



e-News

June 19th, 2024

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



June 24th –28th 9am—Noon

LET'S MAKE A SPLASH

SCUBA- Diving into Friendship with God

Take kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. At Scuba VBS, kids will be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is really all about!

REGISTER TODAY at <https://www.firstpresjoliet.org/vbs2024/>

VOLUNTEERS are what make VBS so spectacular every year, so please consider supporting this ministry by donating your time. Reach out to Lindsay for more information, or register online.



REGISTER HERE

For participants and volunteers

Church Family

Prayers for Lindsay Gordon as her migraine persists.

Prayers of health and healing for:

Sheila Lundeen, Al Brooks, Pat Haldorson, and George Redman

Pray for baby Anna Jean to gain 5 lbs to qualify for her heart surgery, and prayers of thanks that she was able to go home.

VBS DONATIONS

Here are a few types of donations you can make to support our VBS this year. **1)** Donating snacks for the volunteers, or bags of ice **2)** Making a contribution specifically towards helping cover VBS costs, (link on VBS page of our website) and **3)** Making a contribution to our VBS Mission Project (Giving Page on our website). Financial contributions can be done online or specially marked if passed or mailed in. Contact Lindsay for more info.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

If your information has changed please contact the church office A.S.A.P. so it is updated in the upcoming FPJ Directory.
office@firstpresjoliet.org 1(815)727-9259

June 19th, 2024

Stewardship Report

2024-2025 Budget	\$747,600
Year to Date Income	\$123,531
Year to Date Expenses	\$115,357
Per Capita	\$43.00

You may text your gift to FPJ at (815)205-3044 or go online to use a credit card. 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 6/23/24

PREACHING: Craig Herr

USHERS: Nola Boyd, Joe Boyd, Mark Dykema, Sue Fordyce

COFFEE: Barb Rodgers

LITURGIST: Holly Tomashek

ACOLYTE: Nora Moretti

SOUND: Keith LeVasseur

VIDEO: Todd Hayden

MUSICIAN: Aubrey Herr

Children's Church Corner

Faith Word: PEACE-Living together in harmony without fighting. To be calm and know God's presence.

Lesson for Sun. 6/23: 'Esther' Book of Esther

Bible Verse: "Happy are people who make peace, because they will be called God's children." *Matthew 5:9*

The PNC Process

Planning	Mission Study	Data Evaluation	Resume Evaluations	Interviews	Pastor Visits	Pastor Selection	Pastor Acceptance
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We have received and reviewed the first 30 applicants and requested additional information from the top candidates. We are also requesting additional matches through the CLC system. Your PNC is working diligently to access and review perspective applicants in order to find the person best suited for First Pres.

A letter from Acting Head Pastor Bo Mircea

This Sunday, Pastor Craig is speaking on Matthew 6:12, 14-15; 18:21-22 - Finding Forgiveness. I keep thinking about this subject, and how appropriate it is for the world we live in today. Can you imagine what families could look like if forgiveness was the core value of every family? Or relationships being defined daily by the same word? I would encourage you to read the Scriptures above and pray that we all learn to live not just as forgiven people by God's grace, but also live with that forgiveness daily.

Happening at 805 Western:

- Tomorrow Night the **Dinner Out Group** is going for Italian Food and Fellowship at Mama Onesta's in Lockport. This should be a great time, as good food always leads to good conversations, and deeper relationships. If you are still on the fence about going may I nudge you into going? It is always a great time.
- **VBS is here.** Tonight at 7pm and Saturday at 9am are the Volunteers meetings that will help our volunteers get ready for receiving the 90 plus kids already registered for the week. As kids learn about the most important friendship one can have, we pray that we too can work at making new friends in genuine love, and out of that for us to continue to build our ministry in this church.
- The **mission project for the week of VBS is Hope 27**, in connection with Angel House/ Grassroots ministries. It is a great project that will help the ministry in Kenya and Tanzania to build water tanks for the farm they are developing as a continued source for food and support as they serve the people that are part of this network of ministry. If you have any questions about how to be involved or want to know more, please ask, and watch for more communications that will be available in the coming weeks.
- The current heat wave seems to have taken a liking to our building, and even today we experienced some minor inconveniences from electricity going out, to internet shortage. I know it is not a typical prayer but can I ask you to pray for a break in the whole **building upkeep**? Especially with next week we need to be operating at 100%. Good news, the new fence is scheduled for installation in July. Bad news, we are still waiting on a solution for the Sanctuary lights. Good news, God is a God of light and even without light on Sunday mornings we can still see God at work.
- Please plan to join us next Thursday at 6 pm for a **VBS Celebration with an Ice Cream Social** following and then on Sunday June 30th our worship service will be all about kids and youth and the Friendship with Jesus. You do not want to miss that.

Looking forward to worship with you on Sunday morning, and praying for all of you that are traveling at this time.

Blessings,
Pastor Bo



A letter from Director of Children and Youth Ministries Lindsay Gordon

Hello everyone!

We are o-*fish*-ally less than a week away from VBS!! It is going to be an incredible week of fun, fellowship with our community, and most importantly, diving into friendship with God! Please join me in prayer for the kids and families that will be coming through our doors - particularly those who do not yet have a relationship with Jesus. This may be a regularly occurring summer event for many who already know Jesus, but for many others, this week can have an eternal impact!

There are still plenty of ways to partner with us during VBS week as well. As Judy Garrison shared with us this past Sunday, we are accepting donations of snacks for our volunteers, as well as bags of ice. Both of these will be a blessing to our volunteers and kids throughout the week! Please label any donations as "VBS" when you bring them in. We also are still accepting registrations for volunteers during the week, whether it's for the whole week or just for a portion of it. Please reach out to me if you have any questions!

Our student Missions Week is also just around the corner July 9-11th, and so is the application deadline! Applications are due on June 28th, so don't hesitate and miss out on this amazing service opportunity! It's going to be an incredible week of serving our local community with organizations including Feed My Starving Children, MorningStar Mission, Northern Illinois Food Bank, and more!

See you Sunday!

In Christ,
Lindsay Gordon

FREE SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

Mon-Fri 11:30am-1pm

This ministry provides healthy and free lunches for kids who might otherwise rely on school lunches. If you are interested in supporting this ministry, please reach out to Barb Rodgers.

DINNER OUT GROUP

6/20 at Mama Onesta's

SLAMMERS BASEBALL GAME

July 19th at 6:35

Parish Council is selling tickets to this Slammers home game (with fireworks!) at a discounted price of \$5 each. Buy your tickets this Sunday!

SPECIAL MUSIC

Summer is a hiatus for the Chancel Choir. This creates a need for volunteers to provide special music during services in June and July (and likely August). If you have the necessary skills to perform **either vocally or instrumentally** and wish to volunteer your talents, **please contact the office**. More info available on our website.

<—A fun day for some of our Youth Group at the Morton Arboretum today!