and widen the circle of people you know, then join us for our New Members Class. If you would like to become a member of the church, you are most welcome. If you just want to learn more about the church, that's great too! We will meet on Sunday, June 4 @ 11:45 a.m. in the Fireside Room. We will have lunch and spend two hours together getting to know each other and talking about First Pres.

**Change to Saturday on Kayaking Just For Fun.** The plan is to go this Saturday afternoon at 10:00 a.m. launching from "The Yak Shack LLC" at 301 E. Hydraulic Ave., Yorkville, IL. Kayak rentals are \$35. If you bring your own Kayak transporting it back to the launch site is \$10. Let me know or call the office if you wish to go on Saturday, May 27 @ 10:00 a.m. Please e-mail me at [craig.herr@firstpresjoliet.org](mailto:craig.herr@firstpresjoliet.org)

**Don't wait for someone else to volunteer.** Try out this Ministry. Video Projection Ministry. We need some 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](mailto: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.

**Annual Reports Available.** Following both the Annual Report review meeting and the Annual Congregational Meeting last Sunday, May 21, this year's Annual Report is available in the Narthex/Lobby area and in Hoffman Hall. Please pick one up (one per family) and review and celebrate this past year's life, ministry, and mission of First Pres. See what God is doing in and through us all.

In Christ,  
Craig



## KIDS

### Maker Fun Factory Vacation Bible School

June 19—23

Kids will discover not only that God made them the way they are, but also made them for a purpose. Maker Fun Factory is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences. Sciency-Fun Gizmos™, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just some of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. It's all FREE!  
Register your kids on-line and register yourself to help out at [www.firstpresjoliet.org](http://www.firstpresjoliet.org).



### Sports Camp

Basketball — July 17—20

Soccer — July 24—27

This is a great opportunity for younger children to learn the basics of basketball and soccer as well as character-building and team-building skills.  
Cost: \$20 per child/\$15 for a second child or second camp.  
Brochure/registration form is on-line on our website.

## YOUTH

Check out our Graduates' Board in Hoffman Hall!

## KAYAK OUTING ON THE FOX RIVER, YORKVILLE

Have a great time on the water Kayaking **Saturday afternoon, May 27 @ 1:00 p.m.** (note change of date). We'll meet at "The Yak Shack LLC" at 301 E. Hydraulic Ave., Yorkville, IL. Kayak rentals are \$35. If you bring your own Kayak, transporting it back to the launch site is \$10. Let Craig Herr or the office know if you wish to join us on Saturday, May 27 @ 1:00 p.m.

## LUNCH ON JUNE 11

We all like to eat, and sharing a meal together is a great way to get to know people. Relationships are important! Here's a new opportunity to make friends. Folks can sign up to go out to lunch together either after the 9 a.m. service or after the 10:30 a.m. service on June 11. Groups will decide where they want to go (Dutch treat). Indicate your interest on the sign-up board in the narthex. Get to know someone over lunch!

## Mission



**Compassion International and Supporting a Child.** It's still possible to choose to support a child through Compassion International. Last Sunday we thought about the opportunity to support a Compassion International Child and shape that child's life for years to come. We also acknowledged the support of children through the Matsiko World Orphan Choir Ministry. We still have some Compassion Children who could use support. The informational packet on each child is available in the office. If you are interested, come up to the office and read about a child that could use your support.

**Free Summer Lunch Program** here at First Pres., Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. from June 5 to August 18. Children Kindergarten through 12th Grade will be served a FREE nutritious boxed lunch. The meals come boxed, but volunteers are needed to help greet our guests, distribute the lunches, and read to the children. Call Barb Rodgers at 815-439-3747 to offer your help—once a week, once a month, or as often as you are able. **High School Students**—you can earn community service hours by helping out at our Free Summer Lunch Program!

**The Habitat for Humanity ReStore is moving** further north to 1395 Larkin Ave. and they need help setting up the new store. Contact Nicole Murray at 815-726-7010 or nmurray@habitatwill.org if you can help. They hope to be up and functioning by June 1st.

**150 Loving Acts of Service Beyond the Walls of Our Church.** We are at 121 blocks!!! Watch for coming opportunities to sign up to help with a **Habitat for Humanity** house on Cora St., Crest Hill, this 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.

### Volunteers this Sunday, May 28, 2017

9:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Children's Worship:

Stefanie Young

Sarah Lundeen

Bo Mircea

Holy Hunters:

Greeters:

Emmie Ostrem

Acolytes:

Camryn Pope

Carter Lundeen

Ushers:

, Capt.;

Duke Barnes

Ed Schultz, Capt.;

Judy Turner

Coffee Fellowship: Pat & Lisa Haldorson, Capts.,

Mary Jane Johnson,

Sound Room: Rich Pool

Video Screens: Dale Endres

### 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 two 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!!