



# e-News

July 11, 2018

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

## The Week Ahead

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

Human Resources Council—July 18, 8 a.m.

Stewardship Council—July 18, 3:30 a.m.

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

Men's Discussion Group—July 11, 6:30 p.m.

Dinner Out—July 17, 6 p.m., at White Fence Farm,  
1376 Joliet Rd., Romeoville.

Ladies Night (Bunco & Chocolate)—July 17, 6:30 p.m.

Sounds of Summer Concert—July 18, 6:30 p.m.,  
with the Matthew Miller Group

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



**Sunday, July 15.** This Sunday we move to the second section of the Lord's Prayer. The first section deals with what God expects of us. The second section is about what we may expect from God.

It's wonderful to return from my Sabbatical time away and to worship and preach this Sunday. I will be preaching on "Feeding Ourselves" this Sunday. This is about the fourth part or petition of the Lord's Prayer, "Give us this day our daily bread;" in which we acknowledge that God is our Sustainer.

We are tempted to forget that it is God who supplies us with food and what we need. We can easily believe that we feed ourselves and supply ourselves with all that we truly need. "Give us this day our daily bread;" is a reminder that we depend upon God and to open our hands to the Lord.

The Lord's Prayer Series  
July 15- "Feeding Ourselves"  
July 22- "Writing it Off"  
July 29- "Crying for Help"

I look forward to being back and seeing you this Sunday.  
--Craig Herr

### Music this Sunday:

9:00 a.m. — Hymn Sing and Summer Choir

10:30 a.m. — Worship Band

## Mission

**Mission for the Homeless**—Check out the list in the narthex for items to bring—easy open canned goods, warm socks, toiletries, etc. Socks are especially needed. The next packing day is July 22. Call Linda Zoellick at 520-400-8396, with questions or if you can help.

**Kids Summer Lunch Program**—11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday, through August 17. Kids Kindergarten through 12th Grade will be served a FREE nutritious boxed lunch. This year kids can come at 10 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays for open gym. Tuesdays are movie days; and on Thursdays and Fridays crafts, board games, Fun with Foods, etc. will be offered during the 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. timeframe. If you can help with the activities or help distribute the meals, call Barb Rodgers at 815-439-3747 or 708-744-2161 (cell).

## Our Church Family

### Known to be in the Hospital:

Russ Mathena at Silver Cross  
John Savage, Barb Schwandt & Ellen Vaughn  
at Presence St. Joseph

### Passed to Life Eternal:

William Middleton (July 4)

A Memorial Service for William Middleton will be held Thursday, July 12, 10 a.m. here at First Pres. Church. Visitation is Wednesday 5 to 7 p.m. at the Blackburn-Giegerich-Sonntag Funeral Home.

### Volunteers this Sunday, July 15, 2018

#### 9:00 a.m.

#### 10:30 a.m.

#### Children's Worship & Holy Hunters:

Bo Mircea

Bo Mircea

#### Greeters:

Jill Strimel

Jan Gehrig

#### Acolytes:

Emma Corcoran

Kellen House

#### Ushers:

Adam Halatex, Capt.;

Ed Schultz, Capt.;

Mark Dykema

Duke Barnes

Coffee Fellowship: Barb Rodgers, Capt.; Laura House

Sound Room: Rich Pool

Video Screens:

## THE PASTOR'S CORNER...

Craig Herr, Senior Pastor

What Did I Do on my Sabbatical Time for Study and Renewal? First, I want you to know that it's so good to be back at First Pres. It was inspiring to read the newsletter and keep up with all that was going on while I was away. I am so impressed by all the ministry and mission that took place while I was away from the church, as well as building and equipment improvements. I didn't have any anxiety and trusted that you would all do very well during my absence. I am thankful for Dale and Bo's work, ministry, and leadership and all of the staff and session while I was gone. I am grateful to you, the church, for offering me the opportunity for study and renewal.

Ok, what was it I did during this time? We traveled to Ipswich, MA and stayed with family (free lodging)! I went over to the Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, close by, where I received my M.Div. degree. I studied in the Library, using some of the very same desks I used back in 76-79; seems like yesterday. I remembered the times when Leslie would rescue me from the Library when we were dating. We had great seafood, as you would expect, and a special time with family. Les spent more time with family as I was at the Seminary studying. Then we returned home and I did most of my reading and studying from the house, which worked out very well.

During my sabbatical, six books (about 1700 pages) became my friend. I will share those next week. We visited our kids in Chicago at their condo several times for dinner. Finally, I had some great exercise and fun kayaking on our local rivers and small lakes.

I was able to visit 8 different churches, four in Aurora, IL, three in Joliet, IL, and one in Danvers, MA. Five of the churches are Mainline Denominations and three of the churches are nondenominational and newer churches. One church is a biker church (some motorcycles, especially the pastors) and another church is a new church start that finished its first year. All but one of the Mainline Churches had both Traditional and Contemporary worship services. I was inspired by worshipping in both Traditional and Contemporary Worship services. It was great to meet many wonderful people of faith throughout the eight churches and see what God is doing. The reason why I went to Aurora to study some of the churches there is that there are many, many churches in the immediate neighborhoods both east and west of the downtown area. They have far more churches just outside of their downtown than we do in Joliet. I wanted to see what churches were doing in some similar situations to our own congregation. I am still thinking about all that I experienced and what I can learn from the eight congregations I visited.

Once again, thank you very much for this wonderful opportunity to learn and renew my spirit. I give thanks to God for being able to worship and meet so many followers of the Lord Jesus Christ and see what God is doing in our world.

In Christ, Craig

<b>July 8, 2018</b>	
Worship Attendance — 169	
<b>Stewardship Report</b>	
2018-2019 Budget: \$ 799,852	
<b>Year to Date Receipts</b>	\$180,419
<b>Year to Date Expenses</b>	\$191,631
Feed My Starving Children so far — \$5,060	
2018-2019 Bequest/Gift Income Received — \$ -0-	
To make a donation on your credit card, please visit our website, <a href="http://firstpresjoliet.org">firstpresjoliet.org</a>	

## Sounds of Summer Concert Series — July 18, 6:30 p.m. — Matthew Miller Group

The Matthew Miller Group returns for an evening of jazz music. The group is comprised of musicians who 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. We'll welcome Michael Lockler on guitar/flute, Wesley Morgan on bass, Gustavo Cortiñas on drums, and Matthew Miller on vibraphone.

Invite your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc. to join you for our second Sounds of Summer Concert! Remember, a freewill offering will be received to benefit our Feed My Starving Children MobilePack Event in November.

And Save August 15 for the Calvary Quartet of Orland Park, IL with special guest Royce Laverman (Southern Gospel Hymns).



July 17—Ladies Fellowship—Bunco & Chocolate, 6:30 p.m. Bunco is an easy game to learn and a great way to get to know others, as teams switch up during play. Bring your favorite chocolate treat to share and join us for a night of fun and chocolate therapy.

Save the date—August 7, for another fun Ladies Fellowship evening.

## KIDS

### Free Summer Lunch Program

Monday—Friday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Come at 10 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays for Open Gym; Tuesdays are Movie Days during the lunch times; Thursdays & Fridays are Craft/Board Game/Fun With Food Days

## WILDFIRE YOUTH GROUP

Jr. High Mission Trip: July 25-July 27. Students in Jr. High are welcomed to join us for a local mission project. We will be serving Joliet's own local organizations (Big Brothers Big Sisters, Hands of Hope, and Hopeful Tails) while also serving our own church home. Each night will include a fun activity as well! Students who are entering the 6th grade in the fall to students who just graduated 8th grade are welcome. The three days will be filled with work, laughter, and the chance to grow closer as a church family! For more information please contact Karissa: 815-954-3047. Cost for this mission trip is \$20/student.

## FAMILIES

Sounds of Summer Concert—July 18, 6:30 p.m.  
featuring the Matthew Miller Group