



Hope on the Hill

Newsletter

A Letter from Pastor

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love

Prayer: “Give me Strength to Live what I Believe!”



The picture above is small but says a great deal. If we are in Christ daily, living the love he taught and gave, then we have the life/ministry to “encourage each other and build each other up.” (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

As I see the many games being played on phone/video screen, et al, it seems to be about taking your opponent down, being the last person standing. In our world it also seems we focus on downplaying and distancing ourselves from those we disagree or come close to despising. Being together as the body of Jesus loses context in life and we play the game! It reminds me of a passage from 1 Corinthians 12:14:18

¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot would say, “Because I am not a

hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.

No longer can we say, “that’s just the way we are!” If so, then why did Christ our Lord come to teach, walk in the way of love and die for us?

As I have mentioned in the past, at my Aunt Emma’s house there were building blocks we played with. The challenge was to build a base that would hold the walls. Of course, as a child, my walls fell quite often...have we grown up? Back then it was fun and we started again, but what of now, as we are to build each other up in Christ Jesus?

I’m sure you know the game of Jenga? It was to take one “stick” out from beneath without the wall falling and then place it on top. Of course,

when you pulled out the “wrong” one, the whole pyramid fell and we laughed and started again. As we live together, the huge difference is working together and building each other up, so we don’t fall.

I think of Jesus, after his baptism, out in the wilderness tempted by Satan for 40 days. The point was that he could have given in to the “world,” “power,” and “self” but did not. He said: “Worship the Lord your God and serve only him.” (Luke 4:8) Jesus says in John’s gospel, “I am the way.” How are we doing?

None of us can claim never to falter or stumble... but sometimes I wonder do we say... “To the foot or hand,” I have no need of you?

Let me leave you with a great passage from Ephesians 4:1-6, 14-16

Unity in the Body of Christ
4 I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit

(continued on page 2)

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**

Sunday Worship Service 9:00 a.m.



www.elca.org

Many thanks to Michelle (Eggemeyer) Sarantakos for signing the second lesson, Acts 2:1-21, on Pentecost Sunday using American Sign Language (ASL.)
 We were all fascinated!



in the bond of peace:⁴ there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

¹⁴ We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming; ¹⁵ but speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Let's encourage and build each other up in love! Have a safe and great summer.

Peace,

Pastor Stephen Barnes

Prayer Concerns

- Family of Jim Drake** (passed away at the age of 100)
- Safe travels for Lily in Europe**
- Family of Wayne Hagen** (passed away, funeral was May 23)
- John** (Mike's cousin, diagnosed with cancer)
- John** (friend of Vickie & Randy Rayburn, health concerns)
- Kim** (Sue Barger's cousin) cancer, doing well
- Sandy Brooks** (health concerns)
- Paul Sipka** (health concerns)
- Scott S.** (Melanie's brother-in-law, health concerns)
- Pete B.** (Larry & Darlene's nephew, brain cancer)
- Carolyn** (Mike Barger's sister, health concerns)
- Lil M.** (Sue Barger's mother, health concerns)
- Lily F.** (OSLC College student)
- Rick Turner** (Sue Calvert's nephew-in-law, stroke)
- Lillian P., Nancy A. Mazie W., Garold & Deena B., Chad W., Marithaza B., Craig B.**



For those unemployed, homeless, and suffering from addictions in our community; for those affected by war

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 brought in more tables....if you prayed for success....if you searched for 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 loaned and put together hanging racks....if you found more hangers.....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 laughed with friends....if you refolded clothes....if you talked about helping Carol House of Hope....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 refolded clothes again.....if you worked the check-out and made change few times or a few dozen times.....if you wiped some dust off.....if you rearranged tables.....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 recognized items that you brought in.....if you transported items to the Hope Chest when their truck canceled....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!**



Team Weed completed their first weeding of the summer! Thank you for all the help to make our outdoor space look lovely.



The total of the rummage sale in May was **\$2,355.32!**

Our Church Council added to the total with funds from the Thrivent Choice Fund we have set up (not to be used for operating expenses) so

\$3,000.00

will be given to the Center for the Prevention of Abuse/ Carol House of Hope!

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION



Men's Coffee/Breakfast Group

The next gathering will be
Thursday, June 18
 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, June 9**, at **9:30 a.m.** at the church.

We always appreciate yarn donations—red, white, & blue, plus other colors as we continue to work on Honor Flight and regular blankets.



The Mary and Martha Circle will set up a committee to provide dinner for the Salvation Army in July. The next meeting will be in **September**.



The **Adult Sunday Bible Study** will **NOT** be meeting over the summer.



Sangalli's Court Street Steakhouse
 2217 Court St., Pekin
 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday, June 14

Pastor Barnes leads the Thursday Morning Bible Study each week.



We will not meet while Pastor is on vacation in June.

Reflecting the Father's Name

Renowned actor Sidney Poitier once said, "I decided in my life that I would do nothing that did not reflect positively on my father's life." For those blessed with a father they admire and respect, such a decision can be deeply shaping. How might it influence the way you set priorities, live with integrity, or serve as a positive example to the young people watching your life?

For all of us — children of the only perfect Father — may this be our prayer and intention:

God, while earthly fathers are a blend of strengths and flaws, you give yourself to us as our heavenly Father, wholly loving, kind and deeply invested in our good. Help me seek to reflect positively on you. May my life spread your love, kindness and care far and wide, and may others see you in me. Amen.



from www.churchart.com



The Outreach & Fellowship Committee is planning a trip to the Peoria Chiefs Game on **Thursday, June. 18, 6:30 p.m.**

A sign up sheet will be posted.



On Sunday, May 17, Liza & Kay from Kyle's Care at Home were our speakers after the worship service. They shared lots of great information about their services. It is a private pay agency. Their goal is to keep their clients in their homes as long as possible. We appreciate hearing about Kyle's Care and thank them for giving us each a tote bag with more information.

Villas of Holly Brook
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

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



OUR COLLEGE STUDENT'S ADDRESS

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR JUNE

Please switch with someone as needed and let the office know.

	LAY ASSISTANT	LAY READER	USHERS	TELLERS	COMMUNION Set up & Clean up	PARAMENT COLOR
June 07	Meri	Roberta	Dennis	Leo & Roberta	Tim & Leslie	Green
June 14	Dennis	Sue	Leo	Meri & Valerie	Sue C. & Sue H.	Green
June 21	Melanie	Mary Sipka	Mark	Leo & Roberta	Lee & Mary	Green
June 28	Tim	Larry	Larry	Leo & Roberta	Sue H. & Karen	Green

JUNE FLOWER CHART

June 07	The Bargers—Wedding Anniversary
June 14	
June 21	
June 28	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.

*From the Outreach & Fellowship/
Christian Education Committee:*

Due to the heat, decreased attendance, and increased expenses, it was decided to not have the Bubbles & Chalk event this year.

LOOKING AHEAD TO JULY



Note: **No Finance Committee** meeting and **No Worship & Music** meetings in June unless needed. The next meetings will be at 6:00 & 7:00 p.m. on **July 8**.



For the Synod Assembly this year, there is no worship service as the meeting will be done on Zoom. Bishop Busboom is asking congregations to consider a donation to the Malagasy ELCA church in Madagascar. The Church Council is sending our offering of \$300.00. Members can donate any amount and note it on their offering envelope (checks made out to OSLC.) You may still give on May 31 and June 7. Thank you!



There are several opportunities to help at Our Savior! The *Worship & Music Committee* would like more help with communion set up/clean up. Two members, or couples, meet, usually on Saturday before the Sunday that they are assigned, and prepare for communion. Pastor or Tim place the wine carafe & communion trays on the altar on Sunday morning. Following the worship service, your team will clear the altar and clean & store the communion items. Training and printed instructions are provided. Please contact Tim if you are interested in learning more!

The *Finance Committee* is asking for additional tellers. Tellers work in pairs and gather the offerings after the worship service to work on in the church office.. It usually take approximately 30 minutes to complete what needs to be done. One of the tellers drops the bank bag off at Busey Bank on Veteran's Drive when done. This is a confidential position. You will work with experienced tellers to begin with. We have had one volunteer come forward—thank you! Interested? Please let a Finance committee member know.

Anniversaries & Birthdays

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Mike & Sue Barger—June 1

Ken & Bev Wehr—June 15



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 4—Judy Barnes

June 16—Deena Burkholder

June 8—Chad Wahl

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:

Nick Marzinik (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!



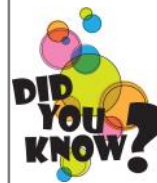
Reminder: If your committee changes or cancels a meeting, or plans an event, or makes an appointment to bring someone in—*please* let Pastor know. And *please* include Pastor on all committee emails. Thank you!



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 Wednesday, June 24 at leithaus@gmail.com. Thank you!

CHURCH COUNCIL 2026

<i>President</i>	Tim Leitner	Worship & Music, Finance, Mutual Ministry	tim.j.leitner@gmail.com
<i>Vice President</i>	Mark McCarrell	Finance, Memorials & Gifts	markgmc1154@gmail.com
<i>Secretary</i>	Vickie Rayburn	Worship & Music	tabycat1128.vr@gmail.com
	Meri Arnold	Christian Education	arnoldmeri9@gmail.com
	Teresa Massey	Property	tam42@comcast.net
	Mary Sipka	Outreach & Fellowship	sipka.mary@gmail.com
	Valerie Gettys	Finance	swimmin@yahoo.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.

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, canned soups, sugar, coffee, pancake mix, syrup



THE BLESSING ROOM/ PEKIN OUTREACH INITIATIVE

Men's clothing is always needed.



What would you tell a young man or woman about to graduate? One of the most common messages commencement speakers share is that graduates are indeed commencing. They are only just beginning to learn.

While they may rightly feel proud of finishing school, a few months in the working world often reveal how much they still do not know.

Christians who love God with their minds understand that truth frees us from ignorance and superstition. They also know that the joy of learning brings deep satisfaction and, in time, wisdom. That wisdom helps us evaluate what we have learned and use it well, so that knowledge becomes a tool for growth and faithful living.

JUNE 2026 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		9:00 AM— 12:00 PM DKG (Roberta)				
		6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*		6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM		9:30 AM Prayer Shawls				
		6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*	7:00 p.m. O & F mtg	6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM <i>After Worship Brunch at Sangalli's</i>				7:30 AM Men's Breakfast		
				6:30 PM Chief's Game		
		6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*		6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM						
						
		6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*		6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*		
28	29	30				
WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM						
		6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*				

July 2026						
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	

*Aerobics has a chat group—contact Teresa, Sue B., Sharon, Karen or Melanie for last minute cancelations.



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Hope on the Hill Newsletter

