

QUARTERLY PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORT – WNSV NASHVILLE, IL 62263

JANUARY 2024 – MARCH 2024

01/07/24 Illinois In Focus- Greg Bishop has the top stories this week. A judge on Wednesday pushed back the start of the state's most high-profile public corruption case to October, citing a pending U.S. Supreme Court case focused on the federal bribery statute. U.S. District Judge John Robert Blakey set former Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan's racketeering case for Oct. 8, a six-month delay from the initial April start date. Madigan's defense team had asked for a stay in the case after the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to review *Snyder v. United States*, which focuses on an Indiana mayor convicted of accepting a bribe. (26:00)

This week's top news and commentary, where the corruption case of former Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan has been pushed back to start in October, and more.

St. John's Lutheran Church had a Bible Study program (30:30)

01/14/24 Illinois In Focus- Greg Bishop has the top stories this week. As communities across the state continue to evaluate how to deal with the prospect of buses dropped off migrants from the southern border, Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker says the state is limited in what it can do. A patchwork of ordinances across the state either regulate buses and hotel stays to deter migrant arrivals, or declare non-sanctuary status. In McClean County, Emergency Management Agency Director Cathy Beck asked local officials for rural places to put shelters if needed. Reached for comment Wednesday, Beck said they have yet received any buses. (26:00)

This week's top news and commentary, where more people continue to evaluate how to deal with buses dropping off migrants from the southern border, with the state limited as to what they can do, and more.

St. John's Lutheran Church had a Bible Study program (30:30)

01/21/24 Illinois In Focus- Greg Bishop has the top stories this week. The migrant crisis in Illinois is prompting some policymakers around the state to take action. Tens of thousands of migrants have been transported to the state from the southern U.S. border. The city of Chicago reports about 33,000 asylum seekers have arrived since August 2022. The state of Illinois has provided \$640 million to address the migrant influx. Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson said the city is facing a projected \$538 million budget deficit for 2024, a financial burden his administration blamed in part on the growing cost of caring for migrants. (26:00)

This week's top news and commentary, where policymakers are pressured to take action in regard to the migrant crisis in Illinois, and more.

St. John's Lutheran Church had a Bible Study program (30:30)

01/28/24 Illinois In Focus- Greg Bishop has the top stories this week. With limited Illinois tax dollars, state officials are laying out their priorities amid ongoing budget pressures such as the hundreds of millions of dollars for migrant care. Promoting the taxpayer-funded \$250 million Smart Start early childhood education initiative, Gov. J.B. Pritzker said the state will have to balance such future spending with other pressures. "And, if we don't have enough resources for everything that everybody wants, what

can we look to do in the future or what should we stop doing in order to make sure that we're balancing expenditures with revenues," Pritzker said at an event in Rochester Thursday. (26:00)

This week's top news and commentary, where state officials are showing their priorities as the ongoing budget pressures continues with migrant care, and more.

St. John's Lutheran Church had a Bible Study program (30:30)

02/04/24 Illinois In Focus- Greg Bishop has the top stories this week. Former President Donald Trump has scored a victory in his battle to be included on the primary ballot in Illinois. The Illinois State Board of Elections voted 8-0 Tuesday to reject a challenge to Trump's candidacy. Several Illinois voters contend that Trump encouraged the Jan. 6 violence at the U.S. Capitol during protests of the 2020 election results and the 14th Amendment would apply to him. "He took a leading role in organizing, facilitating, supporting, directing and protecting a conservative armed and violent invasion, seizure and disruption of the United States Congress on January 6," said attorney Matthew Piers, who represented the challengers. (26:00)

This week's top news and commentary, where former President Donald Trump wins in his battle to be included on the primary ballot in Illinois, and more.

St. John's Lutheran Church had a Bible Study program (30:30)

02/11/24 Illinois In Focus- Greg Bishop has the top stories this week. Battle lines are being drawn at the Illinois statehouse over whether to get rid of a lower minimum wage for tipped workers statewide. While some are advocating for tipped workers to get the minimum wage with tips on top, a legislator who also owns restaurants says such a move would be devastating to the economy. Advocates from the group One Fair Wage organized a rally outside of the Illinois statehouse Tuesday as legislators were returning. (26:00)

This week's top news and commentary, where lawmakers are trying to decide whether or not to get rid of the lower minimum wage for tipped workers statewide, and more.

St. John's Lutheran Church had a Bible Study program (30:30)

02/18/24 Illinois In Focus- Greg Bishop has the top stories this week. A new Tax Foundation study finds Illinois with the second highest corporate tax rate in the country. Some say that signals more struggles ahead for the Land of Lincoln. The nonpartisan Tax Foundation ranked states by their corporate income tax rates as of Jan. 1, 2024. Six states, Texas, Nevada, Washington, Wyoming, South Dakota and Ohio, do not levy a corporate income tax. Of the 44 that do, Illinois' 9.5% rate put the state at No. 2, up from No. 3 in last year's report. The top spot in 2024 goes to Minnesota at 9.8%. The state with the lowest rate outside of the states that do not have such taxes is North Carolina at 2.5%. (26:00)

This week's top news and commentary, where a new tax foundation study was conducted, finding Illinois with the 2nd highest corporate tax rate in the country, and more.

St. John's Lutheran Church had a Bible Study program (30:30)

02/25/24 Illinois In Focus- Greg Bishop has the top stories this week. With a projected deficit of close to \$900 million, Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker presented his sixth State of the State and budget address Wednesday. The plan includes \$52.7 billion in spending, roughly a 2% increase over the current fiscal

year budget. What is sure to be a talking point in the coming months, the budget includes an additional \$182 million for the care of migrants on top of what has already been spent. (26:00)

This week's top news and commentary, where governor JB Pritzker presented his sixth State of the State and budget address, and more.

St. John's Lutheran Church had a Bible Study program (30:30)

03/03/24 Illinois In Focus- Greg Bishop has the top stories this week. A Cook County judge decided former President Donald Trump's name should be removed from the Illinois primary ballot, but put a hold on the order expecting an appeal. Trump's campaign said it will "quickly appeal." In a 38-page ruling, the circuit court judge said the Illinois State Board of Elections' unanimous decision to keep Trump on the ballot is overturned. A group of objectors challenged Trump's access to the March 19 Illinois primary ballot alleging the former Republican president instigated an insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, and is ineligible to be elected president. Last month, the state elections board denied their objection. The group appealed to the state circuit court in Cook County. (26:00)

This week's top news and commentary, where a Cook County judge decided to remove Donald Trump on the Illinois primary election, and more.

St. John's Lutheran Church had a Bible Study program (30:30)

03/10/24 Illinois In Focus- Greg Bishop has the top stories this week. The Chicago Teachers Union is preparing for collective bargaining talks with the city, and the union's president suggested the new terms would cost taxpayers \$50 billion. "We are asking you to give us an opportunity to tell our story. It will cost \$50 billion, and three cent," CTU President Stacy Davis Gates said Tuesday at the City Club of Chicago this week, setting the stage for upcoming negotiations with the city. "And so what? That's audacity." Some media outlets reported that Gates was "joking" when citing the \$50 billion figure. (26:00)

This week's top news and commentary, where collective bargaining talks begin with the Chicago Teachers Union and the city, and more.

St. John's Lutheran Church had a Bible Study program (30:30)

03/17/24 Illinois In Focus- Greg Bishop has the top stories this week. Illinois business owners are bracing for a potential tax hit from Gov. J.B. Pritzker. The governor's proposed budget extends the cap on business net operating losses, but increases the cap to \$500,000. His office estimates the "revenue adjustment" will raise \$526 million, the bulk of the nearly \$900 million of tax increases in his \$52.7 billion spending proposal. (26:00)

This week's top news and commentary, where Illinois business owners are preparing for a potential tax hit from Governor JB Pritzker, and more.

St. John's Lutheran Church had a Bible Study program (30:30)

03/24/24 Illinois In Focus- Greg Bishop has the top stories this week. Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson vows to continue with his agenda despite an apparent defeat of his Bring Chicago Home referendum this week. The measure, which would have increased the city's real estate transfer tax on properties over \$1 million and, according to Johnson, use the funds to pay for homelessness programs, now appears to be rejected by voters. Fifty-four percent of voters said "no" to 46% "yes" with 98% of precincts reporting. "All the votes have not been counted so it has not been declared just yet," Johnson said. "Look, there are 68,000 people unhoused, that's the focus." (26:00)

This week's top news and commentary, where the Chicago mayor states he will continue with his agenda, despite his Bring Chicago Home referendum defeated, and more.

St. John's Lutheran Church had a Bible Study program (30:30)

03/31/24 Illinois In Focus- Greg Bishop has the top stories this week. A shakeup at the Illinois Prisoner Review Board has Republicans calling for reforms. Illinois Senate Minority Leader John Curran, R-Downers Grove, said the resignation of two people from the PRB Monday, member LeAnn Miller and Chair Donald Shelton, following a recent parolee allegedly murdering a child and stabbing their mother is "another example of [Gov. J.B. Pritzker] failing to oversee an agency under his control." State Sen. Jason Plummer, R-Edwardsville, said the PRB shouldn't be under Pritzker's control. (26:00)

This week's top news and commentary, where a shakeup has happened to the PRB, with 2 people resigning from their positions, and more.

St. John's Lutheran Church had a Bible Study program (30:30)