

## Hope on the Hill

Newsletter

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 6



### A Letter from Pastor

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love

#### Stumbling Block or Strengthening One Another?

First, we are coming to Summer! I am excited for our family vacation in the first part of June but also summer is a time to refresh, reflect and start anew for another year of life, ministry and our relationship together.

I hope you have time or travel or rest to recharge your “batteries” or truly your Spiritual strength that God in Christ has given you.

Our spiritual life and renewal are not just for us who are part of Our Savior Lutheran, but all people in our community and even those we don’t know but should pray about and for.

It is getting harder for me to listen to the news! Rather than supporting and sharing together we seemed bent upon making the other person or people “lesser” and somehow using words and ideas that demean even when we might have different views on life, politics, relationships.

I wanted to share part of Romans 14:10-13...see what you think.

*<sup>10</sup> Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup> For it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,*

*and every tongue shall give praise to God.”*

*<sup>12</sup> So then, each one of us will be held accountable.*

#### Do Not Make Another Stumble

*<sup>13</sup> Let us therefore no longer pass judgment on one another but resolve instead never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother or sister.*

Yes, I know we have all sorts of “opinions” when it comes to how we live and look at life. But then why do our opinions have to sow seeds of dissent rather than open hearts to strengthen each other having open hands rather than clenched fists. Maya

Angelou said this: “I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

Recently we shared in the Gospel of John 13:34-35 – Jesus said: “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

As the “news” continues, let us pray for all people that they may always have strength to love one another. Kind of like the many people who helped in St. Louis after the terrible tornados!

Peace be with you as the Spirit always walks with you! And, have a great summer.

Peace,

Pastor Stephen Barnes



**OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**2223 SHERIDAN ROAD**  
**PEKIN, IL 61554**

[www.oursaviorpekin.org](http://www.oursaviorpekin.org)

**Pastor: Rev. Stephen Barnes**

Email: [barnes.stephen9@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:oslcpekin1@gmail.com)**

**Sunday Worship Service 9:00 a.m.**



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

#### Prayer Concerns

**Scott Massey** (having a heart procedure June 11)

**Family of Wanda Lutke** (Teresa Massey’s aunt)

**Family of David Aper** (Rita Wahl’s brother)

**Sandy Brooks** (health concerns)

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

**Craig B., Chad W., 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

**Carolyn** (Mike Barger’s sister, health concerns)

**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

## Thank you.....

...if you brought items in...if you opened boxes...if you moved tables...if you prayed for success....if you searched for 25cent stickers....if you advertised or told friends about us.....if you lost a water bottle somewhere.....if you stuck stickers on tools and linens.....if you found a great treasure....if you organized craft items.....if you brought in food...if you folded clothes.....if you sorted books....if you folded bags....if you moved something around so it would sell.....if you smiled at customers....if you carried boxes out to the cars....if you hung up our signs....if you saw old friends who come every year.....if you found light bulbs to test the lamps....if you talked about next year....if you blew up inflatable frogs so they would sell....if you laughed with friends....if you refolded clothes....if you talked about helping the Pekin Outreach Initiative....if you matched up shoes....if you hung up coats....if you asked "what is this?" at least once.....if you sorted holiday items.....if you played with a toy that was donated....if you smiled at yourself at least once in the big donated mirror....if you brought batteries in for the clocks...if you refolded clothes again.....if you worked the check-out and made change a few times or a few dozen times...if you wiped some dust off....if you decided that the clocks wouldn't sell if they didn't have batteries in them.....if you organized the plants again....if you smiled when the clocks sold....if you measured something...if you helped with the holding area....if you talked to our customers...if you folded up tables....if you counted money....if you packed boxes....if you were excited when the total brought in was revealed....if you changed the church sign....if you hooked up the DVD player to the TV.....if you recognized items that you brought in.....if you carried out leftovers to the Hope Chest Truck...if you thanked God for letting you help others.....if you were exhausted when it was over.....so many little and big jobs put together made a great sale!! **Thank you!**



*This is long but I wanted to show the amount of love and work that goes into the sale every year. I know that others might see themselves in this and know that every job is valued and it takes many people to succeed in the sale!*

*Melanie Fleming*

We had the joy of Pastor Amy Zietlow joining us at worship on Sunday, May 18. Pastor Amy is the Assistant to the Bishop for Transformational Leadership. After the service, Pastor Amy shared a great video about our Synod, with various speakers who talked about their roles in the Synod (including her & her daughter, who is involved with campus ministry!) She shared the new mission statement, purpose statement, and vision statement. She explained the top five strategic priorities and goals. Pastor Amy explained the Synod Council and what her duties include. She led us in a discussion about how we at Our Savior are a part of Christ's church, and ways we can serve our community. Her enthusiasm was contagious! It was a very uplifting gathering. Many, many thanks, Pastor Amy!

**NOTE:** If you would like to receive the Synod newsletter, please let Pastor or Tim know and they will submit your email address.



The Outreach & Fellowship Committee is planning a trip to the Peoria Chiefs Game on Thursday, June. 5.

A sign up sheet will be posted.



Chris reports that 'Team Weed' had a good weeding session in May & it was a lot of fun! Some participants then enjoyed lunch at Cranwill's A & W in Pekin.



## MORE NEWS & INFORMATION



### Men's Coffee/Breakfast Group

The next gathering will be  
**Thursday, June 19**  
 Creve Coeur Family Restaurant  
 620 S. Main, Creve Coeur  
**7:30 a.m.**

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



### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry group  
 will meet on **Tuesday, June 10,**  
 at **9:30 a.m.** at the church.

*We would welcome any donations  
 to restock our yarn supply.*



The Mary and Martha Circle will not  
 meet again until September. However,  
 we will be providing dinner for  
 the Salvation Army in July.

**NOTE:** The study group will not meet June 5 & June 12.

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!



**NOTE:** Adult Sunday School will not be meeting through the summer



The Mary/Martha Circle is  
 happy to report that they  
 were able to assemble **81**  
**Health Kits!!** Thanks to all  
 who contributed items to the  
 kits. Your help was very  
 much appreciated.

**WOW!!** What a great rummage sale—**\$2,618.71**  
 was received over the two days!! But it couldn't  
 have happened without our wonderful volunteers:  
 28 volunteers put in 300+ hours of hard work!

Church council added Thrivent funds to this and  
 Pekin Outreach Initiative will receive a check for  
**\$3,00.00!!**



And an **extra** THANK  
 YOU to those weary  
 volunteers who stayed  
 and set up for our coffee  
 fellowship with Pastor  
 Amy on Sunday!!

### VIDEO MINISTRY

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.

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 JUNE

Please switch with someone as needed.

	LAY ASSISTANT	LAY READER	USHERS	TELLERS	COMMUNION Set up & Clean up	PARAMENT COLOR
June 01	Meri	Roberta	Mark	Tim & Leslie	Linda & Sue H.	Gold
June 08	Dennis	Mary Sipka	Larry	Meri & Valerie	Tim & Leslie	Red
June 15	Melanie	Sue B.	Leo	Leo & Roberta	Lee & Mary	White
June 22	Meri	Larry	Larry	Tim & Leslie	Linda & Sue H.	Green
June 29	Dennis	Mary Sipka	Mark	Meri & Valerie	Lee & Mary	Green

## JUNE FLOWER CHART

June 01	The Sorensons—50th Wedding Anniversary
June 08	The Bangers—51st Wedding Anniversary
June 15	
June 22	
June 29	The Flemings—Bill's Birthday

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

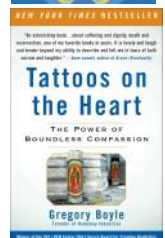
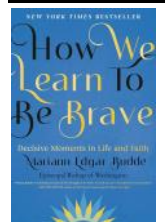
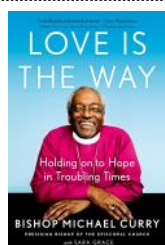
We continue to stay steady financially. **Thank you!!**

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. Tim Leitner will be attending as our delegate. He will be taking a \$300.00 check from OSLC for the offering to the Malagasy Lutheran Church in Madagascar, our companion synod.



We have purchased nine new nonfiction books for the church library! We will feature a few each month—here are three books that you may wish to check out:

**Love is the Way** by Bishop Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church.

*A spiritual guide exploring how love can address modern challenges like poverty and racism, drawing from Bishop Curry's personal journey, ancestry, and faith to illuminate transformative principles.*

**Tattoos on the Heart** by Father Gregory Boyle, Founder of Homeboy Industries

*For twenty years, Gregory Boyle has run Homeboy Industries, a gang-intervention program located in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles, the gang capital of the world. In Tattoos on the Heart, he distills his experience working in the ghetto into a breathtaking series of parables inspired by faith.*

**How We Learn to Be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith** by Mariann Edgar Budde, Episcopal Bishop of Washington

*"A guide to becoming your most courageous self, exploring decisive moments in life and how to respond with clarity and grace."*

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. If you have suggestions for devotional books, resource books, books to read, etc., please contact Melanie, Leslie, Darlene, Pastor, or Tim. Leslie is working on an inventory of what we have.

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.



# Anniversaries & Birthdays

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Mike & Sue Barger—June 1

Ken & Bev Wehr—June 15



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 4—Judy Barnes

June 8—Chad Wahl

June 16—Deena Burkholder

June 25—Mazie Wankel



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)

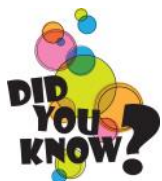
We continue to work on ideas for the 'Philip and Andrew—Come & See' initiative to work on the life and ministry of OSLC. Contact Pastor, or any council member, with an idea you would like to try!



**CONTACT US AT:**

**(309) 346-2600**

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



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

**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!

## LOOKING AHEAD TO JULY

- July will be **Pick-A-Hymn Month!** A list will be posted so you can write down your favorite hymn. Pastor & Tim will use them in August & September
- **Wednesday, July 23:** Chalk & Bubbles event!! 6:30-8:00 p.m. Kona Ice will be there again this year. More information will be coming — **SAVE THE DATE!**

## 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 **Wednesday, June 25** at leithaus@gmail.com. Thank you!

## CHURCH COUNCIL 2025

<i>President</i>	<b>Tim Leitner</b>	Worship & Music, Finance, Mutual Ministry	tim.j.leitner@gmail.com
<i>Vice President</i>	<b>Mary Sorenson</b>	Outreach & Fellowship, Memorials & Gifts	msorenson75@gmail.com
<i>Secretary</i>	<b>Valerie Gettys</b>	Finance	swimmin@yahoo.com
	<b>Mark McCarrell</b>	Finance	markgmc1154@gmail.com
	<b>Teresa Massey</b>	Property	tam42@comcast.net
	<b>Mary Sipka</b>	Christian Education	sipka.mary@gmail.com
	<b>Vickie Rayburn</b>	Worship & Music	tabycat1128.vr@gmail.com
<i>Treasurer</i>	<b>Sharon Eggemeyer</b>	Finance	sjemh@yahoo.com
	<b>Pastor Barnes</b>		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 ended their operations. However, the Pekin Outreach Initiative is continuing the work of CCO! Our Savior will continue to support this organization.



# JUNE 2025 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																										
1 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM	2	3 9:00 AM-1:00 PM DKG (Roberta)  6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	4	5 <u>NO</u> Bible Study Chiefs Game  6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	6 	7																																										
8 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM	9	10 9:30 a.m. Prayer Shawls  6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	11  7:00 PM Outreach/ Chris Ed Meeting	12 <u>NO</u> Bible Study  6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	13	14 																																										
15 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM 	16	17  6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	18 <u>NO</u> Council Meeting	19 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast  10:00 AM Bible Study  6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	20	21																																										
22 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM	23	24  6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	25	26 10:00 AM Bible Study  6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	27	28																																										
29 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM	30	<div> <p><b>July 2025</b></p> <table> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table> </div> <div> <p><b><i>If you are wondering about the activity on Tuesday &amp; Thursday nights, here is an update for summer!</i></b>  We call it aerobics but we walk the neighborhood together on nice evenings. When we don't walk, it is a combined hour with stretching, yoga, weight training, and step aerobics.  We only cancel when a majority are gone, or if our leader Lisa can't come, and if the weather is bad.</p> </div>					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	31		
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