



### A NEW DAY FOR THE CHURCH—A NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU

A New Day for The Church – A new Opportunity for you. The Book of Acts, is a letter from Luke to Theophilus, and captures the life of the early church in the light of the resurrection.

**Sunday, June 6th** :Disruptive Change - Acts 16:16-34

Change happens. All. The. Time. We are especially aware of that now, following just over a year of pandemic rife with differences of opinions, and restrictions. Among all the turmoil, God remains - present for us and unchanged.

The Book of Acts is also full of change as the early church took root. Chapter 16 is all about shaking things up and changing rules and lives. As Paul and Silas roam the streets sharing the gospel far and wide, they heal a young slave girl of an evil spirit. Her life becomes better. Those who benefited from her possession, not so much and this leads to Paul and Silas going to jail. A big change in their environment and daily lives. God, they know, has not changed and so in the midst of their misery, they praise God and sing hymns. The story continued with an earthquake, a chance for escape not taken, a jailer's life (and those of his family!) committed to Christ. Because change happened and Paul and Silas stood strong on their foundation of faith in Jesus.

Paul's and Silas' lives changed, making them very uncomfortable, to say the least, yet God used the change for good in the lives of so many. Sometimes God leads us somewhere that is decidedly not comfy - but we are not alone. He is with us, opening doors and providing opportunities to share Jesus and bring praise Him.

We've been through a decidedly hard year. Things have changed, maybe drastically, in the church. We have a new opportunity. To use changed circumstances to share Jesus, to revive and refresh our faith, and to move forward confident that God has not changed and is with us still.

We have **1 worship service** 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

May 26, 2021

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

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Sympathies and Prayers to the family and friends of Betty Shapiro who passed 5/25

## THIS WEEK'S BLOG—BOOK OF ACTS—6/3-6/9

6/3 Ch. 14:19-28—Paul Stoned in Lystra

6/4 Ch. 15:5-12—Peter's Rebuttal

6/7 Ch. 15:13-18—The Council Decides(1)

6/8 Ch. 15:19-41—The Council Decides (2)(3)

6/9 Ch.16:1-15—Timothy Added

## CONFIRMATION—This Sunday

Join our Confirmation class: Kellen House, Aiden Fagan, Roland Frey, Malik Taylor, Cameron Paul. Evan Lundeen

**This will be one of Parish Council's Special Sundays!**

**Meet our class on YouTube**

## A big "Thank You" to those donating food to our Micro Food- Pantry

and especially to the volunteers. We want our pantry to be clean, safe and appropriate for our clients so if you are donating fresh fruits and/or vegetables please put them in a Ziploc bag and seal it up. By sealing the produce in a Ziploc bags you help keep insects and dirt out and helps in containing rot.

June 1, 2021

### Stewardship Report

2021-2022 Budget	\$734,307
Year to Date Income	\$118,005
Year to Date Expenses	\$93,115

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... Bo Mircea, Pastor

I do not know about you but for me **Sunday morning worship** has been a real treat in the past few months. I love not only seeing everyone starting to return to church, but I also love that quiet and welcome worship opportunity where I can disconnect even for a moment from all that goes around me. It is like a little sunshine in the middle of a rain. I always look forward to that time, and I want to invite you to join us on Sundays to worship together, to celebrate life together, and to fellowship. God lives among his people.

**TODAY - Tailgate dinner** in the parking lot. Bring your lawn chair, your favorite meal and we will have cold water and ice cream waiting for you. Last year this was a great fellowship time for us, and it will be such a treat to see everyone again.

**June 13th** - This is your last call for making reservations for June 13th. Now is the time to make that phone call or go online to sign up for worship followed by a celebration luncheon for Pastor Craig.

**June 6th is confirmation Sunday.** If you did not have a chance to watch the statements of faith I would encourage you to do so following the link here \_\_\_\_\_.

As we worship this Sunday we will celebrate Lord's Supper, Pastor Carrie will bring us the message and we will welcome 8 young people into membership with one of them receiving the sacrament of baptism. Now if you ask me that sounds like a great Sunday to be in church. Hope to see you on Sunday,

Blessings,  
Pastor Bo

### CALLING ALL GRADUATES!

Do you know a graduate? Check out our website to find the form to fill and send in for our Graduate Board.

#### DEADLINE EXTENDED

### Join our Team of Sunday Morning Greeters!

We are looking for smiling welcoming faces to greet guests and members arriving for Sunday morning worship. Duties are to open the door for people, greet them and checking names off the reservation list. To cover both entrances at each service, we need 4 greeters every Sunday. If you want to be a part of this important ministry, contact Bob Rudisill

815-347-2261 rudysail@att.net or Jasmine Keir

872-230-9422 jasminemaxwell@hotmail.com

### TAILGATE DINNERS ARE BACK!

Starting 6/2 Tailgate dinners will be every 1st and 3rd Wed. through September. Grab dinner and join us at 6pm in the parking lot across from the front of the church.

### Last Sundays Sermon

Last Sunday I preached on Acts 10 Cornelius meet Simon Peter. A gentile meeting a true, dedicated, law abiding Jew. This is more than breaking the rules, it is more than God opening the door to gentile. Acts 10 is about the challenge that church faces in time of huge cultural change, when the world as we know it changes much faster than we can see. Even today the church faces the same conditions and circumstances. At times we are like Simon Peter, happy with our ways, happy with our traditions, happy with who we are, and God comes to ask: Who is you neighbor? If we can answer that question honestly that will change everything, from the way we welcome each other to the way we worship or minister in the community around us. I pray that we all can have that God given vision of what we are called to be in this world.

May God bless you. Bo

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

### Vacation Bible School!

VBS is virtual again this year! Registration is open ! Check our website for more info and to sign up!

### SAVE THE DATE-DRIVE IN MOVIE

June 11th! The lot opens at 8pm. A \$5 donation per car goes towards Pink Heals.

The film being shown is the new Pinocchio.

To view our 2020 Annual Report, [please click here](#). If you would like a hard copy, please contact the church office

### JUNE 6TH IS THE CUT OFF DATE FOR RESERVATIONS FORTHE JUNE 13TH RETIREMENT LUNCH.GET YOURS IN NOW!

We are planning a choir of **fully vaccinated** choir members for each of the services on June 13 to honor Craig. I am limiting it to 12 people at each service (3 on a part). Some may sing both services and some only one to allow more of you to participate. We will rehearse on the 13th at 8:15 am with everyone. Please contact me [kenmyers54@comcast.net](mailto:kenmyers54@comcast.net) to indicate your desire to be a part of this special choir.

Ken Myers - Choirmaster