



# e-News

January 17th, 2024  
 805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435  
 815-727-9259 firstpresjoliet.org

## NEW MEMBERS CLASS

January 21st after worship in the Fireside Room

Here is another chance to learn about First Pres and officially join our membership.

## DINNER OUT GROUP

1/18th at 6pm

Meet at McWethy's Tavern in Romeoville (1700 W Renwick Rd.)  
 Speak with Carol Kline to be included in the reservation.

## SERVE DAY

St. John Lutheran Food Pantry Serve Day—Jan 20th

Speak with our Night Deacons if you would like to participate.

## KIDS CHOIR

Sunday Jan 28th

Join us in worship to enjoy & support our Kids Choir and all their hard work as they perform select songs.

## YOUTH GROUP

Sundays 6pm-8pm

Each Sunday in room 206 (Unless otherwise specified)

## Children's Church Corner

**January's Faith Word:** INCLUDE- to welcome all of God's children in God's love.

**Lesson for Sun. 1/21:** 'Showing Love' Matthew 5:43-48

**Bible Verse:** "The Lord is good to everyone and everything; God's compassion extends to all his handiwork!" Psalm 145:9

**Lesson for Wed. 1/17:** "Jesus Heals an Official's Son" John 4:43-54

## Church Family

Sympathies and prayers for Don Caisley and his family after the recent loss of his brother Bill.

Prayers of relief and recovery for Lindsay Gordon as she suffers through an intense prolonged migraine.

Continued prayers of healing for Lee Haldorson.

Prayers for Helen Steinberg's brother Jim.

Prayers for Carol as she considers hospice care, and for support for her family in this decision.

Prayers requested for the healing of Anna Jean Wilhelms, daughter of Carol (Randolph) and Nathan Wilhelms and Granddaughter of Sarah and Craig Randolph to be born about May 30, 2024.

Prayers for peace and comfort for George Redman as he is hospitalized.

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday January 28th

We will hold our annual congregational meeting for to elect new officers for this year so they may be ordained and installed. At this worship service we will also be receiving our new members.

January 17th, 2024

Stewardship Report

2023-2024 Budget	\$772,600
Year to Date Income	\$471,918
Year to Date Expenses	\$480,304
Per Capita	\$43.00

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 PNC has submitted the finalized Mission Study Report (you can read it on our website) to the Commission on Ministry of Blackhawk Presbytery. Soon we will be able to access the Church Leadership Connection website where we will put together the information that is needed to search for a pastor. We hope to start seeing resumes and applications in the near future. This is a slow and tedious process and we are committed to being thorough in our search.

*A letter from Transitional Head Pastor Roy Backus*

Grace and peace be with you.  
Grace and peace.

Following Worship last Sunday, we had a New Members' Class in the Fireside Room. There were 5 folks wanting to hear about First Presbyterian Church, and Pastor Bo and I had the pleasure of sharing with them. There were others who could not make the class, due to the very rough weather. Well, we will hold the classes again this coming Sunday, January 21, following worship. We pray that those of you who stayed safe and stayed home, will attend. New members will be received on Sunday January 28th during our Worship Service. If you are interested in joining with us in ministry, then please give the office a call.

This week we will look at the following texts during the Adult Bible Study discussion at 9am before Worship: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; and Mark 1:14-20. Hope to see you there!

Grace and peace  
Pastor Roy

## **SUNDAY SERVANTS 1/21/24**

**USHERS:** Jeff Lundeen, Sherrie Sanchez

**COFFEE:** Sue Fordyce

**LITURGIST:** Carter Lundeen

**ACOLYTE:** Alex Kuczek

**SOUND:** Keith LeVasseur

**VIDEO:** Todd Hayden

*A letter from Associate Pastor Bo Mircea*

2 Thessalonians 1:3

*"We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing."*

This Sunday I am preaching on Discipleship, and the way God is calling us to be faithful to the call set before us, first to ourselves in our call to grow in the Lord, and then in our call to share the goodness of the Lord with the people that God brings in our lives. Discipleship is not easy. Discipleship is a process. Discipleship is about commitment. The question for us today is: Are we still embracing that call in our lives and in our church? I pray that we can answer in a simple and clear "YES". Looking forward to sharing the Word with you on Sunday.

### **Happening this week at 805 Western:**

- **Midweek is on.** We will continue learning about the Lord through the book of Romans, and the kids will focus on Jesus's ministry as they will be learning about Jesus healing an official's son.
- Thursday - The **Dinner Out Group** is going to McWethy's Tavern at 6 pm. If you would like to join please call Carol Kline and reserve a spot.
- Saturday Morning from 7 am to about 11am - **Serve Day at St. John Food Pantry.** The Night Deacons will be hands on and you are invited to join us to serve in this special ministry that is dear to us and to the greater Joliet area.
- **Sunday Morning** - Come and Worship, even with the frigid temperatures outside, the sanctuary is always warm and welcoming.

Blessings,  
Pastor Bo

*A letter from Director of Children and Youth Ministries, Lindsay Gordon*

Hello everyone!

I hope all of you have been staying safe and warm in this crazy weather! I don't know about you, but when temperatures drop to a level this frigid, there's nothing I love more than bundling up in a bunch of blankets, with some hot chocolate and a good book. Add my dog, Rocket, on top of that bundle, and I'm good to go.

I look forward to gathering with everyone tonight, when we'll be back up in the double digit temperatures again! Wednesday night with the kids will be a ton of fun as we play games and dig into the Word, as well as being able to get back to youth group this Sunday. It broke my heart to call off due to the weather, but we wanted to keep everyone safe. We'll be kicking off our new sermon series, where we'll be having an honest discussion on faith and doubt, and how to navigate that in a healthy way.

Please reach out to me if there is any way I can be a support to your family - whether that's getting together for a cup of coffee, or cheering on your child at a basketball game or a play. I'm here to come alongside you, and your kids and students!

Blessings,  
Lindsay Gordon