



e-News

October 1st, 2025

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435

815-727-9259

firstpresjoliet.org

A letter from Lead Pastor, Bo Mircea

Have you heard of Lydia? Yes, the one that was selling purple cloth in the market? Do you know what she is up to now? Well let me tell you...

It might sound like gossip spreading all around Philippi, about this woman that did well for herself. The gossip might not be about her wealth, but rather about her take on life, about the faith that changes the way she sees life, about being kind, welcoming to strangers that just landed in their city. You know what? I don't think the word gossip does any justice to this woman, maybe the word should be testimony. The testimony about Lydia was spreading around Philippi - now that sounds so much better.

This Sunday, we will take a walk with Paul and Lydia and learn more about what it means to be a person of faith in the place we live. Looking forward to sharing with you about the joy of being a follower of Christ this Sunday,

Blessings,
Pastor Bo

Happening at 805 Western:

- This past Sunday we had a nice new members class. As we were finishing the class, I thought to myself: You know, there might be more people out there that have questions about their faith, or just want to share their life with you. If you are one of those people, please know **I will always have my door open**, coffee or tea waiting for you to stop by and say hi.

- Plans for the **Tanzania Mission trip** are ramping up. Soon we will plan for a team meeting for the people going, and looking at what projects we can work on while at Angel House. If you are still on the fence about it, this is the time to find out more about it.

- **Trunk N Treat** is just a few weeks away. Please let us know if you can help us with a trunk or serving in the kitchen.

- October 18th at 4 pm - **Concerts and Cookies - Glory Ringers**, with Michael Lockler accompanying, will be the perfect focus for a moment of stepping back and enjoying the beauty of music. Hope to see you there.

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, Dawn Fitzgerald (daughter of Emmie Ostrem), Chuck Tomashek after his upcoming surgery, and Pastor Bo's father Jan.

TRUNK N TREAT

October 22nd 6-7:30pm

Everyone is invited to the free festivities! Bring a bag for your treats, enjoy some hot food, games, and a petting zoo.

Registration is open now on our website!
For volunteering or hosting a trunk

MISSION OF THE MONTH

MORNINGSTAR MISSION

In Joliet

MorningStar Mission is a non-denominational organization dedicated to relieving the spiritual and physical hunger of the poor by providing food for the hungry, clothes for the needy, shelter for the homeless and the gospel of Jesus Christ for all. Through their many Christ-centered programs and services, they aim to help people in need by getting to the core issues of what has caused their homelessness. Whether the problem stems from alcohol, drugs, mental health or family matters, their services have been developed for those who have reached the decision to make a real change in their lives.

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.

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.

T-SHIRT COLLECTION

OASIS: Women's Ministry is collecting used t-shirts to be braided into jump ropes. T-shirts of any size or condition are accepted so long as there is no 'bedazzling' or 'bling'. These shirts will be braided into jump ropes and donated to Samaritan's Purse. Through their ministry 'Operation Christmas Child' the jump ropes will be part of a gift given to children in need around the world.

DROP OFF IN HOFFMAN HALL

BIBLE SUNDAY

October 26th

Each Bible Sunday First Pres excitedly gifts a new, age-appropriate Bible to 4 year olds, 3rd graders, and 6th graders. If you have a youth who would like a new Bible please let the church office know.

CONCERTS AND COOKIES

October 18th at 4pm

The next concert is our very own Glory Ringer Handbell Choir, with the special addition of Michael Lockler on flute. Celebrate this music ministry and enjoy some tasty fellowship time.

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***

SUNDAY SERVANTS 10/5/25

USHERS: Ed Schultz, Mark Dykema, Barb Rodgers, Dale Mullen

COFFEE: Pat Haldorson

LITURGIST: Laura Caisley Sutton

ACOLYTE: Isabella DaMassa

SOUND: Rich Pool

VIDEO: Todd Hayden

GREETERS: Steve Boyd, Nic Sanchez

SAVE THE DATE– COMING UP

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

10/26 Bible Sunday

10/27 Project LINUS

11/5 Directory Photo Day—almost full

11/25 Thanksgiving Worship Service

11/29 Christmas Decorating @9am

11/29 Harvest Arts concert @7pm

Children's Church Corner

Faith Focus: SHELTER: God protects us

Lesson for Sun. 10/5: God's Protection –Psalm 121

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

October 1st, 2025

Stewardship Report

2025-2026 Budget \$707,600

Year to Date Income \$281,758

Year to Date Expenses \$269,512

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.