



## Hope on the Hill

Newsletter

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 4

### Pastor's Letter

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love

#### Tripping Over the Living Stone

Here we are coming around the final bend of "Lent" and can see the finish line, or maybe I should say beginning line. For in Christ every day we are renewed in heart, mind and spirit because by GRACE we are loved and forgiven. In this grace we can start each day new, knowing that the tomb of Lent is the Empty Tomb of Easter!

Of course, by the time you receive this for April, Easter celebration will be upon us. April 9<sup>th</sup>. Keep your faith footing sure and focused because the risen Christ who walks with you. Not just a day of celebration but a lifetime of hope and God's peace that will surround you. Come to Him that "living stone."

I am reminded of a passage from 1 Peter 2: 4-7:

<sup>4</sup> Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet

chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup> like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

<sup>6</sup> For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

<sup>7</sup> This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected

has become the very head of the corner," <sup>8</sup> and

"A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall."

Believe it or not, when I am walking the track at the Riverplex, smooth as can be, my foot catches and I stumble! Believe it or not, a rug in the house, a crack in the sidewalk and you can add more, I stumble! This is simply to say, Jesus is the living stone and we

need to keep our eyes on Him and "watch where we are walking!"

Sometimes we can stumble in our hearts when we think we KNOW where we are going in faith and life. Rather than focusing upon the grace given, we contemplate our own foundation rather than building on the cornerstone of Jesus.

God has "called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." We are God's chosen and loved people.

Come and be with us this Easter and rejoice in the living cornerstone that we can in confidence, build upon.

Have a blessed and safe Easter time and if you travel, be safe and rejoice with family.

Peace,  
Pastor Stephen 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.**



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands. [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

#### Prayer Concerns

- Nancy Atkinson** (experiencing severe leg and back pain)
- Melanie's brother-in-law, Pat** (heart issues)
- Becky Murray** (Beth Dralle's sister, recurrence of lymphoma)
- 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

COVID-19  
UPDATES

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



## April 2 Palm/Passion Sunday

9:00 a.m. Worship Service



## April 6 Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. service with Holy Communion and the Stripping of the Altar



## April 7 Good Friday

7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service  
Focusing on readings from John's Gospel



## April 9 Easter Sunday

9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Coffee Fellowship & Easter Egg Hunt after the service



AMAZING  
GRACE



**On April 25, Mary Kay Johnson will celebrate her 100th birthday!!!!**

*Let's shower her with cards!*

Her address is: 2425 Delaware St.  
Pekin, IL 61554

*Special Note: Mary Kay and her husband Jim are charter members of Our Savior Lutheran Church!*

Amazing Grace  
*how sweet the sound*

**April's All-Congregational presentation is April 23**

after the worship service.

Our presenter is from  
**The Alzheimer's Association.**

There will be a coffee fellowship.  
*Donations of food are welcome.*

The Annual Rummage Sale is Friday, April 28 from 8:00-5:00  
and Saturday April 29 from 8:00-12:00.

The charity this year will be House of Hope.

Please bring donation items to church after Easter.

Setup will start on Wed April 26th. Sign up sheet for help will be posted.

Anyone not able to help with sale or setup could maybe consider bringing snacks or lunch items to church for workers!



# MORE NEWS & INFORMATION



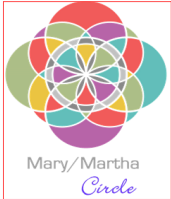
The next Zoom Fellowship is **Monday, April 3 at 7:00 p.m.** Lee will send an email link to the meeting prior to that evening. Hope you can join in!



## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Group will meet on **Tuesday, April 11 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 **Wednesday, April 18, 9:30 a.m.** at Our Savior. We will be assembling Health Kits. All ladies of the church are welcome!



## Men's Coffee/Breakfast Group

The next gathering will be **Thursday, April 20, 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.*

"The Chosen" is the first multi-season series about the life of Christ and the highest crowd-funded TV series or film project of all time. "The Chosen" portrays Jesus through the eyes of those who met him. It is not available on network TV but at least season 1 is available for Free on Peacock, Tubi, PLEX, Crackle and a few episodes are available for free on You Tube. If you have Netflix or Amazon Prime it is also available there. The Chosen is also on Roku (free). You can also watch all 3 seasons on the Chosen App for free from your App store.

Melanie has the first season on DVD that will eventually end up in the library (it is being circulated now.) She says: *Bill and I are rewatching and last night was the Samaritan woman at the well! It is very well done and followed the scriptures that were read this morning (Sunday March 19) very closely!!!*

You may wish to check it out this Easter season!!



Keep an eye out for information about "dinner out" in April!

**Tim & Leslie Leitner welcomed their newest granddaughter on March 2, 2023. Juliette Elaine's parents are Nathan & Jill Leitner.**



At March's Council meeting, Pastor noted: "Made a trip up to see our children in celebration of our 50th Wedding Anniversary. THANKS to all who celebrated with us in the coffee fellowship, cards and gifts, special decorations and flowers. It was a great time."





# Anniversaries & Birthdays

## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Mark & Chris McCarrell—April 16



## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 4—Lily Fleming

April 19—Sofia Olivos

April 4—Tim Leitner

April 23—Roberta Stiles

April 7—Craig Brooks

**April 25—Mary Kay Johnson  
100 years old!!**

April 18—Bev Wehr



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands. [www.elca.org](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](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.*

► *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!*



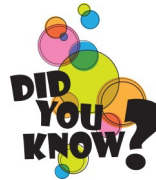
*We continue to pray for those in the Military:*

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!

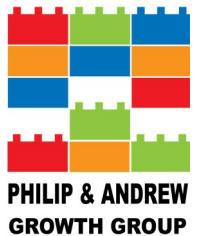


**CONTACT US AT:**

**(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, April 23***

*at [leithaus@gmail.com](mailto:leithaus@gmail.com). Thank you!*

# WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR APRIL

*Please switch with someone as needed.*

	LAY ASSISTANT	LAY READER	USHERS	TELLERS	COMMUNION Set up & Clean up	PARAMENT COLOR
<b>April 02</b>	Meri	Roberta	Dennis	Tim & Valerie	Tim & Leslie	Purple
<b>April 09</b>	Meri	Dennis	Ken	Leo & Roberta	Lee & Mary	Gold
<b>April 16</b>	Dennis	Larry	Mark	Valerie & Ken (?)	Linda & Carol	Gold
<b>April 23</b>	Melanie	Sue	Leo	Leo & Roberta	Lee & Mary	Gold
<b>April 30</b>	Dennis	Mary Sipka	Ken	Leo & Roberta	Tim & Leslie	Gold

## APRIL FLOWER CHART

<b>April 02</b>	The Flemings—Lily's 18th Birthday
<b>April 09</b>	Easter Lilies
<b>April 16</b>	The Bargers—Marithza's birthday
<b>April 23</b>	
<b>April 30</b>	Vickie Rayburn—22nd Wedding Anniversary

**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!!**

You may wish to mail your offerings to Our Savior if you cannot attend worship.



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



### Our Savior's Library

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



We now have **Activity Bags** ready for children coming to our church services! The Mary/Martha Circle took on this project. They are near the usher shelf in the hallway.



### **Death Doesn't Win**

In the final hours of 2021, a wildfire near Boulder, Colorado, destroyed 1,000 homes, including one belonging to Pastor Bill Stephens. His family, out of town at the time, lost all their possessions. After months of feeling buried in debris, insurance paperwork and mourning, Stephens decided that Easter 2022 would mark a fresh start.

During worship that morning, the pastor shared a photo of vibrant daffodils emerging on his charred property. Burned remnants were visible in the background, just as Easter's backdrop includes the pain and death of Good Friday. But the empty tomb in Easter's foreground means death won't win, reminded Stephens. Even when earthly life "isn't all daffodils," we have hope and eternal life through Jesus.

Easter reveals that God will "give us the joy, and it's going to be in the heart of pain that we go through as well," added the pastor. "And that just makes me draw closer to God."

*from [www.churchart.com](http://www.churchart.com)*

## LOOKING AHEAD TO MAY

- **May 21:** Graduation Celebration for Lily Fleming

## CHURCH COUNCIL 2023

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



The Sunday worship bulletin is posted to our website and our Facebook page, usually by Saturday afternoon.  
Our website link is:  
**[www.oslchopeonthehill.org](http://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.churchart.com](http://www.churchart.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.**

# APRIL 2023 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																	
						1																																																	
 <p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> 9:00 AM</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Zoom Fellowship 7:00 PM</p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	 <p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>7:00 PM SERVICE</b></p>	 <p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>7:00 PM SERVICE</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p>																																																	
 <p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>WORSHIP</b> 9:00 AM</p> <p><i>Fellowship after service</i></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Prayer Shawls</p> <p>6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Property Mtg</p> <p>7:00 PM Committee Meetings</p> <p>Outreach/Chris Ed, W &amp; M, Finance</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study</p> <p>6:00-7:00 PM</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p>																																																	
<p><b>16</b></p> <p><b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> 9:00 AM</p> <p>Sunday School/Bible Study 10:15 AM</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Mary/Martha Circle</p> <p>7:00 PM Council Meeting</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>Men's Group 7:30 AM</p> <p>Creve Coeur 10:00 AM Bible Study</p> <p>6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>																																																	
<p><b>23</b></p> <p><b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> 9:00 AM</p> <p><i>All-congregation Presentation</i> 10:15 AM</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study</p> <p>6:00-7:00 PM</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>																																																	
<p><b>30</b></p> <p><b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> 9:00 AM</p> <p>Sunday School/Bible Study 10:15 AM</p>					<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">May 2023</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		May 2023							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			
May 2023																																																							
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																																																				