



e-News

August 18, 2021

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435
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SERMON PREVIEW RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Loving and Serving - John 13:1-17

As summer Sundays wind down, we are taking a look at hospitality -- RADICAL hospitality to be exact. The kind of hospitality that is rooted in Christ, who stands knocking on our door, waiting for us to answer so we can be in relationship with him. One of the reasons for us to think about radical hospitality is simply this: the world has changed. Like it or not, COVID-19 upset SO MANY apple carts! As we bob and weave toward whatever normal is, we have a great chance to think about our hospitality. Not because we aren't friendly and welcoming - I believe First Pres is both of those things; but rather, because there is always room for improvement. We can hone our skills and refine our hospitality tool box by looking at hospitality through the lens of our faith - because God is radical.

This Sunday we are reading a text commonly used during Maundy Thursday worship. We will read from John's gospel wherein we are reminded that Jesus, king of king and lord of lords, came not to be served but to serve with love and humility. Jesus washed his disciples' feet in a radical act of love and service. We are called to do likewise. The question we ask, and what we learn from Jesus, is how.

See you Sunday!

Pastor Carrie

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. With Fellowship Coffee hour after service in Hoffman Hall.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Prayers for Mark Capral who is in the hospital.

SAFETY UPDATE:

Session is once again asking everyone to **wear a mask** when they are visiting First Pres. This includes live worship on Sunday morning, and small groups that meet in the building.

Notice will be sent of any further safety regulation changes at First Pres.

THIS WEEK'S BLOG, GENESIS—8/19-8/25

8/19 Ch.25:1-23—Abraham Weds Keturach
8/20 Ch. 25: 24-34—Births of Esau & Jacob
8/23 Ch.26:1-16—Abrahamic Covenant
8/24 Ch.26:17-35—Isaac, The Well Digger
8/25 Ch. 27:1-33—The Stolen Blessing

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Stewardship Report

2021-2022 Budget	\$734,307
Year to Date Income	\$244,649
Year to Date Expenses	\$184,744

Income includes \$34,681 of Employee Retention Credit
Per Capita: \$38.47

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Thank you for your generosity.

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

Carrie Kapral, Comm. Lay Pastor

Hi friends! Peace be with you.

As I was walking Mayhem (my dog) this morning, I was thinking about the sense of joy and peace I feel when I leave the sanctuary on a Sunday morning. It is uplifting to be with you, worshipping God, and talking about Jesus and our relationship with him. I find that if I am intentional about it, I can find little pockets of time with people to talk about those very things during the week as well. Such great reminders that God is always with us, though the ups and the downs.

We will continue to think about God's presence with us, his hospitality, for the next three weeks. Much tragedy has unfolded in the world the last few days -- and we cannot fix it quickly. What we CAN do is put our faith and our love of God's people into action as we go about our regular, ordinary lives by treating others with kindness, grace, and through prayer.

Pastor Bo continues to pray for all of us and to enjoy his time with family in Romania. Please continue to keep him in your prayers as he enjoys this much needed time of refreshment and time with loved ones.

I'm looking forward to seeing you on Sunday. In the meantime, if you have any questions or prayer requests, please email me or call me. In fact, if you think about it, just drop me a line to let me know how you are doing.

Peace!

Pastor Carrie

SAVE THE DATE

Back to Church Sunday!

First Pres will be welcoming everyone back on **September 12th!** If you haven't come back to worship with us live this is a great chance to do so!

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

CHURCH PICNIC IS CANCELLED

Due to low response and in the interest of safety the Church Picnic scheduled for August 29th has been cancelled.

NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK!

September 3rd

Gates open @ 6:05 Game starts @ 7:05

Join us for a Slammers Home Game followed by a firework show!

\$5 to reserve a ticket, but you get \$5 in Slammers Loot to spend at the stadium, so
FREE TICKET!

Get your tickets Sunday morning at the Parish Council table or call the office.

More information (including office hours) available on our website!

SUMMER CHOIR

Summer Choir is currently on hold. Notice will be sent when it is possible to resume Summer Choir and regular Choir.

TAILGATE DINNERS CONTINUE!

The next Tailgate Dinner is tonight, 8/18! Grab a good dinner and join us at 6pm in the lot!