



"The Gospel of Mark" Summer Sermon Series

Our journey, this Summer, through the Gospel of Mark is nearly over. We started on June 2 and will finish up on September 1. It's will end up being a 14-week study of the Gospel of Mark. I encourage you to read from the Gospel of Mark each week, the shortest Gospel, in preparation for our Sermon Study. In these final two weeks we are choosing texts from two chapters.

August 25 "Choose to Prepare"
Mark 13:32-36; 14:12-16

September 1 Mark 15-16

September 8 "Strength for This Season"
Sermon Series Begins

Watch for details on this 9-Week Series about living by faith, in our challenging day and time.

I am preaching this Sunday on "Choose to Prepare" from Mark 13:32-36; 14:12-16. Here Jesus advises being prepared for when he returns. Being prepared is far better than acting as though he will never return or doing nothing. I think of the following: "In youth, because I could not be a singer, I did not even try to write a song; I set no trees along the roadside, because I knew their growth would take so long..." Instead of living that way we can anticipate, watch, be alert, and be prepared. Come worship and think about Jesus asking us to choose preparation in our lives.

--Craig Herr

Music This Sunday:

First Service : Summer Choir

Second Service: Worship Band

To sing with the Summer Choir just meet in the Choir room at 8:15 Sunday morning to practice! All are welcome!

e-News

August 21, 2019

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

The Week Ahead

Fellowship/Bible Studies/Small Groups:

Centering Prayer—Tuesdays at 1 PM in Room 217

Praise Yoga—Thursdays at 8AM and Tuesdays at 7 PM

Women's Bible Study — Every second Thursday at 10 AM

Men's Dinner — 23rd at 6 PM at McBride's in Joliet

Church Picnic — following 2nd Service on Sunday the 25th
at the Inwood Pavilion in Joliet

Project Linus — 26th at 9 AM, every last Monday

Ladies Night In — 27th at 6:30 PM, offsite

August 18, 2019

Worship Attendance — 120

Stewardship Report

2019-2020 Budget: \$ 768,135

Year to Date Income \$265,185

Year to Date Expenses \$260,810

2018-2019 Bequest/Gift Income Received — -0-

Farragut Elementary School Supplies:

\$2,772 Special Offering

We offer several convenient options for electronic giving. Please visit our website or call Tracy Norris for more information.

Volunteers this Sunday, August 25, 2019

9:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Connection Center:

Bob Becker Colin Becker

Children's Worship:

Kaleigh Belfield

Kaliegh Belfield

Greeters:

Acolytes:

Cameron Paul

Ushers:

Mark Fumagalli, Capt.

Ed Schultz, Capt

Mark Dykema

Coffee Fellowship: Sue Fordyce, Capt

Sound Room:

Rich Pool

Video Screens:

Todd Hayden

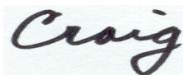
Bo Returns!, Bo returns home this week and will back in worship with us this Sunday, August 25. Pray for his safe flight home and recovery from any jet lag. It so good that he can spend time in Romania with his mom and dad.

Annual Church Picnic, Sunday, August 25, Join everyone at Inwood Park at 11:30 a.m. We'll have burgers, brats, hot dogs, chips, watermelon pasta salad, and corn on the cobb. A-L bring a salad/side dish to share, M-Z bring a desert. It will be great fun.

The Latest News for our Habitat Home Build, There's a volunteer meeting here at First Pres. for all the churches involved on Thursday evening, September 5. Watch for exact time. Work on the home will begin in mid-September. Typical hours to volunteer for will be Wednesday to Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Please let Craig or the office know how you would like to help in building a new home. We've been waiting a long time for this to come together. Now we are getting very close.

Tuesday Lunch Study- The Book of Revelation, starts September 17.

We will be studying the Book of Revelation. Both Bob Haas and I will be leading the class. We will be using the Kerygma Curriculum- The Book of Revelation: Visions for the Church in Crisis as we prepare for each class session. Our study begins on September 17 at Noon. Bring your lunch and come ready for lively discussions, conversation, and caring fellowship.



MISSION

Help fill empty shelves & stomachs!

There are several opportunities at First Pres. to help those in our community who are food insecure—

Our **Micro Pantry** offers canned and packaged food to those in need. You can help by bringing food or by offering to check the pantry one day a week and filling it with food we keep on hand. Donations should be of prepackaged goods only, please refrain from donating homemade dishes.

"Bags of Love" are filled with easy-open food donations, socks, and toiletries the last Sunday of the month and taken to MorningStar Mission for distribution. There are bins in the Narthex for your donations. Especially needed are easy open canned meals/entrees.

Sunday, August 18- "Choose to Love" from Mark 12:28-34

Life moves very fast. The schools and colleges are open again and kids are going back to school. Moms and Dads are scrambling... Retirees tell me they are busier now than when they were working.

In our world, right now, we are bombarded by the cacophony of hatred from the (in alphabetical order) far left and far right, etc. We are told that it's wrong to be in the center and to work together with those people; that's too bad; a house divided is not good. It's such a noisy time in our world and life is rushing by so quickly. The pace and problems can wear us out.

What really matters and how do we know? What takes priority in all of the noise? Jesus speaks into that. It's a high-pressure time for Jesus; every moment matters. It's two days after Palm Sunday, the last week of Jesus' life. No by now, it's the final 4 days; three days later Jesus is crucified.

In Mark 12 Jesus is being pursued by religious leaders who want more than anything to destroy him. With time moving at a frantic pace; 3.5 days from that dark Friday crucifixion, Jesus answers. Here's what matters.

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."

And second, "Love your neighbor as yourself..."

'And who is our neighbor?' we might ask. The Bible says Other Christians, our Enemies, and Anybody in Need. The temptation is to say be like us, be like me, and I will love you, when church is all about being like Jesus. What if we obliterated once and for all the illusion that there's a "them" and acknowledge that there's only an "Us"? (Father Greg Boyles).

What matters? Relationships, Jesus says. Love God with your All and Love your neighbor as yourself. That's all we need to understand to navigate life in any time.

Past Sermons are available to hear on our website and app! Under "Media", then "Sermons"

<https://www.firstpresjoliet.org/sermons-2/>

Our Church Family

Known to be in the Hospital: no one

Sympathies are extended to Linda Nachtrieb for the death of her brother-in-law John Steffensen on August 17th in Tampa, Florida



The 2019 Annual Church Picnic will be this
Sunday, August 25th!

It will be held at the Inwood Pavillion at 3000 W. Jefferson Street
in Joliet.

The picnic will begin at 11:30 am with lunch being served at
noon.

Expect yummy brats and burgers, Italian pasta salad, chips,
sweet corn on the cob, juicy watermelon, and more!

Don't forget to bring your favorite lawn chair, and friends!
Remember this is a **FREE** event for our congregation, friends and
families!

You are welcome to contribute
a dish if you would like, here is
the recommendation:

By Last name:

A—L : please bring salad

M— Z: please bring dessert



Mark Your Calendars!

Or cut these out and put them on your fridge as a nice reminder!

SAVE THE DATE

FIRST PRES
LADIES RETREAT

SEPTEMBER 28TH, 2019

AT THE JACOB HENRY
MANSION!

For more information on the Ladies' Retreat and the registration form check our website, there is a link on the home page!

Printed registration forms are also available in the office.

SEPTEMBER 8, 2019; 6:00PM

WILDFIRE
YOUTH
GROUP

Kids & Rents water balloon toss

Winning family will get a \$20 gift card to Cinemark for a family movie night!

More details to come!



Sunday, August 25th at Inwood Pavilion

3000 W. Jefferson St.—Joliet

11:30am—Lunch served at 12 noon.

Enjoy Burgers, Brats and Dogs, Chips, Corn on the Cob, Watermelon, Italian Pasta Salad, Kids & Family Games, Bingo and more!

Bring your favorite lawn chair

Those wishing to bring a dish to share may do so
(suggested : Last names: A-L —Salad M-Z Dessert)

This is a FREE event open to our congregation, friends and family!

Ladies' Night Out



Our wonderful Pat Costion has opened her home so that we may have an FPJ Ladies Night OUT in August! One of the best summer activities is a bonfire. We can make s'mores, swap stories, and just enjoy the glow of the flames.

Join us as we enjoy the fellowship of a bonfire, a lesson on what it means to give a sacrifice with a "pleasing aroma" to the Lord, and participant in an updated fire sacrifice of whatever is taking up most of your thought life. This is not an evening you want to miss! It will be on August 27, 2019 at 6:30pm. Contact Karissa for the address: 815-954-3047