



Hope on the Hill

Pastor's Letter

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love

“In a Mirror Dimly”

That phrase is from 1 Corinthians 13 and the focus is upon God’s love for us and how we love one another. The full verse says we will put away “childish things,” for now we see in a mirror dimly, but then we will see face to face. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three, and the greatest of these is love.”

This came to mind because on April 25 we celebrated “Good Shepherd Sunday,” and used Psalm 23 to remember that living in God’s love says, “Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days my life.” Jesus, the good shepherd laid down his life, for his sheep – you and me, so we could live this love for others.

So I want to take a moment to do some “flock talk!” Yes, I said “flock talk.” If we claim to hear the voice of Jesus, know that he calls us together, He “restores our soul,” as flock, but not just to be in pasture grazing on good grass. We are to

continue to grow and have that mirror of love become less dim and more clear in our life. More clear, so that we live out that faith, hope and love abiding in our hearts and then share with those around us.

It has been a tough year and that is an understatement. We are worried about health for self and others. We are feeling separated as we sidestep physical closeness being concerned for others. Even so, our “mirror that we see in dimly,” can become a way to grow into Christ. In this month of May, come to worship to glorify God and strengthen your heart, but then be creative in caring for others. Faith, hope, and love abide as you might send a note, write an e-mail or phone a friend and pray.

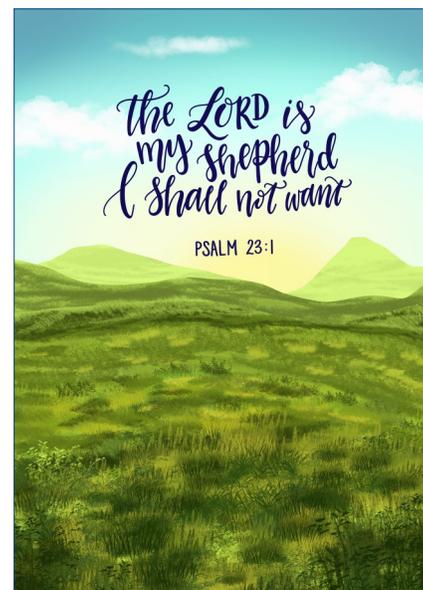
I know when life seems more a struggle a lot of things can fall by the wayside. Spend time with God in devotions and prayer. Spend time re-reading Psalm 23 and 1 Corinthians for your heart and support. Stay connected however you

can and find the strength and courage to reach out.

Let’s together work on being the “flock” that Psalm 23 speaks of and Jesus watches over as the “Good Shepherd.”

Peace,

Pastor 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
Office Hours: 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
Monday—Thursday

Church email: oslcpkin1@gmail.com
Website: www.oslchopeonthehill.org

Sunday Worship
Service 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School 10:15 a.m.



Prayer Concerns

Family of Kailey Windish (victim of a house fire in Pekin)
Jim & Mary Kay Johnson (prayers for healing)
Phil Dralle (recovering from shoulder replacement)
Becky Murray (Beth Dralle's sister, treatment for lymphoma)
Jerry White (Courtney Dralle's stepfather, treatments for brain cancer)
Jim Drake (recovering from a fractured shoulder)
Connie Huessner (former member, cancer treatments)
Gus & Lil Marzinzik (Sue Barger's parents, health concerns)
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 Arthrogryposis (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

At our Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 18, 2021, we reviewed the annual reports of our committees, Pastor, and the President, and elected new council members **Valerie Gettys** and **Mark McCarrell**.

We also recognized outgoing council members **Leo Stiles** & **Steve Gresham**, and shared a round of applause for our retiring secretary, **Gerry Reynolds**. All are greatly appreciated.

The Council reorganizational meeting was held immediately after the annual meeting. **Melanie Fleming** is the new president; **Meri Arnold** is vice president; **Leslie Leitner** is council secretary; and **Garold Burkholder** is treasurer.

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 for more information*.

Updates from the Worship & Music Committee

First, we thank the congregation for the willingness to adapt in these challenging times. We also thank you for the wonderful response to the recent survey. Those responses will help us in the committee's work. We would also like to share a portion from our last W&M meeting minutes.

The committee had a lengthy discussion on future changes to worship once the pandemic is more under control. We reviewed how some of the area's ELCA churches are handling worship during these times. In comparison, Our Savior is doing quite well with steady attendance, communion offered weekly as part of the worship service and no reservation for attending services needed. The committee agreed that we will maintain how we currently worship weekly until we are able to go back to more normal settings in the sanctuary with reduced distancing requirements, paper bulletins and after designing a safe way for communion distribution in the sanctuary.

*We all want to resume normal worship services
but our number one priority is the health and well-being of our congregation.*

FROM OUR SECRETARY, GERRY:

I want to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who wished me well for my retirement from this wonderful church. The kind words, cards, gifts and flowers have all been just a wonderful expression of the very heart of the people of this church. You have all made me feel welcome from day one until the last day I walked out of Our Savior. I couldn't have asked for a better fellowship of people to work with.

I will miss each of you, no matter how much we communicated with one another; you are all very special to me and I do hope that we will see one another along the way.

May God bless all of you and thank you all for your loving and generous send off.

Gerry Reynolds

THANKS
FROM THE
HEART

Please note the new office hours:

**10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
Monday—Thursday**

until we hire a new secretary

Christian symbol



THREE INTERWOVEN CIRCLES

Each circle in this symbol represents one of the Persons of the Holy Trinity — the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The circles, having no beginning and no end, signify the Trinity's eternal nature. The circles' interlacing symbolizes unity. In the center is a triangle, an ancient symbol of the Trinity.



Mary/Martha Circle will meet in May. We are studying a Max Lucado book titled "A Love Worth Giving." Following the meeting we will have lunch together (in what manner is yet to be determined.) *All women of the church are welcome.*

Anniversaries & Birthdays

MAY BIRTHDAYS

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Scott & Teresa Massey—May 26

Lee & Mary Sorenson—May 31



May 8—Carol Guenther	May 24—David Sanders
May 15—Nancy Atkinson	May 25—Doris Voller
May 16—Stella Gettys	May 29—Sonja Sanders
May 20—Tyler Fleming	

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 oslcepin1@gmail.com](mailto:oslcepin1@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, May 23**

at leitner@grics.net. Thank you!

CHURCH COUNCIL 2021-2022

<i>President</i>	Melanie Fleming	Christian Education	melaniefleming@comcast.net
<i>Vice President</i>	Meri Arnold	Memorials & Gifts	arnoldmeri15@gmail.com
<i>Secretary</i>	Leslie Leitner	Finance	leithaus@gmail.com
<i>Treasurer</i>	Garold Burkholder	Finance & Stewardship	gburkholder21@comcast.net
	Dennis Eggemeyer	Outreach & Fellowship	dle_61554@yahoo.com
	Mark McCarrell	Worship & Music	markgmc1154@gmail.com
	Valerie Gettys		swimmin@yahoo.com
	Pastor Barnes	Pastor	barnes.stephen9@gmail.com

	LAY ASSISTANT	LAY READER	USHERS	TELLERS	COMMUNION Set up & Clean up	PARAMENT COLOR
May 02	Dennis	Sue	Mark	Tim & Leslie	Linda & Carol	White/Gold
May 09	Tim	Dennis	Steve	Leo & Roberta	Tim & Leslie	White/Gold
May 16	Melanie	Larry	Ken	Steve & Barb	Lee & Mary	White/Gold
May 23	Meri	Roberta	Mark	Leo & Roberta	Linda & Carol	Red
May 30	Melanie	Sue	Steve	Leo & Roberta	Tim & Leslie	White

MAY FLOWER CHART



Altar Flowers

May 02	
May 09	
May 16	Rita Wahl—for the Glory of God
May 23	
May 30	

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!!

You may call the office if you would like to sign up for flowers on a Sunday.



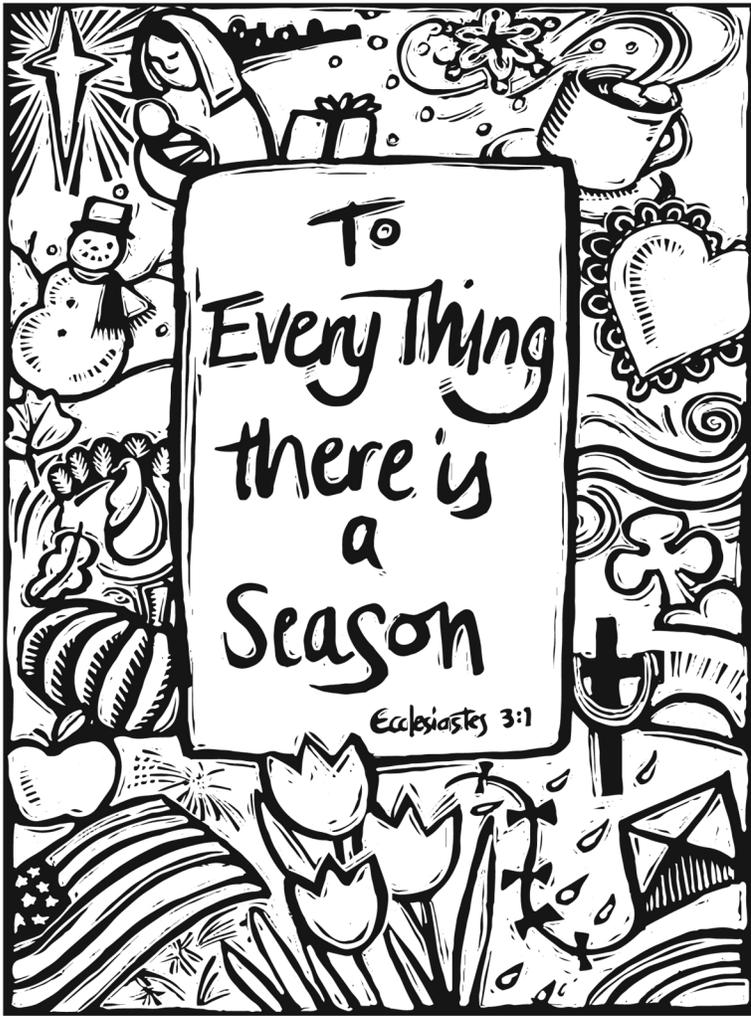
Spring Cleaning?

If you are in the mood for spring cleaning and you need a place to donate, please remember The Church Mouse! Located at 600 W Main Street, Peoria. Hours of operation are Tu-Fr 10-4pm, Sat 10-3pm. The Church Mouse gladly accepts gently used clothing for men, women & children, furniture (in good condition), linens, books, sports equipment, craft materials, shoes, gently used toys, knick-knacks, housewares, etc. Donations accepted at the back door of the building. Questions? Contact Joan or Shirley at (309) 673-2363

LWGP (Lutheran Women of Greater Peoria) General Membership Meeting

Join the ladies as we gather outdoors at St. John Lutheran Church in Bartonville on Friday morning, May 21, 9 am., 6614 W Smithville Road, Bartonville. We will celebrate spring by having a local expert talk to us about plants and flowers. A light breakfast and coffee will be served. A game relating to flowers will be enjoyed as we reunite after a full year apart. RSVP to Lisa Mack, call or text (309) 360-2669 by Sun, May 16. See you at the pavilion!

Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of the doves is heard in our land. Song of Songs 2:12



from www.newsletternewsletter.com



“When your mother asks, ‘Do you want a piece of advice?’ it’s a mere formality. It doesn’t matter if you answer yes or no. You’re going to get it anyway.”

—Erma Bombeck

from www.newsletternewsletter.com

?? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ??

Acts 1:1 (NIV) reads: “In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach.” What “former book” did the author write to Theophilus?

- A. Matthew
- B. Mark
- C. Luke
- D. John

Answer: C (See Luke 1:1-4)

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

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!!

MAY 2021 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				Reminder: There are meetings & other events occurring at Our Savior besides our worship service, so remember the three 'W's"! (Wear a mask, Watch your distance, Wash your hands.)		1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM <i>Please Wear your Mask</i> Sunday School 10:15 AM		6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	7:00 PM Worship & Music Outreach Committee	10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<i>Mother's Day</i> 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	10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM <i>Please Wear your Mask</i> Sunday School 10:15 AM		6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	9:30 a.m. Mary/Martha 7:00 PM Council Meeting	10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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		
30	31					
WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM <i>Trinity Sunday</i> <i>Please Wear your Mask</i> Sunday School 10:15 AM	 Memorial Day					

June 2021						
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			