



e-News

February 11th, 2026

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

A Note from Lead Pastor Bo Mircea

There is an old song we sang with the kids: Joshua fought the battle of Jericho, Jericho, Jericho. It is a fun little song. I found myself mumbling that song as I drove in today. I kept thinking about what it takes to lead, to be a good example, a mentor, and so on. Of course it takes a lot of personal strength and character, just to start. But it also takes the right group of people to help a person develop into a good leader. At least that is my take on Joshua. It was not just Joshua who fought the battle of Jericho. It was the priest, the army, and all the people that believed and followed God's instructions as one. Yes, I will say this, Joshua was a man of great wisdom, courage, and all that jazz. But he did not do it all by himself.

This Sunday we are looking at "All Together" for the sermon. I am excited to share with you about this value that speaks to who we are as a church. Before Sunday I will encourage you to read Joshua 6, and maybe ask yourself: How easy is it for me to be part of many? Am I open to that? Or do I think I am?

See you on Sunday,
Blessings,

Bo

Happening at 805 Western:

- For all the men reading, **THIS IS YOUR REMINDER THAT VALENTINE'S DAY IS SATURDAY**. You are welcome.
- Next week **Lent** is starting, and **Ash Wednesday** Fellowship and Service will help us start our Journey to Jerusalem as we enter this time of 40 days of fasting, prayer, and dedication unto the Lord.
- **Feb 28th @ 9 am** - Elders and Deacons come ready to share and dream as we get together for a time of vision and planning for the year ahead.
- Do not forget **Dinner Out Group** this week, 2/12. Talk to Carol Kline to be included in the reservation.

Church Family

Prayers of health and healing for:

Mary Jane Johnson, Mark Fumagalli, Sherry Jones, Nicole Celios (Scherrie Sanchez's daughter), Pam LeVasseur, Joyce Bossen, and Estella Jurkovich.

DINNER OUT GROUP

February 12th at 6pm
La Dolce Vita Della Piazza
21 Old Frankfort

Contact Carol Kline to be included in the reservation.

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 18th

9-10am: Drop-In Imposition of Ashes
5:30pm: Dinner
6:30pm: Worship Service

Nursery care will be available during the worship service.

Soar High and Midweek programming will resume 2/25.

PROJECT LINUS

February 23rd
every 4th Monday of the month
9am

Join together to make blankets for kids in need in our community. All you need is to be able to tie a knot. There is plenty of time for chatting while we work.

SAVE THE DATE – COMING UP

- 2/12**—Dinner Out: La Dulce Vita in Frankfort
2/18—Ash Wednesday
-Drop-In ashes 9-10am
-Dinner 5:30pm
-Worship Service 6:30pm
2/23—Project Linus
2/28—Officer Training and Planning
3/2—Oasis: BUNCO Night
3/7—Free Pancake Breakfast & Prayer group
3/14—Spring Fever Craft and Vendor Fair
3/15—Soar High performance

SOAR HIGH/MIDWEEK

Wednesdays

5:30-6:15pm—Soar High Music Classes

6:15-6:45 pm—Free Fellowship Dinner for all

6:45-7:15 pm—Bible Classes for kids, youths, and adults

Soar High and Midweek programs will not meet 2/18.
We invite all to our Ash Wednesday observances.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

2026 Mission Trip: Hope 27

Hope 27 is an expansion of the mission of Grassroots - From the People, For the People into a new community, in western Kenya. This is the same organization that runs Angel House orphanage in Tanzania that we have supported for many years. Their guiding verse is James 1:27.

They are using a different model for orphan care in Kenya. Their sixteen scholarship students live with their extended families and they meet together on Saturday mornings for encouragement, character development, and discipleship training.

During school holidays, which in Kenya are April, August, November, and December, they host an enrichment camp for their own scholarship students as well as a number of additional vulnerable children from the community. Hope 27 has an awesome team of seven local teachers who run seven classrooms for K-12 students. They teach and review content in Mathematics, English, Kiswahili, and Science as well as sharing breakfast and lunch together, playing soccer, singing, and making arts and crafts. Hope 27 is developing a farm, which is their long-term plan for funding the orphan scholarships. This past year, God has provided Hope 27 with the ability to drill a well and construct a poultry unit on the farm. A variety of vegetables and fruits are already planted.

A Prayer for this Mission:

In a world where it is harder and harder to show Christian love, and to live out the call to feed the poor and the needy, Lord help us to remember that we too are the poor and needy. Help us go out of our way, to make room for your ways, as we serve and give not just to our own but to those you call yours. Help the church to love, indeed, all the people from all the corners of the world. Make us your ambassadors of love. Amen.

Children's Church Corner

Faith Focus: POTLUCK: God's community includes everyone.

Lesson for Sun. 2/15: Jesus Brings Good News to Everyone—*Luke 4:14-30*

February 11th, 2026 Stewardship Report

2025-2026 Budget	\$707,600
Year to Date Income	\$479,978
Year to Date Expenses	\$481,208
Per Capita	\$45.00

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.

Oasis Women's Ministry: BUNCO Night

Monday March 2nd 6:00

Coldwell Banker Realty Group—Party Room
925 Rt 59—Shorewood

First Pres. Church Joliet - Oasis Women's Ministry invites ladies out for a night of BUNCO fun and fellowship, with snacks, refreshments and prizes!

6pm - 8pm - Bunco starts promptly at 6:30pm

SUNDAY SERVANTS 2/15/26

USHERS:

COFFEE:

LITURGIST: Pat Haldorson

ACOLYTE: Jillian Penhale

SOUND: Rich Pool

VIDEO: Todd Hayden

GREETERS: Larry & Sunnie Whitford, Joe Milosevich