



Hope on the Hill

Pastor's Letter

"The Never Ending Story"

A Blessed Easter to You All!!

There is a children's story that is entitled "The Never Ending Story" and speaks of how life is like a story that continues in everybody's experience of love and connection.

Easter is that way. Do you remember the women who came to the tomb? Luke's version is found in chapter 24.

The Resurrection of Jesus

24 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵ The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶ Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love

of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." ⁸ Then they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Our never ending story is knowing that God provides the unexpected. The empty tomb, the stone rolled away and an angel saying: "why do you seek the living among the dead?" We have a living Lord of our life! The story goes on because we now have Christ Jesus within us and we are the living example of love that could not be kept down.

We celebrate Easter because this "Never Ending Story" is ours and believe the empty tomb is empty for

us. You may run into some who think "it is an idle tale" as did the disciples on that day long ago. But you get to tell the story in words and by your love for others.

Easter Celebration happens this year on April 4th, but it is not a one day affair. The "Never Ending Story" is that we have become and are "Easter Christians."

May you have a blessed Easter season and live in hope and love because Jesus has risen from the dead. Alleluia!

Peace,

Pastor Stephen D. Barnes



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
2223 SHERIDAN ROAD
PEKIN, IL 61554

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Barnes
Email: barnes.stephen9@gmail.com

Church Office: (309) 346-2600
Gerry Reynolds, Secretary

Church email: oslcpekin1@gmail.com

Website: www.oslchopeonthehill.org

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



Prayer Concerns

Family of Pastor Scoville (passed away March 28) *More info on p. 2*
Jim & Mary Kay Johnson (prayers for healing)
Phil Dralle (recovering from shoulder replacement)
Becky Murray (Beth Dralle's sister, treatment for lymphoma)
Jim Drake (recovering from a fractured shoulder)
Connie Huessner (former member, cancer treatments)
Gus & Lil Marzinzik (health concerns—Sue Barger's parents)
George Sipka (Teresa Massey's father; health concerns)
Craig Brooks, Chad Wahl, Ryan Montgomery
Prayers for all those with COVID-19 and recovering from COVID-19
Prayers for all who have Arthrogyrosis (Per Lee Sorenson: *It is a very rare disease that strikes joints and attached muscle tissue. There is an 11 month old boy in Pekin with this disease.*)

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

NEWS & EVENTS

REMEMBER:

- *Wear a mask
- *Watch your distance
- *Wash your hands

COVID-19
UPDATES

April 2, 7:00 p.m.: Good Friday in person service
—*Is it I Lord?*

April 4, 9:00 a.m.: Easter Sunday in person service
—*Weeping at the Tomb*

Our in-person Annual Meeting is

Sunday, April 18, 10:15 a.m.
(after the worship service)

We will:
Review and accept the Annual Reports
Elect council members.

The **2021 Synod Assembly** is on-line this year! Both sessions and the Sunday morning worship service will be on Zoom. We need two delegates for the assembly, one male and one female. This is a great opportunity to attend without leaving your home. The dates are **Sat. June 5 & Sun. June 6**. There are copies of the registration form posted on the bulletin board. Please consider attending—the deadline to register is **Friday, April 30**. Contact *Pastor or Leslie* for more information.

At the March 2021 Council meeting, council members regretfully accepted Gerry Reynold's retirement as our church secretary. She has been a delightful and important part of Our Savior. We wish her well as she and her husband Terry make plans for the future. Her last day will be April 30, 2021. She will be attending the beginning of our Annual Meeting on April 18 so we can honor her for all that she has done for us and Pastor for the past eight years.

This is a brief job description of the secretarial position; maybe you know someone who would be interested!

Part time Church Secretary - small church in Pekin

15 hours/week

Able to use Microsoft Word & social media (Facebook, email, church website)

Answer phone, light office duties

Directed by the Pastor

Please call the church: Our Savior Lutheran, at 309-346-2600 or email olscepekin1@gmail.com for more information.

WE ARE
grateful
FOR YOU!

Obituary for Pastor Scoville from the Peoria Journal Star:

Dennis R. Scoville, 80, of Peoria, passed away on Sunday, March 28, 2021.

He was born on July 22, 1940, in Queens, N.Y., to Edmund and Alice (Gitzendanner) Kahn. He married Jackie Wofford in Roseville, Mich., on August 12, 1978.

Surviving are his wife, Jackie Scoville of Peoria; 23 children; 37 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; two brothers; and three sisters.

He was preceded in death by his biological father; his mother; his step-father; and his great-grandson.

Dennis was an amazing and compassionate person. He was a pastor and cared deeply for those he served. Dennis and his wife Jackie were foster parents for many years, dedicating their entire lives to caring for children. He was a loving father and grandfather and family meant the world to him.

Dennis was very handy and enjoyed reading and doing crossword puzzles.

Cremation rites will be accorded. A memorial service will be at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 9, 2021, at Knapp-Johnson Funeral Home and Cremation Center in Morton, with Pastor Craig Swenson officiating. Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m., prior to service at the funeral home. Social distancing guidelines will be observed during the visitation and funeral service and masks are required.

Memorials may be made to Salem Lutheran Church of Peoria.

Dennis' service will be live streamed and can be viewed at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 9, 2021 via the Knapp-Johnson Funeral Home Facebook profile, <http://www.facebook.com/knappjohnsonfuneralhome>



Mary/Martha Circle will meet **Wednesday, April 21 at 9:30 a.m.** at the church.

Hostess is Roberta Stiles and Topic Leader is Susan Thomas. We are studying a Max Lucado book titled "A Love Worth Giving." Copies are still available at the meeting. *All women of the church are welcome.*

Anniversaries & Birthdays

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Mark & Chris McCarrell—April 16


April 1—Steve Gresham	April 23—Roberta Stiles
April 4—Lily Fleming	April 25—Mary Kay Johnson
April 4—Tim Leitner	April 25—Sharon Foss
April 7—Craig Brooks	
April 18—Bev Wehr	
April 19—Sofia Olivos	

Our Synod has connected churches in the Synod with other churches, creating “Sister Congregations”. Our sister church is St. John’s in Bluffs, Illinois (near Jacksonville, IL).



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands. www.elca.org

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.



Prayer Chain at Our Savior

Call the Church office with your prayer request 346-2600 or [email oslcekin1@gmail.com](mailto:oslcekin1@gmail.com).

An email will be sent to all members when a prayer request is received. Members without an email address may ask that they be called when a prayer request is sent out.



CONTACT US AT:

(309) 346-2600

If you have a ministry need, please call the Church office.

We continue to pray for those in the Military:

Petty Officer **Robert Murphy** (3rd Class)—(*nephew of Phil & Beth Dralle*);

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

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

A reminder: Please be sure to let Pastor know about committee meeting times & dates. Use this email: barnes.stephen9@gmail.com or contact him on his cell phone. It would also be helpful to include him on committee emails. Thank you!!

This is also the best way to contact him with personal requests and needs.

Each Sunday worship service bulletin is posted to our website and our Facebook page, usually by Saturday afternoon. There are links within the bulletin to great music, and Pastor or Tim’s spoken sermon. Be sure to check the website tab:



‘News & Events’—‘Sunday Service Material’ and keep an eye on your email!

<http://www.oslchopeonthehill.org/index.php/news-and-events/sunday-service-material/>

If you are unable to print out the newsletter and would like a printed copy, please let Gerry know and she can print one for you. *If you want a printed copy mailed to you regularly, please let Leslie know.*

Newsletter DEADLINE

Our Savior Newsletter
Lutheran

If you have information you want to be in the next ‘Hope on the Hill’, please email Leslie Leitner **by Sunday, April, 18**

at leitner@grics.net. Thank you!

CHURCH COUNCIL			
President	Leslie Leitner	Worship & Music, Memorials & Gifts	leithaus@gmail.com
Vice President	Leo Stiles	Property, Memorials & Gifts	lastiles1@gmail.com
Secretary	Melanie Fleming	Christian Education	melaniefleming@comcast.net
Treasurer	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

	LAY ASSISTANT	LAY READER	USHERS	TELLERS	COMMUNION	PARAMENT COLOR
April 4	Meri	Roberta	Mark	Steve & Barb	Tim & Leslie	Gold
April 11	Meri	Sue	Ken	Steve & Barb	Linda & Carol	White
April 18	Dennis	Dennis	Steve	Steve & Barb	Lee & Mary	White
April 25	Melanie	Larry	Ken	Steve & Barb	Tim & Leslie	White

APRIL FLOWER CHART



Altar Flowers

April 4	Easter Lilies
April 11	
April 18	The Bargas—Mariethza's Birthday
April 25	

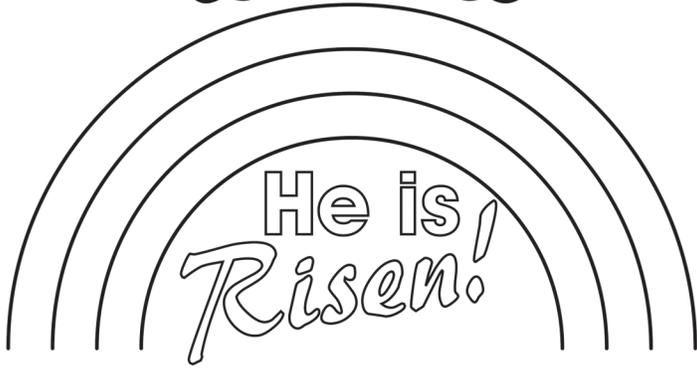
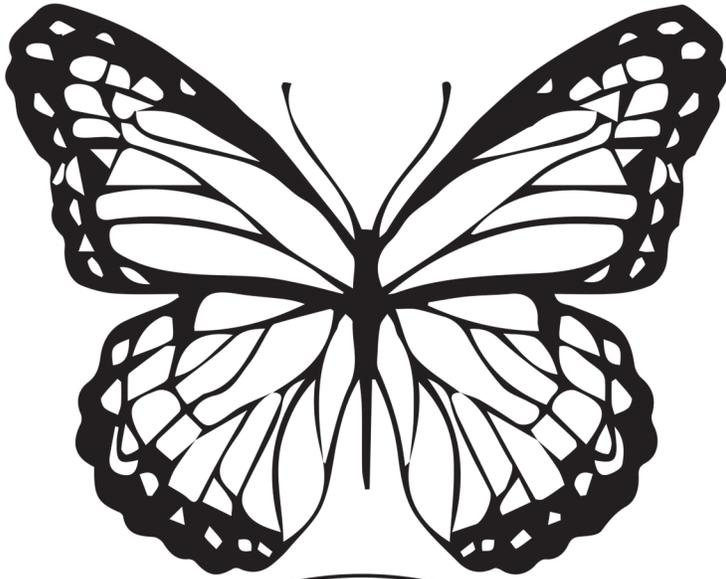
We continue to stay steady financially. **Thank you** for mailing your offerings to Our Savior. Please continue to do so if you opt to not attend worship services—thank you!!

The 2021 flower chart is posted—You may wish to call the office if you would like to sign up for a Sunday.

Thank you to those who ordered Easter Lilies to beautify our worship space:



From	Dedication
Marilyn Whittington	In Memory of Jack Whittington
The Daniels	In Memory of their parents
Sharon Foss	In Memory of Marvin Foss
The Stiles	In Honor of all the workers during the pandemic
The Barnes	In Memory of Roger Barnes and Betty Barnes
The McCarrells	In Memory of Merrill & Catherine McCarrell and Bill Pinkston
Elsa Keas	In Memory of Bill Keas, Carolyn Murphy, and Ken Johnson
The Flemings	In Memory of Loved Ones
Rita Wahl	



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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.



LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT:



Center for Prevention of Abuse

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. **Special needs RIGHT NOW include: cereal, canned fruit, bottled juice, peanut butter, can tuna, can soups, sugar, coffee, pancake mix, syrup**



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 www.newsletternewsletter.com

For the entire month of April, Our Savior Lutheran will be supporting the **Christian Civic Outreach (CCO)** by donating nonperishable food, clothing, and even stuffed animals. If you wish to make a monetary donation, just make the check payable to *Our Savior Lutheran Church*, and write 'For Christian Civic Outreach' on the check or envelope used to donate. You may place it in the offering plate, or mail it to the church.

Since our secretary is leaving her position at the end of April, she would love to pass on the duties of Angel Tree Ministries with their Christmas Gift program. It is a very rewarding ministry and is only once a year. If you think that you'd be interested, contact Gerry at church and she can give you an idea what the job entails. There is no obligation if you are just wanting to see what it involves. She sure hate to see this ministry fade away as it is helpful to the relationship between the incarcerated parent and their children.



Worship Services with Holy Communion continue on Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

We continue to monitor the virus situation and make changes as needed or required.

Only attend if you are well, and feel comfortable coming to church during this time. *We do ask that you wear a mask entering the building and during the service.* There will be masks available in case you do not have one. There are hand sanitizer at several locations. We are having worship in the **Parish hall**. The bulletin is being projected onto a screen. We are speaking together, but not singing. **We continue to post the Sunday bulletin to our website and our Facebook page.** *We appreciate your patience, support and prayers as we to meet together for worship.*

Reminder: While we are happy to hear that members have been receiving the COVID vaccine, please continue to wear a mask when you are in the building. Thank you!!

APRIL 2021 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	7:00 PM Good Friday Service	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
EASTER SERVICE 9:00 AM <i>Please Wear Your Mask</i>		6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	7:00 PM Possible Outreach meeting	10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM <i>Please Wear your Mask</i> Sunday School 10:15 AM		1:30 PM Finance 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	10:00 AM Property 7:00 PM Worship & Music	10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM <i>Please Wear Your Mask</i> ANNUAL MEETING 10:15 AM		6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics		10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics		
25	26	27	28	29	30	
WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM <i>Please Wear Your Mask</i> Sunday School 10:15 AM		6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics		10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	Gerry's Last Day	
<div style="border: 2px dashed red; padding: 5px; background-color: yellow;"> Reminder: There are meetings & other events occurring at Our Savior besides our worship service, so remember the three 'W's'! (<i>Wear a mask, Watch your distance, Wash your hands.</i>) </div>						