

Hope on the Hill



Newsletter

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 11

A Letter from Pastor

"For All the Saints..."

All Hallow's Eve, October 31 is not for ghosts, goblins, witches, skeletons, etc. that are so much more than any events yet coming in yard decorations, like Christmas or Easter and the money spent on those decorations and of course, the candy given out on "Halloween!" All Hallow's Eve is the beginning of remembering family and beyond who are no longer with us. In the churches tradition we celebrate All Saints Sunday, not only for those who joined the church triumphant in the past year, but also because in Christ Jesus we are all Saints as the Body of Christ.

So...as you know, Sunday, November 1st is our All-Saints remembrance and celebration.

The word "saint" comes from the Greek word *hagios*, which means "consecrated to God, holy sacred, pious." This is not just for special people, but for all as we grow together in Christ while remembering the gifts of those gone before us.

Therefore, scripturally speaking, the "saints" are the body of

Christ, Christians, the church. All Christians are considered saints.

From Ephesians 4:11-13

¹¹ He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

Each All-Saints Sunday, we sing a very familiar hymn: "For All the Saints"

Verse one says: *For all the saints who from their labors rest, who thee by faith before the world confessed; thy name; O Jesus; before forever blest. Alleluia!*

Teachers from my past I could name, friends I remember and think of and family over the years that created love and togetherness while witnessing as "saints of God." They all have and continue to help me live out as a saint sharing the gift of love, forgiveness and hope that is gifted from God in Jesus.

I have a picture in my office to the right of my computer of my

mom and dad. It was an anniversary they had celebrated...holding a plant they had been given and smiling. They both joined the church Triumphant many years ago. Sometimes I look at that picture and reflect on all they shared. I will even have a private conversation while thinking of them and have a prayer of remembrance. I know, talking to a picture may sound strange, but in my heart and mind it is a helpful conversation that offers peace.

We are all "saints" in Jesus to build one another up! By our presence and prayer in worship it is a conversation that will bring encouragement and connection. Let us come together not just for the Sunday of "All Saints" but as often as we are able.

"Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine, we feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia!"

So, we sing and so we believe. Come and share as we build one another up and offer the gifts that God has given to each of us.

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**

Sunday Worship Service 9:00 a.m.

Adult Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

All-congregation Presentations: 10:15 a.m.



www.elca.org



REMINDER: Fritch Heating & Cooling is doing an upgrade to our HVAC thermostats.

Postponed until NOVEMBER

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 may also be on the office computer.

Prayer Concerns

Cindy (Donna Mathews sister-in-law, cancer diagnosis)
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)
Lillian P., Nancy A. Mazie W., Garold & Deena B., Chad W., Craig B.
For those affected by war, heat, floods, earthquakes
For victims and families of school shootings
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

Important Notice: Live streaming begins *when the Prelude starts*. Side conversations are being up picked by the microphones. Pastor & Tim will remind the congregation so we stay aware of this.

~Worship & Music Committee



On **All Saints Day, Sunday, November 1**, we will remember those who have joined the Church Triumphant this past year:

Barb Gresham
Kay Bernstein

Wayne Hagen
Patricia Hagen

We will dedicate memorial purchases from the past year: Seven Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnals were purchased in March 2026, using memorials from Carol Guenther and Marilyn Whittington

We will also dedicate our pledges and Time & Talents.



Our Thanksgiving Eve Service is on Wednesday, November 25, at 7:00 p.m.

Our Savior will be participating in the LSSI (Lutheran Social Services of Illinois) program to provide Christmas gifts for foster children they serve. We have volunteered for 20 gifts with a cost of \$25.00 each. The church will be receiving names and wish lists soon and more info will be coming when it is received. -O & F



ALL-CONGREGATION PRESENTATION
and coffee fellowship

Sunday, Nov. 15

Bob Dant, a U.S. Navy Vietnam veteran, who is the chairman of Tazewell County assistance committee will speak about cemeteries during the coffee fellowship on Nov.15. Church members are asked to bring a photo of a veteran in their family they would like to honor on the display table in the Parish Hall. Please include a notecard with the veteran's name and service info with the picture. Current military service members' pictures can also be included.

We will also be collecting items for veterans on Nov. 15 that will be distributed through Pekin Township. The requested items are: toothpaste, bar soap, deodorant, lotion, tissues, toilet paper, and paper towels. Canned foods and soups as well as packaged macaroni and cheese are always needed as well.

ALL-CONGREGATION PRESENTATION
and coffee fellowship
Sunday, Nov. 22

Tim Leitner will be sharing some detailed information about the **ELCA Disaster Response** and their work as well as an opportunity to support the agency. Special offerings can be made through OSLC.

More information on page 3.

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION



Men's Coffee/Breakfast Group

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



The Mary/Martha Circle will meet Wednesday, Nov. 18, 9:30 a.m. at the church.

They are studying 'Women of the Bible Speak' by Shannon Bream. All women of Our Savior are welcome.

All ladies of OSLC are invited to meet with the Mary/Martha Circle on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.



Arlene teaching the lesson on Rahab

We had 14 attend the Mary Martha group on October 21! All women of the church are invited and included. Our next meeting will be November 18.



Many members of OSLC went to Lillian's open house to celebrate her **98th birthday** on October 15.
Thank you for coming!



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry group will meet on **Tuesday, Nov. 10** 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!



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

The Worship and Music Committee has decided to highlight a different ELCA

agency each quarter. The first will be on November 22, 2026. The focus will be on ELCA Disaster Response. This agency and its workers will be included in the prayers during worship. The following is a short history of ELCA Disaster Response:

Since 1973, the agency has focused their mission on sharing God's hope, healing and renewal with people impacted by disasters and other humanitarian crises. They recognize every disaster is local and community leaders and organizations are best equipped to address needs following a disaster. They accompany partners worldwide across the disaster cycle—response, recovery, mitigation and preparedness—providing financial support, technical assistance, advocacy and networking. The agency stands with communities, congregations, and synods, social ministry partners, community-based organizations, tribal nations, companion churches and ecumenical partners.

Through the faithful work of our network, the Community of Practice, Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is a trusted and dependable partner. We work with everyone and stay as long as needed, often for years. Key work includes providing emotional and spiritual care for affected people and leaders who respond, assisting communities holistically to meet varied needs, and preparedness planning and providing long-term recovery by addressing unmet needs months or years after a disaster strikes.

-Tim Leitner

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR NOVEMBER

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

DATE	LAY ASSISTANT	LAY READER	USHER	TELLERS	COMMUNION Set up & Clean up	PARAMENT COLOR
November 01	Meri	Vickie	Dennis	Leo & Roberta	Arlene & Mary Sipka	White
November 08	Melanie	Sue B.	Bill	Donna & Leslie	Tim & Leslie	Green
November 15	Meri	Larry	Larry	Tim & volunteer	Lee & Mary	Green
November 22	Dennis	Mary Sipka	Leo	Donna & Leslie	Mary Sipka & Sue C.	White
November 29	Melanie	Roberta	Mark	Donna & Leslie	Tim & Leslie	Blue

NOVEMBER FLOWER CHART

November 01	
November 08	The Leitners—Penelope's 11th and Noah's 5th birthdays
November 15	Jack Bader's birthday
November 22	
November 29	Vickie Rayburn—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.

 Our Church Council is still asking for someone willing to be the Property Committee chairperson. You would prepare the monthly meeting agendas, keep track of property concerns and on-going projects, do the year-end report, and help the committee prepare the annual Property budget.

Please talk with Pastor or Tim if you are interested.

LOOKING AHEAD TO DECEMBER

(Sunday, November 29: First Sunday of Advent)

- **Sundays, December 6, 13, & 20:** Sundays of Advent Coffee Fellowships
- **Wednesdays, Dec. 2, 9, 16:** Advent Services, 7:00 p.m.
- **Thursday, Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve Service, 7:00 p.m.



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

Susan Thomas has settled into her new room:

Susan Thomas, Room #226
Charter Senior Living of Pekin
2700 S 14th St.
Pekin, IL 61554



OUR COLLEGE STUDENT'S ADDRESS

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

Garold Burkholder #26
Villas of Holly Brook
2720 S 14th St, Pekin, IL 61554

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

Anniversaries & Birthdays

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Nancy & Dale Atkinson—November 15



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nov. 1—Mark McCarrell

Nov. 9—Bruce Gettman

Nov. 19—Jack Bader

Nov. 22—Susan Foss

Nov. 28—Vickie Rayburn



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)

Missionary Cynthia Sundman shares the story of a woman in her 80s who is battling cancer and confined to bed. Though she can no longer leave home, she keeps a list of missionaries around the world and prays for them each day.

Cynthia says, "This woman travels the globe every day serving the Lord. Her mission is to pray for all the missionaries on her list."

Her story reminds us that faithful service does not always require travel or public recognition. Sometimes ministry happens quietly, from a bedside, through prayers lifted to God.

from www.churchart.com



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!

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



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!

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23

at leithaus@gmail.com. Thank you!



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.***

CHURCH COUNCIL 2026

President	Tim Leitner	Worship & Music, Finance, Mutual Ministry	tim.j.leitner@gmail.com
Vice President	Mark McCarrell	Finance, Memorials & Gifts	markgmc1154@gmail.com
Secretary	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
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, canned soups, sugar, coffee, pancake mix, syrup



THE BLESSING ROOM/ PEKIN OUTREACH INITIATIVE

Men's clothing is always needed.

On Sunday, Oct. 18, we had a presentation by Maizee Miller of Lutheran Social Services. She shared great information about the many programs they offer.

<https://www.lssi.org/>



NOVEMBER 2026 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																										
1 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM 10:15 AM Adult SCS	2	3 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*	4	5 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*	6 	7																																										
8 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM 10:15 AM Adult SCS	9	10 9:30 AM Prayer Shawls 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*	11  6:00 p.m. Finance 7:00 p.m. W & M mtg OF & CE mtg	12 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*	13	14																																										
15 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM 10:15 AM All Congregation Presentation	16	17 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*	18 9:30 a.m. Mary/Martha 7:00 p.m. Council	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 10:15 AM All Congregation Presentation	23	24 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics*	25 7:00 PM THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE	26 	27	28																																										
29 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM First Sunday of Advent 10:15 AM Adult SCS	30				<div> December 2026 <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></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>28</td><td>31</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </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	28	31	31		
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	31	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

