

## Third Presbyterian Church

1221 Custer Avenue  
Rockford, IL 61103  
Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Rockford, IL  
Permit No. 4255

# Third Pres. Times

Volume 26 | Issue 4

April 2026



*Happy Easter*



**Rev. Stephen L. Bowie, Pastor**  
815-962-7889  
stephenlbowie@gmail.com  
thirdpreschurch@yahoo.com  
WTPB - LP 99.3 FM

## Easter Season



**April 2nd 7:00 pm**  
**Maundy Thursday Service**  
"The Stones of Passion"  
Reader's Theater  
The Lord's Supper

**April 5th Easter Sunday**  
9:15 am Family Style Communion  
9:30am Easter Breakfast  
10:15 am Festival Service  
"We Were There: Children of the Easter Story"  
"He Is Risen" - Children/Youth Choir  
"What a Beautiful Name" - Ensemble Anthem

**April 12th Easter Plus One**  
9:00 am Convocation and Sunday School  
10:15 am Sanctuary Worship  
"Avatars and Incarnations"

**April 19th Easter Plus Two**  
9:00 am Convocation and Sunday School  
10:15 Sanctuary Worship  
"The Very First Church Council"  
Fellowship Half Hour—Dining Room

**April 26th Easter Plus Three**  
9:00 am Sunday School Shopping Trip  
"Big Business Sunday: Lydia and the Purple Cloth!"

## Graduation and Scholarship Info



### Attention Seniors

Is someone you know graduating from high school, college or grad school this year? Please notify Jeanne Fauerbach at 815-742-7890 or the church office at [thirdpreschurch@yahoo.com](mailto:thirdpreschurch@yahoo.com). Please provide a current photo, where the grad. went to school, parent/parents name and future plans, so the Education Committee may recognize them on Promotion Sunday, May 17, 2026. Third Pres. will also include you in our June newsletter! Deadline May 1st.

### Third Presbyterian scholarship applications

for the 2026-2027 school year are Available. Please contact the church office or Cathy Logsdon.

The **deadline** for applications is Sunday, May 31st. The scholarships are open to active members, youth and young adults pursuing college or technical school.



### Promotion Sunday

**May 17, 2026 at 9:00AM**  
**All Church Breakfast**

Where we will recognize our Sunday School classes & award Promotion Certificates.

**10:15 AM in Worship**

We will present Attendance Awards, and present God's Word to 2nd Grade Students.



## Register Now For Summer Camp!

For information on camps, go to <http://strongholdcenter.org/>

[Programs/Summer-Camps](#) to see details. The church provides a 50% scholarship for all of our campers. If you register by May 17th, there will be a \$15 discount. Turn in your completed application to the office with a check made payable to *Stronghold Camp* or register online. If you register online please let the church office know so we can track scholarship costs and pray for our campers!

2026 Dates	Camp Name	Grade Comp.	Camp Cost	50% Sch	\$15 Early Regist.
June 14-19	Kingdom Camp	Ages 12-17	\$535.	\$268.	\$253.
June 21-24	Mini Camp	2-4	\$265	\$133	\$118
June 21-26	Climb High	7-11	\$545	\$273	\$258
June 21-26	Junior Castle Camp	3-6	\$520	\$260	\$245
June 28- June 30	Grandcamp	Grand-parent & ages 5-12	\$165 \$100.	\$83 \$50.	\$68 \$35.
July 5-10	Culinary Camp	3-6	\$520	\$260	\$245
July 5-10	Harry Potter Camp	3-6	\$520	\$260	\$245
July 5-10	Middlers	6-8	\$535	\$268	\$253
July 12-17	Night Owl	6-8	\$535	\$268	\$253
July 12-17	Sr. High Night Owl	9-12	\$535	\$268	\$253
July 13-17	Day Camp	K-3	\$135	\$68	\$53
July 19-24	Juniors	3-6	\$520	\$260	\$245
July 19-24	Mysteries,, Puzzles & Games	6-8	\$535	\$268	\$253
July 20-24	Day Camp	K-3	\$135	\$68	\$53.
July 24-26	Family Camp	all	Online	\$\$	

## Follow Along with Pastor Steve

Each week Pastor Steve will consult these passages as he prepares to preach. The congregation will typically read the Acts passage in its entirety. The Old Testament and Gospel passages may be read in part.

April 5th

Isaiah 25:6-9      Acts 13:42-52      Luke 24:1-12

April 12th

Psalms 115      Acts 14      Mark 2:1-12

April 19th

Exodus 18:13-26      Acts 15:1-35      Matthew 11:28-30

April 26th

Amos 9:11-15      Acts 15:36-16:15      John 10:1-10

### How to gain in your discipleship by reading the Bible

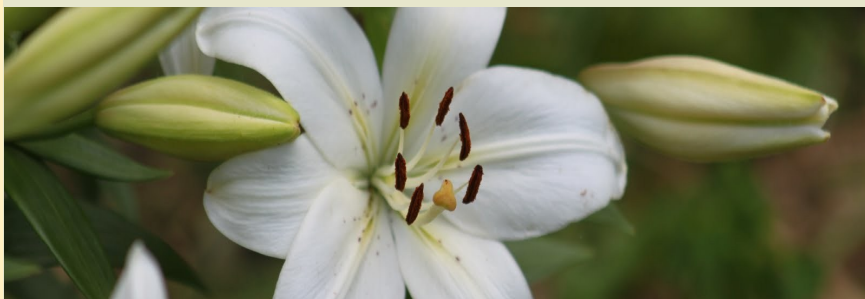
You don't have to be a scholar or an expert to be helped in your Christian walk by reading scripture. While just about any question you may have could be answered by consulting Google, you can also follow a study method such as this one:

- Pray      Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in your reading.
- Preview      Look at the context of the passage: is in in the Old or New Testament? Who seem to be the main characters?
- Read      Read the passage through once. Let it rest in your mind for 5 minutes, then read it again.
- Observe      What is the subject of the passage? Which people involved in the narrative?
- Apply      Ask yourself what application the passage has for your daily life.
- Pray      Thank God for the gift of Gods' word to us.
- Tell      Share with another person what you have learned.

## Thank You!

**Thank you to everyone who donated lilies in honor and memory of your Loves ones.**

Katie Malnor	In memory of Loved ones
Cindy Watton	In memory of Loved ones
Alyce Lutzow	In memory of Earl, Brian & Brad
Marion Lingel	In memory of George
Lorie Michaelis	In memory of Loved ones
Sue & John Gustafson	In memory of dear fiends and Loved ones
Connie Hollenbeck	In memory of Dale
Kim Ponders	In memory of Maida Kalb
The Leber family	In memory of Loved ones
Dan & Laura Chiodini	In memory of Loved ones
Al & Nancy Justman	In memory of Bonnie Erdman
Pam Reed	In memory of Family
Pastor Steve	In memory of Nonie & Bob Fredrich
Greg & Robbin Albert	In memory of Candy Redler



**Spring Clean Up**  
 Saturday, May 16th 9:00am  
 Volunteers Needed

Thank you in advance for your help & support  
 keeping TPC looking great!!!

## Radio

### Celebrating 21 years on the Air, 24 Hours a Day!

That's right! Every year at Easter time means another anniversary for WTPB 99.3 FM Radio.

We first went on the air in early April 2005. Happy Birthday, WTPB!

Each year during Holy Week we feature many religious specials. Listen to these programs the week of March 29 (Palm Sunday) through April 5 (Easter Sunday). Some of these programs are by the Tabernacle Choir. One annual special is a Good Friday concert from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. The Tabernacle programs will air on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 9 AM, and additional times during the week.

The Mike Williamson and Friends show for that week will air at 730 PM on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; and at 1:30 PM on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

During April you can listen to Don Ferguson's one-hour shows (Music from Hollywood and Broadway, Monday and Friday at 10 AM, and Wednesday and Sunday at 4 PM). His shows during the month will feature a program written by Don called, "Charlene's Stormy Summer," plus musical programs on "Fiddler on the Roof," the George Shearing Story; "Li'l Abner," and Part 5 of Don's series he calls "Songs That Tell A Story."

Best wishes, Thanks for Listening !  
 Murray Hanson, Station Manager  
 Happy Easter!

**WTPB-LP**  
 99.3 FM

Rockford Community Radio  
 The Voice Of The Third Presbyterian Church Of Rockford

# April Birthdays

- April 1 Sarah Minnier
- April 2 Nicholas Birch
- April 4 Julie Leber, Audrey Hammer
- April 7 Olivia Watton
- April 10 Mary Raum, Rebecca Truitt
- April 12 Karen Lang
- April 13 Thomas Truitt
- April 14 Irvin Koenig, Anna Cooper
- April 15 Kay Carriglitto, Ethan Volk
- April 17 Nancy Justman, Marissa May, Raj Patel, Jeffrey Rowland
- April 19 Sydney Facer, Joseph Leber
- April 20 Lori Olson
- April 24 Chad Insko
- April 26 Bryan Olson, Brik Volk,
- April 27 Dawn May
- April 29 Dave Guzzardo
- April 30 Angie Insko





**It's time to think about gardening! We have raised beds available for plants and seeds. Please call the Church office if you would like one reserved for you. The phone number is 815-962-7889.**

# Spring Fun!

**Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt**  
Join us on Palm Sunday, March 29th  
9:00 AM for a fun Easter egg hunt!

We'll be heading outside to the park, so please dress warmly and be ready for the weather.



We hope to see you there!

**Sunday School Shopping Trip**  
for Rock House Kids/  
Hope Wins.  
Sunday, April 26th at  
9:00am.



**Practice for Easter Program:**  
Saturday, March 28th  
9:00Am-11:00AM  
  
Wednesday, April 1st  
5:30PM-7:00PM  
Potluck with hotdogs provided  
Practice for Easter program after dinner



**Vacation Bible School**

Halsted Baptist Church  
June 22nd –26th  
11:00AM—2:30PM  
Register online

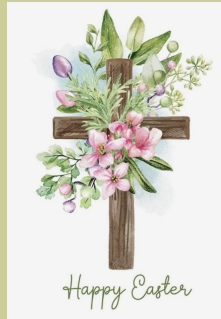
## Night Crusaders

### Saturday, April 4th Easter Breakfast Preparation, Lunch & Camping Inventory Checklist

We will meet at the church at 10:00 AM to prepare for Easter Breakfast. We will also be doing a camping Inventory checklist and lunch.

### Sunday, April 5th Easter Breakfast & Service

We will meet at the church at 8:30 AM to go over final to-dos, and then serve breakfast at 9:15 AM. We will be assisting with the 10:15 AM worship service, followed by light cleanup afterward. This is a fundraiser for our Mission Trip to Camp Westminster at Higgins Lake, Michigan.



### Saturday, April 25th Train Trip into Chicago

More info coming soon!



### Saturday, May 16th Paintball with picnic Lunch

More info coming soon!



### June 5-7 Dells Camping Trip

More info coming soon!

## Read: How God's People Can Help

Thirders,

Recently a number of us have been putting our heads and hearts together to discern whether God is calling us to engage with the topic of literacy - the ability to read - in our community. We've recently been reminded that in school children are expected to learn to read by the end of 3rd grade. If they have not or if their ability to process what they have read is limited, they will immediately begin to fall behind their peers. The very real prospect is that those who do not learn to read and process what they have read have much higher chance of experiencing negative outcomes in life.

Zero to 3rd: Learn to read 4th and beyond: Read to learn.

Our reflection group is following several pathways to see which if any seem to be the path God is calling us to follow:

- \* We met with Dan Berman of the United Way to learn about their literacy initiative.
- \* We met with Principal O'Brien at Welsh elementary
- \* We had conversation after worship on March 8th

Some of us are also reading [Read: How God's People Can Bring Justice Through Literacy](#). It is not yet clear where this will take us. You are welcome to become part of the journey. Please pray about do so!

Pastor Steve, Anne Pritz-Hall, Linda Renk Cooper