



Hope on the Hill

Newsletter

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 3

Pastor's Letter

Adding or Subtracting? Lenten Season

As you read this, our 40 day journey into Lent has already begun! Ash Wednesday was February 22 and our Wednesdays will take us all the way to March 29 having worship each week at 7 p.m. Hope you will share with us as we journey towards the Cross and then Easter.

Holy Week begins with Palm/Passion Sunday on April 2, with Maundy Thursday – April 6 and Good Friday – April 7. We then celebrate Easter on April 9!

What I have given you is our walking together in worship and growing in the Amazing Grace that God has blessed you and me with. Our over-all theme is just that:

“Amazing Grace,” a very old and familiar hymn that is celebrating 250 years of singing.

“Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.”

I pray and hope this time of lent will help strengthen your faith vision.

May you be enriched as you journey

with our Lord this Lent to the cross and empty tomb!

Now, about “adding and subtracting!” Often I hear a lot of people saying...”this is what I will give up for lent.” One person stopped drinking soda, but you should have seen the day after Easter....soda everywhere. Another person said I will watch less TV....they tried! We subtract but loose the intent of lent in growing deeper into the grace that God wants us to share with others.

How about adding?! Strengthening your prayer life. Supporting those who are alone or hurting. Mending fences of relationships that have been broken in your family or friends or offering a hand to a stranger. Connecting with groups or agencies that give you an opportunity to share from the abundance we all have...food, clothes, etc. This is “Amazing Grace!”

Let me share a passage from Isaiah 58:6-9:

⁶“Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free,

and to break every yoke?
⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover him,
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?
⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up speedily;
your righteousness shall go before you,

the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

⁹Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry, and he will say,
Here I am

May this Lenten journey bring you peace, a deeper faith and a greater appreciation of the gift of “amazing grace,” we have all been blessed with.

Looking forward to seeing you as we worship together on our way to the Cross and Empty tomb of Easter!

Peace, Pastor Barnes

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
2223 SHERIDAN ROAD
PEKIN, IL 61554

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

Church Secretary: Lori Frampton
Church Office: (309) 346-2600
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
Monday—Friday

Church email: oslcpekin1@gmail.com
Website: www.oslchopeonthehill.org

Sunday Worship Service 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School/Bible Study 10:15 a.m.



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Prayer Concerns

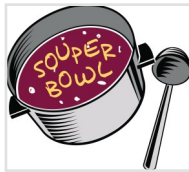
Maize Wankel (health concerns)
Nancy Atkinson (experiencing severe leg and back pain)
Vickie Rayburn (recovering from shoulder surgery)
David Aper (brother of Rita Wahl, health concerns)
Paul Sipka (health concerns)
Finn Davis (4 yr. old grandson of Ann & Alton Davis, doing well, continuing maintenance treatments for leukemia)
Jim & Mary Kay Johnson (health concerns)
Lil Marzinzik (Sue Barger's mother, health concerns)
Craig Brooks, Chad Wahl, Ryan Montgomery
Prayers for our sister congregation, Faith Lutheran, Washington, IL
Prayers for Ukraine and other countries with unrest

Please contact Pastor or the Church Office with any additions, deletions, corrections or updates

NEWS & EVENTS



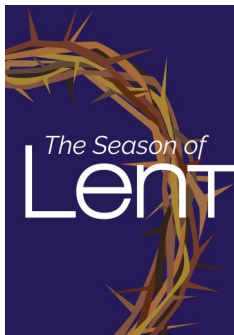
No updates. You may wear a mask if desired but masks are not required at Our Savior at this time.



Update: we collected **87** food items and one pair of men's gloves for our 'Souper Bowl of Caring'. Many, many thanks! The items were taken to Christian Civic Outreach.



We now have **Activity Bags** ready for children coming to our church services! The Mary/Martha Circle took on this project. Many thanks to Melanie, Rita, & Darlene for working on them and to Nancy for donating some books for the bags. They are near the usher shelf in the hallway.



Our weekly Wednesday Midweek Lenten Services will be at 7:00 p.m.
March 1: 'Justifying Grace'
March 8: 'The Shepherd's Grace'
March 15: 'Chosen in Love'
March 22: 'The Ministry of Grace for all'
March 29: 'Tears of Hope and Joy'
Thank you to Sonja Sanders, who will be playing for the services.



thank you

Thank you to Melanie Fleming and Tim Leitner for registering to be our delegates to the 2023 Synod Assembly. They will be involved in a Zoom meeting March 25, and will be attending the Assembly June 1-3 in East Peoria. Bishop Roth is retiring, and a new bishop will be elected at the Assembly.

March 12

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead so you won't be late for church on Sunday!



The Mary/Martha Circle will continue collecting items **through the month of March** for their annual Health Kit outreach. Members of the congregation can help by purchasing necessary items and placing them in the **Health Kit box** under the coat rack. Lists of needed items are clipped to the box for you to use.



Items needed for each kit include:

- 1 towel and wash cloth
- 1 comb
- 1 nail clippers or file
- 1 bar wrapped bath size soap
- 1 4-7 oz. toothpaste
- 1 new toothbrush, individually wrapped
- 1 disposable razor, individually wrapped
- 4-7 oz. toothpaste
- 1 shampoo 6-15 oz.
- 1 deodorant 1-3 oz



These kits will go locally to the Salvation Army, Pekin Outreach Initiative, Center for Prevention of Abuse, Christian Civic Outreach, etc. Thank you for your help!



A group of 21 enjoyed 'Dinner Out' at Asher's in downtown Pekin.



Pastor would like to thank all for bringing goodies Feb. 12 for Bishop Roth's visit. The visit was a big success.

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION



The next Zoom Fellowship is **Monday, March 6 at 7:00 p.m.** Lee will send an email link to the meeting prior to that evening. Hope you can join in!



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Group will meet on **Tuesday, March 7 at 9:30 a.m.**

Anyone wanting to come and knit or crochet are welcome!!! *Questions?* Contact Darlene Daniels.



Mary/Martha Circle will meet on **March 15, 9:30 a.m.** at Our Savior. Vicki Rayburn will be the topic leader. Susan Thomas will be the hostess. Our new study book is *Just like Jesus* by Max Lucado. We will be collecting items for the Health Kits the entire month of March and assembling the kits at our April meeting. All ladies of the church are welcome!



Men's Coffee/Breakfast Group

The next gathering will be **Thursday, March 16, 7:30 a.m.** at Main Street Family Restaurant in Creve Coeur.

Future gatherings will continue to be on the third Thursday of the month.



Sunday Worship Services at 9:00 a.m.

Sundays of Lent in March:

- March 5**—'The Prodigal Son'
- March 12**—'The Blind Man'
- March 19**—'The Woman at the Well'
- March 26**—'Paul'



An Event & Information from the Lutheran Women of Greater Peoria:

Easter Parade Style Show and Tea

You are invited! On Saturday afternoon, March 25th we welcome you to St. Paul Lutheran Church 1427 West Lake Street, Peoria. 2-4pm. \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids under 12. Contact Mary Conrad (309) 360-8734 or Pepper Bauer (309) 697-5762 for tickets. Door prizes and items from The Church Mouse will be for sale. It will be a delightful afternoon IF you can join us! A representative of Christ, Sylvie Chase (4) plans to model! *Proverbs 31:25 She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come*

The Church Mouse

If you are doing any spring cleaning, please keep The Church Mouse in mind. Accepting donations Mon – Sat, 10-3pm around the back of the building. 600 West Main Street, Peoria – near Bradley University. Questions? (309) 673-2363 ask to speak to Shirley or Joan

Ecclesiastes 3:6 A time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away

The Annual Rummage Sale will Friday, April 28 & Saturday April 29. The charity this year will be House of Hope. The signup sheet for your help will be posted at a later date. You may bring donation items to church After Easter.



Anniversaries & Birthdays

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

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



March 1—Dale Atkinson	
March 18—Leslie Leitner	
March 22—Charlie Davis	
March 24—Bennett Baal	
March 26—Mary Sorenson	



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

We have a 'Sister Congregation'! Our Synod has connected churches in the Synod with other churches, creating "Sister Congregations". Our sister church is **Faith Lutheran in Washington, IL**. Their minister is **Pastor John Rothfusz**. Their website is www.shareourfaith.org.



PRAYER CHAIN AT OUR SAVIOR

► *If someone needs prayers, is going into the hospital, or needs a visit—PLEASE LET PASTOR KNOW! His email is: barnes.stephen9@gmail.com. You may also call the church office: 346-2600*

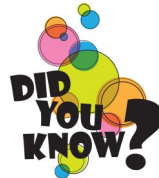
Call the Church office with your prayer request: 346-2600 or email: oslcekin1@gmail.com. An email will be sent to all members when a prayer request is received. Members without an email address may ask that they be called when a prayer request is sent out.

► *Please let Lori know if someone can go off the prayer list—call or email, or fill out one of the blue cards in the pews in the sanctuary. Thank you!*



We continue to pray for those in the Military:

- Petty Officer **Robert Murphy** (3rd Class)—(nephew of Phil & Beth Dralle)
- Nick Marzinzik** (Air National Guard, Mike & Sue Barger's nephew)
- Josh Barger** (Navy Reserves, Mike & Sue's son)
- Ensign **Tary N. Voller**—San Diego USN (Doris Voller)



Committee and Council minutes are posted by the church office. Check out all the hard work our members are doing!

Reminder: If your committee changes or cancels a meeting, or plans an event, or makes an appointment to bring someone in—please let Pastor know. And please include Pastor on all committee emails. Thank you!



CONTACT US AT:

(309) 346-2600

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

We continue to work on ideas for the 'Philip and Andrew—Come & See' initiative to work on the life and ministry of OSLC. Contact Pastor, or any council member, with an idea you would like to try!



If you are unable to print the newsletter at home and would like a copy, please contact the church office and one can be printed for you. ***If you want a printed copy monthly, please let Leslie know.***

Newsletter DEADLINE

*If you have information you want to be in the next 'Hope on the Hill', please email Leslie Leitner **by Sunday, March 19***

at leithaus@gmail.com. Thank you!

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR MARCH

Please switch with someone as needed.

	LAY ASSISTANT	LAY READER	USHERS	TELLERS	COMMUNION Set up & Clean up	PARAMENT COLOR
March 05	Dennis	Sue	Larry	Leo & Roberta	Lee & Mary	Purple
March 12	Meri	Roberta	Mark	Tim & Valerie	Linda & Carol	Purple
March 19	Melanie	Lily	Leo	Leo & Roberta	Lee & Mary	Purple
March 26	Meri	Mary Sipka	Mark	Leo & Roberta	Lee & Mary	Purple

MARCH FLOWER CHART

March 05	The Leitners—new granddaughter Leitner
March 12	Larry & Darlene Daniels—Anniversary
March 19	
March 26	The Sorensens—Mary's birthday

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

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!!



Please note: We will only be receiving ONE vase of flowers; your cost will be \$30.00.

God Among Our Brokenness

from www.newsletternewsletter.com

I am not the only one who sees the underside and God at the same time. There are lots of us, and we are at home in the biblical stories of antiheroes and people who don't get it; beloved prostitutes and rough fishermen. ...

It was here in the midst of my own community of underside dwellers that I couldn't help but begin to see the Gospel, the life-changing reality that God is not far off, but here among the brokenness of our lives. And having seen it, I couldn't help but point it out.

—Nadia Bolz-Weber, *Pastrix*



Our Savior's Library

Don't forget to check out the selections available in our 'indoor' Library! There are devotionals, fiction books, various bibles, study guides, and more. Feel free to browse what is on the shelves.

LOOKING AHEAD TO APRIL

- **April 2:** Palm Sunday Service at 9:00 a.m.
- **April 6:** Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 p.m.
- **April 7:** Good Friday Service at 7:00 p.m.
- **April 9:** EASTER SUNDAY Service at 9:00 a.m.
- **April 28 & 29**—Rummage Sale

CHURCH COUNCIL 2023

<i>President</i>	Mark McCarrell	Mutual Ministry, Worship & Music, Finance	markgmc1154@gmail.com
<i>Vice President</i>	Tim Leitner	Memorials & Gifts, Worship & Music, Finance	tim.j.leitner@gmail.com
<i>Secretary</i>	Valerie Gettys	Finance	swimmin@yahoo.com
	Meri Arnold	Worship & Music	arnoldmeri15@gmail.com
	Leo Stiles	Property	lastiles1@gmail.com
	Mary Sipka	Worship & Music	sipka.mary@gmail.com
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mary Sorenson	Outreach	Msorenson75@gmail.com
	Sharon Eggemeyer	Finance	sjemh@yahoo.com
	Pastor Barnes		barnes.stephen9@gmail.com



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.

A prayer for OSLC and our Sister Congregation,
Faith Lutheran in Washington, IL:

Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts. Grant that St. Paul's in Gilman and Our Savior in Pekin, will use these gifts to bear witness to Christ in lives that are built on faith and love. Make us ready to live the gospel and eager to do your will, so that we may share with all your church in the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



Online Bulletin

The Sunday worship bulletin is posted to our website and our Facebook page, usually by Saturday afternoon.
Our website link is:
www.oslchopeonthehill.org

The video of Pastor or Tim's sermon is within the bulletin, as are some music videos. Pastor also records the Gospel reading and the Children's message. Hope you take a look! It is also emailed to our members.

Clip art in the newsletter is from www.newsletternewsletter.com

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 include: cereal, canned fruit, bottled juice, peanut butter, canned 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.

Special Needs: jackets, jeans, socks, macaroni & cheese, canned fruit.

MARCH 2023 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																								
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			7:00 PM SERVICE	10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics																																																										
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