



e-News

March 20, 2019

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



MORE LIKE JESUS: SERMON ON THE MOUNT SERIES FOR LENT

During this Lenten Season, on our way to Easter, we are studying the Sermon on the Mount. We will journey through some of the most familiar teachings of Jesus from Matthew Chapters 5-7. As we study these passages, we will relate them to the events surrounding Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. In the process, our worship services will reveal that the cross itself is the ultimate sermon on the mount for our journey of faith in this special and sacred season.

March 10	"Salt and Light" Matthew 5:13-16
March 17	"Prayer and Fasting" Matthew 6:5-18
March 24	"Do Not Worry" Matthew 6:25-34
March 31	"Judge Not" Matthew 7:1-5

On this Third Sunday of Lent, Carrie Kapral is preaching on "Do Not Worry." Her sermon text is Matthew 6:25-34. It seems that there are many things for us to worry about in this life. Trying not to worry can be a big task on particular days or weeks or in some of the seasons of life we pass through. From time to time food, clothing, shelter, bills, money, debt, relationships, anger, violence and more contribute to the drip, drip, drip of worrisome thoughts. How to navigate worry? Jesus instructs us to take our sights off what worries us and to place our focus on God. God knows what we need. Another antidote for worry is found in seeking first the Kingdom of God. Worship with us this Sunday that you might move from worry into worship of our good and gracious God revealed to us most clearly in Jesus.

— Craig Herr

Music this Sunday:

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

The Week Ahead

***Upcoming Council/Committee Meetings:

Education Council—Mar. 28, 6 p.m.

***Fellowship/Bible Studies/Small Groups:

Quilt Group—Mar. 21, 7 p.m. in Room 210
Men's Dinner Group—Mar. 22, 6 p.m. at Wild Horse Restaurant, 2314 W. Jefferson St., Joliet
Project Linus Workday—Mar. 25, 9 a.m. to 12 noon
Lunch Bunch Discussion Group—Mar. 26, 12 noon
Ladies Night In—Mar. 26, 6:30 p.m. (Essential Oils)
Spring Craft & Vendor Fair—Mar. 30, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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

March 17, 2019

Worship Attendance — 158

Stewardship Report

2018-2019 Budget: \$ 799,852

Year to Date Receipts	\$715,953
Year to Date Expenses	\$730,335

Angel House Offering — \$612

2018-2019 Bequest/Gift Income Received — \$18,000

(\$14,000 + a new gift of \$4,000)

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."

Volunteers this Sunday, March 24, 2019

9:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Connection Center:

Bob & Colin Becker

Bob & Colin Becker

Children's Worship:

Stefanie Young

Kaleigh Belfield

Greeters:

Barb Rodgers

Acolytes:

Cameron Paul

Sadie House

Liturgists:

Maddox Lundeen

Mark/Carol Morrison

Ushers:

Mark Fumigalli, Capt.

Mark Morrison, Capt.

Barb Rodgers

Mark Dykema

Coffee Fellowship:

Jon Belfield & Estella Jurkovich, Capts.;

Sound Room:

Rich Pool

Video Screens:

Todd Hayden

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

Share Your Enthusiasm and Invite Someone.

Throughout the Lenten Season we have many ministries and opportunities going on to meet new people: dinners, lunches, classes, Wednesday Family Nights, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship, Good Friday Service, Easter, etc. One of the best things you can do is to invite someone to come with you to a dinner, lunch, fellowship time, worship service, etc. Your inviting presence and enthusiasm are most important in growing the church and extending the caring presence of Christ. Invite someone new to something at First Pres.

"Grateful Giving" Stewardship Campaign

Response. We are seeking to finish up the Stewardship Campaign before March 31. You have received your pledge card with a two page selection of pictures of First Pres. We ask that you return your pledge card on Sunday, March 24. Or, if you prefer, you could mail it to the church office for Tracy Norris, our treasurer. Please think about your "Grateful Giving" in response to God's grace, and make your own response.

Special Offering for Angel House Mission to Support Bhoke, Rhobi, and Lucia. This Sunday and Sunday, March 31, we are receiving our annual special offering to support these three young women. We have committed to supporting them through High School. It's so good to see them growing up at Angel House Mission in a loving and caring place where Christ's love is shared and education is valued. In effect, they have an extended family through Angel House Mission and through our support. Each year we raise \$4,680 to support Bhoke, Rhobi, and Lucia. So far, we have raised \$612.

Selling the 806 Buell Ave. Manse. On Sunday, March 31, the Session has called a congregational meeting to approve putting the Manse up for sale. It has been a good house for us when one of our staff members wished to live there. It has also helped us to add space to our parking lot behind the church. But now since we do not have any staff members who wish to live there, it seems best to sell the home and not be in the real estate or rental business. If you wish to talk about this, see one of our Stewardship members (Rich Johnson, Jim Huey, Ed Schultz) or talk with me or one of our elders.

The Craft and Vendor Fair is Saturday, March 30, 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. They are accepting donations of Coke, Diet Coke, bottled water and Fritos (50 ct. box). Monies made for the Vendor Fair are going to support two ministries: The Women's Retreat and Stephen Ministry.

In Christ,
Craig

KIDS

No Mid-Week Family Night next week—It's Spring Break! We resume April 3 to prepare for our Pinewood Derby (on April 10).

Save the Date — April 13 — for our Easter Egg-stravaganza

YOUTH

Teen Bible Study: We will be finishing Matthew's telling of the Sermon on the Mount this week! As we finish the sermon we will take a close look at what it means to be wise. What does it mean to use Jesus' teachings in our lives so that we may be like a man who has built a home on a rock? Join us tonight, dinner at 5:30 p.m.; Bible Study at 6:30 p.m.

Wildfire Youth Group: This week is our very own Matt Pritz's testimony! Join us as we hear about his own youth group experience, what it has meant to him, and how it has impacted his life. We look forward to Matt's sharing! Wildfire Youth Group is for students in grades 6th-12th and meets Sundays from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

FAMILIES

No Mid-Week Family Night next week—it's Spring Break! We'll resume resumes Wednesday, April 3, 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 12 women from the Bible and how they relate to us now in our lives)

Our Church Family

Known to be in the Hospital: No one.

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.

Congratulations to Scott and Amanda Schultz on the birth of a son, William O'Brien Schultz, on January 31st.

MISSION

Project Linus Workday is Monday, March 25, 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Join us to make fleece blankets and easy quilts for area children in need. Please bring your sewing scissors. Call Tari Ambler, 815-351-2544, for more information.

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.