



e-News

September 22, 2021

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SERMON PREVIEW

I Believe

Jesus Man or God?

Matthew 16:13-20

I am looking forward to being in worship again on Sunday. I am also excited to once again preach, this week on "Jesus- Man or God?".

You see, as people, we have to answer the question: Who is Jesus to us?
Is he a prophet?
A person of historical importance?

Or is Jesus so much more than all of that?

Of course the words of Peter from Matthew 16:13-20, come to mind. "You are the Messiah. The Christ."

This Sunday I invite you to explore that question and find your answer of who Jesus is to you.

Looking forward to seeing you in live worship on Sunday!

Blessings,
Pastor Bo

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.

SAVE THE DATE: BLOOD DRIVE

We will be hosting a blood drive on October 10th. More info coming soon!

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please pray for a quick recovery for Pastor Bo's father in Romania.

Prayers of healing for Justin Keir who is at St. Joseph's Hospital.

Sympathies to the family of Tom Ringhofer whose father has passed away.

Prayers of health and comfort for Libby Hall.

We also ask that you also pray for those who are constrained to their homes, and those who are combating various illnesses.

THIS WEEK'S BLOG, GENESIS—9/23-9/29

9/23 Ch. 43:6-34—Joseph Entertains his Brothers

9/24 Ch. 44:1-34—Judah Fulfills Promise

9/27 Ch. 45:1-28—Joseph Revealed

9/28 Ch. 46:1-34—Jacob Journeys to Egypt

9/29 Ch. 47:1-31—Jacob's Family Honored

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Stewardship Report

2021-2022 Budget	\$734,307
Year to Date Income	\$312,042
Year to Date Expenses	\$226,417

Income includes \$34,681 of Employee Retention Credit
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.

Hi all,

As I am writing this, I am waiting to get my "get out of Quarantine" card. The last two weeks have been challenging for both me and my family, and we thank you all for your prayers and support. We are still waiting on my Dad's condition to improve so he can be released from the hospital and for Mom to get a clear evaluation at the end of her quarantine.

These last weeks have been a great reminder of how important it is to have people in your life that you can share with, with whom you both receive and give encouragement. I know that each one of you has people that you stay in touch with and continue to check in with. Please keep up the good work.

It is in the words of Jesus:

"When you do these things, you do it for me."

The morning of October 10th we will have another opportunity to be very practical in our mission, by participating in a Blood Drive being hosted here at First Pres. Details on signing up will be available soon, so keep an eye out!

I also want to thank the Interim Search Committee for all their hard work in bringing Reverend Doctor Jennifer Stroud to us. Session has voted and approved her call, and we are looking forward to November, when we will welcome both her and her husband Tim.

I also want to say how AWESOME of a congregation you are! Pastor Carrie and everyone participating in worship on Sundays have proven once again how talented and dedicated First Pres. is as a congregation in worshiping and welcoming people in the presence of God. I know I have benefited greatly from the Online Worship over the last few weeks. (Big thank you to Scout in the front office for putting those together.)

Looking forward to once again seeing you in worship on Sunday.

Blessings,
Pastor Bo

YOUTH GROUP IS BACK!

Youth Group is starting up again, on Zoom!

More information has been mailed, reach out with any questions!
How exciting!

SAFETY REMINDER:

Masks are required at all times when in the building. This includes live worship on Sunday morning, and all small groups.

Masks and hand sanitizer are available at each entrance.

DRIVE IN MOVIE NIGHTS!

Did you enjoy our past movie nights? Did you maybe miss out? Well good news, Parish Council has TWO MORE DRIVE IN MOVIE NIGHTS PLANNED!

October 2: Blue Miracle

October 23: Hero Dog: Journey Home

- more info available on our website!

The Interim Search Committee has some exciting news!

We are thrilled to report that our top candidate, Rev. Dr. Jennifer Stroud has visited First Pres, met with Session, and accepted our offer. Her contract begins November 1st. We are very excited for you to meet her! More details will follow soon.

Thank you for praying for our committee during the search process.