



e-News

September 11th, 2024

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



**A HUGE
THANK YOU
to
EVERYONE**

**who made this years Back to
Church Picnic so fun!**



DINNER OUT GROUP

September 19th at 6pm
Agave Azul, 330 W. North St., Manhattan

Contact Carol Kline to be included in the reservation.

September 11th, 2024 Stewardship Report

2024-2025 Budget	\$747,600
Year to Date Income	\$235,686
Year to Date Expenses	\$224,354
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 of health and healing for:

Sheila Lundeen, Al Brooks, Mark Fumagalli, Judy Jordan, Jean Smietanski, and Klint DeGeus.

Pray for baby Anna Jean as she awaits her heart surgery.

HANDBELL CHOIR

Are you interested in our Handbell Choir, the Glory Ringers? Would you like to try ringing a handbell? Reach out to Susan Pemble or the church office to learn more, or arrange a time to try out the bells, no commitment required.

PROJECT LINUS

September 23rd at 9am

Come lend a hand making no-sew blankets for kids in need in our local community. No experience needed, just scissors!

SUNDAY SERVANTS 9/15/24

PREACHING: Jeff Borgerson
USHERS: Ed Schultz, Scherrie Sanchez, Reed Mott
COFFEE: Barb Rodgers
LITURGIST: Jen Garlitz
ACOLYTE: Xavier DeNieuwe
SOUND: Cliff Stepina
VIDEO: Drew Penhale

Children's Church Corner

Faith Idea: Faith in God, what does it mean to you?

Lesson for Sun. 9/15: God Creates Us to be Unique –Psalm 139:1-18

Bible Verse: "We are God's accomplishment, created in Christ Jesus to do good things." Ephesians 2:10

The PNC Process

Planning	Mission Study	Data Evaluation	Resume Evaluations	Interviews	Pastor Visits	Pastor Selection	Pastor Acceptance
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The PNC is currently scheduling interviews with the top candidates. We are excited to speak with them as we continue to diligently and thoroughly work to find the person best suited for First Pres.

Happy Wednesday to you all!!!

First: Let me start with some smiles in preparation of Soar High and Midweek from Sarah, Scout, and me (I know Kaleigh, Stephanie, and Raquel are missing from this photo but our smiles make up for them too). You know why the smiles? 32 Kids have signed up for Soar High. I cannot express the excitement and the joy that Wednesday brings this year. When it comes to the next few weeks and the rest of the year, I know that God will do amazing things with this music program, and everything else that Midweek brings.

Second: I know someone will ask: Bo, what's for dinner tonight? And my answer is: I have no idea but I know it will be delicious. Lisa always takes good care of us, so we can dive in to our Bible Study with happy tummies.

Third: Wednesday Pastor's Study/Life group/Bible Study/Bible fellowship/Conversation on God - or whatever name you like for the time we have after dinner with God's word, has a theme: The Gospel of John - what if this was the only book written about Jesus?

Fourth: This past Sunday was awesome! Ok, I know that as a pastor I should not be bragging so much about any specific Sunday, but I have to.

- We started a New Sermon Series: Learning from the Rabbi - The Parables of Jesus
- The Worship Service was on point. Thank you to all of the choir musicians for stepping up and filling the gap left by Matsiko. We even finished early.
- The picnic was great. I know I will miss a lot of people if I try to list everyone that helped, but I will still say Thank You for a great fellowship time. And I do have to say a public Great Job to Kris, Lisa, and Ezequiel for everything from organizing to food. Just a great day.

This brings me to a request: Can you take a little time this week to pray for our church? There is a lot of good work happening, and with this work comes a lot of problem solving. So please pray for the Session members as we are meeting this week, for their wisdom, their creativity, and their hard work as they labor for this church.

This Sunday, Jeff Borgerson, a retired pastor, will join us in worship, and share on the parable of the Prodigal Son. I know I am looking forward to hearing the Word, and I pray that God will use it to build us all up in faith.

Ok, this letter is longer than usual, but ONE MORE THING: Please pray for the people in our church that are experiencing medical challenges, reach out to them, send a card. A smile and encouragement go a long way to cheer someone up as they go through their healing process.

See you around church,

Blessings,
Pastor Bo



MIDWEEK—Starts Sep. 11th— TONIGHT

5-6pm SOAR HIGH—register online today!

Kids age 3 –8th grade will have a Bible lesson and related art lessons, games, and other activities

Kids 5yrs—8th grade will also have singing & instrument lessons

6pm—Fellowship dinner for all

6:45pm—Adult Bible Study and kids rec time

Today, many of us remember where we were on 9/11 when we heard the news that brought America and the whole world to a stand still. As the world moves on, trying to heal and learn from the past, there are days like today that will always make us pause. As we do pause to remember that day, let us also pray that God will continue to heal our land, and pray for Peace, not just for us but for the whole world. As we remember this day, may we remember these verses:

Isaiah 2:1-5
The Future House of God

1 The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

2 In days to come

the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

3 Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

4 He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more.

5 O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

