



e-News

September 24th, 2025

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435

815-727-9259

firstpresjoliet.org

A letter from Lead Pastor, Bo Mircea

This Sunday, we are finishing our encounter with Titus and the believers in Crete. If you thought that the first two chapters were challenging, you should read chapter 3. I really encourage you to read it. I have been dwelling on that word, praying and checking my own heart as I prepare to teach on Sunday for what feels like weeks, if not months, by now. This is exactly what I mean when I say: The word of God is challenging. It will make us pause, make us think, and stir up emotions and varied responses. And yes, our first response when we read Titus might be to say that this sounds political, divisive, and so on. Please remember last week's sermon: 2 Timothy 3:16-17, "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

So while I am looking forward to Sunday worship, as I do every week, I am also praying that the Word will speak to all of us in a powerful and meaningful way that will lead all of us to good works.

See you on Sunday,
Blessings,
Pastor Bo

Happening at 805 Western

- **Midweek** is on today. You know the drill, be here, be on time, ready to learn, serve, and sing. I do not want to forget the Choir that meets on Wednesdays too, they are as much a part of Midweek as the kids or anything else happening. If you want to join them for practice remember after dinner and Bible Study you will be on time for it at 7:30.
- **New Members Class** this Sunday after church. No pretenses, no big speeches, just a time to know each other, this church, and share about our love for God.
- **The Pictorial Directory** has a new date for photos, October 8th, in case you need an appointment. Head to the website and sign up.
- **Trunk and Treat** is coming up soon on October 22nd. Please check your calendar and start thinking about a trunk and candy. Call me if you have any questions.

Church Family

Prayers of health and healing for:

Jean Smietanski, Mary Jane Johnson, Mark Fumagalli, Nicole Ceelios (Scherrie Sanchez's daughter), Xian Qi (Hasen Qi's brother), Pam LeVasseur, and Dawn Fitzgerald (daughter of Emmie Ostrem).

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

September 28th after church

Learn all about First Pres, who we are, what we do, and how to join the official membership.

TRUNK N TREAT

October 22nd 6-7:30pm

Registration is open now on our website!

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THESE PEOPLE?

Worship Council members have spent a significant amount of time this summer reorganizing and inventorying the storage spaces in our church. During this work, we found these two portraits. They have no identification on them and we would like to correct that! These people were obviously important to our church and its history, so we'd like to make sure they are properly identified. If you know who they are, and can include any historical details about them, we will make sure that this information is included with the portraits. Please email or call Joan Schultz at: joanschultz27@gmail.com (815) 685-3864 Thank you so much for your "Detective" assistance!! Worship Council: Bev Adelman, Sarah Randolph, Joan Schultz



SOAR HIGH PROGRAM

Wednesdays Sept.17th– April 29th
3yr olds-8th grade

MUSIC DINNER BIBLE

5:30-6:10pm 6:15-6:45pm 6:50-7:25pm

Students are grouped by age, ability, and skill level. Music includes singing and playing instruments. Bible lessons are age-appropriate with lesson based games and crafts.

Nursery care will be available during Music and Bible times.

REGISTRATION IS FULL-contact the church office to join the waitlist.

MENARDS REBATE COLLECTION

Drop your UNUSED Menards rebate receipts in the designated box in Hoffman Hall. Rebate coupons will be used strictly for Church improvement.

DINNER OUT GROUP

October 9th at 6pm

Backroads Burger and Bar in Plainfield
Contact Carol Kline to be included in the reservation

MISSION OF THE MONTH

SILOAM EYE HOSPITAL

Siloam Eye Hospital is a Korean medical institution founded by the grace of God. It is a hospital devoted to medical missions work. Following Christ's example of love and healing, the Siloam Eye Hospital aims to bring Light—through free eye treatment, blindness prevention, and eyesight-recovery operations—to those suffering at home (in Korea) and abroad.

SAVE THE DATE– COMING UP

9/28 New Members Class after church

10/7 Directory Photo Day—almost full

10/8 Directory Photo Day

10/9 Dinner Out Group

10/18 Handbell Concert at 4pm

10/22 Trunk N Treat 6-7:30pm

10/27 Project LINUS

11/5 Directory Photo Day—almost full

11/29 Harvest Arts concert @7pm

FREE PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturday October 4th

Our Night Deacons host a free pancake breakfast each 1st Saturday of the month. All are invited to enjoy this breakfast and to help serve our community.

Children's Church Corner

Faith Focus: LIFELINE: God Rescues Us

Lesson for Sun. 9/28: God Rescues the Hebrew People—
Exodus 14:1-31

Bible Verse: "The Lord is my strength and my power; he has become my salvation" - *Exodus 15:2*

FPJ DIRECTORY PHOTO DAY

October 7th 2pm-8:30pm— almost full

October 8th 2pm-8:30pm

November 5th 2pm-8:30pm-almost full

Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album. Schedule your photography session online (*info on our website*). Everyone who is photographed will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a directory. **SPOTS ARE FILLING UP**

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Stewardship Report

2025-2026 Budget \$707,600

Year to Date Income \$261,532

Year to Date Expenses \$243,804

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.

SUNDAY SERVANTS 9/28/25

USHERS: Ed Schultz, Mark Dykema, Reed Mott, Scherrie Sanchez

COFFEE: Sue Fordyce

LITURGIST: Chuck Tomashek

ACOLYTE: Raegan Palmer

SOUND: Keith LeVasseur

VIDEO: Drew Penhale

GREETERS: Helen & Dave Steinberg, Nic Sanchez