

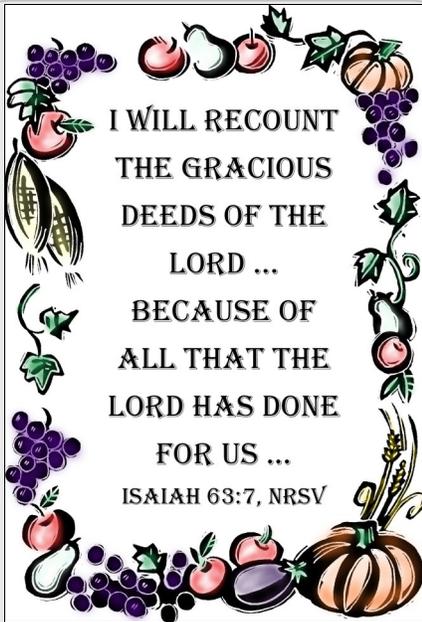
# The Hilltopper



NEWSLETTER

Our Savior Lutheran Church

November 2019



from [www.newsletternewsletter.com](http://www.newsletternewsletter.com)

## PASTOR'S PAGE—Guest Writer: Tim Leitner

Pondering the upcoming month of November, my mind wandered, probably led by my stomach, to Thanksgiving. The day we thank God for all that we have while eating our fill of our favorite foods that may only appear this time of year.

Setting aside the food, I thought about what I am thankful for this year. My family, of course, tops the list with all their love and support throughout the year. But I also started to think I should be thankful for the people who have written books that I have read this year. Some books I have only partially finished; a number of them I've completely read and a few are currently underway.

In that moment of thanking God for all those people, I thought what a wonderful thanksgiving meal it would be to have invited those people as well as people mentioned in their writings. What a glorious banquet of food and conversation, knowing the love that would flow from such a gathering.

I would invite Fr. Greg Boyle and some of workers from Homeboy Industries, bringing their stories of radical kinship and compassion. I would invite Dr. Ayaz Virji, his family and Pastor Mandy France to hear updates on his medical work and his continued challenges of being a Muslim American doctor working now in Dubai but still visiting his patients and friends in Dawson, MN.

I would ask Barbara Brown Taylor and have her bring one of the rabbis, an Iman, a monk from the Buddhist monastery, a leader from the Hindu temple; her friends who have guided and welcomed her and the college students from her world religion classes over the years. Hearing them all talk and share the holy envy for each other's faith with no judgement from any side.

I'd invite Dr. Karoline Lewis to hear her passionate thoughts on the importance of women in ministry. I would ask Pastor Lenny Duncan to share in the meal and hear his challenging but loving words for his church and ours, the ELCA. I would invite Jennifer Barry Hawes and the survivors and family members of those killed in the shooting at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, SC, to hear more of their journey of healing faith and forgiveness.

To say the least, it would be a full house, full of people, of talk, laughter and tears, beaming with compassion and caring. And absolutely filled with love, love for God and love for one another.

My reading list is on page 4 of the Hilltopper, if you are interested in the titles.

Remember to give thanks, and God's blessings,

Tim



**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](mailto: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](mailto:oslcpekin1@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.oslchopeonthehill.org](http://www.oslchopeonthehill.org)**

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

**Hilltopper Editor:**  
Leslie Leitner  
Email: [leitner@grics.net](mailto:leitner@grics.net)



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands. [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

## HOPE ON THE HILL

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love

## "Faithing Forward"



Our **Stewardship Celebration** will be on All Saints Sunday, **November 3**, in the Parish Hall following the worship service.

After you prayerfully consider your "Rooted in Faith, Forward in Hope", **bring** your completed Commitment Card and Time & Abilities form to the gathering. Thank you!

On All Saints Sunday, November 3, we will be remembering Ruth Roach, Elaine Alexander, George Alexander, and Pastor Anton Weber.

**Don't forget!**

**Change your clocks on Saturday, November 2 ("fall back") so you will make it to church at the right time!**



On Wednesday, November 27, following the Thanksgiving Eve Service, we are asking for help to set up only the Advent Candle Wreath so we will be prepared for the First Sunday of Advent, December 1.

Decorating the church for Christmas is planned for *Sunday, December 1*, following the worship service. Many thanks to those who can help!!

Our annual **Ornament Exchange** will begin on Sunday, December 8. Bring an ornament from home to hang on the tree in the Gathering Room, and take this year's ornament home to hang on your tree!

## Ornament Exchange



You may collect your own ornament when we "undecorate" the church.

The All-Congregation Presentation will be on **Sunday, November 17, 10:15 a.m.** after the worship service.

Our Speaker will be **Wendy McCready**. She will speak on **"Fight the Fight Against Addiction."**

*There will also be a coffee fellowship.*



Our **Thanksgiving Eve Service** will be at **7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 27.**

If you can, please stay after the service to help set up the Advent Candle Wreath. The rest of the Christmas decorating will take place on Sunday, December 1. Thank you!

**SOLD**  
**POUND AUCTION**

The Outreach & Fellowship Committee announces the **OSLC POUND AUCTION!**

It is **Sunday, November 10, 6:30 p.m. at Our Savior**. Chris McCarrell has graciously agreed to MC this event. Funds for this event are planned to be given to Christian Civic Outreach (CCO.)

*So, what is a Pound Auction??*

It is the auction of a pound of "something"—anything wrapped and/or decorated like a present. It could be a pound of feathers, or a pound of peanut butter, or a pound of cat food. Participants can bring one or more mystery pounds to be auctioned.

Once we get together, the wrapped items are auctioned to the highest bidder. The bid winners unwrap the mystery item they just bought to see what it is. No returns, but trades are ok if both parties approve. (For instance, a winner of a pound of dog food may want to trade that if they do not have a dog.)

Outreach Committee members will provide setup of tables and drinks. **Parishioners are asked to bring a snack to share.**

# News & Updates



## ADDRESS CORRECTION

Ron Garber  
 Villa of Hollybrook, Apt. 30  
 2720 S. 14th St.  
 Pekin, IL 61554



Congratulations to **Happy Couple** Mr. & Mrs. Fred & Michelle Sarantakos!! They were wed at Our Savior Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 26, 2019. Watch for a picture of newlyweds in the December Hilltopper.

Gerry is updating our church directory. Please be sure your contact information is updated and complete. Call, email, or leave a note in the office or secretary's mailbox to update or confirm your contact information.



Congratulations also go to Pastor Barnes' daughter Susan, who married Matt Oldenburg on Friday, October 11, at Salem Lutheran Church in Peoria!!



## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry group will meet on **Tuesday, November 12, at 9:30 a.m. at the church.**

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.



The Mary/Martha Circle will meet **Wednesday, November 20, 2019, at 9:30 a.m. at the church.**

The study guide is a continuation of **Twelve Extraordinary Women** by John Macarthur. Hostess is Roberta Stiles. Topic Leader is Sue Barger. All women of Our Savior are welcome.



## OUR ANGEL TREE CHILDREN LIST HAS BEEN RECEIVED!

Our Savior has been provided the names of 10 local children whose mother or father has been incarcerated somewhere in our nations 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. Their caregivers are contacted to determine each child's "Wish List" including sizes, colors and any other pertinent information.

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 may be designated for "Angel Tree". Watch for further information and a signup sheet to be posted soon.

Thank you! —Gerry



Members who wish to make contributions towards the cost of replacing the roof may use the **YELLOW** envelopes in the rack on the pews. You may also use your offering envelopes and write in the dollar amount and the word "**Roof**" under the heading of **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT** on the envelope.

Your offering envelopes may also be used to contribute towards the **organ repairs**—just be sure to write the amount and "**For Organ**" on your envelope. *Thank you very much!*

## grat-i-tude

[grat i tood]

noun

the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness



## NOVEMBER FLOWER CHART

<b>November 3</b>	Sue Hale—To the Glory of God
<b>November 10</b>	Lillian Pinkston—In Honor of Mark McCarrell's birthday
<b>November 17</b>	The Atkinsons—Anniversary
<b>November 24</b>	Vicki Rayburn—In Memory of Jack Whittington

**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.

### Recommended Reading from Tim Leitner

*Tattoos on the Heart—the power of boundless compassion*

*Barking to the Choir—the power of radical kinship*

Both by Father Gregory Boyle, founder of Homeboy Industries.

*No Joke Project—a rabbi, an Imam and a preacher do the unthinkable and become friends for life*

by Jim Henderson

*Strength to Love* by Rev. Dr Martin Luther King Jr

*Love thy Neighbor—a Muslim Doctor's Struggle for Home in Rural America* by Dr. Ayaz Virji

*Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others—*by Barbara Brown Taylor

*Grace Will Lead Us Home—The Charleston Church Massacre and the Hard, Inspiring Journey to*

*Forgiveness—*by Jennifer Berry Hawes

*She: Five Keys to Unlock the Power of Women in Ministry—*by Dr. Karoline Lewis

*Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S.*

by Rev. Lenny Duncan

### **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 **Robert Murphy** (3rd Class)—  
serving on USS Abraham Lincoln in Persian  
Gulf (*nephew of Phil & Beth Dralle*)

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*)



REMEMBERING  
YOU IN OUR  
*Prayers*

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**

**KG Shah** (*family friend of Tim Leitner*)

**Angie** (*Beth Dralle's sister, on hospice*)

**George Sipka** (*Teresa Massey's father; health concerns, & guidance in caregiving for his wife, Teresa's stepmother*)

**Blake Leitz** (*nephew of Anne Dralle Leitz; health concerns*)

**Phil Bolam** (*Cancer treatment*)

**Vera Jones** (*Nancy Atkinson's mother, in Hospice Care*)

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

**Ryan Montgomery** (*Gerry Reynold's son*)

**Gus Marzinzik** (*health concerns—Sue Barger's father*)

**Caleb** (*personal concerns, Mike & Sue Barger's nephew*)

**Chad Wahl**

**Craig Brooks**



(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**



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

Dale & Nancy Atkinson—November 15

November 1—Mark McCarrell

November 9—Bruce Gettman

November 19—Rachael (Massey) Wyman

November 22—Susan Foss



*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 1**—First Sunday of Advent
- **Sunday, December 1**—Decorating the church following the worship service
- **Wednesdays, December 4, 11, & 18**—Advent Services
- **Sunday, December 8**—trip to the Festival of the Nativity in Peoria, 3:00 p.m., followed by dinner at Golden Corral Buffet.
- **Tuesday, December 10**—The Northern Conference is meeting at Our Savior. Bishop Roth will be speaking.

December 2019						
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 11:15. We will meet in the library and can move if our group outgrows that space! All adults of the church and visitors are welcome! .



*If you have information you want to be in the next Hilltopper, please email Leslie Leitner by Sunday, November 17 at leitner@grics.net; OR put articles, committee information, news, events, and updates in the Hilltopper mailbox in the Library. Thank you!*

God makes us rich in every way so we can be generous on every occasion, which will result in thanksgiving to God. ... God doesn't bless us to provide for our own needs; he blesses us so we can be generous.

—Rick Warren (based on 2 Corinthians 9:11)



# COLOR ME!

# Happy



# THANKSGIVING

from [www.newsletternewsletter.com](http://www.newsletternewsletter.com)



### **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:\*\*** ←————

CEREAL, BABY FORMULA, SOUP  
 JEANS, SOCKS & SHIRTS (all sizes, Men, Women, & Children)

**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



**2018 CHURCH COUNCIL—Contact Information**

<i>President</i>	<b>Dennis Eggemeyer</b>	Outreach & Fellowship Mutual Ministry	dle_61554@yahoo.com
<i>Vice President</i>	<b>Steve Gresham</b>	Property Memorials & Gifts	gramg95@comcast.net
<i>Secretary</i>	<b>Melanie Fleming</b>	Christian Education Mutual Ministry	melaniefleming@comcast.net
<i>Treasurer</i>	<b>Garold Burkholder</b>	Finance & Stewardship	gburkholder21@comcast.net
	<b>Lee Sorenson</b>	Outreach & Fellowship	Lee.sorenson75@gmail.com
	<b>Leslie Leitner</b>	Worship & Music Memorials & Gifts	leitner@grics.net
	<b>Leo Stiles</b>	Property	lastiles1@gmail.com
	<b>Meri Arnold</b>	Worship & Music	arnoldmeri15@gmail.com
	<b>Ron Garber</b>	Worship & Music	
	<b>Pastor Barnes</b>	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**

<b>November 3</b>	Melanie Fleming
<b>November 10</b>	Tim Leitner
<b>November 17</b>	Meri Arnold
<b>November 24</b>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
<b>November 27</b>	Thanksgiving Eve— <i>Volunteer Needed</i>

**LAY READERS**

<b>November 3</b>	Sue Barger
<b>November 10</b>	Roberta Stiles
<b>November 17</b>	Larry Daniels
<b>November 24</b>	Dennis Eggemeyer
<b>November 27</b>	Thanksgiving Eve— <i>Volunteer Needed</i>

**GREETERS**

<b>November 3</b>	Meri Arnold
<b>November 10</b>	Roberta Stiles
<b>November 17</b>	Carol Guenther
<b>November 24</b>	Melanie & Lily Fleming
<b>November 27</b>	Thanksgiving Eve— <i>Volunteer Needed</i>

**HOPE  
ON  
THE  
HILL**

**Hospitality  
Outreach  
Proclamation  
Education**

**Helping  
Individuals  
Live in  
Love**

**USHERS**

<b>November 3</b>	Ken Wehr
<b>November 10</b>	Gayle & Bruce Gettman
<b>November 17</b>	Mark McCarrell
<b>November 24</b>	Dennis Eggemeyer
<b>November 27</b>	Thanksgiving Eve— <i>Volunteer Needed</i>

**TELLERS**

<b>November 3</b>	Sharon Foss & Elsa Keas
<b>November 10</b>	Dale & Nancy Atkinson
<b>November 17</b>	Leo & Roberta Stiles
<b>November 24</b>	Steve & Barb Gresham
<b>November 27</b>	Thanksgiving Eve— <i>Volunteer Needed</i>

**COMMUNION SET-UP & PARAMENT COLOR**

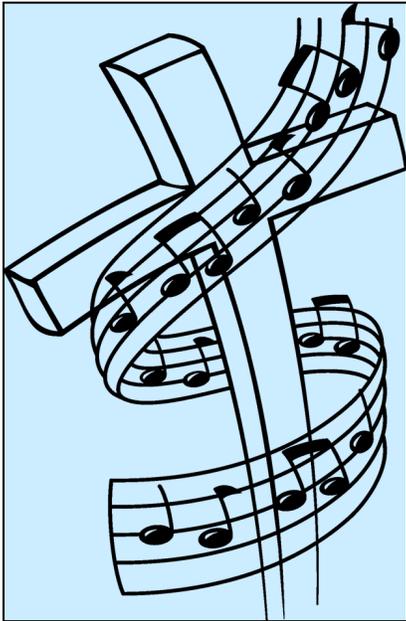
<b>November 3</b>	Dave Sanders	White
<b>November 10</b>	Lee & Mary Sorenson	Green
<b>November 17</b>	(Intinction) Carol Guenther & Linda Tanner	Green
<b>November 24</b>	Dave Sanders	White
<b>November 27</b>	Thanksgiving Eve— <i>Volunteer Needed</i>	



**“Faithing Forward”**



**Rooted in Faith Forward in Hope**



**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.*