

The Hilltopper



NEWSLETTER

Our Savior Lutheran Church

MARCH 2020



*"When I was sinking down,
beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown
for my soul."*



**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

"Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return" – starts out our Ash Wednesday worship with the imposition of Ashes. This phrase comes from Genesis 3:19 after Adam and Eve decided that they could comprehend good and evil, being like God. Someone whispered in their ear and they listened! God reminds them that even though created in His image... equality with God is not something to be grasped.

Which is why, during this Lenten journey we are also using Philippians 2:5-11. It starts out: "Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself." It is taking this gift of love and molding our hearts in obedience as children called by name.

This love and grace is clear in Psalm 51..."Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin." By the love of God in Christ Jesus, we are made clean upon the cross for you and me.

Lent therefore, is not meant to be a somber time, but a time of reclaiming the gift God intended all along. Verse 12 of Psalm 51 states: "Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit." Jesus humbled himself and became obedient so we can experience in our hearts this "willing spirit."

The hymn we will be singing on our Wednesdays of Lent is "What Wondrous Love Is This." The verse that hit my heart is verse 2: "When I was sinking down, beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul." This is a love that is both wondrous and precious as we live each day!

One last kind of "off the wall," thought! Every church has a "lost and found." These are items that have been in a closet or box a short time, or a very long time sitting on a shelf. I can never figure out why people have not "missed" these various items? Let's make this lent a time to check how much we have been missing the love, grace and forgiveness that God gave freely through His Son Jesus, our Lord!

Peace,

Pastor Stephen D. Barnes

HOPE ON THE HILL

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love



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 **March 15, 2020,**

10:15 a.m. after the worship service. The program will be on **CASA**. Our own **Lee Sorenson** will be helping with this, as he has become a part of **CASA!**

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



CASA OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Note: there will not be an All-Congregation Presentation in April.

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, March 10, 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, March 18, 9:30 a.m.** at the church.

Hostess is **Sue Thomas**. Members will assemble **Health Kits** which will be donated to **Church Women United**, who will distribute the kits to various **Pekin Area** groups that help individuals in need.

Mary/Martha Circle thanks members of the **Congregation** for their contributions to the kits.

News & Updates



From Mike & Sue Barger: Josh Barger will be getting out of the Navy at the end of February. He has a job lined up in Washington, D. C. He and Marithza will be leaving San Diego and driving to Philadelphia, where his training will start in early March. Their address will be updated when they get settled.

Thank you for your service, Josh!!

Our Savior Lutheran’s Annual Meeting was held Sunday, January 26, 2020 after the 9:00 a.m. worship service.

At the meeting, committee annual reports were reviewed, our budget was approved, and council members were elected.

The members of the 2020 Church Council are:

- Leslie Leitner, President
- Leo Stiles, Vice President
- Melanie Fleming, Secretary
- Garold Burkholder, Treasurer
- Steve Gresham
- Meri Arnold
- Dennis Eggemeyer

Thank you for your dedication!

Thanks for Your Help!

Thank to all who donated to the Souper Bowl of Caring food drive this year. A total of 84 cans of soup and 25 packages, jars, and/or cans of other nonperishable foods were collected and donated to Christian Civic Outreach. 2020 is the 15th consecutive year that OSLC has participated in this nationwide event!

—Lee Sorenson

At the end of the annual meeting, Sharon Foss suggested that a safety plan be developed for Our Savior, as an insurance person had asked about it. A task force has been organized, and will be putting a safety plan together. Many thanks to Sharon Foss, Roberta Stiles, and Mary Sorenson for agreeing to work on this!

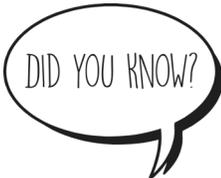


Don't forget—
Daylight Savings time begins **March 8!!**
Be sure to turn your clocks ahead Saturday night so you aren't late for church!



There will be a CPR Training Class on Sunday, March 8, at **2:00 p.m.** at the church. Instructors from AMT will be holding the class. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

Please note that the Toastmasters group is no longer meeting at Our Savior. They have moved to the Pekin Public Library.



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



MARCH FLOWER CHART

March 1	
March 8	Leo & Roberta Stiles—Rick's Birthday
March 15	Larry & Darlene Daniels—Wedding Anniversary
March 22	
March 29	

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.

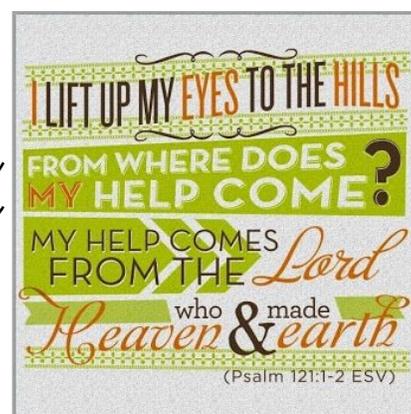
To sign up for flowers on the altar for a specific Sunday, please fill out the flower chart by the front entrance or call the church office.

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.



*As Lent begins I pray, Lord,
that you will help it be a season
of spiritual growth for me and
for your whole church. Amen.*

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*)

Nick Marzinzik (*Air Force Reserves, Mike & Sue Barger's nephew*)

Ensign Tary N. Voller—San Diego USN, Helicopter Pilot (*Doris Voller*)

Prayer Concerns

Betty Updike (*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*)

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)



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 March we're celebrating... Anniversaries & Birthdays

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Larry & Darlene Daniels—March 12
Charlie & Jacque Davis—March 21, 1970!
Bruce & Gayle Gettman—March 29



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 1—Dale Atkinson	March 22—Charlie Davis
March 18—Leslie Leitner	March 26—Mary Sorenson



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 APRIL

- **Sunday, April 5**—Palm/Passion Sunday
- **April 9**—Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 p.m.
- **April 10**—Good Friday Service 7:00 p.m.
- **Sunday, April 12**—EASTER! 9:00 a.m. Worship Service; Coffee Fellowship after the service

- **Friday, April 24 & Saturday, April 25:**
The annual Rummage Sale is scheduled for April 24 & 25.

April 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		



Sundays
9:00 a.m.
Worship Service
10:15 a.m.
Sunday School



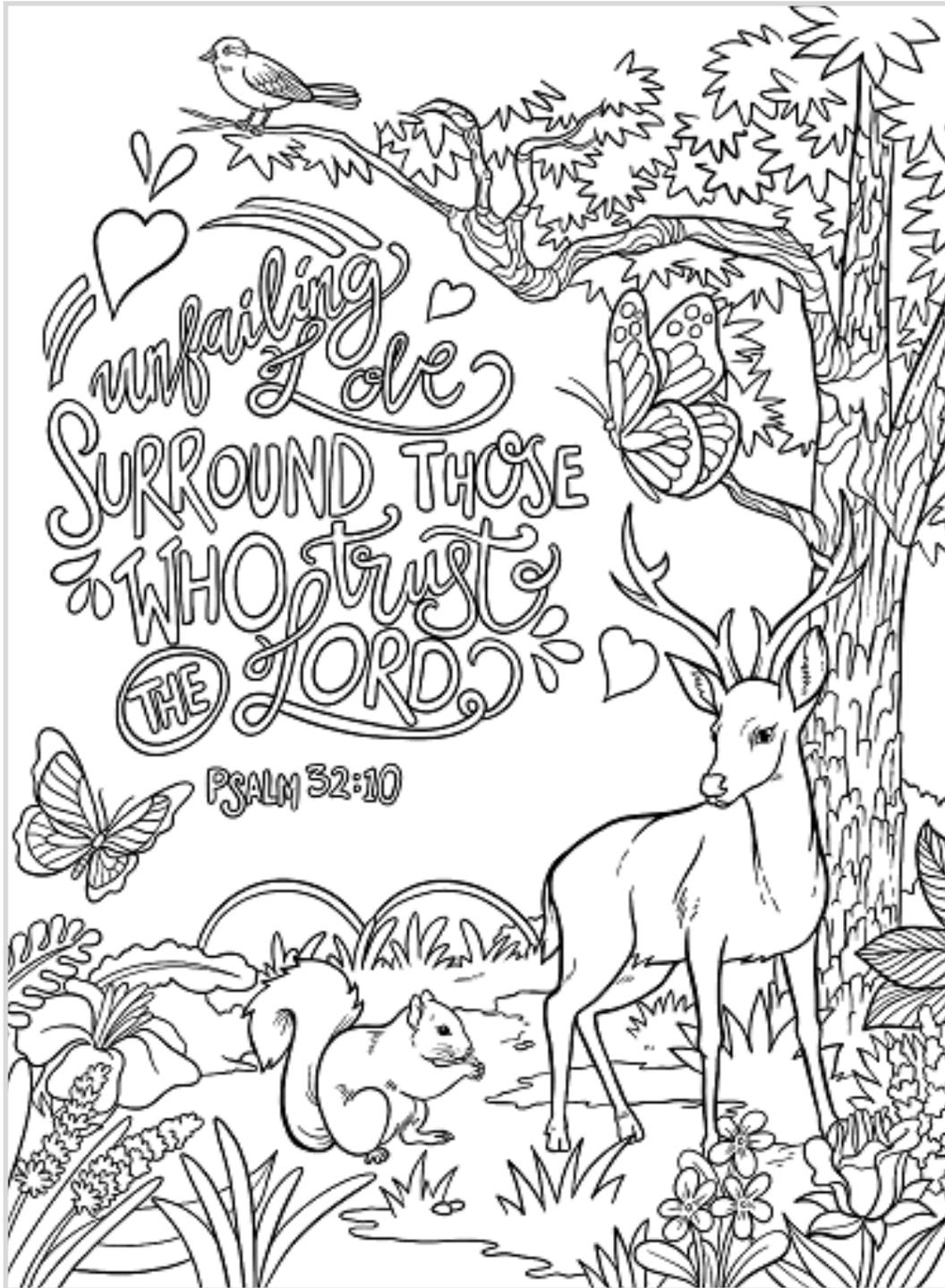
Please join us after service for **Adult Sunday School**. We are done by 11:15. We will meet in the library and can move if our group outgrows that space! All adults of the church and visitors are welcome! .



If you have information you want to be in the next Hilltopper, please email Leslie Leitner by Sunday, MARCH 22 at leitner@grics.net; OR put articles, committee information, news, events, and updates in the Hilltopper mailbox in the Library. Thank you!

"There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature — the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after winter."
—Rachel Carson





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:**** ←

CRACKERS, CEREAL, BLANKETS, & SOCKS

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.



2020 CHURCH COUNCIL—Contact Information			
<i>President</i>	Leslie Leitner	Worship & Music Memorials & Gifts	leithaus@gmail.com
<i>Vice President</i>	Leo Stiles	Property Memorials & Gifts	lastiles1@gmail.com
<i>Secretary</i>	Melanie Fleming	Christian Education	melaniefleming@comcast.net
<i>Treasurer</i>	Garold Burkholder	Finance & Stewardship	gburkholder21@comcast.net
	Steve Gresham	Property	gramg95@comcast.net
	Meri Arnold	Worship & Music	arnoldmeri15@gmail.com
	Dennis Eggemeyer	Outreach & Fellowship	dle_61554@yahoo.com
	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	
March 1	Meri Arnold
March 8	Tim Leitner
March 15	Meri Arnold
March 22	Dennis Eggemeyer
March 29	Melanie Fleming

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

**HOPE
ON
THE
HILL**

Hospitality
Outreach
Proclamation
Education

Helping
Individuals
Live in
Love

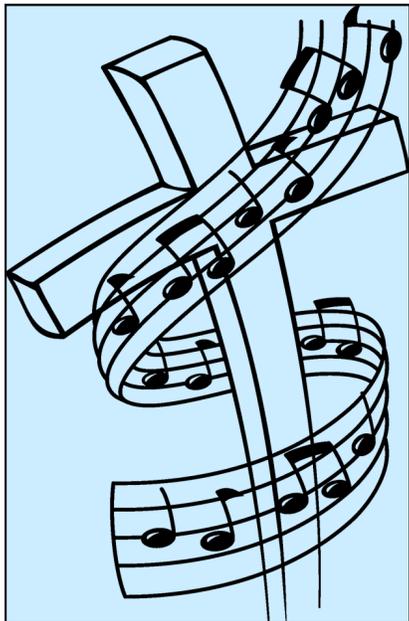
USHERS	
March 1	Garold Burkholder
March 8	Gayle & Bruce Gettman
March 15	Steve Gresham
March 22	Mark McCarrell
March 29	Ken Wehr

TELLERS	
March 1	Sharon Foss & Elsa Keas
March 8	Leo & Roberta Stiles
March 15	Steve & Barb Gresham
March 22	Ken Wehr & Tim Leitner
March 29	Sharon Foss & Elsa Keas

GREETERS	
March 1	Meri Arnold
March 8	Larry Daniels
March 15	Steve Gresham
March 22	Linda Tanner
March 29	Carol Guenther

COMMUNION SET-UP & PARAMENT COLOR		
March 1	Dave Sanders	Purple
March 8	Lee & Mary Sorenson	Purple
March 15	(Intinction) Linda Tanner/Carol Guenther	Purple
March 22	Lee & Mary Sorenson	Purple
March 29	Linda Tanner & Carol Guenther	Purple

MARCH



“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.