

PEARCE CHURCH

News, Events & Updates • August 21, 2026

This Weekend (August 22 & 23)

Saturday Worship: 5:00pm / Sunday Worship: 9:30am

Sermon Series: Summer Reflections
Sermon Title: Why Do We Gather Together? The Purpose of Congregational Worship
Preaching Pastor: Jonathan Bratt
Scripture: Luke 9:18-36

Special Worship Elements:

We will give a warm welcome to RWU 1st Year students who will be joining us for the Sunday morning worship service. Be sure to greet them and commit to pray for them as they navigate the weeks ahead.

This Week (August 21 – August 28):

Sunday, August 23

- Sunday Morning Prayer at 9am – feel free to spend time in prayer in the Parlor prior to the service

Tuesday, August 25

- Tuesday Men's Breakfast - 7am at Town and Country Family Restaurant (3205 Chili Ave, Rochester, NY 14624)
- Widows & Widowers group meets at noon at the Town & County Restaurant (3205 Chili Ave, Rochester, NY 14624)
- Pearce Teens TNT (Tuesday Night Thing) from 6:30 – 8:30pm at the Newcomb's home (350 Westside Dr Rochester, NY 14624)

Thursday, August 27

- GCLT meets at 6pm in the Conference room

Plan Ahead (Note: many fall events are still in the planning stages – watch for more information in the coming weeks)

- **August 29:** Bible Quizzing Game On Event; 2-5pm at Pearce; for any teen interested
- **September 7:** Pearce and P4K offices will be closed for Labor Day
- **September 9:** Worship Arts Kickoff
 - Time/Location: 6-8pm in the Friendship Center
 - Who: Open to all current worship team members including choir participants and A/V teammates, as well as any others who are interested in joining the worship ministry
 - What: Share in a delicious potluck meal and hear the vision for the upcoming ministry year
 - Go [here](#) for more information and/ or to register, or contact [Julie Smith](#)
- **September 12 & 13:** Fall Kick-off and Ministry Fair after worship services
- **September 14:** Golden Heirs meet at noon in the Friendship Center
- **September 19:** Debt Elimination Celebration – Come celebrate this exciting milestone with us as we give thanks, fellowship, and celebrate the retirement of our church debt
- **September 19 & 20:** Fall Discipleship begins
- **September 20:** Segue for 4th – 6th graders
- **September 25:** RWU's Presidential Inauguration Ceremony at Pearce. More information to come!
- **September 27:** KidsMin Family Scavenger Hunt
- **October 8:** Family Serve Night
- **October 16:** Parent Night Out
- **October 24:** Celebration of Life service for Michael Landrum at 2pm in the Sanctuary

The Free Methodist Church Turns 166 years old!

On Sunday, August 23, we celebrate God's faithfulness to the Free Methodist Church (Denomination) as it was formally organized 166 years ago (1860) by Benjamin Titus Roberts and a group of 15 preachers and 45 lay people near Pekin, New York. Fun fact: Pearce was founded in 1861! If you are interested in more Free Methodist history, click [here](#).

Bishops Call the Church to Pray

In a recent email leaders received, our Bishops said, "Once again, we have sensed a call of the Spirit to come together as the church, across all of our regions, to **pray and fast**. We all desire for **Spirit aliveness** to be one of the hallmarks of each Free Methodist congregation, and together we envision a Spirit-fueled movement in the FMC. We know that movements and revival are birthed in prayer and dependency on the Lord. Please participate with us in this time of prayer and fasting: **Seeking Together: Prayers for the Church.**" Pearce is invited to participate in this call to pray and fast for the month of September. Subscribe to daily emails [here](#). Watch daily videos [here](#).

Mission Trip Highlight - Elijah Bailey

When Sondra Anderson first contacted me about serving at YoungLife camp in Jablonec, Czech Republic, I had no idea the experience that would unfold. Spending time immersed in another culture, surrounded by young hearts on fire for Christ, was an incredible blessing. Our team, made up of members from Edgewood Church, Park Ridge Free Methodist, and a group from Lebanon, Pennsylvania, was welcomed by 35 campers and roughly the same number of Czech leaders.

Throughout the week, we watched God move in ways both big and small. From "tunnels of love" and translated conversations to doing crafts without a single common word, our team embraced every opportunity to connect with kids across a wide spectrum of faith journeys. Some came from difficult home situations or non-believing families, while others arrived already curious about the gospel and seeking more. Over the week, we built meaningful relationships with the kids by teaching English workshops, playing games, singing, dancing, and eating alongside them. Seeing the smiles of kids who realized just how loved they were by us, the Czech staff, and most importantly, our Savior, was so powerful. We enjoyed spending significant time with the local camp leaders as well, most of whom are 16-24 years old.

Their passion for the gospel, especially in one of the most secular countries in the world, was incredibly encouraging. God's presence was evident not only in the people and resources He provided for camp, but also in the deep conversations and moments of vulnerability that unfolded. By the end of camp, it was clear that something special had taken place. Hearts were softened, new friendships were formed, and the love and light of Christ had shone in an area that desperately needed it. I'm grateful and humbled to have experienced even a small part of what God is doing in Jablonec, and excited to see what happens next!

Giving & Serving Opportunities

- *Thank you* to all who donate to our **Food Cupboard!** This week's needs are:
 - Pasta (any kind but spaghetti noodles)
 - Hamburger Helper
 - Tuna Helper
 - Instant Mashed Potatoes
 - Potato Side Dishes
 - Rice-a-Roni
 - Canned Soups
 - Ketchup
- **Check out the various [ways to give](#)** to support Operations, Missions, and the Free to Serve Campaign

Financial Update

Dear Church Family,

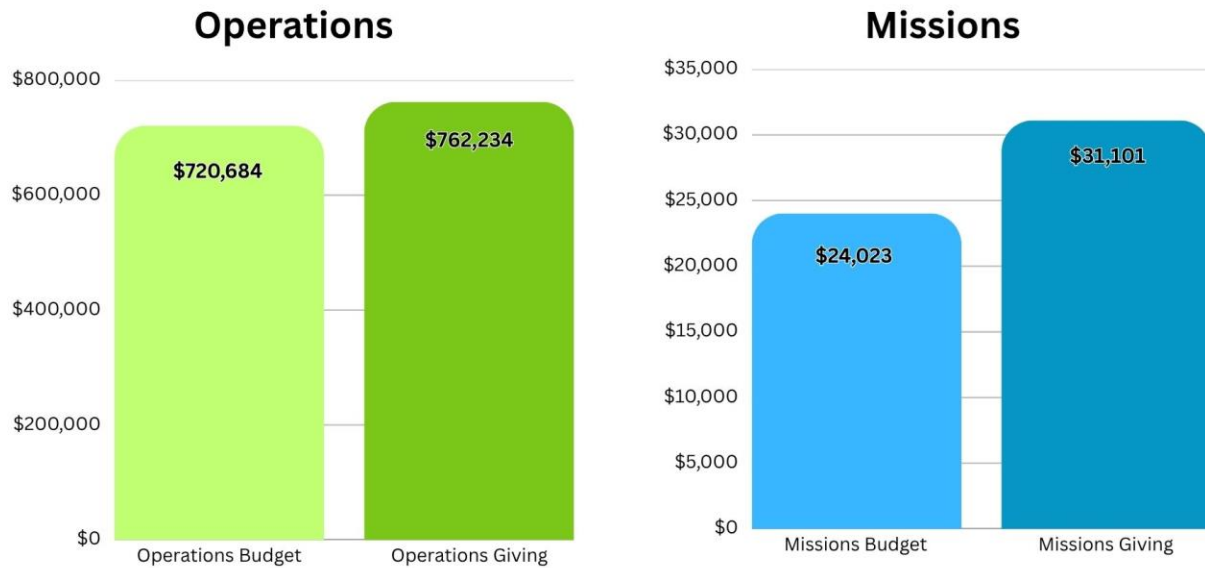
Thank you for your incredible generosity in giving that has currently put us ahead of budget. Your faithful support goes far beyond numbers on a page, it fuels our shared mission, helps our local community and shows God's love in a real way. We are deeply blessed by your hearts to give and here is where that blessing is being used:

- First, we have been able to increase salaries from the 1% given in January to non-minimum wage earners to the full 3% that was originally desired.
- Second, we have been able to pay for several large equipment repairs without stressing our expense budget.
- Third, with strong Mission giving, we have been able to pass along a special blessing to the missionaries we support through the GCLT.

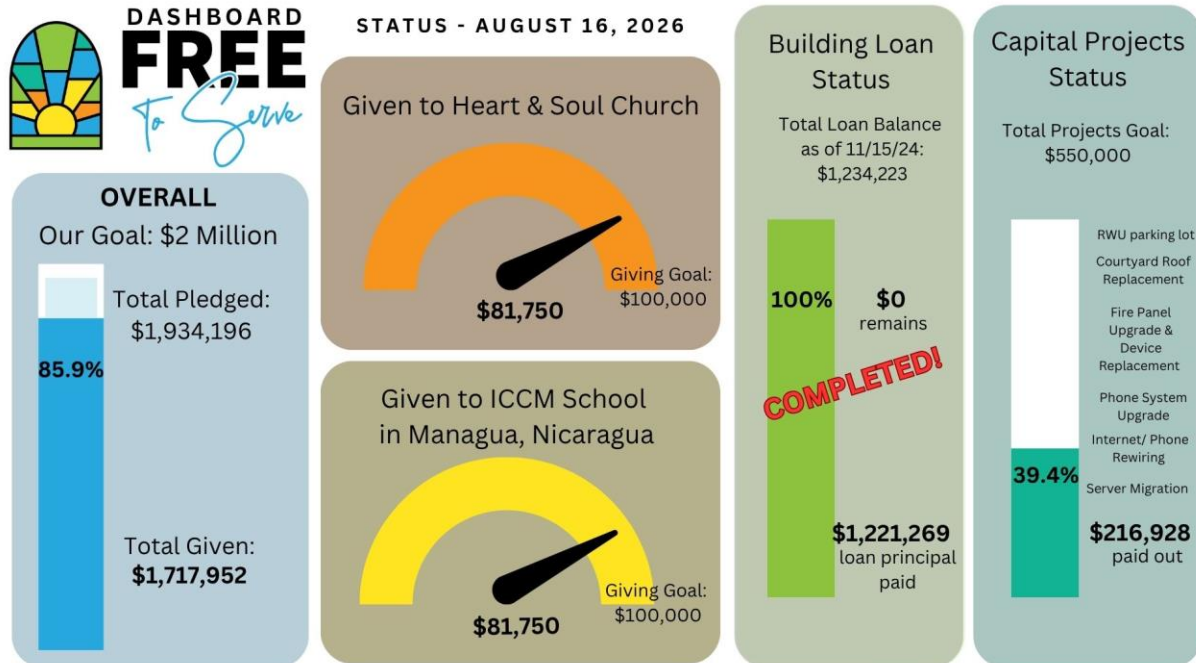
Many Blessings to you all!

On Behalf of the Official Board, Your Finance Team

Financial Update thru August 16, 2026



Total Ahead: \$48,628



Job Opening at Pearce:

- Full-time Public Relations & Human Resources Director:** This onsite position is scheduled for 40 hours per week
 Visit [this link](#) to review the job description, and to obtain an application, or contact [Kimberly Brittin](#), for more information.

Prayer

Daily prayer updates are sent Monday through Friday at 3:30pm, providing information about the needs of our Pearce community. If you have a personal prayer request, update, or bereavement information to share, send it to pearce@pearcechurch.org, or call the church at 585-594-9488, and we will be sure to include it in our next update.