



# e-News

February 9, 2022

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435  
815-727-9259 [firstpresjoliet.org](http://firstpresjoliet.org)

## WORSHIP REMINDERS:

Live Worship has a new start time of 10 am each Sunday.

This week we are returning to using the pew pads so make sure to sign in, and update any information that may have changed.

## All Officers Meeting

February 19th from 10—12  
All Deacons and Elders

This will be training for new officers and a good refresher for current officers!

Lunch will be provided at 12 so make sure you let us know if you're attending or not!

## Saturday Men's Bible Study

Stop by each Saturday morning for a Men's Bible study at 7:30 am.

## Sunday School

Each Sunday morning grab some coffee and join Pastor Jen in Fireside for a study of Luke!

The class runs from 9:15 to 9:45, still giving you some time before Worship begins.

## March Madness Women's Day Out

March 20th 10pm-2pm

Join us for some after-worship lunch, and a trip to the Rialto to see the "Basement Church Ladies" show! Lunch and the ticket costs \$35 each. Registration closes March 10th.

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Prayers of recovery for Lee Haldorson

Prayers for Barb Rogers and her sisters Brenda and Becky as Barb helps them navigate through health issues.

Prayers of healing for Duke Barnes who is in the hospital.

Prayers for recovery and healing for Jan Weber.

We are thankful for a successful trip to Angel House for Christa Desiderio.

We continue to pray for the ministry of Angel House to the young people of Tanzania.

Let us pray for the widows and widowers in our faith family here at First Pres.

## Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch is coming back! Join us each Tuesday at noon. Bring a lunch, all your questions, and meet us in 210!

February 9, 2022

### Stewardship Report

2021-2022 Budget	\$746,307
Year to Date Income	\$537,775
Year to Date Expenses	\$493,310

Income includes \$58,143 of Employee Retention Credit  
Per Capita: \$40.00

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.

## A NOTE FROM PASTOR JEN

Happy Wednesday Beautiful Believers!

Before I became a serious disciple of our Lord, I truly enjoyed Wednesdays or “over the hump” day. Wednesday was like a sign post that pointed to the weekend. It meant there were only two more days of work before Friday night when I connected with friends, learned about their week, laughed and enjoyed myself. So, to me, the Wednesday hump was a promise of good times to come.

Now, I have grown both emotionally and Spiritually. By God’s Grace, I am walking, what for years, I was just talking. And I have a whole new perspective on what is important. Instead of “Hump” day giving me a glimmer of the much-anticipated Friday night, Wednesdays now mean I am halfway to that which I truly long for - Sunday morning. I have found the Lord’s Day gives me a thrill I never experienced on a Friday night.

There is a Divine connection when worshipping in the fellowship of the faithful. There is Wisdom to be found from reading and teaching the Scriptures. Happiness bubbles up inside when hearing different types of music as we sing together about God’s Love. And joy fills my soul when I am sitting in God’s Holy House knowing this is just where I want to be – where I am meant to be. There is nothing on this Earth like it.

Being without the presence of our brothers and sisters in Christ has taken a toll on many of us. We have gotten so used to worshipping at home we have forgotten how good it feels to worship and serve together.

Last Sunday, at 9:15am, the Study of Luke began and I was so grateful the faithful came. Luke is the Gospel with the fullest account of Christ’s walk on Earth. It is my favorite to read and my favorite to teach. Please join us this Sunday. The wonderful Night Deacons make coffee and snacks for anyone who would like to attend class or come early to church and enjoy a treat and a cup of joe with their faith family before worship.

First Presbyterian’s Christ filled Service is at 10:00am which is the perfect time for worship. Not so early as to discourage folks who need time to get ready and not too late for folks who have plans, more ways to enjoy the Sabbath.

As you read this it’s Wednesday and we are over the hump. I find myself filled with expectation. I can’t wait until we are all gathered together, singing and praying, laughing and sharing, learning from God’s Word and one another.

It’s Connection! It’s Love! It’s Sunday!!!

In God’s Love and With My Own,  
Dr. Jen :)

## A NOTE FROM PASTOR BO

Once in a while I feel it is my pastoral duty to look out for the men in the church. So please pass this message to them: *Valentine’s Day is on Monday!*

With that being said, I want to encourage you to think about the meaning of this day. Yes, it is a great day to celebrate the special one in your life, but this one day does not speak about the depth of your relationship, or the steadfast love you have every day for each other. In the same way our relationship with God cannot be quantified in what we do in a day. God’s love for us is new every morning, and in response we live our lives in that permanent Valentine’s Day. Let your love speak each and every day.

As you know Session is meeting this week, with a pretty big agenda, from looking at things regarding Sunday Worship COVID protocols, to looking towards a second Worship Service sometime during the week. Also if you are an elder or a deacon please plan to attend the All Officer’s Retreat on February 19th. We will start at 10 am.

Helping Hands is once again delivering meals to people from the congregation. If you would like to be involved in helping delivering a meal, please let us know.

I will take this time to encourage you to let us know about your prayer needs, or if you know of someone in need of a phone call. Sometimes the church office is the last one to hear about someone needing a pastoral call, or maybe a meal.

Mark your calendars for March 5th for our 1st of the month Community Breakfast. I would like to invite you to join us, and see this great ministry first hand. It is such a blessing to be able to share a welcoming place for the community.

I would like to share a little excitement, and even though I will not share specific details at this time, I will say this: YOU DO NOT WANT TO BE OUT OF TOWN FOR PALM SUNDAY!

Looking forward to see you on Sunday,

Blessings,  
Pastor Bo