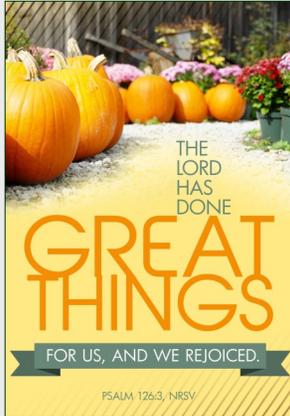


The Hilltopper

Our Savior Lutheran Church



November 2017



DON'T FORGET!

DAYLIGHT
**SAVING
TIME**
ENDS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4



**Sunday Worship
Service 9:00 a.m.**

**Sunday 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

PASTOR'S PAGE

As you read this we will have completed our celebration of worship for the **500th Anniversary** of the Reformation. It was a great day with special music and brass as we gave glory to God.

Even so, the one verse that keeps playing over in my mind is from Romans chapter 3. *“For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.”*

No distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...really? It seems in our now-a-day world, we have created superficial and subversive distinctions. Rather than living to the glory of God, we seem intent on living to the glory of ourselves. Instead of seeing all of us as children of God, we create differences which then create fears and prejudices. Grace is a gift in our diversity as children of God and yet we often want to make sure somehow we “merit” approval or acceptance. We celebrated our reformation worship and this should remind us that by God's grace we are always reforming our differences into the unity that Christ Jesus proclaims. This unity among our many varieties is to create strength for the building up of the Body of Christ.

St. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 3:10-11: *“According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another person is building upon it. Let each one take care how they build upon it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”* I hope we always rejoice in our differences that together make us unique and stronger. I pray that hope for the greater is always in our hearts rather than fearing the lesser.

To that end and joy there are at least two special happenings in November!

For our special ALL SCS happening on November 19, we are blessed to have a married couple, Raunak Omeish and Tamin Nashad from Benghazi, Libya to share their background and dreams of future and faith. Raunak works with Melanie Fleming and has a Bachelor degree in Public Health Administration. Tamin (Raunak's husband), also from Benghazi, has a Bachelor degree in Medicine and Surgery. Come and be with us as we bring our world a little closer!

And, if that were not enough we will come and celebrate the abundance of God in our Thanksgiving Eve Worship, 7 p.m. on November 22nd.

May your November be filled with God's new mercies every morning to see!

Peace,
Pastor Stephen D. Barnes

HOPE ON THE HILL

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love



"Giving in Generosity"

Stewardship at Our Savior Lutheran

Dear Friends in Christ,

We will dedicate our Time & Talents forms and Commitment cards on Sunday, November 5. You may still turn in your commitments for the coming year.

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

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

We will be taking orders for the Poinsettias that will beautify our church in December. The cost is \$11.50. Watch for bulletin inserts on Nov. 12 & Nov. 19. You may also call the church office (346-2600) to place an order.



ORDERS ARE DUE NOVEMBER 19

Thank you Elsa & Gerry for organizing this!

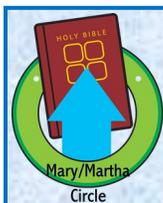


**Wednesday
November 22
7:00 p.m.**



On **Sunday, November 12**, Outreach will host a Coffee Fellowship/Fundraiser for Operation Santa, a Bloomington, IL centered organization that sends Christmas stockings to all military branches of our men and women in uniform. The organization consists entirely of volunteers, there are no paid employees. There will be a speaker from Operation Santa at church on November 12 to let us know about the organization.

You may see other entities in Pekin collecting for Operation Santa. *Our focus will be to collect funds to assist in the postage to get the stockings where they need to go.* Everyone who wants to bring treats for the fellowship is invited to do so!



The Mary Martha Circle

will meet on
Wednesday, November 15, 2017,
at **9:30 a.m.** at the church.

Hostess is Darlene Daniels.
Topic Leader is Elsa Keas.

The study guide is **"Revelation: God's Gift of Hope."** Guides may be purchased at the meeting at a cost of \$8.00.

All women of Our Savior are welcome.

The Confirmation Class will meet on
November 5 following the worship service.
Class periods will be 10:15-11:30 a.m.



The tentative date to
decorate the church for Christmas
is **Sunday, Nov. 26,**
after the worship service.

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 19—Discussing Our Faith

Raunak Omeish and her husband, Tamin Nashad, from Benghazi, Libya will be here to share their background and dreams of future and faith.

Thank you Melanie Fleming for asking them to share her story with us!

There will be monthly all-congregation programs on the third Sunday of the month with the exception of March 2018.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



The Prayer Shawl Ministry group will meet on **Tuesday, November 14, 9:30-11:00 a.m.** Our goal is to create lap covers and Prayer Shawls for Pastor Barnes to take to those in need of comfort. *We would appreciate any yarn/monetary donations (a box for yarn is under the coat rack.) Questions? Contact Darlene Daniels.*

THANKS
from the
HEART



Many thanks to Pastor, Tim, and those who attended any of the “*By Heart*”: *Conversations with Martin Luther’s Small Confession*” sessions in October. We had lots of great discussions. Also, thanks to those who brought food & helped clean up each week. What a wonderful way to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation!

**Freed
& RENEWED
in Christ**
500
YEARS OF GOD’S
GRACE IN ACTION



Elsa Keas has a new great grandson! **James Edward Garfield Bullock** (“JJ”) was born on October 19, 2017, to Karen & Jimmy Bullock. Karen is Joan (Keas) Johnson’s daughter. He weighed 6 lbs. 1½ oz. and was 19¾ inches long. Welcome, JJ!



Author and radio host Garrison Keillor put a unique spin on expressing gratitude for special meals. He painted the following table prayer on his dining-room wall, encouraging guests to sing it together before eating:

O Lord, we thank Thee for this food,
For every blessing, every good.
For earthly sustenance and love
Bestowed on us from heaven above.
Be present at our table, Lord.
Be here and everywhere adored.
Thy children bless and grant that we
May feast in paradise with Thee.

“It’s inspiring to hear 15 people find harmony around the Thanksgiving table,” Keillor writes. Singing together “sets a tone. No crying in the cranberries. There is much to be grateful for.”

from www.newsletternewsletter.com

COMING IN DECEMBER:

The Wednesday Evening Advent Services will be December 6, 13, & 20.

This year’s mid-week Advent services theme is “Stay With Us, Lord.”



We will again have an ‘**ornament exchange**’ – bring an ornament from home to place on the tree in the Gathering Room, and take the ornament for this year to your home. (Your ornament can be taken home after Christmas.)

FLOWER CHART FOR NOVEMBER



November 5	Tim & Leslie Leitner—Penelope Leitner's 2nd Birthday
November 12	Dale & Nancy Atkinson—53rd Wedding Anniversary
November 19	Dale & Stella Getty—62nd Wedding Anniversary
November 26	Richard Bolam—In Memory of Gusta Bolam

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 **\$25.00**. Please place your check for \$25.00 in the offering plate, or mail it to Our Savior. Thank you.



Center for Prevention of Abuse— **UPDATED LIST OF NEEDS**

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 RIGHT NOW include: cereal, canned fruit, bottled juice, peanut butter, can tuna, can soups, sugar, coffee, pancake mix, syrup

Towels, washcloths
Laundry detergent and dish soap
Coffeemaker
Kitchen towels

Pillows
Twin sheets, blankets, comforters
Shower curtain, curtain holders
Diapers-all sizes

Your generosity is greatly appreciated! If you have any questions or would like to make a monetary donation, please contact (309) 353-7512 or (309) 691-0551.

Here are some additional Non-Monetary Needs for the Center for the Prevention of Abuse:

Food and Pantry Needs: Perishable food, including fresh meat, eggs, milk, and produce
Canned fruits & vegetables, canned soups, stews and pastas; Coffee, cream & sugar; Bottled water & juice boxes; Healthy snack items for children.

Shelter Needs (New/Unopened): Cleaning Supplies—Clorox wipes, bleach-free multipurpose surface cleaner, sponges; Febreze and Static Guard; Assorted sizes of Ziploc bags; Cling wrap, wax paper, and aluminum foil; full-sized shampoo, conditioner, liquid body wash, and face wash.

Household Items (New): Hand mixer, pots & pans, cookie sheets, baking pans (9 x 13 and 8 x 8); Mixing bowls; Pot holders, hand towels, dish towels, bath towels, and wash cloths.

**If you have a ministry need,
you may wish to call the
church office:**

(309) 346-2600



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)

Prayer Concerns

Doris Voller (*health concerns*)
Gus (*health concerns—Sue Barger's father*)
Caleb (*personal problems, Mike & Sue Barger's nephew*)
Craig Brooks
Chad Wahl
Cheryl, Alan, and Mitchell
Ruth Roach (*health issues*)
Marithza Barger (*living alone while Josh is deployed*)
Linda Crandal (*Chris McCarrell's college roommate, ovarian cancer*)

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



We try to stay current with your prayer concerns. Prayer requests will be listed in the bulletin/Hilltopper for 4 weeks. Requests may be repeated if desired. If you wish to update a prayer or to continue it, just fill out the form that is in the pew.

New prayer concerns may be added at any time. For any prayer request or update, you may also contact the church office by phone or email.



Prayer Chain at Our Savior

An email will be sent to all members when a prayer request is received. A group email can reach a large number of members quickly. Members without an email address may ask that they be called when a prayer request is sent out.



Did you know... There is a Master Calendar on the wall in the office? If you have any events or meetings which need to be noted in the bulletin or the Hilltopper, please be sure you post them onto the Master Calendar as soon as possible.



Don't forget to visit our website!

<http://www.oslchopeonthehill.org/>
 If you'd like to see the Hilltopper in full color, take a look at it on our website!!



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.



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

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



November 1—Mark McCarrell

November 19—Rachael (Massey) Wyman

November 22—Susan Foss

Happy Birthday!



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...

- There will be Coffee Fellowships on **Dec. 3, 10, & 17**. There will be a sign up sheet for persons/committees wishing to host.
- **Wednesdays, December 6, 13, & 20:** Midweek Advent Services
- **Sunday, December 10:** “Puppets for Jesus” will share their Christmas program with us.
- **Sunday December 10:** Tentative date for Christmas Caroling, 5:30 p.m.

December 2017						
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	29	30
31						



Sundays
9:00 a.m.
Worship Service

10:15 a.m.
Sunday School



Please join us after service for **Adult Sunday School**. 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 October Hilltopper by **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19**. 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!

Holiday PLACE MATS

Add fall décor to your family's Thanksgiving table by making these festive place mats.



What you need:

- Large pieces of paper
- Several large leaves
- Crayons (fall colors)
- Fine-tip permanent marker

What you do:

1. Working on a flat surface, place the leaves underneath the paper.
2. Peel the wrappers off the crayons. Rub crayons sideways over the paper so the details of the leaves become visible.
3. Use other crayons to add additional details, if desired. With the marker, list what you're thankful for and add a Bible verse about thankfulness.
4. Optional: Laminate the place mats so they're reusable.

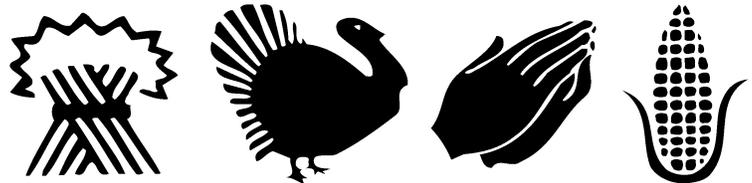
from www.newsletternewsletter.com



GIVE THANKS TO GOD

God gives us many blessings every day. How can we thank him?

Directions: To complete the Bible verse below, follow the code and fill in the blanks.



A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4, E=5, F=6, G=7, H=8, I=9, J=10,
 K=11, L=12, M=13, N=14, O=15, P=16, Q=17, R=18,
 S=19, T=20, U=21, V=22, W=23, X=24, Y=25, Z=26.

" _____ will _____
 _____ , _____ name in _____
 and _____ with
 _____"

Answer: "I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30, NIV



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 SPECIAL NEEDS: CURTAINS, WINTER CLOTHING, CANNED MEATS, AND PRODUCE****

They served 239 clients in August 2017. There were 23 new clients.



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.



2017 CHURCH COUNCIL—Contact Information

<i>President</i>	Lee Sorenson	Outreach & Fellowship Mutual Ministry	Lee.sorenson75@gmail.com
<i>Vice President</i>	Steve Gresham	Property Memorials & Gifts	gramg95@comcast.net
<i>Secretary</i>	Sharon Foss	Christian Education Finance & Stewardship	slfoss35@gmail.com
<i>Treasurer</i>	Garold Burkholder	Finance & Stewardship	gburkholder21@comcast.net
	Melanie Fleming	Christian Education Mutual Ministry	melaniefleming@comcast.net
	Dennis Eggemeyer	Outreach & Fellowship	dle_61554@yahoo.com
	Larry Daniels	Outreach & Fellowship	lawrencedaniels@centurytel.net
	Leo Stiles	Property	lastiles1@gmail.com
	Ron Garber	Worship & Music	
	Pastor Barnes	Pastor	barnes.stephen9@gmail.com

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS SCHEDULES

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

LAY ASSISTANTS	
November 5	Meri Arnold
November 12	Melanie Fleming
November 19	Tim Leitner
November 26	Melanie Fleming

LAY READERS	
November 5	Larry Daniels
November 12	Sue Barger
November 19	Dennis Eggemeyer
November 26	Roberta Stiles

GREETERS	
November 5	Jacque Davis
November 12	Ron Garber
November 19	Meri Arnold
November 26	Larry Daniels

**HOPE
ON
THE
HILL**

Hospitality
Outreach
Proclamation
Education

Helping
Individuals
Live in
Love

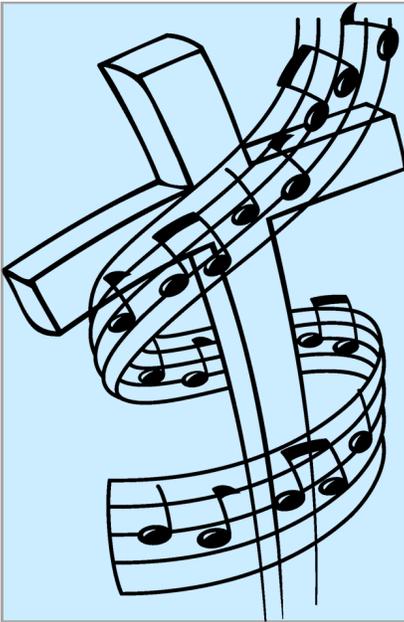
USHERS	
November 5	Ken Wehr
November 12	Ron Garber
November 19	Mark McCarrell
November 26	Dennis Eggemeyer

TELLERS	
November 5	Steve & Barb Gresham
November 12	Sharon Foss & Elsa Keas
November 19	Tim Leitner & Ken Wehr
November 26	Leo & Roberta Stiles

COMMUNION SET-UP & PARAMENT COLOR		
November 5	Dave Sanders	White
November 12	Carol & Lillian	Green
November 19	(Intinction) Lee & Mary Sorenson	Green
November 26	Carol & Lillian	White



Freed
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in Christ
500 YEARS OF GOD'S
GRACE IN ACTION



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 '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 the 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.

Holy Communion



Communion in the Lutheran Church is celebrated in the belief that Christ is truly present and truly gives himself to us in, with, and under the bread and wine. We cordially invite all baptized Christians who commune in their own congregation (regardless of denomination) to join us.