



e-News

September 13, 2017
805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435
815-727-9259 firstpresjoliet.org

Worship This Sunday



Second Sunday for “Faith First” Series! What if faith was our first response in life?

Faith First...Faith first when we think, speak, or act. Faith first, when we talk with our children, spouse, parents, friends, colleagues...anyone.

What if faith was our first response when someone criticizes us or we get cut off on the road by someone?

Could we be Faith First Followers of Jesus when we get out of our car in the church parking lot and look around and see someone else, or Faith First when we meet someone new in church?

What about being Faith First people when we volunteer and serve in the life, ministry, and mission of our church? What would that look like?

We are called to live “Faith First,” for we are Servant-Witnesses, Servant-Ministers of Jesus.

Sunday, September 17, I am preaching on “Respect/Love Everyone” as an expression of being “Faith First” Followers of Christ. I encourage you to read the following passages to prepare for worship this Sunday: Matthew 7:7-12, Psalm 46, Genesis 1:26-28.

As you go throughout this week, read the prayer from Ephesians 1:15-23 each day. Let that prayer seep and soak into your life and thinking. --Craig Herr

Invest In Your Marriage. Plan to come to the DeepLove Live Simulcast, on Friday evening, September 29, at 6:30 p.m. It features *N. Y. Times* best selling authors Drs. Les and Leslie Parrott. They are experienced marital counselors and seminar leaders. They have developed a wonderful marriage assessment designed to help any couple grow their love and support of each other. Put it on your calendar and invite guests. Invest in your marriage by coming on Friday evening, September 29, at 6:30 p.m. The Parrotts have a great sense of humor and thoughtful insights on how to deepen any marital relationship.

The Week Ahead

***Upcoming Council/Committee Meetings:

Church Growth Council—Sept. 13, 6:30 p.m.

Parish Council—Sept. 14, 5:30 p.m.

Executive Committee—Sept. 14, 6 p.m.

Session—Sept. 14, 7 p.m.

Human Resources Council—Sept. 20, 8 a.m.

Education Council—Sept. 22, 7 p.m.

***Fellowship/Bible Studies/Small Groups:

Thurs. AM Circle—Sept. 14, 9:15 a.m.

Mary Circle—Sept. 14, 12 noon

Dinner Out—Sept. 19, 6 p.m. at White Fence Farm, 1376 Joliet Rd., Romeoville.

Quilt Group—Sept. 21, 7 p.m.

Lunch Bunch Adult Discussion Group—Tuesdays at 12 noon in Room 210 (Bring your lunch!)

Praise Yoga—Tuesdays at 7 p.m. & Thursdays at 8 a.m. in the Narthex

Centering Prayer—Tuesdays at 1 p.m. in Room 217

Men’s Discussion Group—Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Willow Creek Global Summit Discussion Group—Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Mindfulness Practice—Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room

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

Our Church Family

Known to be in the Hospital: No one.

Congratulations to Kyla Steinberg & Miguel Valdivia on the birth of a son, Lorenzo David Valdivia, on September 6.

A Memorial Service for Frank Simmons will be held Sat., Sept. 16, here at First Pres. Church, with visitation from 9:30 a.m. to time of service at 11:30 a.m.

Sympathies are extended to Russ Mathena and family on the passing of Mary Mathena last night. Memorial Service arrangements are pending.

THE PASTOR'S CORNER...
Pastor

Craig Herr, Senior



Throughout the Fall Season we are celebrating our 150th Anniversary as a Church!

Here's what's coming up. Make sure to put these events on your calendar and plan to come.

On Saturday evening, October 14th, at 6:30 p.m., we will Celebrate our Mission in the Community & World. We have invited Habitat for Humanity, Will-Grundy Medical Clinic, CAPA, and Feed My Starving Children to talk about their mission in the community and world and our history of involvement over the years. They will show pictures and share the difference they make for others.

The Matthew Miller Group will play Christian jazz music at the beginning and end and in the middle of the evening. Come and celebrate God at work in our world.

Feed My Starving Children, Nov. 3rd & 4th.

Please call the office to sign up for any one of the 4 shift times or to help set up or clean up at the end. The Web-page link is not yet ready for public use. We hope to have it active next week. The Feed My Starving Children Packing Event is our gift to the world, as we will feed 101,088 children in four two-hour shifts.

History Displays in Hoffman Hall will appear with some most interesting things. Later this month you will be able to look through 150 years of the life, ministry, and mission of our church. We are celebrating our witness, ministry, and mission at First Pres. as followers of Jesus Christ. If you have any pictures, historical pieces, bulletins, or newsletters from the history of our church you are willing to loan for the historical displays, please let us know by calling the office.

Worship-Dinner Celebration of our 150th Anniversary on Sunday, December 3rd.

On the first Sunday of Advent, December 3, we will hold one Worship Service at 10:30 a.m. Rev. Dave Fillpot, our former Co-Pastor, will return to preach. Immediately following our worship celebration we will go to the Victorian Ball Room at the Jacob Henry Estate for a wonderful Christmas Dinner.

Later in the Fall we will ask for a 150th Anniversary Special Offering.

We will split the offering in half, so that 50% will be given to Mission and 50% of the offering will go for updating our church facility. The Session is going to choose the mission and facility projects this week.

We have one Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who loves us deeply and sends us into the world to represent him in wonderful ways. Look over all the ways we are going to celebrate what God has done, is doing, and will do in the life, ministry, and mission of First Pres.; that's us! I hope you will participate and celebrate with us.

In Christ,

YOUTH

We have a new Director of Youth Ministry!

Karissa Fleming interviewed with our Advisor Team and has accepted the position of Youth Group Director. You will have an opportunity to meet her on Sunday, September 17. She was in worship several Sundays and enjoyed meeting some of our youth and hearing the stories about their recent Summer Mission Trip to Leech Lake, MN, and worshipping with us.

Youth Group starts on Sunday, September 17,

at 6:00 p.m. It's an outdoor picnic with chicken provided. Bring a dessert or appetizer or both if you wish. Parents should attend. Also bring lawn chairs for outdoor eating and meeting (if it rains we'll be inside). You can meet the advisors and see all the youth group nights and events that are planned out through December.

FAMILIES

Family Night Starts Wednesday, September 20.

Each Wednesday we will have a time for us to be together as a church family, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. with lots of options. There's Dinner at 5:30. Mommy and Me Class will meet from 6:15-7:00 p.m. There's music and learning for ZooM kids at 6:30 p.m. Men's Discussion Group meets at 6:30 p.m. The Best Leadership Speakers from Willow Creek Global Summit Discussion Group meets at 6:30 p.m. Everyone can gather and be together for a delicious dinner and a time of conversation at 5:30 p.m.

Has God blessed you with the gift of preparing food and cooking? If so, please consider helping Tari Ambler and Lisa Kasper, from 4:00pm - 5:30pm, in the kitchen preparing dinners for our Wednesday Family Nights. Call Tari, 815-351-2544 for more information and to volunteer.

Music Ministry

What: Chancel Choir

Who: High School age and beyond
When: Sings at the 9 a.m. worship service
Rehearses Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.
Why: To use the talents God blessed you with
in our worship experience together.
Contact: Ken Myers, Choirmaster, 815-577-2691

What: Glory Ringers Handbell Choir

Who: High School age and beyond
(we need just 2 more ringers
to ring 3 octaves of bells)
When: Rings at the 9 a.m. worship service
about twice a month
Rehearses Mondays at 7 p.m.
Why: It's fun, it's contributing to worship
& it's an opportunity to use your God
given talents & grow in your musicality
Contact: Paula Stimpert, Glory Ringers Director,
815-342-7309

What: Worship Band

Who: Singers and Instrumentalists
When: Plays at the 10:30 a.m. worship service
Rehearses Sunday mornings at 9 a.m.
Why: Leads worship + all of the above reasons
Contact: Kristina Wilson, Worship Leader,
815-603-8101

September 10, 2017
Worship Attendance — 196

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

Year to Date Receipts \$305,712
Year to Date Expenses \$294,592

2017-2018 Bequest/Gift Income Received — \$138,592

Visit firstpresjoliet.org or call Tracy Norris,
815-727-9259, to learn of several
convenient options for electronic giving.

New Members Class

The New Members Class is set for Sunday, September 17, beginning with lunch at 11:45 a.m. and going until 1:30 p.m. If you are interested in learning more about the life, ministry, and mission of First Presbyterian Church, please let one of our pastors know of your interest. Child-care will be available. We have a great group of people who are going to come.

Volunteers this Sunday, September 17, 2017

<u>9:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
<u>Children's Worship:</u> Laura Pritz	Sarah Lundeen
<u>Holy Hunters:</u>	Pam LeVasseur
<u>Greeters:</u>	Jan Gehrig
<u>Acolytes:</u> Justin Corcoran	Evan Lundeen
<u>Ushers:</u> Russ Brown, Capt.;	Ed Schultz, Capt.;
<u>Coffee Fellowship:</u> , Capt.; Betsey O'Mara	
<u>Sound Room:</u> Keith LeVasseur	
<u>Video Screens:</u>	

Mission

Sign Up for Feed My Starving Children On November 3 & 4. Come join us and bring your guest(s) to help feed 101,000 Children in a day. You can be a part of this by giving just two hours of your time. We will feed 101,000 children in four two-hour shifts:

Friday—6:00-8:00 p.m.

Saturday—9:30-11:30 a.m, 12:30-2:30 p.m., and
3:00-5:00 p.m.

Volunteer for one shift and bring your friends. We need 120 people at each one of the four shifts. Start inviting now and plan to come. There will be a link on our church Web Page where you can select your shift time. Until the Link is available you can call the office to sign up for a shift or to help set up or clean up.

Invite Your Guests: you can invite your sports team, dance team, school class, neighbors, friends, family, etc. to come. Together with people from all over the community we will pack 101,000 meals for hungry children.

Help Needed on Wednesday Nights. Has God blessed you with the gift of preparing food and cooking? If so, please consider helping Tari Ambler and Lisa Kasper, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m., in the kitchen preparing dinners for our Wednesday Family Nights. Call Tari, 815-351-2544, for more information and to volunteer.

150 Loving Acts of Service Beyond the Walls of Our Church. Watch our wall grow! 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.