



e-News

December 6, 2017

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

Worship This Sunday



Find Joy...
Find Hope...
Find Christmas!

Advent Sermon Series “Find Joy, Find Hope,...Find Christmas”

During this Advent Season we will focus on Finding the meaning and message of Christmas. Each week we will search and study the scriptures to unpack the wonder of what God was doing on that first Christmas, and still does today. We are on a journey to Find Christmas, which is about finding the Savior.

Sunday, December 10. On this Second Sunday of Advent we seek to understand more of the peace that Jesus brings to us and all the world. Certainly, we need, as our world needs, “the peace of God that passes all understanding that will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:7). Jesus is the Prince of Peace and as we live in his presence and accept his guidance, we receive the peace of God. The sermon text for this Sunday is Isaiah 9:2-7. The sermon title is “Find Peace.”

Worship with us this Sunday as we seek to live into the peace of God.

--Craig Herr

Music: 9:00 a.m.—Chancel Choir
10:30 a.m.—Worship Band

Our Church Family

Known to be in the hospital:
Jan Weber & Carol Zettergren
at Presence St. Joseph

Congratulations to Matt and Bernie Blaser on the birth of son Rylie Patrick on November 29th. Welcome to our church family, Rylie!

The Week Ahead

***Council/Committee Meetings:

PW Board—Dec. 11, 10 a.m.
Night Deacons—Dec. 12, 6 p.m.
Church Growth Council—Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m.
Parish Council—Dec. 14, 5:30 p.m.
Executive Committee—Dec. 14, 6 p.m.
Session—Dec. 14, 7 p.m.
Education Council—Dec. 15, 7 p.m.

***Fellowship/Bible Studies/Small Groups:

Thursday Morning Circle—Dec. 14, 9:15 a.m.
Mary Circle—Dec. 14, 12 noon
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
Mindfulness Practice—new day & time: Wednesdays at 1 p.m. in the Narthex
Lunch Bunch Adult Discussion Group—Tuesdays at 12 noon in Room 210 (Bring your lunch!)
Mommy & Me Class—Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m. In Room 214-216
Men’s Discussion Group—Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in Room 210
Willow Creek Global Summit & Bible Study Discussion Group—Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room
Saturday Morning Men’s Bible Study—Saturdays at 7 a.m. in the Fireside Room

Volunteers this Sunday, December 10, 2017

9:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
<u>Children’s Worship:</u> Laura Pritz	Jacob Riebe
<u>Holy Hunters:</u>	Pam LeVasseur
<u>Greeters:</u> Emma Sticklen Susie Gumitz	
<u>Advent Families/Acolytes::</u> Young Family/ Henry Young	Hayden Family/ Jackson Watson
<u>Ushers:</u> Jen Beck, Capt Mark Dykema	Ed Schultz, Capt. Lisa Ambler
<u>Coffee Fellowship:</u> Judy Turner, Capt.;	
<u>Sound Room:</u> Keith LeVasseur	
<u>Video Screens:</u>	

THE PASTOR'S CORNER... Craig Herr, Senior Pastor

Looking Forward to Christmas “Delights.” On Sunday morning, December 17, there will be a special time of food and fellowship from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. Come and worship and go to Hoffman Hall or come early before the 10:30 a.m. service and enjoy some good food and conversation in Hoffman Hall.

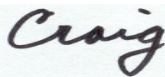
“Peace Has Come” Christmas Concert. On December 17 come experience the Peace and Wonder of Christ Jesus through the “Peace Has Come” Christmas Musical. It’s an inspirational selection of songs featuring the Chancel Choir and instrumentalists plus there will be Christmas selections by the Glory Ringers. The concert begins at 5:00 p.m. Bring your guests to the concert. And we suggest you go out to dinner together following the concert.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Services. This year we will have services on Saturday, December 23, at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 24, at 3:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m., and 11:00 p.m. (with the Musicale at 10:30 p.m.). There is no morning worship on December 24. Bring your guests to one of our Christmas Eve Services.

Our 150 Anniversary History Displays. It was so wonderful to see so many people last Sunday at our 150th Celebration and spend time with them, a real highlight. The Historical Displays are up and I encourage you take a look and think about what it means to begin the next 150 years as a congregation. You will find the Historical Displays throughout the first floor of the church, which Mary Jane Johnson, Don and Raelene Barnes, Harriet O’Malley, Mark Morrison, and Joe Milosevich have put together for you to see. You will find many interesting pictures and historical information about First Presbyterian Church. I wonder what this means for today and tomorrow.

Thanks for the 150th Anniversary Everyone. I want to thank everyone who worshipped with us and attended the celebration dinner and our great church staff and 150th Anniversary Committee for a wonderful, wonderful day. I took Dave Fillpot back to the airport yesterday. Dave was thrilled to be here and over and over again said to say thanks to everyone. It was so good to spend time with Dave and he was very grateful to be with us all.

In Christ,



KIDS

Mid-Week Family Night! See below.
We’re going caroling on Dec. 20!

YOUTH

Sundays

10:00 a.m.—Jr./Sr. High Bible Study meets in Room 206
This Sunday at Youth Group, 6-7:30 p.m., we’ll welcome Ken Graham, guest speaker and member of FPJ, who has some great insights on life goals and purpose

Wednesdays

5:30 p.m.—Family Mid-week Dinner
6:00 p.m.—Teen Homework/Hangout Time

Confirmation—Wednesdays

Come for dinner at 5:30 p.m.
Class starts at 7:20 p.m.

FAMILIES

Each Wednesday we have a time for us to be together as a church family, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. with lots of options:

5:30 p.m.—Dinner for everyone
6:15 to 7 p.m.—Mommy and Me Class
6:30 p.m.—Music and learning for kids
— Jr./Sr. High Fellowship/Homework time
—Men’s Discussion Group
—The Best Leadership Speakers from Willow Creek Global Summit & Bible Study
7:30 p.m.—Chancel Choir

December 3, 2017

Worship Attendance — 313

Stewardship Report

2017-2018 Budget: \$ 792,000

Year to Date Receipts	\$483,084
Year to Date Expenses	\$467,259

150th Anniversary Offering to date — \$18,274
50% for Hurricane Relief
50% for Hoffman Hall Redecorating
Or, divided as you designate.

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

We are accepting pre-pledges for next year. Please identify them as pre-pledges. Call Tracy Norris if you wish to use electronic giving through your bank. We also have online giving in which you can use your credit card. Just go to our Website www.firstpresjoliet.org and click on “Giving.”

December 17

***9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship**

***10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship**

Christmas "Delights" served 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.
(Food & Fellowship)

***5:00 p.m. "Peace Has Come"
Christmas Musical**

An Unforgettable Christmas Worship experience
featuring Choir, Instruments & Handbells

Find Peace in a New Way!
New and well-known tunes and carols offer an
opportunity to lay aside illusions that promise
peace and embrace Jesus
—the gift of God's Peace to the World!

Composer Mary McDonald writes, "Christmas has a way
of settling us down and reminding us what
really matters in life: family/children, Jesus,
miracles, and the most sustaining gifts
of joy, love, hope and peace. Christ came to bring peace
to the world—everlasting holiness and peace
in the form of a baby—a King!"

Guests Welcome—Invite friends, neighbors
and relatives!
This is our gift to the community.

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Saturday, December 23

*5:00 p.m. Contemporary Candlelight Worship

Sunday, December 24

No Morning Worship

*3:00 p.m. Contemporary Candlelight Worship

*7:00 p.m. Family Candlelight Worship

10:30 p.m. Musicales
(as we gather for worship)

11:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Worship

*Nursery Care Available

*December 31—One Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

Mission

Mitten Tree—Once again as cold weather falls upon us...let us remember the children at Farragut Elementary School (K-5) and the mitten tree. In addition to mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves; gently used boots, sweaters, and sweatshirts are also appreciated. Please bring only youth small and medium sweaters and sweatshirts. A box is under the tree for larger items. Thank you in advance for your generosity. — PW

During the Fall Season we are receiving a 150th Anniversary Special Offering. We will split the offering in half so that 50% will be given to Mission and 50% will go for updating our church facility. Half of the offering will go to Hurricane Relief through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and half of the offering will go to redecorating Hoffman Hall and the North Entrance Hallway. If you wish to designate your gift differently than 50/50, we will honor your request.

Poinsettia Order Form

Help decorate our sanctuary this Christmas with beautiful poinsettia plants. Fill out this form and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office by December 10th. The poinsettias cost \$12 each. Make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church-Poinsettias.

My/Our poinsettias are given: (indicate one)

To the Glory of God
 To the Glory of God and in memory of
loved ones
 To the Glory of God and in loving
Memory

of _____

Your
Name _____

(please use exact wording desired)

Phone/email _____

Poinsettias can also be ordered and paid for online on our website: www.firstpresjoliet.org Just click on the Poinsettias box.