



Hope on the Hill

Hospitality Outreach Proclamation Education Helping Individuals Live in Love

A Letter from Pastor

God is Our Refuge and Strength – Psalm 46

As we slip and slide through the ice and cold awaiting the warmer weather. As we witness the struggles and hatred of our world, we pray for peace and understanding. As we see those who see but don't, hear but can't, we pray that Jesus will lay upon their hearts the gift of discernment.

Read all of Psalm 46...but a reminder in these 2 verses: *God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.*

To be still and know God is with you, is critical. Amid our community, nation and world we are reminded that God is also our refuge which makes hearing and seeing much different.

To help in our journey we have Lent just around the corner!

Ash Wednesday is February 14 with mid-week services at 7 p.m. using the "Haugen Evening Prayer." Thanks to Sonja Sanders for playing. The Sundays of Lent take us up to Holy week which begins with Palm/Passion Sunday on March 24th; Maundy Thursday – March 28; Good Friday – March 29; and EASTER on March 31.

Our theme for Wednesdays deals with "Lament." Too often we are quick to push aside the uncomfortable feelings of grief and loss. We will explore how we should in prayer and life place all in God's hands for He is our refuge and strength.

Our theme on Sundays is entitled "Guided to the Cross." We are drawn to Calvary to live in forgiveness, hope, love, peace, trust and perseverance. Each week the services will reveal how Christ and his cross serve as examples for us of how to live our lives for and through our crucified Lord and Savior. This gives us a time to "Be still, and know that I am God!"

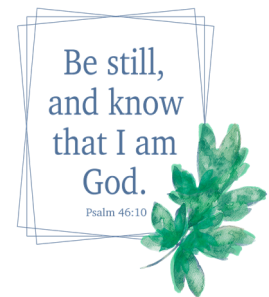
Be looking for our "Lenten

Mailing!" This will include: Calendar; Devotional Booklet; Coin – "Grace and Peace to you" and a guide for our time together from Ash Wednesday to Easter.

Continue to be safe during the many changes of weather. Pray for those who have needs, lonely or facing difficulties, whether part of OSLC or beyond. Together we are the Body of Christ and always stronger together than apart.

As I always share on Sundays...*Now may the Lord bless and keep you. Make his face to shine upon you. Lift up His countenance upon you and give to you His peace.*

Blessings,
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.



www.elca.org

Prayer Concerns

Dave Sanders (at Independence Village)
Carolyn (Mike Barger's sister, health concerns)
Garold Burkholder (health concerns)
David Aper (brother of Rita Wahl, health concerns)
Paul Sipka (health concerns)
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.



ASH WEDNESDAY
Worship

Our **Ash Wednesday Service** is 7:00 p.m.
February 14.



Our **9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service**
theme is
"Guided to the Cross."



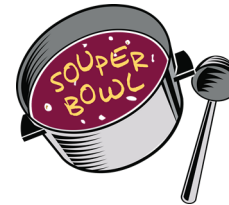
Our **7:00 p.m. Wednesday Lenten Services** theme is "Holy Lament."
Thank you to Sonja Sanders who will be playing piano for the Haugen Evening Prayer.

The Mary/Martha Circle is again this year requesting items for health kits:

- 1 towel & washcloth
- 1 comb
- 1 nail clippers or file
- 1 bar wrapped bath size soap[
- 1 new toothbrush (individually wrapped)
- 4-7 oz. tube of toothpaste
- 1 shampoo 6-15 oz.
- 1 disposable razor
- 1 deodorant (1.0-2 oz.)



There will be a box where you can place your items—thank you!



Our Savior will again participate in the National Souper Bowl of Caring with cans of soup and/or other nonperishables to be collected and donated to Christian Civic Outreach (CCO) through Superbowl Sunday, February 11.

Dave has a new room number:

Dave Sanders
Independence Village
Room #314
1201 W. Northmoor Road
Peoria, IL 61614



Delivered to Christian Civic Outreach from the OSLC Mitten Tree:

- 23 Pairs of Gloves and Mittens
- 11 Stocking Caps
- 3 Stocking Cap-Mitten Combinations
- 2 Pairs of Sox
- 39 Total Items**

Thank you from CCO,
Lee



Thank you to Meri Arnold for replacing the ribbons in our hymnals!

MORE NEWS & INFORMATION

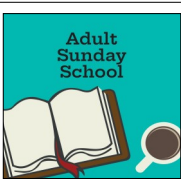


Men's Coffee/Breakfast Group

The next gathering will be
Thursday, February 15
7:30 a.m.



Mary/Martha Circle
meets on
Wednesday, February 21, 9:30 a.m.
at Our Savior



The Adult Sunday School class is held in the Gathering Room after the worship service. 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.



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!



On Sunday, January 21 our All Congregation speaker was Pastor Karen Norman Rees. She is a Chaplain in Prison Ministry at the Illinois River Correctional Center in Canton, Illinois. She explained her background and where she has been in service. We learned of the many duties she performs at the correctional center, including planning worship services for all religions; being the liaison to the community; she is the volunteer coordinator, and more. The facility is currently a medium security prison, with 1,850 individuals in custody.

Pastor Karen also preaches once a month at Wiley Lutheran Church in Ellisville, IL.

Have you ever neared the completion of a jigsaw puzzle, only to discover that a piece or two is missing? That's an apt visual for what it's like to live without God. Blaise Pascal, a 17th-century philosopher, observed: "There is a God-shaped vacuum in the heart of each man which cannot be satisfied by any created thing but only by God the Creator, made known through Jesus Christ."

Centuries earlier, St. Augustine proclaimed "Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in thee." And in the Old Testament, the writer of Ecclesiastes expounded on the meaninglessness of earthly striving and material pursuits. Only God's Spirit can fill our emptiness and satisfy our eternal longings.



"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full," says Jesus in John 10:10 (NIV). He alone provides the solution for emptiness. What comfort to be filled with — and to find our fulfillment in — our Savior!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



The Prayer Shawl Ministry group will meet on **Tuesday, February 13,** 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!

SUPPER OUT



The next Supper Out will be **Sunday, February 18** at **6:00 p.m.** at **Weaver's Fresh Food and Drink,** 7301 N. Radnor Rd., , Peoria.

The Zoom call meetings are *suspended* until we learn of more participants. Thank you!



WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR FEBRUARY

Please switch with someone as needed.

	LAY ASSISTANT	LAY READER	USHERS	TELLERS	COMMUNION Set up & Clean up	PARAMENT COLOR
February 04		Roberta	Dennis	Leo & Roberta		Green
February 11	Dennis	Mary Sipka	Mark	Meri & Valerie	Linda & Sue H.	White
February 18	Meri	Sue	Leo	Tim & Leslie	Tim & Leslie	Purple
February 25	Dennis	Larry	Larry	Leo & Roberta	Linda & Sue H.	Purple

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

FEBRUARY FLOWER CHART

February 04	Bargers—Sue's birthday
February 11	
February 18	
February 25	Bargers—Mike'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!!**
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.

LOOKING AHEAD TO MARCH

- **Sunday, March 24:** Palm Sunday
- **Thursday, March 28:** Maundy Thursday
- **Friday, March 29:** Good Friday
- **Sunday, March 31:** Easter



**Proposed dates for the annual Rummage Sale are
Friday, April 26
And Saturday, April 27**

CROSS OF ASHES



On Ash Wednesday, as Lent begins, worshipers' foreheads are often marked with ashes in the sign of the cross. The ashes traditionally come from burning palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday. In the Old Testament, ashes were a sign of mourning and repentance.

Today, some worshipers wipe off the ashes before leaving church, to symbolize being cleansed from sin by Jesus' death; others wear the ashes the rest of the day, carrying the cross of Christ into the world. Reciting Genesis 3:19 often accompanies the placement of ashes: "You are dust, and to dust you shall return."

from www.churchart.com



Anniversaries & Birthdays

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Wayne & Susan Foss—February 8

Pastor & Judy Barnes—February 17



Feb. 4—Gayle Gettman

Feb. 7—Sue Barger

Feb. 8—Dennis Eggemeyer

Feb. 15—Paul Sipka

Feb. 29—Mike Barger

Be sure to wish Mike happy birthday as this year is Leap Year & he gets to celebrate on his day!!



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

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!*



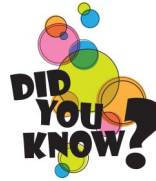
We continue to pray for those in the Military:

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!



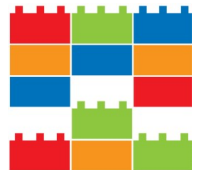
CONTACT US AT:

(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

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

Our Savior
Newsletter
Lutheran

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 **WEDNESDAY, February 22***

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
<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.



The 2024 Annual Meeting of Our Savior Lutheran Church was held on Sunday, January 28, 2024.

Next month's newsletter will have the updated list of council members, officers, and committee assignments.



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.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.

FEBRUARY 2024 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																								
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11 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Sunday School/ Bible Study 10:15 AM Finance Mtg	12	13 9:30 AM Prayer Shawls 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	14  ASH WEDNESDAY <i>Worship</i> 7:00 PM Worship Service Outreach & Fellowship mtg?	15 7:30 AM Men's Group 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	16	17																																																								
18 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Sunday School/ Bible Study 10:15 AM SUPPER OUT 6:00 PM	19	20 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	21 9:30 AM Mary/Martha 7:00 PM Lenten Service Council mtg after worship	22 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	23	24																																																								
25 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Sunday School/ Bible Study 10:15 AM	26	27 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	28 7:00 PM Lenten Service	29 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00-7:00 PM Aerobics	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">March 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></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		March 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	30	31						
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