



# e-News

October 23rd, 2024  
 805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435  
 815-727-9259 firstpresjoliet.org

## TRUNK N TREAT

**October 23rd 6pm-7:30pm**

(or 4pm for volunteers, cars can set up from 4 to 5:30)

### TONIGHT!

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.

## CHILDCARE VOLUNTEERS

Our childcare team is looking for someone who could help out 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.

## **October 23rd, 2024 Stewardship Report**

<b>2024-2025 Budget</b>	\$747,600
<b>Year to Date Income</b>	\$308,104
<b>Year to Date Expenses</b>	\$300,802
<b>Per Capita</b>	\$43.00

**Received for Hurricane Relief \$ 2,125.00**

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, Jean Smietanski, Klint DeGeus, Mary Jane Johnson, Alex Kuczek, Mary Lynn Keir, and Marie Blunk on her upcoming surgery.

Sympathies and prayers for Maureen Fumagalli and her family after the recent loss of her sister Eileen Contos.

Pray for baby Anna Jean and her family as she prepares for her heart surgery this Thursday.

**There is no Soar High or Midweek tonight but you can still come by all dressed up and enjoy some Halloween fun at Trunk N Treat!**

## SUNDAY SERVANTS 10/27/24

**USHERS:** Ed Schultz, Joe Boyd, Nola Boyd, Mark Dykema

**COFFEE:** Jasmine Keir

**LITURGIST:** Suzanne Penhale

**ACOLYTE:** Xavier DeNieuwe

**SOUND:** Keith LeVasseur

**VIDEO:** Todd Hayden

## Children's Church Corner

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

**Lesson for Sun. 10/27:** God's Promise to Jacob—*Genesis 28:10-22*

**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*

It was October 31st, 1517 in Wittenberg, when Martin Luther published his 95 Theses. These writings, of a priest and theology teacher, shook up the whole world as they talked about the abuse of indulgences in the church, and by doing so departed from the belief that Salvation can be bought through indulgences, and embracing that Salvation is free in Christ.

That day has become, in many ways, the re-birth of the protestant church as we know it today, by bringing us back to a deeper understanding of who God is, and how the Kingdom of God, past, present and future, was presented in the preaching of Christ. As years passed, the protestant church changed in response to the things Luther addressed, sometimes for the better and sometimes not. Yet, the spirit of those theses lives on every Sunday morning that we come and confess that Christ Jesus is the Lord of our salvation. I personally enjoy this day we call Reformation Day, and yes I know I am a week early. I enjoy it because in our church, and for many, many years in my ministry, this day has become a day of sharing the Written Word of God not only with the kids, but with all the people that want a new Bible. I know a book, in our modern age, might not be the best selling point of going to church, and yet I am stubborn about sharing it any chance I have. I encourage you to open it even for five minutes daily, because in it there is life, there is the story of God that continues to speak to who we are and who we are called to be. This Sunday, we are not only celebrating Bible Sunday, but we are also talking about the Parable of the Ten Virgins and the understanding of watching for the day of the Lord. From time to time I get the question: Isn't this the end of times, Bo? Well, I wish I had the answer to that, but I do not. What I know and what I would like to share with you on Sunday is that the Lord is coming, we are called to walk in righteousness, and the Lord is watching over our lives in ways that will speak to that.

I am looking forward to this Sunday's worship, and praying you can join us.

Blessings,  
Pastor Bo Mircea

### **Happening this week at 805 Western:**

- **Trunk and Treat** - 1,200 hotdogs are ready, at least 27 cars, lots of candy, and more. I know how much this church puts in this event, and how much love goes into each trunk, the candy that makes kids smile, and all the volunteer work. Thank you to each one of you for showing this fun and welcoming side of 1st Pres to the neighbors around us. Quick details: Trunk Set-Up and Kitchen Crew preparation start at 4 pm. This way we can be ready at 5:30 for volunteers Prayer and quick meal, before we open the gates at 6pm. Weather should be nice, keep praying for that, and we should be done by 8 pm. And hopefully lots of happy families will say: Wow, what a cool church, I wonder what else are they doing.

- **Bible Sunday** - This Sunday—During the worship service we will have Bibles for all ages. If you need a Bible please let the office know.

- **New Members Class** - After worship, we will meet in Fireside Room, for about an hour to talk about who we are, getting to know who you are, and trying to answer any questions you might have about this church, beliefs, and vision. No sign up necessary, just stop by.

- **Serve Day** is coming up - Night Deacons are working with MorningStar Mission to pack for their Thanksgiving meal box give away. On Nov 9th, at 8 am we will meet at the warehouse, 250 Republic St. and the more people there are, the faster we will finish. Come and make some new friends and serve the Lord on this day, as we kick off a Month of Thanksgiving. Sign up on our website.

I am sure I am forgetting something, but I know you are praying for this

## **SAVE THE DATE— COMING UP**

**10/23** Trunk N Treat—TONIGHT

**10/27** Bible Sunday

**10/27** New Members Class after worship

**10/27** Stars of Hope available

**10/28** Project LINUS

**11/2** Free Pancake Breakfast

**11/3** Matsiko World Orphan Choir

**11/9** Serve Day at MorningStar Mission (sign ups open)

**11/10** Soar High kids singing in worship

**11/10** Congregational Meeting following worship

**11/10** Youth Group Zoo Tree Decorating

**11/24** Stars of Hope due

**11/25** Project LINUS

**11/26** Community Thanksgiving Worship Service

**11/30** Advent Decorating

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

### **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.

### **STARS OF HOPE**

**October 27th— November 24th**

Partnering with MorningStar Mission, we will have stars available starting this Sunday. Each star has a 'wants' or 'needs' list for a child in need this holiday season. You can claim a star (sign it out) and shop for those items, and return them to FPJ by 11/24.

### **NEW MEMBERS CLASS**

**October 27th after 10 am worship**

If you are interested in becoming a member make sure to stop by Fireside after worship where Pastor Bo will be leading a New Members Class.

### **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.

### **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.