



e-News

December 31st, 2025

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



Free Pancake Breakfast



First Saturday
of each month

8:30am-10am

DINNER OUT GROUP

January 8th at 6pm
Jameson's Pub in Joliet

Contact Carol Kline to be included in the reservation.
Note: there is a 3% fee for credit cards

Church Family

Prayers of health and healing for:

Mary Jane Johnson, Mark Fumagalli, Joyce Bossen, Sherry Jones, Nicole Celios (Scherrie Sanchez's daughter), Xian Qi (Hasen Qi's brother), Judy Bartels' sister Sharon, Lynnette Hopwood, and Pam LeVasseur.

Sympathies and prayers for the family and friends of Tom Cawley who has passed. A service will be held at FPJ Jan 17th at 11am.

Please remember in your prayers, the people who are experiencing this holiday season in a place of loneliness, worry, anxiety, or grief. May they feel God's presence in a special way.

CHRISTMAS UN-DECORATING

The Worship Council would appreciate your help taking down our Christmas decorations! We must think about taking the decorations down after the Christmas holidays. We'll be meeting Saturday, **January 3rd at 9am** to complete this task. There is a FREE pancake breakfast that day as well, so you can come early and have breakfast beforehand! Please consider helping—putting away these decorations doesn't take very long, so we should finish well before noon with YOUR help!
-With sincere gratitude, First Pres Worship Council

SOAR HIGH/MIDWEEK HOLIDAY DATES

Soar High and Midweek will be on a break for New Years 12/31. There will be a Parent Soar High Idea Meeting 1/7 from 5:30-6:10pm, with dinner and Bible Study to follow.

Attention all Youth Group Alumni
(including Adult Leaders)

We are having a youth group reunion at Cemeno's Pizza in their bar area on Saturday, Jan 3 at 3pm. This is a casual hang session for anyone who was ever in the youth group or worked with the youth group - feel free to bring your family or whatever! Please text/call James Burkey at 815-685-2531 and let him know you are coming OR go to our Facebook page - First Pres of Joliet Youth Group Alumni and find the event posted on the page. SPREAD THE WORD!

Children's Church Corner

Faith Focus: UNDER CONSTRUCTION: God's community grows and changes.

Lesson for Sun. 1/4: Solomon Builds the Temple
-1 Kings 6:1-8:66

SAVE THE DATE – COMING UP

1/1—Church office is closed for New Years Day

1/3—Decoration Take Down

1/7—Midweek/Soar High Resumes

1/8—Dinner Out Group

FPJ DIRECTORY PHOTOS

If you could not 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 is on our website and in the church office.** Deadline for submission is January 20th.

December 31st, 2025 **Stewardship Report**

2025-2026 Budget	\$707,600
Year to Date Income	\$420,378
Year to Date Expenses	\$435,056
Per Capita	\$44.00

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

Thank you for your generosity.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Presbyterian Giving Catalog

The mission of the Presbyterian Giving Catalog is to connect people as neighbors with others experiencing needs, supporting projects and friendships that grow gardens and generations, bring water and watch for corruption, share education, tools and training, and link each of us, more closely with one another and with God.

As Presbyterians, we are a people rooted in the grace of Jesus Christ. It is our gratitude for God's grace that moves us to join in God's mission in the world, with ministries of love and justice, reconciliation and peace.

Generous gifts to the Presbyterian Giving Catalog are signs of our gratitude: feeding the hungry, comforting the brokenhearted and sharing our faith with young and old. By joining our gifts together, however large or small, we expand our witness to God's gracious and abundant work in the world.

Gifts through the Giving Catalog include, but are not limited to: sewing machines, various livestock, school supplies, agricultural tools, heat, food, emergency assistance, clean water tools, hygiene and health services, access to education, and faith experiences. This mission is dedicated to responding to need when and where it is most needed, nationally and internationally.

How do we help?

First Presbyterian Church of Joliet has a proud tradition of ministry through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog. Over the past several years First Pres has purchased many gifts through the Giving Catalog to help ease suffering around the globe. A non-exhaustive list of gifts include Mzuzu drills for clean water access, Moringa tree seeds which are nutritious and drought-resistant, various livestock, famine relief food vouchers, refugee food baskets, and emergency life packs.

A Prayer for this Mission:

When you created the world, Lord, you said it was good. As we try to serve you today, Lord we ask for that good to be evident as we reach out to our neighbor. We ask for good to come alive as we partner with people around the world. As we plant the seeds of love and faith, may those seeds bloom in the lives of many that receive it, and their lives be changed for good. Help us Lord, to serve the world in the way of Jesus. Amen .

SUNDAY SERVANTS 1/4/26

PREACHING: Craig Herr

USHERS: Mark Dykema, Ed Schultz, Sue Fordyce, Scherrie Sanchez

COFFEE: Sue Fordyce

LITURGIST: Jim Huey

ACOLYTE: Isabella DaMassa

SOUND: Rich Pool

VIDEO: Drew Penhale

GREETERS: Nic Sanchez, Tim & Lynn Reyes