



e-News

June 28th, 2023

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

SUNDAY SERVANTS 7/2/23

USHERS: Estella Jurkovich, Mark Dykema, Sue Fordyce

COFFEE: Jasmine Keir

LITURGIST: Jenifer Garlitz

ACOLYTE: Nora Moretti

SOUND: Rich Pool

VIDEO: Matt Blaser

Church Family

Prayers of recovery and health for Joyce Miner.

Prayers for Margaret Lucas.

Prayers of health and healing for Emmie Ostrem.

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.

VBS AND MATSIKO SHOWCASE

Thursday 6/29 @6pm

(parents with VBS kids please arrive at 5:45)

All are invited to enjoy performances from our VBS participants as well as the Matsiko World Orphan's Choir. Following the concert there will be an ice cream social. What better way to support both of these ministries!



NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK

Joliet Slammers Game

June 30th

Discounted \$5 tickets available Sunday morning or in the office during the week (call ahead if you plan to come at lunch)

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.

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Stewardship Report

2023-2024 Budget	\$772,600
Year to Date Income	\$140,345
Year to Date Expenses	\$126,069
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 anticipates receiving the survey results soon.

A Letter from Transitional Pastor Roy Backus

"If I Were a Rich Man" is sung by Teyve in Fiddler On The Roof. The song reveals the story's environment of poverty. Teyve imagines what riches would be like, but he recognizes his poverty and struggles in his daily challenge to care for his family. What is interesting is his struggles with God concerning his poverty. He knows that it isn't a sin to be poor, but he voices his frustrations with God. This song is a sign of Teyve's honesty with God. It reveals his prayer life. Throughout the musical the small Jewish community faces poverty, but together they hold to godly hope of a promised, brighter future. At first glance, it seems like poverty is the central theme of the song, but Teyve's character is employed as a kind of Jacob figure who struggles with life lived in faith.

On the outside, this week's sermon will appear to be about money. For many people a money sermon, better known as a stewardship sermon, is the least favorite of all sermons. The Bible is very clear that money is very important, and the Lord God never backed away from being clear about living. At the same time, the Lord knew that life isn't just about money.

We could spend a great deal of time discussing finances, but after all the twists and turns in the Bible, our Lord is clear. Money, possessions speak about our honesty to God and ourselves. It's the way we show this world our foundational priorities and values to others. It is about our true spiritual health and faith.

The biblical passages this week are Deuteronomy 8:11–20 and Matthew 19:16–26. They are very different approaches to possessions, and they are best understood and lived in context. What they do hold in common, is our covenant, i.e., our mutual promise relationship, with God and the necessity of faithful, visible Christian living. The Lord bless you.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Roy



A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS
ALREADY MADE VBS 2023 SO AMAZING SO FAR!

