



e-News

April 24th, 2024

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

SPRING FEVER CRAFT AND VENDOR FAIR

April 27th 9am-2pm

30+ Crafters and Vendors expected on site
Special prize drawings | Snack Café

DONATIONS AND VOLUNTEERING

Here is the list of items we are asking for to help with the Snack Cafe - (proceeds to benefit Angel House)

- Canned Soda: Pepsi/Diet Pepsi, Coke/Diet Coke, Sprite
 - Bottled Water
- Lays Classic Potato Chips - individual servings
- Fritos Corn Chips - individual servings - (for chili)

DONATIONS CAN STILL BE DROPPED OFF THROUGH FRIDAY

SUNDAY SERVANTS 4/28/24

USHERS: Ed Schultz, Mark Dykema, Mark Fumagalli, Joe Boyd

COFFEE: Nola Boyd

LITURGIST: Caroline Gheorghiu **ACOLYTE:** Lily Pritz

SOUND: Rich Pool **VIDEO:** Todd Hayden

MUSICIANS: Children's Choir

FREE SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

Starting June 3rd

Mon-Fri 11:30am-1pm

This ministry provides healthy and free lunches for kids who might otherwise rely on school lunches. If you are interested in supporting this ministry please reach out to Barb Rodgers.

April 24th, 2024

Stewardship Report

2024-2025 Budget	\$747,600
Year to Date Income	\$51,950
Year to Date Expenses	\$31,764
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.

Church Family

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

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 of health and recovery for:

Al Brooks, Sheila Lundeen, and Helen Steinberg

Sympathy to Lynn McGee and family on the passing of her mom, June Siddon.

Sympathy to Lynn Countryman and family on the passing of her mom, Dorothy Olson.

Congratulations to Kaleigh Belfield and Michael Krueger on their engagement.

VBS 2024

June 24th –28th

9am—Noon

SCUBA- Diving into Friendship with God

Take kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. At Scuba VBS, kids will be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is really all about!

REGISTER TODAY at <https://www.firstpresjoliet.org/vbs2024/>

Children's Church Corner

Faith Word: SHARE: To offer God's blessings to others.

Lesson for Sun. 4/28: 'Choosing the Seven' Acts 6:1-7

Bible Verse: "The community of believers was one in heart and mind." Acts 4:32a

Lesson for Wed. 4/24: 'Jesus Clears the Temple' Matthew 21:12-17

The PNC Process

Planning	Mission Study	Data Evaluation	Resume Evaluations	Interviews	Pastor Visits	Pastor Selection	Pastor Acceptance
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First Pres has posted our Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP) on the Church Leadership Connection (CLC) website to be matched with potential candidates for Senior Pastor. Please continue to pray for the committee as we search for the person God has for our church.

A letter from Acting Head Pastor Bo Mircea

Psalm 51:10-12 '10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.'

As we prepare our hearts for this coming Sunday's worship, I pray that the Spirit of God is keeping your heart and mind in that place where God can work in you. David had this beautiful connection with God, where no matter where his heart was, David could come and reconnect with the Lord. By no means was he a perfect man, or did all the right things. What David did right was that he kept his heart open for God's Spirit to speak to him, and desiring to follow where God was leading him. That is indeed the best attitude of one's heart. And that is my prayer for you too. I hope that as we come to worship this week, the Spirit of God will be already at work in our hearts and we will be ready to receive what the Lord has for us.

Happening at 805 Western this week:

- ◆ This Sunday is a special Sunday, as the **Kids music program** will lead us into worship. Sarah Randolph and the kids have been a real breath of fresh air in our worship this past year. I would really encourage you to come and worship on Sunday and also support their efforts and love for the Lord.
- ◆ On Saturday we will host the **Spring Fever Craft and Vendor Fair**. I know that there is a lot of treasures to be found. Plus being here is going to support our Helping Hands Ministry and Angel House in Tanzania. Stop by and check the new mission board with information about the kids we are sponsoring this year.
- ◆ Thank you to all the people that came out for the **Pet Blessing**. It was a windy but fun day, and it was wonderful to welcome so many furry friends and say hi to some new folks.
- ◆ As our Midweek season comes to an end, I would like to give a special **thank you to Lisa Haldorson-Diaz** for all the meals she cooked for us, and making Midweek be the "family around the table" ministry we love so much.

Blessings,
Pastor Bo



A letter from Director of Children and Youth Ministries Lindsay Gordon

Hello everyone!

Thank you so much to all who came out for the Blessing of the Pets this Saturday! It was a beautiful day filled with approximately twenty dogs, one cat, and one scorpion. We enjoyed seeing many familiar faces, while also making some new friends that we certainly hope to see again soon.

Our students also enjoyed a lovely day at Youth Group at the Park at Hammel Woods this past Sunday! We have two weeks left of Youth Group this semester. This Sunday, we will wrap up our discussion series on Philippians while being joined by our guest speaker, Ken Graham. We are certainly excited to have him come and share with us! May 5th will be our End of Year Bash, where we'll celebrate all that God has done this school year, while also looking forward to the summer.

Speaking of summer... VBS is just around the corner! Participant and Volunteer registration is open online, and we will need lots of hands on deck to make it happen. Make your way over to our website to sign up - we have a place for everyone! If you have any questions or are unsure of where the best volunteering fit would be for you, please come and talk to me!

I hope to see you at Midweek!

In Christ,
Lindsay Gordon

TAX SAVINGS FROM INVESTMENTS

Several members have asked to have private conversations with Ken Graham about 'Tax Savings From Investments'. They also broadened the topic list to include Roth IRA's for children and grandchildren, 529 College Savings Plans, Donor Advised Funds, Required Minimum Distributions, and Qualified Charitable Distributions From Retirement Plans. We will now move to private 30 minute conversations before and after services each Sunday April 28 and May 5. Please text Ken at 630 297-5632 to reserve time. Please include your name in your text!

CHILDREN'S MUSIC PROGRAM

Join us for a unique way to worship God through music this Sunday! "God's Kids" from the Children's Music program will share the message that God is in control and has the Whole World in His Hands. The children will start by playing Orff instruments (xylophones, metallophones), marimba, while parents and friends lead the congregation in singing and playing "World Music Drumming" in the pews. They will then spread the Joy of Jesus through a special version of Ode to Joy by Beethoven and ending with "God's Got the Whole World In His Hands". Please join the children in Hoffman Hall after the service for their end of year Celebration of "God's Kids" Music.

Invite your family, friends, neighbors and their children so they can see what we do for next fall.

