



# e-News

June 3, 2020

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## “Resources for Difficult Days”

Throughout May we are focusing on the resources of our faith. We strive to rely on God who gives his enduring love and uplifting hope in and through the Lord Jesus Christ. In this Series we are studying the sources of strength, which God provides in the scriptures and to and through the followers of Jesus.

### Sunday, June 7- “A Different Kind of People Make A Difference”

Exodus 19:1-8, Luke 15:1-7, Colossians 3:1:15

This Sunday I will explore how living for Christ Jesus makes us a different people in the world. By being different, through God’s grace, we put on a “new self” in Christ and become the good that God wants in our world and to each other. That makes all the difference in how we see other people and treat other people. We see across racial and economic barriers to see all people made in the image of God. We notice that God chooses the nobodies of the world to receive mercy. There are no throw away people, no disposable persons, no nobodies for God’s grace and mercy are available to all. The events of this past week have made it quite evident that we all need the grace and mercy of God to fall on us and upon our land. See you Sunday.

-- Craig

On Sunday, June 14 we will begin a new Sermon Series for a Summer Study on the book of Ephesians. It’s a Series on “Essential Faith, Extraordinary Grace.”

We have **one worship service online** with both traditional and contemporary songs in the service. Look for it online, on YouTube (firstpresjoliet), facebook, our website, or check the email sent each Saturday afternoon.

And this is even better. If you have a Smart TV, or Chromecast you can watch it on your TV.

### OUR CHURCH FAMILY

No one



**Mid-Week;** In this past week of heightened racial tension, there is so much confusion. The news is filled with examples of hate, of protests, but also of neighbor helping neighbor and strangers offering support and solidarity from around the world. 1 Corinthians 12:26 says, “If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.” As we bear witness to so much suffering, we must seek to love and understand as God calls us to do. As teens, there is a lot to process here. We will look at verses that can help us as we seek to understand and focus on how we can “be the church” in our lives.

**Sunday:** Game night this Sunday! By popular demand, we’re going to play a couple of Jackbox game! This will require 2 devices: 1 device so I can screen share the game and 1 cell phone to play the game on. Confused? Don’t worry! We’ll help explain and have a great time of playing!

May 31, 2020

### Stewardship Report

<b>2020-2021 Budget</b>	\$734,307
<b>Year to Date Income</b>	\$120,385
<b>Year to Date Expenses</b>	\$99,793
Angel House Total	\$3,766
Received for bathroom renovation—	\$11,550

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

Just go to our Website and click on “Giving. Please continue to **remember the church in your giving** as we continue to further the life, ministry, and mission of First Pres. in new and different ways these days. You can give by mail, by online giving through our website using the “Give” tab, and through electronic giving.

**Thank you** for your generosity.

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

**We Celebrate the Lord's Supper this Sunday, June 7 in worship.** Please prepare to set your table with bread and grape juice for worship. We will see the peace and strength of the Lord Jesus at Table together. Our Confirmands will share their statements of faith in worship, which is an opportunity to share faith in Christ and consider what we believe as followers of the Lord Jesus.

**For Pastoral Care** please call the office to leave a message to talk with a pastor or call us on our cell phones. We are available and can access our messages from home.

**We are offering a chance to worship in the Sanctuary again.** Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday we will have a prayer leader gather with 9 others in the Sanctuary to pray together. Only 10 people can be in an area at once. **You will have to make reservations** by calling or e-mailing the prayer leader for the group you wish to attend. You must receive confirmation to come. You must wear a **mask and observe social distancing** (6 feet) to meet in the Sanctuary.

**Monday** will be with Pastor Bo from 11am to Noon.

**Tuesday** will be with Pastor Craig from 2-3 pm..

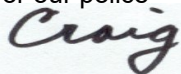
**Wednesday** will be with Karissa from 1:30-2:30 pm.

Depending on the response to this we may schedule more prayer times in the future.

**Latest News on Reopening the Church and still Worshiping Online,** The session meets again on Thursday, June 11. We will discuss a plan for reopening for Worship once that is permitted in phase 4 of the Governor's plan. We have reached Phase 3 now as June begins. Now only 10 people can meet together during Phase 3. We will see what our options are for small groups to gather with masks and social distancing. It takes until phase 4, to have 50 people gather for worship at the church. Watch for details on when we can start a slow reopening process at the church. We want to reopen in a safe and healthy way, whenever that can occur.

**Prayer for our cities, communities, towns, and nation.**

Please pray for justice for George Floyd, for peaceful protests, and an end to violence, destruction and killing, for our police



### **DO YOU MISS COFFEE CHATS IN HOFFMAN HALL?**

Well good news! If you have facebook we have opened a group just for the First Pres family ! This will be a great place to catch up and chat and share prayer requests and pictures of the flowers you've been planting and so on! On facebook look for "First Pres' Hoffman Hall"

### **Are you supply shopping on Amazon?**

Did you know you can support First Pres when you buy from Amazon? Just go to [Smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) And select First Presbyterian Church of Joliet as your charity and a percent of your money spent will be donated back to the church!

## **Sunday May, 31- "Staying Spiritually Fit" Gospel of Mark 1:21-38**

This Sunday we joined to take a look at the Gospel of Mark 1:21-38. This passage captures the very beginning of Christ's ministry, a moment filled with power and miracles, but also a moment of great personal introspection for Jesus. As I read this passage I am fascinated by the contrast between the public life and personal life of Jesus. Authority and decisiveness in his public ministry and also humbleness and introspection in those private moments. This Sunday we focused on "Being Spiritually Fit", how to find the strength and balance for the days ahead. I would encourage you to take time this week, and in your private time ask yourself the following question:

Where and how do I balance my life?

All of our virtual Worship Services are available on our YouTube page, you can just search for FirstPresJoliet. Audio-only recordings are still available on the Sermons page of our website as well.

## **New Zoom Bible Study!**

Hi, friends! I'm very excited to begin a new study. I've chosen a study based on the Book of Nehemiah called "Renovate - Building a Life With God." Many of us have spent some time during the last few months cleaning out closets, updating our living spaces or even embarking on an all out home improvement projects. Now we have an opportunity to renovate our walk with God!

We will be meeting at 6:30 pm on the first and third Thursdays of the month beginning on June 18. You can grab a copy of the participant's guide on Amazon for sure, and I think I saw it on Cokesbury as well.

I hope you can join me on this renovation project! Please send me an email if you plan to so I can email the zoom invitation to you. My email address is [clkapral@gmail.com](mailto:clkapral@gmail.com). This is going to be so much fun!

Peace be with you.  
Carrie

## **Zoom Time with Pastors on Wednesday mornings.**

Each Wednesday Bo and Craig are on Zoom to have a time of fellowship and conversation with whomever signs on and wants to say hello. So use the Zoom link that will remain the same each week and say hello on Wednesday mornings. **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87393339501?pwd=NGtvU2ZWK0ZkYVNDIb2VoUXpqdm5iZz09>