

# eHighlights

March 27, 2026  
WEEKLY NEWS HIGHLIGHTS  
for  
PEORIA FIRST UMC

PEORIA1.COM

## This Week's Dates to Remember

March 28. Spring Cleanup. 9AM.  
April 1. GriefShare. 1PM. Conference Room A.  
April 1. Wednesday @ Church. NOT MEETING.  
April 2. Holy Thursday Worship. 7PM. Worship Center.  
April 3. Good Friday Service ~ Funeral for a Friend. 7PM. Sanctuary.  
April 5. Easter Sunday.

## Holy Week



## Announcements



### 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

## Lenten Devotion



### Palm Sunday Lenten Devotion (Deeper)

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

- Find a quiet place. Take a few slow, deep breaths. Let your mind settle. Become aware that Jesus is with you.
- Slowly read *Luke 19:28–40*.
- Notice the scene: Jesus approaches Jerusalem. The crowd gathers, full of anticipation and hope. Cloaks are spread on the road. Voices rise in praise. Yet beneath the celebration, tension is building.
- Picture the moment: The disciples rejoice and shout, “*Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!*” The Pharisees urge Jesus to silence them. Jesus responds, “*If they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.*”
- *Pause. Breathe slowly. Reflect:*
  - *Where do I see myself in this story?*
  - *Am I among those who openly praise? Those who hesitate? Those who question?*
- Consider the joy of the crowd.
- They celebrate Jesus as king—yet they do not fully understand the kind of king he is.
- Ask yourself: *What kind of king am I expecting Jesus to be in my life? Where might my expectations need to change?*
- Ask: *Where is Jesus inviting me to speak, to witness, or to live my faith more openly?*
- *Sit with that invitation for a moment, without pressure or urgency.*
- *Pray slowly:*
  - *“Jesus, you are the true King... humble, faithful, and full of mercy. When I am quiet out of fear or uncertainty, give me courage to praise you. Help me to follow you, not only in moments of celebration, but also on the road that leads to the cross.”*

### Closing Reflection:

Holy Week reminds us that discipleship begins in praise—but continues through surrender. We join the crowd in joy, yet we are also invited to follow Jesus more deeply in the days ahead.

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<sup>28</sup> After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. <sup>29</sup> As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, <sup>30</sup> “Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>31</sup> If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it.’”

32 Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. 33 As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?”

34 They replied, “The Lord needs it.”

35 They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. 36 As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

37 When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

38 “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!”[a]

“Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”

40 “I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.”

## Events



*Wednesday @ Church*

NOT MEETING DURING HOLY WEEK

## Mission First



### *Attendance Card Replacement in the Worship Center*

Do you attend Renew or Renuevo? Looking for one or a few people to place attendance cards, giving envelopes and pens in the chair pockets in the Worship Center.

You can do this on your own schedule. And it only needs to be done every 5 or 6 weeks.

Can you help? Contact Julie Bell

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



**FINE ARTS  
MINISTRY**  
PEORIA FIRST



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

EMAIL 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

A graphic with a blue and white checkered background. On the right, there is a circular illustration of diverse children's faces. The text is arranged in two columns, with the English text on the left and the Spanish text on the right.



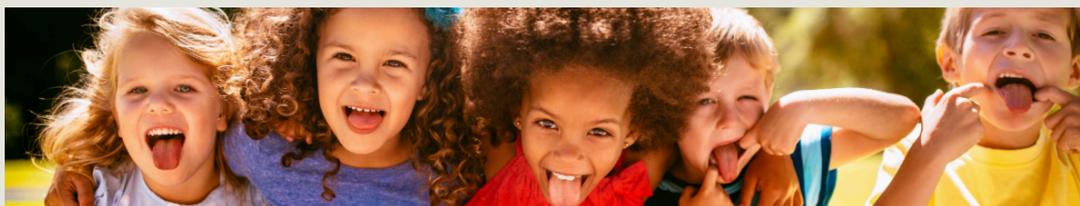
## **Childcare Hours**

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.

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 Koeppel**

[Email Christina Koeppel](#)

## This Week's Sermon



## Giving

[CLICK to Give Online](#)

SCAN to Give



[GIVING QUESTION? Email Here](#)

**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**

## 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

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### 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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