



e-News

September 9, 2020

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Fall Sermon Series "Stronger Together"

We begin a Fall Sermon Study Series on the Power of Being the Church together. Starting September 13, 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 November 8th.

Sunday, September 13 "Advance" I Timothy 1:1-11 (NIV)

We read, in the opening section of I Timothy about "advancing God's work by faith.

Advancing or moving forward in the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, Paul tells us, is all about the goal of love. Love springs forth from a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith.

Join us this Sunday as we seek to live in Christ's love through a pure heart, good conscience, and sincere faith.

Here are some upcoming Sermons in the Series:

"Hope for All People" I Timothy 2:1-15

"Live Well, Lead Well, Serve Well" I Timothy 3:1-13

I look forward to Worshipping with you this week either by Live Worship at 9:00 a.m. at church or by Online Video Worship on Facebook or YouTube.

--Craig

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We are extending our condolences to Teddy Lakin and his family as they mourn the loss of Teddy's brother. Please pray for strength for the whole family in this difficult time.

Russ Mathena is currently hospitalized at Edwards Hospital.

"We express our thanks to our church friends for your calls, thoughts, and prayers during Bob's illness and death."

- Mary Haas and Family

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.

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Stewardship Report

2020-2021 Budget	\$734,307
Year to Date Income	\$285,711
Year to Date Expenses	\$252,416

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 13, we Begin our "Stronger Together" Sermon Series. 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. Together in Christ, we are stronger and more resilient than we are apart from one another. Jesus said, "For where **two or three** gather in my name, there am I with them." How good it is to be in Jesus' presence with other followers of our Lord.

Watch this Fall for our **Virtual Children's Worship/Sunday School** called "Celebrate Wonder." Children, Preschool through Fifth Grade, will receive a mailing with an introduction, overview, and sample lesson. There will be a digital component using Google Classroom and Flipgrid (just like school) as well. More information will be in the mailing next week. Get ready for this exciting learning opportunity if you have children or grandchildren. Invite friends to participate too.

Another Tailgate Dinner Opportunity coming up on Wednesday, September 16! 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.

We need you to continue 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.**

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 the love, grace, strength, and hope of the Lord Jesus be with you each and every day.

Craig

PRAISE YOGA

Praise Yoga will be meeting at First Pres again! Tuesdays at 7pm and Thursdays at 8 am.

Praise Yoga will be held in Hoffman Hall NOT the Narthex, in order to maintain a safe distance.

Sunday September 6—" Ephesians 6:18-24

This Sunday we said good bye to the little Church in Ephesus. We had spent a lot of time with them learning about grace. Ephesians teaches us to start and end in grace. This Sunday we began getting familiar with Paul's secretary Tychicus, a wonderful example of God's grace working in us. Like Tychicus we are trusted with doing the work of God. We are Encouragers.

We all share God's blessings and prayers of peace, love, faith, and grace.

Be blessed,
Bo

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 will have a curriculum ready for virtual Sunday School. There will be a letter mailed to church families with kids in pre-school to 5th grade with a breakdown of what this will look like. Please keep an eye out for this letter next week. We are excited to offer this for any families who would like to participate!

TAILGATE DINNER SEPTEMBER 16th!

If you've been to a tailgate already this year you know it's a blast! Bring your family and friends, chairs, and either order a delicious pot roast from the Jacob Henry Mansion or bring your favorite meal!

NOTE: If the weather is a problem, the tailgate will be re-scheduled to the 23rd.

Parish Council is so happy to sponsor these Tailgate Dinners and give everyone an opportunity to stay safe but get to spend time with their church community. Keep an eye out for more fun events from them!

