



e-News

May 2, 2018

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



"Relational Reach and Resiliency" Sermon Series

As we move into May, we continue thinking about the importance and quality of our relationships. How are you doing in your relational reach? How resilient are your relationships? What can you do to strengthen your relational reach and resiliency?

Last week we thought about forbearance (bearing with each other) and the need for forgiveness in our network of relationships. This week we will be thinking of what we share with each other and how we pass on ministry skills to others in our church community.

May 6—"Relationships with Each Other: Sharing Life and Training Up" II Timothy 2:1-13

May 13—"Relationships In the Community and World: We Are Sent" Romans 12

6th Sunday of Easter, May 6. This week we continue to talk about relationships and the way they shape our lives. II Timothy 2:1-13 captures a little bit of the relationship that Paul had with Timothy, and some of the advice the young mentee receives from his mentor. As we get ready for Sunday, I would encourage you to think about some of your own relationships, about the people that in one way or another helped shape who you are; and also about the people you, yourself, have invested in. We are called to be disciples, and that is not an easy task. "Disciples are made, not born," is something I heard said sometime back, and it still rings true today. Christ calls us to make disciples. Looking forward to see you Sunday morning.

Blessings,
Bo

Music this Sunday:

9:00 a.m. — Chancel Choir, Glory Ringers

10:30 a.m. — Worship Band

The Week Ahead

***Upcoming Council/Committee Meetings:

Parish Council—May 6, 11:45 a.m.

PW Board—May 7, 10 a.m.

Day Deacons—May 7, 10 a.m.

Night Deacons—May 8, 7 p.m.

Executive Comm.—May 10, 6 p.m.

Session—May 10, 7 p.m.

***Fellowship/Bible Studies/Small Groups:

Men's Breakfast—May 4, 7:30 a.m. at The Old Fashioned Pancake House

Women's Bible Study—May 9, 10 a.m.; call Mary Lynn Keir, 815-782-4762

Thursday Morning Circle—May 10, 9:15 a.m.

Mary Circle—May 10, 12 noon

Session—May 10, 7 p.m.

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

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

Lunch Bunch Adult Discussion Group—Tuesdays at 12 noon, May 8 & 22 in Room 210 (Bring your lunch!)

Men's and Women's Discussion Groups—Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., May 2, 9 & 16

Volunteers this Sunday, May 6, 2018

9:00 a.m.

Children's Worship & Holy Hunters:

Laura Pritz

Pam LeVasseur

Greeters:

Barb Rodgers

Acolytes:

Sadie House

Ushers:

Barb Rodgers, Capt.

Ed Schultz, Capt.

Mark Dykema

Mark Morrison

Coffee Fellowship: Jon Belfield, Capt., Estella Jurkovich

Sound Room: Keith LeVasseur

Video Screens: Todd Hayden

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

Grateful for a Sabbatical Time for Study and Renewal. I am very thankful for the opportunity to take two months for the work of study and renewal, beginning May 6. During this time, I will read about church life, growth, ministry, and leadership. The goal is finding what would enhance and grow the life, ministry, and mission of First Pres. I will visit at least four churches to see what they are doing that could be transferrable to our church. I will spend some time in MA at the seminary I graduated from to do research and study. Then I will be working out of my home the rest of the time. During this time, I will not be available for pastoral ministry, weddings, or funerals. I will return to the office on Tuesday, July 10. Both Dale Ambler and Bo Mircea are highly capable pastors, and I know that they will serve and lead well over these two months. I am grateful to them and all of the staff and the elders on session, for I am able to go on this Sabbatical and not worry about things at First Pres. I hope you will express your appreciation to the pastors, staff, and session for their faithful service and ministry.

New Members Class. Encourage those guests to our church, whom you know, to attend the new members class on Sunday, May 20, following the second service and our "2nd Sunday Potluck." The class starts at 1:00 p.m. Talk to one of the pastors if you are interested in attending.

Vacation Bible School Week is going to be June 18-22. The theme is "Shipwrecked" and it will be an exciting adventure for all the children who come and all of the volunteers who serve and share in this wonderful ministry. Get in touch with Bo if you can volunteer in some way, as there are many types of things to do. And invite, invite, invite...children, grandchildren, and children from your neighborhood.

Mission for the Homeless is still collecting donations of pull-tab canned foods, warm items and toiletries. You can see the containers on the table in the narthex. You can drop off items most anytime.

Kids Summer Lunch Program is going to start up again, Monday through Friday, from 11-1, beginning the first or second week of June. The Night Deacons are facilitating this ministry again and Barb Rodgers (815-439-3747) is the person to call if you would like to help.

In Christ,



Our Church Family

Known to be in the hospital: No one.

Sympathies are extended to Chris & Stephanie Wise on the passing of Chris' father, Neil Wise, on April 23rd in Manlius, IL.

KIDS

Shipwrecked VBS is coming June 18-22. Register your kids online on our website; and you can also register yourself to help at VBS!

YOUTH

Sundays

6 to 7:30 p.m.—Jr./Sr. High Youth Group—join us this Sunday as we finish up our Attributes of God series with a fun-filled skit!

Confirmation—Wednesdays

Come for dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Class starts at 6:30 p.m.

Mission

Mission for the Homeless—Check out the list in the narthex for items to bring—easy open canned goods, warm socks, scarves, mittens, gloves, toiletries, etc. Socks are especially needed. We'll be packing items for the Homeless on Sunday, May 20th (as the last Sunday in May is Memorial Day Weekend). Call Linda Zoellick at 520-400-8396, with questions or if you can help.

Night Deacons' Free Pancake Breakfast is

THIS Saturday, May 5, 8 to 10 a.m. Come on out and greet and serve our guests.

Kids Summer Lunch Program—11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Monday through Friday, mid-June to mid-August. Kids Kindergarten through 12th Grade will be served a FREE nutritious boxed lunch. This year kids can come at 10 a.m. for fun activities—open gym, crafts, board games or a movie. If you can help with the activities or help distribute the meals, call Barb Rodgers at 815-439-3747.

Ministry of Music—Summer Music Sign-up.

Sign up to share your musical talents with your church family during the summer months. Open dates are: June 17; and August 12 & 19. Call the office to confirm your date!

April 29, 2018

Worship Attendance — 187

Stewardship Report

2018-2019 Budget: \$ 804,000

Year to Date Receipts	\$57,658
Year to Date Expenses	\$56,227

Feed My Starving Children so far — \$3,344
2018-2019 Bequest/Gift Income Received — \$ -0-

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 and click on "Giving."