



The Roadrunner

November 2025



The approach of All Saints Day is a very special time of year for many, and I include myself in that category. My first Sunday as your pastor was All Saints Day and each year since it has become a time to mark our life together in the year prior. Through stories I learned from you, and eventually my own lived experience I have come to know and love the saints of Our Saviour's - past, present, future. This month, I wanted to take a moment to look back on my November Road Runner reflections over the past four years:

2021 - I look forward to meeting you in worship, in your home, at your school or office, or any of the many places where our paths will begin to cross in the coming weeks and months. One of the earliest church builders, Paul, instructed the people of Corinth, "Let all that you do be done in love." (1 Corinthians 14:16). This is a good place to start as Christ points us to a life and community grounded in love for God, one another, and the creation around us. Let's move forward together in this love.

2022 - We are one year into our journey together and I join you in wondering (and sometimes, worrying) about the next steps. When we embrace the liminal space, we follow in the steps of Jesus, who stopped to look deeply, listened to people who were often ignored, told stories, and took time for dinner with strangers.

2023 - We have much to be grateful for at Our Saviour's. Vicar Wendi Van Beek has begun her internship as she learns more about serving as an ELCA deacon and leads us to live out our faith in action. We celebrated with Pastor Glenn Schrader as he was ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament on October 22, 2023. Pastor Glenn will begin his role with the congregation on January 2, 2023. Both of these leaders will be focused on accompanying and equipping you in faith and action as we grow ministry together.

2024 - In places of division, we can be people who model listening, compassion, and response. One of the best guides is our teacher Martin Luther, who explains the 8th Commandment ("Do not bear false witness") as a way to see another person's words and intentions in the best light. Instead of anger and defense, may we receive others with curiosity and empathy.

It is now 2025, and another All Saints Day. Soon it will be Advent and the beginning of the new church year. As I look back at the past year, we have continued to experience the hills and valleys of life as a congregation. We have experienced great loss through death and other goodbyes. We have experienced great joy in reconnections, new ministry, and welcoming new members. In this year of significant challenge on a national scale, we are called to speak truthfully with the clear love and compassion of Christ. To quote from the group clergy statement, we have seen "daily assaults against God's beloved creation, including human decency, and especially including persons on the margins and most vulnerable. God's way of freedom, justice, and love is a path forward for all people. Instead of division, we can work together to help workers, families, and communities thrive. Instead of scarcity, we can work together to encourage growth and flourishing for people and the planet" (www.bearwitnessnow.org).

-Pastor Amalia

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Online Offering

We have partnered with the ELCA and Tithely to offer secure online giving. Scan the image below using your smart phone to make your offering.

**Council Corner - Jennifer Strand****November 2025**

We welcomed Joanna Keyl to her first meeting as Member at Large. It was so special to have all of the Council members present at the meeting. The devotion reminded us that congregations are important for praising God. Financially we are doing well. October was an expensive month because we paid the annual property tax. The Finance committee has begun to work on the 2026 budget.

Several property matters were discussed. The installation of handicap toilets, grab bars, and a new baby changing table in the Sanctuary bathrooms was completed. Quality Air has completed their list of all of our HVAC systems. This list included the status of each unit for future planning. We are looking into getting our Activity Building Kitchen certified for commercial use.

There were visitors at the meeting presenting two topics to the Council. Paula Miller suggested that to feed the soul of unhoused musicians we support an Open Mic event. This would involve a place on our campus where for a designated time musicians and poets could come and work on their art. This was a preliminary discussion so there was no vote. Lutheran Campus Ministry gave us an update on the Center of Grace. A feasibility study was completed and a copy was given to the Council. They will keep us informed about next steps.

Committees have been busy. The Nominating Committee has been gathering names for Council seats and the Synod Assembly. The committee that did a thorough Pastor Evaluation Report in conjunction with Pastor Amalia has completed their work.

In a continuation of the 2024 vote to invest the quarterly payment from a non-endowment bequest account in our community and congregation the Council designated the following use of these funds: \$1,000 to Grace St. Paul's to further support their helping people in need; \$1,000 to Sunnyside Foundation; and \$1,000 to San Juan Bautista. Further, Council suggested a note of support for Grace St. Paul's work.

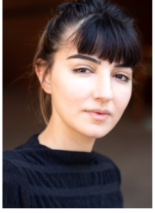
The Celebration of the 80th Anniversary of Our Saviour's took place on October 25th with a History Walk and catered lunch. We can continue to celebrate our history and look to the future of our congregation in the months to come.

Welcome to New Members

On Sunday, October 25, 2025 we joyfully welcomed the following new members to Our Saviour's: Eric Howard, Katie and Curtis Kline (Theodore and Raphael), Richard Miller, Jr., Vivianna Pederson, Scott Seal, and Justin Schneider.

Affirming their membership were Joanna Keyl and Mary Wildner-Bassett.

We are grateful for the ways they enliven and enrich the community. We celebrate all newcomers, visitors, and friends - you are welcome as you are.



As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, our thoughts turn to gratitude and the simple joys that bring us together. Music has a special way of expressing those feelings, uniting voices and hearts in shared appreciation. This month, the Chancel Choir is preparing two beautiful pieces that capture the spirit of thankfulness in different ways.

There Is No One Like Jesus, arranged by Joseph M. Martin, is full of rhythmic vitality and warmth. Its lively character and expressive harmonies celebrate love, hope, and the strength found in community.

In contrast, Thanks Be To Thee by G. F. Handel, arranged by Roger Shaw, offers a moment of calm reflection. With its graceful phrasing and elegant simplicity, this piece reminds us to pause and appreciate life's many blessings, both big and small.

Together, these works invite us to celebrate gratitude in all its forms through joyful expression, quiet reflection, and shared moments of music-making. May these songs encourage us to notice and appreciate the good around us.

We have been very grateful for Betsy Dunlap's presence as our Interim Collaborative Musician. Betsy has agreed to stay with us for a few months longer. We have decided to reopen our search for a collaborative musician in the coming year. More details to come, but for now, we are thankful for Betsy's beautiful gift of music.

Lutheran Campus Ministry - Deacon Wendi Van Beek**November 2025**

What does it mean to love our neighbor?

This is a question we have been talking about over the past few months at Lutheran Campus Ministry.



Lutheran Campus Ministry
at University of Arizona

When we hear the Greatest Commandment, we are given the directive to love God and love our neighbors as ourselves. While, I think, we all have our image of God, and what it means to love God, we can stumble sometimes when it comes to the idea of loving our neighbor. We question who fits the definition of neighbor. Is it people in the immediate vicinity of our homes? Is it people in the immediate vicinity of Our Saviour's and the LCM house? Is it just those folks in our hometown, or Tucson? And how do we love those with whom we disagree? Who we might even call our enemy? These are divisive times, for sure. And we often draw lines in the sand between "us" and "them" and decide that the "them" are impossible to love. And, to be sure, sometimes the best way that we can show love is to pray for those that we cannot be in a healthy relationship with. Yet we are called to love and serve one another in Christ-like love. And work to be rooted in the Word of God, to proclaim God's love to all the neighbors, wherever we might find ourselves. So, as we all travel in our discipleship journey, may we all reach out in love and service to our neighbors!

2026 Generosity Appeal - Pie & Purpose

This month we are learning about the economics of our own households and our congregation. Through stories in worship, learn how Our Saviour's is carrying out God's mission. On Sunday, November 2, join us after worship for a detailed conversation about what we receive as a congregation and how we use it. This month, members will receive a mailed letter inviting you to consider your giving for 2026. On Sunday, November 16, we'll gather after worship for a meal of chicken pot pie and pumpkin pie, share stories with one another, and offer our Statements of Intent for the coming year.

How to support Interfaith Community Services' Holiday Food Drive

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

November to December 31

The ICS Food Bank gratefully accepts prepackaged, canned, non-perishable and in-date items.

Holiday Items Needed

Instant, canned, or fresh potatoes and yams

Cranberry sauce

Canned veggies especially green beans and corn

Boxed and bagged stuffing mix

Boxed baking mixes (Bisquick, Jiffy)

Gravy mix or canned gravy

Canned pumpkin

Cream of mushroom soup

Pantry Staples

Peanut butter

Canned meats: tuna, chicken, Spam, etc.

Meals in pop-top cans: chili, ravioli, etc.

Pasta

Canned fruits and vegetables

Please put items in the shopping cart that is on the patio on Sundays.

Youth On Their Own

At Youth On Their Own, there is a place, known as the MiniMall, where your in-kind donations are shelved in a store format. Students have access to the MiniMall once a week, either online or by visiting in person. As of 9/10/2025, the wish list from the YOTO website contains the list shown below. At the moment, the item in particular need is underwear for teenage boys and girls. School supplies are also in demand, as the school year is now underway. Thank you so much for your generosity. The YOTO personnel are always so happy to see me with the donations from Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. **Food:** Individually packaged snacks (chips, granola bars, trail mix, fruit snacks, jerky, etc.), Mac & cheese cups, Raman cups & pouches, Dry pasta, Pasta sauce (no glass please), Canned fruit, Shelf-stable milk (dairy & non-dairy) **Hygiene:** Toilet paper, Body wash, Shampoo (full-sized), Conditioner (full-sized), Face wash, Shaving cream, Chapstick, Toothbrushes **Linens/Household:** Full size bath towels (new only), Pillows (new only), Paper towels, Multipurpose cleaner, Toilet cleaner.

Asher Havenhill

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

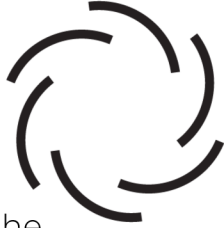
November 2025

For a complete listing of all campus events, please visit our website: www.lutherantucson.org

These are community organized events, held at Our Saviour's.
More information can be found on our Events Page - <https://lutherantucson.org/events-page>

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 Sunday Worship 9AM Sunday Forum - Generosity 10:30AKM Sandwich Making 10:30AM	3 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30pm Pray Without Ceasing Chapel 5:30 PM Book Club 6:30PM Ramada Room Bell Choir sanctuary 6:30pm	4 *Men's Bible Study 7:00AM - AB Scattering Group 9:00 AM Pocket Room Staff Meeting 10:00AM Come and See 11:00AM Centering Prayer 12:15PM Spanish Class AB Café 6:30pm	5 Bible Study 10:30am Pocket Room LCM Dinner and Worship 6:00pm	6 Choir Practice 6:30pm	7 OFFICE CLOSED	8
9 Sunday Worship 9AM Sunday Forum - Temple Talk 10:30AKM Sandwich Making 10:30AM	10 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30pm Bell Choir sanctuary 6:30pm	11 *Men's Bible Study 7:00AM - AB Scattering Group 9:00 AM Pocket Room Quilting 9AM AB Staff Meeting 10:00AM Come and See 11:00AM Centering Prayer 12:15PM Council Meeting 6:30PM Patio Spanish Class AB Café 6:30pm	12 Bible Study 10:30am Pocket Room LCM Dinner and Worship 6:00pm	13 Poz CAFÉ All Day Choir Practice 6:30pm	14 OFFICE CLOSED	15 Grief Support Group 10:00am Ramada Room
16 Giving Sunday Worship 9AM Sunday Forum - Giving Sunday Meal 10:30AKM Sandwich Making 10:30AM	17 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30pm Pray Without Ceasing Chapel 5:30 PM Book Club 6:30PM Ramada Room Bell Choir Sanctuary 6:30pm	18 *Men's Bible Study 7:00AM - AB Scattering Group 9:00 AM Pocket Room Quilting 9AM AB Staff Meeting 10:00AM Come and See 11:00AM Centering Prayer 12:15PM Spanish Class AB Café 6:30pm Council Meeting 6:30pm - Patio Room	19 Bible Study 10:30am Pocket Room LCM Dinner and Worship 6:00pm	20 Choir Practice 6:30pm	21 OFFICE CLOSED	22
23 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM	24 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30pm Bell Choir sanctuary 6:30pm	25 *Men's Bible Study 7:00AM - AB Scattering Group 9:00 AM Pocket Room Staff Meeting 10:00AM Come and See 11:00AM Centering Prayer 12:15PM Spanish Class AB Café 6:30pm	26 Roadrunner Assembly 9:00AM Patio Room Bible Study 10:30am Pocket Room LCM Dinner and Worship 6:00pm	27 Office Closed Thanksgiving	28 OFFICE CLOSED	29
30 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM						

NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS



Come & See - Tuesdays, 11 AM - Patio Room

Weekly faith formation conversations for everyone. This fall we will focus on the upcoming readings for the week. We'll spend time with the "Hidden Gem" reflection prepared by John Indermark, which will take us deeper into one of the texts. Held in the Patio Room. Bring your Bible or borrow one of our Lutheran Study Bibles. Please note the new day and time.

Centering Prayer - Tuesdays, 12:15 - Chapel

Centering Prayer is a form of Christian contemplation that involves sitting in silence, focusing on a sacred word, consenting to God's presence and action within. We pray for 20 minutes. Held in Koch Chapel. Beginners welcome!

Grief Group - November 15, 10AM - Ramada Room

Meets the second Saturday of each month in the Ramada Room at 10:00AM. Led by Pastor Ricki from Hospice of the Valley. Free and open to all.

Pray Without Ceasing - 1st and 3rd Mondays at 5:30 PM - Chapel

Open prayer space on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 5:30.

The service lasts about a half hour. Rooted in Christian tradition, open to Tucson community.

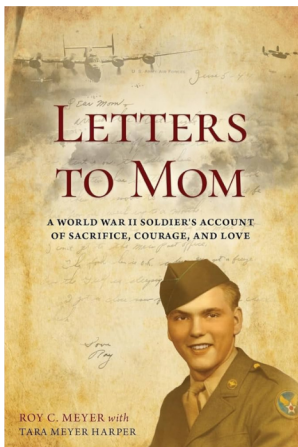
Gospel of Luke Book Study - Monday November 3 and 17 at 6:30PM

Want to take a deeper dive into the Gospel of Luke?

Ever wondered what all those rich person parables are about? Interested in continuing to explore more the words of the Prophets for our world today? If the answer is yes, we invite you to join a Study of the Gospel of Luke through the lens of economic and social justice. A group is forming to study the new book by activist theologian, Ched Myers, *Healing Affluenza and Resisting Plutocracy - Luke's Jesus and Sabbath Economics*.

Join us Monday Nov. 3 and Monday November 17 at 6:30pm to 8pm in the Ramada Room. This journey with Luke will challenge us personally, in our households, and our communities, both locally and globally. Contact: Paula Miller for more information.

Letters to Mom



Tara Harper, daughter of Gerry and the late Roy Meyer recently published "Letters to Mom," a collection of letters from Roy written to his mother while stationed in Grottaglie, Italy during World War II.

About the book:

Well, I am finally done with my training here . . . When I read your letter asking if we sleep on air mattresses, I had a good laugh. We sleep on the ground and like it.

Roy C. Meyer was seventeen when he enlisted in the US Army Air Forces during World War II. Stationed on a base in Grottaglie, Italy, he and his crew dropped bombs on heavily fortified targets.

Time and money don't mean much over here. I never know what day it is. On days we don't fly, time goes slow.

As the 449th Bomb Group suffered heavy losses, mail call was a lifeline. Letters to Mom chronicles Roy's military experiences, from his first day of enlistment to his discharge as the war came to a close. His entertaining accounts provide an intimate look at courage and sacrifice during an extraordinary time in world history.

Don't worry, I am okay and I am sure things will work out alright.

The Meyer family has donated a copy of Letters to Mom to the Our Saviour's library. Copies can also be obtained here: Tucson Public Libraries (hard copy and e-book); Barnes and Noble, Pima Air & Space Museum, Amazon.

Our Saviour's Lutheran Helps Provide Side Dishes for Lot on 22nd Street Thanksgiving Dinner

Mary and Asher Havenhill are again helping with a Thanksgiving Dinner at The Lot on 22nd. A core group of volunteers and people from a local organization (business, school, church, etc.) get together to serve dinner to a group of people who are homeless twice a week. Last year, about 350 people were served a hot Thanksgiving Meal through this effort. Mary and Asher have received \$1000.00 from Council-designated funds for the Thanksgiving Meal. They are also collecting additional donations and looking for volunteers on Thanksgiving day to help prepare sides for the meal. Please see upcoming Sunday Worship bulletins for details.

Save the Date: Rain Garden Work Day

Saturday Morning December 6
Join us as we work on the next phase
of our Rain Garden.



Annual TIHAN Holiday Drive

TIHAN NEWS: SHARE WARMTH AND JOY THROUGH YOUR GIFTS



Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network
Helping People with HIV to Live Well

A gift is more than just a present — it's a reminder that someone cares! Each December, TIHAN has the opportunity to brighten the holidays for CarePartners living with HIV by sharing gifts and gift cards to let them know they are seen, valued, and not alone. For many CarePartners, this is the one gift they can count on receiving, and it means the world to them. Will you help us make this heartfelt tradition possible again in 2025?

As you shop and help spread the word, please remember:

- Gifts must be new, unused and unwrapped.
- Because CarePartners belong to a variety of faith traditions, or may not identify with any faith, we ask that holiday gifts do not portray any religious images or messages.
- To keep gifts equitable, please look for gifts with a value between \$15 and \$25.
- The greatest need is for gifts that would be appropriate for older adult males, such as household items like towel sets, small kitchen appliances, cooking tools, bed pillows, etc.
- Please try to avoid sized items like shoes or clothing.
- We are also hoping to give a \$25 gift card to Target, Walmart, or Fry's to every CarePartner, so we gratefully accept donations of \$25 gift cards.
- We will gladly accept cash if you don't have time to shop.

Please bring all donations to OSLC before or after worship on any Sunday in November, or to the church office during the week **by Sunday November 30th**. Any questions? Please see Mary Pflibsen at the TIHAN table on the patio Sunday mornings, or contact her at marypflib@hotmail.com, 520-622-1983. Thank you for helping TIHAN make the holidays bright for Tucsonans living with HIV!



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A Reconciling in Christ congregation of the ELCA:
Being Christ-centered community through faith and action in the heart of Tucson.



OUR SAVIOUR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Advent 2025

Wednesdays, Dec. 3, 10, 17
6:15 PM Chapel

1200 N Campbell Ave, Tucson



OUR SAVIOUR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve 5:00PM
Christmas Day Hymn Sing 9:00AM
Sunday Worship, December 28 9:00AM

1200 N Campbell Ave, Tucson