



Hope on the Hill

Newsletter

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 5

A Letter from Pastor

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love

Living and Being Easter Christians

We have walked and worshipped together through our Lenten Season and Celebrated the Hope and Joy of Easter! Do we put it away like we do our Christmas decorations or can you feel the forgiveness and salvation promise that is remembered and reworked in our hearts!

Sometimes it seems like we live in a Good Friday World where the weight and worries of life come crashing down once again after we have gathered on Easter morning, if it lasts that long! Just travel through the stores like Target, Walmart or Hobby Lobby and you see decorations have disappeared and the summer items are on the shelf. Yes, I know they are a “business” but for us this is who we are to BE as Easter Christians! Our Alleluias translated into emptying oneself in service, helping those who can no longer

help themselves and bringing even a smile and voice to those who are hurting or alone.

Jesus said to the thief on the cross, “today you will be with me in paradise,” and our Risen Lord spent forty days appearing to many people and his disciples to convince them to live out the hope he gives. Even Thomas who was not present the first time Jesus appeared to the disciples had another chance. In **John 20** *Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe. Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.*

We have been through Good Friday on our journey, but we live out the celebration as Easter/Resurrection Christ Jesus people! Don’t let go but keep holding out your hand and Jesus will hold you

no matter what the world gives, and you may face.

Lift your hearts and open them to God’s Spirit that everyday intercedes. I am living the hope when I will see my brother Roger, my Dad and Mom and many others as the promise of the Resurrection is completed in the uplifting heavenly banquet, we will all share!

Hold on to the Empty Tomb of Easter and shout...He is Risen! Jesus is Risen indeed!

Peace,
Pastor Stephen Barnes



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
2223 SHERIDAN ROAD
PEKIN, IL 61554

www.oursaviorpekin.org

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Barnes

Email: barnes.stephen9@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Lori Frampton

Church Office: (309) 346-2600

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Monday—Friday

Church email: oslcpekin1@gmail.com

Sunday Worship Service 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School 10:15 a.m.



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

www.elca.org

Prayer Concerns

Elsa Keas (recovering from knee surgery)

Sandy Brooks (health concerns)

Lillian P., Mazie W., Jim J., Garold & Deena B.,

Craig B., Chad W., David A., Marithaza B.

Paul S. (failing health)

Donna F. (Melanie’s mother-in-law, health concerns)

Scott S. (Melanie’s brother-in-law, cancer)

Pete B. (Larry & Darlene’s nephew, brain cancer) & **other members of the Daniels family** with health concerns

Darlene’s Aunt Lucy joined the Church Triumphant

Carolyn (Mike Barger’s sister, health concerns)

(chronic hip problems)

Lil M. (Sue Barger’s mother, health concerns)

Lily F. (OSLC College student)

Please contact Pastor or the Church Office with any additions, deletions, or updates



NEWS & EVENTS

COVID-19
UPDATES

No updates. You may wear a mask if desired but masks are not required at Our Savior at this time.



Heartfelt thanks go out to Pastor, Tim, Jill, Sonja, and all those who had responsibilities during the Lenten season and Holy Week; and to all who attended the services. Attendance at the midweek Lenten services was consistent, and the focus on our five senses was helpful.

At the last midweek service on April 9, fifteen of us enjoyed a meal from Tazewell County Resource Center. A free will offering for TCRC was taken, and \$95.00 was sent to them. The meal was donated by Tim to celebrate his birthday.

Welcome
OUR GUEST SPEAKER

ALL-CONGREGATION PRESENTATION

A couple of options are being explored for May—stay tuned!

Thank you to those who donated Easter lilies—they were beautiful!

Larry & Darlene Daniels: In memory of our parents
Pastor & Judy Barnes: In memory of loved ones
Donna Mathews: For the church
Vickie Rayburn: In honor of Rayburn & Whittington parents
Sue Hale: To the Glory of God
Linda Tanner: In honor of members unable to attend services
Elsa Keas: In memory of Bill Keas and Carolyn Murphy
Roberta & Leo Stiles: In memory of our parents
Melanie, Bill, & Lily Fleming: In memory of loved ones

Donated anonymously:

In honor of Lillian Pinkston
In honor of Mazie Wankel
In memory of Dave Sanders
In memory of Mary Kay Johnson



We continue to receive positive comments regarding the live streaming of our worship services. Thank you to all who are helping make this possible! You can always go back and watch any service as they are recorded and saved.

The dates for the annual rummage sale are:

Friday, May 16, 8:00 AM—5:00 PM

Saturday, May 17, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Preparation has begun. Bring in items and place them behind the dividers in the Parish Hall. Sign up sheets have been posted to assist with setup and the days of sale.

Proceeds will go to *Pekin Outreach Initiative*.



PROPERTY NEWS:

Chris & Teresa are working on forming a “**Team Weed**” committee. They hope to meet every three weeks to weed at Our Savior. With more help, the weeding won’t be such an arduous task. Maybe we could go to Cranwill’s root beer stand afterwards as a treat! Contact them if you are able to help. Thank you!



The publication *Living Lutheran* (formerly The Lutheran) is back in publication, on a quarterly basis. The cost is \$19.95 per person per year **OR** \$17.00 per year if a Congregation has 10 or more members sign up for it. A sign up sheet is posted in the Gathering Room. There are currently 6 signed up.

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION



Men's Coffee/Breakfast Group

The next gathering will be
Thursday, May 15
 Creve Coeur Family Restaurant
 620 S. Main, Creve Coeur
7:30 a.m.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



The Prayer Shawl Ministry group will meet on **Tuesday, May 6,** at **9:30 a.m.** at the church. We would appreciate any regular weight yarn donations. Thank you!! Come join us to make shawls or lap blankets!

SUPPER OUT



Our next 'Supper Out' hasn't been scheduled but keep an eye out for information.



The Mary and Martha Circle will meet **Wednesday, May 21, 9:30 a.m.** at OSLC. We will resume our discussion of the book "The Women of the Bible Speak" by Shannon Bream. All women are welcome!

Pastor Barnes leads the **Thursday Morning Bible Study** each week. The group begins at 10:00 a.m. and goes until 11:30 a.m. You are welcome to come whenever you can—there is always room for more!



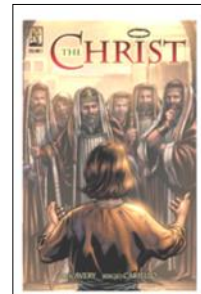
The Adult Sunday School class is held on **Sundays** after the worship service in the Gathering Room. Everyone is welcome—the coffee is always on!



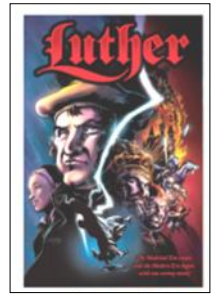
We are working on purchasing new books to enhance the church library. The graphic novels that were ordered have arrived. They are fun and informative for all ages! They are available for check out; they are currently on the far right shelf in the library. There is a memorial label inside. To check out materials, there is a clipboard for you to jot down your name, the title of the book, when you checked it out, and then when you returned it. Questions? Ask Melanie, Leslie, or Mary Sorenson.

Leslie is working on an inventory of what we have so we can see what is needed.

If you have suggestions for devotional books, resource books, books to read, etc., please contact Melanie, Leslie, Darlene, Pastor, or Tim.



The Christ
12 volume set



Luther describes the religious and historical forces that shaped him and how the course of Christianity itself was shaped by his influence.

Villas of Hollybrook
 Lillian Pinkston Room 39
 5301 W Everett Dirksen Pkwy
 Peoria, IL 61607



Mazie Wankel
 C/O Reflections Memory Care
 1717 N. Main St.
 Morton, IL 61550

Villas of Hollybrook
 Barb Gresham #30
 2720 S. 14th Street
 Pekin, IL 61554



Lily Fleming
 318 N. Ninth Street
 Monmouth, IL 61462
 lfleming@monmouthcollege.edu
 OR lilyfleming05@gmail.com

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR MAY

Please switch with someone as needed.

	LAY ASSISTANT	LAY READER	USHERS	TELLERS	COMMUNION Set up & Clean up	PARAMENT COLOR
May 04	Meri	Larry	Larry	Meri & Valerie	Linda & Sue H	Gold
May 11	Tim	Roberta	Mark	Tim & Leslie	Lee & Mary	Gold
May 18	Dennis	Mary Sipka	Leo	Tim & Leslie	Tim & Leslie	Gold
May 25	Melanie	Sue B	Mark	Leo & Roberta	Linda & Sue	Gold

MAY FLOWER CHART

May 04	Randy & Vickie Rayburn—24th Wedding Anniversary (April 28)
May 11	
May 18	
May 25	

You can call the office if you would like to sign up for flowers on a Sunday.

We continue to stay steady financially. **Thank you!!**

You may wish to mail your offerings to Our Savior if you cannot attend worship.



Please note: We only receive ONE vase of flowers; your cost will be \$30.00.

The **2025 Synod Assembly** will take place **June 5-7** at St. John's Lutheran Church in Bloomington. The keynote presenter is the Rev. Dr. Dwight Zscheile, Vice President of Innovation and Professor of Congregational Mission and Leadership at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. He will speak on living missionally as Jesus' disciples in the world.

Please contact Pastor if you are interested in being one of our delegates, or if you would like to attend.

Lillian would like to share some of her Easter decorations with us. Thank you Meri for the pictures!



A Prayer for Mother's Day

Dear Lord, thank you for the blessings of children and families. Help us rely on you for guidance, patience and even-temperedness throughout our days.

We pray that our children will love you, worship you and serve you with their God-given gifts. Grant us the wisdom to know how to influence them to live godly lives. Prevent us from provoking our children to anger and from manipulating or nagging them.

Fill our households with abiding love and respect. And help us all be united in purpose to do your will. In the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

from www.churchart.com

Anniversaries & Birthdays

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Paul & Mary Sipka—May 25
Scott & Teresa Massey—May 26
Lee & Mary Sorenson—May 31, 1975—50 years!



MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 15—Nancy Atkinson	May 26—Cassie Baal
May 16—Stelly Gettys	May 29—Sonja Sanders
May 16—Mayson Baal	



BIRTHDAYS
THIS MONTH

PRAYER CHAIN AT OUR SAVIOR

► ***If someone needs prayers, is going into the hospital, or needs a visit—PLEASE LET PASTOR KNOW!*** His email is: barnes.stephen9@gmail.com. You may also call the church office: 346-2600

Call the Church office with your prayer request: 346-2600 or email: oslcpekin1@gmail.com.

An email will be sent to all members when a prayer request is received. Members without an email address may ask that they be called when a prayer request is sent out.

► ***Please let Lori know if someone can go off the prayer list—call or email, or fill out one of the blue cards in the pews in the sanctuary. Thank you!***



We continue to pray for those in the Military:

Petty Officer **Robert Murphy** (3rd Class)—(nephew of the Dralles)

Nick Marzinzik (Air National Guard, Mike & Sue Barger's nephew)

Josh Barger (Navy Reserves, Mike & Sue's son)

Greg Sorenson (Navy Reserves, Lee & Mary's son)

We continue to work on ideas for the 'Philip and Andrew—Come & See' initiative to work on the life and ministry of OSLC. Contact Pastor, or any council member, with an idea you would like to try!

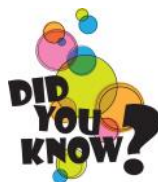


CONTACT US AT:

(309) 346-2600

If you have a ministry need, please call the Church office.

Reminder: If your committee changes or cancels a meeting, or plans an event, or makes an appointment to bring someone in—please let Pastor know. And please include Pastor on all committee emails. Thank you!



Committee and Council minutes are posted by the church office. Check out all the hard work our members are doing!

The Outreach Committee would appreciate having more helpers for the outdoor OSLC sign. Currently Melanie & Linda are maintaining it but would like to share the responsibility. Thank you!



LOOKING AHEAD TO JUNE

- Pastor & Judy on vacation

Newsletter DEADLINE

If you have information you want to be in the next 'Hope on the Hill', please email Leslie Leitner at leithaus@gmail.com by Sunday, May 18 at leithaus@gmail.com. Thank you!

CHURCH COUNCIL 2025

<i>President</i>	Tim Leitner	Worship & Music, Finance, Mutual Ministry	tim.j.leitner@gmail.com
<i>Vice President</i>	Mary Sorenson	Outreach & Fellowship, Memorials & Gifts	msorenson75@gmail.com
<i>Secretary</i>	Valerie Gettys	Finance	swimmin@yahoo.com
	Mark McCarrell	Finance	markgmc1154@gmail.com
	Teresa Massey	Property	tam42@comcast.net
	Mary Sipka	Christian Education	sipka.mary@gmail.com
	Vickie Rayburn	Worship & Music	tabycat1128.vr@gmail.com
<i>Treasurer</i>	Sharon Eggemeyer	Finance	sjemh@yahoo.com
	Pastor Barnes		barnes.stephen9@gmail.com



Our Savior Lutheran Value Statement

We spread God's word – joining with Jesus to heal our broken world.

Our Savior Lutheran Guiding Principles

- We follow Jesus as Lord and Savior.
- We pray eagerly to strengthen our commitment and relationship with God.
- We act boldly based on an abundant picture of God's love.
- We listen to our neighbors to truly know their joys and sorrows.
- We work as God's hands – serving the needs of our community and the world.
- We love to tell the story of Jesus and His love.



Watch the livestream of our worship services! Our YouTube page is:

<https://www.youtube.com/@oursaviorlutheranpekin1287/streams>

The link to our live stream YouTube page can be found on our Facebook page and on our website. Our website is **www.oursaviorpekin.org**.

The videos can also be viewed after the service.

Please contact Tim Leitner if you would like to know more, or would like to get involved with this outreach. We would like to create a Digital Production Team.

Clip art in the newsletter is from www.churchart.com

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT:



Center for Prevention of Abuse

The women & children who seek shelter and safety at House of Hope appreciate your support. There is a collection crate by the coat rack for House of Hope.

Special needs include: cereal, canned fruit, bottled juice, peanut butter, canned tuna, can soups, sugar, coffee, pancake mix, syrup





PEKIN OUTREACH INITIATIVE

After 50 years, as of May 1, 2025, Christian Civic Outreach will be ending their operations.

However, the Pekin Outreach Initiative plans to continue the work of CCO. Our Savior hopes to continue our support!



MAY 2025 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00 AM Bible Study  NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER NO Aerobics	2	3 9:00 AM-1:00 PM DKG (Roberta)
4 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM	5	6 9:30 a.m. Prayer Shawls NO Aerobics	7	8 10:00 AM Bible Study 11:30 AM Outreach/Chris Ed Meeting 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	9	10
11 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Property Mtg 	12	13	14	15 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 10:00 AM Bible Study NO Aerobics	16 10:00 AM Bible Study 8:00 AM—5:00 PM RUMMAGE SALE	17 8:00 AM—12:00 PM RUMMAGE SALE
Rummage Sale Preparation						
18 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM	19	20 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	21 9:30 AM Mary/Martha Circle 7:00 PM Council mtg	22 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	23	24
25 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM	26  Memorial Day	27 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	28	29 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	30	31

June 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					