

# May Messenger 2024

**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](http://www.epfumc.com)

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



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## *Pastor's Chat*

*Theme for 2024: "Looking Back, Moving Forward!" Isaiah 43: 18- 19. "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See I am doing a new thing!"*

*May is the month of celebrations! This May we are celebrating Mother's Day, (Evan always remembers to include me as stepmom), graduations (we have 2 nieces who are graduating from college), birthdays (siblings, friends and other relatives as well as remembering Steve's mom), and our anniversary as well as others (17 years of marriage, 19 years together)!*

*When I think about Steve and I being together 19 years and married 17 years, I think about communication! We learned that each of us communicated differently early on. The big thing was to always keep our communication open and of course never go to bed mad! It is scriptural! Ephesians 4:26 "be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger and give no opportunity to the devil."*

*I feel we have been blessed because we talk things out and communicate what is going on and apologize when needed! We sometimes mis-communicate, but the key is listening during those times.*

*Since 2020 and the year of craziness, the sin of anger became a norm. I have reflected often and see that we are 4 years out and still allowing the sin of anger to be prevalent! We are angry about so much and then try to justify our anger as something else. I pray as we move forward, we begin to put our focus on relationships in a healthy way! Communicate, but understanding that communicating properly is listening to each other, not getting angry, but quietly listening! If we are the church, then we need to practice this so other people can see we are clear in our communication and that love shines through all we say and do!*

*I pray you will listen to what God is saying to your heart! May we call on the same Holy Spirit that the apostles did, so that we can be filled with God's Spirit to move where He calls us!*

With you on the Way!  
Pastor Krista

### HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

For all of the Ladies, no matter how you are connected to the child or at what stage of life, your influence is important!

When I was young, you helped me grow,  
And taught me all I had to know.

Of love and trust and faith and hope,  
And everything it takes to cope.

You may have thought I didn't hear,  
Or maybe that you weren't quite clear;

But all the things you taught to me  
Were heeded very carefully,

And now I want to thank you for  
Your love, your care, and so much more!

**And to our 90+ Ladies, *THANK YOU!*  
for your influence over your family and ours!**

Marijean Bishel 90  
Shirley Diveley 90  
Evelyn Howard 90  
Jean Aldag 91  
Mary Cole 91  
Betty Fugitt 91  
Gail Morger 91  
Marie Meyer 92  
Jeanne Witherell 92  
Neva Sharp 93  
Jean Paulous 94  
Marge Wakeman 95  
Ernestine Dellaca 96  
Katy Gnehm 96  
Anna Martin 99

### Altar Flower Dedications

- May 5** - Happy Heavenly Anniversary to  
Kathy Staley! Love, Malcolm
- May 12** - In memory of our mothers and all  
mothers! Love, Pastor Krista & Steve
- May 19** - Happy Heavenly Anniversary to  
Frank Hobbs! Love, Jean Hobbs
- May 19** - Celebrating 17 wonderful years of  
marriage! Pastor Krista & Steve
- May 26** - In memory of Jack.  
Love, Shirley Diveley & Family

### Small Adult Group Bible Study

Women of the Bible  
2nd & 4th Thursdays at 2:00 pm

### Committee Meetings

**Trustee Meeting** - Thursday, May 9th  
@ 6:00 pm

### United Women in Faith

May 22 - 1:00 pm Ruth Fellowship  
Hostess - Bev Avery  
Patti Staley  
Memorial Service - Jean Aldag

### United Women in Faith

#### No Bake, Bake Sale

All through May and June.  
Figure out how much it would cost to bake  
a cake, cupcakes, pie or any sweet treat.  
No trip to the grocery store to buy  
the ingredients, and no time spent  
baking your item.

Just make a donation to our UWF Group, and  
you are done. Please write check to UWF.

***Easy as apple pie!***

### All Church Event!

Mark your calendars for our next All Church  
event in May. We will have a kick-off to the  
Summer Cookout on May 19th at 1:00 pm!  
Fried chicken will be provided, please bring a  
side dish to share. We will be taking a free will  
offering for a church garden.

### More Church Events...

Are you signed up for the church texts and  
phone calls? If not, make sure you get signed  
up so you don't miss out on our next church  
meet up! We will be reaching out all spring and  
summer long to see if you want to "meet up"  
with some of your church family at various  
places. It could be pizza at Monical's, it could  
be ice cream at the new Dairy Queen or just  
an evening to listen to music in the park! Be  
sure to check your message for these meet  
ups, you won't want to miss them!!

### Men's Prayer Breakfast

The Men's Prayer Breakfast meets on the  
2nd Saturday of every month. (May 11th) at  
8:00 am at the 520 Café located at 520  
Bloomington Road in East Peoria. Please let  
Chuck Pierman know if you will be  
attending and he will reserve a seat for you.

### **Sermon Series: Don't Settle**

May	
5	Don't Settle for Writing People Off
12	Us/Them
19	Don't Settle for Being Irrelevant
26	Don't Settle for Unhealthy Conflict
June	
2	Don't Settle for Secondhand Knowledge
9	Don't Settle for Marching to the Beat
16	Don't Settle for Living in Fear
23	Don't Settle for Being Dissatisfied
30	Don't Settle for Almost

### **Red Bird Mission Trip**

We are planning to go on our mission trip in June. We will leave at 7am Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup> and return on June 14<sup>th</sup>. It's unknown at this time what our project will be. Anyone interested in joining us, please let Jamie Webb or myself know by May 27<sup>th</sup>. The fee this year is \$500.00 per person. Thanks, Jim Vogel

### **Liturgist Volunteers Needed**

We are looking for Liturgists for June through the end of the year. Please reach out to Ashleigh Lane if you would be willing to help out with our Sunday services!

### **Giving Tree Info!**

Some of you might have noticed the new tree in our church foyer. This is the GIVING TREE! While we are using it right now for some of the items that were requested from our Adopt-A-Family, it is a tree that will permanently stay in the foyer, and anyone, yes, ANYONE, can put a need that they might have and place it on the tree. We will have special "ornaments" under the tree where you can write your needs anonymously. A church member will help secure this need for you. As a church member, we ask that if you can help out someone, please bring the item back and place it under the tree with the ornament attached. This is how we keep it anonymous! If you have any questions on this or how to do this, please reach out to Ashleigh Lane.

### **We Need Your Leap of Faith Pictures!**

Our Leap of Faith Learning Center (aka Hansel & Gretel) is celebrating 50 years of educating children! They want to cover their bulletin board with pictures from all years. If you have any pictures of the Learning Center, old or new, could you please bring them in to be displayed. If you would like the picture returned to you, please put your name on the back. You can turn the pictures into Ms. Cindy or the Office.

### **Thank You**

Giving thanks for all of You!

Dear Church Family: Hello from a rainy day in Ithaca. Thanks for all the birthday wishes! 30's will be a great decade.

Love, Austin Aldag

We would like to sincerely thank our church family for all the cards, calls, prayers and well wishes during my recent surgery and recovery. A special word of thanks to Pastor Krista and Aunt Terry for being with us at the hospital. You are such a blessing to us and we are so grateful for each and every one of you!!

Blessings, Byron & Jamie Webb

### **The Family you helped wants to help you in return!**

The Adopt-A-Family we have helped the past few months is so grateful for all the help we have given them! They have asked if there is anything our church members need to do around their houses or in their cars, as they are willing and able to help with anything you might need help with! They have already helped one member with some yard work and did a fantastic job! They can do small handyman jobs, yard cleaning, mowing, gardening, and car repairs. Let Ashleigh Lane know if you have any needs that you might want this family to help with.

### **Friends for Mission Breakfast**

The Friends for Mission Breakfast is the 2nd Sunday of each month. (May 12<sup>th</sup>) Come have a delicious breakfast and support this important mission.

### 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. We even create DVD copies of the service if you can't access it online.

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.**

### 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](mailto: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.

### Reporting a New Address

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

### NEW ADDRESS

Randy & Mary Blaudow  
825 Brown Swiss Court  
Clarksville TN 37043



### 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 give away through the Food Pantry.*

Women's black sunglasses  
Animal print women's sunglasses  
Silver butterfly ring  
Rose gold butterfly ring

### 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

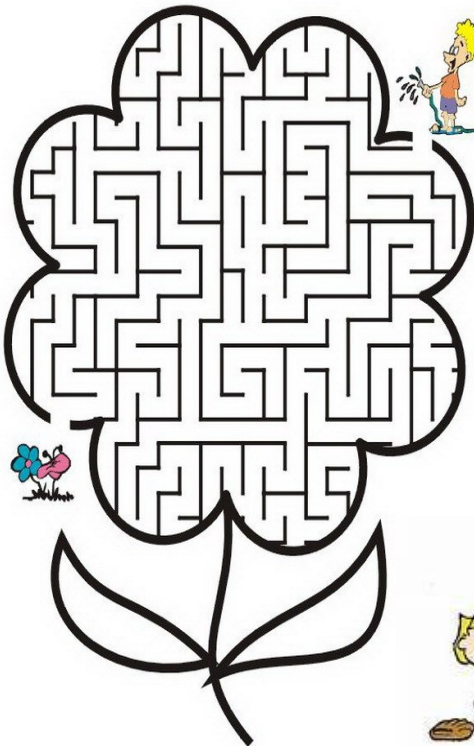
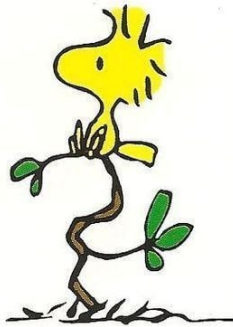
**Terri Bridges**, Office Manager  
e-mail: [office@epfumc.org](mailto:office@epfumc.org)

**Ryan Klaus**, Pianist/Organist

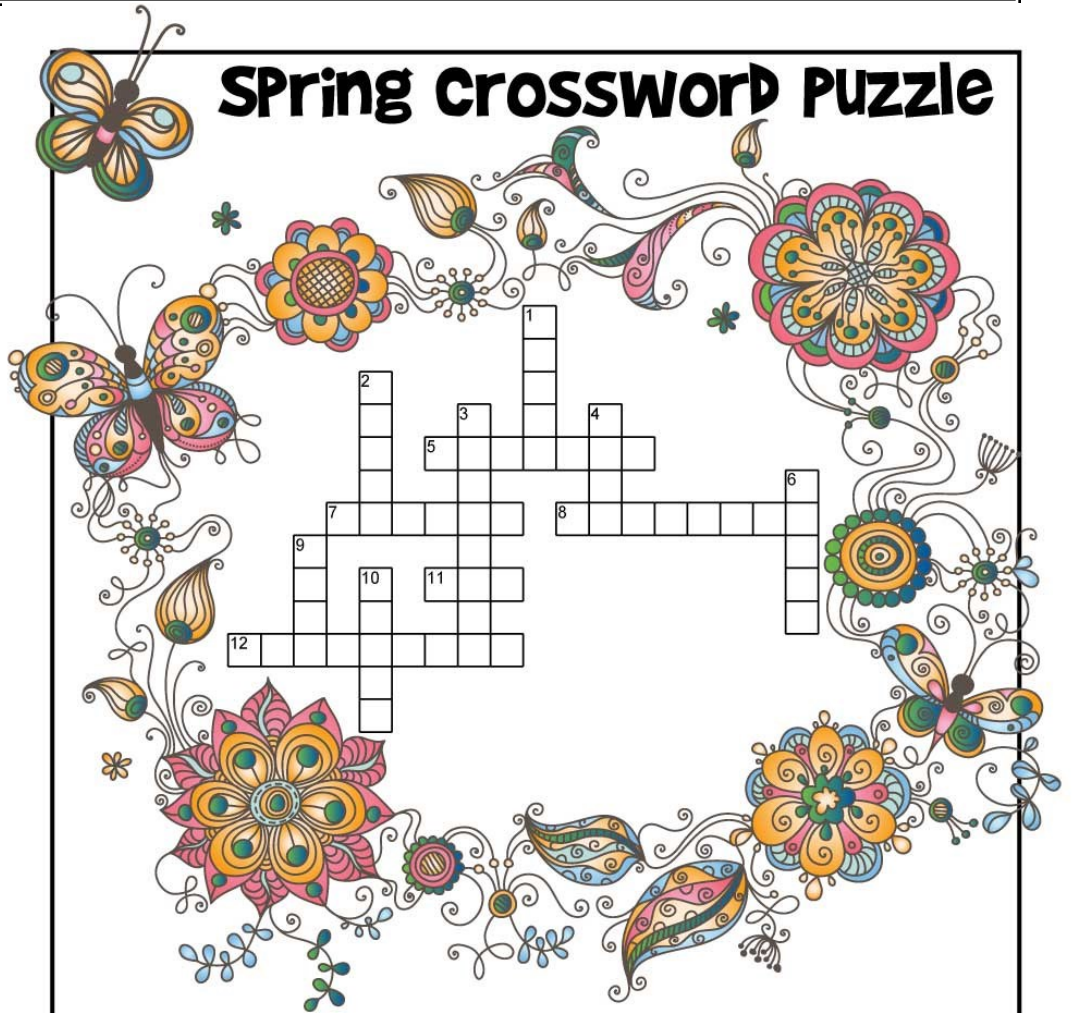
**Bob Dietrich**, A/V Coordinator

Page for kids  
of all ages

Happy  
May!



# Spring Crossword Puzzle



**Across**

- 5. A spectrum of color in the sky when it rains.
- 7. A colorful plant with leaves and petals.
- 8. A circular device that keeps the rain off your head.
- 11. The month in which we celebrate moms.
- 12. A winged insect that comes in many colors.

**Down**

- 1. One of the earliest birds to appear in spring.
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ showers bring May flowers.
- 3. A sport played with a bat and ball.
- 4. The early bird gets the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6. The month in which spring starts.
- 9. When snow and ice turn into water.
- 10. The color of grass once it comes back to life.

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## In Our Prayers

### In the Hospital in the Past Month

Roger Cothrell,  
Ralph Linder

### 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,  
Judy Preston

### Prolonged Illness / Challenges

Steve Darrah, Nancy Riddle,  
Margaret Johnston, Beth Ball,  
Rev. Stan Haxton, Bonnie Lourash,  
Margaret Sides, Gail Morger,  
Jim Spicher, Steve Smith,  
Ralph Linder, Steve Wetterauer,  
Jim Hayden, Jeff Briggs,  
Roger Williams, Les Leach,  
Joyce Mooberry, Neva Sharp,  
Chuck (Becky Ellis' cousin),  
Austin Aldag, Earl Webb,  
Nancy Riddle

### Long Term Care / Assisted Living

Katy Gnehm, Marge Wakeman,  
Anna Martin

### 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)

## May Birthdays

May 4	Linda Gren
May 4	Dan Son
May 5	Orin Naramore
May 7	Nancy Cheatham
May 7	Steve Wetterauer
May 10	Becky Ellis
May 12	Scott Allison
May 12	Margaret Sides
May 15	Heather Cassady
May 16	Jean Hobbs
May 16	Jacob Powers
May 16	Katie Renken
May 19	Doug Ogle
May 21	Marlene Klaus
May 22	Julie Jamison
May 25	Layne Cunningham
May 25	Hayley Powers
May 25	Ryan Webb
May 28	Di Robbins
May 31	Hazel Blackmore

Today is a big day!  
Celebrate in a big way!  
Do something new,  
fun and exciting!  
On your amazing day!

*Happy Birthday!*

### **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!



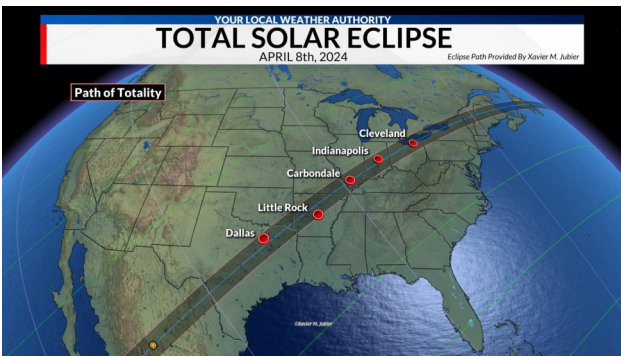
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28 9:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth Group</p>	<p>29 1:00pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Bells Practice 6:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>30 6:00pm Ad Council Meeting</p>	<p>1 12:00pm REFRESH 6:00pm REBORN Practice 6:30pm Puppets for Jesus</p>	<p>2 7:00pm EP/Morton Singles</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 9:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth Group</p>	<p>6 9:30am - 10:30am Pre-K Grad practice 1:00pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Bells Practice</p>	<p>7 9:30am - 10:30am Pre-K Grad practice</p>	<p>8 12:00pm REFRESH 9:30am - 10:30am Pre-K Grad practice 6:00pm REBORN Practice 6:30pm Puppets for Jesus</p>	<p>9 9:30am - 10:30am Pre-K Grad practice 2:00pm Women of the Bible Study Group 6:00pm Trustee Meeting 7:00pm EP/Morton Singles</p>	<p>10 9:30am - 10:30am Pre-K Grad practice 10:00am - 4:00pm LOF Mother's Day Tea</p>	<p>11 8:00am Men's Prayer Breakfast 4:00pm Breakfast Setup</p>
<p>12 9:00am Worship Friends for Mission Breakfast 5:00pm - 8:00pm GS Troop Parents Dinner 6:00pm Youth Group</p>	<p>13 9:30am - 10:30am Pre-K Grad practice 1:00pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Bells Practice 6:15pm 4-H Meeting</p>	<p>14 9:30am - 10:30am Pre-K Grad practice 5:00pm Early Head Start</p>	<p>15 12:00pm REFRESH 9:30am - 10:30am Pre-K Grad practice 5:00pm Early Head Start 6:00pm REBORN Practice 6:30pm Puppets for Jesus</p>	<p>16 Pre-K Grad set up 9:30am - 10:30am Pre-K Grad practice 7:00pm EP/Morton Singles</p>	<p>17 9:30am - 10:30am Pre-K Grad practice 4:00pm - 8:00pm LOF Graduation</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 9:00am Worship 1:00pm All Church Cookout 6:00pm Youth Group</p>	<p>20 1:00pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Bells Practice 6:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 12:00pm REFRESH 1:00pm Ruth Circle 6:00pm REBORN Practice 6:30pm Puppets for Jesus</p>	<p>23 2:00pm Women of the Bible Study Group 7:00pm EP/Morton Singles</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 9:00am Worship with Puppets for Jesus 6:00pm Youth Group</p>	<p>27 Memorial Day Office Closed</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 12:00pm REFRESH 6:00pm REBORN Practice 6:30pm Puppets for Jesus</p>	<p>30 7:00pm EP/Morton Singles</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p>



# Our Church in Pictures...

At that moment everyone stopped what they were doing to look up...

Even Pastor Krista and the children with their safety glasses took the time to watch!



**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