



The Servants' Light

October 30, 2019

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***"Servants of
Jesus Christ—
Ministering
To One Another,
To Our
Community,
And To Our
World."***

SO  P'S
ON!

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Sunday Morning Schedule

Worship—
9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Children's Worship—
9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship—
10:00 to 10:30 a.m.
Nursery/Preschool Care—
8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

The Specials for Saturday November 9th are:

Parish Soup and Movie Night!

MENU: Dinner will consist of a delightful soup contest !
All are encouraged and invited to bring a crock pot of
soup to share with the community. Chefs will set up at
4:30 pm, and Dinner/ Judging will begin at 5 pm.

ENTERTAINMENT: Movies will all begin at 6 pm

Films are: Aladdin (2019, PG) in the Sanctuary
Indivisible (PG13) in room 217
Where Hope Grows (PG13) in Room 201
Yesterday (PG13) in the Cinema
Green Book (PG13) in the Fireside Room

**No RSVP required! The whole family is welcome,
The whole community is invited!**



SUNDAY, November 3, We celebrate the Lord's Supper at both Worship Services this Sunday. We begin a new Sermon Series, "Extend Yourself." We will consider how the Lord Jesus can extend our reach to other people in our network of influence as we worship and study the scriptures together this Sunday. The Chancel Choir is singing at the 9:00 a.m. Traditional service and the Worship Band is singing and playing at the 10:30 Contemporary Service.

SERMON, This Sunday I am preaching on "Encouragers Go Further." We begin a new sermon series called, "Extend Yourself." The sermon text is from Romans 12:6-8, 15:4-7. We will focus on how we can be a source of encouragement to others in our daily lives. We have a surplus of critics in our world. What is needed is encouragers.

GREAT DINNERS AT MIDWEEK FAMILY NIGHTS, We have the best meals on Wednesday nights at 5:30 p.m. in Hoffman Hall. If you just want to join us for dinner you are welcome and will not be disappointed. After dinner we have classes and discussion groups for men, women, teens, and children. We meet again this Wednesday, October 30.

COME HELP THIS SATURDAY AT THE NORTHERN IL FOOD BANK, Come volunteer on Saturday, Nov. 2 at the Northern Illinois Food Bank to help make food available for hungry families. It's at 171 S. Larkin Ave. behind the Taco Bell and Comfort Inn. We will work from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Just arrive 10 minutes early and wear closed-toed shoes. Children over 8 can come with an adult. Please call the office or let me know you plan to come.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS IN NOVEMBER, We are going to have a new members class on Sunday, November 10 from 11:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with Lunch provided. Please call the office or let me know if you are interested and let us know the best Sunday for you.

TEN YEAR CELEBRATION ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, On Sunday, November 17, between worship services, we are celebrating and giving thanks for Kristina Wilson's ministry of music at First Pres. Kristina has led our Cherub Choir, Chorister Choir, and Children's Choir over the years and now our Worship Band and has sung many beautiful solos in worship. Join us between services for a cake reception in Hoffman Hall. You will receive a letter this week about the reception.

In Christ,

Craig



Known to be in the Hospital: no one

Baptized: : Kelsey Rose Marie Kroening, daughter of Kyle and Kristen (Pocius) Kroening. Welcome to our First Pres. family!

Congratulations to the following couples who were recently married: Keith Farr and Jody Graefen on September 24th; Justin Keir and Jasmine Maxwell on October 6th; Mitchell Batis and Summer Red on October 13.

Visitation for Diane Nelson will be at Carlson-Holmquist-Sayles Funeral Home on Friday, November 1 from 2-6 p.m. followed by a memorial service at 6 p.m.

October 27, 2019

Worship Attendance — 162

Stewardship Report

2019-2020 Budget: \$ 768,135

Year to Date Income \$402,845

Year to Date Expenses \$398,341

2018-2019 Bequest/Gift Income Received - \$3,000

Online giving is available on our website under "Give". Also by texting (815)205-3044, or talking with Tracy Norris in the church office.

Growing in Christ—

NEW Sermon Series

"Extend Yourself"

All sermons are available on our website under "Media".



"Extend Yourself," that is, do a little more than you can easily do. In this way you strengthen your character and enlarge someone else's world. Jesus said,

"If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you..."

What are you doing more than others?

This series is about serving well rather than seeking to be served.

Sunday, November 3

"Encouragers Go Further"

Romans 12:6-8, 15:4-7

Sunday, November 10

"Go and Do Likewise"

Luke 10:35-37

Sunday, November 17

Extend Gratitude

Psalms 103

Sunday, November 24

"Being a Role Model/Example"

I Timothy 4:12

Youth Group/Teen Take Over

MIDWEEK MEN AND WOMEN'S STUDY:

This is an opportunity for men and women (and not just parents) to meet and study the Bible and strengthen fellowship. This group meets Wednesday nights at 6:30, dinner at 5:30! Teen and Child study groups are included, as well as childcare so the whole family can come, no need to worry about a babysitter!

PERSONAL/FAMILY FINANCIAL PLANNING MEETINGS

Scripture encourages families to have financial plans and actions. Since spring of this year a conversation about finances at the family level has been growing within the church. No one will be asked to disclose personal information during the session, though some may volunteer to do so. Another meeting is being planned if you have questions or want more information

please contact

Ken Graham (630 297-5632)

kengraham8@msn.com

or

Jim Huey (815 953-8422)

hueyjim@comcast.net

Please leave a message if you call.

LUNCH BUNCH BIBLE STUDY

Bob Haas and Pastor Craig Herr lead a Lunch Study on the Book of Revelation. They use the Kerygma Curriculum- 'The Book of Revelation: Visions for the Church in Crisis.' Bring a lunch and your Bible and meet them in room 210 at noon!

Thanksgiving Service

Thanksgiving Service this year will be held at Faith Lutheran Church. It is located at the corner of Midland and Glenwood, very close! The service will be Tuesday November 26th at 6:30 PM.

Christmas Services

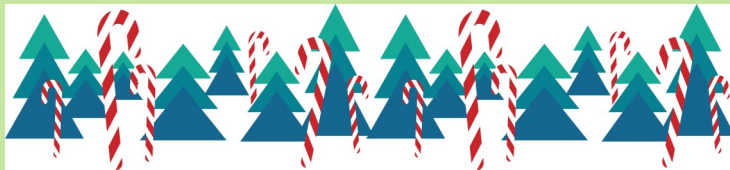
On Christmas Eve we will have a service at 3 PM, one at 7 PM, and one at 11 PM
"Proclaim the Hope of the World"

POTLUCK SUNDAYS CHANGE

2nd Sunday Potluck is changing from a monthly to a quarterly event. In November you can enjoy the “potluck atmosphere” of Soup and a Movie Night on November 9, and in December everyone will be busy with Christmas events. Mark your calendars now so you don’t miss it: the next potluck will be Sunday, January 12, 2020 following 10:30 a.m. worship. See you next year!

MIDWEEK

While adults (parent or not) are studying we will have childcare available in the nursery and a curriculum and activities for children! Midweek is meeting Wednesday nights starting with a delicious fresh cooked meal at 5:30. After dinner we break into groups (Men, Women, Teens, and Children) for our studies! Groups go until about 7:30 pm.



BROOKFIELD ZOO CHRISTMAS TREE!

FPJ is sponsoring a Christmas tree at the Brookfield Zoo this year! We’re hoping to decorate after services Sunday Nov. 24th. If you would like to help decorate tickets are provided for a limited number of people. Ornaments will be provided to be decorated in Hoffman on Sundays, but if you would like to contribute other ornaments they are welcome! A church trip to see our tree is being planned for Dec. 8th after services so

SAVE THE DATE.

If you would like to know the ornament guidelines, help decorate, have any questions, or would just like to express interest, please contact the office by
calling (815) 727-9259
or emailing office@firstpresjoliet.org.

Meal Fellowship

Men’s Breakfast—November 1, 7:30 a.m. at the Old Fashioned Pancake House on Jefferson St., Joliet.

Dinner Out Group—November 19th, 6:00 p.m. at Mamma Onesta’s Italian Restaurant in Lockport

Men’s Dinner Group—November 22nd, 6:00 p.m. at Firewater BBQ in Crest Hill

Call Jean or Bob Smietanski, 815-838-7616 to RSVP

Small Groups & Special Events

Session Notes

- Unanimously passed motion to approve the September 2019 Financial Report
- Trunk N Treat (oct 23rd at 6 pm) has 36 trunks committed this far
- A trip to Brookfield Zoo is being planned for December 8th, which includes a decorated tree sponsored by First Pres. Church of Joliet
- From Stewardship Council
 - A. Sidewalks were replaced
 - B. Repairs on the roof are happening soon
 - C. Some windows are still to be replaced
 - D. New carpet has been chosen for Fireside

GLORY RINGERS

SO, YOU SAY YOU CAN’T SING ?

Well then, you need to join the First Presbyterian Church Handbell Choir. You don’t even have to know how to read music – you just have to be able to count! Glory Ringers rehearse on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. and we would love to have you join us! We ring for two Sundays per month plus special services such as Christmas, Easter, etc. Anyone from high school age on up is welcome. This is a different kind of music ministry that I’m sure you will enjoy. Feel free to talk to one of the members of Glory Ringers and find out how exciting ringing can be. We need **YOU** to be a part of the Music Ministry of First Presbyterian Church!

“The Way” Small Group

Join us in exploring an early Christian path. The early Christians were not known as Christians, but as those who practiced the way. Led by the Holy Spirit, they supported each other physically, psychologically, and spiritually. They were known for the way they loved, particularly each other. We will use some recent understanding of the spirituality that underlies this way of life.

Meetings are every Monday at 10 AM in room 210 here at First Pres.

Praise Yoga

Come, to find peace in your heart and mind, and to experience the power of God’s transforming grace deep in your heart. Every Tuesday at 7PM and Thursday at 8AM in the Narthex.

Ministering to One Another, to Our Community, and to Our World

The First Pres. quilt group has created a one of a kind quilt that you can win! Working together, we created a wonderful Christmas quilt that we are selling drawing tickets for. This quilt is a perfect way to decorate your home for the holidays, or give as a treasured Christmas gift. All of the funds raised from ticket sales will be donated directly to the Angel House Tanzania sewing & tailoring education curriculum. As you know, one of the young ladies our church sponsors, Bhoke Mnanka, is participating in this program and we were moved to find a way to support her and the other students. Through November 10th a member of the quilt group will be selling drawing tickets in Hoffman Hall between services. The quilt will be on display each week and we'll be glad to answer your questions as well. Tickets cost \$1 each, or 6 for \$5. We will draw the winning ticket on November 17th between services and announce the winner at that point. If you have questions feel free to contact Michelle Gier at 815-922-7695. Thank you in advance for your generous support of our fundraising effort to help Angel House!



Help Fill Empty Shelves and Empty 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 have on hand.

The Night Deacons' **Free Pancake Breakfast** is the first Saturday of each month, 8 to 10 a.m. Come on October 5th to help greet and serve our guests.

Our **Bags of Love** are filled with donations (collected in the Narthex) of food and hygiene items. These are then packed together once a month and donated to the local MorningStar Mission to be given to homeless individuals.

Night Deacons Food Ministry

On the first Sunday of each month, the Night Deacons collect monetary donations to fund our various ministries. Please use the special envelopes marked "Night Deacon Ministries" in the pew racks for your donation. Thank you for your on-going support!

Volunteer at the Local Food Bank!

We are looking to have 25 volunteers join us on Saturday November 2nd. All willing volunteers will meet at the Northern Illinois Food Bank at 171 S. Larkin Ave. (behind the Taco Bell and Comfort Inn). From 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. volunteers will help prepare food for hungry people in the area.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING ALREADY?? GIVE A GIFT TO FIRST PRES!

You can contribute to the church by simply making Amazon.com purchases through the web page, "smile@amazon.com." This is a simple way to contribute .5% of Amazon purchases to the church!



THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS FROM THIS YEARS TRUNK N TREAT!

We were very lucky to have nice weather and so many gracious Volunteers! We are very thankful for your help in making this such a fun and festive evening for the families in our community!

THANK YOU!



WILDFIRE YOUTH GROUP

November is right around the corner, which means the Holiday rush is coming! As exciting as the food on Thanksgiving is, the glow of Christmas lights are, and the excitement of ringing in 2020 is, there is so much more to the upcoming holiday season!

On Wednesdays, now that we are finished with *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* we will be diving into a few Psalms that showcase a heart of Thanksgiving.

There will be no Confirmation or Youth Group after #TeenTakeOver. Instead, we will celebrate a great service with a pizza party! There will be no Confirmation or Youth Group on December 1—enjoy that family time after Thanksgiving!

November also means #TeenTakeOver is back! The students in Wildfire Youth Group will have a chance to run service and it's going to be another great one! The sermon will be based 1 Timothy 4:12 which reads: "Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity." We all have suffered from the effects of ageism. We're either too young or too old "to know anything about life." What does this passage mean for us as a group of believers and how should we respond to this text? Join us November 24 to find out! Plus, you'll hear special music from a few of our teens! Solos and piano solos guaranteed! Support Wildfire and join us for a day of awesomeness.

Youth Group will have two lessons this month on the Holy Spirit (snacks and games totally included).

Confirmation is still roaring as we enter into lessons on the Old Testament!

Newsletter Deadline—

The deadline for reserving space in the September 25 *Servants' Light* is **October 10**. Please e-mail to office@firstpresjoliet.org.

It fills up fast!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Craig M. Herr—Senior Pastor

Bo Mircea—Associate Pastor of Children's Ministry and Family Ministry

Karissa Fleming, Dir. of Youth Ministry

Jen Gabl—Administrative Ministry Assistant

Ellen Kientop—Outreach Ministry Assistant & Newsletter Editor

November Daily Devotional Blog

"Walking Through the Books of Wisdom"

11/1	Proverbs 26
11/4	Proverbs 27
11/5	Proverbs 28
11/6	Proverbs 29
11/7	Proverbs 30
11/8	Proverbs 31
11/11	Ecclesiastes 1
11/12	Ecclesiastes 2
11/13	Ecclesiastes 3
11/14	Ecclesiastes 4

11/15	Ecclesiastes 5
11/18	Ecclesiastes 6
11/19	Ecclesiastes 7
11/20	Ecclesiastes 8
11/21	Ecclesiastes 9
11/22	Ecclesiastes 10
11/25	Ecclesiastes 11
11/26	Ecclesiastes 12
11/27	Psalms 69
11/28	Psalms 86
11/29	Psalms 106