



The Servants' Light

June 28, 2017

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*"Servants of
Jesus Christ—
Ministering
To One Another,
To Our Community,
And To Our World."*

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Joliet, IL 60435

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Sunday Morning Schedule

Worship—

9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Children's Worship—

9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship—

10:00 to 10:30 a.m.

Nursery/Preschool Care—

8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

**FREE
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.

Featuring: Matthew Miller - Vibraphone
Grace Blackford -- Voice
Michael Lockler -- Guitar/Flute
Juell Markowski -- Bass
Dylan Good -- Drums



**Wednesday
July 12th
7:00pm
here at First Pres.**

Join us after
the concert for
dessert and
refreshments!

A FREE-WILL
offering will be
accepted for donation to
Pink Heals - Joliet Chapter

**This is a
Community Event**

**All friends and family
are welcome!**



Sunday, July 2. Come worship this Sunday and give thanks for the wonder of God's presence with us. Through the Holy Spirit, alive within any follower of Christ Jesus, God is present with us always. Jesus promised, "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). How good it is to live in God's gracious and guiding presence! This Sunday we celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper at both services. Come worship and participate in what God is doing.

Sermon. This Sunday Bo Mircea is preaching on "The Holy Spirit" as we continue with our sermon series "CREED: What Christians Believe and Why." Bo writes, "This Sunday we will continue our series on the Apostle's Creed, and we will look at John 14:15-30. The Creed does not say much about the Holy Spirit; it only states: I believe in the Holy Spirit. What does it mean? Who is the Holy Spirit? How is God working through the Spirit in my life? Those are questions we will wrestle with as we come to worship on Sunday. Until then, please pray that the Spirit of God will continue to open the scriptures and bring us closer to the heart of God. See you on Sunday! Be blessed, Bo Mircea".

Opportunities To Serve: Lunch Program and Pancake Breakfast. The Free Summer Lunch Program for children K-12 Grade has been going for nearly a month now and goes through August 18. It's Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call the office or Barb Rogers if you'd like to help in any way. The Night Deacons Free Pancake Breakfast is this Saturday, July 1. Come and help greet and serve our guests.

June 25, 2017

Worship Attendance — 166

Stewardship Report

2017-2018 Budget: \$ 792,000

Year to Date Receipts	\$152,649
Year to Date Expenses	\$146,501

2017-2018 Bequest/Gift Income Received — \$138,592.47
(from the Marge Ganja Estate)

We offer several convenient options for electronic giving.
Please visit our website or call Tracy Norris
for more information.

Try Serving In Our 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). It's a wonderful way to serve and we have excellent volunteers who will easily provide the training you need to get on board.

Stephen Ministry. We are going to be training men and women for one-on-one Christian care giving for people who are experiencing a difficult time in life. If you sense that God may be calling you to be a Stephen Minister there will be informational meetings on Sunday, July 16 in the Fireside Room after each worship service. A new training session will start the end of August.

Matsiko World Orphan Choir Concert Thursday Evening. Come this Thursday evening, June 29, to hear and see the Matsiko World Orphan Choir sing, dance, and celebrate God's goodness and love in the Sanctuary/Worship Center. The concert begins at 7:00 p.m. In Christ,

Craig



Known to be in the Hospital:

Elizabeth Holman & Paul Berg
at Presence St. Joseph Medical Center

Just Born:

Maverick Caver Fumagalli (June 24)
Son of Michael & Kirsten Fumagalli

Easton Paul Zettergren (June 25)
Son of Eric & Emily Zettergren

Baptized:

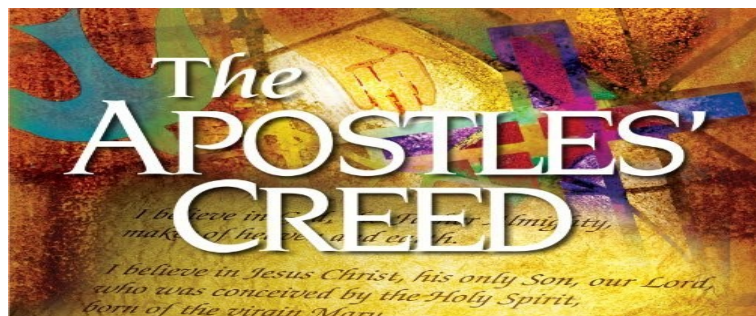
Pauly Fris (June 4)

United in Marriage:

Samantha Parratore & Daniel Golembiewski (June 3)
Jennifer Cox & Dan DaMassa (June 17)
Alexandra Breske & Malcolm Kletke (June 25)

Adult Education Opportunities

“CREED: What Christians Believe and Why” Sermon Series



We'll continue our sermon series on "Creed: What Christians Believe and Why," using Adam Hamilton's book "Creed."

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|---------|--|
| July 2 | "The Holy Spirit" |
| July 9 | "The Church and the Communion of Saints" |
| July 16 | "The Forgiveness of Sins" |
| July 23 | "The Resurrection of the Body" |



Our 1st Pres. Blog continues, following the lectionary passages. Join us this summer as we continue our journey in the word:

<https://firstpresjoliet.wordpress.com>.

"Bible Perspectives"
Sundays, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.
Room 201 with Jim Mullins

We use the Common Lectionary Bible passages each week. Jim Mullins leads the exploration of what the words meant to past hearers and what they mean today to present hearers.

Summertime Discussion Groups

After having taken a short break, we will finish out the summer discussion groups in the month of July.

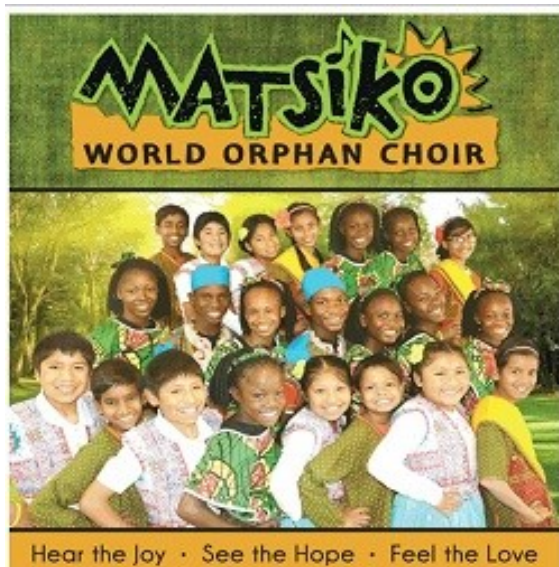
On Tuesdays...July 11, 18 and 25, we will continue our lunchtime discussion group at 12:00 noon in the Fireside Room. So, bring your lunch as we wrap up the Parables of Jesus discussion.

Also, men, our Men's Discussion Group will resume on Thursday evenings...July 13 and 27 in Room 217.

Both groups will NOT MEET in August so we can focus on getting ready to resume both groups again in September. Check the Sunday bulletin and *Servants' Light* publications as well as our website for more information on both groups.



Missed a Sunday? Just go to our website — www.firstpresjoliet.org —and at the top of the home page click on "Media" — "Sermons." It's that easy!



The Matsiko Choir is staying with us June 28-30 and will give a concert at 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 29. Invite your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers!

Please Lend Your Smile as an Usher or Coffee Fellowship Server!!

A major responsibility of our church's Night Deacons is to coordinate the weekly usher and coffee fellowship schedules. Please join in the fun of a small group by extending your hand of friendship to our church family and guests. We invite you to sign up once a month, every other month, or every few months. Several months of opportunities are available at the Night Deacons Table in Hoffman Hall between services. You can also contact the coordinator, Wayne Zoellick, at 520-400-8396 or wayz-oel@hotmail.com.



We had such a great turnout for our first "Let's Do Lunch" that we're doing lunch again!

Plan to join us—either after first service or after second service—on July 30. We'll gather into groups and each group will decide where they want to go for brunch/lunch. This is a great opportunity to get to know those of our church family just a little bit better. And who knows....you just might meet someone new!

Session Notes

At its regularly scheduled meeting of June 8, 2017, the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Joliet, voted:

- to approve any baptisms that may be requested before the next meeting;
- to approve the purchase of 42 new choir robes and stoles at a cost of \$7,500 to replace worn robes;
- to accept all confirmands of the class of 2017 into membership;
- to move the next Session Meeting from August 10 to Thursday, August 17, 2017, to avoid schedule conflicts;
- to hold a Feed My Starving Children Packing Session in the fall, at a cost of about \$22,000, cost to be offset by personal donations and by recruiting other churches to pick up part of the cost and provide volunteers (500 needed);
- to pre-purchase 250 tickets at a cost of \$2,500 to the Joliet Slammers Faith Night game on August 26 in support of the mission work of The Center by Milton Calvin, a local Christian singer and musician;
- to approve a freewill offering at the Jazz Concert to be held July 12, with proceeds to benefit the work of the Joliet Chapter of Pink Heals, a group that supports families in crisis.



Men's Breakfast—July 7, 7:30 a.m. at the Old Fashioned Pancake House on Jefferson St., Joliet.

Dinner Out Group—July 18, 6 p.m. at McWethy's Tavern (Mistwood Golf Club), 1700 W. Renwick Rd., Romeoville. Call Jean or Bob Smietanski at 815-838-7616 to make a reservation.

Men's Dinner Group—July 28, 6 p.m., at Larry's Diner, 245222 W. Lockport Rd., Plainfield. RSVP to Bob Smietanski at 815-838-7616.

Servants of Jesus Christ —

Ministering to One Another, to Our Community, and to Our World

Mobile Food Pantry — July 25
10 a.m. to 12 noon
Here at First Pres.

We will 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 Pantry is open to all those in the community who are food insecure. Call the church office to sign up to help.



The Night Deacons are serving breakfast on Saturday, July 1, 8 to 10 a.m. to those in our community who are spiritually or physically hungry. Come on out and help us serve and welcome our guests.

Getting to Know Others a.k.a. "Selfie Challenge"



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 be held 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 or call 815-727-9259 (ext. 209). Information packets are available in the narthex by the Nursery.

Time and again, you've heard that relationships are important. Nearly everyone here knows, in general, how relationships begin...they begin, typically, between you and someone you either don't know or, don't know very well. You may know someone's name but you really don't know anything about them – like, where they live, what they like to do... you get the idea. The whole purpose of the "Selfie Challenge" was to take something that nearly every one of us carries around with us – a smart phone... and taking a picture of you and someone else that you have made a point of getting to know in some way, shape or form. As simple as this sounds, it can be difficult to do, especially if you have trouble talking with someone you don't know...the key is simply making an effort to want to get to know someone new. Go ahead! Give it a try! And, along the way use your smartphone to take a picture and send it to the office (office@firstpresjoliet.org).



With Summer vacation now upon us, it's easy to stay current with your pledge in support of the life, mission and ministry of First Presbyterian Church. Here are the guidelines for On-Line Giving and Text Giving.

For on-line giving, just go to our website—firstpresjoliet.org—and click on the On-Line Giving box on the home page. You can plug in your user e-mail address and set up a password, then follow the instructions.

For Text Giving, text an amount to 815-205-3044. The first time you text a donation, you will be prompted with a one-time registration screen. This will assign your mobile number to First Pres., and allow you to select what account from which your text donation is withdrawn.

Children's Ministry Update



Glimpses of God's Love

If I am to sum up the past week of VBS in one sentence this would be it: I have seen God's love at work, in kids and youth, in parents and with the many volunteers. I hope that all of us can experience that undenying joy of seeing lives changed, and people transformed by what God is doing through their own lives. Be blessed Bo M



BASKETBALL CAMP

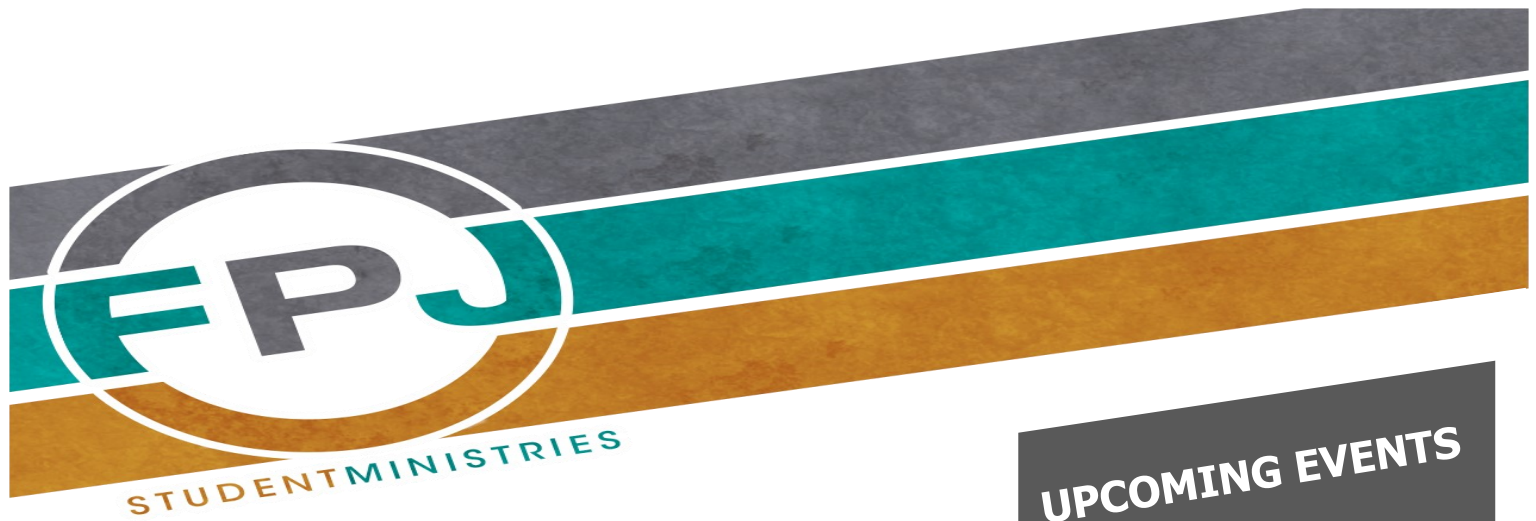
JULY 17 -20
@ CHURCH

SOCCER CAMP

JULY 24-27
@
PRESERVATION
PARK

ZOOM

MARK YOUR
CALENDARS
FOR SEPT. 13
NEW MOMMY
& ME CLASS
STARTING THIS
FALL



Day 1 (Sun.)—Today we made the nine-hour drive from Joliet to Leech Lake, Minnesota. The drive was very smooth and we managed to arrive ahead of schedule. Along the way the advisors discovered 500 Mile Coffee, a very potent coffee that works extremely well. The youth begin their work tomorrow which we are all anxiously awaiting. We cannot wait to share some of the exciting events of this week.

Day 2 (Mon.) started off with breakfast, orientation and a quick reorganizing of the groups. The First Pres. kids were divided between helping at a local kids club and helping at a local elementary school. The group at the kids club had a lot to say about how the children's lives are so different from what they expected, even compared to kids they have helped in the past. We ran games, reenacted bible stories and served the kids lunch. The group at the school helped move and unpack books as well as cleaned the school bathrooms. Upon returning from the site, the night was capped off with a look at the culture of a local tribe, which ended with an Indian dancing lesson. Overall, everyone had a good first day and we hope the rest of the week keeps up this pace.

Check out firstpresmissiontrips.wordpress.com for the daily mission trip blog—plus a video of our kids performing an Indian dance!
More pictures on the back page.....

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jr./Sr. High Sunday School—
Sundays at 10 a.m.

Sr. Highs to Six Flags Great America
July 11, 8:30 a.m.-8 p.m.

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

Jr. High Mission Trip—
July 26-28
(serving at local missions)

Day 3 (Tues.)—Today was a bittersweet day for some of the groups, as the groups who started with kids club yesterday will be moving on to a different project on Wednesday. Many of the kids expressed sadness about the kids and how much they will miss them following the switch. The other groups helped clean out an elementary school and assisted in building a new trash can holder for a member of the community. We closed our day with a trip to Dairy Queen, where everyone had some great thoughts about events that have taken place on this trip. We also had some fun at a nearby park. Today was really fulfilling. The smile on the children's faces as I talked to them about video games felt pretty nice, and I'm not sure who will miss who more when we switch groups tomorrow.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Craig M. Herr—Senior Pastor
Dale Ambler—Associate Pastor
Bo Mircea—Associate Pastor of Children's Ministry
and Family Ministry
Will Ward—Director of Youth Ministry
Diane Uden—Administrative Ministry Assistant
Sherry Buffington—Outreach Ministry Assistant &
Newsletter Editor

Newsletter Deadline—The deadline for
reserving space in the July 26 *Servants' Light*
is **July 10**. Please e-mail to
sherry.buffington@firstpresjoliet.org.

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