eHighlights

March 13, 2026
WEEKLY NEWS HIGHLIGHTS
for
PEORIA FIRST UMC

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This Week's Dates to Remember

March 17. Happy St Patricks Day.
March 18. GriefShare. 1PM. Conference Room A.
March 18. Wednesday @ Church. 6PM.

Announcements

Come and See

God is doing incredible things in and through the people at Peoria First. Here are just two areas of ministry that we are changing lives. Come and See what we're doing at Loaves & Fish and Lincoln School. Email Julie Bell to register for either or both events.

Loaves & Fish

Come and See Loaves and Fish and what we do every Saturday for those in need in our community. You may begin your morning at the Alive worship service and then make your way to Wesley Hall to see how every Saturday we care for our neighbors. You may

Lincoln School

Come and See Lincoln School and see how we are building relationships and making a difference in the lives of the staff and students. We will meet at the church at 2:45 and take the church bus to the school. At 3 we will meet the principal; 3:15 observe art

volunteer for the day you come or observe only...either way we need you to signup.

Available Dates
Saturday, March 14, 21, and 28.

10:15AM Alive Worship Service
11AM - 1PM Loaves & Fish Pantry

(Tuesday) or choir (Thursday), and then have a school tour by a special group of students. We will return to the church at 4:15.

Tuesday, March 24 - Art
Thursday, March 26 - Choir

Email Julie Bell

Lenten Devotion

Lenten Devotion Week 3 ~ Deeper

Set aside 5–10 minutes to sit in silence and reflection.

- Find a quiet place. Take a few slow, deep breaths. Let the noise of the day settle as you become aware that Jesus is present with you.
- Slowly read John 9:1–25, 35–38. Notice the contrast in the story: the man who cannot see receives sight, while the people who can see struggle to recognize what God is doing.
- Notice the man's simple honesty. He does not argue theology or defend himself with complicated explanations. He simply tells the truth about what Jesus did for him.
- Ask: "Where might I still be living with spiritual blindness?" "Where is Jesus inviting me to see something new about him, about myself, or about others?"
- Pause. Breathe slowly. Let those questions rest in God's presence.
- Pray: "Jesus, where have you already been at work in my life that I may overlook or forget?"
- Breathe deeply again. Allow memories of God's grace to surface — moments of guidance, healing, forgiveness, or clarity.
- Closing prayer: "Jesus, you are the one who opens blind eyes and brings light into darkness. Thank you for the ways you have helped me see. Let my life quietly reflect your grace so that others may come to know you. Amen."

Spiritual formation deepens when we recognize the light Christ has already brought into our lives and when we learn, like the man born blind, to simply and faithfully say: *"I was blind, but now I see."*

Events

Mark Kroos

Mark Kroos is best known for his instrumental work on the double neck guitar, playing both necks simultaneously using tapping techniques with both hands. He has released 4 full length instrumental guitar albums and a DVD. Mark was the winner of Guitar Player Magazine's Guitar Superstar Competition in 2011.

March 22 | 8:45 & 9AM Worship Services

Church Grounds Spring Cleanup

It is almost time for spring cleaning. There is a team forming to do some gentle outside cleanup around the church building. If you are able to help, just show up.

March 28 | 9-11AM | Outside

Wednesday @ Church

6PM Time of Fellowship • Worship Center

6:30PM
English Bible Study with Pastor Tim - NEW Study on Revelation
Room 215

Spanish Bible Study with Pastor Miguel
Worship Center

Youth Activities
Youth Room

Children Activities
Children's Area

Holy Week

Mission First

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
March 1 - 25

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.

The Foster Gallery is open for viewing:
Monday - Friday: 9AM - 1PM
Sunday: 8:30AM - Noon
Other Showings by Appointment

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

EMAIL Eugene Maison

Children

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

YOUTH Sunday School

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

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.

Sundays • 10:00AM
Youth Room

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

Wednesdays • 6PM
Youth Room

Questions about Youth Ministry?
Contact Christina Koeppel

Email Christina Koeppel

This Week's Sermon

Giving

CLICK to Give Online

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.

eHIGHLIGHTS

Email Julie Bell

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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PEORIA • ILLINOIS

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