



e-News

September 2, 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 September 6—Ephesians 6:18-24

This Sunday we are saying good bye to the little Church in Ephesus. We had spent a lot of time with them learning about grace, about faith and the call we have in our lives. This Sunday we are getting familiar with Paul's secretary Tychicus, a young man that was by Paul's side for most of his missionary's journey. Paul sends Tychicus to visit and be part of the church in Ephesus, hoping that Tychicus will make an impression and also set an example for this small church. On Sunday, as we meet this young man, we will try to discover why Paul put so much trust in him, and commissioned Tychicus with this huge task. I would encourage you to read Ephesians 6:18-24 in preparation for Sunday.

Be blessed,
Bo

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.

We are only doing one in-person worship service at 9 am each Sunday. If you plan to attend **MAKE SURE YOU MAKE A RESERVATION**. Seats are not guaranteed otherwise.

There will continue to be a video posted each week.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Sympathies and prayers for Carrie Kapral and her family on the loss of Carrie's father David.

First Pres Fellowship Tailgate!

hosted by Parish Council

September 2nd 5:30 First Pres Parking Lot

Bring your own food or order a Pot Roast dinner! For ordering details and more info please check our website

Miss the First Pres Community?

Well good news! If you have facebook we have a group just for the First Pres family ! This will be a great place to catch up and chat !

On facebook look for

"First Pres' Hoffman Hall"

It's a great place to share your pics from the Tailgate!

September 2, 2020

Stewardship Report

2020-2021 Budget	\$734,307
Year to Date Income	\$278,600
Year to Date Expenses	\$247,410

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.

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

On Sunday, September 6 we conclude our "Essential Faith, Extraordinary Faith" Sermon Series. Come and worship with us this Sunday whether it's at our Live Worship Service at 9:00 a.m. or our Online Video Worship on FaceBook or YouTube. May you experience the richness of God's abundant Grace as we worship this weekend.

It's still important and necessary to make reservations for Live Worship Each Sunday by Noon on Friday. 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.

Please remember on Sundays that for the foreseeable future we are holding only our 9:00 a.m. worship service and have postponed the 10:30 a.m. service due to attendance. We have between 27-46 people attending our 9:00 a.m. Worship Service.

We also have suspended Coffee Fellowship during this time until October to be safe.

For our Live Worship Services, **we still do not have either the Nursery or Preschool areas open on Sunday for the foreseeable future.**

Tailgate Dinner Opportunity coming up on Wednesday, September 16! If you enjoy the Tailgate tonight or can't make it, make sure to join us on the 16th! Meet in the parking lots across the street at 5:30 p.m. If you order food through the Jacob Henry Mansion tell them you are from First Pres. as a member of the Parish Council will bring all the dinners to the church for you. Or order your favorite meals somewhere else and join us for a great time. If it rains on September 16 we will hold the Tailgate Dinner on Wednesday, September 23.

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.

May you know and experience God's love, grace, and hope as you serve the Lord Jesus and others in your corner of the world!

Craig

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!

Just continue to shop through

smile. amazon.com

No extra cost, but FPJ receives a contribution! What a great deal!

Sunday, August 30, "Strength in Preparation" Ephesians 6:10-17, Luke 5:1-11

Preparation is important for many things in life. Preparation is a form of anticipation that plans ahead. Preparation adds good things to life.

Our passage has much to do with preparation; to remain strong.

Be Strong in the Lord and his mighty power. We have a need to strengthen up.

Why? Life will require from us more than we can bring to life.

There will come moments and times in your life and my life when we do not have the strength, we need for the situation.

Life requires more energy, resiliency, strength than we have within us to make it through tough and uncertain times.

There will come a day, there are days and seasons when life requires much, much more than we can ever bring to the battle.

The sooner we realize that the better we are in this life.

We need a power from outside ourselves, from beyond; God's power (6:10). Same power we read about in the first chapter of Ephesians 1:19-20.

The "incomparably great power," of God, for us who believe.

That power is the same as the mighty strength²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,...

Now that's some kind of power to tap into for life on this earth.

Be strong in the Lord and his mighty power, that power that raised Jesus...

Why? There is struggle in this life here on planet earth. I don't have to convince of that in 2020, do I. Think about all of the struggle and suffering of this week.

The sermon is about "Being strong in the Lord," as Paul writes.

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

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR INFORMATION ON VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

For October we are hoping to have a curriculum ready for Sunday School. This will include a packet mailed to each participating family, and video elements online.

If this is something you would like for any children in your life then keep checking future newsletters and emails from FPJ for more information coming soon!