



e-News

July 29, 2020

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435
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ESSENTIAL EXTRAORDINARY
FAITH and GRACE

Summer Sermon Series "Essential Faith, Extraordinary Grace"

The book of Ephesians, written to a group of churches, expresses the width and breadth and length of God's love and grace. It describes the importance of the Church and why the Body of Christ exists and how it services and does ministry in the world. Paul indicates how the Church crosses racial boundaries and social classes for all are one in Christ Jesus. There's even more to this wonderful book and letter of the Apostle Paul. Join us in this Summer Study and Sermon Series.

Sunday, August 2 "The Pull of the World and the Way of Christ"

Ephesians 4:17-32

It's so good to be back at church after two weeks of vacation. I had a stay-cation, mostly working on the house. I installed leaf guards on all of my gutters, first story and second. So, it's fun to watch the rain water come soaring out of my gutters and to anticipate not cleaning them out all the time. We will see come fall and winter how this system works. I was able to relax with Les and the family and also do some kayaking.

This Sunday I am preaching on "The Pull of the World and the Way of Christ." In Ephesians 4:17-32 we read about the downward pull of the world away from the life that Jesus wants us to live. We also see the Way of living for Christ in contrast to the values of this world. This passage challenges us to follow Jesus in our everyday behaviors, in the words we speak, and in what gives meaning to our lives.

-Craig Herr

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.

Check the Pastor's Corner for information on in-person worship.

Faith in Place Green Team

I am interested in joining others to form a Green Team with the organization Faith in Place. Faith in Place will provide support, including a mentor, for our church to form a Green Team to make our church building more environmentally friendly, and/or to engage in activities to help our environment and alleviate climate change. We will build on the eco-friendly practices that are already happening at First Pres. A Green Team will meet on a regular basis, at a time that is suitable for participants.

-Jen Garlitz

If interested please contact: (815)483-3376 or jegarlitz@gmail.com

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"

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Chet June's wife, Judy June passed away on July 24th.

July 26, 2020

Stewardship Report

2020-2021 Budget	\$734,307
Year to Date Income	\$240,020
Year to Date Expenses	\$196,311

Received for bathroom renovation—\$11,650

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.

On Sunday, August 2, we Worship together and celebrate the Lord's Supper. We are using disposable communion packets that contain both the bread and communion cup in one small package in our Live Worship services. When you enter the Narthex/Lobby Area you will receive a communion packet from a member of the communion gild to take with you into worship.

We are celebrating between services Kim Belfield's ministry as our Nursery and Preschool Coordinator this Sunday. She has served in this ministry for 12 years, providing a caring and loving ministry to our children and their families.

For Hoffman Hall Fellowship we will have individual cupcakes and ice cream to celebrate Kim Belfield's ministry and for a time of fellowship. We will social distance in Hoffman Hall and wear our masks until we get to our spots for special treats to eat and drink. Night Deacons will serve everything from the Kitchen window.

Please make reservations for Live Worship Each Sunday by Noon on Friday. We are doing very well social distancing and worshipping together. Let us know by Noon on Friday and remember to say how many are coming. You can do that by calling the office and leaving a message or talking to one of us and/or by e-mailing the office. If you forget just call or e-mail one of the Pastors on Saturday.

For our Live Worship Services, **we still do not have either the Nursery or Preschool areas open on Sunday for the foreseeable future.** You will need to watch for those details when Ed Council determines it is safe to reopen those areas of ministry. **We will be continuing our Online Video Worship Service each week.** We know that it will be a while before everyone can return to church and some won't be able to attend.

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.

Please continue to lift up your prayers for healing and wholeness, for wise leadership and governance, and for reconciliation and justice in our world and communities.

Craig

**Sunday, July 26 "One and Many"
Ephesians 4:1-16**

Christians do not need to agree on everything to have unity, we need to live the unity of a common commitment to Jesus.

Paul's words in Ephesians 4:1-16 clearly tell us that there is one body, one spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father. He goes on to remind us that the one church body is made up of many parts. Church has changed, at least temporarily if not long term. This is an exciting time to be a person of faith. We have so much love to share with a world that is badly bruised. As different as everything seems, the church is still one body, made of many parts. We are each blessed to be one of those many parts. The church's method may have shifted, but the message is the same. The gospel is timeless.

Ephesians 4:1-16 is densely rich with words of direction and words of hope. In this passage, Paul reminds us that Christian living consists of truth, love and continual growth into Christ.

All of our virtual Worship Services are available on our YouTube page and website.

Please Update Your Membership Information

It's time to update your record for our annual Directory which will be published later this summer. Have you changed your phone number or cancelled your landline? Have you moved? Are all your children still living at home? Please email office@firstpresjoliet.org with any corrections to your information, or call the office at 815-727-9259. Thank you!

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

And select First Presbyterian Church of Joliet as your charity and a percent of your money spent will be donated back to the church!