

May 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

May 2025

Joshua 1:9 "Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Hello friends,

I am so grateful for Joshua's message! I need to remind myself of this more and more lately as we have had a few stressful things going on. I need to know to move in the spirit and God will guide us and help us to not be afraid! It is so reassuring to know that God will be with all of us, no matter where we go!

There have been many changes in the last year. At times I feel like I failed you all in the leadership you needed during that time. But then I know that God called me to be faithful to him and him alone and to lead you the best I know how by paying attention to His Word and His Ways!

I often wonder where I would be today, if I had not responded to the call of pursuing ministry. I probably would have stayed in teaching and pursued the needed certificate to teach special education physical education at the Baby Fold. If I had, I would not have ventured to Kentucky for my Master of Divinity degree and missed out on many amazing people. I would have missed out on some amazing people at the 5 churches I served. I would have missed out on meeting my best friend and husband, Steve, as we are getting ready to celebrate 18 years of marriage! I believe I would have missed out on the greatest gift of all, following Jesus to serve him and his people!

We may not understand why things happen or when they do, but we can hold on to this that God will be our God and be with us wherever we go!

Celebrate this month the things that bring you peace and joy! I pray we will have still many moments and memories to share in the next 2 months! My heart is full and I pray so is yours!

*With you on the Way!
Pastor Krista*

Sunday Breakfast Lineup!

May 4 - Hospitality Room
May 11 - Friends for Mission Breakfast
May 18 - Hospitality Room
May 25 - Friends for Mission Breakfast

Ad Council Meeting

Our next Ad Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 13th 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 **May 3rd**. Please let Chuck Pierman know if you will be attending and he will reserve a seat for you.

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. Anyone interested in joining us, please let Jim Vogel know by May 26th.

Sermon Series

Let's Party

May 4- "Party Like It's 1999 B.C."
May 11 - "Party of One"
May 18 - "Every One Is Welcome"
May 25 - "The Heavenly Party"

Books, Books, Books

Pastor Krista is downsizing her book collection and would like to share with you. If you would like to stop by the Office and check out her library you might find one, two or even three you would like to read.

NEW ADDRESS

Randy & Mary Blaudow
 1706 Robin Avenue
 Morton 61550

Poss Ashurst
 204 Harris Rd.
 East Peoria IL 61611

Our friends that moved from Saxony Court.
 (formerly Riverview)

Jean Aldag-Daniels
 1000 Centennial Dr, Apt. 101
 East Peoria IL 61611

Katy Gnehm
 Snyder Village
 1200 E. Partridge St
 Metamora IL 61548

Ralph Linder
 225 Grand Victorian Place
 Washington IL 61571

Happy Mother's Day

A Mother's love is the sun for growing,
 the moon for dreaming, the stars for
 guiding the way!

Vi Smith 90

Judy Wenger 90

Marijean Bishel 91

Evelyn Howard 91

Jean Aldag 92

Mary Cole 92

Betty Fugitt 92

Marie Meyer 93

Jean Paulos 95

Ernestine Dellaca 97

Katy Gnehm 97

Anna Martin 100

What an incredible blessing
 these ladies are!

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 5-9

Please thank a teacher, present or past, and let them know that you appreciate them so! We have eight Leap of Faith teachers and many teachers in our congregation, some retired and some still teaching. They could use your encouragement all year long!

Thank You, Teacher

A happy smile, contagious to all,
 With a heart of gold that never falls.
 As my role model, you set the bar high,
 But you've taught me all I can do is try.
 As my friend, you support me,
 Helping me achieve goals I never imagined
 I could reach.
 As my teacher, you motivate me
 To become the best I can possibly be.
 You're always there to help others,
 Putting yourself second and
 acting like a mother.
 You're a very admired teacher
 Who's caring, kind, and smart.
 Whether I like it or not,
 You're always here for me
 And with my best intentions in your heart.
 I always know you'll have my back.
 The way you love to help others learn
 Is something for which I will always yearn,
 And one day when I'm a teacher too,
 I will strive to be just like you.

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Graduate Information 2025

Attention parents and grandparents of graduates! We are looking for information for anyone graduating from 8th grade, high school, or college. Please stop outside the church office and provide us with some information (look for the clipboard) so we can recognize this great accomplishment. Also, please submit a picture of your graduate, via email (Office@epfumc.org), to be put in a future Messenger!

Deadline for this info is May 21st.

Our ICC Graduate!

Our very own Church Member and Leap of Faith Teacher, Britney Wilhite, will graduate from ICC on May 17th. Britney is graduating with her Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education and on the Dean's Honor Roll list! She plans to go on to get her Bachelor's Degree in Special Education. Please congratulate Britney if you happen to see her around.

Leap of Faith Graduates

May 16th is our Pre-K Graduation. We have many kids excited about moving on to Kindergarten. It would be wonderful if you could add them to your regular prayer list. And if you are moved to do so, a note of encouragement to the classroom would be greatly appreciated!

Theresa Tracy Trot

This year is the 13th annual run/walk to raise money for pancreatic cancer research. On November 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

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

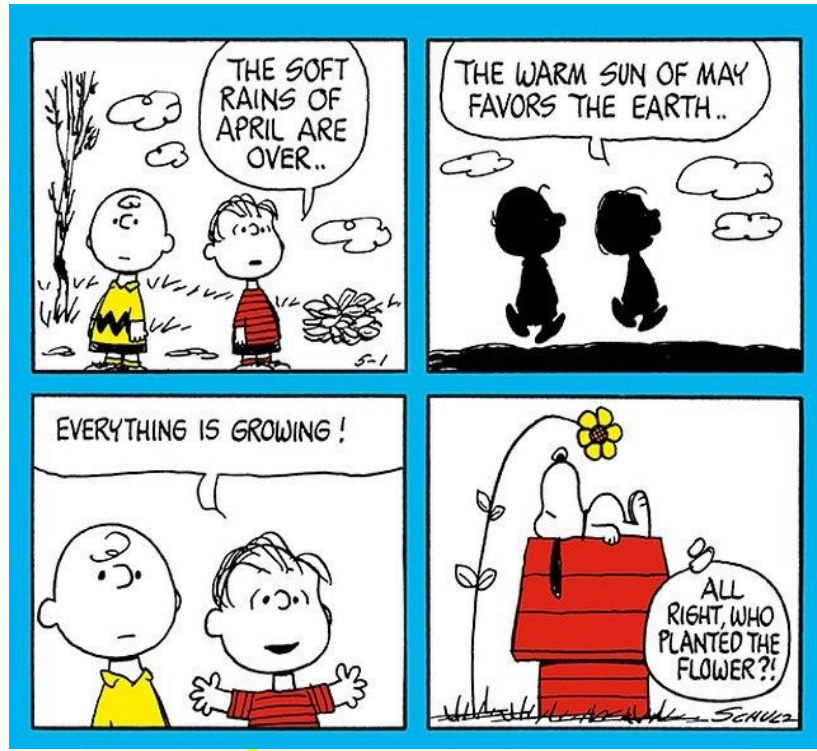
Page for kids
of all ages

Flowers

C	W	E	R	A	C	B	L	U	E
O	O	R	N	A	T	L	L	E	B
R	L	L	I	P	I	O	N	D	A
N	F	U	T	A	D	R	Y	A	I
F	P	A	N	I	S	H	S	H	L
O	T	Y	S	Y	Y	C	A	N	T
R	O	E	L	L	M	U	M	E	H
G	N	E	V	A	G	L	A	D	I
E	E	H	T	F	O	S	U	L	O
T	M	L	I	L	Y	R	O	S	E

Find all the words from the word list (ignore spaces and dashes):

- BLUEBELL
- CARNATION
- CHRYSANTHEMUM
- CORNFLOWER
- DAHLIA
- DAISY**
- FORGET-ME-NOT
- GLADIOLUS
- LILY OF THE VALLEY
- PANSY
- ROSE
- TULIP





In Our Prayers

In the Hospital in the Past Month

Cindy Eubank

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)

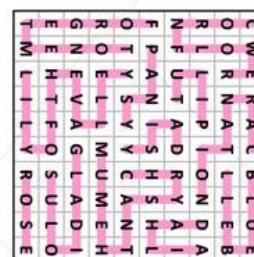
May Birthdays

May 4	Linda Gren
May 4	Dan Son
May 5	Orin Naramore
May 10	Becky Ellis
May 12	Scott Allison
May 12	Margaret Sides
May 16	Jean Hobbs
May 19	Doug Ogle
May 21	Marlene Klaus
May 22	Julie Jamison
May 25	Ryan Webb
May 25	Layne Cunningham
May 28	Di Robbins
May 31	Hazzel Blackmore




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!

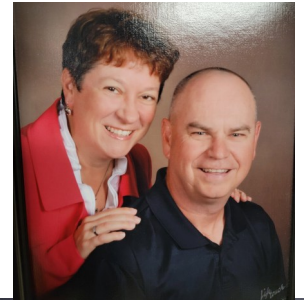


ANSWER:

MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9:00am Worship	28 9:00am SnackPac Packing 1:00pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Bell's Practice 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Cub Scout Meeting	29	30 12:00pm REFRESH 6:00pm REBORN Practice 6:30pm Puppets for Jesus Practice	1 7:00pm EP/Morton Singles	2	3 8:00am Men's Prayer Breakfast
4 9:00am Worship 3:00pm - 7:00pm GS Troop Meeting	5 9:00am SnackPac Packing 1:00pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Bell's Practice 6:00pm Cub Scout Meeting	6 2:00pm - 6:00pm Early Head Start Diaper Giveaway	7 12:00pm REFRESH 6:00pm REBORN Practice 6:30pm Puppets for Jesus Practice	8 11:30am East Peoria Women's Club 7:00pm EP/Morton Singles	9 8:00am - 5:00pm LOF Mother's Day Tea Party	10 4:00pm Breakfast Setup
11 9:00am Worship Friends for Mission Breakfast 	12 LOF Graduation Setup & Practices 9:00am SnackPac Packing 1:00pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Bell's Practice 6:00pm Cub Scout Meeting 6:15pm 4-H Meeting	13 LOF Graduation Setup & Practices 6:00pm Ad Council Meeting	14 12:00pm REFRESH LOF Graduation Setup & Practices 6:00pm REBORN Practice 6:30pm Puppets for Jesus Practice	15 LOF Graduation Setup & Practices 9:00am - 12:00pm Early Head Start 7:00pm EP/Morton Singles	16 LOF Graduation Setup & Practices 6:00pm - 8:00pm LOF Graduation	17
18 9:00am Worship	19 9:00am SnackPac Packing 1:00pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Bell's Practice 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Cub Scout Meeting	20	21 12:00pm REFRESH 6:00pm REBORN Practice 6:30pm Puppets for Jesus Practice	22 7:00pm EP/Morton Singles	23	24 4:00pm Breakfast Setup
25 9:00am Worship Friends for Mission Light Breakfast	26 9:00am SnackPac Packing 1:00pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry 5:00pm Bell's Practice 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Cub Scout Meeting	27	28 12:00pm REFRESH 6:00pm REBORN Practice	29 7:00pm EP/Morton Singles	30	31 8:00am - 5:00pm GS Adult Meeting

HAPPY 18TH ANNIVERSARY PASTOR KRISTA & STEVE PRICE MAY 19, 2007



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