



e-News

April 5th, 2023

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

Please remember to return your pledge card if you have not already.

HOLY WEEK AT FIRST PRES.

Maundy Thursday (4/6):

Dinner at 5:30pm

Special Worship service at 6:30pm

Good Friday (4/7):

Special Worship service at 6:30pm

Resurrection Sunday (4/9):

Special Worship service at 10am

Child/nursery care will be available for all services

Church Family

Prayers of continued successful recovery for Pastor Roy Backus following his knee surgery.

Prayers of sympathy and comfort to all those effected by the tragedy in Nashville last week.

Prayers to all those effected by the recent destructive tornados across our country.

Prayers for Evelyn Purcell (mother of James Purcell, grandmother to Brandi Kuczek, and great-grandmother to Bailey and Roland Frey, and Alex Kuczek) as she is in St. Joseph's Hospital.

VBS 2023

June 26th-30th

VBS this year will be **STELLAR!** Grab your spacesuit and head over to our website to register a participant, or to register as a volunteer! If you have any questions please reach out to the church office.

Take some time to pray about how you will support this important ministry.

April 5th, 2023

Stewardship Report

2023-2024 Budget	\$772,600
Year to Date Income	\$9,686
Year to Date Expenses	\$0.00
Received for Angel House	\$2,376
Per Capita	\$42.00

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.

IF YOU HAVE TAKEN A CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY HOME PLEASE REMEMBER TO RETURN IT TO THE CHURCH ASAP

The PNC Process

Planning	Mission Study	Data Evaluation	Resume Evaluations	Interviews	Pastor Visits	Pastor Selection	Pastor Acceptance
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The Congregational Survey is underway! The Pastor Nominating Committee has been hard at work and is in the process of determining who we are as a church right now and who we are called to be. In order to do this, we need your help. Please complete the Congregational Survey to let us know your thoughts about First Pres and what you would like to see in our future ministries. This information is vital in finding a pastor who fits well with the vision of First Pres.

Ask the office for the link to take it online, come to church on Sunday morning and take it in Hoffman Hall before or after worship, or call the church office at 815-727-9259 to make arrangements to obtain a paper copy.

A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT MADE THE EASTER EGG HUNT SO AMAZING ONCE AGAIN!



A Note from Bo Mircea, Associate Pastor

This past Sunday as we celebrated Palm Sunday, we were reminded how the Lord comes close to us no matter what circumstances we might find ourselves in. And yet, we would always come short of understanding the Lord's love for us if we were to stop on Palm Sunday, and not follow Jesus all the way to the cross and witness the events of the Holy Week. The Holy Week invites us to remember that not only does God love us, but it came at a high price - the Son of God being crucified for the sins of the world. The Holy Week captured in one word is LOVE. Love that not only sacrifices, love that gives, but also love that speaks truth and helps people move closer to God.

This Sunday I am preaching on Luke 23: 44- 49 and Matthew 28: 1-7 - The Tree of Life. Jesus's ministry, his presence, his sacrifice, and his resurrection had not been a matter of circumstance. On the contrary, they had been God's love on display in a very palpable way, the promise of God, first made to Adam and Eve, and in perpetuity to all that believe. Resurrection Sunday is our own invitation to God's life, to capture or recapture the heart of God for our lives, if you would like to rediscover the paradise that is in Christ, and is yet to come. I would encourage you to revisit the story of the Holy week in preparation for Sunday, and be ready to proclaim: The Lord Is Risen ! He is risen Indeed!

Looking forward to worship with you this week,

Blessings,
Pastor Bo Mircea

PROGRAM NOTES:

MIDWEEK/ LENTEN SUPPER FELLOWSHIP:

Midweek Dinner/Classes will resume next week (4/12)

DISCOVERY TIME:

Discovery Time will resume the following week (4/16)



SUNDAY SERVANTS—HOLY WEEK 4/6, 4/7, 4/9

Maundy Thursday

Ushers: Ed Schultz, Al Brooks

Sound: Cliff Stepina

Good Friday

Ushers: Estella Jurkovich, Sue Fordyce

Sound: Keith LeVasseur

Video: Todd Hayden

Easter

Ushers: Ed Schultz, Al Brooks, Mark Dykema, Lundeen

Coffee: Sue Fordyce, Estella Jurkovich

Video: Peter Mbi

Sound: Cliff Stepina

Acolytes: Scarlett Poulos, Joseph Adler

Liturgist: Carla DeYoung