



e-News

October 16th, 2024
 805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435
 815-727-9259 firstpresjoliet.org

TRUNK N TREAT

October 23rd 6pm-7:30pm
 (earlier for volunteers)

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.

MIDWEEK

Wednesdays

Will not meet: 10/23 and 11/ 27

5-6pm SOAR HIGH—register online today!

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

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

6pm—Fellowship dinner for all

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

October 16th, 2024

Stewardship Report

2024-2025 Budget	\$747,600
Year to Date Income	\$288,152
Year to Date Expenses	\$297,641
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, Jean Smietanski, Klint DeGeus, Mary Jane Johnson, Paul Pocius, Alex Kuczek, and Mary Lynn Keir.

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

CHILDCARE VOLUNTEERS

Our childcare team is looking for someone who could help out in the **nursery on Sunday November 16th** during 10am worship, and someone to lend a hand with the **Pre-K class on Wednesday November 20th**, 5-6pm.

We are also looking for some folks who are willing to help in the nursery if needed on a Sunday with an abundance of kids. If you are interested please contact the church office.

SUNDAY SERVANTS 10/20/24

USHERS: Dale Mullen, Scherrie Sanchez, Reed Mott, Mark Dykema

COFFEE: Barb Rodgers

LITURGIST: Hasen Qi

ACOLYTE: Rylie Blaser

SOUND: Rich Pool

VIDEO: Drew Penhale

Children's Church Corner

Faith Focus: Promise Builder-God keeps God's promises.

Lesson for Sun. 10/20: God's Promise to Sarah—*Genesis 18:1-15;21:1-7*

Bible Verse: “The Lord carried out just what he had promised.”
Genesis 21:1

The PNC Process

Planning	Mission Study	Data Evaluation	Resume Evaluations	Interviews	Pastor Visits	Pastor Selection	Pastor Acceptance
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The PNC is excited to announce our nomination for Senior (Lead) Pastor, Rev. Bogdan Mircea! After thoroughly reviewing all 75 candidates that were matched with First Pres, we are confident that Pastor Bo is the very best choice to lead our church into the future. Session has called a congregational meeting following the worship service on November 10 to accept the nomination and terms of call for Bo. If you have any questions, we encourage you to speak with PNC members.

A letter from Acting Head Pastor Bo Mircea

Today, I would like to share something that happened yesterday as the office staff took some time for fall planning away from the office. We went to Starved Rock, always a great place this time of year. As we were walking the trails, looking for the river, even as we were on the marked trail, knowing where the river should be, it felt like we were going further and further away from our destination. But then there was this moment where we got a peek at the river as the trail bent, and after a little while we got to a place where we could see the river. That made me think about our faith life. At times it feels that even if you know where you are going, or know that what you are doing is right there in the words of Jesus, you might still feel lost without seeing the results. Faith is knowing to trust, to follow, to persevere so you can get to that place where you can see where the Lord is leading you. John Bunyan, in his book "The Pilgrim's Project" captures that struggle of faith. I guess what I am trying to say today is this: Don't get weary on your journey. Let your faith be the driving force in your life, and always follow that narrow path. The view at the end is indeed spectacular.

This Sunday, I am preaching on a good and well known parable: The Parable of the Good Samaritan. Luke 10:25-37 - I encourage you to give it a new look, and as you do so, ask yourself this question: What does mercy mean to me today?

I am looking forward to Sunday worship,

Blessings,
Pastor Bo Mircea

HAPPENING AT 805 WESTERN:

- **Oct 23rd - Trunk and Treat** - Sign up on our website. We have 22 trunks, but we are still in need of a few more. Our kitchen crew is coming together nicely. Pray the weather is good and that as a church we can say once again to the people in our neighborhood: We Love you, and we are here for you.

- **Nov 3rd in the morning - Matsiko World Orphan Choir** will be with us in worship. I am so excited to see them and hear their testimony. They will arrive in Joliet on October 30, and as Don their director said, for some of these youths this will be their first experience of Halloween. I am so glad that as a church we can have a long ministry relationship that spans years and years of ministry, and seeing the way God is using this to bless so many kids.

- **Nov 3rd in the evening** at 5 pm - **Youth Group** is calling all the 6th -12th grade youth to come for food, a time of sharing about the Gospel and our lives, fellowship, and more. This will be a great chance for the youth to meet this years Advisors Team. Those are some really cool people there, just saying.

- **Nov 10th** - Session has called a **congregational meeting** following morning worship to receive and to vote on the nomination from our PNC. This past Sunday the PNC formally presented to the congregation, their nomination of Rev Bo Mircea for Lead Pastor.

I want to take time to recognize the members of the PNC and their hard work over the last couple of years. I am very thankful and prayerful at the same time for the opportunity to continue to serve this congregation at this time.

At the same congregational meeting we will vote on the Nominating Committee that will be working on a slate of Elders and Deacons for the new year.

SAVE THE DATE- COMING UP

10/17 Dinner Out Group
10/23 Trunk N Treat
10/27 Bible Sunday
10/27 New Members Class after worship
10/28 Project LINUS
11/3 Matsiko World Orphan Choir
11/9 Serve Day at MorningStar Mission
11/10 Congregational Meeting following worship
11/30 Advent Decorating
12/6 Advent Concert with Harvest Arts

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

November 10th

Immediately following 10am Worship

This congregational meeting will be for the congregation to accept the nomination and Terms of Call for Bo Mircea as Lead Pastor, and for electing the Nominating Committee for Deacons and Elders.

HURRICANE RELIEF

Session has approved the collection of donations to be sent for Hurricane Relief. Donations can be made through our online giving, make sure to select the fund for 'Hurricane relief'. Your monthly mailing will also include specially labeled envelopes for hurricane relief, which you can mail in or put in the offering on Sunday morning.

WE NEED TRUNKS!

Trunk N Treat is coming up and we need trunks! This is possibly the most fun way to support a ministry here at First Pres. It is an absolute blast getting to hand out candy and see hundreds of families having fun because of our church.

Grab some friends or family and sign up for a trunk spot today!

PROJECT LINUS

October 28th at 9am

Come lend a hand making no-sew blankets for kids in need in our local community. The only requirement is the ability to tie a knot.

DINNER OUT GROUP

October 17th at 6pm Vai's 916 S. IL Rt 59 in Naperville
Contact Carol Kline to be included in the reservation.