



e-News

October 28, 2020

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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 I 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 8th.

Sunday, November 1, "Contentment"

I Timothy 6:2b-10; Luke 12:13-21

We read in I Timothy 6:6-7 that "But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that."

This Sunday we will think about what it means to be content in Christ Jesus through faith. How in the world can we have contentment when there is such turbulence and hatred and polarization today? Read the scriptures, say your prayers, and worship with us this Sunday as we look into "godliness with contentment."

--Craig

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.

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Our sympathies and prayers are extended for the following:

Carolyn Schaeffer is in the hospital.

Char Gurney's daughter Pam passed away.

Peg Hackett passed away this morning.

Joyce Miner would like to thank the church members for the cards and phone calls while she was at Alden Rehab Center. Her broken hip is healing well.

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	\$339,786
Year to Date Expenses	\$340,261

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, November 1, This Sunday is All Saints Sunday. **The Scriptures indicate that followers of Jesus are saints.** As members of Christ's Church, we are saints, the children of God and the people of God and so much more. Join us to worship this weekend as we seek to live in the continuous presence of the Lord through the Holy Spirit.

Our **Virtual Children's Worship/Sunday School** called "Celebrate Wonder" is going very well. In fact, some of the children are telling their parents that want to do their "church stuff" as soon as they start their day! It's designed for Children, Preschool through Fifth Grade. If you have not yet received it call the office to be a part of a great learning experience for our children.

Here's Another Opportunity to express your appreciation for one of our staff members. **Jen Gabl** has now served in our church office for 10 years, as of the end of October. It's been so good to have her go full time and lead our office ministry. Please take a moment to express your gratitude to Jen by sending her a note or card.

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

**Sunday, October 25, "On Caring For Others" I
Timothy 5:1-10, 17-25;
Matthew 5:13-16**

Over the years in ministry, you have memorable experiences with wonderful people. I had the most fascinating conversation with Thelma Holman an older black woman, a member of 2nd Baptist Church.

She remembers seeing in Mississippi the water fountains for whites only and colored only.

She was visiting her grandparents and she didn't notice the signs and almost drank from a whites only fountain, when her grandfather pulled her away.

Her great grandparents were slaves.

She remembers her Grandfather and Grandmother going to vote for the first time, which was so significant.

Thelma is very active in her church and community. She's proud of organizing the highest percentage of voter turnout ever in the Forest Park neighborhood one election year.

But what impressed me most about Thelma was this. She said that each day she thinks about her life and asks the question.

"Have I done anything today for life, for God, for my community."

She said this with such a joy in her voice, that spread itself across her face

In other words have I done anything good?

Have I served today?

"You know...how [Jesus] went around doing good...because God was with him," Acts 10:38

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth...You are the Light of the world...let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

This is a main theme in I Timothy 5; three times we read about good deeds.

Verse 25,"...good deeds are obvious, and even those that are not obvious cannot remain hidden forever.

Doing good; caring for others by doing what is good and needed is the main focus in this passage in I Timothy 5.

Have you done what is good for others this day?

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

I would like to thank everyone who sent me messages in celebration of my 15 years of music ministry. I told the hiring committee when they interviewed me that I had to do what I do somewhere, and it would be great if that somewhere was here at 1st Presbyterian in Joeliet. Thankfully, they took a chance on me and I have enjoyed 15 years of the best choir I have conducted in my 58 years as a music professional. I started conducting at 16 years of age and have served 8 different churches, two of them twice. I am glad our choir brings you joy in worship - they certainly do me. Peace, health, and love to each one of you.

Ken Myers, Choirmaster

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.

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 email her @ jegarlitz@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