

THE SERVANTS' LIGHT

Monthly publication from First Presbyterian Church of Joliet

CHRISTMAS CARDS

**November 23rd
at 11:30am**

OASIS Women's Ministry invites all women to sign Christmas cards for Veterans. Please bring cards if you have extras. A light lunch will be served.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING

**November 29th
at 9am**

More hands make less work, so come lend a hand decorating FPJ for Christmas.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

Tuesday November 25th at 6:30pm
First Presbyterian Church of Joliet

There are many things we all take for granted, in good times and in bad. Faith families will stand together in those times, and as the leaves start to turn we remember to be thankful for each other and our faith. First Pres invites everyone to worship and send their thanks to the Lord in this special Thanksgiving worship service. All are welcomed.

HARVEST ARTS CONCERT

Saturday November 29th at 7pm

The next installment of FPJ's Concerts and Cookies series features Harvest Arts. These talented musicians will be returning to First Pres to lead us in a celebration of the start of the Advent season. Classic Christmas music performed by the Harvest Arts Chamber Ensemble will get you into the spirit of the holiday. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend to experience the joy and hospitality of First Pres.

SUNDAYS WITH FIRST PRES JOLIET

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

Nursery Care:
opens 9:00am through worship. Facilities are open use as well.

Worship Service:
Each Sunday @ 10am and Online anytime

Children's Worship:
After Time with Children Sunday (ages 3 to 11)

Coffee Fellowship:
Coffee before and after worship, snacks after

October 16th 2025

SESSION NOTES

- Session has called for a congregational meeting on Nov 23rd to elect the slate of nominees for elders and deacons for the coming year.
- Session is asking for your help with decorating the church for the advent season. We will meet Saturday Nov. 29th at 9am to decorate together. Many hands make light work.
- On behalf of Session, Pastor Bo wants to thank everybody for your faithfulness in giving and volunteering in the many ministry opportunities available in our community.



**The church office will be closed
Tuesday November 11th in
observation of Veterans Day.**

SOAR HIGH/MIDWEEK

**Wednesdays 5:30-7:25pm
through April 29th**

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

Soar High registration is full; email the church office to be added to the waitlist. No registration required for dinner or the adult Bible study.

DIRECTORY PHOTOS

11/18 2pm-8:30pm

Reserve your time slot through the link on our website. If you cannot be here to have your photo taken you may submit one for the directory for a \$15 fee. Photo must be digital or original print. Photos should be close up - from waist or chest up, no full body. **A required form will be on our website.** Deadline submission is January 20th.

DINNER OUT GROUP

November 13th at 6pm

CRACKER BARREL 1511 Riverboat Center Dr

Contact Carol Kline to be included in the reservation.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

November 25th at 6:30pm

FPJ is holding a special Thanksgiving Worship Service, with an open invitation to the whole community. We will be collecting donations of canned soup for our free community Micro Pantry.

CONCERTS AND COOKIES

November 29th at 7pm

In November we will be hosting Harvest Arts once again for a celebration of Christmas music, starting the excitement and celebration of the Advent season. Cookie reception to follow.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Grief and Care Packages for Bereaved Parents

I am reaching out to share our November mission project, a heartfelt initiative dedicated to supporting parents who have recently experienced the profound loss of a child in the hospital. Our goal is to assemble and deliver grief and care packages that offer comfort, hope, and practical support during their time of unimaginable sorrow. When Ezequiel and I lost our twin boys in the hospital, the care packages that we received were everything that we didn't know we needed and helped us very much.

This mission involves preparing thoughtful packages for mothers and fathers grieving the loss of their child. Each package will contain items designed to provide gentle care and solace, such as handwritten notes, devotional booklets, comfort items (like blankets and candles), and resources for emotional and spiritual healing. We will work in partnership with Saint Joe's Hospital to ensure these packages reach families most in need, letting them know they are seen, loved, and not alone.

The impact of this project will ripple throughout our community in several meaningful ways. First, it offers direct support to grieving parents, helping them find hope and healing. It strengthens our congregation's commitment to compassion and service, demonstrating the love of Christ in action. This will also create a bridge between our church and the wider community, inviting others to participate in acts of mercy and empathy during difficult times.

This mission is one in which everyone can play a part. Over the next couple of weeks, we invite individuals and families to contribute items for the packages, such as devotional materials, journals, plush comforts, or tea. Whether you contribute an item, your time, or your prayers, your involvement will help us bring light to those in their darkest hours.

A Prayer for this Mission:

We come to You with humble hearts, asking for Your comfort, peace, and presence to surround families who are grieving the loss of a child. Lord, use our hands and our hearts to be instruments of Your love and compassion. May these care packages carry not only practical support, but also the assurance that these families are held in Your embrace. Bless our efforts, unite us in service, and guide us to be faithful witnesses of Your mercy.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Thank you for your willingness to serve and for your prayers as we embark on this meaningful mission together. May God bless you and our congregation as we seek to bring comfort and hope to those who need it most.

In Christ's love,
Lisa Haldorson-Diaz



Another Successful



TRUNK N TREAT!

