



e-News

February 6, 2019

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



"PARABLES: STORIES OF PURPOSE" SERMON SERIES

"Parables: Stories of Purpose" is the focus for a Sermon Series this February. Jesus often told stories and parables when teaching. Each parable has a particular point, which Jesus wishes to emphasize with his audience. We will see how Jesus' teaching in Parables translates into today's world each Sunday.

- February 10 "Appearances"
Matthew 13:24-30
(The Wheat and the Tares)
- February 17 "One Question"
Matthew 25:31-46.
- February 24 (still being pondered)
March 3 "All In"
Luke 14:25-33 (Counting the Cost)

This Sunday I am preaching on "Appearances" as we begin a new series on the Parables of Jesus. The sermon passages are Matthew 13:24-30 and I Samuel 16:1-13. There is more than meets the eye in most people and situations. We are told not to judge a book by its cover. This parable of Jesus, The Wheat and the Tares, teaches us to be discerning and to practice patience, among other things.

--Craig Herr

Music this Sunday:

- 9:00 a.m.—Chancel Choir, Glory Ringers
10:30 a.m.—Worship Band

The Week Ahead

***Upcoming Council/Committee Meetings:

- Stewardship Council—Feb. 6, 3:30 p.m.
Parish Council—Feb. 10, 11:30 a.m.
Women's Retreat Comm.—Feb. 11, 7 p.m.
Night Deacons—Feb. 12, 7 p.m.
Church Growth Council—Feb. 13, 4:30 p.m.
Executive Comm.—Feb. 14, 6 p.m.
Session—Feb. 14, 7 p.m.

***Fellowship/Bible Studies/Small Groups:

- Lunch Bunch Adult Discussion Group—Feb. 12, 12 noon
Women's Bible Study—Feb. 13, 10 a.m.; contact Mary Lynn Keir, 815-782-4762
C4 Men's Discussion Group—Feb. 13, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday Morning Circle—Feb. 14, 9:15 a.m.
Mary Circle—Feb. 14, 12 noon

Centering Prayer—Tuesdays at 1 p.m. in Room 217
Praise Yoga—Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and Thursdays at 8 a.m. in the Narthex

2nd Sunday Potluck will not meet in February. Come this Saturday, 5 to 7 p.m., pick up a Spaghetti Dinner To-Go, and help support our Youth mission trips this summer.

Our Church Family

Known to be in the Hospital:

Todd Garrison at Provena St. Joseph

The hospitals will no longer call to tell us if members have been admitted, so please let us know if you or a member of your family is in the hospital.

Volunteers this Sunday, February 10, 2019

9:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Connection Center:

Sue Mueller & Clarence Red Sue Mueller & Clarence Red

Children's Worship:

Megan Pritz Pam LeVasseur

Greeters:

Emma Sticklen

Acolytes:

Tate Albers Maddox Lundeen

Liturgists:

Lilly Dunbar Judy Turner

Ushers:

Adam Halatek, Capt. Ed Schultz, Capt.

Mark Dykema

Coffee Fellowship: Allen Brooks, Capt.; Jackie Brooks

Sound Room: Cliff Stepina

Video Screens:



This is the last weekend we'll have the Lost & Found in Hoffman Hall. Please check out the table and the coat rack for any hats, gloves, jackets, water bottles, glasses, kitchen items, etc. you may have left at church. Items remaining will be donated to a thrift store.

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

Pray for the All Officer Retreat Evening on Thursday, February 21. Our Day Deacons, Night Deacons, and Elders are meeting to work on the ideas for ministry and mission posted on the Five Practices of Fruitful Ministry Boards. Pray for the ministries which will come to life that represent: Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-Taking Mission and Service, and Extravagant Generosity. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. with dinner and we'll get to work at 7:00 p.m. Please let our leaders know the ministry ideas you would like to help with and volunteer to make them a reality. Everyone can be involved and serve in some capacity.

“Spaghetti to Go” Take Out Dinners Support our Youth Mission Trips. You can still order Spaghetti Dinners to support the Youth Mission trips. Tickets are available in the office for \$8—just call. Walk-In tickets on Saturday evening are \$9. This Saturday evening, 5 to 7 p.m., pick up your Spaghetti Dinners To-Go in Hoffman Hall and take them home and enjoy.

Micro Food Pantry. Our Micro Food Pantry is open 7 days a week out in front of the church. Lisa Kasper is leading this ministry. Give her a call if you have questions. You can bring food in cans and boxes to share with those in need and place the items in the micro pantry. The Micro Pantry currently has both food items and non-food items inside. Please feel free to look at the items within it. Then, if you are inspired and have items you'd like to place there, please do so. Food and non-food household items like soap and skin lotion are the intended items for the pantry. The only thing that Lisa asks is that you check the expiration dates of the items that you are donating. We want the food to be up to date and good.

In Christ,
Craig

Spaghetti Dinner To-Go

Spaghetti, Meatballs, Bread, Salad, Bottle of Water—Pick up your dinner this Saturday, Feb. 9, 5 to 7 p.m. Only \$9 for a delicious dinner (\$8 if you have an advance purchase ticket).

This is the main fundraiser for our youth mission trips this summer. The Senior High students are going to Pocahontas, VA, in July to help repair low-income homes; our Junior High students will spend three days here at FPJ, helping their home church and volunteering in the community at the Spanish Community Center, Joliet Hope Center, etc.

Your monetary support is the reason these students can experience these life-changing adventures with Jesus. Thank you!

KIDS

Mid-Week Family Night is tonight!

YOUTH

Midweek Teen Bible Study: Due to last week's Mid-Week weather cancellation we will still be looking at the Beatitudes and discussing just what does it mean for all those hurting to be "blessed." Join us on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. for dinner and Bible Study!

Wildfire Youth Group: This Sunday is Service Sunday! For our service project we will live out 1 Thess. 5:11 and send encouragement to some of our former graduated Youth Group members who are now in the trenches of college! Please bring a few items you think a college kid would like: candy, chocolate, coffee, microwave friendly foods, nail polish, face masks, pens, etc.—Pretty much... anything!

Movie Night: Due to cancellation, we'll try again to see *The Kid Who Would be King* next Tuesday, Feb. 12. Meet at the Joliet Mall Cinema at 6:45 p.m.

FAMILIES

Mid-Week Family Night, Wednesdays,

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 C4 Bible Discussion Group
(discussing the 4 C's: Christ, Conviction,
Courage, & Compassion))

—Women's Discussion Group (studying
Max Lucado's book, *Grace: More Than
We Deserve, Greater Than We Imagine*)

February 3, 2019

Worship Attendance — 165

Stewardship Report

2018-2019 Budget: \$ 799,852

Year to Date Receipts	\$598,432
Year to Date Expenses	\$612,893

2018-2019 Bequest/Gift Income Received — \$14,000

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."

Mission

Mission to the Homeless—Easy open canned goods, warm socks, toiletries, etc. are always needed and now that winter 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.

Our Micro Pantry is often almost bare by Monday mornings. Please help us by bringing canned or packaged food supplies. 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.