

The Hilltopper

Our Savior Lutheran Church



NEWSLETTER

September 2018



**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: oslcpekin1@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

Having Another Opportunity

I don't like signs or games that say, "last chance." I don't like the pressure of knowing that I "have to get it right." I don't like hearing someone saying, "you have to make it this time."

All of these statements seem to imply that if I miss or don't get it right, that's all there is. It's like playing Pin Ball and your steel ball bops and bings, but goes down the hole. Or playing the Claw Game for stuffed animals and it picks one up only to be dropped inches from the portal of stuffed pet for you!

Seems an odd way to start a pastor's page, but we are coming into September where Bible Study, Worship and special presentations for Sunday School begin again! Unlike the "last chance," or "just one more time," the invitation to start again is ever open for you!

In our Sunday morning readings the past couple of weeks, Jesus reminds us that He "is the bread of life." John 6:51 "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

God's gift of His Son is unto us. His love continues to be offered with no limits or last times.

From Colossians 3:15-16 "...let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God." **THIS** invitation is **ALWAYS** open. Come and celebrate together the gift of Jesus our Lord who is with us always!

Peace,

Pastor Stephen D. Barnes

HOPE ON THE HILL

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love



Our Leadership Retreat is set for the morning of Saturday, September 15th. The time is 7:30 a.m. till 11:45 a.m. Breakfast will be provided.

The main theme is focusing upon **HOPE** and **CREATIVITY**. The phrase used is: "*Hope is faith holding out its hand in the dark.*" The idea is that as a small congregation, how do we share hope and relationships not only with each other, but a ministry that Our Savior will be "known" for and we are called/inspired to share.

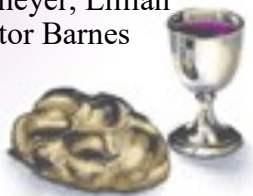


A request from the Worship & Music Committee:

Additional volunteers to do communion set up would be very helpful. Tim will show how to do the set up to whomever is interested in this "behind the scenes", but *very important*, opportunity.

Contact any member of Worship & Music – Leslie Leitner, Tim Leitner, Dennis Eggemeyer, Lillian Pinkston, Mark McCarrell, and Pastor Barnes —if you can help!

Thank you!!



The Mary Martha Circle will meet on Wednesday, September 19, at 9:30 a.m. at the church.

Hostess is Judy Barnes.

Topic Leader is Roberta Stiles.

The study guide is "**Twelve Extraordinary Women.**" Copies are available at the meeting for a cost of \$5.00.

All women of Our Savior are welcome.

Our next Supper Out will be

Sunday, September 30
6:00 p.m. at

Kuchie's on the Water
579 Wesley Road, Creve Coeur.

**Look for the sign up sheet
on a bulletin board.**

~Outreach & Fellowship



Education Special Sunday

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

The first All-Congregational program will be on Sunday, September 16.

Drucilla Smith will be speaking of her experience in missionary trips.

The Christian Education Committee will host a coffee fellowship. Donations of goodies are welcome.



Our Bible Study Group, led by Pastor, meets at 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays. Hope you can join us!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



The Prayer Shawl Ministry group will resume in **October**.



Together with the presiding bishops of the ELCA and The Episcopal Church, we PRAY, FAST and ACT in support of federal programs that support higher education and learning.

The ELCA is grateful for the role public universities and colleges play in preparing people to serve competently in their callings and responsibilities.

WE PRAY

Eternal God bless all schools, colleges, and universities, that they may be lively places for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ Our Savior and Lord. Amen.

—Evangelical Lutheran Worship, pg. 78

News & Updates



**God's work.
Our hands.**

**Sunday, September 9 is the Dedicated
Day of Service in our community.**

Opportunities at 2:00 p.m. in the Greater Peoria Area include:

- Bartonville Park Cleanup—meet at Bethel Lutheran in Bartonville. Bring work gloves.
- Packing Birthday Bags @ First English, Peoria
- East Bluff Yard Clean-Up—meet at First English. Bring work gloves. Some tools will be available, but you may bring loppers, rakes, etc.
- Bandage rolling @ Grace & Peace, Peoria. Bring white sheet to tear and roll.

5:00 p.m.—Dinner & Debrief at First English, Peoria. We will share food, experiences from the day, and information about this year's GWOH mission partners.

➡ Sign up at **www.mytrinitylutheran.org/gwoh** to help us prepare.

Whether or not you can be present on September 9, you can be a part of God's Work that day! We are asking congregations to collect the following items:

For Birthday Bags: cake mix, canned icing, candles, drink mix, small birthday plates & napkins
Please collect by Sunday, September 2 and drop off to First English Lutheran that week. To arrange drop off or pick up of items, please call 685-0337.

For Bandage Rolling: white bed sheets (non-fitted)
Please bring to Grace & Peace on or before September 9. For more information call 693-8428.



Pedal for a Purpose

Please refer to the brochure posted on the bulleting board for information regarding the Pedal for a Purpose event coming up in September. We have been asked by the Synod to participate in this program to help raise funds for the Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center of Oregon, IL. The Bike Ride event will be held on September 29th, with bike riders beginning in Oregon and ending in Byron, IL.

**"Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God'" (Isaiah 35:4, NRSV).
Whatever our fears and anxieties,
Lord, may we find peace in your presence.**

from www.newsletternewsletter.com

*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

SEPTEMBER:

AFFORDABLE HOUSING/HOMELESSNESS:

Homelessness and the lack of affordable housing continue to be systemic issues that affect many people in our communities. Investments in affordable housing and rental assistance provide stability that can help families overcome serious barriers, such as affording better health care and education, reducing food insecurity, and recovering after natural disasters.



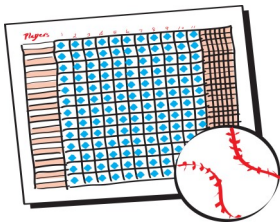
FLOWER CHART FOR SEPTEMBER

September 2		There are lots of opportunities for you to donate flowers in September—hope you can help fill the chart!
September 9		
September 16		
September 23	Phil & Beth Dralle—45th Wedding Anniversary	
September 30		

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.



Keeping Score

Baseball purists often delight in keeping detailed scorecards. So do many Christians — often unknowingly. Do you give yourself “credit” for your years in the faith? for the number of services or studies you attend? for the good deeds you perform? for the Bible verses and creeds you know by heart?

In Philippians 3:4-6, Paul recites his impressive scorecard, yet despite those credentials, he couldn’t earn God’s favor. Neither can we. Our tallies are all “loss” (v. 7) when compared to the righteousness that comes through faith in Christ (v. 9).

Attending church, serving and memorizing Scripture are good things. But we do them not to *get* right with God but because we *are* right with God — through Jesus.

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

Vickie Rayburn (*rotator cuff injury*)

Deena Burkholder (*broken leg*)

Beverly McFarlane (*Greg Sorenson's mother-in-law—
recovering from knee surgery*)

Anitra Wyatt (*friend of Atkinsons—health concerns*)

Zach Abubeker (*Tim Leitner's nephew, recovering from a
car accident in Ethiopia. Update: He is now in Chicago for
physical therapy*)

Roman Wegrzyn (*Pray for him and his family as his
Alzheimer's Disease progresses*)

Becky (*Beth Dralle's sister—has completed a course of
chemotherapy and is in remission*)

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*)



(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.

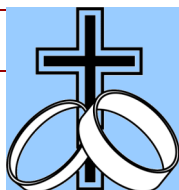
In September we're celebrating...

Anniversaries & Birthdays

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

September 22—Phil & Beth Dralle

September 29—Mike & Courtney Dralle



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Jacque Davis—September 10

Rita Wahl—September 20

Garold Burkholder—September 21

Stephen Barnes—September 27



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 OCTOBER

- **Sunday, October 14**—Hot Dog Roast 4:00 p.m.
- Celebrating our final mortgage payment

October 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			

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



Sundays

9:00 a.m.
Worship Service

10:15 a.m.
Sunday School
Regular Sunday School
classes will resume on
Sept. 23



Please join us after service for **Adult Sunday School**. We are done by 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! Classes resume on Sept. 23.



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, SEPTEMBER 23.**

Miracles happen!

Create this colorful reminder of God's wondrous works.



What you need:

- white cardstock
- white wax crayon
- paintbrush
- water
- watercolor paints

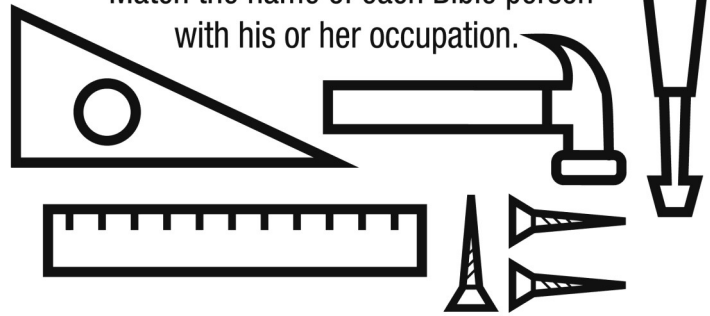
What you do:

1. Across the paper horizontally, write with the white crayon "Miracles happen!" (or a Bible verse such as Job 5:9; Psalm 77:14; Jeremiah 32:27; or Matthew 19:26).
2. Wet the paintbrush and paint over the words with different colors.
3. Let dry and then hang up.

from www.newsletternewsletter.com

Puzzle!

Match the name of each Bible person with his or her occupation.



- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| 1. Nehemiah | A. soldier |
| 2. Luke | B. carpenter |
| 3. Demetrius | C. cupbearer |
| 4. Matthew | D. clothseller |
| 5. Lydia | E. fisherman |
| 6. Joseph | F. shepherd |
| 7. Paul | G. tax collector |
| 8. Cornelius | H. tailor |
| 9. Tabitha | I. silversmith |
| 10. Amos | J. priest |
| 11. Eli | K. tentmaker |
| 12. Peter | L. physician |

Answers: 1. C, 2. L, 3. I, 4. G, 5. D, 6. B, 7. K, 8. A, 9. H, 10. F, 11. J, 12. E



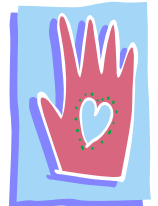
Help for Those
in Need

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:

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



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	
September 2	Melanie Fleming
September 9	Tim Leitner
September 16	Meri Arnold
September 23	Melanie Fleming
September 30	Meri Arnold

LAY READERS	
September 2	Larry Daniels
September 9	Roberta Stiles
September 16	Dennis Eggemeyer
September 23	Sue Barger
September 30	Larry Daniels

GREETERS	
September 2	Steve Gresham
September 9	Carol Guenther
September 16	Melanie & Lily Fleming
September 23	Larry Daniels
September 30	Roberta Stiles

**HOPE
ON
THE
HILL**

Hospitality
Outreach
Proclamation
Education

Helping
Individuals
Live in
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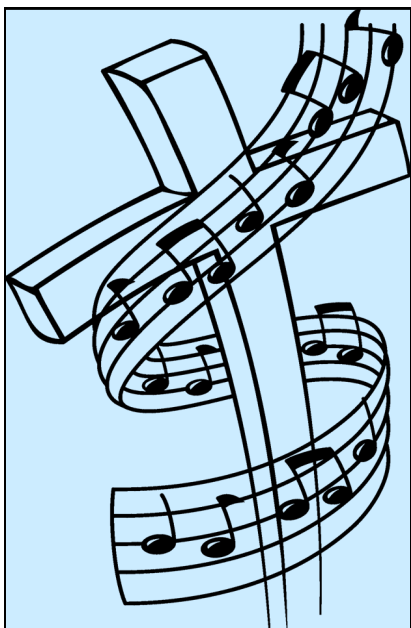
USHERS	
September 2	Garold Burkholder
September 9	Ron Garber/Steve Gresham
September 16	Dennis Eggemeyer
September 23	Ken Wehr
September 30	Dennis Eggemeyer

TELLERS	
September 2	Sharon Foss & Elsa Keas
September 9	Ken Wehr & Tim Leitner
September 16	Leo & Roberta Stiles
September 23	Steve & Barb Gresham
September 30	Sharon Foss & Elsa Keas

COMMUNION SET-UP & PARAMENT COLOR		
September 2	Dave Sanders	Green
September 9	Carol Guenther & Lillian Pinkston	Green
September 16	(Intinction) Lee & Mary Sorenson	Green
September 23	Carol Guenther & Lillian Pinkston	Green
September 30	Dave Sanders	Green



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.