

New Hope For the New Year" January 5-February 16).

As we anticipate what the new year means, we look with Hope at what 2020 will bring. We understand that there will be New Hopes realized and New Challenges presented as the year unfolds to us. This sermon series is about navigating life in the hope of Christ Jesus and finding strength for the inevitable challenges that surface. We will seek wisdom from the lives of God's people and parables in the Bible such as David, Rahab, the Prodigal Son, Josiah, Anna, Lydia, and Daniel.

<u>Sunday, January 5</u> "From Shepherd Boy to King"

Samuel 16-18

<u>Sunday, January 12</u> "Writing New Chapters"

Joshua 2

<u>Sunday, January 19</u> "Mending Fences with Family and Friends" Luke 15:11-32

<u>Sunday, January 26</u> Never "Just" Ordinary Luke 2:33, 36-38 & Acts 16:12-15

<u>Sunday, February 2</u> "Return to Faith"

II Kings 22-23

<u>Sunday, February 9</u> "Foundations for Making a New Life" Daniel 1-3.

I am preaching on "Mending Fences with Family and Friends" this Sunday. The sermon text is the Luke 15:11-31, the Parable of the Prodigal Son. We know the story very well and yet it is a most interesting study in family dynamics. There's willful disobedience, unforgiveness, and gracious forgiveness. I wonder how the welcome home for the lost son played out with the rest of the family? What if we could mend relationships with family members and friends in this new year?

---Craig Herr



January 15, 2020 805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435 815-727-9259 firstpresjoliet.org

The Week Ahead :

<u>Glory Ringers</u>—Mondays @7 PM <u>Centering Prayer</u>—Tuesdays at 1 PM in Room 217 <u>Praise Yoga</u>—Meets the 9th, then 28th and 30th <u>Confirmation</u>—Sundays at 4:30 <u>Youth Group</u>—Sundays at 6 pm <u>Midweek</u>—Wednesdays at 5 <u>Comm. Services Council</u>—16th at 8 am <u>Quilt Group</u>—16th at 7 pm <u>PEO</u>—20th at noon <u>Dinner Out Group</u>—21st at 6 pm

## **TEEN MIDWEEK:**

Back by Popular Demand we will be studying the Screwtape Letters again on Wednesday nights, starting tonight!

# **CHILI AND MOVIE NIGHT**

January 25th! Bring a crock pot of chili at 4:30 or show up at 5 for dinner and the friendly chili competition. Afterwards we will be showing Peanut Butter Falcon, A Dog's Journey, Breakthrough, Downton Abbey, and Dumbo (2019). Childcare is provided so bring the whole family!

## **MUSIC THIS SUNDAY:**

First Service at 9:00 a.m. :Chancel Choir and Glory Ringers

## Second Service at 10:30 a.m.: Worship Band

Volunteers this Sunday, January 19, 2020	
9:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Connection Center:	
Sue Mue	ller Jill Strimel
Children's Worship:	
	Bo Mircea
Greeters:	
Acolytes: Emma Corcor	an Kellen House
Ushers: Colin Becker	Laura House
Mark Fumag	jalli Ed Schultz
Mark Dykem	
Coffee Fellowship:	Jaime and Oscar Manjarez
	Jon Belfield
Sound Room:	Cliff Stepina
Video Screens:	Todd Hayden

### THE PASTOR'S CORNER...Craig Herr, Head Pastor

**Sunday, January 19,** Come and worship with us at either our Traditional Service at 9:00 a.m. or our Contemporary service at 10:30 a.m. We are thinking together about this new year and the opportunities that will arise to embrace hope, forgiveness, and joy. We also look for the strength and guidance from our Lord.

**Chili and Movie Night Coming Up,** There's no need to get bored or discouraged on the non-football weekend of January 25-26. Come out on Saturday, January 25 to Chili and Movie night. Bring a crockpot of your favorite chili to share at 4:30 p.m. Chili tasting, or shall I say eating begins at 5:00 p.m. The at 6:00 p.m. there are five movies to choose from. If you aren't into the movie thing just come for a great dinner of amazing chili!

**Tuesday, Lunch Study,** Our Tuesday, Lunch Study is going to start up again on Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. We gather about 11:40 a.m., eat lunch and study the Bible from Noon to 1:00 p.m. We are going to study the book of Isaiah. Watch for more details to come. Anyone is welcome. It's a great group of people. Bob Haas and I share in leading class discussions.

**Personal Financial Planning Idea Exchange Session** is meeting at 4 p.m. in the afternoon. We will meet on Thursday, January 30 at 4 p.m. and meet in Room 210. Look for the details further on in the E-News.



#### FINANCIAL PLANNING:

The next meeting will be held Thurs. January 30 at 4 pm! We received multiple requests to try a daytime session toward the end of the day. These meetings will be for all of us to learn more about financial planning from each other. No one will be asked to disclose personal information. For more info, 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.

> **January 12, 2020** Worship Attendance — 145

**Stewardship Report** 2019-2020 Budget: \$ 768,135

Year to Date Income\$554,919Year to Date Expenses\$572,4042018-2019 Bequest/Gift Income Received\$3,000

You may text your gift to FPJ at (815)205-3044 or go online to use a credit card.

#### Sunday, January 12- "Writing New Chapters" Joshua 2:1-21, I Corinthians 1:18-19, 26-31

What if it were possible for you to write a new chapter in your life this year?

What if you could open some new windows of possibility? What would they be? What would they look like?

Maybe you could write a new chapter with your children, spouse, family. Or perhaps you might write a new chapter in your career, place of work or where you live.

What about writing a new chapter in what you are able to do? How about improving your skills and talents? It could involve signing up for a seminar, course, or degree program.

Maybe you could turn an interest, a passion, into a real strength, that is, something you love would become something you do.

What if it were possible for you to write a new chapter in your life?

What would it look like in this fresh new year? What would it take to get you started writing your new chapter?

**BJ Gallagher in <u>The Power of One</u>** reminds us that Just one:

One song can spark a moment. One flower can wake the dream. One tree can start a forest. One bird can herald spring. One smile begins a friendship; One handclasp lifts a soul. One star can guide a ship at sea. One word can frame the goal... One candle wipes out darkness. One laugh will conquer gloom. One step must start each journey. One word must start each prayer. One hope will raise our spirits;...

What is the one thing that will help you start writing a new chapter?

Rahab, we read of in Joshua 2, writes a new chapter in her life.

It's a chapter of survival and faith that leads to the promised land.

# Our Church Family Known to be in the Hospital: no one

Sympathies are extended to the friends and family of Steve Clapp who passed away January 7th.