

The Hilltopper

Our Savior Lutheran Church



July 2018

July

In him you also
are being built together
into a dwelling place for
God by the Spirit.



EPHESIANS 2:22, ESV



**Sunday Worship
Service 9:00 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

(Guest Author—Tim Leitner, SAM)

During the month of June it seemed as though every few days there would be new areas of the road blocked off for construction/repair. My commute to work has gotten longer, spending more time in heavy traffic, especially where merging and lane reductions occur. I was glad for Pastor Barnes not having to deal with the construction for the weeks he was on vacation, since we have the same commute, just opposite times of the day.

During this morning's drive rather than being anxious and irritable about the delays, I took the opportunity to look around as the long line of cars crept. It is rare that I look around much on normal commute days. Actually there have been times that I pull into the parking lot at work not being able to remember a large portion of the trip there.

So, this morning I let the view soak in and I thanked God for all of what I saw: the millions of shades of green in all the trees around the river, the beauty of all those trees crowded randomly together along with the precise rows of corn in the fields. As I crossed over train tracks, I prayed for all those that work in the train systems that allow freight and people to travel such distances. In crossing the river, I prayed for those that work on the boats that transport goods up and down the river. I prayed for all those drivers in the long line of traffic with me, praying that they safely arrive at their destinations, home, work, appointments. I prayed for the truck drivers and bus drivers transporting freight and people.

After the traffic cleared and everyone regained 'normal' speed, I thanked God for the time to reflect, to give thanks and pray for so many. So I suggest that everyone find some road construction for time of prayer and reflection...or better yet, just take some time out of your day, find a quiet place and give thanks to God for all of His wondrous creation, offering prayer for all those that we so easily neglect in our normal prayer life.

God's blessings,

Tim

HOPE ON THE HILL
 Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love



**The Peoria Chiefs
 Fireworks and Beverage & Brat
 night will be on Thursday,
 July 26. A sign up sheet will be
 going up soon!**



Education Special Sunday
 Once each month, we will have an
All-Congregation Presentation
 after the Sunday Worship Service.
Presentations will start again in the fall.



“You’ve got mail!”

“What a wonderful thing is the mail,” someone has said, “capable of conveying across continents a warm human hand-clasp.” I remember the excitement of getting an “aerogram” from a grade-school pen pal in Sweden, or a letter from Mom when I was in college. How different from the instantaneous, typed messages we send today.

Can you imagine, then, how meaningful the letters of Paul, Peter and other apostles were to early Christians? Painstakingly handwritten, carefully delivered by a courier or friend — so different from emails, texts and even postal delivery! Think how elated the recipients must have been to read warm greetings, news from afar, teachings, even reprimands — and then words such as these: “My love be with you all in Christ Jesus” (1 Corinthians 16:24, ESV)

The next time you read or hear a New Testament letter, imagine a time when such communication was rare and precious. Hear the writer’s words — which are also God’s words to you — from that perspective, and hold them fast.

—Heidi Mann

**The Spirit of Peoria Riverboat has
 cruises for \$16.00 each for seniors
 age 55 &-up. The date proposed is
 Sunday, August 12, at 2:00 p.m.
 Sign up sheet coming soon.**



He shall
**BUILD A HOUSE
 FOR MY NAME,**
 and I will
 establish
THE THRONE
 of his
**KINGDOM
 FOREVER.**

2 SAMUEL 7:13

**Make your choice for
 Pick-A-Hymn Sundays in August!!!**

Please place this in the offering plate, or in the secretary’s mailbox in the library.

Write the name & number from the ELW Hymnal or the Worship & Praise song book and we will sing it on a Sunday in August!

ELW #	Title
W & P #	Title

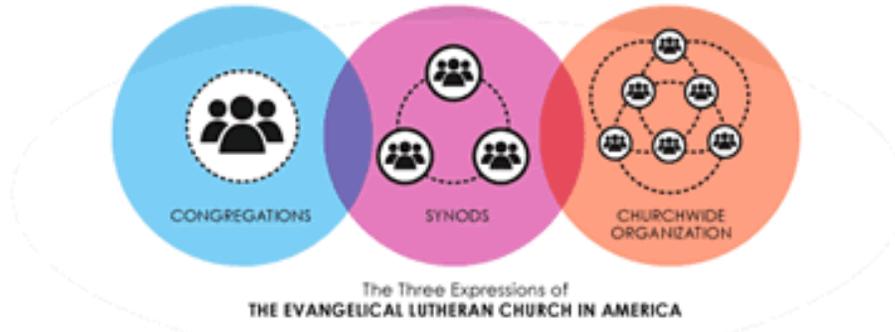


News & Updates

What is a synod?

According to the ELCA constitution, the ELCA is one church body organized in three expressions

Churchwide Organization, Synods, and Congregations



Each expression has its particular functions but all three together share a common mission. Together, they ensure a strong foundation of leadership that enables faithful gathering and gospel proclamation, community involvement, open dialogue and a culture of support for our 4.5 million members.

The **churchwide expression** includes the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, Church Council, officers, offices and churchwide units. Churchwide staff work from the Lutheran Center in Chicago, Ill., and from locations around the globe.

Sixty-five **synods** throughout the country unite the work of congregations within their areas, serving as regional support and guiding pastoral and other staff candidates through the call process.

More than 9,300 **congregations** across the United States, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands are local communities of faith-filled people celebrating, learning and connecting through weekly worship and various ways to serve others.

The ELCA nurtures important connections with Lutheran, ecumenical and interfaith partner and related organizations. This church also works in faith alongside 26 colleges and universities related to the ELCA, eight seminaries, and over 2,000 schools and early childhood education centers. We also express our faith through many campus ministries, outdoor ministries, and social service agencies across the country.

Our three expressions, together with affiliated agencies and institutions, are all part of the ELCA, enjoying a strong presence at the local, regional and continental levels. And because of our connections with worldwide Lutheran, ecumenical and interfaith partners, the ELCA is an active participant in the global community.

From our synod's website:
<https://www.csis-elca.org/what-is-a-synod/>

*From the ELCA website, <http://blogs.elca.org/advocacy/2018-elca-advocacy-priorities/>
 Each month, one of the priorities will be listed in the Hilltopper.*

ELCA Advocacy presents our public policy priorities for 2018. This policy action agenda focuses the work of the Washington, D.C., advocacy office on current issues central to God's vision of a just world where all are fed.



How do we determine advocacy priorities?

Issue selection is based on many factors, starting with prayerful consideration of God's vision for a more just world. Issue agendas are based on concerns that the ELCA has identified and spoken about through social statements, churchwide assembly memorials or other authoritative documents. Priorities reflect issues on which the ELCA can have a unique and decisive impact with the federal government.

2018 ELCA ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

CARE FOR CREATION:

Environmental degradation disproportionately impacts the marginalized and the vulnerable, exacerbating issues of poverty and hunger. These issues manifest themselves in social areas such as gender, racial, economic and environmental injustices. ELCA Advocacy will raise awareness of the impact of environmental degradation, support environmental and energy literacy, and help congregations and church leadership understand what can be done to steward God's creation.

FLOWER CHART FOR JULY



July 1	In honor of Chris McCarrell & Gene Massey's birthdays
July 8	The Bargas—Jared, Ame, and Josh's birthdays
July 15	The Eggmeyers—Amanda & Wes Johnson's 5th Anniversary
July 22	Vicki Rayburn—In Honor of Marilyn Whittington
July 29	Steve & Barb Gresham—Anniversary

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.



Sunday School classes and programs will resume on September 16, 2018.



The Mary Martha Circle will NOT meet during the summer. Meetings will start back up in the fall. All women of Our Savior are welcome.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



The Prayer Shawl Ministry group will NOT be meeting during the summer months. Meetings will resume in the fall

Omnipresent

We may ignore, but we can nowhere evade, the presence of God. The world is crowded with him. He walks everywhere incognito. And the incognito is not always hard to penetrate. The real labor is to remember, to attend ... in fact to come awake. Still more, to remain awake.

—C.S. Lewis, author of *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*

from www.newsletternewsletter.com

Center for Prevention of Abuse— **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.

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

(309) 346-2600



We continue to pray for 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 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.



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.

Prayer Concerns

Lee Sorenson (*Health concerns*)
Anitra Wyatt (*friend of Atkinsons—health concerns*)
Zach Abubeker (*Tim's nephew, recovering from a car accident in Ethiopia*)
Roman Wegrzyn (*Pray for him and his family as his Alzheimer's Disease progresses*)
Becky (*Beth Dralle's sister-health concerns*)
Elaine Alexander (*health concerns*)
Gus (*health concerns—Sue Barger's father*)
Caleb (*personal problems, Mike & Sue Barger's nephew*)
Craig Brooks
Chad Wahl
Ruth Roach (*health concerns*)
Linda Crandal (*Chris McCarrell's college roommate, ovarian cancer*)

In Our Hearts & Prayers

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



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.

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 July we're celebrating... Anniversaries & Birthdays

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Wes & Amanda (Eggemeyer) Johnson—
July 13

Steve & Barb Gresham—July 27



July 1—Chris McCarrell

July 1—Gene Massey

July 5—Jared Barger

July 6—Josh Barger

July 6—Nathan Leitner

July 7—Sandy Brooks

July 8—Ada Dralle

July 11—Darren Foss

July 15—Scott Massey

July 24—Nick Fleming

July 27—Marilyn Whittington

July 31—Meri Arnold



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 AUGUST

- **Sunday, August 12**—possible date for a cruise on the Spirit of Peoria. Watch for more information!

Looking WAY ahead — the 60th Anniversary Celebration for Our Savior Lutheran Church will be on December 9, 2018!

August 2018						
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
(Sunday School will resume on Sept. 16)



Please join us after service for **Adult Sunday School**. We are done by 11:15. *(Class will resume on Sept. 16.)* We will meet in the library and can move if our group outgrows that space! All adults of the church or visitors are welcome!



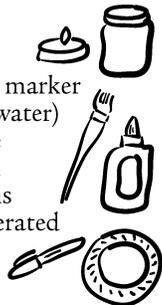
If you have information you want to be in the Hilltopper, please email Leslie at leitner@grics.net; or put articles, committee information, news, events, and updates in the Hilltopper mailbox in the Library, BY SUNDAY, JULY 22.



Summer is the perfect time to gaze at the wonders in the sky. Make this craft as a reminder of God's handiwork — including you!

What you need:

- Glass jar
- Permanent marker
- Glue (and water)
- Paper plate
- Paintbrush
- Star sequins
- Battery-operated tea light



What you do:

1. Around the jar's opening, write in permanent marker: Shine ... like stars in the sky. Philippians 2:15
2. Pour some glue on the plate. Thin with some water.
3. "Paint" the outside of the jar with glue and then sprinkle on some sequins. Let dry.
4. Add the tea light and give your bedroom a starry glow at nighttime.

from www.newsletternewsletter.com



Wonders of creation

Our Creator is in control of the entire universe!

Directions: Beginning with column 1, go down each column until you come to a dot. Write the letter that's found to the left of the dot on the blank below to complete Psalm 147:4, NIV. (Some columns have more than one letter.)

	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
A																													
B																													
C																													
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Y																													
Z																													

 ----- PSALM 147:4, NIV

Answer: He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name. Psalm 147:4, NIV



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:****

Diapers, Shorts, Shoes, Cereal, Peanut Butter & Jelly



Help for Those in Need

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.



2018 CHURCH COUNCIL—Contact Information

<i>President</i>	Dennis Eggemeyer	Worship & Music Mutual Ministry	dle_61554@yahoo.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
	Lee Sorenson	Outreach & Fellowship	Lee.sorenson75@gmail.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	
July 1	Melanie Fleming
July 8	Meri Arnold
July 15	Melanie Fleming
July 22	Meri Arnold
July 29	Melanie Fleming

LAY READERS	
July 1	Sue Barger
July 8	Larry Daniels
July 15	Roberta Stiles
July 22	Dennis Eggemeyer
July 29	Sue Barger

GREETERS	
July 1	Larry Daniels
July 8	Ron Garber & Steve Gresham
July 15	Linda Tanner
July 22	Sue Hale
July 29	Roberta Stiles

**HOPE
ON
THE
HILL**

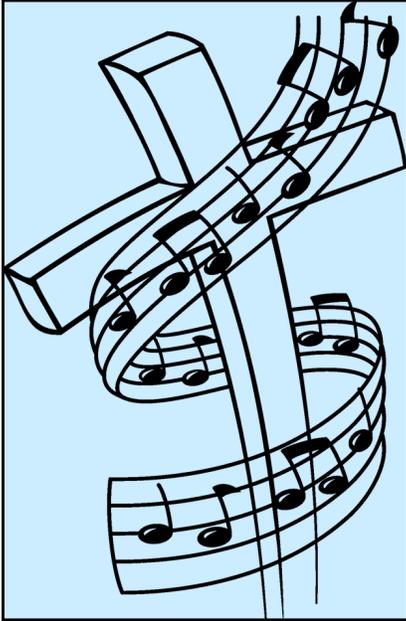
Hospitality
Outreach
Proclamation
Education

Helping
Individuals
Live in
Love

USHERS	
July 1	Ken Wehr
July 8	Garold Burkholder
July 15	Mark McCarrell
July 22	Ken Wehr
July 29	Dennis Eggemeyer

TELLERS	
July 1	Dale & Nancy Atkinson
July 8	Leo & Roberta Stiles
July 15	Steve & Barb Gresham
July 22	Ken Wehr
July 29	Tim Leitner & Valerie Gettys

COMMUNION SET-UP & PARAMENT COLOR		
July 1	Lee & Mary Sorenson	Green
July 8	Carol Guenther & Lillian Pinkston	Green
July 15	(Intinction) Dave Sanders	Green
July 22	Lee & Mary Sorenson	Green
July 29	Carol Guenther & Lillian Pinkston	Green




JULY

**Freed
& RENEWED
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.



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.