



e-News

January 22nd, 2025

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435

815-727-9259

firstpresjoliet.org

A Letter from Lead Pastor Bo Mircea

This Sunday we are starting a short Sermon Series that will speak to the “Why” of our church practices. From why do I need to go to church on Sunday, to why do I need to pray or read my Bible, we will explore the wisdom that comes in being disciplined doers as we pursue our spiritual maturity. I would like to encourage you to read Luke 9:1-17. I love this passage in so many ways because it captures the balance between being sent and working side by side with the Lord. It is a great reminder that in every part of our lives and ministry we need to stay close to the one that gives us life and strength. So come ready on Sunday to ask WHY!

Happening at 805 Western

- On February 9th, the **SOUPer Bowl** will come together to raise money for the Soar High program. Order your soup in advance, and if your team, like mine, is out of the game, still consider spending a great time with friends and family watching the big game while enjoying some GREAT SOUP. (see more details on reverse side)
- **Dinner Out** is moving to a new week. Starting next month it is on the Second Thursday of the month with Dinner at Juliet’s Tavern at 6 pm on February 13th. As Carol and Dan put it, people love to go out for dinner and have fun, the day will not matter. So get ready for more fellowship opportunities.
- A new **Serve Day** is coming up soon. Every other month we intend to serve through a project helping one of the local community mission initiatives. Our Night Deacons are working with St. John Food Pantry to find a suitable date for our next day out.

Stay warm today, have an extra cup of tea or hot cocoa, and see you on Sunday,

Blessings,
Pastor Bo

Church Family

Prayers of health and healing for:

Jean Smietanski, Klint DeGeus, and Mary Jane Johnson.

Prayers and sympathy to Sherry and Dennis Jones and their family after the recent passing of Sherry’s sister.

Lead Pastor Installation Service and Dinner

March 2nd at 3pm, dinner afterwards

Pastor Bo’s Installation Service will be held on Sunday, March 2 at 3 p.m. here at First Pres. This is a formal worship service in the Presbyterian church. It’s a celebration of God’s call in a person’s life and in the life of a church. Come to share in the joy and celebrate what God is doing at this time at First Pres. Following the service we will enjoy a delicious dinner in Hoffman Hall. If you plan to attend the dinner, please return the card you will receive in the mail, by February 16th to the church office (mail it back, put it in the offering plate, or send an email) so food can be planned accordingly.

OASIS: Women’s Ministry

Upcoming dates:

1/22 2/5 2/19 3/12 3/19 4/2 4/30

Oasis will meet at 5pm for fellowship and various service opportunities, Midweek dinner is at 6pm each Wednesday (free but donations appreciated), and after dinner the ladies are invited to tea and dessert with Oasis until roughly 7:15pm. Children are invited to participate in the Soar High program running at the same time, and nursery care is available before and after dinner.

Children’s Church Corner

Faith Focus: Treasure Seekers—We discover God together

Lesson for Sun. 1/26: Discover God—*Matthew 17:1-8*

Bible Verse: “Ask, and you will receive. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you.” - *Matthew 7:7*



Soup Orders: \$10 ea / 2 for \$16

- Creamy Zuppa Toscana
- Broccoli Cheddar
- Chunky Chicken Noodle

_____ Total Soup Orders

\$_____ Amount Due / _____ Paid / Picked up _____

Cash or Check *(to First Pres.)* with order or at pick up

Name: _____

Phone # _____

Proceeds will benefit FPJ's Soar High Arts Ministry!

January 22nd, 2025

Stewardship Report

2024-2025 Budget	\$747,600
Year to Date Income	\$449,541
Year to Date Expenses	\$457,261
Per Capita	\$44.00

The new Per Capita amount for 2025 is \$44.00. Per Capita is a shared cost among Presbyterians and is the amount every congregation pays for each active member to cover ecclesiastical and administrative costs to govern the PC(USA).

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.

SAVE THE DATE- COMING UP

- 1/22** Soar High, Midweek, and Oasis
- 1/27** Project Linus
- 1/29** Soar High and Midweek
- 2/1** Free Pancake Breakfast
- 2/5** Soar High, Midweek, and Oasis
- 2/9** SOUP-er Bowl Sunday
- 2/13** Dinner Out Group
- 2/23** Soar High performance in worship
- 3/2** Pastor Bo's Installation service and dinner
- 3/29** Craft and Vendor Fair

SPRING VENDOR/CRAFT FAIR

March 29th 9am-4pm

\$3 entry donation grants shoppers access to a unique shopping experience with 50 different vendors/creators, and a snack shack.

Check info on our website for vending sign up.

SOAR HIGH AND MIDWEEK

Kids age 3 through 8th grade can participate in Soar High. 5-6pm kids will be learning music, art, and a Bible lesson. Kids are split into similar-age groups.

At 6pm everyone is invited to a fellowship dinner. The meal is free but donations are appreciated.

After dinner kids have a rec time while adults are invited to join the Adult Bible Study, and women are invited to Oasis: Women's Ministry twice a month.

Nursery care is available except during dinner, guardians are responsible for all of their children during dinner.

DINNER OUT GROUP

February 13th at 6pm

Juliet's Tavern in Joliet 205 N Chicago Street
Contact Carol Kline to be included in the reservation.

SUNDAY SERVANTS 1/26/24

- USHERS:** Ed Schultz, Mark Dykema, Mark Fumagalli, Dale Mullen
- COFFEE:** Jasmine Keir
- LITURGIST:** Sue Mott
- ACOLYTE:** Kennedy Orr
- SOUND:** Cliff Stepina
- VIDEO:** Todd Hayden