



e-News

November 21, 2018

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CHRIST THE KING

This coming Sunday is “Christ the King” Sunday, marking the conclusion of the church’s liturgical year and positioning us at the threshold of Advent...the season of hope for Christ’s coming again. The sermon text for Sunday comes from Revelation 1:1-8 with my sermon titled, “The Alpha and the Omega.” When Revelation was written, women and men living within the rule of the Roman Empire had a choice—Caesar or Christ. Declare Caesar Lord or die. What were they to do? What hope did they have then? What hope do we have today?

— Dale Ambler

Music this Sunday:

9:00 a.m. — Chancel Choir
10:30 a.m. — Worship Band

Men of First Pres. Superbowl Watch Party on November 26, 2018. How is this possible? As a team building activity, we are watching a DVD of the 1986 Superbowl starring the Chicago Bears. Our favorites will be there--McMahon, McMichaels, Payton—even Ditka, and many others. Please join us at the church on Monday, November 26, at 6:15 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Big screen event. Pizza before half time. Please invite another man from First Pres. Male teens are men of First Pres. Bring one!

November 18, 2018

Worship Attendance — 183

Stewardship Report

2018-2019 Budget: \$ 799,852

Year to Date Receipts \$452,549
Year to Date Expenses \$469,795

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

Feed My Starving Children so far — \$10,200
(Goal—\$23,900, 109,000 meals, feeds 300 Children for an entire year. We packed 116,640 meals that will feed 319 children for an entire year, \$25,660)!

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.” Tracy is also receiving Pre-Pledges for 2019 and 25% of pre-pledged giving is used for January-March 2019, while 75% is used for April-December of 2019.

Mission

Our Micro Pantry is already filling a need in our community. The “Take what you need, leave what you can” policy is designed to allow anonymous food pick-up for those in need and a drop-off point for those who wish to donate. Lisa Kasper worked hard to get the Micro Pantry here and is the one focusing on keeping it filled and available to the community. Lisa is working with Linda and Wayne Zoellick as well as Kendall Fris to grow this ministry for those in need.



PW Second Time Around Christmas Sale—“What shall I do with all of these Christmas decorations? They looked great when I put them up 10 years ago, but now?” Don’t worry. There will be an opportunity to clear your closets! PW’s 2nd Time Around Christmas Sale is December 8. Just drop off your extra treasures under the coat rack by the Fireside Room from Sunday, December 2 to Friday, December 7, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Some suggestions: garland, ornaments, trees, plates, candy dishes, etc. Thank you for your donations.

—The PW 2nd Time Around Christmas Sale Committee

Stars of Hope—Thank you for taking the Stars of Hope. MorningStar Mission families will greatly appreciate your generosity. Remember, the wrapped gifts are due back to church by Sunday, December 2.

Mission to the Homeless—Easy open canned goods, warm socks, toiletries, etc. are always needed and now that fall is here, warm hats, gloves, and socks are especially needed. If you work for a company that would like to share in this mission, call Linda Zoellick at 520-400-8396. The next packing day is Sunday, November 25, between services.

Volunteers this Sunday, November 25, 2018

9:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Children’s Worship: Laura Pritz	Pam LeVasseur
Greeters: Jill Strimel	
Acolytes: Cameron Paul	Evan Lundeen
Ushers: Barb Rodgers Jon Belfield Jasmine Maxwell	Jen Beck Ed Schultz
Coffee Fellowship: Sue Fordyce, Capt.;	
Sound Room: Keith LeVasseur	
Video Screens: Peter Mbi	

Follow-up on our Feed My Starving Children Mobile Food Packing Event. I received the following information from Carrie L. Wiggins, Development Advisor – MobilePack for FMSC.

“I also want to let you know that some of the meals from your event have already shipped! The details of the first shipment are as follows:

432 boxes (93,312 meals) have shipped to Haiti through our partner “Food for the Poor.”

Food for the Poor links the church of the First World with the church of the Third World in a manner that helps both the materially poor and the poor in spirit. FFTP has distributed FMSC meals through its extensive network of partner organizations in the Caribbean, Central America and South America. Please check out the following blog post to see the impact of some of the work of Food for the Poor in Haiti:

<https://www.fmsc.org/the-feed/from-the-field/2017/september/who-are-the-adults>

I will keep you updated when the rest of the meals ship!” (That’s another 108 boxes and 23,328 meals.)

Until All Are Fed,
Carrie L. Wiggins

Church Officer Nominations. We are seeking nominations for Day Deacons, Night Deacons, and Elders. Please speak with a pastor, e-mail the office or talk to a nominating committee member: Don Barnes or Reed Mott. Suggestions as well as self-recommendations are welcome.

Post Note Ministry and/or Mission Ideas. In the Narthex/Lobby area you will find five 8’ by 4’ 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 to be the church, and to 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. You might have a new idea for something we have never done before or you might have an idea to do something we currently do with a different twist to it. Now is the time to share some of your ideas for ministry at First Pres.

In Christ,
Craig

The Week Ahead

***Fellowship/Bible Studies/Small Groups:

Project Linus—Nov. 26, 9 a.m. Please join us for our last workday of 2018 for Project Linus. We'll be in Hoffman Hall, 9 a.m. - noon, making no-sew fleece blankets for area children in need. Call Tari, 815-351-2544, for more information.

Men of FPJ Super Bowl Watch Party—Nov. 26, 6:15 p.m.

Lunch Bunch Discussion Group—Nov. 27, 12 noon

Men’s Discussion Group—Nov. 28, 6:30 p.m.

Women’s Discussion Group—Nov. 28, 6:30 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

KIDS

No Wednesday Mid-Week tonight.

Save the date—Dec. 19 for Pizza and Caroling

YOUTH

Wildfire Youth Group:

We are not meeting this Sunday, Nov. 25. Enjoy the long Thanksgiving weekend! No Confirmation either.

Midweek Teen Bible Study:

No Midweek Family Night tonight. Happy Thanksgiving!

FAMILIES

Mid-Week Family Night, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

5:30 p.m.—Dinner for everyone

6:30 p.m.—Kids Music & Learning

—Teen Bible Study

—Men’s Bible Discussion Group (Proverbs)

—Women’s Discussion Group (Bob Goff’s

book, *Everybody Always: Becoming Love in a World Full of Setbacks and Difficult People*)

“A Christmas Gift” concert—Dec. 15, 3:30 p.m.
(Nursery Care Provided)

Christmas Breakfast—Dec. 16, 9:45 to 10:45 a.m.

“A Christmas Gift” concert will be presented on Saturday, December 15, 3:30 to 5 p.m. This free concert is our gift to the community and features Choir, Handbells, Soloists, Ensembles, Strings and Instruments in a “variety show” format. A variety of music, including a Carol Sing with the audience, is planned. Nursery Care is provided. Please bring some guests; our joyful music is sure to put everyone in the Christmas spirit!