



Hope on the Hill

Newsletter

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 4

A Letter from Pastor

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love

Our journey together through Lent is coming to a close. We have spoken of God's love in Jesus as he touched and healed those who were hurting. We have been given eyes to see Jesus' presence in our day to living and able to share that same sight for those who have need of this special grace. A special prayer you can pray: *"Open our eyes and our hearts to receive the gifts you have for us and teach us to share these gifts with the world. Amen."*

Yes, spring is here, but the weather has been unpredictable, yet the one thing you can count upon is Jesus born unto us, dies for us and the tomb will be empty on Easter morn! We stand upon our faith knowing that no matter how hard or long a day may seem the Angels will announce the gift of Salvation given to you and me! 2 Corinthians 9:8 says: *And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency*

in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

I am thankful that by your presence in worship on Sundays or Wednesdays, we have shared the gift of God's love. If unable, I am also thankful that you are able to tune in to Our Savior's Live Stream!

We will walk with Jesus as he rides a donkey on Palm Sunday and share the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday. We will be silent as Jesus dies for us on Good Friday. Then! We will celebrate the empty tomb of Easter. Palm Sunday is April 13 followed by Holy Week and Easter on April 20th. Come share with us as we together are the Body of Christ.

Let me close with one of my favorite passages – Isaiah 40:28-31 *Have you not known? Have you not heard?*

The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ *He gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless.*

³⁰ *Even youths will faint and be weary,*

and the young will fall exhausted,

³¹ *but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;*

they shall mount up with wings like eagles;

they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

May joy, strength, love and peace be with you!

Pastor Stephen Barnes



Holy week

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 School 10:15 a.m.



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

www.elca.org

Prayer Concerns

Elsa Keas (recovering from knee surgery)

Sandy Brooks (health concerns)

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

Craig B., Chad W., David A., 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

Darlene's Aunt Lucy joined the Church Triumphant

Carolyn (Mike Barger's sister, health concerns)

(chronic hip problems)

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



No updates. You may wear a mask if desired but masks are not required at Our Savior at this time.



Our last two **Midweek Lenten services** will be at **7:00 p.m.** on these Wednesdays:

April 2: 'Touch'

April 9: 'Taste'—*A light meal will be served at 6:00 p.m.*



Our **Sundays** of Lent worship services begin at 9:00 a.m.

April 6: Jesus our Comforter

Holy Week Services:

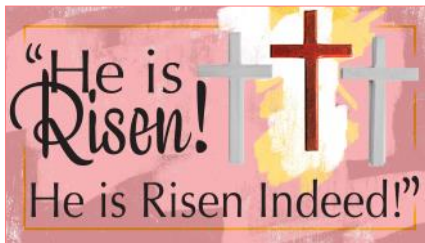


April 13: Palm Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

April 17: Maundy Thursday, 7:00 p.m.



April 18: Good Friday, 7:00 p.m.



**Sunday, April 20: Easter Celebration Worship
9:00 a.m.**

Join us at this joyful worship! A coffee fellowship will be held after the service. Baskets for children will be given out.

News about the Christian Civic Outreach in Pekin from Melanie:

Several of us were at Church Women United on March 14. There was an announcement by Gloria Ranney (Greg Ranney's wife) that will affect many of us at Our Savior Lutheran Church.

Christian Civic Outreach has been struggling for several years and they have contacted Pekin Outreach Initiative recently. Arlan (head of CCO) is retiring and CCO is donating their land, building, and contents to POI (effective the end of April, we believe.) As we heard when Greg Ranney visited, POI is currently operating in the basement of the Salvation Army on Derby Street.

Across the street from the Salvation Army is a small church that also has a very large clothing give away (Gloria couldn't remember the name but she thought "New Life" was in the name.) This location cannot get ADA bathrooms to have people enter so they give away clothing out on the sidewalk on Derby Street. Apparently, their church will continue to have worship services on Derby. POI has offered that this "New Life" organization can start utilizing the property at the CCO location (Washington and Capital) when CCO moves out and will be able to continue to distribute all the donations that are in the building.

So in a nutshell, CCO will cease to exist in early May. Pekin Outreach Initiative will be the owners of the property, and the church (New Life) will continue to operate a donation site in CCO's building. Gloria said that there are several churches that donate funds and materials to CCO and she hopes that they, including OSLC, will be contacted soon about the changes. I know in the past many years, OSLC has donated canned goods and materials throughout the year, including and especially, Thanksgiving Food, Mitten Tree, & Souper Bowl. We will find out soon where our donations will be most needed.



GREAT NEWS! 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.

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION



Men's Coffee/Breakfast Group

The next gathering will be
Thursday, April 17
 Creve Coeur Family Restaurant
 620 S. Main, Creve Coeur
7:30 a.m.



Our next 'Supper Out' is
Sunday, April 6, 6:00 p.m.
Rosatti's
 137a Radio City Dr.
 North Pekin
 A sign up sheet
 will be posted.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry group
 will meet on **Tuesday, April 8,**
 at **9:30 a.m.** at the church.
*We would appreciate any regular weight
 yarn donations. Thank you!! Come join us to
 make shawls or lap blankets!*



The Mary and Martha Circle will meet
Wednesday, April 16,
9:30 a.m. at OSLC. We will be
 assembling the Health Kits. We will
 resume our book discussion in May.
All women are welcome!

Pastor Barnes leads the Thursday Morning Bible Study each week.
Note: This group will 'pause' until after Easter.



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

The Memorials & Gifts Committee has designated
 \$400.00 for books for the church library. Since there
 was water damage in the library, books had to be
 discarded.



If you have suggestions for
 devotional books, resource
 books, books to read, etc.,
 please contact Melanie,
 Darlene, Pastor, Tim, or
 Leslie.



The dates for the annual rummage sale are:
Friday, May 16 and Saturday, May 17.

Preparation and bringing things to OSLC begins
after Easter Sunday. Place items behind the dividers in
 the Parish Hall. Sign Up will be posted to assist with
 setup and the days of sale.

Proceeds will go to the Pekin Outreach Initiative.

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



OUR
**COLLEGE
 STUDENT'S
 ADDRESS**



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 APRIL

Please switch with someone as needed.

	LAY ASSISTANT	LAY READER	USHERS	TELLERS	COMMUNION Set up & Clean up	PARAMENT COLOR
April 06	Tim	Roberta	Mark	Tim & Leslie	Tim & Leslie	Purple
April 13	Dennis	Mary Sipka	Larry	Meri & Valerie	Linda & Sue H.	Purple
April 20	Melanie	Sue B.	Leo	Leo & Roberta	Lee & Mary	Gold
April 27	Meri	Larry	Larry	Tim & Leslie	Linda & Sue H.	Gold

APRIL FLOWER CHART

April 06	The Flemings—Lily's Birthday
April 13	The Bargas—Marithaza's birthday
April 20	Lilies for Easter
April 27	The Leitners—Sofia's 6th 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.



Many thanks to Sonja for sharing her talent on the piano, playing for our Wednesday Lenten services.



New banner for Lent (& anytime)

OSLC received a thank you letter from the Central/Southern Illinois Synod for our 2025 Mission Support. Bishop Busboom added a personal note: *"Thank you, Our Savior, for your continued generosity in support of Christ's mission."* Our annual contribution is \$600/month, \$7,200/year.

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. *Please contact Pastor* if you are interested in being one of our delegates, or if you would like to attend.

- Some recent purchases from Memorials & Gifts:**
- Rolling TV Stand
 - Teaching Lectern
 - 3 folding tables
 - Six graphic novels for the church library

We at Our Savior collect outdated daily devotionals, unused materials, and more for **Love Packages**. There is a box by the coat rack for any items you wish to donate. A newsletter from Love Packages explained that over 2000 tons of materials were distributed in 2024! Included in the newsletter were testimonials from Uganda, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, and other countries.

Anniversaries & Birthdays

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Mark & Chris McCarrell—April 16
Vicki & Randy Rayburn—April 28



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 4—Lily Fleming	April 18—Bev Wehr
April 4—Tim Leitner	April 19—Sofia Olivos
April 7—Craig Brooks	April 23—Roberta Stiles



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: oslcekin1@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!



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!

The Outreach Committee would appreciate having more helpers for the outdoor OSLC sign. Currently Melanie & Linda are maintaining it but would like to share the responsibility. Thank you!



LOOKING AHEAD TO MAY

- Friday, May 16 & Saturday, May 17: Rummage Sale

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 April 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 want a printed copy monthly, please let Leslie know.***

CHURCH COUNCIL 2025

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



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



APRIL 2025 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																	
		1	2	3	4	5																																																	
			7:00 PM Lenten Service 7:45 PM Outreach/ Chris Ed mtg																																																				
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WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Supper Out 6:00 p.m.		9:30 a.m. Prayer Shawls 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	7:00 PM Lenten Service 7:45 PM Worship & Music mtg	6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics																																																			
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PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Finance Mtg 10:15 AM		6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	9:30 AM Mary/Martha Circle 7:00 PM Council mtg	7:30 AM Men's Breakfast  MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	 GOOD Friday SERVICE 7:00 PM Good Friday Service																																																		
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