



e-News

June 5th, 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

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.

June 5th, 2024

Stewardship Report

2024-2025 Budget	\$747,600
Year to Date Income	\$94,622
Year to Date Expenses	\$92,625
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.

Church Family

Prayers for Lindsay Gordon as her migraine persists.

Prayers of health and healing for:

Sheila Lundeen, Al Brooks, and Pat Haldorson

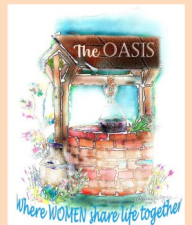
Pray for baby Anna Jean to gain 5 lbs to qualify for her heart surgery, and prayers of thanks that she was able to go home.

Prayers of comfort for Betty Jones as she is now under hospice care.

WELCOME BACK—GETTING 2

KNOW U

Oasis Women's Ministry
6/9th 11:30am-1:30pm



Ladies are invited to kick off bringing back Oasis Women's Ministry by enjoying a nice lunch, fellowship and fun after worship.

Contact the church office if you need childcare or nursery care.

NOTE:

There will be no PraiseYoga this Thursday 6/6.

SUNDAY SERVANTS 6/9/24

USHERS: Mark Dykema, Ed Schultz, Reed Mott, Barb Rodgers

COFFEE: Jasmine Keir

LITURGIST: Tiffany DeNieuwe

ACOLYTE: Vivian Orr

SOUND: Rich Pool

VIDEO: Matt Blaser

Children's Church Corner

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

Lesson for Sun. 6/9: 'David and Abigail' 1 Samuel 25:1-42

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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First Pres has posted our Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP) on the Church Leadership Connection (CLC) website and is being matched with potential candidates for Senior Pastor. Please continue to pray for the committee as we search for the person God has for our church.

A letter from Acting Head Pastor Bo Mircea

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

13 Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. 14 For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

Hope, beyond this life! If you are to look into the history of human kind, this idea of “there is more to life than what we see here” comes up time and time again, and in so many different ways. For some cultures it goes to reincarnation, to some it comes to crossing the Styx River from the realm of life to the realm of death. Of course the conversation sometimes goes to a place with nothing, that nothing happens after we die. And yet, the Christian Faith comes to speak about life everlasting, about a time to come where God will call His creation home. And maybe for some of us this conversation is as fuzzy as those new slippers you got Grandma for Christmas last year. Nothing new under the sun, I will add. The same questions that we have today were present in Paul’s life. And he tried to address them a few times in his writings. One of the things that he does make clear is this: If you believe in Jesus, his death, and his resurrection, then you have to believe that there is something more to come. And that is hope. That is comfort. That is peace.

I pray that as we share the word of comfort on Sunday, God will give us strength for the things that are going on in our lives, and things that, at times, create a lot of anxiety, fear, and doubt. Pray for faith to spring forth from this coming Sunday.

I look forward to worshipping with you as we celebrate the goodness of the Lord together.

Blessings,
Pastor Bo

Happening at 805 Western:

- The **Free Summer Lunch Program** is off to a great start, 12 kids in the first day, 19 kids the second day, and great helpers in place to serve the needs of the community surrounding us. What a joy, to see our church being present in this way and serving the little ones. Please continue to pray and serve with great joy knowing that in this program there is so much love that, I believe, it can change lives.
- **Oasis: Women’s Ministry** is hosting a lunch this Sunday after church, and that is a great thing. I have heard of the efforts of the ladies leading the group, and I have seen the excitement on their faces as they talk about Oasis. I would encourage you, ladies of all ages, to come and make new friends for life.
- As you have heard, we are looking for a **Voice/Worship Leader** for Sunday morning to join our Worship Band. A job description will soon be available. I would like to ask you to speak to your friends and spread the word. The Lord can work in mysterious ways, as the saying goes, and maybe that person is already around.
- One more thing, and this is a big one: **Please reach out** and let us know if there’s something in your life that we can pray for. First Pres, as I know it, is a loving and caring community, where people like to encourage, share, and love. A surgery coming up? We can pray for that. A bumpy week and you need someone to listen to you? We can help with that. Need a little help, to get you through? We can help with that. Please reach out.

A letter from Director of Children and Youth Ministries Lindsay Gordon

Hello everyone!

Thank you so much to everyone who stayed and crafted with us this past Sunday! Your fish, starfish, and jellyfish all turned out beautifully, and they will all look amazing once incorporated into our final VBS decorations. Gluing some buttons onto a paper starfish might not seem like that big of a deal, but decorating for VBS is; as the old saying goes, many hands make light work! Thank you so much for contributing to VBS in this way, and for having fun with us in the process. Also, be sure to thank Kaleigh for organizing the supplies, writing the instructions, and creating the sample crafts!

While we’re on the topic of VBS, there is still time to register children to participate, as well as yourself to volunteer! If you are unable to volunteer the week of VBS but would like to serve another way, such as donating snacks for our volunteers, please come talk to me. I’d be happy to explore options with you!

Tonight (6/5), we have our first Youth Group outing of the summer! We’ll be meeting at Family Fun Zone from 6 to 8pm for an evening of roller skating! Admission is \$10, and skate rentals are \$5. All participants will need to fill out an activity waiver (which covers all of our Wednesday night activities for the summer). If your student brings a friend, they both skate for free! Families are also welcome to come and skate together - come join us!

Mission Week is coming up July 9-11th, and applications are open! It’s going to be an amazing week of service and fellowship - I absolutely cannot wait. Please let me know if you have any questions. Applications are due by June 28th.

Hope to see you on the skating rink!

In Christ,
Lindsay Gordon

VBS DONATIONS

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

CHURCH DIRECTORY

If your information has changed please contact the church office A.S.A.P. to make sure it is updated in the upcoming FPJ Directory.

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.