



# The Servants' Light

October 31, 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.



Soup and Movie Night is  
Saturday, November 10.

Setup time: 4:30 p.m. (individuals bring their soups and set  
up in Hoffman Hall)

Tasting Begins: 5:00 p.m.

Movies Begin: 6:00 p.m.

Movies: *I Can Only Imagine* (Sanctuary)  
*A Dog's Purpose* (Rm 202)  
*Won't You Be My Neighbor* (Fireside)  
*Hotel Transylvania 3* (Cinema)  
*Book Club* (Room 217)

## *Community Thanksgiving Service*

Tuesday, November 20, 6:30 p.m.  
here at First Pres. Church

Join First Pres. and Westminster Pres. Church,  
Faith Lutheran Church, the Joliet Jewish Congregation,  
and St. John Missionary Baptist Church  
to give thanks and praise to our God for our many blessings.  
Pastor Jana Howson will give the message.  
Jody Graefen has graciously offered to make desserts for after  
the service; folks are needed to help set-up, serve and clean-up.  
Please call the office if you can help.



**Sunday, November 4.** This Sunday we continue our Sermon Series, “Live In Hope: Five Practices for Followers of Christ.” I am preaching on “Risk-Taking Mission and Service: Deep Gladness and Deep Hunger.” The sermon passages are Micah 6:6-8, Luke 6:27-36, and Matthew 28:16-20.

We will celebrate the Lord’s Supper at both the 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services. We celebrate at 9:00 a.m. with the traditional elements (bread and cups) served to the congregation. At the 10:30 a.m. service we celebrate Communion by Intinction.

Chancel Choir is singing at the 9:00 a.m. service. The Worship Band is singing and playing at the 10:30 a.m. service.

**Sign up for the CLEAN UP SHIFT** at our Feed My Starving Children MobilePack Event. The signup Link is on our Website for you to access. We need folks to take down the packing stations and pack away the equipment (very light weight stuff) and put it back in bins. We need others to put boxes on the pallets to go

onto the fork lift and back into the trailer truck. Just go to [www.firstpresjoliet.org](http://www.firstpresjoliet.org) and volunteer.

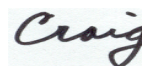
There is still some space available for the Saturday Morning shift from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. and for the Early Afternoon shift from 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

The goal is to pack 109,000 meals to feed 300 children for an entire year!

Help us raise \$23,900 by asking your family, friends, and neighbors to give to fund the meals; 109,000 meals. One meal costs only 22 cents. \$50 provides one box of 216 meals, and \$80 feeds one child for an entire year!

**A New Members Class** will be held Sunday, November 11, following the Second Sunday Potluck. Please call the office or let one of our staff members or pastors know you are interested in attending.

In Christ,



Known to be in the Hospital: No one.

Baptized:

Thomas Laurence Moretti (Sept. 30)  
Son of Thomas & Amanda (Bornhofen) Moretti

The hospitals will no longer call to tell us who is there, so please let us know if you are admitted.

**October 28, 2018**

Worship Attendance — 179

**Stewardship Report**

2018-2019 Budget: \$799,852

<b>Year to Date Receipts</b>	\$390,869
<b>Year to Date Expenses</b>	\$432,468

2018-2019 Bequest/Gift Income Received — \$4,000

Peace Offering — \$414

Feed My Starving Children — \$8,131  
(Goal—\$23,900, 109,000 meals, feeds  
300 children for an entire year)

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.”

# Growing in Christ—

## “Live in Hope: Five Practices For Followers of Christ”

We continue our sermon series on the Five Practices For Followers of Christ. Thousands of Congregations and many, many Followers of Christ have grown in witness, character, faithfulness and joy through living out the “Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations.” Through Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-Taking Mission & Service, and Extravagant Generosity, we grow in our relationship with Jesus and in living the life Christ calls us to live. This works for individual disciples and churches of all shapes and sizes and ministry contexts.

Robert Schnase, the author of *Five Practices* shares how we can “live out the irresistible message and mission of Jesus in our world today.” Come explore the “abundant life” Jesus has for you, our church, and all the world.

November 4 Risk-Taking Mission and Service

November 11 Extravagant Generosity on Youth Sunday

November 18 Conclusion: “Turning Intentions, of the Five Practices, Into Reality”

### Post A Ministry Idea!



In the Narthex/Lobby area you will find five, 8 by 4 feet boards; one for each practice. As we take this journey, you are invited to use the post notes to suggest something we could do to move our church forward in faith, hope, and action.

Write your idea on a post note and place it on the board it goes with. The actions—ideas—are about helping us be the church, and do something that moves us ahead as followers of Christ Jesus.

Pick up a copy of *Five Practices* by Robert Schnase; a great book, and start reading, thinking, and imagining. Share your ideas in any area of ministry on one of the boards. They will be up for three and a half more weeks.

You might have a new idea for something we have never done before. You might have an idea to do something we currently do with a different twist to it. Like—let’s get coffee into the Narthex/Lobby area again.

Now is the time to share some of your ideas for ministry at First Pres.

## Adult Education Opportunities

### Tuesday “Lunch Bunch” Bible Discussion Group

Our Tuesday Discussion Group gathers at 12:00 noon in Room 210 each Tuesday. We are spending our time until Christmas discussing 1 Corinthians. Paul’s letter to the church at Corinth was a bold letter, and it is a bold letter for us as well. The young church faced many challenges to their integrity and faith...just as we do today. With great passion and love, Paul writes about building their faith on the one and only sure foundation...Jesus. Come join us in lively discussions!

— Dale

### C4 Men’s Bible Discussion Group

We are gathering on Wednesdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., in Room 210 using the book of Proverbs to guide us in our discussions.

Why Proverbs? Because I believe we can be difference makers in this world through godly wisdom and Christian character...the very heart of the book of Proverbs. A second reason is that the character of a man is defined certainly in what he claims to believe regarding matters of truth but, more importantly, by the practicing of these truths. Come prepared to talk about what you believe and why you believe it and we will not only learn from the book of Proverbs, but hopefully, from each other.

— Dale

### Women’s Discussion Group

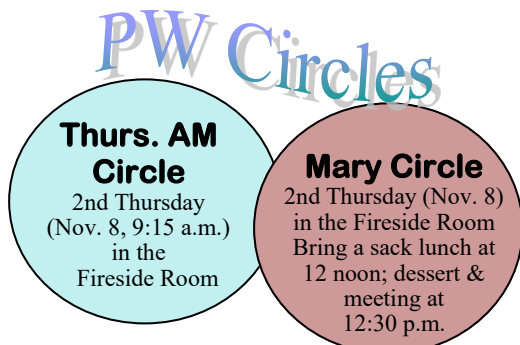
Lisa Haldorson continues facilitating the Women’s Discussion Group on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room using Bob Goff’s new book, *Everybody Always: Becoming Love in a World Full of Setbacks and Difficult People*. “Bob Goff takes readers on a journey into the secret of living without fear, constraint, or worry. The path toward the liberated existence we all long for is found in a truth as simple to say as it is hard to do: love people, even the difficult ones, without distinction and without limits.” (Amazon) The only requirements to participate in this discussion group are to be a woman and to bring your thoughts and ideas about life with you to share with others.

### New Members Class Sunday, November 11

The New Members Class will be Sunday, November 11, following the 2nd Sunday Potluck. Bring a dish to share, have lunch with us and then attend the class. This is a great time to learn more about the life and ministry of First Pres. and to meet some great folks. Talk to one of our pastors if you are interested in attending the New Members Class.

### 2nd Sunday Potluck

Save the date — November 11 — 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. We'll have plenty of time to eat and visit together. Questions? Call Jen Gabl, 815-954-1254.



Thurs. AM Circle's Horizon Bible Study is "God's Promise: I am with you."

Mary Circle is viewing and discussing a DVD by Andy Stanley entitled "The Bad Boys of Easter."

Church Women United World Community Day Celebration is November 2 at Second Baptist Church, 156 S. Joliet St., Joliet. Business meeting and program at 10 a.m.; lunch at 12 noon (\$5 per person). Call 815-726-8185 for more information.

## Small Groups & Special Events



At its regularly scheduled meeting of October 11, 2018, the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Joliet, voted:

- to receive Bernie Blaser into membership of First Presbyterian Church;
- to authorize participation in the Stars of Hope program in connection with MorningStar Mission again this year;
- to reschedule the serving of communion in 2019 from September 1st to September 8th, 2019.

### Decorating the Church for Advent

Come get in the Holiday spirit and help Worship Council decorate the church for the Advent/Christmas Season. We'll gather on Saturday, December 1st, at 9 a.m. We'll have a lot of fun and enjoy great fellowship! Decorating takes about 2 hours.



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 community and in our world.

### Meal Fellowship

**Men's Breakfast**—Nov. 2, 7:30 a.m. at the Old Fashioned Pancake House on Jefferson St., Joliet.

**Dinner Out Group**—Not meeting in November; join us in December.

**Men's Dinner Group**—Nov. 16th (one week early) at 6:00 p.m. at McBrides on 52, 2727 W Jefferson St, Joliet. 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, November 3, 8 to 10 a.m. Come on out and help us serve and welcome those in our community who are hungry.

Check out the list in the narthex for items to bring for our Mission to the Homeless bags—easy open canned goods, warm socks, toiletries, etc. Socks are especially needed, as well as hats, scarves, etc.. If you work for a company that would like to share in this mission, call Linda Zoellick at 520-400-8396. Our next packing day is Sunday, November 25.

### Give The Gift That Keeps On Giving

You can remember the church in your will and/or provide a special year-end gift to one of First Presbyterian Church’s Endowment Funds.

Endowment Fund—We have an Endowment Fund that is growing. The principal amount given is invested and preserved to provide income. Only the income is used for church ministry and mission.

Fred A. & Ruth N. Merrell Mission Endowment—We have a Mission Endowment Fund which funds mission in the community and around the world. The principal is invested and preserved and only the income is used to fund mission.

Wadsworth Family Endowment Fund—We have an Endowment Fund that can be used for capital improvements or to maintain our church facility. The principal amount given is invested and preserved to provide income. Only the income can be used.

Susan Kingsbury Morton Youth Endowment Fund—We have an Endowment Fund that can be used to help fund the Youth Ministry Program in our church, other than for salary. The principal is invested and preserved and only the income is used to help fund our Youth Ministry.



**STARS  
OF  
HOPE**



Look for the Stars of Hope this Sunday in Hoffman Hall. The Stars of Hope program provides Christmas gifts to hundreds of MorningStar Mission families. Just pick a name, shop for gifts, and return the wrapped gifts to church. If you are unable to shop, a personal shopper will gladly shop for you (with your contribution) and wrap your gifts. The wrapped gifts will be due back to church by Sunday, December 2.



**Stephen Ministry**—We have trained Stephen Ministers who are eager to walk alongside anyone who needs someone to provide caring listening and supportive conversation. If you need someone to talk to during a difficult time or a time of change or a time when you are recovering from one of life’s challenges, call Kris Hayden, First Pres. Stephen Leader, at 815-725-3696 or 815-258-8617 (cell).



You can contribute to the church by simply making Amazon.com purchases through the web page, “smile.amazon.com.” This is a simple way to contribute .5% of Amazon purchases to the church!



# TRUNK 'N' TREAT

thank you

Thank you, Thank you, to all who helped to make Trunk 'n' Treat 2018 a wonderful community event — those who helped set up, cook & serve, decorate trunks, greet, clean up, provide gift baskets, etc. Check out the First Presbyterian Church Children's Ministry facebook page for over 200 pictures. Thanks, Mary Caisley!



Best Trunk — The Albers Family  
Carnival Games Trunk



Best District 86 Trunk — Farragut  
School Mad Scientist Trunk





The scares of October are wearing away! I am personally happy to see the ghouls and ghosts of October leave us, though Trunk 'n' Treat was a great night and Fright Fest proved to be more fun than I could have imagined!

This past month we spent a lot of time at Wildfire Youth Group learning about the promises and prophecies of Jesus, meeting Gian from Aunt Martha's, and hearing the live testimony from a young man whose heart has been changed by Christ. It was a month of real talk and a lot of fun.

This coming month is going to be one to be remembered! For the first time in my time as Youth Director we will be having Youth Sunday, which I have affectionately renamed #TeenTakeOver (yes, the hashtag is a necessity!). On November 11 join us for a service by teens for teens, and everyone! We will have kids reading Scriptures they picked while praying prayers they wrote. I will be delivering my first sermon, too! Best yet? The kids' talents will be displayed and available for purchase and you can help begin the funding for our Summer 2019 Mission Trips! Why not get a jump start on Holiday shopping with some homemade gifts that are beautiful, personal, and support a good cause!

We look forward to a great month and I hope you are just as excited as I am!

Many Blessings,  
Karissa

Karissa.Fleming@firstpresjoliet.org  
815-727-9259 x207

### Upcoming Nov. Events

**Nov. 3:**  
**Feed My Starving Children**  
3 to 5 p.m.

**Nov. 4:**  
**#TeenTakeOver Finalizing!**  
6 to 7:30 p.m.

**Nov. 10:**  
**Soup & Movie Night**

**Nov. 11:**  
**#TeenTakeOver!**  
8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

**#TeenTakeOver Celebration**  
6 to 7:30 p.m.

**Nov. 13:**  
**\$5 Movie, Time TBD**  
*The Nutcracker and the Four Realms*

**Nov. 18**  
**Who is Jesus: His Life**  
6 to 7:30 p.m.

**Nov. 25:**  
**Live Testimony: Leo**  
6 to 7:30 p.m.



## 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

**Newsletter Deadline**—The deadline for  
reserving space in the Nov. 28 *Servants' Light*  
is **Nov. 10**. Please e-mail to  
[sherry.buffington@firstpresjoliet.org](mailto:sherry.buffington@firstpresjoliet.org).

## November Daily Devotional Blog

11/1	Jer 49-50	Prov 7	Rev 21
11/2	Jer 51-52	Ps 120-121	Rev 22
11/3	Ezek 1-3	Prov 8	Luke 1
11/4	<i>Day of Reflection: God as Beginning</i>		
11/5	Ezek 4-6	Ps 122-123	Luke 2
11/6	Ezek 7-9	Prov 9	Luke 3
11/7	Ezek 10-14	Ps 124-125	Luke 4
11/8	Ezek 15-18	Prov 10	Luke 5
11/9	Ezek 19-22	Ps 126-127	Luke 6
11/10	Ezek 23-26	Prov 11	Luke 7
11/11	<i>Day of Reflection: God as Maker</i>		
11/12	Ezek 27-29	Ps 128-129	Luke 8
11/13	Ezek 30-32	Prov 12	Luke 9
11/14	Ezek 33-35	Ps 130	Luke 10
11/15	Ezek 36-38	Prov 13	Luke 11
11/16	Ezek 39-41	Ps 131	Luke 12

11/17	Ezek 42-45	Prov 14	Luke 13
11/18	<i>Day of Reflection: God as Rock</i>		
11/19	Ezek 46-48	Ps 132	Luke 14
11/20	Dan 1-2	Prov 15	Luke 15
11/21	Dan 3-4	Ps 133	Luke 16
11/22	Dan 5-6	Prov 16	Luke 17
11/23	Dan 7-8	Ps 134	Luke 18
11/24	Dan 9-10	Prov 17	Luke 19
11/25	<i>Day of Reflection: God as Gardener</i>		
11/26	Dan 11-12	Ps 135	Luke 20
11/27	Hosea 1-2	Prov 18	Luke 21
11/28	Hosea 3-4	Ps 136	Luke 22
11/29	Hosea 5-6	Prov 19	Luke 23
11/30	Hosea 7-8	Ps 137	Luke 24
Jer = Jeremiah; Ezekiel = Ezek; Dan = Daniel; Ps = Psalm; Prov = Proverbs; Rev = Revelation			





## 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 10. 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

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Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(please use exact wording desired)

Phone/Email \_\_\_\_\_

