

June Messenger 2025

First United Methodist Church of East Peoria

154 E. Washington Street, East Peoria, IL 61611

Phone 309-699-5417

Visit Us Online at www.epfumc.com

E-mail: Office@epfumc.org

♥ *Loving God* ♥ *Loving Others* ♥ *Living Our Faith*



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Pastor's Chat

June 2025

Here is my last Pastor's chat! Wow! All the last things are a little harder. I know some who retire and say they can't wait to get out. Don't get me wrong, I am excited to retire and be near our family. I just know that doing ministry was the right place for me. I feel very fortunate since I thought I would be a physical education teacher and coach, but the call was evident and I'm grateful for the way God has moved in my life!

So, I thought I would share some stats for people who like that sort of thing!

In 1994 Eureka UMC sent me to school to become a pastor. 28 years of Ordained ministry with the United Methodist Church. 35 years of youth ministry. 30+ years of kid's ministry. Served 5 churches in Pekin, Charleston, Marshall, El Paso and East Peoria! At least 800 people were served in those 5 churches. 1,000+ sermons preached. 35+ weddings, 300+ funerals in and out of the church, 15+ confirmation classes, 50+ baptisms and 70+ new members! 20+ years of teaching adult bible studies!

My prayer most of all is not all the statistics, but if lives were changed and brought closer to Jesus! Here are the words from Casting Crowns that ring true with me.

"I don't want to leave a legacy, I don't care if they remember me, ONLY JESUS! And I, I've got only one life to live. I'll let every second point to Him. ONLY JESUS! Jesus is the only name to remember!"

I pray every day, that if we have had a relationship that I pointed you to Jesus, somehow or someday! Until we meet again, on this side or in heaven when we see Jesus! May you experience the grace and love of Jesus Christ yesterday, today and tomorrow! My heart is full of love and peace! Thank you!

"I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. Plans for a future and a hope!" Jeremiah 29:11

Forever in Jesus!



*Please Join Us For A
Celebration*

Retirement Party

Honoring
Rev. Krista Price

Sunday, June 22, 2025
10:30 am
(immediately following Worship)

East Peoria First United Methodist Church
154 E. Washington Street
East Peoria, IL 61611

*If you can't make it, please consider
sending Krista a card to our Church.*

We hope to give her a
CELEBRATION worthy of
her 28 years of service.

Sermon Series

Let's Party

June 1 - "Carry On"

June 8 - "Positive Vibes"

June 15 - "Every Preparing for a Plan"

June 22 - "A Hopeful Future"

Sunday Breakfast Lineup!

June 1 - Hospitality Room

June 8 - Hospitality Room

June 15 - Hospitality Room

June 22 - Friends for Mission Breakfast

June 29 - Hospitality Room

Due to the Mission trip our Friends for Mission breakfast is just one Sunday this month.

Red Bird Mission Trip

We are planning to go on our mission trip in June. We will leave at 7am Saturday June 7th and return on Friday, June 13th. It's unknown at this time what our project will be.

Ad Council Meeting

Our next Ad Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 17th at 6:00 pm.

REFRESH Service

Every Wednesday at noon our Church has a 30 minute service for you to Refresh yourself for the week. This Worship service has devotion, prayer and communion. This is a great opportunity to get you through to Sunday.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

The Men's Prayer Breakfast meets on a Saturday every month at 8:00 am at the 520 Café located at 520 Bloomington Road in East Peoria. This month is on **June 7th**. Please let Chuck Pierman know if you will be attending and he will reserve a seat for you.

Happy Father's Day

What a blessing these men are to our Church, their families and all the paths they have crossed in their incredible lifetime.

Rob Snoke 92

Alan Astle 93

Dean Smith 98

Annual Conference

The Annual Conference will be held at the Peoria Civic Center June 5 - 7.

The retirement ceremony, honoring Pastor Krista and other retiring pastors, will be on Friday, June 6th at 2:00 pm. If you plan to attend please arrive an hour early to register as a visitor.

Office Angels Needed!

If you are looking for a place to volunteer... look no farther!

The Office is looking for more Office Angels to help cover during lunch break and once in a while for the Office Staff days off. If you are interested, please give Terri a call at 309-699-5417. She can give you more details.

The Memory Jar

There is a memory jar at the Foyer for you to leave a memory for Pastor Krista and Steve. They can take these memories with them on their new journey. The Memory Jar will also be available at Pastor Krista's retirement party on June 22nd.

Theresa Tracy Trot

This year is the 13th annual run/walk to raise money for pancreatic cancer research. On Nov. 1 you can run 4 miles or walk 2 miles to raise money and awareness! It may seem a bit early to think about, but it is time to register and start raising money. And it is never too early to start exercising and prepare for the mileage. So get those walking shoes on and put in some miles.

Together we will find a cure!



Contact Us For More Info

(309) 303-3564

PO Box 2464, East Peoria, IL 61611

ttt@theresatracytrot.com

www.theresatracytrot.com

Pastor Krista's Favorite Verses

Philippians 1:3-11

3 I thank my God every time I remember you. **4** In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy. **5** Because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, **6** being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. **7** It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. **8** God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. **9** And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, **10** so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, **11** filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

Philippians 4:4-9

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice! **5** Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. **6** Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. **7** And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. **8** Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. **9** Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.



Psalm 37:1-9

1 Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong; **2** for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away. **3** Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. **4** Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. **5** Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: **6** He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun. **7** Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes. **8** Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil. **9** For those who are evil will be destroyed, but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.

Psalm 37:23-28

23 The steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in his way; **24** though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the LORD upholds his hand. **25** I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsake nor his children begging for bread. **26** He is ever lending generously, and his children become a blessing. **27** Turn away from evil and do good; so shall you dwell forever. **28** For the LORD loves justice; he will not forsake his saints. They are preserved forever, but the children of the wicked shall be cut off.

Jeremiah 29:11-14

11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. **12** Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. **13** You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. **14** I will be found by you," declares the Lord, "and will bring you back from captivity."

Sunday Worship Services

Are you unable to attend our Sunday Worship Service in person but would love to be able to watch it every week? Did you attend and would like to see it again?

Our weekly Worship Service is broadcast live to our Facebook page and remains there even after the Worship Service ends. The service is also available on YouTube and our website. If you have any questions about how to access these various platforms, please contact the Church office.

Church Info via Facebook

We are promoting the church and various activities on our Facebook Page and in our Facebook Group. The name of our page and group is the same: East Peoria First United Methodist Church. Our Facebook page is for any Facebook user to see. Please 'Like' and 'Follow' our page and ask your FB friends to 'Like' and 'Follow' it also. Our Facebook Group is supposed to be for those that regularly come to church, help regularly, or have been a part of the church in the past. If you are not a member of our group yet, please ask to join via Facebook. Liking and following our page and being a member of our group will assure that you will be notified of our various posts. **Also, please share our Facebook Page posts and events with your friends and help promote the great happenings of our church. Members of our FB group cannot share the group posts since it is a private group.**

Reporting a New Address

Have you moved? Please call the office at 309-699-5417 and let us know your new address.

Hearing Assistance Units

If you have trouble hearing the sermon or any other event in the Sanctuary, we have Hearing Assistance units to help you. Please see the sound system attendant if you would like to use one.

Giving Made Easy

Did you know you can setup your giving to be an automatic withdrawal, either monthly or semi-monthly? Withdrawals occur on the 3rd and/or the 17th each month. Sign-up is easy! Stop by the church office and ask for an Electronic Giving form.

The Wired Word

A great study/growth opportunity is the Wired Word. This is a self-study that is emailed to you every week (usually on Thursdays) addressing current issues from a Biblical perspective. Email the Church office at Office@epfumc.org and you will be added to the list.

If you are in the Hospital

We call the hospitals every morning, but even if you specify that we be informed of your hospitalization, we are not always told. **Please call us** or have a relative or friend notify the Church. We want to know when you are ill so we can be praying for you.

LOST AND FOUND ITEMS

The lost and found is in the office. Stop in and pick up your belongings. We keep lost & found items for 3 months and if not claimed, we dispose of or give away through the Food Pantry.

Garage door opener (found in parking lot)

Church Office Hours

Monday through Thursday from
9:30 am - 4:00 pm and
Friday from 9:30 am - noon.

Your Church Staff

Rev. Krista Price, Directing Pastor
(217) 549-4544

Terri Bridges, Office Manager
e-mail: office@epfumc.org

Ryan Klaus, Pianist/Organist

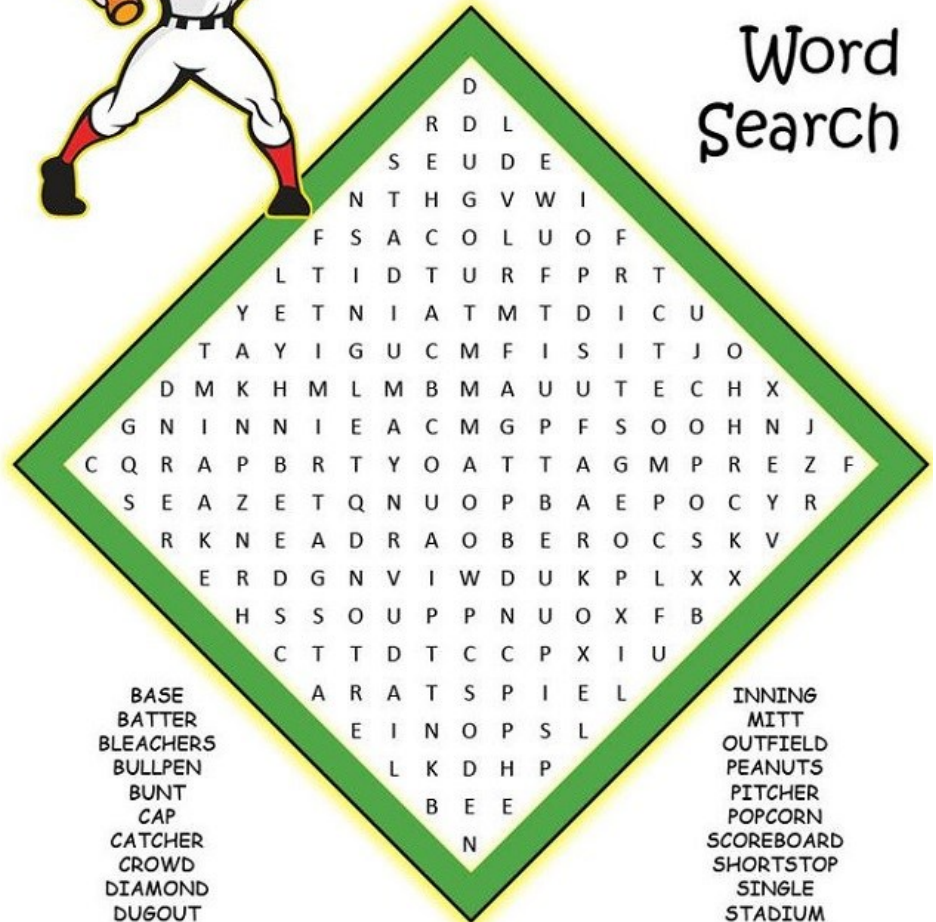
Bob Dietrich, A/V Coordinator

Page for kids
of all ages



Baseball

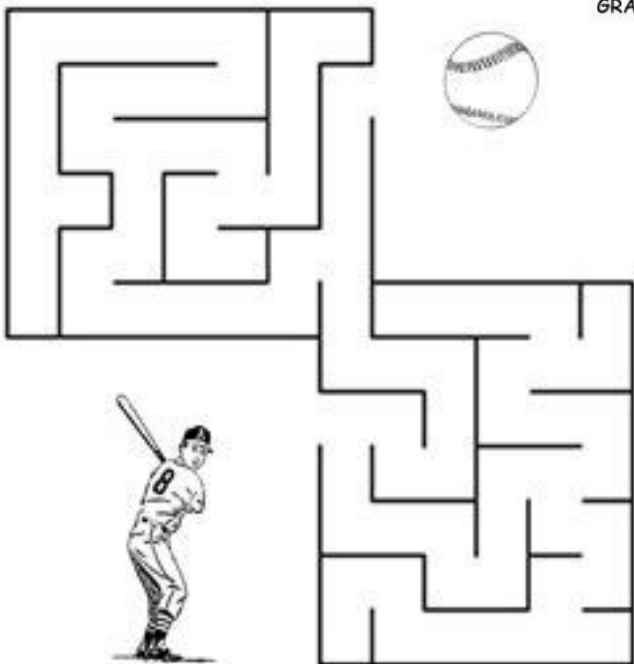
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GRANDSTAND

HOME RUN
HOT DOG

INNING
MITT
OUTFIELD
PEANUTS
PITCHER
POPCORN
SCOREBOARD
SHORTSTOP
SINGLE
STADIUM
STRIKE
TEAM





In Our Prayers

In the Hospital in the Past Month

Fighting Cancer

Halle Bloom, Julie Jenkins,
Pam Riley, Mark Gill,
Mary Mallory, Lynne Barker,
Brian Engles, Rob Calder II,
Katie Bishop, Sandy Crawford,
Joette Blakesley, Gary Fargher,
Merry Eccles, Nancy Brooks,
Norman Clark (asbestosis),
Len Brockman, Kellen Norman,
Jaclyn Brown, Sandra Begemen,
Byron Webb

Prolonged Illness / Challenges

Steve Darrah, Nancy Riddle,
Margaret Johnston, Beth Ball,
Rev. Stan Haxton, Bonnie Lourash,
Margaret Sides, Steve Smith,
Ralph Linder, Steve Wetterauer,
Jeff Briggs, Roger Williams,
Les Leach,
Chuck (Becky Ellis' cousin),
Austin Aldag, Earl Webb,
Nancy Riddle, Caitlin Reeves

Long Term Care / Assisted Living

Katy Gnehm, Anna Martin,
Joyce Mooberry

Needing Prayer

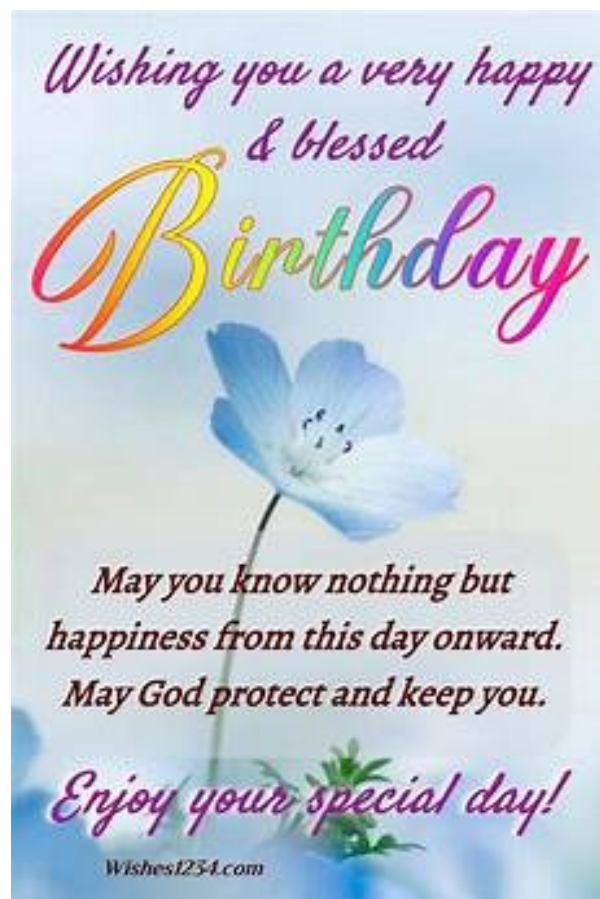
Please pray for Our Dear Church Family
who are struggling, the lonely, all who are
unemployed, shut-in, those who are
struggling with flu/colds, those who are
grieving, all governmental leaders,
those who are serving in our military,
the youth and all caregivers.

Military Service Members

Joe Rizzo (Air National Guard),
Ryan Webb (Army),
Jared Koch (Air Force),
Nate Hill (Air National Guard)

June Birthdays


Jun 9	Jeff Brooks
Jun 12	Rob Snoke 93
Jun 16	Steve Price
Jun 17	Mark Hill
Jun 18	Lynda Gustafson
Jun 19	Steve Hoskins
Jun 19	Kurt Jamison
Jun 20	Lucas Vogel
Jun 22	Rev. Randy Shepard
Jun 23	Makena Schmitt
Jun 24	Terri Bridges
Jun 25	Danette Sipka
Jun 28	Lynn Heisel



Is this your birth month?

If you have a birthday this month, and your name is missing from our list, we do not have your birthdate in our database. Please provide the office with your birthdate; month, day and year. We want to celebrate you!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00am Worship	2 1:00pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry	3	4 12:00pm REFRESH	5 7:00pm EP/Morton Singles	6	7 8:00am Men's Prayer Breakfast
8 9:00am Worship	9 1:00pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry 6:15pm 4-H Meeting	10	11 12:00pm REFRESH	12 11:00am East Peoria Women's Club 7:00pm EP/Morton Singles	13	14
15 9:00am Worship 	16 1:00pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry	17 4:00pm - 7:00pm Early Head Start 6:00pm Ad Council Meeting	18 12:00pm REFRESH	19 7:00pm EP/Morton Singles	20	21 4:00pm Breakfast Setup
22 9:00am Worship Friends for Mission Light Breakfast 10:30am Pastor Krista's Retirement Party	23 1:00pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry	24	25 12:00pm REFRESH	26 7:00pm EP/Morton Singles	27	28 12:00pm Maverick & Layla's B-day Party
29 9:00am Worship	30 1:00pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry	1	2 12:00pm REFRESH	3 7:00pm EP/Morton Singles	4 	5


Cassidy Renken

East Peoria Community High School
Next adventure: Illinois Central College
Family: Trisha & Katie Renken


David Walters

Morton High School
Next adventure: Think Big Program
at Caterpillar
Grandson of Bill & Lynn Heisel


Lydia Rathbun

East Peoria Central Junior High School
Next adventure: EPCHS
Family: Chad & Kindra, Layney, Daniel,
Dan & Janice Cunningham

2025 GRADUATES



Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service

12:00 p.m. Wednesday REFRESH

First United Methodist Church
154 E. Washington St.
East Peoria, IL 61611-2529