



# e-News

June 21, 2017

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

Who is Jesus the Christ? It is not a new question. This week we place our focus on Jesus, as we continue our look at the Apostles' Creed. Since the 1st century, there have been many answers and opinions on this question from...Son of God to a fabrication by the early Church. The question for us this week is this...“Which Answer Will You Give?” using Philippians 2:1-11 as my sermon text.

Pastor Dale

### Music This Sunday:

9:00 a.m.—Bryan Endres  
10:30 a.m.—Worship Band

### Our Church Family

Known to be in the hospital:  
Elizabeth Holman & Paul Berg  
at Presence St. Joseph Medical Center

Sympathies extended:  
To Gina Kleckaukas-Bonomo and family  
on the passing of her nephew,  
T.J. Fincher, on Sunday, June 18

Pray for our Sr. Highs and Advisors,  
leaving Sunday on their Mission Trip to  
Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota

### The Week Ahead

**VBS Final Production Program**—June 22, 6 p.m.

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

Men's Dinner—June 23, 6 p.m. at Thayer's  
Restaurant, 753 Ruby, Joliet (cash only)

Project Linus—June 26, 9 a.m., Hoffman Hall

**Matsiko World Orphan Choir Concert—  
June 29, 7 p.m.**

Women's Bible Study—June 28, 10 a.m., Rm. 217

Praise Yoga—Tuesdays at 7 p.m. & Thursdays  
at 8 a.m. in the narthex (not meeting during  
VBS week)

Centering Prayer—Tuesdays at 1 p.m. in Room 210

Mindfulness Practice—Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in  
the Fireside Room (not meeting June 22)

Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study—Saturdays  
at 7 a.m. in the Fireside Room



For the summer months of July and August, the Night Deacons will be trying something different relative to coffee service on Sundays. Beginning July 2, the Sunday coffee service will only be available from 9:45-10:45 a.m. and will be self-serve in Hoffman Hall, not in the narthex. The primary reason for this change is the significantly reduced number of Night Deacons this year along with difficulty in obtaining individuals to help serve on a weekly basis. By starting on July 2, the Night Deacons will have six Sundays to evaluate the change prior to their monthly meeting on August 8.

### Volunteers this Sunday, June 25, 2017

9:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Children's Worship:

Stefanie Young

Sarah Lundeen

Greeters:

Al & Pat Benson

Acolytes:

Cameron Paul

Sadie House

Ushers:

, Capt.;

Russ Brown

Helen Steinberg

Reed Mott

Ed Schultz, Capt.;

Russ Brown

Coffee Fellowship: Jon Belfield & Judy Turner, Capts.,

Mary Jane Johnson, Sue Lee

Sound Room: Rich Pool

Video Screens: Matt Blaser

## THE PASTOR'S CORNER...

Dale Ambler, Associate Pastor

**VBS in full gear!!** A common response to “How is VBS going?” comes in terms of numbers of kids. Yes, we had 137 kids on Monday and while having kids present is important, what is more important are the relationships that are being made this week. Think about the kids building relationships with each other grounded in Jesus...or the kids and their leaders, along with the other many servants here, to make memories in the hearts of the kids, their families and those of you who make this a reality—relationships that can make memories for a lifetime!!

**Matsiko Choir, June 28-30:** Yes, we still need help with meals for these wonderful kids. Again, the importance behind this is more than just another task to be done by a volunteer. The importance lies in the reality that the 38 individuals here on behalf of the Matsiko Choir are here because of the nearly 600 MILLION orphaned and at-risk children in our world. It's about the kids...learning that their lives matter...that they can make a difference in this world. One of the main purposes of this tour is that the lives of these kids will be positively changed so that when they return home they can excel in life and be leaders in their countries. It's about the kids!! So, help as you can and come out and support them at their concert on June 29th at 7 p.m.

*Dale*

**June 18, 2017**  
Worship Attendance — 209

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

<b>Year to Date Receipts</b>	\$144,528
<b>Year to Date Expenses</b>	\$144,813

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

Visit [firstpresjoliet.org](http://firstpresjoliet.org) or call Tracy Norris,

## KIDS

### 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

Sr. Highs to Great America — July 11,  
8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Youth Group Game Night — July 22, 5 to 9 p.m.

Jr. High Mission Trip — July 26-28

## FAMILIES

**The Matsiko World Orphan Choir** will be staying with us June 28-30. They will have a concert for us on Thursday, June 29, at 7 p.m. Invite your family, friends & neighbors!

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, July 12, 7 p.m. We are hosting a **Jazz Concert featuring the Matthew Miller Group**. Initially a collaboration of college friends, the Matthew Miller Group is comprised of musicians who continue to play in varying combinations and settings throughout the Chicagoland area. This edition of the group focuses on interpretations of spirituals, jazz standards, and modern compositions all deeply rooted in the jazz tradition. The versatility and knowledge of each musician allows the band to present music that is full of life and is always an exciting experience. There will be dessert and refreshments after the concert. This is a **FREE** community event with a freewill offering received to benefit Pink Heals—Joliet Chapter. Invite your friends, family and co-workers!

## Celebrating Wins



This week our church facility is full of laughter and buzzing with the excitement of 140 happy children enjoying **Maker Fun Factory VBS**. Over half of those children do not have a church home. What a joy it is to tell them how they were lovingly created by God—God made them, God is for them, God is always with them, God will always love them, and God made them for a reason. We are blessed to have over 30 volunteers, many of them nonmembers, helping us tell children in our community about God's love and Jesus' teachings.

**Four confirmands** joined our church on June 4th. Hunter Belfield, Mikella Frey, Lilly Dunbar, and Pauly Fris went through the Confirmation Class with Pastor Bo Mircea and Will Ward, and professed their faith, desiring to be disciples of Jesus Christ, to share his love, and to serve him as part of the church as the body of Christ. Congratulations to our Confirmands!

**The Summer Food Program** continues to serve an average of 11-12 kids each day, Monday through Friday. Our Night Deacons also are offering a Book Program—for every 5 days they come for lunch, children can choose a free book to take home! What a joy to provide a nutritious lunch to food insecure children in our community!

## Mission

### **Meals for the Matsiko World Orphan Choir.**

The Matsiko World Orphan Choir will be staying here at First Pres. June 28-30. If you would like to help provide and/or serve their meals, please call the church office. Meals are needed for:

Dinner on Wednesday, June 28

Dinner on Thursday, June 29

Breakfast on Thursday, June 29

Breakfast on Friday, June 30

Don't forget the Matsiko Choir Concert on Thursday, June 29, at 7 p.m.

**The Mobile Food Pantry** will be here at First Pres. on July 25, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. We need 10 volunteers to help folks to their cars with their groceries. This is a great opportunity to see how this program works. The Mobile Food Pantry is open to all those in the community to need help with food.

**Stephen Ministry**—If you sense that God might be calling you to serve as a Stephen Minister, now is the time to embrace that calling and consider training that will begin August 28th - December 18th. Please consider attending an information and registration meeting on Sunday, July 16, in the Fireside Room at 10:15 a.m. or 11:45 a.m. (after each service). For more information please contact Stephen Leader, Kris Hayden, at our Stephen Ministry office: [stephenministry@firstpresjoliet.org](mailto:stephenministry@firstpresjoliet.org) or call 815- 727-9259 (ext. 209). Information packets are available in the narthex by the Nursery.

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

## 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) 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 (ask someone to help you if you don’t know how) with #firstpresjoliet, firstpresjolietsundayselfie 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!!