

Hope on the Hill



Newsletter

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 8

A Letter from Pastor

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love

"Never Alone"

1 Thessalonians 5:11-19

¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Final Exhortations, Greetings, and Benediction

¹² But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; ¹³ esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. ¹⁴ And we urge you, brothers and sisters, to admonish the idlers, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. ¹⁵ See that none of you repays evil for evil but always seek to do good to one another and to all. ¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit.

Often times I feel like we live in a disconnected and fractured

world! Summer is here and yet we can feel alone when we find distance between ourselves, this church, our community and yes, the world we live "with." Having enough food to feed the family. Affording the medical care, especially when you are now alone. Just having someone to talk with as the summer day begins. Finding that "trust" is damaged by differing and difficult views of right and wrong when it comes to community and country. Moving apart rather than finding strength of friends, family, community where Jesus guides and keeps our heart.

On the other hand, this is also a time to celebrate love that casts aside barriers and peace that reaches out in strength, knowing that you are never alone. There are some special words in the passage from 1 Thessalonians above: *encourage the fainthearted; help the weak; be patient with all; don't repay evil for evil but seek to do good to one another and all; give thanks in ALL circumstances.*

Again, I will say, **you are never alone!** God's Spirit is in your heart even through tears and tough times. God's Spirit will guide and keep you in quiet times and as you live and share in family and community. As I would say with my children during bedtime prayers: Remember your blessings as you are God's special child! And so are you! The end of the passage says: *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances.*

A verse from a familiar hymn and can be prayer as well!

*My life flows on in endless song;
above earth's lamentation, I catch
the sweet, though far-off hymn that
hails a new creation. No storm can
shake my inmost calm while to that
Rock I'm clinging. Since Christ is
Lord of heaven and earth, how can I
keep from singing?*

Have a blessed and safe summer!

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.



www.elca.org

At their July meeting, the Church Council approved going ahead with Fritch Heating & Cooling doing an upgrade to our HVAC thermostats. The estimated cost, \$6,900, will be paid from the Capital Improvement account.

There will be two 'Zones', one for the Parish Hall and one for everywhere else. There will be 8 sensors throughout the building. Fritch will set up the programming for the usual times the church is used. *For other, unscheduled events, there will be an app.* When an event is planned outside of the regularly scheduled ones, someone who has the app will have to be notified so they could adjust the temperature. Those who will have the app on their phones is still to be determined. It can also be on the office computer. This change will be publicized through the bulletin, newsletter, and posting it on the bulletin boards.

This project will not be done until this fall.



Prayer Concerns

Ed Henry (Dennis's brother-in-law, health concerns)
John (Mike's cousin, in palliative care)
John (friend of Vickie & Randy Rayburn, health concerns)
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 affected by war, heat, floods, earthquakes
For those unemployed, homeless, and suffering from addictions in our community



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

NEWS & EVENTS



On Sunday, July 12, we enjoyed hearing about Lily's recent trip to Germany, Poland, and Austria. She shared her impressions of the architecture and food, and also the sadness of Auschwitz and Dachau. Thank you for the great presentation!



Due to interest by parishioners, another Chiefs game is scheduled for **Thursday, August 13!** Lee will make a signup sheet and get the tickets.



The Outreach & Fellowship Committee is planning a special

Meet and Greet Coffee Fellowship on **Sunday, August 16**, after worship.

This will be a chance for everyone who attends to participate in a "Getting-to-know-you" time. There will be an opportunity for you to rotate through & talk to various people! There will be Table Topics to share during each 10 minute visit between members.

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION



Men's Coffee/Breakfast Group

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



The Mary and Martha Circle will next meet in **September**.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Kuchie's on the Water
 6:00 p.m.

A signup sheet will be posted.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

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

YARN NEEDED!!
ALL colors, any type,
usually 4 ply

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 Bible Study** will **NOT** be meeting over the summer.

If you have noticed the grass in the front of the church looks a little sad, just know that Mike has tried diligently to get grass to grow, but the sprinkler system is not working. This has been discussed at Finance committee meetings and at Council. Tim has found a leak in the hose, and has been able to power up the system timer. This still needs attention; maybe you can help by being the Property Committee chairperson!! Please talk with Pastor, Tim, or Mike if you feel like this is something you are interested in doing for Our Savior.



Tim will be retiring from the OSF Healthcare System IT Department on August 28!! The family is making plans for a retirement party at Our Savior on Saturday, Sept. 5, so watch for more information .

From our Central/Southern Synod: 2026 SYNOD DAYS

This a day of worship, learning, fellowship, and relationship-building for all generations in each of the six conferences of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod.

Each synod day includes:

- Cross-generational worship
- Activities for children and families
- Shared meal
- State of the synod video
- Q&A with synod staff
- Mission moments from each conference
- Four "Spirit Lab" workshop options (each person may choose two)

Northern Conference

Sunday, Sept. 20, 1:30-6:30 p.m.
 Bethel Lutheran Church, 200 Colona Avenue, Bartonville
 Registration closes Aug. 31

Registration

The cost is \$10 per adult (18 and over), \$5 for youth (3-17), and free for children under 3, capped at a total of \$25 per family. Registration is open now at CSIS-ELCA.org/synoddays26.

If your schedule conflicts with your conference's Synod Day, you are welcome to attend another conference's day. Synod Days are open to ALL in our synod, not just those who participated in the Synod Assembly.



FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY
 2026 Central/Southern Illinois Synod Days

All members are invited to attend our Synod Day on Sunday, September 20, from 1:30-6:30 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran church in Bartonville.

Contact Tim if you have questions.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR AUGUST

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

	LAY ASSISTANT	LAY READER	USHERS	TELLERS	COMMUNION Set up & Clean up	PARAMENT COLOR
August 02	Dennis	Roberta	Leo	Donna & Leslie	Tim & Leslie	Green
August 09	Melanie	Sue Barger	Leo	Leo & Roberta	Karen & Arlene	Green
August 16	Dennis	Mary Sipka	Mark	Donna & Leslie	Tim & Leslie	Green
August 23	Melanie	Larry	Larry	Leo & Roberta	Lee & Mary	Green
August 30	Meri	Vickie	Dennis	Meri & Valerie	Mary Sipka & Arlene	Green

AUGUST FLOWER CHART

August 02	
August 09	Leslie Leitner—40 years as a musician at Our Savior
August 16	The Flemings—Bill & Melanie's 47th Anniversary
August 23	The Stiles—Kendall's birthday
August 30	The Baders—Barb'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.



Melanie brought flowers from her yard for our altar flowers on July 19! Thank you—they were lovely.

LOOKING AHEAD TO SEPTEMBER

- Saturday, Sept. 5—Tim's Retirement Party
- **Sunday, Sept. 20**—Puppets for Jesus
- **Sunday, Sept. 20**—Dinner Out
- **Sunday, Sept. 20**—Synod Day at Bethel Lutheran Church, Bartonville



The Property Committee at Our Savior Lutheran Church is seeking someone willing to be the committee chairperson. We would like someone to, with the help of the committee, write the meeting agendas, do the year-end report and do the budget. We would also like to have more people willing to help with the jobs. *Please talk with Pastor, Tim, or Mike B. if you are interested)*

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



Garold & Deena Burkholder
2009 Hollyhock Street
Pekin, IL 61554



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



Anniversaries & Birthdays

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Leo & Roberta Stiles—August 8

Bill & Melanie Fleming—August 18



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 10—Bill Calvert

August 23—Michelle Sarantakos

August 13—Kolbe Baal

August 27—Barb Bader

August 21—Donna Mathews



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!



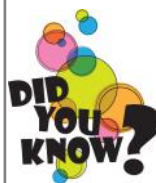
Reminder: If your committee changes or cancels a meeting, or plans an event, or makes an appointment to bring someone in—**please** let Pastor know. And **please** include Pastor on all committee emails. Thank you!



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!



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, August 23 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.

The *Tara Beeney Blessing Room* is collecting **school supplies** **through August 7** in an effort to help families in need. Please place items that you would like to donate in the Blessing Room crate under the coat racks. Thank you! They want to fill the backpacks they have.

- Crayola Crayons—24 count
- Crayola colored pencils—12 count
- Crayola washable markers—thick broad tip in classic colors-10 ct
- Crayola watercolor paints with brush
- Elmer glue bottle-4 oz.
- Elmer glue stick
- #2 Ticonderoga pencil with eraser-12 pack
- Eraser-large pink
- Scissors (for K-3)
- Highlighter—yellow
- Playdoh—3 pack
- Expo dry erase marker—thick chisel point-black-pack of 4
- Zipper pencil pouch for 3 ring binder
- School Supply box—9 x 5 size

AUGUST 2026 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM	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	10	11 9:30 AM Prayer Shawls 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*	12 7:00 p.m. W & M mtg OF & CE mtg	13 10:00 AM Bible Study Chiefs Game 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*	14	15
16 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:15 AM	17	18 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*	19 6:00 p.m. Finance mtg 7:00 PM Council	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	24	25 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*	26	27 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*	28	29
30 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM	31					

September 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	28	30			

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



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