The Hilltopper

Our Savior Lutheran Church

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2020

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

What happened!? I just got all the Christmas decorations down and put away as we celebrated our Lord's birth and now Jesus begins to "call" his first disciples!

I know, it is the only way we can try to capture the truth and grace in the teachings and compassion of our Lord Jesus' ministry. So, here we begin.

Cousin John proclaims, "here is the Lamb of God," and some of his disciples turn to follow Jesus. Jesus responds, "what are you looking for?" They stay with the Lord as he says, "come and see." The teaching begins and hope is transformed into action.

This is now our opportunity as Jesus speaks to each of us…"come and see." As we share in community, as we worship, as we learn, our hope is transformed into action. We "faith forward," "Rooted in Faith, Forward in Hope." This is what we are called to be as we follow Jesus.

Peter and Andrew, fisherman. James and John, with father Zebedee (now you know where the naming of "old beyond knowing" Turtle name came from!), also fisherman. They left their nets. They left from mending their nets to mending and strengthening people's hearts. Following Jesus to listen and learn how to bring God's love to others. "Immediately," it says they left boat and father. I often wonder…no doubts, no fears? Trust and hoping and maybe some knowing already.

It could be knowing the psalms gave them some peace and understanding. Listen to part of Psalm 71:14-18:

But I will hope continually, and will praise you yet more and more. My MOUTH will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all day long, though their number is past my knowledge. I will come PRAISING the mighty deeds of the Lord God, I will praise your righteousness, yours alone. O God, from my youth you have TAUGHT me, and I still PROCLAIM your wondrous deeds. So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to all the generations to come.

What do you think? Maybe it is time to put down "mending nets," and hear the call of Jesus….following wherever it may lead. Zebedee Turtle, old beyond knowing, has been "following," a long time in great hope and love.

Peace,

Pastor Stephen D. Barnes

HOPE ON THE HILL

Hospitality **O**utreach **P**roclamation **E**ducation **H**elping **I**ndividuals **L**ive in **L**ove

Our **Ash Wednesday Service** will be at **7:00 p.m.** on **February 26**. The service will include Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes.

There will be a light meal served at 6:00 p.m. (pizza & salad.)

Our ***Mid Week Lenten Services*** begin on **Wednesday, March 4,** at **7:00 p.m.** We will be using the Marty Haugen Evening Prayer Service as in previous years. The hymn "What Wondrous Love Is This" will be used also.

Our Sunday services during Lent will focus upon the Psalms.

The next All-Congregation Presentation is
February 16, 2020,
10:15 a.m. after the worship service.

Bill Fleming, recently retired Executive Director of the Pekin Chamber of Commerce, will present the program. He will be talking about Pekin. He submitted this title: *Pekin: Two Truth & a Lie.* Sounds very interesting!!

There will be a coffee fellowship hosted by the Christian Education Committee.

Health Kits

Again this year the Mary/Martha Circle is collection donations for Health Kits to be distributed by Christian Women United.

Each kits needs:

One comb (no rattails)
One hand towel
One washcloth
One nail file (no emery boards)
One wrapped bath size soap
One new, original wrapped toothbrush
4-7 oz. tube of toothpaste
6 bandaids

Thank you for your support! Contact Sue Barger if you have questions.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry group will meet Tuesday, February 4, 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.*

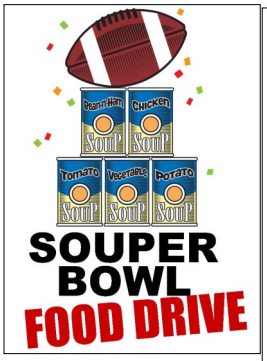
The Mary/Martha Circle will meet
Wednesday, February 19,
9:30 a.m. at the church.
The study guide is a continuation of **Twelve Extraordinary Women** by John Macarthur. Hostess is Judy Barnes. Topic Leader is Meri Arnold. All women of Our Savior are welcome.

Sunday, February 23 is 'Supper Out' at the Pekin Avanti's Restaurant at 6:00 p.m. Watch for the sign up sheet!

from www.newsletternewsletter.com

News & Updates

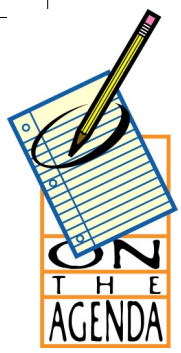
Thanks to Our Savior for all the hats, mittens, and scarves that decorated the mitten tree in the entrance. A total of 36 hats, 31 pairs of mittens, and 3 scarves were donated to Christian Civic Outreach!!



Our food drive for soup and other nonperishables is ongoing! It will continue until ***Sunday, February 2*** (the date of the NFL's Super Bowl.) Look for the silver soup cauldron in the Gathering Room in which to place your donations of soup cans and other non-perishable food items.

Have ideas for a fundraiser?? The Outreach & Fellowship committee would like to have a fun event this summer that would benefit the House of Hope/ Center for Prevention of Abuse. Do some brainstorming, then give a committee member your suggestions! Thank you—Darlene & Larry Daniels, Dennis Eggemeyer, Mike Barger, Lee Sorenson.

Many thanks to Dennis Eggemeyer, who is being trained to become a Lay Assistant. We appreciate your decision to help us at our worship services.



Our Savior Lutheran's 2020 Annual Meeting is Sunday, January 26 after the 9:00 a.m. worship service. Committee annual reports will reviewed, our budget will be approved, and council members will be elected. Information about the meeting and the 2020 Church Council will be in March's Hilltopper Newsletter.

Mark your calendar—the Rummage Sale will be April 24 & April 25, with proceeds going to Christian Civic Outreach.

From the Central/Southern Illinois Synod Newsletter—January 21, 2020:

Central / Southern Illinois Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Many of our neighbors in the United States and around the world are facing disasters. The ELCA responds with Christ's love, hope, and healing - and practical supports for disaster survivors. Donations to Lutheran Disaster Response's general fund enable us to react quickly whenever and wherever disaster strikes, including at times such as these, when the need is great.

- In Puerto Rico, a series of earthquakes up to a 6.4 magnitude have killed at least one person and caused power outages and widespread damage. The earthquakes come as many residents of the U.S. territory are still recovering from the 2017 hurricanes, painstakingly repairing or rebuilding their damaged homes. Lutheran Disaster Response is communicating with the Caribbean Synod and Lutheran Social Services of Puerto Rico about the best way to support the recovery effort.
- In Australia, intense wildfires have been raging across the country. The wildfire season is expected to worse due to the severe drought in the country. LDR is sending a grant to the Lutheran Church in Australia so it can continue to respond immediately, providing food and other necessities.
- In Indonesia, heavy rain caused severe flooding and landslides in the greater Jakarta area, resulting more than 60 lives lost and close to 100,000 people losing their homes. LDR is providing support to the Batak Christian Protestant Church, a companion of the ELCA, to continue the relief and recovery activities.

https://www.csis-elca.org/

FEBRUARY FLOWER CHART

February 2	
February 9	Sonja & Dave Sanders
February 16	The Bargers—Mike & Sue's birthdays
February 23	Pastor Stephen & Judy Barnes—Wedding 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.

The Flower Chart for 2020 is up and ready for you to fill in one or more Sundays!

We're so accustomed to hearing the Bible's "love chapter," 1 Corinthians 13, at weddings and other occasions that we may not really hear its meaning anymore. It can help to listen to something familiar said in different words. What new understandings of love does this paraphrase from *The Message* Bible reveal to you?

"Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, doesn't have a swelled head, doesn't force itself on others, isn't always 'me first,' doesn't fly off the handle, doesn't keep score of the sins of others, doesn't revel when others grovel, takes pleasure in the flowering of truth, puts up with anything, trusts God always, always looks for the best, never looks back, but keeps going to the end. Love never dies" (1 Corinthians 13:4-8a, MSG).

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 **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)*

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 Concerns

Sharon Foss *(health concerns)*
Marilyn Whittington *(improving health)*
Roman Wegrzyn *(Pray for him and his family as his Alzheimer's Disease progresses)*
Phil Bolam *(Cancer treatment)*
Ryan Montgomery *(Gerry Reynold's son)*
Dick Bolam *(Health concerns)*
Gus Marzinzik *(health concerns—Sue Barger's father)*
Lil Marzinzik *(Sue Barger's mom, health concerns)*
Chad Wahl
Craig Brooks
George Sipka *(Teresa Massey's father; health concerns, & guidance in caregiving for his wife, Teresa's stepmother)*

(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.

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 write them on 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!!
We are on Facebook, also!

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 February we're celebrating...

Anniversaries & Birthdays

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Wayne & Susan Foss—Feb. 8

Pastor Stephen & Judy Barnes—Feb. 17

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Feb. 4—Gayle Gettman

Feb. 7—Sue Barger

Feb. 8—Dennis Eggemeyer

Feb. 21—Ron Garber

Feb. 29—Mike Barger*

*Mike gets an actual birthday this year!!

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 MARCH

- **CPR training**—the Outreach Committee hopes to have a training sometime in March, pending availability of a trainer.
- *Looking ahead to April*…the annual Rummage Sale is scheduled for April 24 & 25.

March 2020

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, FEBRUARY 16** *at leitner@grics.net;* **OR** *put articles, committee information, news, events, and updates in the Hilltopper mailbox in the Library.* Thank you!

Bible Quiz: The precise number varies depending on the Bible version, but roughly how many times does the word "love" occur in the Old and New Testaments combined?
(Answer on page 7)

A. 200-300
B. 400-500
C. 600-700
D. 800-900

COLORING PAGE

Answer to Bible Quiz: C

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:****

SOUP, CANNED MEATS, CEREAL

SOCKS, HATS, GLOVES & COATS (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 representative from Our Savior to be on the Board. Please consider helping in this ministry.*

2019 CHURCH COUNCIL—Contact Information			
President	**Dennis Eggemeyer**	Outreach & Fellowship Mutual Ministry	dle_61554@yahoo.com
Vice President	**Steve Gresham**	Property Memorials & Gifts	gramg95@comcast.net
Secretary	**Melanie Fleming**	Christian Education Mutual Ministry	melaniefleming@comcast.net
Treasurer	**Garold Burkholder**	Finance & Stewardship	gburkholder21@comcast.net
	Lee Sorenson	Outreach & Fellowship	Lee.sorenson75@gmail.com
	Leslie Leitner	Worship & Music Memorials & Gifts	leitner@grics.net
	Leo Stiles	Property	lastiles1@gmail.com
	Meri Arnold	Worship & Music	arnoldmeri15@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	
February 2	Melanie Fleming
February 9	Tim Leitner
February 16	Meri Arnold
February 23	Melanie Fleming

USHERS	
February 2	Garold Burkholder
February 9	Gayle & Bruce Gettman
February 16	Steve Gresham
February 23	Mark McCarrell

HOPE ON THE HILL

Hospitality
Outreach
Proclamation
Education

Helping
Individuals
Live in
Love

LAY READERS	
February 2	Larry Daniels
February 9	Sue Barger
February 16	Roberta Stiles
February 23	Larry Daniels

TELLERS	
February 2	Sharon Foss & Elsa Keas
February 9	Leo & Roberta Stiles
February 16	Steve & Barb Gresham
February 23	Valerie Gettys & Tim Leitner

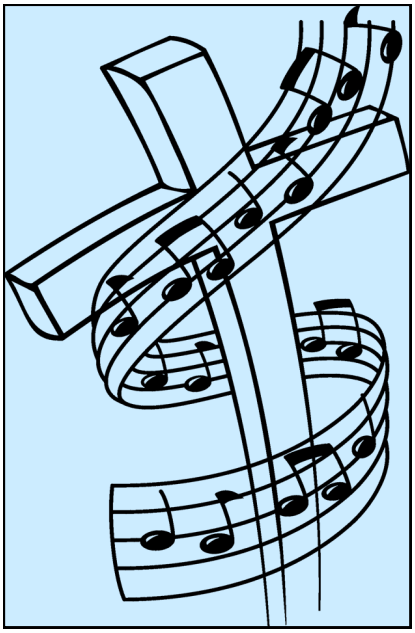
GREETERS	
February 2	Meri Arnold
February 9	Larry Daniels
February 16	Steve Gresham
February 23	Mark McCarrell

COMMUNION SET-UP & PARAMENT COLOR		
February 2	Dave Sanders	Green
February 9	Lee & Mary Sorenson	Green
February 16	(Intinction) Linda Tanner/Carol Guenther	Green
February 23	Dave Sanders	White

FEBRUARY

"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.