



## Hope on the Hill

Newsletter

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 1

### A Letter from Tim

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love

Happy New Year!

We now transition from the holiday season to more normal life. It will take a few times typing or printing 2023 then correcting it to the new year, 2024.

On the first Sunday of this month, January 7th, we will be celebrating Epiphany during worship and at the Epiphany party following the service. The party promises a coffee fellowship and an Epiphany craft project. Then on the last Sunday of January, the 28th, we will have our annual congregational meeting following worship.

There really is no scripture for the new year but January 1st is the observance of the 'Name of Jesus'. The assigned Psalm for this day leads us to celebrate God's name

and causes us to reflect on our place in the order of God's creation.

An excerpt from Psalm 8:

O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;

These words remind us, though we are a small part of all God's creation, God has granted us an important role in His creation; to care for and not waste or misuse what God has created. Our efforts to be better stewards of God's creation have never been more important than in our world today.

So as we begin this new year, I pray for good health for our congregation and encourage us all to take better care of God's creation.

Let us celebrate and look forward to the new year and give thanks for God.

God's blessings,

Tim



**OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
2223 SHERIDAN ROAD  
PEKIN, IL 61554

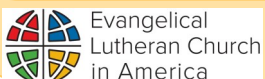
**Pastor: Rev. Stephen Barnes**  
Email: [barnes.stephen9@gmail.com](mailto:barnes.stephen9@gmail.com)

**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](mailto:oslcpekin1@gmail.com)  
**Website:** [www.oslchopeonthehill.org](http://www.oslchopeonthehill.org)

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



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

### Prayer Concerns

**Dave Sanders** (at Independence Village)  
**Carolyn** (Mike Barger's sister, health concerns)  
**Family of Carol Guenther** (  
**Garold Burkholder** (health concerns)  
**David Aper** (brother of Rita Wahl, health concerns)  
**Paul Sipka** (health concerns)  
**Becky Murray** (Beth Dralle's sister, recurrence of lymphoma)  
**Finn Davis** (grandson of Ann & Alton Davis, doing well with leukemia)  
**Jim & Mary Kay Johnson** (health concerns; Mary Kay is at The Loft in East Peoria)  
**Marithaza Barger** (chronic hip problems)  
**Lil Marzinzik** (Sue Barger's mother, health concerns)  
**Chad Wahl**

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

# NEWS & EVENTS



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



The 2024 Annual Meeting of Our Savior Lutheran Church will be **Sunday, January 28, 2024** following the 9:00 a.m. Worship Service.



Annual Reports from each Committee are due **January 4, 2024.** Please email your report to Lori at **oslcpkin1@gmail.com**



**EPIPHANY PARTY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**  
Sunday, January 7  
after the worship service



Once each month, we have an **All-Congregation Presentation** after the Sunday Worship Service. **January's All-Congregational Presentation will be Sunday, January 21, 2024.** Our speaker will be the **Chaplain** at the Illinois River Correctional Facility in Canton, **Karen Norman-Rees.**



Thank you so very much for all that participated with Angel Tree this year. Thank you also to Rita Wahl.  
-Meri Arnold

Caroling was fun! This year 14 carolers went to three different homes following the church service & Coffee Fellowship on Sunday, December 10th. It was great to sing to and visit with Garold & Deena, and Jim Johnson.



Carol Guenther passed away on Monday, December 4, 2023. Her memorial service was at Our Savior Lutheran on Monday, December 18. Inurnment will be at Camp Butler National Cemetery in Springfield. She taught in Pekin for 17 years, primarily in the Learning Center at Sunset Elementary and Edison Junior High. Following retirement she went to work part time at Pekin Hospital Women's League and was a member of the Retired Teachers Association and AAUW. Carol loved to read, spend time with her games group and traveling, especially her trips to Mexico. Memorial contributions may be made to Our Savior Lutheran Church or Edison Jr. High in memory of Carol Guenther.

# MORE NEWS & INFORMATION



## Men's Coffee/Breakfast Group

The next gathering will be  
**Thursday, January 18**  
**7:30 a.m. at**  
**PEKIN AMERICAN GRILL**  
 on Court Street



Zoom Fellowship  
**Monday, January 8**  
 7:00 p.m.

Lee will send an email link to the meeting prior to that evening.



Mary/Martha Circle  
 meets on  
 Wednesday, January 17, 9:30 a.m.  
 at Our Savior

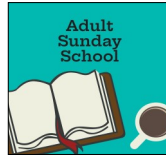


Pastor Barnes leads the  
**Thursday Morning Bible**  
**Study** each week. The  
 group begins at **10:00**  
**a.m.** and goes until  
 11:30 a.m. You are welcome to come  
 whenever you can!



## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry group  
 will meet on **Tuesday, January 9,**  
 at **9:30 a.m.** at the church.  
*We would appreciate any regular weight  
 yarn donations—we have a good supply  
 of white at this time but need some colors. Thank  
 you!! Come join us to make shawls or lap blankets!*



The Adult Sunday School class is held in the  
 Gathering Room. We are studying the names  
 and attributes of God by looking up scripture  
 and having informal discussions. We have  
 several Bibles to choose from (including large print) or bring  
 your own! There will be coffee available.



Beautiful images of our 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve  
 Candlelight Service taken by Lily Fleming

## Thanks

Thanks to all who participated  
 in the All OSLC Sunday School  
 event on Sunday, November 12.  
 It was a celebration of OSLC  
 US Veterans and a fundraiser for  
 US military serving overseas through  
 cooperation with Operation Santa. A total  
 of \$93 was raised and donated to  
 Operation Santa.

-Outreach & Fellowship

Thanks to everyone who brought food for all the  
 coffee fellowships in December. A special thanks to  
 everyone who brought food and helped put together  
 the luncheon following Carol Guenther's funeral.

-Mark McCarrell, Council President



Our Savior would like to thank Susan Foss for her many years as our Financial Secretary. She has been responsible for keeping track of our offerings and other contributions, compiling the quarterly financial statements for us, and preparing the offering envelopes. We truly appreciate all she has done!

We are blessed to have Bruce Gettman taking over as our Financial Secretary beginning January 1. Susan and Tim Leitner worked together to prepare him for this position and we look forward to his service.





# WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR JANUARY

*Please switch with someone as needed.*

	LAY ASSISTANT	LAY READER	USHERS	TELLERS	COMMUNION Set up & Clean up	PARAMENT COLOR
January 07	Melanie	Roberta	Leo	Tim & Ken	Tim & Leslie	White
January 14	Melanie	Sue	Mark	Leo & Roberta	Lee & Mary	Green
January 21	Meri	Larry	Larry	Meri & Valerie	Linda & Sue H.	Green
January 28	Dennis	Mary Sipka	Leo	Leo & Roberta	Tim & Leslie	Green

*The 2024 Flower Chart is posted—be sure to sign up for a Sunday or more!*

## JANUARY FLOWER CHART

January 07	
January 14	
January 21	
January 28	

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.

### Thank you for donating the poinsettia plants, which have been so beautiful in the sanctuary:

- Mark & Chris McCarrell for their parents, Lillian & Bill Pinkston and Merrill & Katherine McCarrell
- Elsa Keas in memory of Bill Keas and Carolyn Murphy
- Tim & Leslie Leitner in honor of their parents
- Leo & Roberta Stiles in memory of their parents
- Larry & Darlene Daniels for the Glory to God
- Valerie Gettys in memory of Dale Gettys
- The Atkinsons for blessings received and our two daughters
- Vicki Rayburn in memory of Jack & Marilyn Whittington
- Pastor & Judy Barnes in memory of parents and brother
- Bill & Melanie Fleming in honor of loved ones
- Dennis & Sharon Eggemeyer in memory of Bill Keas and Del & Martha Eggemeyer



Poinsettias



Thank you very much to each and every one who helped at all the with the funeral lunch for Carol Guenther's funeral. We served 50+ people and could not have done it without you. Thank you, thank you!

Darlene & Roberta

“Although no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.”  
—Carl Bard

## LOOKING AHEAD

- **Wednesday, February 14:** Ash Wednesday

# Anniversaries & Birthdays

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

### JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES



Jan. 2—Courtney Dralle	
Jan. 6—Wayne Foss	
Jan. 20—Melanie Fleming	
Jan. 22—Leo Stiles	
Jan. 31—Linda Tanner	

### 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: oslcpekin1@gmail.com.*

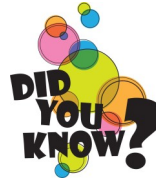
*An email will be sent to all members when a prayer request is received. Members without an email address may ask that they be called when a prayer request is sent out.*

► *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!



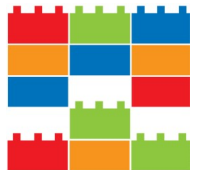
**CONTACT US AT:**

**(309) 346-2600**

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

**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!

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!



**PHILIP & ANDREW GROWTH GROUP**



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, January 21***

*at leithaus@gmail.com. Thank you!*

## 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.

**EPIPHANY**



Epiphany beckons us to come to the light of Jesus Christ. Epiphany calls us to stare into that light until our inner darkness is fully expunged. Epiphany then sends us out into a dark and weary world as women and men with shining faces, until we say with the apostle Paul, "It is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" [see 2 Corinthians 4:6].

—Jason Gaboury, campus minister in New York City



### 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](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.**

# JANUARY 2024 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																	
 <b>January</b>	<b>1</b>  <i>New Year's Day</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10:00 AM Bible Study  6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>																																																	
<b>7</b> <b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> 10:15 AM <i>Coffee Fellowship</i> <b>EPIPHANY PARTY</b>	<b>8</b> 9:30 AM Prayer Shawls  7:00 PM Zoom Fellowship	<b>9</b> 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	<b>10</b> 6:30 PM Finance  7:00 PM Committee Meetings Outreach/Chris Ed, W & M	<b>11</b> 10:00 AM Bible Study  6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>																																																	
<b>14</b> <b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Sunday School/ Bible Study 10:15 AM	<b>15</b>  <b>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY</b>	<b>16</b> 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	<b>17</b> 7:00 PM Council Meeting	<b>18</b> 7:30 AM Men's Group Pekin American Grill  10:00 AM Bible Study  6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>																																																	
<b>21</b> <b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> 10:15 AM All-Congregation Presentation	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10:00 AM Bible Study  6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>																																																	
<b>28</b> <b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> 10:15 AM <b>ANNUAL MEETING</b> 	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	<b>31</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">February 2024</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></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			February 2024							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		
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