



# e-News

June 14th, 2023  
 805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435  
 815-727-9259 firstpresjoliet.org

## OASIS UPDATE

Hi, ladies! I hope your summer is off to a wonderful beginning. Oasis has had a great year - thank you to those of you who were able to attend our events! I know many of you wanted to join us, but your schedules just didn't allow for it.

Oasis has decided to take a break for summer and return with beloved previous activities and some new ones in the fall. We need YOUR help to accomplish this! Please prayerfully consider joining the Oasis planning committee. We need some vision casters, some detail folk, and some "worker bees". I know you're out there! Please give the church office or Pastor Carrie a call if you are interested. May God bless all of you.

The Oasis Team

## SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

**Mon-Fri 11:30-1pm**

You can support this vital ministry by volunteering your time, spreading the word about this program. And donating board games, puzzles, & books.

## 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.

## Announcement from Pastor Roy on behalf of our Education Council:

We continue our search for a Director of Children and Youth Ministries. We ask that you help share the opportunity, help get the word out. This is a full-time position with benefits. Additional details are in the Indeed job listing available [HERE](#). The Lord has the right person for the job out there, we just need to find them.

## Church Family

Prayers of recovery and health for Joyce Miner.

Prayers and sympathies to the friends and family of Dave Jefferies who passed last week.

Prayers of continued recovery for Sheila Lundeen.

Prayers and sympathies for the friends and family of Eunice Taylor who has passed. Services will be held for her on the 20th at 2pm at FPJ.



**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.**

**June 14th, 2023**

## **Stewardship Report**

<b>2023-2024 Budget</b>	\$772,600
<b>Year to Date Income</b>	\$111,639
<b>Year to Date Expenses</b>	\$99,723
<b>Received for Angel House</b>	\$3,405
<b>Per Capita</b>	\$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

For almost 20 years straight my two youngest children went to camp in Minnesota. It was a camp with no electronic connections with the outside world. Each day was a day of learning skills, playing together, caring for and riding horses, water safety, different athletic training, and building a community of acceptance together. Camp lasted for 4 weeks every summer. Both youngin's graduated from camper to teen counselor, to adult counselor. It was amazing how they would make huge leaps of maturity every Summer. I believe we all miss those years.

I'd drive the kids to camp and then drive Ann to her mother's place in western Minnesota. Ann visited with her mother 4 weeks every Summer. Together they worked on Nana's garden, read novels, kept each other company, and performed other tasks around Nana's house. Through the weeks they would spend the time with family friends and acquaintances and simply enjoy each other. Each summer I returned home to do church and home stuff until the last week or so of Ann's and the kids' stays. (I'm the chauffeur, the transportation to all these folks!)

Well, it's that time of the year. The kids are no longer kids. They are at their Chicago apartments doing adult Chicago things. Ann, leaves this weekend to spend 4 weeks with her mother. (My knee isn't quite ready for 10 hours on the road yet!) I'll remain here paying attention to ministry and a some "honey does" around the house and yard, until I meet her in Minnesota mid-July.

I imagine, the more life changes, the more it stays the same, but different. These four weeks are time of renewal for Ann, Nana and me. It's my prayer that your summer will be a time of renewal for you too.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Roy

### 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

**Our annual Guidebook & Directory will be sent for publishing in mid-June. Please be sure all of your information is up to date and let the office know of any changes (cancelled landlines, new phone number, adult children no longer living at home, etc.)**

## A Letter from Associate Pastor Bo Mircea

Tradition! Traditions! And more...

This Sunday, we are starting a six weeks sermon series on : Uncommon conversations with God - The Fiddler on The Roof. And more specifically we will look at some of the things that we do and say quietly before God, things that are essential to our lives and yet sometimes they might be challenging. This coming Sunday specifically we will look at Tradition - As the Rhythm of Life. The things that we hold on to as anchors, or a point of reference as we travel through this life. What did Tevye know about life, God, that made him keep his balance all along? The answer, of course, is much deeper than just traditions, it comes from understanding those traditions and making sense of them. I would like to encourage you to read Ecclesiastes 3 before Sunday, and maybe ask yourself the following question: What keeps me grounded when life is overwhelming.

### What's happening at 805 Western this Month:

- **Vacation Bible School** is fast approaching - June 26th. Please take time to register for VBS as a volunteer or get those kids registered so we can plan accordingly for them. Do not forget next week we have two training dates for volunteers on Wed. 21st at 6 pm and Sat 24th at 9 am. Reach out if you have any questions.
- **VBS Kids and Matsiko Orphan Choir concert** on Thursday June 29th at 6 pm. You really do not want to miss this. Come out and support our kids ministries and all the children that participate in the VBS week, and also enjoy the energy and the ministry of the Matsiko kids. We will have an Ice Cream Social following the program.
- **Night at the Ball Park** - Friday June 30th - Slammers, Fellowship, Fire Works - what else could you want? It is all there in the recipe for a great night with your church friends and family. Tickets are on sale now, so stop by and get yours today.

Have a great week and see you Sunday,

Blessings  
Pastor Bo

**A big thank you to Dennis and Sherry Jones and their grand-daughter Mackenzie for cleaning, repairing, and repainting our MicroPantry. It looks great!**

### SUNDAY SERVANTS 6/18/23

**USHERS:**

**COFFEE:**

**LITURGIST:** Carol Kline

**ACOLYTE:** Scarlett Poulos

**SOUND:** Cliff Stepina

**VIDEO:** Matt Blaser