

Hope on the Hill



Newsletter

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 11

A Letter from Pastor

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love

"Having Itching Ears"

2 Timothy 4:3-5

I know, my title is a little strange and I will get to that! But first, I want to congratulate Marsha and Ryan Kelly on the baptism of their son, Martin Lee. With them, we have the joy of teaching, loving and showing grace to Martin as he grows. A card or note sent in caring and joy always makes a difference.

Now to those "itching ears!" We just celebrated Reformation, the birth of our denomination and understanding in the Word shared in Jesus. I was interested in the Gospel for Reformation when Jesus said: "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

Now from Sunday, October 19—2 Timothy 4:3-5: "For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, will turn away from listening to

the truth."

Jesus brings us the truth and says to continue in the Word. Luther and the Reformation remind us that through the Word we have grace, love and forgiveness. Let us continue!

Okay, enough of our needed Bible Study and on to November!

November 2nd is All Saints and a very special day.

We will have 7 people join our congregation: Karen Underwood; Barb and Jack Bader; Kay Bernstein; Donna Mathews; Bill and Sue Calvert. Welcome!

We will also remember and give thanks to those who have joined the Church Triumphant this past year: Mary Kay Johnson; Jim Johnson; Dave Sanders, Gene Massey, and Jacque Davis. Blessed is their memory!

Finally, we will dedicate our Stewardship of Time/Talent and Pledges as we move into and begin the new year of 2026. Thanks to everyone as we are connected in community!

Our journey is to rejoice and continue to grow as the Body of Christ. Our goal is found in the Reformation text from Jeremiah 31:34 "No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest."

We will no longer have "itching ears" but sing together of the wonders and love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord! Peace, Joy and Love be with you all!

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 Bible Study 10:15 a.m.**



www.elca.org

Prayer Concerns

Family of Jacque Davis (passed away Oct. 20)

Family of Gene Massey (passed away Oct. 8)

Stella Gettys (health issues)

Kim (Sue Barger's cousin, aggressive cancer)

Jim & Melissa Green (friends of Melanie, both diagnosed with cancer)

Shirley Seelye (health concerns, friend of Beth D.)

Lillian P., Mazie W., Garold & Deena B., Craig B.,

Chad W., Marithaza B., Chad Wahl, Sandy Brooks

Paul S. (failing health)

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

Scott S. (Melanie's brother-in-law, health concerns)

Pete B. (Larry & Darlene's nephew, brain cancer)

Alta Daniels (Larry & Darlene's sister-in-law, 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

Wherever your
TREASURE IS,
there the
DESIRES
of your
HEART
will be also.

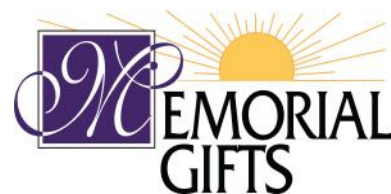
Matthew 6:21

Wherever your Treasure is, ~~there the~~ Desires of your Heart will be also.
We will dedicate and bless our commitment cards and Time & Talent sheets on
All Saints Sunday, November 2, 2025

On All Saints Sunday, November 2, 2025, we will honor our
saints who joined the Church Triumphant in the past year:
Mary Kay Johnson, Jim Johnson, Dave Sanders, Gene Massey, & Jacque Davis

Memorials Purchased November 2024-October 2025

Rolling TV Stand—From the Memorial of Carol Guenther
Teaching Lectern—From the Memorial of Dale Gettys
Outdoor Sign Parts—From the Memorial of Steven Wehr
Extension Pole—From the Memorial of Dale Gettys
Three Folding Tables—From the Memorials of Dale Gettys & Carol Guenther
Books for the Church Library—From the Memorial of Richard Bolam
Cinctures (2)—From the Memorial of Sharon Foss
Cement Bench—From the Memorial of Sharon Foss



DON'T FORGET!
We gain an hour of
sleep on November 1.



Sunday, November 2-Coffee Fellowship after the worship service
Join us as we welcome our new members! Bill & Sue Calvert, Jack &
Barb Bader, Karen Underwood, Donna Mathews, and Kay Bernstein.

We will be celebrating Veteran's Day at Our Savior on **Sunday, Nov. 16**. Any family who has living or deceased Veteran is encouraged to bring a picture of that Veteran in uniform with a small note card to identify who is in the picture. Parishioners are requested to **bring the following items to be donated** to the Pekin Veteran's Pantry: *canned goods, socks, paper towels, and toilet paper.*

Many thanks from the Outreach & Fellowship Committee



**Thanksgiving Eve Service
at Our Savior is
Wednesday, Nov. 26
7:00 p.m.**



Volunteers are needed to wrap gifts for "**Shop with a Hero**" on **December 13 and December 14**. If you are interested in doing this, or contributing monetarily to the program, please contact Sue Barger at msbarger10@gmail.com by December 1. Thank you!

The **JAMS** (Jade, Audrey, Maddison School) is collecting money to send to ELCA Good Gifts! Please be generous, and give to any of the girls, or Melanie, or place in your offering. We accept cash or checks. Checks should be made out to Our Savior Lutheran Church (designate Good Gifts). We hope to purchase Chicks, Pigs and Garden Supplies/money for clean water supply to be sent to the most desperate needs throughout the world. We will collect until November 16th. Thanks!

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION



Men's Coffee/Breakfast Group

The next gathering will be
Thursday, Nov. 20
Creve Coeur Family Restaurant
620 S. Main, Creve Coeur
7:30 a.m.

The Mary and Martha Circle will meet **Wednesday, November 19, 9:30 a.m.** at the church. We will continue our study of women of the bible using *The Women of The Bible Speak*, by Shannon Bream. All women are invited!



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry group will meet on **Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 9:30 a.m.** at the church.

Our group is branching out to make *lap blankets* for the upcoming veteran **Honor Flights** in addition to our current lap blanket projects. Any donations of red, white, blue yarn, and **any** other colors of yarn is appreciated. *Thank you!*

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



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!



Thank you *very much* to Vickie for applying for & receiving the **Difference Maker grant** from Royal Neighbors! The funds will be used to serve a meal at the Salvation Army in November.



Many thanks to Melanie for updating the OSLC Directory. You can pick up your copy starting Nov. 2.



Meri took a picture of the new signs where Christian Civic Outreach (CCO) used to be.



Martin Lee Kelly was baptized on Oct. 19, 2025.



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

Lillian celebrated her 97th birthday on October 15!



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



Mazie Wankel

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



Charlie Davis

1637 Duncannon Dr.
Normal, IL 61761



WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR NOVEMBER

Please switch with someone as needed.

	LAY ASSISTANT	LAY READER	USHERS	TELLERS	COMMUNION Set up & Clean up	PARAMENT COLOR
November 02	Tim	Vickie	Dennis	Meri & Valerie	Sue H.	White
November 09	Meri	Roberta	Mark	Leo & Roberta	Lee & Mary	Green
November 16	Dennis	Sue B.	Leo	Meri & Valerie	Lee & Mary	Green
November 23	Meri	Larry	Larry	Leo & Roberta	Tim & Leslie	White
Wed. Nov. 26	—Thanksgiving Eve Service—Volunteers Needed—					White/Green
November 30	Melanie	Mary Sipka	Dennis	Tim & Leslie	Sue H.	Blue

NOVEMBER FLOWER CHART

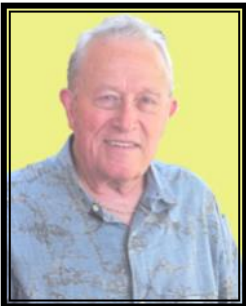
November 02	Sue Hale—Glory to God
November 09	The Leitners—In Honor of Penelope's 10th birthday
November 16	
November 23	
November 30	The Leitners—In Honor of Noah's 4th birthday

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.



Eugene Massey, 91, of Pekin passed away at 9:01 a.m. Wednesday, October 8, 2025, at his home. Gene was a proud veteran of the United States Navy. He was a dedicated member of the National Rifle Association, Pekin Moose Lodge #916, and Pekin Elks Lodge #1271. After serving his country, he devoted 39 years to Keystone Steel & Wire as a supervisor, retiring in 1996. Memorial contributions may be made to Our Savior Lutheran Church or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

God grant that I may live to fish, until my dying day; and when it comes to my last cast, I then most humbly pray, when in the Lord's safe landing net, I'm peacefully asleep, that in his mercy I be judged as big enough to keep.

**HAVE YOU EVER CLOSED YOUR BIBLE AND THOUGHT, "WHAT DID I JUST READ?"
MAYBE YOU'VE TRIED TO READ THROUGH THE BIBLE BUT QUIT WHEN IT FELT
CONFUSING OR IMPERSONAL?**

The Bible Recap is a daily, chronological Bible reading plan created by Tara-Leigh Cobble to help people read, understand, and love the Bible. It is available as a book, podcast, or video, with each day's reading taking about 12 minutes and each summary taking about 8 minutes. The goal is to provide an accessible way to read through the entire Bible by summarizing each day's reading in an easy-to-understand way. She'll highlight and summarize that day's Bible reading in a casual, easy to understand way. More information is at www.thebible Recap.com

If you would like to start reading the Bible, there is a **365-Day Chronological Reading Plan** available by the wheat cross. You can wait until January 1, or you can start earlier. An easy way to read the Bible is to have your smart phone or tablet read it to you! Check out www.bible.com/app. If you then go to Plans you can add the Bible Recap (entire Bible or New Testament).

If you have any questions, contact Melanie Fleming at melaniefleming@comcast.net. No matter how you read, how much you read, when you read, or where you read, **YOU ARE RIGHT ON TIME!** Try this plan out!

----Christian Education Committee

Anniversaries & Birthdays

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dale & Nancy Atkinson—November 15



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

November 1—Mark McCarrell

November 9—Bruce Gettman

November 22—Susan Foss

November 28—Vickie Rayburn



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:

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!



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 DECEMBER

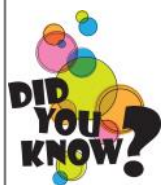
- **Wed., Dec. 3, 10 & 17:** Mid Week Advent Services
- **Sunday, December 14:** Deacon Jason Fisher from the Central/Southern Illinois Synod will be with us for worship, and will give an All-Church Presentation to talk about what he does, and about Faithful Innovation.



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!

Our Savior
Newsletter
Lutheran

If you are unable to print the newsletter at home and would like a copy, please contact the church office and one can be printed for you. ***If you would like a printed copy monthly, please let Leslie know.***

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, Nov. 23** at leithaus@gmail.com. Thank you!*

CHURCH COUNCIL 2025

President	Tim Leitner	Worship & Music, Finance, Mutual Ministry	tim.j.leitner@gmail.com
Vice President	Mary Sorenson	Outreach & Fellowship, Memorials & Gifts	msorenson75@gmail.com
Secretary	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
Treasurer	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.

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



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.

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



THE BLESSING ROOM/ PEKIN OUTREACH INITIATIVE

We are collecting
non-perishable food items.



Wow! The Prayer Shawls group donated 40 shawls!! We had a blessing during worship on Oct. 5.

"Thou hast given so much to me. Give me one thing more — a grateful heart."

—George Herbert

NOVEMBER 2025 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																										
																																																
2 All Saints WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Sunday Bible Study 10:15 a.m.	3	4 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	5	6 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	7	8																																										
9 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Sunday Bible Study 10:15 a.m. Property Meeting	10	11  9:30 a.m. Prayer Shawls 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	12 5:30 PM Finance Mtg 7:00 PM Committee Meetings	13 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	14	15																																										
16 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Sunday Bible Study 10:15 a.m.	17	18 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	19 9:30 AM Mary/Martha Circle 7:00 PM Council Meeting	20 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	21	22																																										
23 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Sunday Bible Study 10:15 a.m.	24	25 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	26 7:00 PM Thanksgiving Eve Service	27 	28	29																																										
30 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM <i>First Sunday of Advent</i> Sunday Bible Study 10:15 a.m.					December 2025 <table> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr> <td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr> <td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr> <td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr> <td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>		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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OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Hope on the Hill Newsletter

