



Hope on the Hill

Newsletter

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 9

Pastor's Letter

For I, the LORD your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, "Do not fear, I will help you." *Isaiah 41:13*
What scares you or what are you afraid of?

Almost a silly question for neither you nor I, nor anyone, can say they have never been afraid or scared.

I remember those sweaty palms when waiting to take an essay test in seminary. Can I remember - will the questions be of something I studied or catch me scratching my head in panic. Recently COVID scared us all. Will wearing a mask suffice, will using disinfectant work and make sure we all keep our distance or stay home?

When I go to the doctor and he/she says...well, let's do some more tests. Or after the diagnosis, what is the best treatment for health and or further life. In thinking of your "life partner," are there better ways we could support or be of help or holding hands in comfort.

When I was younger than 10 and had learned to swim, my friends pestered me to climb the ladder of the high dive and jump! Oh, I did it, scared and all. If you ask me why today, I'm not sure I would have a good answer.

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love

Are there directions, places that God in Christ might be calling you and you are saying..."are you sure?" We pray and often the answer, like Peter in the boat asking Jesus to bid him come ON the water. Jesus simply says: "come." Afraid, yes, for when he saw the winds and waves he began to sink. Notice it says, "immediately" Jesus reaches for him.

Then there are times when we would like to hide from God. Like Elijah in the cave on Mount Horeb or Jonah taking a ship to Tarshish to get away from the presence of God.

Jonah 1:1-3

Jonah Tries to Run Away from God

1 Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, ²"Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it, for their wickedness has come up before me."³ But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

Of course hiding in a cave like Elijah or boarding a ship like Jonah doesn't

take away the fear, it just means we are hiding.

Two things that keep coming to my heart and spirit:

- Jesus doesn't debate but immediately reaches for us even when we are sinking amid the waves of life.

- What we are afraid of can still be faced in peace when we realize we can't "hide" from God and as Isaiah says: "do not fear for I will help you."

Now, it may not seem clear as you crack the door open, wondering what might be next on a new day. Just realize you are never alone and God's help will come when you "reach out your hand" whether in prayer or the presence of God in someone else near to you.

Summer is ending and Fall beginning, just remember you are never alone and Jesus' hand reaches for you no matter what stage of life or direction you are to go. You are part of God's heart in Christ!

A reminder that "Puppets for Jesus" will be with us on Sunday morning, September 24th.

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.



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Prayer Concerns

Garold Burkholder (health concerns)
Nancy Atkinson (recovering from surgery)
David Aper (brother of Rita Wahl, health concerns)
Simon & Judy Aper (Rita's brother and sister-in-law, health concerns)
Paul Sipka (health concerns)
Becky Murray (Beth Dralle's sister, recurrence of lymphoma)
Finn Davis (5 yr. old grandson of Ann & Alton Davis, doing well with treatments for leukemia)
Jim & Mary Kay Johnson (health concerns)
Lil Marzinik (Sue Barger's mother, health concerns)
Chloe (Sue & Mike's niece, diagnosed with lupus)
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

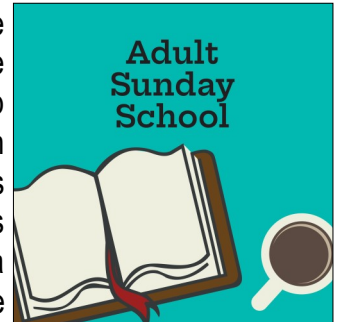
COVID-19
UPDATES

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



Sunday School resumes on September 17!

The Adult Sunday School class will be starting September 17th in the Gathering Room. Stop by once or come when you can! This year we're going to start by studying the names and attributes of God by looking up scripture and having informal discussions. Come and practice or begin practicing looking up scriptures in the Bible. We will have several Bibles to choose from (including large print) or bring your own! The coffee pot is on for any that stick around! We do not meet on days when we have a whole congregation Sunday School. For September, that will be September 24.



Puppets for Jesus!

We look forward to having Puppets for Jesus at Our Savior! Be sure to stay after the worship service on September 24 so you can enjoy their unique ministry!

There are several openings on the flower chart for September, so you may wish to sign up for a Sunday. Thank you.



This month we will be singing hymns that YOU have requested! Pastor and Tim will work them into the worship services in September (and October if necessary.)



Lily Fleming
318 N. Ninth Street
Monmouth, IL 61462

lfleming@monmouthcollege.edu
OR lilyfleming05@gmail.com

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

Check-out procedures for the Church Library:

1. Walk to the library (between the sanctuary doors and the office.)
2. Pick out a book.
3. Take the book home.
4. Read the book.
5. Return the book.

(Repeat steps 2-5)

Book reviews are always welcome!



MORE NEWS & INFORMATION

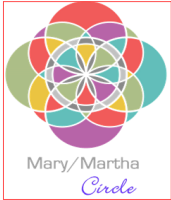


Men's Coffee/Breakfast Group

The next gathering will be
Thursday, Sept. 21
7:30 a.m. at Main Street Family
Restaurant in Creve Coeur.



The next Zoom Fellowship is
Monday, September 11
at 7:00 p.m.
Lee will send an email link to the
meeting prior to that evening.
Hope you can join in!



The Mary/Martha Circle
will meet on
Wednesday, September 20, 9:30 a.m.

All women are welcome!



The next Supper Out will be
Sunday, September 24
at 6:00 p.m. at
Obed and Isaac's,
321 NE Madison Avenue,
Peoria. A sign up sheet has
been posted at OSLC.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry group will meet
on Tuesday, September 19, at 9:30 a.m.



Pastor Barnes leads the Thursday Morning Bible
Study each week. The group begins at 10:00 a.m.
and goes until 11:30 a.m. You are welcome to
come whenever you can!

thank you

Council has appointed Meri Arnold as
a teller. Thanks for volunteering!



Our Financial Secretary, Susan Foss, has
been working on the financial statements for
the first half of 2023. They will be set out for
you to pick up once they are available.

Who, me? Yes, you!

The Bible is filled with people who don't feel up to the challenge of serving God, speaking for God or leading his people. But God always knows what he's doing. Pastor Haviland Houston issues this challenge: "When you are hesitant to act, or feel a failure of nerve coming on, when courage lags, or even if laziness and the 'I don't care' blues get you down, may the words of Mordecai to Esther burn in your hearts and minds: 'And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?'" (See Esther 4:14.)

Max Lucado offers a similar reminder in *You Were Made for This Moment*. "God always has his person," he writes, also citing the book of Esther. "When we feel as though everything is falling apart, God is working in our midst, causing everything to fall into place. He is the King of quiet providence, and he invites you and me to partner with him in his work."

Lucado continues: "[God] has a Joseph for every famine and a David for every Goliath. When his people need rescuing, God calls a Rahab into service. When a baby Moses needs a mama, God prompts an Egyptian princess to have compassion. He always has his person. He had someone in the story of Esther. And in your story he has you."

from www.churchart.com

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR SEPTEMBER

Please switch with someone as needed.

	LAY ASSISTANT	LAY READER	USHERS	TELLERS	COMMUNION Set up & Clean up	PARAMENT COLOR
September 03	Tim	Dennis	Larry	Tim & Leslie	Lee & Mary	Green
September 10	Melanie	Mary Sipka	Ken	Ken & Valerie	Linda & Carol	Green
September 17	Meri	Dennis	Dennis	Ken & Valerie	Lee & Mary	Green
September 24	Dennis	Sue	Mark	Tim & Leslie	Linda & Carol	Green

SEPTEMBER FLOWER CHART

September 03	
September 10	
September 17	Beth—In Memory of Phil & Beth Dralle's 50th Anniversary
September 24	

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

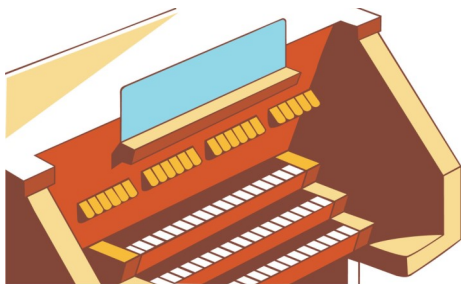
We continue to stay steady financially. **Thank you!!**
You may wish to mail your offerings to Our Savior if you cannot attend worship.



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

The Finance Committee would like to encourage donations to the Capital Improvement Fund. Recent and upcoming improvements include the parking lot, landscaping, and tuckpointing the chimney over the library.

We hope to add Kevin Stark as one of our organists/musicians soon. He has played at many churches and funeral homes in the area. He will be a great addition along with our Lead Organist, Lillian Pinkston, and our 4th/5th Sunday organist, Jill Rimington.

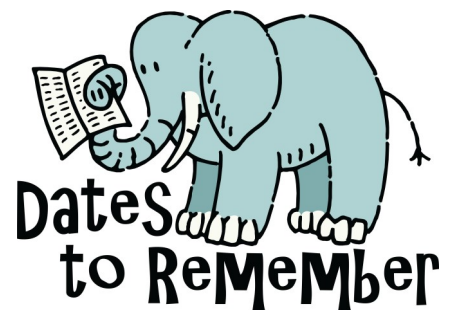


~Worship & Music Committee



LOOKING AHEAD:

- **October is Stewardship Month**
- **Sunday, Oct. 8**—Weiner Roast
- **Sunday, October 15**—All Congregation Presentation
- **Saturday, Oct. 28**—Trunk or Treat
- **Sunday, October 29**—Reformation



Anniversaries & Birthdays

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Bud & Sandy Brooks—September 12
(Phil & Beth Dralle—September 22)
Mike & Courtney Dralle—September 29



Sept. 10—Jacque Davis	
Sept. 19—Maddison Baal	
Sept. 20—Rita Wahl	
Sept. 21—Garold Burkholder	
Sept. 27—Pastor Barnes	



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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*

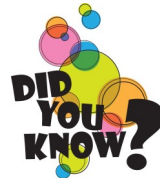
Call the Church office with your prayer request: 346-2600 or email: oslcekin1@gmail.com. An email will be sent to all members when a prayer request is received. Members without an email address may ask that they be called when a prayer request is sent out.

► *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 the Dralles*)
- 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



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!

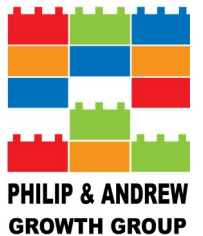


CONTACT US AT:

(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.***



*If you have information you want to be in the next 'Hope on the Hill', please email Leslie Leitner **by Sunday, September 17***

at leithaus@gmail.com. Thank you!

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
	Mary Sorenson	Outreach	Msorenson75@gmail.com
	Sharon Eggemeyer	Finance	sjemh@yahoo.com
<i>Treasurer</i>	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 Faith Lutheran in Washington 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

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

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.

SEPTEMBER 2023 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																	
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WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM	 Labor Day	6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics		10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics																																																			
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WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Property meeting after worship	 9/11 Patriot Day <i>Never Forget</i> 7:00 PM Zoom Mtg. Mutual Ministry Meeting	6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	6:00 PM Finance 7:00 PM Committee Meetings Outreach/Chris Ed, W & M	10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics		Pastor on vacation																																																	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23																																																	
WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Rally Sunday Sunday School/Bible Study 10:15 AM		9:30 AM Prayer Shawls 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	9:30 AM Mary/Martha 7:00 PM Council Meeting	Men's Group 7:30 AM Creve Coeur 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics		Pastor back from vacation																																																	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30																																																	
WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM PUPPETS FOR JESUS 10:15 AM 6:00 PM Dinner Out		6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics		10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">October 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>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		October 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				
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