

THE SERVANTS' LIGHT

Monthly publication from First Presbyterian Church of Joliet

SOAR HIGH PROGRAM

Sep. 17th - April 29th
Wednesdays 5:30pm-7:25pm

SMALL GROUPS

Life Group:

Young adults and up
Sundays 9-9:45am in Hoffman
Hall

PraiseYoga:

T @ 6:30 pm/
Th @ 8:30 am
in the Narthex

Centering Prayer:

Tuesdays @ 1pm
in Room 210

Dinner Out Group:

8/14 @6pm
Juliet's Tavern in Joliet

Summer Lunch Program:

Through 8/15 M-F @ 11:30-1pm

MUSIC

5:30-6:10pm

DINNER

6:15-6:45pm

BIBLE

6:50-7:25pm

Music classes will include a variety of different styles of music. Students will be grouped by age (pre-k, 1st -3rd, 4th -8th), ability, and skill level.

Music will include singing, and playing instruments: Handbells - choir chimes, Orff Xylophones and Metallophones, Marimba, Piano, Bucket Drums, World Music Drums. Music will be taught by 4 experienced music teachers.

At 6:15pm will be a fellowship dinner open to all, cooked in-house. From 6:50-7:25pm there will be an Adult Bible Study. Kids and Youth will be split into age-based Bible Classes (pre k-1st, 2nd -4th, 5th -8th). Nursery care will be available during Music and Bible times.

Kids and Youth need to be registered to participate in the Soar High Program. Registration can be completed via the form on our website. Or, the QR code will direct you straight to the form. We hope to see you there!

Worship Service:

Each Sunday @ 10am and
Online anytime

Children's Worship:

After Time with Children
each Sunday (ages 3 to 11)



Pictured: Soar High
kids 2024-2025

7/17/2025

SESSION NOTES

- Session had a productive meeting, looking ahead at the calendar and planning a very exciting fall and winter season of ministry.
- Session approved a collection for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for the flooding in Texas.
- Session received and reviewed the APNC's work on the job description for an Associate Pastor of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries. Looking ahead, the next step will include publishing the job description on CLC (Church Leadership Connection).
- In response to the invitation from Angel House, Session excitedly gave their blessing for a Mission Trip in May of 2026.
- Session approved having a table for the neighborhood Porch & Park event, offering refreshments.

REVDOG



Nursery care will be available for infants and toddlers up to age 2

August 6th
@6pm
Reverend
Dogman and
the HEARD
performing
blues-inspired
classic rock

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

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

Children up to age 18 can stop in and eat a free nutritious lunch provided by the Northern Illinois Food Bank, and served by our very own certified volunteers. There are also book giveaways and on Fridays there is even bingo.

Reach out to Barb Rodgers to find out how you can support this invaluable ministry.

CONCERTS AND COOKIES

August 9th at 6pm

Join us for a performance by REVDog at 6pm
Faith and blues infused classic rock
Outdoor performance, weather permitting
please bring lawn chairs. Rocky Roast will be
present selling gourmet coffee and tea.

*nursery care available for infants and toddlers up
to 2 years old*

DINNER OUT GROUP

August 14th at 6pm

Meet at Juliet's Tavern
205 N Chicago St, Joliet

Contact Carol Kline to be included in the
reservation.

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

September 7th

FPJ will celebrate the return of fall programming
such as the Midweek program (starting 9/17). To
mark this celebration there will be ice cream
served at the fellowship coffee hour.

CHURCH PICNIC

September 21st

Mark your calendar for the First Pres Annual
Church Picnic. Stay after worship to grab some
lunch and spend some quality time with your faith
family, and maybe even enjoy some live music.

MISSION OF THE MONTH



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance enables congregations and partners of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic events.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is the emergency and refugee program of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. The core budget, including staff and administrative costs, is funded through the One Great Hour of Sharing, and its program work is additionally funded through designated gifts.

How do we help?

If you go to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PCUSA) you are welcomed by these words: OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE!

What a great vision to be part of, and to realize that even in doing something small you can make a whole lot of difference in someone's life. Being part of PCUSA, we become part of the Greater Ministry of the Church, doing and being part of work that goes beyond the simplicity of sending a check here or there. By partnering with PDA, First Pres becomes an important and strategic partner in providing assistance not just as the first responders enter an emergency, but also for the following stages of ministry and reconstruction as communities are being rebuilt and life settles into that new normal post disaster.

It is because of the country wide fellowship of the church that PDA can be present in so many places at the same time, and being there to effectively serve and respond even in the first days of response.

This is the case, again, for the flooding in Texas. While we will never be able to understand the pain that has stroked so many families from the areas affected, we surely can pray and in a small part participate in the effort that takes place as so many organizations are trying to bring life to the effected areas.

And while we might never know how we make a difference, we should always remember that Hope comes in many ways, sometimes in the least expected ways.

A Prayer from PDA:

Holy One, you are our comfort and strength in times of sudden disaster, crisis, or chaos. Surround us now with your grace and peace through storm or earthquake, fire or flood.

By your Spirit, lift up those who have fallen, sustain those who work to rescue or rebuild, and fill us with the hope of your new creation; through Jesus Christ, our rock and redeemer.

FPJ Member Spotlight



Feeling at Home with Karol Boyd

I was born in Dayton, Ohio, and I'm the youngest of 14 children. My mother had 9 children, and my father had 3 children before they married each other and had my sister, Martha, and me. Patricia, my only living sibling, lives in Arizona. In 1979 I moved to Illinois and in 1993 I moved to Joliet. My husband Steve and I have been married for 33 years and we have two beautiful daughters and four sweet grandchildren that we adore.

Two years ago, when we visited First Pres, we appreciated the friendly atmosphere and felt at home immediately. We became members soon afterwards. We like belonging to a Christian organization that is Christ-focused.

During the past two years, I've assisted with Vacation Bible School (VBS). I've enjoyed working with the kids and watching their excitement as they make new friends and learn about Jesus. I was elated at the end of VBS week when one of the girls came up to me and said, "thank you for being one of my leaders."

I've also helped decorate the sanctuary for Christmas, and have been a liturgist a few times. Last year, I was asked to serve as an Elder and joined the Church Growth Council. I've loved encouraging others to be greeters on Sunday mornings as well as assisting with serving communion.

My favorite parts of the service include the music, the time with children's sermon, and of course; Pastor Bo's sermon. I look forward to having a cup of coffee in Hoffman Hall after church because you get the opportunity to meet new people and talk with those you don't see during the week.

First Pres is a great place to meet a group Christians who care, who are fun to be with and share similar interests. I would encourage others, especially those with families, to come and find out more about Soar High and the Wednesday Night Dinner, Bible Study, and monthly youth group activities. I would love to meet you.