

Happy
Birthday
America

eHighlights



250

July 3, 2026

WEEKLY NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

for

PEORIA FIRST UMC

PEORIA1.COM

This Week's Dates to Remember

July 1 - 25. *Portraits of Influential Peorians* (America 250 Exhibit). Foster Gallery.

July 4. Happy 250th Birthday, America.

July 5. Sunday at First.

8:45AM. Traditional Worship. Sanctuary.

9:00AM. Renew. Worship Center.

10:00. Sunday School for all ages.

11:15AM. Renuevo. Worship Center.

July 6 - 9. Vacation Bible School. 9AM - 12PM.

July 8. Wednesday @ Church. 6:30PM.

Pastor Miguel's Bilingual Bible Study. Worship Center.

Youth Activities. Youth Room.

Children Activities. Children's Area.

Announcements



Venezuela Earthquake Relief

Venezuela Earthquake Relief

On June 24, northern Venezuela suffered an earthquake resulting in extensive damage to life and property. On July 5 and 12, we will take a special offering to assist UMCOR with relief efforts. You may place your donation in a giving envelope and mark it 'Earthquake Relief' OR you may give online at peoria1.org/give. We will also be sending relief items - there is a link here for needed items.

[GIVE Here](#)

All donations need to be received by Monday, July 13.

[VIEW List of Needed Items Here](#)



[CLICK HERE to View Job Description](#)

[CLICK HERE to Email Diane Gaa](#)



[CLICK HERE to View Job Description](#)

[CLICK HERE to Email Diane Broe](#)

Events



World Wide Prayer Meeting

The next WWP of 2026 will be Wednesday, July 15 from 7:30-8:45AM. Please RSVP if you can attend.

Meeting ID: 839 4923 1895

Passcode: 539078

[Prayer Meeting Link](#)



[Register HERE](#)

AWAKE for Christian Educators

Honza Kuklinek, one of our long-time supported missionaries with Josiah Venture in the Czech Republic is partnering with Jeremy Garrett to hold an event, AWAKE, for Christian educators. This is a terrific opportunity for Peoria First UMC to support Honza's work while also supporting Christian educators in our communities.

Registration fee is \$35 through July 7, \$40 after. Register online. Payment is due at time of registration. Once event has concluded and there is confirmation of attendance, Peoria First UMC will reimburse the registration fee to you

.July 21 | 8:30AM - 4PM | Crossroads GMC



Wednesday @ Church

Pastor Tim's Bible Study will take a summer break and resume in October.

6:30PM

Bilingual Bible Study. Worship Center.
Youth and Children Activities.

Mission First



Mission First

It is in our vision statement that we are to make (and grow) disciples of Jesus Christ. A piece of becoming a disciple is service.

There are always serving opportunities at Peoria First. Want to serve and just do not know where or how? Send us a message and we will get you connected.

[CLICK HERE to get Connected](#)

Children



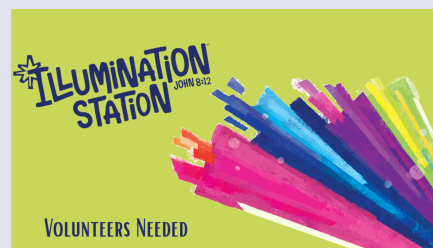
2026 Vacation Bible School

Illumination Station VBS will be the brightest week of the year!

Each day kids will learn about who Jesus really is, participate in really cool crafts, exciting games, and enriching Bible study lessons that will have a lasting effect on them. Children Ages: 5 - 11.

July 6 - 9 | 9AM - Noon

[REGISTER Here for VBS](#)

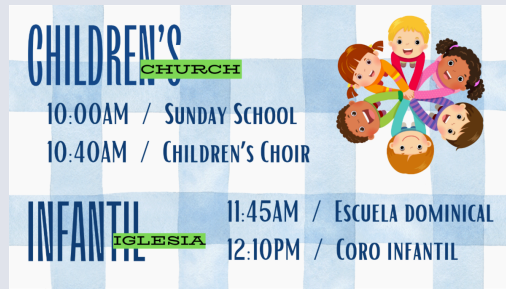


VBS Volunteers Needed

Vacation Bible School is coming soon, and we would love your help! We are looking for volunteers to serve in a variety of ways as we share the love of Christ with children in our community. Whether you can help with teaching, crafts, snacks, games, decorating, or simply welcoming families, there is a place for you. Please contact the church office or sign up to be part of this exciting ministry opportunity!

July 6 - 9 | 9AM - Noon

VOLUNTEER Here



CHILDREN'S CHURCH
10:00AM / SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:40AM / CHILDREN'S CHOIR

INFANTIL IGLESIA
11:45AM / ESCUELA DOMINICAL
12:10PM / CORO INFANTIL

The graphic features a central illustration of five diverse children's faces arranged in a circle, with colorful rays emanating from behind them. The text is set against a background of light blue and white vertical stripes.



Childcare Hours

Childcare is available every Sunday morning from 8:45AM - 12:30PM. Childcare available for children infant through 4 years old.



Comfort Room

The Comfort Room may be accessed by checking in at the Children's Ministry desk and is available Sundays from 8:45AM-12:15PM. One adult parent / guardian must accompany your child.



**Questions about Children's Ministry?
Contact Rosy Rios**

Email Rosy Rios

Youth



FULLY LOADED
LLENOS DEL ESPÍRITU SANTO

Destino Juvenil
July 16 - 18

The graphic has a dark, fiery background with orange and red flames. The text is in white and yellow.

**Fully Loaded
Filled with the Holy Spirit**

Join us for a bilingual summer camp - fully Spanish AND fully English. The theme of this year's camp is filled with the Holy Spirit.

Contact Christina Koeppel with questions or to register.

July 16 - 18 | Grades 6 - 12 | Cost \$150

Email Christina



YOUTH Sunday School

Youth Sunday School is for youth in 6th - 12th Grades.

Sundays • 10:00AM
Youth Room



YOUTH Small Group

Join us every Wednesday as we open our evening with praise music and then enjoy time in the Word and fellowship with one another.

Youth Small Group is for youth in 6th - 12th Grades.

Wednesdays • 6PM
Youth Room



**Questions about Youth Ministry?
Contact Christina Koepfel**

Email Christina Koepfel

Fine Arts

July Foster Gallery Exhibition

July 1 - 25

In collaboration with the Peoria Historical Society, the Foster Gallery is pleased to exhibit *Portraits of Influential Peorians* an America 250 Exhibit.

Reception: Friday, July 10 | 5 - 8PM

The Foster Gallery is open for viewing:

Monday - Friday: 9AM - 1PM

Sunday: 8:30AM - Noon

Other Showings by Appointment

Portraits of
Influential Peorians
America 250 Exhibit



RECEPTION:

FRIDAY, JULY 10 | 5 - 8 PM



Portraits of
Influential Peorians
America 250 Exhibit



IN COLLABORATION WITH THE PEORIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, THE FOSTER GALLERY IS PLEASED TO EXHIBIT PORTRAITS OF INFLUENTIAL PEORIANS (AMERICA 250 EXHIBIT).

THIS EXHIBITION HONORS THE ICONS OF PEORIA WHOSE LOCAL IMPACT REVERBERATED THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND NATION. PHS WILL HONOR CHANGE-MAKERS SUCH AS DR. GEORGE ZELLER, WHO HUMANELY TRANSFORMED MENTAL HEALTH CARE; LUCIE TYNG, AN EARLY LEADER IN THE TEMPERANCE AND SUFFRAGE MOVEMENTS; AND ANNIE MALONE, A PIONEER IN THE FIELD OF BEAUTY PRODUCTS FOR BLACK WOMEN.

Portraits of Influential Peorians
America 250 Exhibit



LIVE! At the Foster Gallery

Join us for an evening of music featuring Aiko Alexa Olson and Owen Zhang, both accomplished pianists and violinists. Together, they will perform a selection of concertos and contemporary works, blending classical artistry with modern expression. Their engaging performance promises an inspiring musical experience for audiences of all ages.

Friday, July 10 | 5:30 - 7:30PM

**FINE ARTS
MINISTRY**
PEORIA FIRST



Questions about our Fine Arts Ministry or the Foster Gallery?
Contact Eugene Maison

[EMAIL Eugene Maison](#)

This Week's Sermon

A SENT
Church



Giving

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5
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GIVING QUESTION? Email Here

eHIGHLIGHTS Submissions

If you would like to submit an article for publication, please submit it no later than noon Wednesday **and include the word "eHighlights" in the subject line.** Please limit your content to the most basic information.



Email Julie Bell

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peoria1 app



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or, visit:



Join Us for Sunday Worship

Traditional | 8:45 AM | Sanctuary

RENEW | 9:00 AM | Worship Center

Renuevo (Bilingual Service) | 11:15 AM | Worship Center

Sunday School for All Ages

10:00AM



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