



# e-News

July 20th 2022

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

## CALLING ALL MOMS OF KIDS AGE 12 AND YOUNGER

Please come to Pastor Carrie's house on Monday, August 8, from 5:30 - 7:30. No pressure, no agenda, just conversation, food, and laughter (hopefully lots!)

Text Carrie at 815-919-8714 to let her you know you will be there and get the details!

## OASIS: WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Dear Ladies of First Pres,

Welcome to the Oasis, where women share life together. The women's ministry team (Pastor Carrie, Kris Hayden, and Jackie Brooks) cordially invites you to a vision casting gathering on Sunday, July 31, 2022, immediately following worship.

This ministry is **FOR YOU**. Please come and help us cast a vision for this ministry. During the year, we pray we can provide fellowship fun, learning events and service opportunities. Our question for you is - what fun, learning and service will fill your heart?

We hope to see you, for about an hour, on July 31. There will be a light lunch, door prizes and laughter. If you have any questions, or if you cannot be there on the 31st but have a vision to share, please contact Pastor Carrie at [carrie.kapral@firstpresjoliet.org](mailto:carrie.kapral@firstpresjoliet.org) or at 815-919-8714.

Peace be with each of you!

Jackie Brooks  
Kris Hayden  
Carrie Kapral

*We make each other better! "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17*

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Prayers of continued recovery for our custodian Jodi's daughter Melissa.

Prayers of health and healing for the following: George Redman, Jeannette Miller, and Doris Alderson.

## CALL FOR BELL RINGERS

Our Glory Ringers are looking for a few new members to join their ministry. If you are interested or have any questions please reach out.

## SAVE THE DATE

### Back to Church Celebration Picnic and Fair

**Sunday September 18th**

**Keep an eye out for more information!**

## Night at the Ballpark!

Friday the 22nd

Don't forget to wear your VBS shirt or another gray shirt! Not only it is a fireworks night but you can also show up at 3:45 for the Guns-N-Hoses softball game, Joliet police vs Firemen!

July 20, 2022

### Stewardship Report

2022-2023 Budget	\$772,600
Year to Date Income	\$189,134
Year to Date Expenses	\$195,079

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.

Good Day Dear Family of Faith!

I pray you are well and claiming the joy and peace that comes to those who love the Lord. This will be my last communicate to all of you and it is bitter-sweet. Sweet because of the great blessing of working for the Kingdom along side you for the past nine months (nine months? It went so quickly!) and bitter because I will not be with you when you welcome your new long-term pastor.

This Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, will be my last time to preach in First's beautiful sanctuary and gaze upon your faithful faces. I pray to see as many of you in worship as possible so I can tell you how thankful to God I am for you!

I know, in my heart, the Lord is preparing First for a brand-new beginning. I will keep in touch, dear friends, to avidly hear of the spiritual and numerical growth this beloved church will experience in the future.

Tim and I will not be joining the fellowship in Hoffman Hall as is the tradition for the departure of First Pres.'s pastors. Tim's momma has now entered hospice and we will be leaving for St. Louis after worship in order to see her as soon as possible. But Tim and I will stay in the Narthex for as long as it takes to greet all of you who would like to bless us with your presence; to share a good word, a prayer or a warm hug before we part ways.

I finish this short note with a thank you for your many kindnesses, your thoughtfulness and your care. Tim and I wish you all good things now and in the future. Please know that you will be in our prayers and we will always be grateful for our shared journey together.

God bless you all, beloved First Presbyterian of Joliet!

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

## Special Prayer Meeting

This Friday at 9:30 am join us in Fireside as we dedicate some time to praying for the good of First Pres. As well as the challenges our world is facing.

## A Note from Pastor Bo

Today, in some faith traditions, people celebrate Elijah the prophet. In the old country this day brings with it the realization that the summer is coming to an end and soon people need to focus on the fall, the harvest, and so on. I woke up this morning thinking about that very thing. The fall season will be upon us soon, and with that, as a congregation, we will need to focus or refocus on the many things we do as a church.

As I said on Sunday during the sermon, this is a time for us to obey God. In obeying God we will be able to understand the heart of God for these times, and in that revelation we will find relevance. It is not an easy task, but it is not an impossible task for us First Pres. I have seen the creativity and the serving spirit of this church many, many times in my service beside you here at church. I do want to ask you one thing: To pray. And more specifically pray along these lines:

*Lord, You have been faithful to us before we were faithful to you. Let your spirit give us strength, vision and creativity, a serving spirit so we can be indeed the people you called us to be.*

I hope that as we pray along those lines, God will work in us and among us, and we will be able to go and do the work of church with joy and gladness in our hearts. Also if you happen to have some free time in your hands and want to read more about Elijah I suggest starting in 1 Kings 17-19.

### This week at First Pres:

- Friday the **Night at the Ballpark**. While I do not have details about the parking situation, I will remind you the game starts at 6:45. For those that love fireworks this will be one of those nights where you can delight yourself in the OHHH and AWEEEE of the fireworks.
- Sunday we will say **goodbye to Pastor Jen**. I would like to encourage you to write her a card and pray for her and Tim as they journey back to Florida. God's blessing on them.
- Also as a reminder if you would like to drop things off for the **Food Pantry**, please only bring canned goods and not perishables (even breads) as the heat will just make those goods go bad in no time. Our Food Pantry does get a lot of activity and we are thankful that we can fill in a need in our community.
- Next week we will send you a bigger **update on the Ukrainian** work through Pastor Ovi. Meanwhile please pray for them as a ministry and also for the ongoing conflict in Ukraine.

As I told the folks in the front office today: It is going to be a hot day today, please stay hydrated and drink your water. Not just for your body but also for your soul.

Have a great week!

Blessings,  
Pastor Bo