



e-News

September 30, 2020

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435
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Fall Sermon Series “Stronger Together”

We have begun a Fall Sermon Study Series on the Power of Being the Church together. We will Study the New Testament Letter of I Timothy.

Paul writes this letter 3-5 years after being in prison and writing Ephesians. Timothy is the pastor at the Ephesian Church by this time.

We will think about how good it is to be the Church Together. Join us for our Fall Sermon Series through 11/8.

Sunday, October 4, “Live Well, Lead Well, Serve Well”

I Timothy 3:1-13

This Sunday I am preaching on “Live Well, Lead Well, Serve Well” from I Timothy 3:1-13. In I Timothy 3 we find guidance on what it means to be a leader in the church as an Elder and what it means to serve as a Deacon.

First of all the focus is on the life of faith and “Living Well” for Christ Jesus, the Church, and the World. Then there is the call to Lead Well and Serve Well in the life, ministry, and mission of the community of faith. Come and worship and reflect on the life of faith in Christ Jesus this weekend.

--Craig

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Joyce Miner is currently at Alden Estates in Shorewood

CONFIRMATION

Pastor Bo is looking forward to sharing with our 8th graders ! Confirmation will start 10/14 on Zoom Wednesday nights. When it is safe to do so they will meet in person. If you are interested please contact Bo Mircea via phone or email at bo.mircea@firstpresjoliet.org

SAVE THE DATE!

October 10th Parish Council will be hosting a drive-in movie! Come watch Greatest Showman with us for a \$5 donation (you get a treat bag too!) More details will be sent soon.

We have **1 worship service online** with traditional and contemporary songs in the service. Look for it online, (YouTube (firstpresjoliet), facebook, our website) or check the email sent each Saturday afternoon.

We are doing one live worship service at 9 am each Sunday. If you plan to attend **MAKE SURE YOU MAKE A RESERVATION.** Seats are not guaranteed unless you rsvp with the office by noon on Friday. To do this call or email the office.

September 30, 2020

Stewardship Report

2020-2021 Budget	\$734,307
Year to Date Income	\$309,975
Year to Date Expenses	\$298,156

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, October 4, We Celebrate the Lord's Supper in Worship this Weekend and Sunday in Live Worship. I look forward to the experience of gathering at the Lord's Table for Communion this Sunday.

PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR LIVE WORSHIP on this first week of October as we continue our "Stronger Together" Sermon Series. There are three ways you can worship with us: at our Live Worship Service at 9:00 a.m. or our Online Video Worship on either FaceBook or on YouTube.

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE! Volunteer at the Northern IL Foodbank on Larkin Ave. On Saturday, October 17 we are going over to the Northern IL Foodbank as a group from our church. We will meet there at 9:00 a.m. and work until 11:30 a.m. Please call the church or e-mail us to make a reservation. Don't wait, **let us know now** so we can properly plan. It's a great way to help hungry people in this pandemic time. Food is much needed.

OPPORTUNITY TO CELEBRATE! If times were normal, we would have celebrated Ken Myers' 15 years of serving and leading in our music ministry and Chancel Choir this September. It's our practice to celebrate with a cake in Hoffman Hall and recognize Ken in our Worship Services. Since we can't do that now, I encourage you to send Ken a card and share your appreciation for his leadership of our Chancel Choir. We look forward to the time when we can bring the choir back into worship again.

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.

If you forget to make reservations by Noon on Friday, just call or e-mail one of the Pastors on Saturday and we'll more than likely get you in (we'll see for this Sunday). **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.

The **Sample** of our **Virtual Children's Worship/Sunday School** called "Celebrate Wonder" has been sent out. It's designed for Children, Preschool through Fifth Grade. If you have not yet received it call the office.

May the Lord guide and direct you and give you his abiding presence and strength.

Craig

Sunday, September 27, Sunday, "Hope for All People" | Timothy 2:1-7 (NIV)

We live in challenging and polarized times.

Political and religious divides threaten the bonds of civil discourse that sustain our communities.

Tensions around race and justice continue to rise to frighteningly violent proportions.

There are turbulent storms within us, as well—fear, anxiety, despair, and enraged indignation.

The troubles outside us and within wreak havoc in our minds, bodies, and spirits.

What is there that can still the storms within us and cultivate a world where people of difference can live with one another in a spirit of dignity and mutual understanding,

What is it that gets us through such challenging and turbulent times? What is it that gets us through life, keeps us keeping on, builds resiliency?

It's God, our Savior. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son.

God's strong love in and through Christ Jesus is what gets us through life.

God is Savior and wants us all to have the life that really life.

There are passages in the NT which stress/underline the immensity of God's love.

This is one of them.

Here we look into worship and what is central for the life of faith.

Based on God's universal love, prayer is central.

And Prayer is made for all people.

God is the Savior who wants all people to be saved.

Jesus gave his life as a ransom for all, all people.

God so love the world, all the world, that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

This is proof that all people are capable of receiving God.

People may be lost, but they can be found.

People may be ignorant, of Jesus but they can learn about the light...

People may be sinners, but they can be transformed by God's grace.

God is love and cares about all people.

Prayers must be made for all.

Go to our website and to finish this sermon on "Hope For All People."

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