

eHighlights

March 6, 2026
WEEKLY NEWS HIGHLIGHTS
for
PEORIA FIRST UMC

PEORIA1.COM

This Week's Dates to Remember

- March 6. First Friday Reception. 5PM. Foster Gallery.
- March 7. Spring Clocks Forward.
- March 10. United Women in Faith. 10AM. Gathering Space.
- March 11. GriefShare. 1PM. Conference Room A.
- March 11. Wednesday @ Church. 6PM.

Announcements



Spring Forward

It is time to set your clock forward
1 hour Saturday night.
Don't be late for church!

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



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

way to Wesley Hall to see how every Saturday we care for our neighbors. You may 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

and take the church bus to the school. At 3 we will meet the principal; 3:15 observe art (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 day
Thursday, March 26 - Choir Day

Email Julie Bell

Lenten Devotion



Lenten Devotion Week 2 ~ Deeper

Set aside 5–10 minutes to sit in silence and reflection on John 4:1–30, 39–42.

- Find a quiet place. Take a few slow, deep breaths. Let the rush of the day grow quiet, and allow yourself to settle into God's presence.
- As you read the passage slowly, notice Jesus' tone, his patience, and the woman's honesty and surprise. Read John 4:1–30, 39–42.
- Ask: "Where do I see myself in this story: am I the woman trying to avoid conflict because she feels rejected? Am I the villagers pointing fingers? Do I see myself in the thirst, the avoidance, or the longing to be known?"
- Pause. Breathe. Sit with these questions for a moment.
- Pray: "Jesus, what am I still trying to hide or manage on my own? Where am I coming to you cautiously instead of openly?"
- Pause again. Let grace, not judgment, fill the silence. Take a deep breath and let it out slowly.
- Pray: "How might my story, even the painful parts, become an invitation for someone else to, 'come and see?'"
- Hold that gently before God as you repeat that question again.
- Pray slowly: "Jesus, you know my whole story and yet you offer me living water. Please, heal what is broken, restore what is weary, and free me from the shame that keeps me silent."
- Take a deep breath and let it out slowly.
- Pray slowly: "Lord, turn my thirst into testimony. Let my life point others to you, not because I have it all together, but because you meet me with grace. Amen."

Spiritual formation takes us deeper when we allow Jesus to meet us in truth and grace, and when we trust that even our broken stories can become living invitations for others to come and see.

John 4: 1-30

Jesus Talks With a Samaritan Woman

4 Now Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John— 2 although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but his disciples. 3 So he left Judea and went back once more to Galilee.

4 Now he had to go through Samaria. 5 So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

7 When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" 8 (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.[a])

10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

11 "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? 12 Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?"

13 Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

15 The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

16 He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back."

17 "I have no husband," she replied.

Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. 18 The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true."

19 "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. 20 Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem."

21 "Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22 You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. 24 God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

25 The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

26 Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he."

The Disciples Rejoin Jesus

27 Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?"

28 Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, 29 "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?" 30 They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

Many Samaritans Believe

39 Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." 40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them,

and he stayed two days. 41 And because of his words many more became believers.

42 They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world."

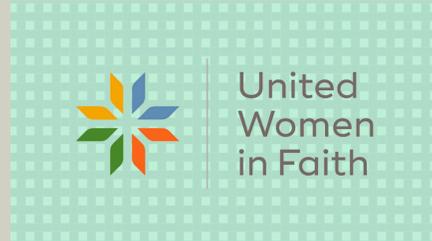
Events



Monochrome Visions
by Peoria Camera Club

First Friday Reception

March 6 | 5 - 8PM | Foster Gallery



United Women in Faith

Pastor Miguel Rios will be the speaker and will provide information on our Hispanic Ministry.

All women are welcome!

March 10 | 10AM | Gathering Space



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

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

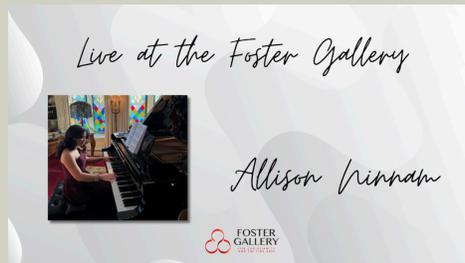
Monochrome Visions

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



LIVE AT THE FOSTER GALLERY

Allison Ninnam (Piano)

Allison will perform expressive selections from Debussy, Chopin, Grieg, and other Romantic and Impressionist composers.

Allison began studying piano at age five and has trained for twelve years with Mrs. Rebecca Gebbink. In addition to piano, she has performed violin with Youth Music Illinois and currently serves as Flute Section Leader for the DHS Marching Band.

Friday, March 6 | 5:30-7:30 PM

**FINE ARTS
MINISTRY**
PEORIA FIRST



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

[EMAIL Eugene Maison](#)

Children

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>CHILDREN'S CHURCH</p> <p>10:00AM / SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:40AM / CHILDREN'S CHOIR</p> <p>INFANTIL IGLESIA</p> |  <p>11:45AM / ESCUELA DOMINICAL 12:10PM / CORO INFANTIL</p> |
|--|--|



CHILDCARE

Childcare Hours

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



Comfort Room

LOCATED IN THE CHILDREN'S AREA

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 Koepfel

[Email Christina Koepfel](#)

This Week's Sermon



From Shame to Witness

JOHN 4:1-30, 39-42

Giving

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5
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TO GIVE



In Person



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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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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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