



e-News

October 30th, 2024
 805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435
 815-727-9259 firstpresjoliet.org

STARS OF HOPE
October 27th— November 24th

Partnering with MorningStar Mission, we will have stars available starting this Sunday. Each star has a 'wants' or 'needs' list for a child in need this holiday season. You can claim a star (sign it out) and shop for those items, and return them to FPJ by 11/24.

CHILDCARE VOLUNTEERS

Our childcare team is looking for someone who could help out on **Sunday November 16th** during 10am worship, and someone to lend a hand with the **Pre-K class on Wednesday November 20th**, 5-6pm.

We are also looking for some folks who are willing to help if needed on a Sunday with an abundance of kids. If you are interested please contact the church office.

October 30th, 2024
Stewardship Report

2024-2025 Budget	\$747,600
Year to Date Income	\$311,737
Year to Date Expenses	\$316,388
Per Capita	\$43.00

Received for Hurricane Relief \$ 2,465.00

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 health and healing for:

Sheila Lundeen, Al Brooks, Jean Smietanski, Klint DeGeus, Mary Jane Johnson, and Alex Kuczek

Sympathies and prayers for Maureen Fumagalli and her family after the recent loss of her sister Eileen Contos.

Praise to God for baby Anna Jean's successful heart surgery and prayers for a smooth recovery.

Sympathies are extended to the family and friends of Sherry Price, who passed on October 24. Her memorial service will be at Dames Funeral Home in Morris on Sunday, Nov. 10 at 5 pm with visitation beginning at 1 pm until time of the service.

Sympathies are extended to Traci Newsom Fitzgerald and her family after the passing of her mother Phyllis Newsom. The memorial service will be Nov. 15th, at 11am at Woodlawn Memorial.

SUNDAY SERVANTS 11/3/24

USHERS: Ed Schultz, Dale Mullen, Mark Fumagalli, Reed Mott
COFFEE: Sue Fordyce
LITURGIST: Diane Milosevich
ACOLYTE: Rylie Blaser
SOUND: Keith LeVasseur
VIDEO: Matt Blaser

Children's Church Corner

Faith Focus: Harvest—God provides for our needs

Lesson for Sun. 11/3: God Provides When You Need It Most—
Exodus 15:22-17:7

Bible Verse: "The Lord carried out just what he had promised."
Genesis 21:1

The PNC Process

Planning	Mission Study	Data Evaluation	Resume Evaluations	Interviews	Pastor Visits	Pastor Selection	Pastor Acceptance
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The PNC is excited to announce our nomination for Senior (Lead) Pastor, Rev. Bogdan Mircea! After thoroughly reviewing all 75 candidates that were matched with First Pres, we are confident that Pastor Bo is the very best choice to lead our church into the future. Session has called a congregational meeting following the worship service on November 10 to accept the nomination and terms of call for Bo. If you have any questions, we encourage you to speak with PNC members.

THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Let's try something different this month. Rather than focusing on just a day for Thanksgiving, let's take the whole month as Thanksgiving Month. Let me explain why: I heard it said once that it takes 28 days to create a new habit. Now, what if we are to use the month ahead of us to build on that, when it comes to our spiritual life? If we are to start the day with the simple thought: Lord, thank you for this new day - that can lead us to a greater understanding of the little things that we have in our lives that sometimes we take for granted and go unnoticed. We are blessed people, even in those times when it feels like we are not, there are so many things that we can be thankful for. That is my challenge for us this month: Let us be thankful! Let us discover a new way to look at life with thankful hearts and thankful lives.

This Sunday I am preaching on being thankful for knowing the grace of God. Of the many ways we have been blessed, the understanding of God's grace should be one of those things that makes us stand in awe, and respond to that grace in awe. This can be challenging at times, and yet it comes down to a new mindset, to setting our hearts on Christ.

Matsiko will be joining us in worship this Sunday. We are still working on the details of what the service will look like, but I have to tell you, I am looking with great anticipation to see their energy as they will be with us and lead us in worship. This is also Communion Sunday, so come ready to receive from the Lord, and start our month of Thanksgiving.

Looking forward to worship with you this coming Sunday,

Blessings,
Pastor Bo

Happening at 805 Western this week and beyond:

- **Saturday Nov 2nd - Night Deacons Free Pancake Breakfast** - You know there will be pancakes and fancy ones. You do not want to miss some of the fluffiest pancakes out there. With Matsiko joining us we will need more helping hands, so please come by!

- **Sunday Nov 3rd at 5 pm- Youth Group is back on** - Pizza, conversation and getting to know your advisors. Please spread the word and let us know if you can be here. There is a sign up link on our websites Youth Page if you have not registered yet.

- **Saturday Nov 9th at 8 am - MorningStar Mission Serve Day** Meet at MorningStar Mission warehouse between 8-8:30 am to participate in a sort of human assembly line to pack meal boxes. These meal boxes will feed over 250 families in need in our community this holiday season.

- **Sunday Nov 10th - Congregational meeting** to vote on accepting the nomination and terms of call for Rev. Bogdan Mircea as Lead Pastor and to accept the nominating committee for the selection of elders and deacons.

- **Sunday Nov 10th** - Time TBD - **Youth group going to Brookfield Zoo** to decorate the First Pres sponsored Christmas tree.

- **Stars of Hope** are available now, stop in Hoffman Hall on Sunday to pick one or two or more.

SAVE THE DATE- COMING UP

- 11/2** Free Pancake Breakfast
- 11/3** Matsiko World Orphan Choir
- 11/3** Youth Group first fall meeting
- 11/9** Serve Day at MorningStar Mission (sign ups open)
- 11/10** Soar High kids singing in worship
- 11/10** Congregational Meeting following worship
- 11/10** Youth Group Zoo Tree Decorating
- 11/24** Stars of Hope due
- 11/25** Project LINUS
- 11/26** Community Thanksgiving Worship Service
- 11/30** Advent Decorating

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group will be meeting each Sunday again starting this Sunday 11/3 from 5-6:45. These meetings will include Bible discussions, activities and some dinner and fellowship. You can register for Youth Group on our website, reach out if you have any questions!

HURRICANE RELIEF

Session has approved the collection of donations to be sent for Hurricane Relief. Donations can be made through our online giving, make sure to select the fund for 'Hurricane relief'. Your monthly mailing will also include specially labeled envelopes for hurricane relief, which you can mail in or put in the offering on Sunday morning. Envelopes are also available in the Narthex



DISASTER ASSISTANCE

FEMA has reached out to share about their Disaster Assistance program. If you suffered damages or financial losses due to the severe storm in July and subsequent power outages in the area, you are encouraged to learn more about this program.

DisasterAssistance.gov
(800) 621-3362



PROJECT LINUS

October 28th at 9am

Come lend a hand making no-sew blankets for kids in need in our local community. The only requirement is the ability to tie a knot.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

November 10th

Immediately following 10am Worship

This congregational meeting will be for the congregation to accept the nomination and Terms of Call for Bo Mircea as Lead Pastor, and for electing the Nominating Committee for Deacons and Elders.