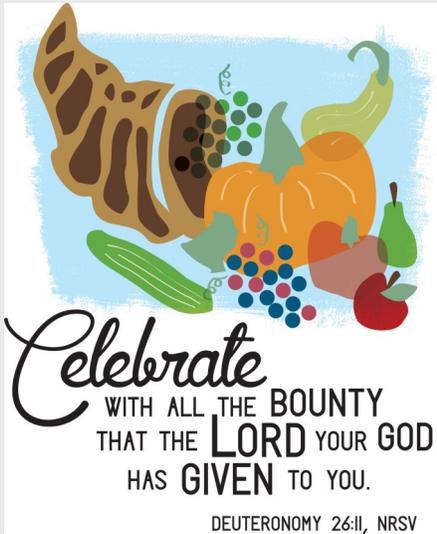


The Hilltopper

Our Savior Lutheran Church



November 2016



PASTOR'S PAGE from the Pond—Turtle, that is!

Having been blessed with years of walking with Zebedee turtle, old beyond knowing, at Turtle Pond, I never grow tired of the beauty near water's edge and the shared community of the turtles.

As we reach deeper into fall, there is a bustle and direction for all the turtles both young and old. Maple Tree Mud Flats is bright with leaves changing colors and falling into the mud where the Turtles roil around to shine their shells before winter. Cattail Cove seems a little barer as young turtles have clipped the cattails to be taken to all turtle homes for winter beds. Arthur Otter floats just off of Otter Island on his back to help everyone clean their "food rocks" (flat smooth rocks) to be ready for surplus food for winter stored in their homes. Fred Frog and family help with the pond weed/food to be gathered. (They have the best grabbing for the weeds down deep) Timothy and Tessa the Tall Timber Turtles are really good at digging and help in clearing the turtle homes on Turtle Hill.

There is a hint of winter in the air and days are shorter. But the turtles hum and sing in their "turtle way" and there seems to be a joy of thankfulness all around as the chores are completed.

It made me think that we humans could learn a thing or two! Instead of dreading winter around the corner there is community and joy to be had. Everyone is a part and has a part to be shared. November begins with All Saints where we remember the joy and parts people played in the life of our Congregation. God is a providential God and we have abundance that should bring us joy and song as we share in worship on Thanksgiving Eve – November 23rd, 7:00 p.m. AND if that were not enough we have Advent beginning on November 27th... a time to give thanks for God's gift of love for you and me coming into the world!

I can't say I understand the words the turtles of Turtle Pond use in their singing, but the joy of thankfulness cannot be missed.

Prepare for winter, but also take time to be thankful! Sing, hum through your busyness while remembering God is love.

Psalm 30: 10-12 Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me! O Lord, be my helper! You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

May you find November a time to be thankful while joy fills your heart! By the way, I have never heard a turtle "off key" when singing comes from the heart!

Peace,


Pastor Stephen D. Barnes



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

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: oslcpokin1@gmail.com

Website: www.oslchopeonthehill.org

Secretary: Gerry Reynolds

Office Hours: Mon.—Fri. 9-12

Hilltopper Editor:

Leslie Leitner

Email: leitner@grics.net



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands. www.elca.org

HOPE ON THE HILL

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education

Helping Individuals Live and Love



November 6 is *All Saints Sunday*. On this Sunday, we recognize what has been purchased from the Memorials & Gifts funds since the previous All Saints Sunday.

Memorials & Gifts Purchases November 2015-October 2016

From the Gusta Bolam Fund:

- Palm Sunday Standing Banners
- Easter Standing Banners
- Pentecost Standing Banners
- Two Banner Stands
- Altar Cloths –
 - Two Corporals
 - One Pall
- Lay Assistant Alb
- Four Cincture Ropes for Lay Assistants and Acolyte (red, purple, green & blue)

Advent Banners (*Mildred Trede Fund*)

12 copies each Augsburg Easy Choir Book Volumes 1 & 3 (*Music Fund*)

Also, a special **Banner** has been made to honor those who have passed away since last All Saints Sunday: This will be a yearly tradition. Our Saints this year are:

- Gusta Bolam
- Roscoe Hale
- Larry Roach

We also remember Mildred Trede.

On **Sunday, November 6, at 2:00 p.m.**, we have the opportunity to hear about the experiences of Mike Barger's cousin, who was a **missionary in Brazil**. He will have a slide presentation on his work there.



Outreach & Fellowship will provide coffee & cookies.

Be sure to mark your calendar for this event!

Education Special Sunday

Once each month, we will have an **All-Congregation Presentation** after the Sunday Worship Service.

Here is more information about November's presentation:

November 20—'Lutheran Liturgy'

This will be a look at where the liturgy that we use originated; why we have liturgical services; and what the ELCA suggests for worship services for its congregations. There will be some examples of how congregations use liturgy. There will also be a taste of the Swedish Lutheran service and pictures of churches in Akersberga, Stockholm, Uppsala, Gothenburg, and Delsbo, Sweden. Presented by Tim Leitner.



Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wednesday, November 23rd, 7:00 p.m.

"God is a providential God and we have abundance that should bring us joy and song as we share in worship on Thanksgiving Eve" ~ Pastor Barnes



We will be taking orders for the Poinsettias that will beautify our church in December.

The cost is \$11.50. Watch for bulletin inserts; you may also contact the church office to place an order. **ORDERS ARE DUE NOVEMBER 21.**

Thank you Elsa & Gerry for organizing this!

The first Wednesday Evening Advent Service

will be **November 30, at 7:00 p.m.**

This year's mid-week Advent services theme is

"Comfort and Joy". The Gospel reading

for the first Wednesday service is

the angel of the Lord visits Zachariah.



The Mary Martha Circle

will meet **November 16, 9:30 a.m.**, at the church. Hostess is Darlene Daniels. Topic Leader is Lillian Pinkston. The study guide is "Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith." All women of Our Savior are welcome! *NOTE: The Mary/ Martha Circle will not meet in December.*

Confirmation Class is being offered on one Sunday a month. **The next class is scheduled for Nov. 6, 2016.** Class periods will be 10:15-11:30 a.m.





Stewardship at Our Savior Lutheran

Dear Friends in Christ,
 We will dedicate our Time & Talents forms and Commitment cards on Sunday, November 6. You may still turn in your commitments for the coming year.

Blessings and gratitude were the focus of this year's stewardship program: **First, We Give of Ourselves: "Giving in Gratitude"**.

God's blessings,
 The Stewardship Committee – Pastor Barnes and Tim Leitner

The September 25th Trivia Event raised \$72.50 and collected 55 food items for Christian Civic Outreach. Thanks to all who participated!!!!

~Outreach & Fellowship Committee



A joyous welcome to our newest members!!



Stella & Dale Gettys and Valerie Gettys



Taylor Lodewegen



Nancy & Dale Atkinson

'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.' —Mark 9:37



Angel Tree Ministry

Our congregation has once again been provided with the names of a dozen local children whose mother or father is incarcerated somewhere in our nation's State or Federal prison systems.

Angel Tree is the means by which Christmas gifts are provided for the children from the imprisoned parent. Each child will receive two gifts valued at \$15-\$20 per gift. One will be a clothing gift; the other will be a fun gift.

When we receive the responses back from the caregivers, they will provide each child's "Wish List" (including sizes, colors and any other pertinent information) to whoever wants to participate.

When you agree to sponsor a child with one or two gifts, you will be given all the information you need to purchase the appropriate gifts, plus the gift tag to attach to the gift when wrapped.

If you are unable to sponsor a child but would like to participate, we can always use more people to deliver the gifts, and monetary donations to the church designated for "Angel Tree" will be gladly received.

Watch for further information and a sign-up sheet to be posted soon.



Craig Brooks enjoyed a visit from some of our members! Lillian, Sonja, Chris, and Bev were able to spend some time with Craig & his aide. He loves to get cards from Our Savior!



Our Savior received a thank you card from "Puppets for Jesus":

Friends,

Puppets for Jesus had an amazing time in fellowship with you! What a wonderful blessing! It was great to see you all again—God is good...all the time! Thank you for your hospitality and overly generous donation. God bless you all!!



FLOWER CHART FOR NOVEMBER



| | |
|----------------|--|
| Nov. 6 | Tim & Leslie Leitner—Penelope Leitner's First Birthday |
| Nov. 13 | Tim & Leslie Leitner—In Memory of Gusta Bolam |
| Nov. 20 | Available |
| Nov. 27 | Available |
| | |

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.



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! If you have any questions or would like to make a monetary donation, please contact Leon Edwards at 309-272-2919 or Gary at (309) 691-0551.



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
(SAM) Tim Leitner—(309) 353-2771
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)

Nick Marzinzik (Air Force Reserves,
Mike & Sue Barger's nephew)

Ensign Tary N. Voller—San Diego USN,
Helicopter Pilot (Doris Voller)

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

1 Thessalonians 1:2, NIV

Prayer Concerns



Chad Wahl
Cheryl, Alan and Mitchell
Ruth Roach (*health issues*)
Gus (*Sue's father, serious health concern*)
Caleb (*Mike and Sue Barger's nephew*)
Doris Hambleton (*sister of Marilyn Whittington—health declining*)
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*)
Family of Jerry Sczinski (*Friend of Lee Sorenson, personal and medical issues*)
Darryl Humble (*friend of Lee Sorenson who is experiencing complications following a recent surgery*)
Ruby and Lon Etheridge (*Gerry's parents—mother broke wrist, father is disabled—needing in-home help*)

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



VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE!!

We are excited to announce we now have a new website! The monthly Hilltopper and calendar will be available to view, as well as upcoming events and various pieces of information. Material will be updated regularly on our new website so we can keep you informed as quickly as possible.

Leslie, Tim and Gerry have worked tirelessly for some time to get this website up and running, and we are all happy to share it with you.

More features are being planned for the future so be sure you stay tuned for updates and details!

Below is the link for your convenience. Be sure to *bookmark* it on your "Favorites" list. And if you need any help navigating it, call or come into the office for help.

<http://www.oslchopeonthehill.org/>

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry group will be creating lap covers and Prayer Shawls for Pastor Barnes to take to those in need of comfort. We plan to meet at the church on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Anyone is welcome for fellowship and to help us with our projects. Patterns & some supplies are provided. You can also bring your own yarn, needles, etc.

Questions? Contact Darlene Daniels.



In November we're celebrating... Anniversaries & Birthdays

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



Nov. 1—Mark McCarrell

Nov. 22—Sharon Foss

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nov. 19—Rachael Wyman



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

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)

LOOKING AHEAD TO DECEMBER...

- **Sunday, December 4, 10:15-11:30 a.m.**, at Our Savior: Confirmation class.
- **December 7: Wednesday Advent Service, 7:00 p.m.**—*The angel of the Lord visits Joseph*
- **December 14: Wednesday Advent Service, 7:00 p.m.**—*The angel of the Lord visits Mary*
- **December 21: Wednesday Advent Service, 7:00 p.m.**—The Longest Night/Blue Christmas Service
- **Mary/Martha** will not meet in December.
- **Christmas Eve Service—8:00 p.m.**
- **Christmas Day Service—9:00 a.m.**



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



Please join us after service on most Sundays for Adult Sunday School. We have read through and discussed the first chapter of Acts and will continue this discussion and reading each week!



- *We don't take attendance;
- *there is no homework or extra books to purchase; and
- *we have plenty of extra Bibles, or you can bring your own!

We are done by 11:00-11:15. We will meet in the library and can move if our group outgrows that space! All adults of the church or visitors are welcome!

DECEMBER HILLTOPPER INFORMATION

Please send articles, updates, news, etc. for the December Hilltopper by **Sunday, November 20.**

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!

Blessings from the Lord

Throughout the Bible, God blesses his chosen people. How can we receive these gifts?

Directions: In the word search, find all the words in the box. Then write the words in the correct order on the blanks below to complete the verse.

come you these Lord if blessings you the accompany
Deuteronomy All on your obey will God you and

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| I | J | T | Z | Z | L | M | X | N | W | C | I | Z | Y | H |
| X | V | U | B | M | O | O | O | V | I | O | L | T | R | T |
| N | L | V | L | I | R | A | D | S | L | M | R | H | A | T |
| B | F | C | E | Z | D | T | X | O | L | E | D | E | L | D |
| O | S | K | S | L | O | D | A | B | V | G | W | S | L | E |
| H | G | Y | S | L | R | A | W | E | Y | J | E | E | U | U |
| I | O | R | I | W | F | I | C | Y | O | U | R | L | R | T |
| Z | D | B | N | I | A | B | Y | C | V | M | R | X | C | E |
| G | K | D | G | Y | D | M | A | O | O | T | U | F | M | R |
| C | T | I | S | Z | O | M | T | E | Q | M | P | N | T | O |
| C | X | C | I | D | U | U | O | L | R | D | P | T | C | N |
| F | S | X | F | R | T | L | P | M | F | B | L | A | A | O |
| Y | Y | Y | O | U | H | T | U | A | P | A | I | U | N | M |
| E | O | K | N | U | E | A | Z | U | F | E | F | B | D | Y |
| T | Q | U | Y | N | I | N | O | O | V | E | O | T | Z | I |

" All _____
_____ "

28:2, NIV

Answer: "All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God." Deuteronomy 28:2, NIV

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| I | J | T | Z | Z | L | M | X | N | W | C | I | Z | Y | H |
| X | V | U | B | M | O | O | O | V | I | O | L | T | R | T |
| N | L | V | L | I | R | A | D | S | L | M | R | H | A | T |
| B | F | C | E | Z | D | T | X | O | L | E | D | E | L | D |
| O | S | K | S | L | O | D | A | B | V | G | W | S | L | E |
| H | G | Y | S | L | R | A | W | E | Y | J | E | E | U | U |
| I | O | R | I | W | F | I | C | Y | O | U | R | L | R | T |
| Z | D | B | N | I | A | B | Y | C | V | M | R | X | C | E |
| G | K | D | G | Y | D | M | A | O | O | T | U | F | M | R |
| C | T | I | S | Z | O | M | T | E | Q | M | P | N | T | O |
| C | X | C | I | D | U | U | O | L | R | D | P | T | C | N |
| F | S | X | F | R | T | L | P | M | F | B | L | A | A | O |
| Y | Y | Y | O | U | H | T | U | A | P | A | I | U | N | M |
| E | O | K | N | U | E | A | Z | U | F | E | F | B | D | Y |
| T | Q | U | Y | N | I | N | O | O | V | E | O | T | Z | I |

BLESSINGS JAR

Thanksgiving reminds us of our many gifts from God. Count your blessings all month long with this craft.



What you need:

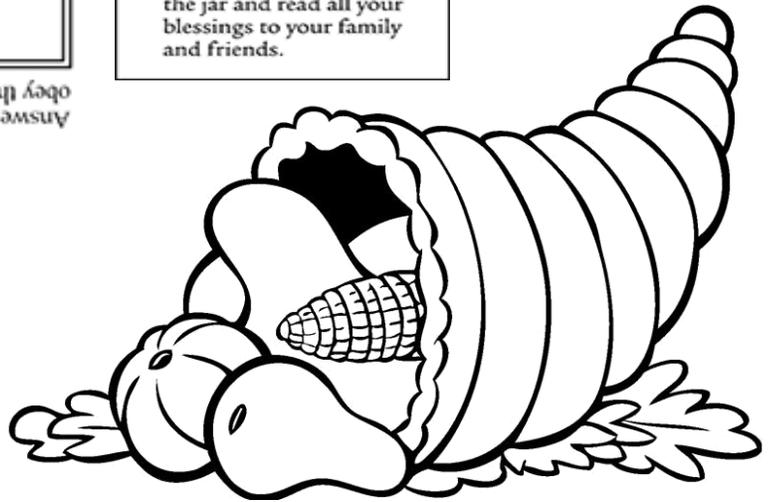
- Jar
- Ribbon
- Scissors
- Glue
- 3 sheets of paper (different colors)
- Marker or pen

What you do:

1. Measure and cut enough ribbon to wrap around the jar's neck, below the lid. Glue in place and let dry.
2. Fold each piece of paper in half three times, resulting in eight rectangles per sheet. Cut along the fold lines, and you'll have 24 rectangles.
3. Each day in November until Thanksgiving, write down one blessing from God. Then place that blessing in the jar.
4. On Thanksgiving, open the jar and read all your blessings to your family and friends.



Don't forget—turn back your clocks before the November 6 worship service!



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: CLOTHES AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

From CCO: We appreciate anything that you can give to help the disadvantaged in our community. We also welcome monetary contributions for our general operation fund, and also for our emergency help fund. We also accept clothing in good condition. At the present time, we do not accept furniture because of transport and storage problems.

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.



Help for Those in Need





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 | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| November 6 | Melanie Fleming |
| November 13 | Tim Leitner |
| November 20 | Charlie Davis |
| November 23 | <i>Thanksgiving Eve Service</i> |
| November 27 | Chris McCarrell |

| USHERS | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| November 6 | Mark McCarrell |
| November 13 | Dave Sanders |
| November 20 | Dennis Eggemeyer |
| November 23 | <i>Thanksgiving Eve Service</i> |
| November 27 | Garold Burkholder |

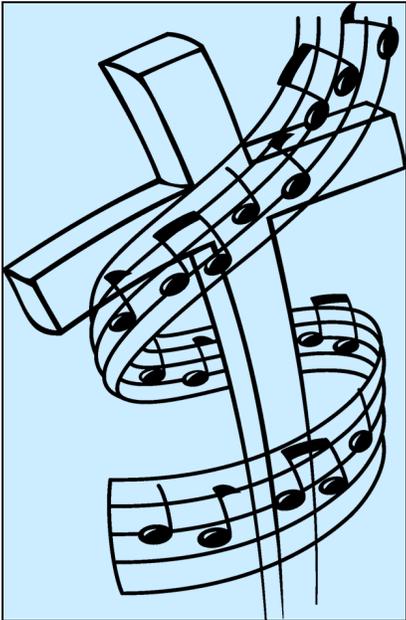
| LAY READERS | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| November 6 | Sue Barger |
| November 13 | Roberta Stiles |
| November 20 | Larry Daniels |
| November 23 | <i>Thanksgiving Eve Service</i> |
| November 27 | Sue Barger |

| TELLERS | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| November 6 | Tim Leitner |
| November 13 | Leo & Roberta Stiles |
| November 20 | Steve and Barb Gresham |
| November 23 | <i>Thanksgiving Eve Service</i> |
| November 27 | Sharon Foss & Elsa Keas |

| GREETERS | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| November 6 | Melanie & Lily Fleming |
| November 13 | Roberta Stiles |
| November 20 | Jacque Davis |
| November 23 | <i>Thanksgiving Eve Service</i> |
| November 27 | Meri Arnold |

| COMMUNION SET-UP | |
|-------------------------|---|
| November 6 | Carol Guenther & Lillian Pinkston ~ White |
| November 13 | Lee & Mary Sorenson ~ Green |
| November 20 | Dave Sanders—Intinction ~ White |
| November 23 | <i>Thanksgiving Eve Service</i> |
| November 27 | Carol Guenther & Lillian Pinkston ~ Blue |

November
2016



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.