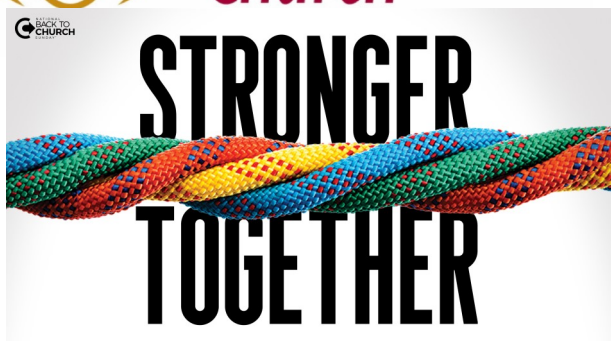




# e-News

October 21, 2020

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435  
815-727-9259 firstpresjoliet.org



## Fall Sermon Series "Stronger Together"

We are in our final three weeks of our Fall Sermon Study Series on the Power of Being the Church together.

We have been studying the New Testament Letter of 1 Timothy. Paul wrote this letter 3-5 years after being in prison and after 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 in our Fall Sermon Series through November 8<sup>th</sup>.

### Sunday, October 25, "On Caring for Others"

1 Timothy 5:1-6:2

The early church in its ministry put an emphasis on caring for others. They taught church members through the preaching of the scriptures and practical instructions of faith, that they should demonstrate care for their families, widows, and elders. Over time the church expanded its caring ministry to the poor, the sick, and those in need in their communities. They believed that "good deeds are obvious" in the world and a witness for Christ. They also thought that "those [good deeds] that are not obvious cannot remain hidden forever." This Sunday we will think about a world in need and the ministry of caring for others.

--Craig

## This Sunday is Rally Sunday!

So right after church at 10 a.m. get back into your car and drive through the parking lot across the street. There will be treats for everyone and Bibles for our children and youth. There will also be a drive-thru Bags of Love Station.

It's Bible Sunday and Reformation Sunday!

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please pray for the families and friend of Jeanne Jacobs who passed October 8<sup>th</sup> and Della Brown who passed on October 14<sup>th</sup>

## MOVIE NIGHT

First Pres will be hosting another Drive In Movie, Hotel Transylvania on October 24<sup>th</sup>! Same as before a \$5 donation per car, lot opens at 6:15, movie starts at 7pm.

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.

### October 21, 2020

#### Stewardship Report

2020-2021 Budget	\$734,307
Year to Date Income	\$332,256
Year to Date Expenses	\$323,539

Received for bathroom renovation—\$11,650

Per Capita: \$38.47

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

**On Sunday, October 18,** On this Reformation Sunday we celebrate God's word and will have Bibles for our children and youth in the Drive-Thru Rally right after church at 10 a.m. Just drive-thru the parking lot across the street from the church. We are "Stronger Together" when we read and study God's word.

**Saturday Night Drive-In Movie at our Church** this Saturday, October 24! Drive into our parking lot at 6:15 p.m. for the big show at 7:00 p.m. We have a big screen and great sound to your cars FM Radio station. The movie is Hotel Transylvania!

**A Faith in Place Green Team,** Jen Garlitz is interested in forming a Green Team to make our church more environmentally friendly. If you are interested just e-mail her @ [jegar-litz@gmail.com](mailto:jegar-litz@gmail.com) Jen writes a blog on many aspects of eco-friendly practices: such as Reusable Cloth Shopping Bags, Cultivating a Chemically Free Lawn, Organic Food, Planting for Butterflies, and more. Here's the link to her blog [www.everydayenvironmentalistblog.wordpress.com](http://www.everydayenvironmentalistblog.wordpress.com) I encourage you to read her blogs.

**Take a moment to share your gratitude.** We are celebrating Ken Myers' 15 years of serving and leading in our music ministry and Chancel Choir. In "normal" times we would 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 the choir will sing again in worship.

Our **Virtual Children's Worship/Sunday School** called "Celebrate Wonder" has started. It's designed for Children, Preschool through Fifth Grade. If you are interested in joining please email [ellen@firstpresjoliet.org](mailto:ellen@firstpresjoliet.org).

Keep on Keeping on making **RESERVATIONS FOR LIVE WORSHIP each Sunday** as we pursue what it means to be "Stronger Together" in our 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.

**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. .

Craig

## **BAGS OF LOVE**

Bags of Love will be collecting this Sunday during the Rally after Live Worship Service! Please bring toiletries or individually packaged foods to donate when you come Rally with us!

They are also looking for volunteers to help pack supplies on Monday.

## **Sunday October 18th Hope in the Living God (1 Timothy 4:1-16)**

1 Timothy 4:10 reads "we have put our hope in the living God". True then and true today. We can put our hope in the living God with full confidence that he is who he says he is, and he keeps his word. We can trust God, rely on his presence and have hope because God is with us.

It's been a long several months. I don't know about each of you, but I'm a little weary of the unknown, the constant change, of wearing my mask. We may feel alone but we are not. We are not able to gather as a whole church body right now, but we are still together, and because we are together, we are stronger in our faith, ministry, and hope.

In this busy, pandemic-ridden world, it can be hard to slow down and center ourselves on this eternal hope. Paul did not say it would be easy - after all, few things worthwhile are easy. The Words of Scripture hold true today. No matter what struggle we have we can put our hope in the living God.

When I find I've lost track of the hope I have in Christ, or I've simply neglected to spend some time with God, I rely on the ancient words of Psalm 46:10: "Be still, and know that I am God ;I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

I encourage you to take a moment, each day, to be still, and know.

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

## **STEPHEN MINISTRY**

Reminder: If you are experiencing emotional hardship(depression, grieving etc.) you can reach out to our Stephen Ministry to receive help from a trained team. This can be from someone in our FPJ family or not depending on preference. Everything is confidential. These are hard times but you are not alone, please contact Pastor Craig to be put in touch with Stephen Ministry.

## **STARS OF HOPE**

Stars of Hope will be available again this year!  
For information please contact Kris Hayden.

1(815)258-8617 or [tkkhay@yahoo.com](mailto:tkkhay@yahoo.com).

The due date for wrapped items will be Sunday November 29th.