



The Servants' Light

July 25, 2018

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***"Servants of
Jesus Christ—
Ministering
To One Another,
To Our Community,
And To Our World."***

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Sunday Morning

Schedule

Worship—

9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Children's Worship—

9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Holy Hunters—

10:30 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship—

10:00 to 10:30 a.m.

Nursery/Preschool

Care—

8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Special Music in August

Our third concert in the Sounds of Summer Concert Series is August 15, when we'll welcome the Calvary Quartet of Orland Park, IL, with special guest Royce Laverman. This Southern Gospel Quartet has been together almost 10 years, singing at a variety of venues, mostly in Chicago's South Suburbs. They particularly enjoy Gaither and Gold City Quartet songs, as well as hymn sings! Some of their favorites—"He Touched Me," "Sweet, Sweet Spirit," and Wonderful Grace of Jesus." Their repertoire will include some a cappella, and some songs with Royce Laverman. Laverman has been called "the premier pianist in the Northwest Indiana, South Suburban Chicago area." He has traveled with several Southern Gospel Groups over the years, and has made several CD's.



The concert evening begins at 6:30 p.m. with refreshments and dessert, with the concerts beginning at 7 p.m. and more refreshments after the concert! A Freewill Offering will be received to benefit our Feed My Starving Children MobilePack event in November.

**Water Within returns to First Pres. on Sunday, August 26,
at both Worship Services!**

Save the dates and invite friends!



**All-Church Picnic
Sunday, August 19**

Parish Council invites you to join them on Sunday, August 19, from noon to 2:00 p.m. at the Inwood Park Pavilion at the Inwood Golf Course (on Jefferson Street, just west of Essington Street). We'll be serving chicken sandwiches, pasta salad and watermelon. There will be games for young and old along with a bounce house for the kids!! Join us and have a little bit of fun together as a church family!



Sunday, July 29. Pastor Dale is preaching this Sunday. He writes, "We wrap up our sermon series on the Lord's Prayer this Sunday with "Crying for Help"...a look at the verse, 'And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.' Prayer is often a cry for help in those difficult times of life. Difficult times in our life come in many forms and include real evil present in this world. Tough times in our life are not just hard, they can be times of temptation. So, join us as we look at this last installment of The Lord's Prayer, 'Crying for Help.'"

Next week I will be writing my blog from Romania! I am looking forward to being with my parents, and maybe finding a nice little cafe downtown where I can enjoy some quiet time and write my blog while I enjoy some good coffee. As I was looking at my calendar, I noticed how busy we are as a church even, in the summer time. Second Sunday Potluck, a Third Summer Concert, Church Picnic, Water Within playing on Aug 26th are just a few of those highlights that will make August an exciting month for the church. I know I will miss most of these activities, but I trust that you will take full advantage of them and bring someone else along to enjoy the fellowship we experience during these events.



Known to be in the Hospital:

Donna Hudak & Jim Chelini at Presence St. Joseph
Kyla Fris at Silver Cross

Passed to Life Eternal:

William Middleton (July 4)

Sympathies are extended to Sis Schmidt on the passing of her brother, William Schmidt, on July 10th here in Joliet.

Don & Mary Caisley announce the birth of grandson John Gregory Bailey, son of Greg & Linda (Caisley) Bailey, on July 18; Todd & Judy Garrison announce the birth of their 8th grandchild, Henry James Peters, son of Darren and Elizabeth (Garrison) Peters of Durham, North Carolina, born on July 19.

Bo Mirea, Associate Pastor

A couple things that you should know: 1. Some of the kids from youth group will be on a Joliet mission trip. For the next couple days they will serve some organizations around town and they will take on a few cleaning projects around church. So I will encourage you to pray for them and if you would like to stop by and say hello to them, encourage them, or even bring a treat, please contact Karissa. 2. Hoffman Hall—The final touches, new tables and new light fixtures are in place. Walking in Hoffman Hall today I was impressed by the fresh and clean look. I am looking forward to seeing Hoffman Hall filled with people and lots of ministry moments just like the Free Lunch program. God is Good! Let us rejoice in the fact that he has blessed us with so many things to enjoy and so many moments of ministry.

I pray that while I am away, God will keep us all in his care, and our lives will be used for his Glory.

Be blessed,
Bo M.



July 22, 2018

Worship Attendance — 156

Stewardship Report

2018-2019 Budget: \$799,852

Year to Date Receipts	\$193,949
Year to Date Expenses	\$217,605

Feed My Starving Children — \$5,547 to date
2018-2019 Bequest/Gift Income Received — -0-

To make a donation on your credit card, please visit our website, firstpresjoliet.org.

August Sermon Series
500 Years of “Solas”

Sola...Latin, for “only” —this word in many ways captured the essence of the Reformation over 500 years ago. The Reformation...a major change for Christendom between the 14th and 17th centuries and gaining its momentum when Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of the Wittenberg Church...protesting against the abuses seen within the church.

Like the Reformation, our upcoming sermon series will ground us in the “Solas” with this thought guiding our way: A sinner is justified by grace alone (Sola Gratia) through faith alone (Sola Fide) for the sake of Jesus Christ alone (Sola Christus), a truth revealed to us in Scripture (Sola Scriptura) to God’s glory alone (Sola deo Gloria).

These “solas” transformed the Church then and can have the same effect today. Our sermon series will focus on exploring the biblical basis for these solas...and their importance for the Church today.

- Aug 5 Sola deo Gloria
- Aug 12 Sola Christus
- Aug 19 Sola Scriptura
- Aug 26 Sola Gratia
- Sept 2 Sola Fide



	9:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Aug. 5	Stay Tuned String Band	Worship Band
Aug. 12	Michael Endres, Piano	Worship Band
Aug. 19	Mindy Stratemeyer, Piano	Worship Band
Aug. 26	Water Within Summer Choir	Water Within

Adult Education Opportunities

Tuesday “Lunch Bunch”
and Wednesday Men’s Group

Both of these groups will be taking the month of August off—look for details on when these 2 discussion groups will start up again in September.

Did You Know?

- There’s a lot of information on our website—
- If you miss a Sunday, you can hear the sermon (Media—Sermons);
 - You can read the Servants’ Light and FPJ eNews newsletters (Media—Newsletters);
 - You can check to see if you are helping on Sunday morning (Events—This Week) or check the calendar for future events (Events—Calendar);
 - You can stay current with your pledge with On Line Giving or make a contribution to a special offering (Give).



We are accepting resumes for the position of Handbell Director. If you are interested in this part-time paid position, please call the church office. Or, if you know of someone who might like this position, please refer them to the details on our website, www.firstpresjoliet.org. Directing experience, a knowledge of music theory, and experience in church music would be helpful. If you have music experience, our Handbell Choir will help make the transition to handbells!

2nd Sunday Potluck

Save the date — August 12—for our 2nd Sunday Potluck. Plan to join us for a great lunch and spend some quality time with friends. We'll gather right after the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Bring a dish to share, drop it off in the kitchen, and head to worship. Your dishes can be kept warm or refrigerated if necessary. Bring whatever you like – it'll be a true potluck. If you prefer to attend early service, you can stay through an "extended" coffee hour until the service ends or go run an errand and come back at 11:30. We'll have plenty of time to eat and visit together. Questions? Call Jen Gabl, 815-954-1254.

New Church Keys

We are rekeying the outside doors of the church. Beginning September 1st, if you presently have an outside door key, you may come to the office to receive a new key. At that time you will be asked to complete a key check-out form and will be assigned a new numbered key. We will also be on hand between services on a couple of Sundays in September to check out the new keys. The locks will be changed as of October 1st, at which time none of the old keys for outside doors will work.

If you have keys which you no longer use, outside or inside doors, please return them to the office. Perhaps you were an officer and no longer hold that position, or you were issued keys for a class or event that is no longer meeting. Please return the keys. Keys cost up to \$20 each to make. The cost of making more keys adds up. Please help us be good stewards and return any keys you are no longer using.

PRAYER REQUESTS



If you have prayer requests, please fill out the form in the pew pad and place in the offering plate, in the box on the table in the narthex, or mail to the church office. Our Pat's Prayer Circle prays for those in the congregation, their friends and relatives, and for those in our com-

Small Groups & Special Events

INTENTIONAL LIFE... INTENTIONAL LOVE!

John 3:16-

Little children,
let's not love with words
or speech but with
action and truth.

2018 Ladies Day Retreat

Sat., September 22,
11 am to 4:30 pm
at the Jacob Henry Mansion

Lunch, Workshops, Worship
Amy Logan, guest speaker (author of
"A Girl with a Cape" book series)

Registration is online beginning
August 5 & on Sunday mornings, Aug. 5 & 12;
cost is \$30 on or before August 22,
\$40 after August 22

You are invited to embrace a life of faith and joy
by building a framework based on
Intentional Living.
Join us — Bring a Friend, Make a Friend, Be a Friend!

Ladies Fellowship Tuesday, August 7, 6:30 p.m. Ice Cream Social and Mini Spa Night

Come and cool off from the summer heat with ice cream, then take some time to pamper yourself with a facial and nail polishing. It's guaranteed to be a great evening of relaxation and laughter!

Meal Fellowship

Men's Breakfast—Aug. 3, 7:30 a.m. at the Old Fashioned Pancake House on Jefferson St., Joliet.

Dinner Out Group—Aug. 21, 6 p.m. at Plainfield's Delight, 24020 W. 119th St., Plainfield. Call Jean or Bob Smietanski, 815-838-7616 to make a reservation.

Men's Dinner Group—Aug. 24, 6 p.m. at Larry's Dinner, 245222 W. Lockport Road, Plainfield. RSVP to Bob Smietanski at 815-838-7616.

Servants of Jesus Christ —

Ministering to One Another, to Our Community, and to Our World

Night Deacons Food Ministry

On the first Sunday of each month, the Night Deacons collect monetary donations to fund our various ministries.

Please use the special envelopes marked “Night Deacon Ministries” in the pew racks for your donation. Thank you for your on-going support!

Our next Night Deacons’ Free Pancake Breakfast is Saturday, August 4, 8 to 10 a.m. Come on out and help us serve and welcome those in our community who are hungry.

Summer Lunch Program Update

With about a month to go, we thought you’d like to know what’s been happening with one of our mission projects. Barb Rodgers and her team of volunteers—both from the church and friends from the community, have been working hard to minister to the kids of our community. We’ve had an average of 20 kids per day and we’ve given out 72 books to kids who come 5 times. This summer Barb added to the weekly mission work with Pastor Bo hosting open gym on Mondays and Wednesdays; Mark Morrison hosting movie time on Tuesdays and Tari Ambler providing a Fun with Food class on Thursdays where the kids actually get to prepare and eat the recipe for that day! Mission...bringing the love of Jesus to others!



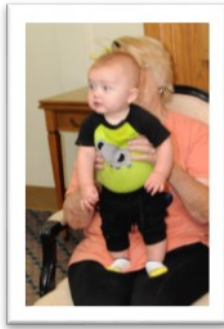
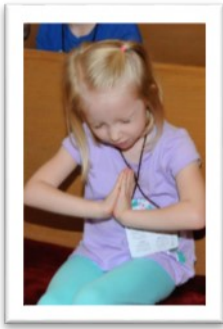
Since the inception of this ministry in October 2005, about 3,800 meals have been provided to members of our church family through your assistance. In the past year alone, over 210 meals have been provided. Helping Hands would like to thank the following people who have provided meals, rides, and other services to members of our congregation over the past six months. We can always use additional people to help! If you would like to be a part of this vibrant ministry, know someone who can use some temporary help, or would like more information about Helping Hands, please contact Betty Jones at 815-729-0349, Dave Steinberg at 779-234-6413, or the church office at 815-727-9259.

Rosemary Allen
Dale & Tari Ambler
Jean Bailey
Marvin Balsley
Don & Raelene Barnes
Bob Becker
Matt Blazer
Allen & Jackie Brooks
Don & Mary Caisley
Pat Costion
Carla DeYoung
Dale Endres

Kyla Fris
Jen Gabl
Judy Garrison
Amy Gibson
Pat Graham
Bob & Mary Haas
Pat Haldorson
Mike House
Rich & Mary Jane Johnson
Chet June
Jeff & Lisa Kasper
Mary Kessling

Dan & Carol Kline
Diane Milosevich
Bo Mircea
Donna Nelson
Harriet O'Malley
Joan Pocius
Martha Sayles
Ed Schultz
Emma Sticklen
Holly Tomashek
Andrea Warren
Wayne & Linda Zoellick

Children's Ministry Update



Dear Parents and Grandparents,

THANK YOU FOR BRINGING YOUR KIDS TO CHURCH!

I really mean it! It brings so much joy to me to see you walking in the sanctuary with your baby or child right behind you on Sunday morning! Thank you for reminding us as a congregation, that worship and fellowship is a gift for all generations. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to share God's Love with your kids and for encouraging all of us to be better at loving our neighbor. Thank you for sharing with us the energy and the can-do attitude that a little one brings when he or she comes to service. Thank you for bringing in inquiring minds that are not afraid to ask any question (and I mean ANY question) when it comes to God or life. Thank you for giving us a chance to look into the future, and giving us something to pray for. Thank you for challenging us to look beyond our own families as we are reminded of the family of God.



I want to really say Thank You to you for all you do for the precious gifts God entrusted in your care, for all the long nights spent wiping their tears, or for all the times you spend chasing them around the house, or the frustrations that build up when it comes to homework. I want to say Thank You to you for being a parent. I also want you to know that as a pastor I pray for you and your kids, I pray that you will see them as God sees them, and how God can use their lives to challenge our lives. I pray that as they grow, they will not only get to know more and more about God, but also that they will teach us more about what it means to have faith in God.

So, Thank You and I hope to see you in church every time the doors are opened because who you are is a blessing to us all,

Bo M.



Hello, Church Family!

Today begins the Junior High Mission Trip!

How many of you remember the awkward tween years? Middle school, for me, was filled with funny hair, bad growth spurts, and feelings of powerlessness.

On this mission trip I am hoping to equip our youth with the Truth that these young people have been created to not only worship our King, but to be Lights in our world. We will focus on Scriptures relating to us being called light, and we will then have the opportunity to be lights in Joliet and at First Presbyterian. We will be learning about and serving three local organizations this week: Big Brothers Big Sisters, Hands of Hope, and Hopeful Tails.

While we are called to be lights in the world, it is just as important to be a light at home; and that is why we are also going to be doing a project at First Pres. We want to be servants to the congregation and the staff who so dutifully serve us.

It is not all labor though! Jesus knew the benefit of fun, and I am excited to play with our kids as well! Not only do we have free time every day, but we have a concert planned for tonight with the beloved Enlivened Band, and tomorrow we will have a cook-out and tie-dying party!

Church, please pray that the Holy Spirit speak to these kids this week and always.

Oh, what a glorious thing the Lord is doing!

Many Blessings,
Karissa

JOIN US THIS SUMMER FOR:

**July 25-27:
Jr. High
Mission Trip**

**August 11:
All-Youth Pool Party
at Pritz's,
3 to 7 p.m.**

**August 26:
Summer Review Night!
*at Church,
6 pm to 7:30 pm**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Craig M. Herr—Senior Pastor
Dale Ambler—Associate Pastor
Bo Mircea—Associate Pastor of Children's Ministry
and Family Ministry
Karissa Fleming, Dir. of Youth Ministry
Diane Uden—Administrative Ministry Assistant
Sherry Buffington—Outreach Ministry Assistant &
Newsletter Editor

PERIODICALS
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USPS 560-720

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Joliet, IL 60435

Newsletter Deadline—The deadline for reserving space in the Aug. 29 *Servants' Light* is **August 10**. Please e-mail to sherry.buffington@firstpresjoliet.org.

TO:

August Daily Devotional Blog

8/1	Isa 12	Ps 93	Col 2
8/2	Isa 13	Job 37	Col 3
8/3	Isa 14	Ps 94	Col 4
8/4	Isa 15	Job 38	1 Thess 1
8/5	DAY OF REFLECTION: God as Father		
8/6	Isa 16	Ps 95	1 Thess 2
8/7	Isa 17	Job 39	1 Thess 3
8/8	Isa 18	Ps 96	1 Thess 4
8/9	Isa 19	Job 40	1 Thess 5
8/10	Isa 20	Ps 97	2 Thess 1
8/11	Isa 21	Job 41	2 Thess 2
8/12	DAY OF REFLECTION: God as Light		
8/13	Isa 22	Ps 98	2 Thess 3
8/14	Isa 23	Job 42	1 Tim 1
8/15	Isa 24	Ps 99	1 Tim 2
8/16	Isa 25	Song of Sol 1:1-7	1 Tim 3
8/17	Isa 26	Ps 100	1 Tim 4
8/18	Isa 27	Song of Sol 1:8-17	1 Tim 5

8/19	DAY OF REFLECTION: God as Truth		
8/20	Isa 28	Ps 101	1 Tim 6
8/21	Isa 29	Song of Sol 2:1-7	2 Tim 1
8/22	Isa 30	Ps 102	2 Tim 2
8/23	Isa 31	Song of Sol 2:8-17	2 Tim 3
8/24	Isa 32	Ps 103	2 Tim 4
8/25	Isa 33	Song of Sol 3:1-5	Titus 1
8/26	DAY OF REFLECTION: God as Holy		
8/27	Isa 34	Ps 104	Titus 2
8/28	Isa 35	Song of Sol 3:6-11	Titus 3
8/29	Isa 36	Ps 105:1-22	Phil
8/30	Isa 37	Song of Sol 4:1-8	Heb 1
8/31	Isa 38	Ps 105:23-45	Heb 2
Isa = Isaiah; Ps = Psalm; Song of Sol = Song of Solomon; Col = Colossians; Thess = Thessalonians; Tim = Timothy; Phil = Philemon; Heb = Hebrews			