



# e-News

March 13, 2019

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435  
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## MORE LIKE JESUS: SERMON ON THE MOUNT SERIES FOR LENT

Throughout Lent, on our way to Easter, we will focus on 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 Second Sunday of Lent we continue our study of the Sermon on the Mount. I am preaching on "Prayer and Fasting: Let Go of the Show—Simplify." In Chapter 6 of Matthew, Jesus is teaching about Giving, Praying, and Fasting. The common theme is not to let our giving, praying, and fasting be done in a way that is about creating a big show. Our service is not about putting the spotlight on ourselves to show everyone just how good we are, but to give glory and honor to God who sees all things and knows our heart. It seems that, in Jesus' times, there were Pharisees who wanted everyone to see their visible goodness and faithfulness to God. It was inauthentic and publicly so.

### Music this Sunday:

- 9:00 a.m.—Glory Ringers & Water Within Band
- 10:30 a.m.—Water Within Band

## The Week Ahead

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

- Church Growth Council—Mar. 13, 4:30 p.m.
- Executive Comm.—Mar. 14, 6 p.m.
- Session—Mar. 14, 7 p.m.
- Human Resources Council—Mar. 20, 8 a.m.
- Education Council—Mar. 21, 6 p.m.

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

- Thurs. A.M. Circle—Mar. 14, 9:15 a.m.
- Mary Circle—Mar. 14, 12 noon
- Lunch Bunch Adult Discussion Group—Mar. 19, 12 noon, Room 210
- Dinner Out—Mar. 19, 6 p.m. at Public Landing Restaurant, 200 W. 8th St., Lockport
- Quilt Group—Mar. 21, 7 p.m., Room 210
- Men's Dinner Group—Mar. 22, 6 p.m. at Wild Horse Restaurant, 2314 W. Jefferson St., Joliet
- C4 Men's Discussion Group—Mar. 20, 6:30 p.m.
- Women's Discussion Group—Mar. 20, 6:30 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

### Volunteers this Sunday, March 17, 2019

<u>9:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
<u>Connection Center:</u> Reed & Sue Mott	Reed & Sue Mott
<u>Children's Worship:</u> Laura Pritz	Sarah Lundeen
<u>Greeters:</u>	Jan Gehrig
<u>Acolytes:</u> Emma Corcoran	Carter Lundeen
<u>Liturgists:</u> Joan Schultz	Ed Schultz
<u>Ushers:</u> Colin Becker, Capt. Estella Jurkovich Mark Dykema	Ed Schultz, Capt. Lisa Haldorson
<u>Coffee Fellowship:</u> Pat Haldorson & Sue Fordyce, Capts.;	
<u>Sound Room:</u> Keith LeVasseur	
<u>Video Screens:</u>	

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

**Special Offering for Angel House Mission to Support Bhoke, Rhobi, and Lucia.** On the next 3 Sundays, March 17, 24, and 31, we will receive our annual special offering to support these three young women. We 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.

**Provide Help and Hope for Others through our Micro Food Pantry.** If you would like to help by stocking the pantry one or two days a week with the food we receive or by purchasing food with mission monies, just give Lisa Kasper a call or see Pastor Craig. The Micro Pantry is open 7 days a week out in front of the church. The Micro Pantry currently has both food items and non-food items inside. Please feel free 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 also good items for the pantry. The only thing that Lisa Kasper 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. Again, let us know if you would like to help.

**“Grateful Giving” Stewardship Campaign.** This week you will receive your pledge card with a two-page selection of pictures of First Pres. We ask that you return your pledge card on Sunday, March 17 or March 24. Or, if you prefer, you could mail it to the church office for Tracy Norris, our treasurer. Please begin to think about your “Grateful Giving” in response to God's grace.

**Our “Grateful Giving” 2019 Stewardship Campaign** gives everyone of us the opportunity to make our own response to God in terms of “Grateful Giving.” Our lives are, in a sense, a living response to God's grace. Through the “Grateful Giving” of ourselves, we can respond in many, many ways—serving, giving, loving, hoping, believing, praying, worshipping, surrendering, forgiving, building, striving, challenging, creating—and more.

**The Craft and Vendor Fair** is Saturday, March 30, 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. They are accepting donations of Coke, Diet Coke, Frito Corn Chips and bottled water. Proceeds from the Vendor Fair are going to support two ministries: Women's Ministry and Stephen Ministry.

In Christ,  
Craig

## KIDS

Mid-Week Family Night is tonight!  
Save the Date — April 13 — for our Easter Egg-stravaganza

## YOUTH

**Teen Bible Study:** This week we will continue to go through the Sermon on the Mount. We will examine 3 key parts: Not judging others, knock and the door will be opened, and the Golden Rule. The knocking part of Jesus' sermon may seem hard to believe. How many of us have had unanswered prayers? This week we will talk about faith while asking, perseverance in prayer, and allowing room in our hearts for God's will. It'll be a great night!

**Wildfire Youth Group:** The older we get the more we realize we have people in our lives that we love, that don't believe in Jesus. That leads us to question one of our core beliefs and Jesus' own words. This Sunday we will tackle the age-old question while we continue to study Who is Jesus. Together we will look at Scripture and answer the question: Is Jesus the Only Way?

## 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 12 women from the Bible and how they relate to us now in our lives)

## MISSION

**Angel House Special Offering.** On March 17, 24 and 31st we will receive a special offering for Lucis, Bhoke and Rhobi, the three young women we are supporting at Angel House Mission in Tanzania. Each year we raise \$4,680 (\$1,560 for each girl) to support their education, housing, and food for the entire year. This continues to be a wonderful and exciting mission for our church. Special offering envelopes will be in the Sunday bulletins. Or, you can give online by going to our website, [www.firstpresjoliet.org](http://www.firstpresjoliet.org), clicking on “Give” at the top, then either using the “Quick Give” option or register to give. You can click on General Budget and choose Angel House Mission.

**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.



Spring Craft & Vendor Sale  
 Saturday, March 30, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Door prizes, Special Drawings, Lunch & Snacks available for purchase.

Proceeds will benefit First Pres. Joliet Stephen Ministry and Women's Ministry.

We still would like donations of the following, to keep our costs minimal:

- Bottled water
- Cases of Pop: (cans only) Coke & Diet Coke
- Bags of Frito Corn Chips ( 50 ct. box)

Items can be brought to church anytime to the table in Hoffman Hall (look for the Craft/Vendor Fair Donations sign).

When leaving donations, please sign the sheet so we can properly thank everyone who helps to make this event a great success.

**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.

**Easter Flowers**



If you would like to donate flowers to decorate the sanctuary for Easter, please fill in below and mail to the church office or place in the offering plate on Sunday morning. Please make checks payable to "First Presbyterian Church—Easter Flowers." You can also order and pay on our website. The deadline for ordering is April 8.

How many (at \$12/pot):

\_\_\_\_\_ Lilies    \_\_\_\_\_ Tulips    \_\_\_\_\_ Mums

Our/My Easter Flowers are given:

- \_\_\_\_\_ to the Glory of God
- \_\_\_\_\_ to the Glory of God and in loving memory of loved ones
- \_\_\_\_\_ to the Glory of God and in loving memory of

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**March 10, 2019**

Worship Attendance — 140

**Stewardship Report**

2018-2019 Budget: \$ 799,852

<b>Year to Date Receipts</b>	\$702,137
<b>Year to Date Expenses</b>	\$726,098

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](http://www.firstpresjoliet.org), and click on "Giving."