



e-News

May 17th, 2023
 805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435
 815-727-9259 firstpresjoliet.org

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

Starting June 9th

Mon-Fri 11:30-1pm

This program provides free lunches to kids in our community who may experience food insecurity, and may rely on school lunches. You can support this vital ministry by volunteering your time, spreading the word about this program. And donating board games, puzzles, & books.

OASIS: Women's Ministry

REJUVENATE

May 20th 10am -12

Painting pots, potting plants, and learning about mental health as we go

REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE

ANGEL HOUSE REMINDER:

We are currently doing a special collection for our sponsorships at Angel House in Tanzania. First Pres proudly sponsors three young women at Angel House, providing a home, education, food, training, health care, a community, and more for those in need.

LIGHTWAYS HOSPICE INFORMATION SESSION

June 11th 11:15am

Mary Rossio will bring an approximately 30 min presentation about services hospice can offer, including serious illness care, end of life care, and grief counseling. There will be time for questions following presentation.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

May 24th—6:30pm

This class is for those who want to learn more about the ministries of First Pres, the history, and what it means to be a member. If you are interested in becoming a member this is the class for you. Please reach out to the office or any of the pastors if you are interested .

Church Family

Prayers for health and recovery for Dave Jeffries who is in Silver Cross Hospital with stomach issues.

Prayers for health and recovery for Sheila Lundeen who is in Silver Cross Hospital with pneumonia.

Prayers for health and recovery for Jackie Brooks' father Sherman 'Spud' Vaughn who is sick.

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT FPJ

Adult Sunday School with Pastor Roy—9am

Adult Fellowship with Pastor Bo—9am

Live Worship Service—10am

Pre-k/Elementary Sunday School—After Time with Children

Coffee Fellowship—before and after worship

2023 GRADUATES—Let's Celebrate!

First Pres wants to celebrate our 2023 grads! As per tradition we will have a board up in the Narthex honoring our grads. If you have a grad in your life, please submit a form. Printed forms are available at the church, and an online form is available on our website.

Make sure to submit yours before May 31st!

May 17th, 2023

Stewardship Report

2023-2024 Budget	\$772,600
Year to Date Income	\$72,581
Year to Date Expenses	\$74,417
Received for Angel House	\$3,105
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.

The PNC Process

Planning	Mission Study	Data Evaluation	Resume Evaluations	Interviews	Pastor Visits	Pastor Selection	Pastor Acceptance
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The survey is complete. The PNC is awaiting the resulting data, expected in the next 6-8 weeks.

THE PASTORS CORNER, *Roy Backus, Transitional Pastor*

Spring is here and Summer is around the corner. We are wrapping up the Spring celebrations in the next few weeks, and then we'll be on to Vacation Bible School. Someone asked me if we were going to have adult classes on Sunday mornings throughout the Summer. Good News! Pastor Bo's group will continue meeting in Hoffman Hall, my class will continue in the Fireside Room. I know it is the tradition of the church to close Sunday morning adult classes, but it's not mine.

Actually, I pray that in the near future First Presbyterian Church will become committed to Sunday classes for all ages. It's difficult to get the momentum to restart the old tradition, but it offers places to belong for visiting families throughout the Summer. This is especially true to younger families with children who relocate during the Summer and have to determine the essential services and places for their family's life. We do, of course, continue our preschool-elementary Sunday School class all year.

One other important note is the present search for a Youth and Children's Director for us. The Education Council is in full speed in this process. It's time to nurture our youth more than ever before.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Roy

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.

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

Annual Congregational Q&A May 17th at 6:30pm

Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday May 21st at 10am worship

SUNDAY SERVANTS 5/21/23

USHERS: Mark Dykema, Ed Schultz, Mark Fumagalli

COFFEE: Sue Fordyce

LITURGIST: Jim Huey

ACOLYTE: Caleb Adler

SOUND: Cliff Stepina

VIDEO: Todd Hayden

Bo Mircea, Associate Pastor

Have I ever mentioned how much I enjoy working with the multiple councils from our church? If, I have not, well now you know. This past Saturday I stopped by to see the Night Deacons and our volunteers serving at St. John's Food Pantry. It is amazing to see the greater faith community of Joliet coming together and serving in such a powerful way. The Night Deacons have sponsored two Service Days and two Food Donation Saturdays through the food pantry. And you should know that we are looking ahead and planning other service opportunities like this. The Mission Council has been busy the past few months, with coordinating all the donations and partnerships with the many organizations we support, both locally and internationally. Speaking of which, Angel House Orphanage Scholarships will be sent out to Tanzania at the end of this month. Our goal to raise \$6,756 for the three girls has yet to be reached. Will you partner with the Mission Council to fulfill this goal? Looking forward, Mission Council and the Night Deacons will be our hosts for the Matsiko Orphan Choir during their June 28th-29th visit. The plan is to host a combined concert with our VBS kids and Matsiko on Thursday June 29th at 6 pm.

A quick reminder, if you are on the younger side of the church, join us on Friday at 6 pm for Why30? We would love to hear from you and see how we can support each other at this stage of our lives and faith journey.

This Sunday I am preaching on John 17:1-11. This text captures maybe the last record of a prayer that our Lord speaks. It is this prayer that helps us focus on something that we sometimes avoid talking about, the need to fully belong to God and live under God's protection. Truth be told, we do not speak too much about spiritual warfare or the ways of the world that come as temptations towards us, and yet those are daily realities for people of faith. I would encourage you to meditate on the verses above and pray that we can live our lives in the freedom and power that we can find in the Spirit of God.

Blessings,
Pastor Bo M.

WHY30 minutes

30 minutes to grab coffee

30 minutes to connect

30 minutes to be in community

WHY30 is a casual get-together introduce a space for the younger adults here at FPJ. This will be a 30 min time to catch up with some friendly faces, meet new people, and express what's important to you in the church.

Drop in at FPJ **Friday 5/19 @6:00** Childcare will be available so feel free to bring your kiddos!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Mission Day at St. John's Food Pantry!

Keep an eye out for more Service Days coming up.