



# e-News

February 7, 2018

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435  
815-727-9259 [firstpresjoliet.org](http://firstpresjoliet.org)



## “The Struggle is Real – A Journey with Jonah”

Jonah is not some distant man who ran from God—he is US. Nineveh is not just a wicked place. It is our most hated enemy, family member, boss, coworker, divorced spouse, abuser, bully, political opponent, etc. Nineveh is the place we want to see our revenge happen in a human idea of justice.

**The Struggle is Real - Part Four – “Go to Nineveh!”** We come to the close of our sermon series, “The Struggle is Real,” as we look at the last chapter of the book of Jonah and what it means for us today. Jonah was called by God to go to Nineveh. God had one thing in mind and Jonah, another. Jonah and his self-righteous anger would rather die than admit that God actually knows what God is doing with regard to Nineveh. This Sunday, in “Go to Nineveh!”, we will look at Jonah 3:10-4:11 and try to understand what God might have in store for us and how we can get on board. The Struggle Is Real and...So Is My God!

— Dale Ambler

**Sunday, February 11.** Come Worship with us as we look to the Lord for hope and direction this week.

### Music This Sunday:

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

### Volunteers this Sunday, February 11, 2018

#### 9:00 a.m.

#### Children's Worship:

Bo Mircea

#### Holy Hunters:

#### Greeters:

Emma Sticklen & Betsey O'Mara

#### Acolytes:

Henry Young

#### Ushers:

, Capt

Pat Costion

Paul & Carol Zettergren

Mark Dykema

#### Coffee Fellowship:

Barb Rodgers, Capt.; Helen Steinberg

#### Sound Room:

Rich Pool

#### Video Screens:

#### 10:30 a.m.

Bo Mircea

Nolan Watson

Aubrey Herr, Capt.

Lisa Ambler

## The Week Ahead

### \*\*\*Upcoming Council/Committee Meetings:

Executive Committee—Feb. 8, 6 p.m.

Session—Feb. 8, 7 p.m.

Parish Council—Feb. 11, 11:45 a.m.

Church Growth Council—Feb. 13, 3:30 p.m.

Night Deacons—Feb. 13, 7 p.m.

### \*\*\*Fellowship/Bible Studies/Small Groups:

Thursday Morning Circle—Feb. 8, 9:15 a.m.

Mary Circle—Feb. 8, 12 noon

Women's Bible Study—Feb. 14, 10 a.m.

Quilt Group—Feb. 15, 7 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

Mindfulness Practice—Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

in the Narthex

Lunch Bunch Adult Discussion Group—Tuesdays

at 12 noon in Room 210 (Bring your lunch!)

Mommy & Me Class—Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m.

in Room 214-216

Men's Discussion Group—Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

in Room 210

Gospel of Mark Discussion Group—Wednesdays at

6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room

Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study—Saturdays

at 7 a.m. in the Fireside Room

## Our Church Family

Known to be in the hospital:

Ellen Vaughn & Melissa Pennuto  
at Presence St. Joseph

Passed to Life Eternal:

Katherine Lester (Feb. 2)

A Celebration of Life  
will be held at a later date.

Sympathies are extended to Betty Jones  
on the passing of her brother,  
Brent Wadsworth, on Feb. 6th

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

**Lenten Journey.** Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14. Throughout this Lenten Season we are using Max Lucado's latest book, "Anxious For Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World" for both worship and study.

Max Lucado describes his book: "Do you feel weighted down with worry? Does the road you're traveling loom large with mountains to cross, obstacles to avoid and hairpin curves to navigate? Could you use some calm? If so, I have a scripture for you to read.

'Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.'

Philippians 4:6-7 is the most underlined passage in the Bible. According to this promise, anxiety comes with life, but it doesn't have to dominate your life. With God as your helper and this verse at your side, you can sleep better tonight and smile more tomorrow. You can talk yourself off the ledge and view bad news through the lens of sovereignty. You can discover a life that is characterized by calm and develop tools for facing the onslaughts of anxiety.

Let's invite God to reframe the way we face our fears and win the war on worry. By his power we will 'be anxious for nothing' and experience the 'peace of God, which surpasses all understanding.'"

I invite you to pick up a copy of Max Lucado's book in the Narthex this week. I believe you will be glad you did. It's a bargain and a great investment for just \$12.

**Hoffman Hall Redecoration Progress.** The wallpaper is going up this week on the top part of the walls while the chair rail to the floor has been painted. In the weeks to come there will be new window treatments, blinds and valances and new light sconces added to Hoffman Hall. Last of all there will be new chairs. It is exciting to watch everything take shape each week.

**All Officer Retreat for Day Deacons, Night Deacons, and Elders.** We are holding the All Officer Retreat on Thursday evening, February 22. Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. We will start our retreat together at 6:00 p.m. and finish by 9:00 p.m. This worked very well for us last year. Come enjoy dinner fellowship and working together on the life, ministry, and mission of our church.

In Christ,



## KIDS

Mid-Week Family Night! See below.

## YOUTH

Sundays

10:00 a.m.—Jr./Sr. High Bible Study meets in Room 206  
6 to 7:30 p.m.—Jr./Sr. High Youth Group

Wednesdays

5:30 p.m.—Family Mid-week Dinner  
6:30 p.m.—Teen Homework/Hangout Time

Confirmation—Wednesdays

Come for dinner at 5:30 p.m.  
Class starts at 7:20 p.m.

## FAMILIES

Each Wednesday we have a time for us to be together as a church family, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. with lots of options:

5:30 p.m.—Dinner for everyone  
6:15 to 7 p.m.—Mommy and Me Class  
6:30 p.m.—Music and learning for kids  
— Jr./Sr. High Fellowship/Homework time  
—Men's Discussion Group  
—The Gospel of Mark Adult Discussion Group  
7:30 p.m.—Chancel Choir

## Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14

Join us for a time of fellowship & reflection.

### Ash Wednesday Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Lasagna, Tossed Salad, Green Beans,  
Garlic Bread & Dessert  
Freewill Offering

### Worship/Communion at 6:30 p.m.

Ashes are available for those who desire.  
A Freewill Offering will be received to  
benefit Feed My Starving Children

## Mission

Mission for the Homeless—a call to care for the poor amongst us. Check out the list in the narthex for items to bring—easy open canned goods, warm socks, scarves, mittens, gloves, toiletries, etc. We'll pack up the items the last Sunday of each month and volunteer drivers will deliver them to the homeless in the Joliet area. Call Linda Zoellick at 520-400-8396, with questions.

# Craft & Vendor Fair

Saturday April 14<sup>th</sup>

**First Presbyterian Church**

805 Western Ave, Joliet

**ALL SHOPPERS INVITED!!**

*Vendors/Crafters needed*

*Registration contracts are available on our website  
or call the church office, 815-727-9259.*

*Questions? Call 815-258-8617*

*\$1 donation at the door!*

*Gift/Prize Drawings!*

*Lunch and Snacks available for purchase!*

*All money raised (excluding sales of craft items)  
will benefit Feed My Starving Children.*

Craft & Vendor Fair  
Saturday, April 14, 2018  
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Here at First Pres.

1 Concert — 2 Bands

Crafters/Vendors Wanted!  
Details & registration form are on our website. All  
money raised (excluding sales of craft items) will  
benefit Feed My Starving Children.

Cost is \$25 per table plus 1 item from your line  
donated for our "Special Drawing Table."

Pick up a registration form this Sunday.  
Call Kris Hayden at 815-258-8617, if you have  
questions or are interested in participating.

Join us on February 24, when we welcome two  
Christians Bands!

Nashville-based *Water Within* was with us in  
worship last August and is returning for this Satur-  
day night concert. You can listen to some of their  
songs on iTunes from their albums "Unlocked" and  
"Long Live Your Spirit."

*Enlivened* is a local band, which began as a youth  
band with The Center (formerly Christian Youth  
Center).

Invite you friends, neighbors & co-workers to this  
inspirational night of music!

6:00 p.m.—Fellowship & Refreshments  
6:30 p.m.—*Enlivened* opens the concert  
7:00 p.m.—*Water Within* performs

A freewill offering will be received to benefit Feed  
My Starving Children.

## February 4, 2018

Worship Attendance — 174

## Stewardship Report

2017-2018 Budget: \$ 792,000

Year to Date Receipts	\$621,820
Year to Date Expenses	\$611,881

2017-2018 Bequest/Gift Income Received — \$163,592.47

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."