



TEAM JESUS:
Who are YOU in the Church?



“Team Jesus: Who are You in the Church?” Sermon Series

In this series we will think about all of the various kinds of people we need to be the church today. We need those who depend upon the Good Shepherd. We need people who will provide resources, act on their faith, and show appreciation. The church needs servants who will stand with those in need no matter how difficult the situation. We need members who will teach and mentor others, and more. During the Lenten Season as we anticipate Easter, we will look at those who followed Jesus in the New Testament and see what we can learn about ourselves and about the Church of Jesus Christ.

Sunday, March 14 Someone who Invites: Philip John 1:43-51

A really great thing about Team Jesus is there is no limit on team members! All are welcome. In fact, Jesus encourages us to grow the team – and some are very gifted with hospitality, with being invitational.

This Sunday we will learn about two invitations - “follow me” (Jesus’ invite) and “come and see” (our invite to others). I love Bob Goff’s words from his book *Love Does*. He wrote:

When you read the Bible, the people who love Jesus and followed him are the ones like me who don’t get invited places. Jesus told his friends they were invited anyway. In fact, he told them that the religious people aren’t the ones who decided who got into heaven and who didn’t. He said the people who follow him should think of themselves more like ushers rather than the bouncers, and it will be God who decides who gets in. We’re the ones who simply show people their seats that someone else paid for.

Peace be with you my friends, and I look forward to seeing you on Sunday.

We have **1 worship service online** with traditional and contemporary songs in the service. Look for it online, (YouTube (firstpresjoliet), facebook, our website).

There is one service at 9 a.m. Sunday morning. Reservations are required by contacting the office by noon on the Friday before.

e-News

March 10, 2021

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

No information

EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to donate flowers to decorate the sanctuary for Easter, please fill in below and mail to the church office. Please make checks payable to “First Presbyterian Church—Easter Flowers”. Online payment will be available as well. The deadline for ordering is March 21st.

How many? (at \$12/pot):

___ Lilies ___ Tulips ___ Mums

Our/ My Easter Flowers are given:

___ to the Glory of God

___ to the Glory of God and in loving memory of loved ones

___ to the Glory of God and in loving memory of

Name:

(please use exact wording to be posted on our website)

March 10, 2021

Stewardship Report

2020-2021 Budget	\$734,307
Year to Date Income	\$590,444
Year to Date Expenses	\$ 591,101

2020-2021 Bequest/Gift Income Received	\$5,200
Angel House Mission	\$875
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.

Once again it is that time of year when we consider how we are going to use our time, talents and money in furthering God’s Kingdom. How will we use the gifts that God has given us this year? We are a church family that serves each other. Our congregation supports a variety of missions, both local and abroad. Each of us needs to give prayerful thought and consideration to our commitment and support of the missions of the church. We need to realize that each of our actions towards our fellow man can help populate heaven and perhaps even plunder hell.

By Dave Steinberg

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

Sunday, March 14, This Sunday, both the **Glory Ringers** and **Worship Band** will be playing and singing in worship. We'll have a **Chancel Choir** Anthem Video in worship as well. The Night Deacons will have a special treat of cookies for everyone when we leave our worship time to return home. We are having St. Patrick cookies for tasty treats, lots of green and white icing and some chocolate chips, I'm told. We are wearing masks and social distancing very well as we come back to live worship services again.

We are ordering Easter Flowers to celebrate this coming Easter, April 4! You can order Lilies, Mums, or Tulips for \$12 each pot. We will have the order form in the E-News. You can mail in your order to the office or you can also order flowers online as well. We will publish the names of those who ordered flowers in memory of loved ones and to the glory of God, as we have done in the past.

On Palm Sunday we are having a Rally in the parking lot across the street after the 9:00 a.m. Live Worship Service. There will be special treats for all of the children as well as adults. Watch for more details.

The Men's Study Group is starting up again on Wednesday, March 24 at 6:30 p.m. Mark Morrison is leading the study. See the details in our E-News.

Reservations for Live Worship: Please let us know you are coming to Live Worship by making reservations. Just e-mail or call the office and we will sign you up. If you arrive without making a reservation we will seat those who made reservations first and ask you to wait in Hoffman Hall. If we have enough room then we will invite you in to worship in the Sanctuary or Worship Center. I look forward to seeing you this Sunday.

I encourage you to read through the Beatitudes in Matthew 5:1-12 today. We read in **our Lenten Season Devotional "Places of the Passion"** by Reed Lessing, "The beatitudes---humility, mercy, peace, purity and so on---create the best version of us and they bring great glory to Christ."

Let's grow in Christ as we journey through Lent together this year.

Craig

Men's Study Group

If you are looking to be motivated, uplifted or inspired? I have the book for you "Love Does" by Bob Goff. We start Wednesday March 24 at 6:30 P.M. We will be using a hybrid model. If you want to meet in person we will be in room 210, for those of you who would rather Zoom we will be using it also. You can pick up your books in the church office. I really miss meeting with you guys and I will see you soon.

Bible Study

There is a Bible Study group meeting each Saturday morning at 7:30 a.m. This group meets in room 214 at First Pres.

Last Sundays Sermon

Sunday, March 7 "Someone who is a Provider: Lydia"

Acts 16:11-15, 40; Proverbs 30:7-9; Mark 12:41-44

This Team Jesus: Who are You in the Church? Series is about relationships. We are part of a team, Christian family. We need to think about who's on our team. Who's on your team, on your bench, around your table in life?

Last week we thought about how we all need the Shepherd; The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.

Life is a team sport. Don't go through life alone. We need others, we need God. Relationships make life worth living. Relationships with others sustain us, bring joy, companionship, belonging, strength, support, sharing...and so much, much more.

Today we will think about providers; people who are there for us, and those we are there for as well.

Who's your Lydia? The Providers in your life?

Contributed to your life, built you up, provided for your well-being/support? Yes I know there are storms in relationships too. Relationships are not always blue skies and sunny.

I think of a Widow who lived besides a nice young family. She was having trouble with her computer. So she called Jaden, the 9 year old next door, whose bedroom looks like Mission Control, and asked him to come over.

Jaden clicked a couple of buttons and solved the problem. As he was walking away, she called after him, 'So, what was wrong?' He replied, 'It was an ID ten T error.'

I didn't want to appear stupid, but nonetheless inquired, 'An, ID Ten T error? What's that? In case I need to fix it again.'

Jaden grinned. 'Haven't you ever heard of an ID ten T error Before?'

No,' I replied. 'Write it down,' he said, 'and I think you'll figure it Out.'

So I wrote down: I D 1 0 T

There's consternation and conflict sometimes in our relationships but there's also companionship and caring; collaboration and love. We need providers in our lives.

And the church needs providers of all kinds. Today our focus is on Faithful giving and so we will narrow our focus to providers who support the church.

The church needs Lydia's and Zacchaeus's who are wealthy.

The church needs Widows with their pennies and middle-class workers like Peter, James, John who give out of their regular income from their fishing business.

However God has blessed us, we can give. Only everyone and anyone can be passionate supporter and provider in some way for the life, ministry, and mission of Jesus Christ through their local church. Everyone can give something from what God has provided.

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