



# e-News

March 6th, 2024  
 805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435  
 815-727-9259 firstpresjoliet.org

## EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to donate flowers to decorate the sanctuary for Easter, please fill in below and mail to the church office. Please make checks payable to "First Presbyterian Church—Easter Flowers" Online payment is available as well. The deadline for ordering is March 24th.

How many? (at \$15/pot):

\_\_\_\_\_ Lilies \_\_\_\_\_ Tulips \_\_\_\_\_ Mums

Our/My Easter Flowers are given:

\_\_\_ to the Glory of God

\_\_\_ to the Glory of God and in loving memory of loved ones

\_\_\_ to the Glory of God and in loving memory of

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

This form is also available on our website.

## DINNER OUT GROUP

Thursday March 21st

Meet at Public Landing in Lockport at 6pm. Speak with Carol Kline to be included in the reservation. 815-630-7099

## Children's Church Corner

**March's Faith Word:** REMEMBER—To think about and not forget our faith.

**Lesson for Sun. 3/10:** 'The Last Supper' *Luke 22:14-20*

**Bible Verse:** "Do this in remembrance of me" *Luke 22:19c*

**Lesson for Wed. 3/6:** 'Jesus Heals Jairu's Daughter' *Luke 8:49-56*

## Church Family

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

Prayers for Helen Steinberg's brother Jim.

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 Mary Caisley's sister Linda.

Prayers and sympathies to the Duncan family after the recent loss of long-term member Margaret Duncan's daughter Jane Duncan.

Prayers and sympathies to the family and friends of Barb Brock who recently passed. The service will be on March 9 at 11 am Kurtz Funeral Home, New Lenox, with visitation prior at 10 am.

Prayers of continued healing for Judy Bartels as she recovers from a recent, successful eye surgery.

Prayers of recovery for Karen Myers.

Sympathies and prayers to the family and friends of Joyce Miner who passed away last night. Arrangements are pending.

March 6th, 2024

## Stewardship Report

<b>2023-2024 Budget</b>	\$772,600
<b>Year to Date Income</b>	\$580,861
<b>Year to Date Expenses</b>	\$578,584
<b>Per Capita</b>	\$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
----------	---------------	-----------------	--------------------	------------	---------------	------------------	-------------------

The PNC has finished compiling the information for First Pres' Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP). We are in the process of submitting this so that it may be approved and then posted on the Church Leadership Connection website. Once that happens, our search will begin and the website will match potential candidates to our specifications. Please continue to pray for the committee and the process as we seek to find the person God has chosen for First Pres.

*A letter from Acting Head Pastor Bo Mircea*

This is a special week around the world, and I would like to take time to celebrate the women of this church and all of their hard work and love for the Lord. As we celebrate International Women's Day, we need to step back and recognize all that women are doing as they serve the Lord. Over the many years of ministry, I have seen the Lord lead and do wonderful things because of the faithfulness and dedication of those I call sisters in the Lord. I have seen that faith in so many areas of ministry around the church, and I am always amazed at the gifts and passion that shine in the traditional places one might expect, from hospitality, to children's education, and beyond into fellowship, leadership, and serving the church. I know my words will fall short of recognizing everything that the women of this church do, but I want to say thank you for your heart for the Lord, for your faith and prayers, for teaching us how to love and walk with the Lord, how to serve with joy and make this church a welcoming place.

Happy International Women's Day, and may God fill your hearts with joy as we celebrate you.

On Sunday, I am preaching about Love and Life, how loving the Lord changes everything we know and understand about, or in relation to, the people around us. Too many times, even as people of faith, we respond from our emotions which are tied to past experiences that made us who we are today. And yet the challenge for us is to let in Christ daily, to have our minds transformed by the Word and serve and work each day as we would do for the Lord. I encourage you to read 1 John chapter 3 and let God's love water your heart this week.

Blessings,  
Pastor Bo

**Happening at 805 this week**

- We extend our **love and condolences** to Joyce Miner's family, as Joyce passed into glory. Please keep this family in your prayers.
- **Easter Egg Hunt** is just around the corner, and guess what, 1,500 eggs are waiting to be spread around the church and find a good basket to go home in :)
- **Palm Sunday Breakfast** will be on March 24th from 8:30-9:45 - more details to follow.
- As we will celebrate two baptisms over the next couple Sundays, I want to say **Thank you to our lovely Quilt Group** because they always make the most beautiful quilts for the kids being baptized.

**EASTER EGG HUNT**

**Saturday March 23rd @9am**

Participants can enjoy a delicious breakfast, craft activities, a reading of the Easter Story, pictures with the Easter Bunny, and of course an egg hunt!

If you're interested in volunteering please speak with Lindsay.

**SPRING FEVER CRAFT AND VENDOR FAIR**

**April 27th 9am-2pm**

30+ Crafters and Vendors expected on site

Special prize drawings | Snack Café

Interested crafters & vendors can find more info on our website, or by contacting Kris Hayden.

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

Hello everyone!

I hope you all have been able to enjoy some of the warmth and sunshine this week. It always does my heart so much good, especially with daylight savings right around the corner. Ecclesiastes 11:7 puts it simply yet effectively: *"Light is sweet, and it pleases the eyes to see the sun."* Brighter days are ahead, and I can't wait!

I believe this to be true as we look forward to everything coming up with our children and youth. Thank you so much to those of you who jumped in immediately this Sunday after service to volunteer for the Easter Egg Hunt! It really is going to be an amazing day of outreach to our community. Please feel free to reach out to me at any point during the week, or when you see me tonight or on Sunday, in order to sign up. I'm happy to answer any questions, and to help you find a good volunteering fit for you!

Our youth group will have our regularly scheduled meetings for the next two weeks, where we'll be discussing the importance of prayer, and how to make it a practical part of our everyday lives. We had a great conversation about it this past Sunday! My hope is that our students will also be a key part of our Easter Egg Hunt, as well as VBS this summer.

I look forward to seeing you at Midweek!

In Christ,  
Lindsay

**SUNDAY SERVANTS 3/10/24**

**USHERS:** Ed Schultz, Mark Dykema,  
Mark Morrison, Nola Boyd

**COFFEE:** Sue Fordyce

**LITURGIST:** Diane Milosevich

**ACOLYTE:** Xavier DeNieuwe

**SOUND:** Keith LeVasseur

**VIDEO:** Drew Penhale

**YOUTH GROUP**

**Sundays 6pm-8pm**

Each Sunday in room 206 (Unless otherwise specified)

**MIDWEEK**

**Each Wednesday night**

5-6:15 Kids Music and Bible classes

6:15- 6:45 Dinner

6:45 - 7:15 Adult Bible class and kids rec/gym time

7:30 Chancel Choir practice