

The Hilltopper

Our Savior Lutheran Church



September 2016



Leslie Leitner will once again be creating our monthly Hilltopper Newsletter. Please email any information for the Hilltopper to leitner@grics.net. You may still send items to Gerry, and she will send them on to me. You may also put articles, minutes, etc. in the Hilltopper mailbox slot in the Library.



**Sunday Worship
Service 9:00 a.m.**
**Sunday Church School
10:15 a.m.**
Beginning Sept. 18

CONTACT INFORMATION:

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
2223 SHERIDAN ROAD
PEKIN, IL 61554 (309) 346-2600

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Barnes
Email: barnes.stephen9@gmail.com

*Office Hours: Monday—Thursday
9:30 am— 3:30 p.m.*

*Pastor's office hours are subject to change—
please call ahead*

Church email: oslcpekin1@gmail.com
Blog: <http://oslcpekin.blogspot.com/>

Secretary: Gerry Reynolds
Office Hours: Mon.—Fri. 9-12

Hilltopper Editor:
Leslie Leitner
Email: leitner@grics.net



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
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PASTOR'S PAGE

We are coming into the fall, weather changing, children going back to school, vacations mostly over. I do hope that you had a great summer, but it made me think... what of the attitude regarding fall?

I know that I always have great hope when my fishing trips are just ahead. I know that children have great hopes when the last day of school is just around the corner. I know that many folks have great hopes of shedding the extra clothing in summer.

Are there new hopes that come into focus as we reach towards the many changes in our lives? I do know that in my family, they would become excited because as school approached, buying "school supplies" was always great excitement! You know... pens, pencils, notebooks and folders.

Even so, these are temporary time things. Do we live with the underlying hope and excitement that God gives in Jesus... God's love in the world? With the promise eternal are we looking beyond the transient things in hope? Do we believe that God is connected in all we are and what we do?

In my devotions, I was reading chapter 8 of Paul's letter to the Romans and was reminded of a deeper hope that should be the corrective in how we face all our days.

Romans 8:24 "For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience."

That patient hope comes as we rely upon God's Spirit. That gracious hope is strengthened as we realize that God hears our prayers. That loving hope understands God is always working in our lives.

My devotional writer said: "We believe God works in all circumstances for our good. That's not to say it's always easy to trust God in painful or disappointing circumstances. If only we knew what God is accomplishing! Sometimes in retrospect we see how things did work for good. Often, we simply walk in trust, not by sight."

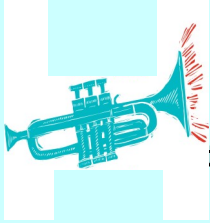
Knowing God hears our sighs and whispers, thoughts and prayers, maybe hope is our walking in trust, not by sight. This fall let's walk with the energy that trusts we are never alone. Live the hope that knows God is love and you are loved, very much.

Peace,

Pastor Stephen D. Barnes

HOPE ON THE HILL

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live and Love



Sunday, September 18 will be a great morning!!

Dr. Todd Kelly will be playing trumpet during the worship service.

We will be welcoming New Members, and having a Coffee Fellowship. It's also Rally Sunday for Sunday School— **PUPPETS FOR JESUS** will be here!

Be sure to stay after the service to enjoy their ministry.

We are looking forward to seeing you at church on the 18th!



In September, the Adult Sunday School will begin meeting to study the book of Acts. Consider helping your faith grow by learning about how the early church was founded and organized and solved its problems.

Here are some tidbits about our Adult Sunday School:

- We'll meet weekly in the library or gathering room unless there is a special Sunday School event.
- There is no attendance taken—we meet right after worship, usually by 10:15, for 45 minutes to an hour.
- There is no homework, unless you want to read ahead.
- You do not need to purchase additional supplies.
- You may bring your Bible or use one of the many Bibles at the church.
- We are self-guided and will read and discuss Acts, starting with Chapter 1.
- No previous Sunday School experience necessary.
- No previous knowledge of the Bible or the book of Acts is necessary.
- You do not need to commit to "joining" anything.
- All adults are welcome!



Sign up for First Aid Classes!

Advanced Medical Transport will conduct two classes for first aid, resuscitation, and other medical matters on

Wednesday, September 14, from 6:00-9:30 p.m.
and

Sunday, September 18 from 2:00-5:30 p.m.

The classes are free, but please sign up on or before Sunday, September 11 so they know how much training equipment they need to bring. Sign-up sheets are posted for both times on the bulletin board. Both classes cover the same material, so attending either class is sufficient.

The Mary Martha Circle
will meet
September 21st,
9:30 a.m., at the church.
Watch for an
announcement in the
September bulletins with
more information.

Trivia Fun Night —September 25th

Time to
Team Up!

Trivia Fun Night is set up for **September 25th,**
beginning at 6:30 p.m. Be sure you get your
team of up to six together and get signed up
(posted on the bulletin board.)

Bring a snack to share with the other players & a
non-perishable food item which will be donated to
Christian Civic Outreach. Get signed up today!



KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS, SAVE THE DATE!

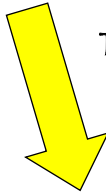
September 20, 2016



The newly formed Prayer Shawl Ministry recently met to discuss plans for creating lap covers and Prayer Shawls for Pastor Barnes to take to those in need of comfort. The group will be meeting again on

Tuesday, September 20th from 9 a.m.—11 a.m. at the church.

They need donations of any yarn. Their pattern calls for 6 oz. skeins of Homespun by Lion Brand yard which can be found at Walmart, Michaels and Hobby Lobby. They will be happy to receive **ANY** yarn or supplies to work on their projects. Place yarn & supply donations in the box under the coat rack. Mark any monetary donations as such on your offering envelope for proper credit placement.



There are lots of empty spaces for September on our flower chart—sign up anytime or contact Gerry in the church office to sign up!

FLOWER CHART FOR SEPTEMBER

September 4	Available
September 11	Available
September 18	Available
September 25	Pastor Barnes' Birthday



REMINDER: When you take your flowers home, please leave the green plastic insert in the wooden vase. The inserts are used by The Greenhouse to transport our flowers, and are very costly to replace.

To sign up for flowers on the altar for a specific Sunday, please fill out the flower chart by the front entrance or call the church office.

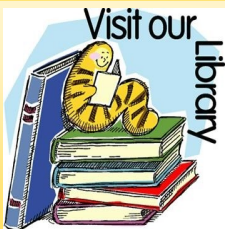
To pay for your week The price for weekly flowers is now **\$25.00** for 2016. Please place your check for \$25.00 in the offering plate, or mail it to Our Savior. Thank you.

Stewardship Time at Our Savior Lutheran~~

On October 2nd we will kick off our second year of the stewardship journey—**"First, We Give of Ourselves"**. The theme for this year is *"Giving in Gratitude"*.

Together we will be exploring what it means to give of ourselves, to live as disciples, and grow in our giving. Further details will be coming.

~~from the OSLC Stewardship committee



Our OSLC library is an "honors system" library. Borrow an old favorite or a new addition.

Thanks to all who are reading and donating to our library. We try to limit our donations to copyright dates after 1999, or classics or historical fiction. Watch for more offerings in the next few months. If you would like to recommend a book from our library, provide a quick synopsis or report and get it to Gerry or Leslie for the next Hilltopper.



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.

A list of current needs is posted in the Gathering Room and near the church office.

Special needs now include: Cereal, Diapers of all sizes, Peanut Butter, Canned Tuna, Canned Fruit

Hand mixer
Laundry detergent and dish soap
Iron/ironing board
Pillows
Full/Twin/Crib sheets

Full/Twin size blankets
Full/Twin size comforters, mattress pads
Shower curtain, curtain holders
Pots and pans
Lamp

Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

EXERCISE CLASSES @ OSLC!

**OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
2223 SHERIDAN ROAD-PEKIN**

6:00—7:00 p.m. Tuesdays

6:00—7:00 p.m. Thursdays

- ▶ Come whenever you want
- ▶ Work at your own level
- ▶ Open to the public



☺ FUN!
☺ FRIENDLY!
☺ FREE!



STRETCHING
STRENGTH TRAINING FOR ARMS & LEGS
AB & CORE WORKOUT
CARDIO (WITH OR W/O STEP)

Thank you, Mazie and Jim!

Thanks to Mazie Wankel and Jim Drake for keeping our flowers watered at the entrance each week. They always are such a warm welcome each time we enter the church.



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.

***If you have a ministry need,
you may wish to call Pastor,
the church office, or
one of our lay assistants:***

Pastor Barnes—(309) 253-3754
Office—(309) 346-2600
Tim Leitner—(309) 353-2771 (SAM)
Melanie Fleming—(309)-387-6093
Charlie Davis—(309) 347-7522
Chris McCarrell—(309) 691-5313



We also continue to pray for our college student, **Emily Foss** (Bradley University); and those in the Military: Petty Officer 1st Class **Josh Barger** (Navy, San Diego, CA), and **Nick Marzinzik** (Air Force Reserves, Mike & Sue Barger's nephew).

*We always thank
GOD for all of you
and continually
mention you in
our prayers.*

I Thessalonians 1:2, NIV

Prayer Concerns



Craig Brooks
Jim Johnson
Chad Wahl
Richard Massey (*Gene's son*)
Cheryl, Alan and Mitchell
Ruth Roach (*health issues*)
Gus (*Sue's father, serious health concern*)
Ryan
Doris Voller (*health concerns*)
Caleb (*Mike and Sue Barger's nephew*)
Doris Hambleton (*sister of Marilyn Whittington—health declining*)
George & Elaine Alexander (*health concerns*)
Cathy and Kenny (*dealing with some rough times*)
Nancy Lietz (*mother-in-law of Anne Dralle Lietz—Multiple Myeloma treatment*)
Amy Lietz (*sister-in-law of Anne Dralle Lietz—Breast Cancer*)
Grant (*friend of Vickie Rayburn who recently had open heart surgery. Pray for healing & restoration*)
Darlene Smith (*friend of Lillian Pinkston—serious health concerns*)
Connie (*Family of Connie—Sue's Aunt*)
Bob Butler (*Melanie's neighbor-long recovery from foot surgery*)
Family of Lanie Riddle (*10 year old friend of Lily Fleming*)
MaKenna Lee (*friend of Menalie Fleming—has a new baby niece*)
Bella & Anna (*friends of Melanie Fleming, have broken legs from ATV accident*)
Marsha Sorenson (*Lee & Mary's daughter—for healing and recovery from recent surgery*)

(Contact Gerry with any additions, deletions, corrections or updates)

PRAYER WARRIORS

from www.newsletternewsletter.com



Prayer

Warriors

After tragedies, natural disasters and terrorism, people now commonly turn to social media to request prayers. Although it can feel “jarring” to see “so many references to the divine in spaces normally reserved for vacation photos,” writes journalist Eleanor Barkhorn, it’s a modern-day version of the New Testament’s reminders to pray constantly and in all circumstances.

Over the years, churches have encouraged members to pray through letters, phone chains, prayer breakfasts and prayer groups. “With that context in mind,” Barkhorn writes, “Facebook shouldn’t cheapen prayer any more than the Postal Service or the telephone does.”

Russell Moore of the Southern Baptist Convention says, “Asking for prayer via Twitter or Facebook is no different than calling someone and saying, ‘We should really pray for this.’ Social media can be a tremendous force for good in alerting people to things they can be praying about right away.”

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sept. 12—Bud & Sandy Brooks

Sept. 10—Jacque Davis

Sept. 21—Garold Burkholder

Sept. 22—Phil & Beth Dralle

Sept. 19—Joci Scoville

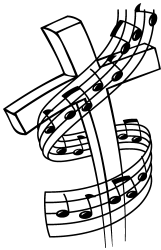
Sept. 27—Pastor Barnes

Sept. 29—Mike & Courtney Dralle

Sept. 20—Rita Wahl



If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please let us know!!



Sundays
9:00 a.m.
Worship Service
10:15 a.m.
Sunday School



OCTOBER HILLTOPPER INFORMATION

Please send articles, updates, news, etc. for the September Hilltopper by **Sunday, September 18.** Email Leslie or Gerry with committee information, news, events, updates, etc. at **leitner@grics.net (Leslie)** or Gerry at **oslcpekin1@gmail.com**, or put articles in the Hilltopper mailbox in the Library. Thank you!

BIG THANKS TO OUR MOWERS!

A big thanks is due to all the Volunteer Mowers this Spring and Summer for keeping our grounds looking GREAT! We know the sacrifices you all make to keep the church grounds looking pleasant and you do it with a happy heart. Thank you for everything you do each week. What would we do without you?

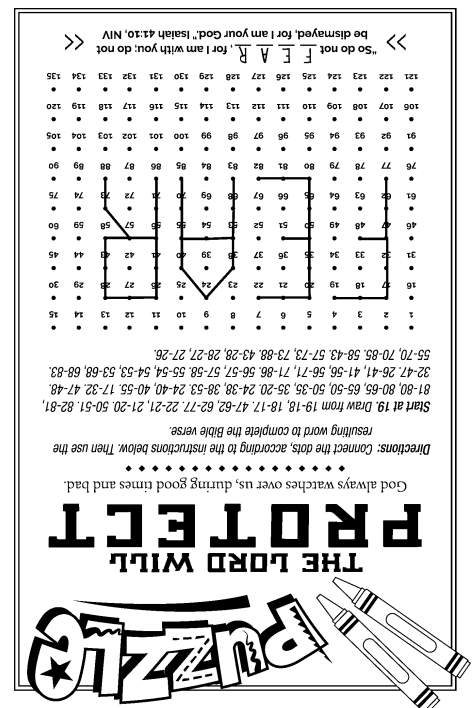
LAWN MOWING SCHEDULE

Week of:	Mower
September 4	Need a volunteer
September 11	Larry Daniels



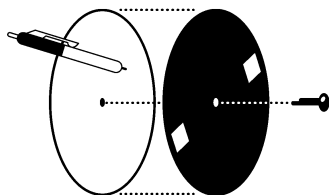
risk fall air sparks my anticipation: What do you have in store for day, Lord? I put my hand in yours and move forward with you.

Answer to puzzle on page 7.
from www.newsletternewsletter.com



PROMISE WHEEL

This craft will remind you that God is always with you.



What you need:

- A large round bowl
- 2 large pieces of construction paper
- A pen
- Scissors
- A ruler
- A brad
- A Bible or search engine

What you do:

1. Turn the bowl upside down and trace around it on both pieces of paper.
2. Cut out the circles. Draw a dot in the center of each.
3. On one circle, trace and cut out two 2" squares opposite each other, with the dot in the middle.
4. Align the dots and place the brad through both circles.
5. In the space left by one square, write a fear you have. Then write a comforting Bible verse in the other square.
6. Rotate the circle to a new blank space, and write another fear and verse.

from www.newsletternewsletter.com



THE LORD WILL PROTECT

God always watches over us, during good times and bad.

Directions: Connect the dots, according to the instructions below. Then use the resulting word to complete the Bible verse.

Start at 19. Draw from 19-18, 18-17. 47-62, 62-77. 22-21, 21-20. 50-51. 82-81, 81-80, 80-65, 65-50, 50-35, 35-20. 24-38, 38-53. 24-40, 40-55. 17-32. 47-48. 32-47. 26-41, 41-56, 56-71, 71-86. 56-57, 57-58. 55-54, 54-53, 53-68, 68-83. 55-70, 70-85. 58-43. 57-73, 73-88. 43-28, 28-27, 27-26.

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
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46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
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61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75
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76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
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91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105
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106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135

>> "So do not __ __ __ __, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God." Isaiah 41:10, NIV <<

Answer: fear



Help for Those in Need

CHRISTIAN CIVIC OUTREACH (CCO)

♥ There is a collection crate by the coat rack for items for CCO.

♥ Paper products and cleaning supplies are always needed.

CURRENT NEEDS: Produce, Jeans and Shorts All Sizes, Canned Meats, And Crackers

NOTE: The CCO Board meets on the 3rd Monday of the month from 5:30—6:30 p.m. They would like a representative from Our Savior to be on the Board. **PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING IN THIS MINISTRY. THEY REALLY NEED MORE CHURCH REPRESENTATION TO KEEP THEIR ORGANIZATION RUNNING.**





2016 CHURCH COUNCIL—Contact Information

<i>President</i>	Lee Sorenson	Outreach & Fellowship	Lee.sorenson75@gmail.com
<i>Vice President</i>	Mark McCarrell	Worship & Music Gifts & Memorials	mmccarrell@pekininsurance.com
<i>Secretary</i>	Sharon Foss	Christian Education	slfoss35@gmail.com
<i>Treasurer</i>	Garold Burkholder	Finance & Stewardship	gburkholder21@comcast.net
	Steve Gresham	Property	gramg95@comcast.net
	Dave Sanders	Finance	sandsd@mtco.com
	Larry Daniels	Outreach & Fellowship	lawrencedaniels@centurytel.net
	Jacque Davis	Christian Education	cad1206@comcast.net
	Pastor Barnes	Pastor	barnes.stephen9@gmail.com
	Gerry Reynolds	Church Secretary	oslcpkin1@gmail.com

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS SCHEDULES

Please switch with someone as needed and notify Gerry so the Bulletin will be correct.

LAY ASSISTANTS

Sept. 4	Charlie Davis
Sept. 11	Tim Leitner
Sept. 18	Melanie Fleming
Sept. 25	Chris McCarrell

USHERS

Sept. 4	Ken Wehr
Sept. 11	Mark McCarrell
Sept. 18	Dave Sanders
Sept. 25	Garold Burkholder

LAY READERS

Sept. 4	Sue Barger
Sept. 11	Roberta Stiles
Sept. 18	Larry Daniels
Sept. 25	Sue Barger

TELLERS

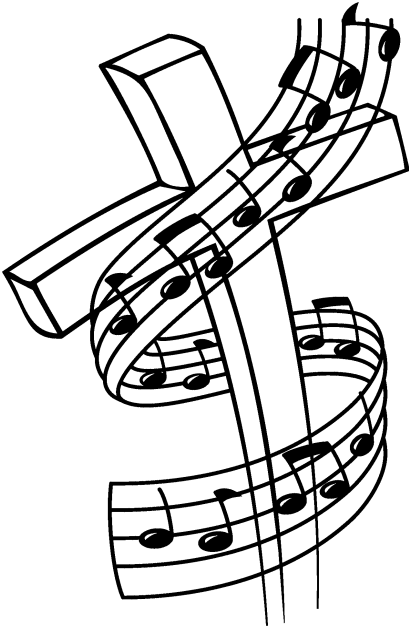
Sept. 4	Tim Leitner and Ken Wehr
Sept. 11	Leo & Roberta Stiles
Sept. 18	Steve and Barb Gresham
Sept. 25	Tim Leitner and Ken Wehr

GREETERS

Sept. 4	Jacque Davis
Sept. 11	Roberta Stiles
Sept. 18	Larry Daniels
Sept. 25	Meri Arnold

COMMUNION SET-UP

Sept. 4	Lee & Mary Sorenson ~ Green
Sept. 11	Dave Sanders ~ Green
Sept. 18	Lee & Mary Sorenson—Intinction ~ Green
Sept. 25	Carol Guenther & Lillian Pinkston ~ Green



**The Hilltopper Newsletter
OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
2223 Sheridan Road
Pekin, IL 61554-2498
Phone: (309) 346-2600
Rev. Stephen D. Barnes—Pastor**

**Sundays—9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:15 a.m. Sunday Church School**

At Our Savior Lutheran, we offer a
'blended' or 'unified' worship service.

For music, we combine the music from the Organist and the FaithFull Worship Band with our liturgy, hymns & songs, offertory, prelude, and more.

Each part of the service in some way contributes to the "conversation" we are having with God.

The sermon is not the only medium for the word of God. We hear God speaking in the readings, hymns, anthems, and liturgy itself.

We also receive the body and blood of the living Word, Jesus Christ.

Worship provides us with opportunities to offer to God our praise, thanksgiving, prayers and concerns.