



e-News

April 3, 2019

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435
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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.

- April 7 "Build on Rock: Love In Action"
Matthew 7:24-27
- April 14 Palm Sunday
"Prayer: Does it Make a Difference?"
Matthew 7:7-11
- April 18 Maundy Thursday
"The Golden Rule"
Matthew 7:12
- April 19 Good Friday
"The Tree and its Fruit"
Matthew 7:15-20
- April 21 Easter
"The Better Way"
Matthew 5:6, 6:19-21, 7:13-14

This Sunday, as we make our way through the Lenten Season, I am preaching on "Build on Rock: Love In Action." The sermon passage is Matthew 7:24-27. Jesus finishes up the Sermon on the Mount saying that it is wise to live out his teachings and put them into our lives. When we live as Jesus instructs, commands and desires, we become more like Jesus. We also show that we love 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:

- Stewardship Council—Apr. 3, 3:30 p.m.
Mission Council—Apr. 7, 11:45 p.m.
Night Deacons—Apr. 9, 7 p.m.
Church Growth Council—Apr. 10, 4:30 p.m.
Executive Council—Apr. 11, 6 p.m.
Session—Apr. 11, 7 p.m.

***Fellowship/Bible Studies/Small Groups:

- Men's Breakfast—Apr. 5, 7:30 a.m. at the Old Fashioned Pancake House on Jefferson St.
Lunch Bunch Discussion Group—Apr. 9, 12 noon
Women's Bible Study—Apr. 10, 10 a.m.; contact Mary Lynn Keir, 815-782-4762
Thursday Morning Circle—Apr. 11, 9:15 a.m.
Mary Circle—Apr. 11, 12 noon
Easter Egg-stravaganza—Apr. 13, 9 to 11 a.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

Volunteers this Sunday, April 7, 2019

9:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Connection Center:

Children's Worship:

Bo Mircea

Pam LeVasseur

Greeters:

Karen Luebbe

Acolytes:

Trevor Lakin

Liturgists:

Mary Jane Johnson

Kris Hayden

Ushers:

Allen Brooks, Capt.

Ed Schultz, Capt.

Mark Dykema

Mark Fumagalli

Adam Halatek

Coffee Fellowship: Estella Jurkovich, Capt.;

Sound Room: Rich Pool

Video Screens: Todd Hayden

Free Pancake Breakfast, April 6:

Cooks: Allen Brooks, Jasmine Maxwell, Justin Keir

Helpers: Estella Jurkovich, Jon Belfield, Barb Rodgers,
Mark Fumagalli, Ed Schultz

Hold the Date for Sunday, May 19. It's going to be a special time to say thanks to Pastor Dale and Tari. We are planning a catered lunch for Sunday, May 19, which is Pastor Dale's last Sunday at First Pres. We plan to celebrate Dale's ministry and have a time to express our appreciation and gratitude to Dale as well as Tari. Dale has had a wonderful ministry with us, for us, and for the Lord Jesus Christ at First Pres. The same can be said of Tari and her ministry throughout the life and mission of First Pres. over so many special years. Hold the date and plan to be with us all at church. We will be sending out a mailing so you can make reservations for lunch and contribute to a gift for Pastor Dale.

Share Your Enthusiasm and Invite Someone.

Throughout the Lenten Season we have many ministries and opportunities to meet new people through 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.

This Sunday Diane Uden will be here for us to thank her for her ministry over the years. We will miss her and we appreciate her dedicated and joyful service to our church family. We will have a celebratory cake and beverages between Worship Services in Hoffman Hall. It's a chance to talk with Diane.

Diane wrote this note to us all,
"Thank you for the opportunity to have worked here for the last nine plus years. It has been a blessing to me in more ways than you know. I value all the friendships I have made! I will miss seeing everyone, especially those with whom I have worked each day. May God bless you richly as you continue the task of sharing the Good News of Jesus' love!"

I look forward to seeing you on Sunday for worship, fellowship, and growing as followers of the Lord Jesus Christ.

In Christ,
Craig

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.

Just Born:

Reagan Elisabeth Jaworski (March 19)
Daughter of Nick & Anna (Bornhofen) Jaworski

KIDS

Mid-Week Family Night—We'll finish our cars tonight for the big Pinewood Derby next Wednesday.

Easter Egg-stravaganza is Saturday, April 13, 9 to 11 a.m. Come for breakfast, arts and crafts, telling of the Easter Story, pictures with the Easter Bunny and a fun Easter Egg Hunt!

YOUTH

Wildfire Youth Group: On April 7 we will take a break from the heavy discussions, small groups, and guest speakers. As a youth group we will live out 1 Thessalonians 5:11 which says, "Lift up one another and encourage one another." What better way to do that than to have some fun together? It's Game Day and that means it's time for some fellowship and fun!

Teen Bible Study: Answering YOUR Matthew Questions. This will be our last lesson together, as we will join the Pinewood Derby Day on April 10! So what better way to end this series than by answering the questions you all had? Join me tonight as I guide you through your Bible to answer the following questions: Who is Matthew? Why did Jesus go to Hell? Why is Matthew important? How could Jesus talk to himself? Trinity questions in general. Questions about Jesus's prayer the night before he was crucified. Questions on Heaven and Hell. And did Jesus pass his power onto his followers?

FAMILIES

Mid-Week Family Night, Wednesday, April 10,
5:30 to 7:30 p.m., will be our last night!

5:30 p.m.—Dinner for everyone

6:30 p.m.—Pinewood Derby

—Men's C4 Bible Discussion Group

—Women's Discussion Group

MISSION

Mission to the Homeless—Kendall Fris has volunteered to take over this ministry. We will be collecting easy open canned goods, toiletries, etc. As usual, you can drop off your donations in the narthex. Kendall plans on packing bags the last Sunday of each month and would appreciate your help.

Night Deacons' Free Pancake Breakfast—it's this Saturday, April 6, 8 to 10 a.m. Plan to come and help greet and serve our guests.

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.