



e-News

May 4th, 2022

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

TIME TO THINK VBS!

Save the Date: June 20th through 24th!

VBS 2022 IS GOING TO BE MONUMENTAL!

We're planning to be in-person once again this summer and

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

We ask that you give some thought to volunteering, take some time to pray on it, and reach out with any questions you may have!

Call the office to let us know if you're interesting in helping us make this 2022 VBS amazing!

Keep an eye on communications from the office for more information and updates.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Prayers for all of the joys and all of the sorrows on this Mother's Day.

Prayers of healing for Emmie Ostrem.

Sympathies to Barb Rodgers and her family after the loss of Barb's sister.

Prayers of health for Pastor Jen's close friend Cindy who lives in Florida.

If you would like to send a card or reach out to anyone on our prayer list but don't have their contact information feel free to call or email the church office.

Annual Congregational Meeting

May 22nd

During worship we will hold our annual Congregational Meeting to approve terms of call and elect the Pastor Nominating Committee.

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

Our Summer Lunch Program will be in-house again. We are hoping to add some new activities as well.

The program will operate

from 11:30 am to 1pm

from June 7th through August 16th

(Monday—Friday).



Pancake Breakfast

Our Free Pancake Breakfast will be 5/7. The breakfast is free and open to everyone, from 8:30 –10am.

May 4, 2022

Stewardship Report

2022-2023 Budget	\$772,600
Year to Date Income	\$69,655
Year to Date Expenses	\$56,025

Per Capita: \$40.00

CELEBRATE OUR GRADUATES!

Do you have a graduate? We would love to celebrate their achievement! We will have our Graduate Board in the Narthex, with photos and little bios for our graduates! If you have a graduate you'd like to celebrate you can fill out our Graduates Form available in building and online.

Stock Our Micro-Pantry Sundays!

Think of Sundays as an amazing opportunity to contribute to our Micro-Pantry ministry! Just bring a spare non-perishable and you can just put it in our Micro-Pantry or the gray bin just inside the door to be stocked that week.

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.

Happy Spring Dear Ones!

I pray you are all well and enjoying all the colorful flowers and lovely blooming trees in beautiful Joliet. Tim and I are captivated by the signs of new life everywhere. God's promise of our vibrant new beginning is emerging. What a gift to all of us!

The Lord has long loved and cared for the faithful of First Pres and now, as the weather turns warmer and the promise of summer is felt, God is bringing abundance and victory to this already amazingly abundant and victorious church.

Jesus tells us...

Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." Luke 6:38

The people of First Presbyterian of Joliet are, and have been, true followers of Christ, working for the Kingdom with their time, talents and treasure. Now this incredible fellowship will reap the rewards of their faith in action. The Nominating Committee is hard at work, asking in prayer, for the direction of the Holy Spirit to find and call the PNC. They have just a few short weeks to fill the 11-member committee. If you feel the call to join the PNC and would like to be considered, please contact Ed Schultz the Elder/Moderator. His number is 815-353-1914. (*I want you to know I asked Ed's permission before putting his phone number in this communique to all of you*), or you can call the church office.

On May 22nd we have our regular Congregational Meeting where we will review the pastor's compensation (done every year) and elect the PNC.

I have, recently, been approached by quite a few of you who have told me that you are only beginning to get to know and care for Tim and I and you are not ready for your long-term pastor just yet. Once a PNC is called, and begins its work, the process takes from one to two years. Please know that Tim and I already love all of you, the people of this incredible church, and will, happily, share this journey with you until you no longer need us.

In the meantime we will continue to praise and serve God with this wonderful community as we all grow in the Holy Spirit together. And let us all trust in God that at the perfect time, God's time, your new pastor will be chosen and will come and lead you all into the bright new future God has in store!

Remember you are a blessing!

In God's Love and with our own,
Dr. Jen and Tim:)

A NOTE FROM PASTOR CARRIE:

Hi friends!

Mother's Day is this Sunday, which makes it a perfect time for me to say THANK YOU to all the women of this church. Women have been a tremendous part of the work and mission of First Pres in the three plus decades I have been a member, and I know that history goes back much, much further. Women have been part of the Christian church's ministry since the church was formed. I encourage each of you to serve where God has called you (both inside and outside of the church) with enthusiasm, courage, and joy. And men - thank you, too. God has given us each a part to play in this world, all different, no single one more or less important than the other.

We will celebrate ministry in worship this Sunday with a special little something for each lady (of every age!). Pastor Bo will be preaching on "The Heart of God" based upon 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, and we will have the joy of celebrating baptism.

I am excited about the prayer groups that have been meeting. Please consider joining us - you can find the dates on our website. One of the ways we grow in relationship with God is through prayer. As our prayer ministry expands, I hope we will get to know one another better and that praying together will be as natural as breathing. Please call or text me, Pastor Bo, or Pastor Jen anytime if you would like one of us to pray with or for you.

I am also feeling very energized by our women's ministry. We have had some really fun fellowship activities in the last few months (paint night, a play, and the Derby progressive luncheon) and are planning even more! I will be hosting a meeting for all the women of the church in June to learn more about what activities and ministries you want at First Pres. We have a core group of ladies who are excited to be part of this ministry - but we need to know what you want! The goal is one fellowship event, one mission event, and one learning opportunity each quarter. I will let you know more about the "vision casting" meeting soon - in the meantime, please call, text or email me if you have an idea for something for us to do!

I close this letter with a prayer for First Presbyterian Church in Joliet - that we may be salt and light to the community and world around us and that we will each continue to grow as followers of Jesus.

Peace,

Pastor Carrie