



# e-News

March 5th, 2025

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## A Letter from Lead Pastor Bo Mircea

This past Sunday was such a special Sunday for me, and I believe for all of us as a church. I was looking through some of the pictures from the Installation service and came across this one. It has to be my favorite one because it captures the essence of a pastors ministry, being in prayer and supported by prayer, so then he can go and do the work of prayer.



Everything that is good starts in prayer. I used to tell this to the kids in Sunday School, and I still believe that to be true. That is my gentle reminder for all of us this season of Lent, a season of prayer. As we enter Lent, we start with a stern reminder that all of us are mortals, and we are on our way home. As we receive the sign of the cross, we speak faith to our being. We speak faith to our soul, body, and mind. We speak of Jesus in all of our circumstances and say to the world "The Lord is merciful and watches over all of us."

I would encourage you to join us tonight for our Ash Wednesday Service, so as one we can stand in prayer for each other and for those around us. Join us at 6:30 pm for the service and if you are available remember dinner is at 5:30 pm.

## Happening at 805 Western:

- This Saturday March 8th at 9 am - **Officers training**, come ready to pray and seek the Lord as we look at the year ahead.
- Thursday March 13th our **Dinner Out Group** is going to La Dolce Vita. Please call Carol to be included in the reservation.
- Saturday March 22 all the **Youth** 6th grade and up are invited to go bowling at Channahon Lanes, meeting at 5pm. The only thing you need is to show up, bring a friend and have a great time.

I am looking forward to worship with you on Sunday, and share with you some of the exciting things we are working on for the Lent, Spring, and Summer seasons.

Blessings,  
Pastor Bo

## Church Family

### Prayers of health and healing for:

Jean Smietanski, Mary Jane Johnson, Aaron (grandson of Mary and Don Caisley), and Zac (great nephew of Mary and Don Caisley), and Mary Lynn Keir.

Sympathies and prayers for the loved ones of Sue Brown who has passed. A visitation will be held March 15th from 9-11am, with a memorial service at 11am at FPJ.

## NO MIDWEEK

This Wednesday instead of joining us for our usual Soar High and Midweek programs, join us at 5:30 for dinner, and stay for the Ash Wednesday worship service at 6:30.

## ASH WEDNESDAY

March 5th

Dinner at 5:30pm and  
Worship afterwards at 6:30pm

## OFFICER TRAINING

Saturday March 8th

At FPJ from 9am—Noon  
For Elder, Deacons, and current at large committee members to meet and plan for the year ahead.

## DINNER OUT GROUP

March 13th at 6pm

La Dulce Vita 16108 IL Rt 59 in Plainfield  
Contact Carol Kline to be included in the reservation.

## OASIS: WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Free Mosaic Cross Workshop  
April 26th 10am-2pm  
at Lockport Legacy Vineyard Church Café  
FREE (\$35 value)

Limited space—rsvp with Kris Hayden by  
4/1 First come first serve



## CRAFT FAIR DONATIONS

The Craft/Vendor Fair Café is seeking supply donations to offset the cost of purchasing all of the needed items—this way there can be more PROCEEDS to support the named ministry. Donations needed on/before March 23rd. Thank you IN ADVANCE!

**Cans of Soda:** Coke, Diet Coke, Pepsi/Diet Pepsi, Sprite/7-Up, Dr. Pepper, Mountain Dew, Fanta flavors (no off-brands please)

**Lays Original Potato Chips**—individual bags (50ct at Sams Club)

**Original Fritos**—individual bags (50ct at Sams Club)

**Bottled Water**

**Theater Candy**

**Monetary donations**—to purchase donuts, creamer, chili ingredients, and pizzas.

## SAVE THE DATE– COMING UP

3/5 Ash Wednesday

3/8 Officer Training

3/13 Dinner Out Group

3/15 Oasis Serve Day at Northern IL Food Bank

3/22 Youth Group bowling

3/29 Craft and Vendor Fair

4/5 Free Pancake Breakfast

4/6 Soar High performs

4/12 Easter Egg-stravaganza

4/13 Palm Sunday

4/17 Maundy Thursday

4/18 Good Friday

4/26 Oasis Mosaic Cross Workshop

5/4 Oasis afternoon at the theater

## 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.

## HOLY WEEK

**PALM SUNDAY:** April 13th 8:30am Breakfast 10am Worship Service

**MAUNDY THURSDAY:** April 17th 5:30pm Dinner 6:30pm Worship Service

**GOOD FRIDAY:** April 18th 6:30pm Worship Service

## Children's Church Corner

**Faith Focus:** BFF'S—Jesus is our friend

**Lesson for Sun. 3/9:** Friends Include—*Mark 2:13-17*

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

**March 5th, 2025**

### **Stewardship Report**

<b>2024-2025 Budget</b>	\$747,600
<b>Year to Date Income</b>	\$527,268
<b>Year to Date Expenses</b>	\$527,378
<b>Per Capita</b>	\$44.00

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.*

## OASIS: Women's Ministry

**Upcoming dates:**

**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.

## ASH WEDNESDAY 3/5/25 SERVANTS

**USHERS:** Ed Schultz, Mark Dykema, Sue Fordyce

**SOUND:** Cliff Stepina

**VIDEO:** Todd Hayden

## SUNDAY SERVANTS 3/9/25

**USHERS:** Ed Schultz, Mark Dykema

**COFFEE:**

**LITURGIST:** Evan Lundeen

**ACOLYTE:** Caleb Adler

**SOUND:** Cliff Stepina

**VIDEO:** Todd Hayden

**GREETERS:** Helen Steinberg, Dave Steinberg, Betsey O'Mara