



# e-News

September 18th, 2024  
 805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435  
 815-727-9259 firstpresjoliet.org

## MIDWEEK

**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

## Church Family

### Prayers of health and healing for:

Sheila Lundeen, Al Brooks, Mark Fumagalli, Jean Smietanski, Klint DeGeus, and Jody Farr.

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

Sympathy and prayers are extended to the family and friends of longtime member Judy Jordan who passed away yesterday. Arrangements are pending.

## 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!

## DINNER OUT GROUP

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

Contact Carol Kline to be included in the reservation.

## SUNDAY SERVANTS 9/22/24

**USHERS:** Ed Schultz, Reed Mott, Sue Fordyce, Mark Morrison

**COFFEE:** Barb Rodgers

**LITURGIST:** Carol Kline

**ACOLYTE:** Rylie Blaser

**SOUND:** Rich Pool

**VIDEO:** Matt Blaser

## September 18th, 2024

### Stewardship Report

2024-2025 Budget	\$747,600
Year to Date Income	\$241,704
Year to Date Expenses	\$250,383
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.*

## Children's Church Corner

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

**Lesson for Sun. 9/22:** God Creates Helpers –*Genesis 2:5-23*

**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 conducting interviews with the top candidates. We are excited to learn more about each of them as we continue to diligently and thoroughly work to find the person best suited for First Pres.

A letter from Acting Head Pastor Bo Mircea

If I was to say I am looking forward to sharing with you The Parable of the Sower from Matthew 13:1-9 without saying: oh boy oh boy this is such a cool and beautiful story that speaks to who we are, I would not be happy with myself. I know we have heard this story in church before. I know that it makes it easy to the ear and the heart as you listen to it. And yet I think that sometimes we look over it too fast without seeing ourselves in it. As I do often, I will encourage you to read the parable with fresh eyes asking yourself this one question: Who am I in the story?

Please also use this time to pray for the ministry of this church as we share in the labor of God's kingdom to not just spread the Word, but tending to the needs of many in our congregation and community.

I have a special prayer request for the kids, youths, and parents of our congregation and beyond, as they deal with the aftermath of school threats and what it means to live in that constant stress and noise. Let's be in prayer for them, and ask the Lord for peace and safety at this time.

**Happening at 805 Western:**

- As you know **Midweek** is on tonight. We have 37 kids registered in the program, and I am amazed at this opportunity to serve our neighbors in a way that speaks to their hearts though the ministry of music and sharing with them the story of God. Not only that but inviting folks to the table, to experience this church, is an opportunity that not many churches have. Blessed to be a blessing, some would say. While sharing food and Bible fellowship are important, serving and taking care of everyone is also an important task. While we have some wonderful help around, with the abundance of people we serve we could always have couple more people to help. If you can join us we would love to have you.
- **Tonight I am teaching on John 1**, and I have a feeling we will be in this chapter for a while so please join us. Someone even said: This was really good study Bo. You don't want to miss out.
- **Trunk N Treat** is coming up on October 23th. This beloved ministry has become a staple in our town, not just because of the free food, but because through it we speak to the people around this church saying: We are here, we are a church, and we can be your church. It is amazing to see and hear the stories of connection that come from this event each and every year. We have a sign up form and we will need your help with Trunks, preparing and serving food, all the good stuff we normally do. More details will follow.

Blessings,  
Pastor Bo

*One special note: Last night I received the news that Judy Jordan has passed. Having known Judy for a while I know her faith was strong and her heart knew the Lord of life, and that brings some comfort as I remember her today. Please pray for her family at this time. We will share more information about arrangements as they are made.*

**SAVE THE DATE**

**10/23** Trunk N Treat

**11/9** Serve Day at MorningStar Mission

**12/6** Advent Concert with Harvest Arts



**SOAR HIGH**  
**FREE**  
Register Today  
MUSIC ART BIBLE  
3yrs-8th grade  
Wednesdays 5-6pm  
Sep. 11th-April 30th



**TRUNK N TREAT**  
**October 23rd 6pm-7:30pm**  
**(earlier for volunteers)**

It's not too early to reserve your spot for Trunk N Treat 2024. You can sign up through the form on our website.

Trunk N Treat is a safe alternative to traditional trick or treating, all in one parking lot. There will be candy, costumes, games, food, a petting zoo, and more! There will be no scary tricks, ensuring fun for all ages. This event is free so make sure to bring your family, friends, and neighbors.