



# e-News

January 17, 2018

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

## The Week Ahead

### \*\*\*Upcoming Council/Committee Meetings:

Education Council—Jan. 25, 7 p.m.

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

- Quilt Group—Jan. 18, 7 p.m. in Room 210
- Project Linus—Jan. 22, 9 a.m. to noon in Hoffman Hall (see Mission)
- Men's Dinner—Jan. 26, 6 p.m. at Larry's Diner, 24522 W. Lockport Rd., Plainfield
- 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—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
- Gospel of Mark 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

## Congregational Meeting

There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 21, to vote to elect new officers for the Class of 2020 and to fill vacancies and to vote to change the church bylaws to allow Elders to serve consecutive three-year terms. Both of the Deacon boards are allowed to serve consecutive three-year terms.

## Chili Cook Off & Family Movie Night Saturday, Jan. 27

- 4:30 p.m. — Chili Set Up
- 5:00 p.m. — Chili Tasting Begins
- 6:00 p.m. — Movies begin

Bring a crock pot of your favorite chili, or just come for the tasting; then stay for the movies.

Playing on Jan. 27:

- The Zookeeper's Wife* — Fireside Room
- All Saints* — Room 210
- The Mountain Between Us* — Room 217-218
- Spotlight* — The Cinema (Room 213-215)
- Despicable Me 3* — Sanctuary



We all struggle at times with what God wants or with understanding our calling, and with the difficulties and the troubles that life brings our way. Starting this Sunday, January 21, we will think about our struggles and how we can find strength and guidance in Christ. We will take a four-week journey through the book of Jonah and supporting passages in the New Testament.

### “The Struggle is Real – A Journey with Jonah”

Jonah is not some distant man who ran from God—he is US. Nineveh is not just a wicked place. It is our most hated enemy, family member, boss, coworker, divorced spouse, abuser, bully, political opponent, etc. Nineveh is the place we want to see our revenge happen in a human idea of justice.

This Sunday I am preaching on “What’s Your Nineveh?” We will think about struggles, when the trajectory of our life has been intercepted and taken in a different direction, and when God calls us to go where we are unwilling to go. The sermon texts are Jonah 1:1-10 and John 21:15-19.

--Craig Herr

**Sunday, January 21.** Worship with us as we seek the strength, guidance, and purposes of God. This Sunday we will elect, ordain, and install church officers at both the 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services.

### Music This Sunday:

- 9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir, Glory Ringers
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Band

**Many Thank-You's.** We had a very good, experienced, and determined crew put away all of our church Christmas decorations last Saturday. Worship Council is grateful for all of your help. Thanks so much!

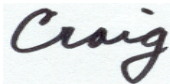
**Many Thank-You's to Many Volunteers Who Stripped Wallpaper in Hoffman Hall.** Many youth, leaders, and parents from "The Center" and our own youth, staff, and members had a great day together taking of the wallpaper in Hoffman Hall. We had 60 plus people involved. It was truly a great day and effort together for which we are most grateful. Thanks everyone!

**Hoffman Hall Has a Different Look.** You will see a very different looking Hoffman Hall this week and Sunday when you come to church. Nearly all of the wallpaper is off. We are getting ready for redecorating the hall. The rest of the wallpaper will be stripped, the walls will be patched and smoothed, and the walls will be primed. Then the new décor will begin to take shape. Watch for the details.

**Improving our Welcoming Culture for Guests to our Church.** Last week Ward Utterback of Welcoming Touch Ministries spoke to us and shared many details of what a welcoming, hospitable church looks like. Ward secretly "shopped" our church to see what it feels like to come to our congregation for the first time. We will be publishing his report for you to see and read through that we all might think about how we can welcome guests to our church family.

**Chili & Movie Night.** I don't know about you, but I wish Chili and Movie Night were tonight. I sure could use some delicious warm chili on a cold day like today. But good things are worth waiting for! Bring your favorite chili and join us Saturday, January 27. Set up at 4:30 p.m. and start eating at 5:00 p.m.; movies begin at 6:00 p.m.

In Christ,



**January 14, 2018**  
Worship Attendance — 184

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

**Year to Date Receipts**           \$605,753  
**Year to Date Expenses**       \$570,452

2017-2018 Bequest/Gift Income Received — \$163,592.47  
150th Anniversary Offering:  
Hurricane Relief — \$9,224.75  
Hoffman Hall Renovation — \$13,188.90  
(from 150th Special Offering \$9,457.75 plus a  
Memorial gift of \$3,731.15 in memory of Frank Simmons)

Please 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](http://www.firstpresjoliet.org) and click on "Giving."

## KIDS

Mid-Week Family Night! See below.

## YOUTH

Sundays

10:00 a.m.—Jr./Sr. High Bible Study meets in Room 206  
6 to 7:30 p.m.—Jr./Sr. High Youth Group

Wednesdays

5:30 p.m.—Family Mid-week Dinner  
6:30 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 Gospel of Mark Adult Discussion Group  
7:30 p.m.—Chancel Choir

## Chili Cook Off & Family Movie Night

Saturday, Jan. 27

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Bring a crock pot of your favorite chili, or just come for the tasting; then stay for the movies...new ones or old favorites!

## Mission

**Mission for the Homeless**—a call to care for the poor amongst us. Check out the list in the narthex for items to bring—easy open canned goods, warm socks, scarves, mittens, gloves, toiletries, etc. We'll pack up the items the last Sunday of each month and volunteer drivers will deliver them to the homeless in the Joliet area. Call Linda Zoellick at 520-400-8396, with questions.

**Project Linus Workday**—January 22, 9 a.m. to noon in Hoffman Hall. It's a new year and our group is looking forward to continuing our mission to children and would love to have YOU come to help. We make no-sew fleece blankets and easy quilts to be donated to the Will County Project Linus Chapter, who then distributes them to local agencies serving children in need. The children are given a blanket to keep. These blankets provide warmth, security and comfort. Call Tari Ambler, 815-351-2544, for more information.



# Craft & Vendor Fair

**First Presbyterian Church - Joliet**  
**805 Western Ave - Joliet**

**ALL SHOPPERS INVITED!!**

*Vendors/Crafters needed*

*Registration contracts are available on our website or call the church office.*

**815-727-9259 (ext 209) or [www.firstpresjoliet.org](http://www.firstpresjoliet.org)**

***\$1 donation at the door!***

***Gift/Prize Drawings!***

***Lunch and Snacks available for purchase!***

Craft & Vendor Fair  
 Saturday, April 14, 2018  
 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
 Here at First Pres.

**Crafters/Vendors Wanted!**

Details are on our website. All money raised (excluding sales of craft items) will benefit Feed My Starving Children.

Cost is \$25 per table plus 1 item from your line donated for our "Special Drawing Table."  
 Pick up a registration form this Sunday.

Call Kris Hayden at 815-727-9259, ext. 209, if you have questions or are interested in participating.

## **Volunteers this Sunday, January 21, 2018**

**9:00 a.m.**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Children's Worship:**

Laura Pritz

Jacob Riebe

**Holy Hunters:**

**Greeters:**

Barb Rodgers

Jan Gehrig

**Acolytes:**

Henry Young

Sadie House

**Ushers:**

, Capt.;

Ed Schultz, Capt.;

Mark Dykema

Aubrey Herr

Jim Huey

**Coffee Fellowship:** Barb Rodgers, Capt.; Laura House

**Sound Room:** Rich Pool

**Video Screens:**