

eHighlights

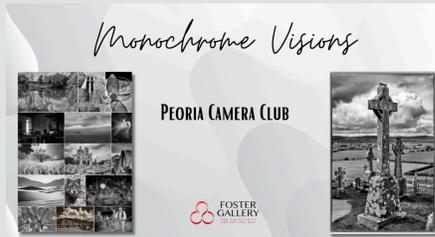
February 27, 2026
WEEKLY NEWS HIGHLIGHTS
for
PEORIA FIRST UMC

PEORIA1.COM

This Week's Dates to Remember

March 4. GriefShare. 1PM. Conference Room A.
March 4. Wednesday @ Church. 6PM.

Announcements



NEW ~ Foster Gallery Exhibition

March 1 - 25

Lenten Devotion



Lenten Devotion ~ Deeper

Set aside 5–10 minutes to sit in silence and reflection on Mark 2:1–12.

- Find a quiet place. Take a few slow breaths. Allow your body and spirit to settle into God's presence.
- Read the passage slowly: Mark 2:1–12. As you do, notice the friends, the obstacles, and Jesus' response.
- Ask: "What risks did these friends take for the sake of love? What does their faith look like in action?"

- Pause. Breathe. Imagine what that scene must have looked like: the crowd, the house, the sounds in the night, the smell of a fire burning, the voice of Jesus rising above the noise. Men desperate to get to Jesus. Lifting a man up to the roof and digging through the thatch to lower him to Jesus. Sit with that image for a moment.
- Ask: “Lord, who carried me when I could not come to you on my own? How did you use others to bring healing and grace into my life?”
- Pause again and give thanks.
- Ask: “Who in my life cannot or will not come to you right now? What ‘roof’ might you be calling me to tear through... my comfort, my time, my fear, or my reputation?”
- Hold that person in prayer before God.
- Pray slowly: “*Jesus, thank you for the people who carried me to you. Give me a faith that does not stop at belief, but moves with compassion, creativity, and courage. Show me how to love in ways that bring others into your presence.*”
- Pause and quietly listen.
- Pray slowly: “*Lord, use my life, my hands, and my resources as a stretcher of grace. Let my faith be seen in how I carry others to You. Amen.*”

Faith is not only what we believe, it is what we are willing to carry for the sake of love.

Mark 2: 1-12

Jesus Forgives and Heals a Paralyzed Man

2 A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. 2 They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. 3 Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. 4 Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. 5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

6 Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, 7 “Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

8 Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, “Why are you thinking these things? 9 Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’? 10 But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” So he said to the man, 11 “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” 12 He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”

Events



Wednesday @ Church

6PM Time of Fellowship • Worship Center

6:30PM
English Bible Study with Pastor Tim - NEW Study on Revelations
Conference Room C

Spanish Bible Study with Pastor Miguel
Worship Center

Youth Activities
Youth Room

Children Activities
Children's Area

Mission First



Email Julie Bell

Higher. Wider. Closer. Deeper.

As we plan ministry in 2026, we would like to invite you to be a part of the process and join one of the 4 teams:

- Higher Team focus is on worship and praise of God,
- Wider Team focus is on outreach and mission,
- Closer Team focus is on care and fellowship of one another,
- Deeper Team focus is on going deeper in faith in Sunday School class, small group and spiritual practices.

The time commitment is minimal but the impact is crucial to the life of our church.



Foster Gallery

Do you like meeting new people? Join a team to walk around the Foster Gallery at the reception on first Friday. A reception takes place the first Friday of each month; many people from the community come in to the Gallery.

We are looking for a few people who are willing to engage guests in conversation as they visit. Receptions are 5-8PM.

You do not need to commit every first Friday. We would love to have a team to spread the fun throughout the year.

Contact Julie Bell if you would like to serve or have questions.

EMAIL Julie Bell



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

Fine Arts

March Foster Gallery Exhibition

Monochrome Visions

by the Peoria Camera Club: Jill Attaway, Cindy Brackney, Bob Drake, Bennett Johnson, Ray Keithley, Jeanette Kosier, Stephen Macleod, Andrea Monninger, Chuck Parr, Dan Ricks, Alan Rogers, Tom Ruhland, LaDean Spring, David Vernon, Joe Virbickis.

First Friday Reception

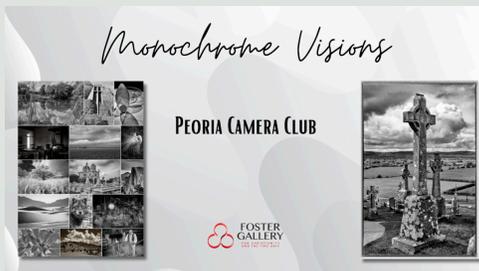
Friday, March 6 / 5-8PM / Foster Gallery

The Foster Gallery is open for viewing:

Monday - Friday: 9AM - 1PM

Sunday: 8:30AM - Noon

Other Showings by Appointment



**FINE ARTS
MINISTRY**
PEORIA FIRST



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

Children



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 blue and white checkered background. On the right side, there is a circular illustration of five diverse children's faces. The text is arranged in two columns, with the English and Spanish services listed side-by-side.



2026 Kids Conference

All grade school children (1st - 5th grades) are invited to the Kids Light Conference where they will 'tune in' to God's Word. This is a one day discipleship event in Canton, IL on March 7 from 9AM - 2PM. Please register before March 1 at the Children's Ministry desk or here by emailing Rosy Rios.

Saturday, March 7 / 9AM - 2PM

EMAIL Rosy Rios



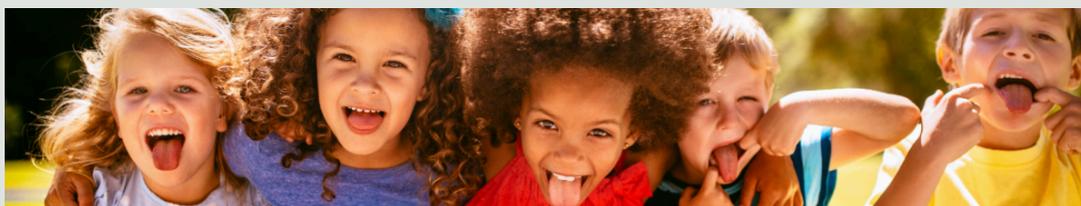
Childcare Hours

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**

Youth



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

This Week's Sermon



Giving

CLICK to Give Online

5 WAYS TO GIVE

-  **In Person**
-  **TEXT 'Peoria 1' to 1.888.364.GIVE**
-  **peoria1.com / Click 'Give'**
-  **peoria1 APP / Click 'Give'**
-  **Scan to Give**

SCAN to Give



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

Get our peoria1 app




scan here 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



FIRST
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
PEORIA • ILLINOIS

116 NE Perry Ave | Peoria, IL 61603 | 309.673.3641

Visit us online at: peoria1.com

Contact us at: info@fumcpeoria.org



First United Methodist Church | 116 NE Perry Ave | Peoria, IL 61603 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!