



e-News

June 4th, 2025

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

A Letter from Lead Pastor Bo Mircea

What does Pentecost have in common with Moses? I think that is a great question to ask, as you are thinking of this coming Sunday, when the churches around the world celebrate Pentecost, the day that God's Spirit spoke to the promise that Christ made before his ascension. A promise that spoke to God always being with us, a promise that spoke about the power and wisdom God will pour into those who follow Him as they set to do His work. Now in contrast to Pentecost, the Day the Law was given speaks a little more on the things that we as people are not able to achieve in our own power. Things like: loving God in a perfect way. Or loving our neighbor in a way that will speak to who God is in our life. And yet, the Law that was given from Moses, comes to serve as a witness to the Grace that we later understand in Christ Jesus.

I would encourage you today to pray in this spirit: Lord, while my imperfect way of loving you and following you in the world at times speaks louder than my hearts desire, I pray that through your spirit you will make my life a perfect reflection of your love to this world. May we all find and walk in the Spirit.

Blessings,
Pastor Bo

Happening at 805 Western this month:

- It is just June 4th, and this place is buzzing with activity. **VBS (June 23-June 27)** is just days away, registration is open, preparations are underway, decorations, and plans to welcome all the kids we will have this year are coming together. Please pray for all of us that we will not just have a good time, but we will have a chance to share the Love of God in tangible ways, that it'll have an impact for eternity.
- **Angel House, Project 27** - Is our mission project for the month. As you seen in the mission letter last week, we have a great opportunity to help Baraka, a young man from Tanzania, to finish his studies, and continue on with higher education. And at the same time we would love to be able to bless a few more kids that are still looking for sponsors. Our VBS mission project will come along and raise some funds for this kids, and help our own children understand the needs of kids living in a different country and whatever challenges they face.
- **VBS Volunteer training days:** Wend June 18th at 6 pm - Decorations and Prep day / Saturday June 21st at 9 am - Volunteer training. Please plan on being at both meetings as we need your help to set up the place for a great week of ministry.
- **June 28th - Cookies and Concerts - Harvest Arts Concert**, will be a great musical feast to all that love Old Hymns, but even more what a great opportunity to invite someone to join us.

One more thing: This is a big one: **PARKING LOT** will be under construction the week of June 16th. It should be finished before Sunday, but just in case please be aware and make plans accordingly .

Also, I would like to share one more time the Mission Letter you received in the mail last week, just in case. I know that for me seeing the kids, and reading their stories, makes me smile and helps me in my prayers. I hope they will help you too.

Church Family

Prayers of health and healing for:

Jean Smietanski, Mary Jane Johnson, John Savage, Carrie (daughter of Lyle Weber), Mark Fumagalli, Pam LeVasseur, and Al Brooks.

Prayers of peace and comfort for Fred Krueger, and sympathies to his family, including Michael Krueger and Kaleigh Belfield.

Prayers for the family and friends of Kevin Breitbarth who passed on May 31. Service will be held at a later date.

Prayers for the family and friends of former member Betty Tryon, who passed on May 31 at age 105. Visitation will be Thursday, June 5, at Vandenberg Funeral Home, 19604 Wolf Road, Mokena, from 5-7pm.

LOST AND FOUND

There will be a Lost & Found table in Hoffman Hall for the next couple weeks. We have several coats, scarves, gloves, water bottles, etc. that have been left behind. Please take a look and see if any of the items belong to you.

UPDATE INFO

Has your information changed? Contact the church office to make sure your info is right for the new directory.

1(815)727-9259 office@firstpresjoliet.org

CONCERTS AND COOKIES

6/28 @7pm

A **Harvest Arts** concert of beloved hymns fused with classical music. Admission is free and afterwards there will be plenty of cookies to enjoy among friends and family. Harvest Arts will also be helping lead worship the next morning at the 10am worship service.

8/9 @5pm

The band **REVDOG** will be performing at First Pres, outside if the weather permits.

Admission is free so grab your family and friends and enjoy an evening of live music and tasty cookies!

Nursery care will be available for kids 2yrs and under.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Wednesday June 11th, 6pm

If you are interested in learning more about FPJ and PCUSA, or are looking to join our membership, this is the class for you! Reach out to the church office or Pastor Bo if you are interested.

Nursery care will be provided.

Children's Church Corner

Faith Focus: Empowered: The Holy Spirit empowers us

Lesson for Sun. 6/8: The Holy Spirit Arrives-1 Acts 2:1-41

Bible Verse: "Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other." *John 13:34*
-Matthew 7:7

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Stewardship Report

2024-2025 Budget	\$707,600
Year to Date Income	\$88,178
Year to Date Expenses	\$96,321
Per Capita	\$44.00

You may text your gift to FPJ at (815)205-3044. You can give by mail, by online giving through our website using the "Give" tab, and through electronic giving.

Thank you for your generosity.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

- Free Summer Lunch Program— starts 6/5
- Vacation Bible School—6/23-6/27

FREE SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

June 5th through August 15th M-F 11:30am-1pm

Youths age 18 and younger are invited to stop in and be served a FREE nutritious lunch. Fridays are extra fun Bingo days!

Reach out to Barb Rodgers if you would like to volunteer or to know how you can best support this ministry.

VBS 2025 TRUE NORTH

June 23rd-27th

True North VBS shows kids that God is a faithful friend we can always trust. He's our True North!

Folks 6th grade and up are invited to participate by donating their time and lending a hand in guiding the kids through this journey.

Register on our website today!

SAVE THE DATE— COMING UP

6/5 Summer Lunch Program begins

6/7 Free Pancake Breakfast

6/11 New Members Class

6/12 Dinner Out Group—Ming Hin

6/23-6/27 Vacation Bible School—registration is open

6/28 Concert and Cookies—Harvest Arts

8/9 Concert and Cookies—REVDOG

SUNDAY SERVANTS 6/8/25

USHERS: Mark Dykema, Ed Schultz, Scherrie Sanchez

COFFEE: Sue Fordyce

LITURGIST: Marvin Balsley

ACOLYTE: Abel DeNieuwe

SOUND: Keith LeVasseur

VIDEO: Todd Hayden

GREETERS: Georgene Venske and Lynn Kosowski

DINNER OUT GROUP

Thursday June 12th

Meet at Ming Hin (1633 W. Naper Blvd in Naperville) at 6pm for dinner. Contact Carol Kline to be included in the reservation.