The Roadrunner

November 2026



When the Day is Done - Rev. Amalia Vagts

When we gathered for the Youth on their Own forum a couple weeks ago, our Collaborative Musician, Dawn Hartley, led us in singing the popular song "Crowded Table" by Brandi Carlile. I have asked Dawn and Aysen to lead the congregation in this song again on Sunday, November 8 as our sending song from worship. The chorus to the song has these words:

I want a house with a crowded table
And a place by the fire for everyone
Let us take on the world while we're here and able
And bring us back together when the day is done

It's my dreamer nature that makes me picture us singing this full-throated on November 8th, but I think Jesus Christ and the prophets invite us to do exactly this kind of dreaming together. I know from conversations with many of you that there is trepidation, excitement, fear, joy, uncertainty, cynicism, and a bunch of other things in between as we approach a significant election in a time of global unrest. Regardless of the outcome and whatever work lies ahead, we remain baptized and created in goodness people of God. We remain called together in this place to commune together, dream together, and love God and our neighbor together. I pray that through honesty and joy, we indeed will come back together when the day is done.

Just Imagine – Fall Stewardship Appeal

Our fall stewardship appeal, Just Imagine, is now underway. Those of you who are currently engaged in the life of the congregation have already received a letter in the mail and we've been sharing information in worship. If you didn't receive one and want to be sure to participate, please contact the Parish Office (520-327-6521).

Throughout the year, and especially each fall, we invite you to carefully consider your household mission plan as we prepare one for the Congregation. It's a time to reflect on what you've received from God and how you are making use of your money and time. The Council has identified three ministry initiatives we hope to accomplish in 2027. We can do that through your Statements of Intent and other gifts we receive throughout the year. The first initiative, **Expand Capacity**, invests in the growing ministry of our congregation. We have expanded positions to reflect the increased use and reach of our programs and facilities. In addition, the Council is committed to the health and wellbeing of our staff, adding health and retirement benefits for staff working 20 hours a week or more. Our second initiative, **Chapel Kitchen Upgrade**, will encourage more gatherings around food in our beautiful chapel space. A dishwasher will help Lutheran Campus Ministry, Our Saviour's, and Cornerstone Fellowship do that more easily and safely. Finally, **Sustain Ministry** recognizes that simply doing the same work costs more these days.

In these next months, listen for ways that God's imagination and the vision of others in this place connect with your own heart. Our imagination is stirred by stories of gratitude and generosity. When we reflect on what we've received and can give, and place our trust in God, we realize that God has far more in store than we dare imagine.

-Generosity Team (Jeanne Gacke, Patty Sirls, David Johnson, Kris Sanchez)

Council Corner - Jennifer Strand

November 2026

At the October Council meeting we continued the focus on fully living our lives. In her opening devotion, Joanna Keyl used some of the writings of Michael Sacasa and C.S. Lewis to view this topic. C.S. Lewis addressed living during the Atomic Age when the threat of nuclear war was more imminent. While Sacasa viewed our living with AI as a current threat. Fear of threats from outside can lead us to become fearful and to shy away from living. Both of the authors emphasized that people should look beyond just doing daily tasks as a duty and look at truly living in the moment and caring about those moments. Care is what facilitates this change. Living our lives is bound up with caring in all of our relationships which our faith in God supports.

Our finances continue to be solid thanks to your generosity. The process of beginning our overview of the 2027 Mission Plan was started at this meeting. The preliminary numbers were presented. Questions about certain fields and line items were asked and discussed. This process will continue throughout the year. The final Mission Plan will be presented at the Annual Meeting in 2027. The Mission Plan is developed so that Our Saviour's is keeping focused on what God does and we are led to do. We want to always be mindful what story we are telling with our Mission Plan.

The newly named Property Vision Team met twice before the Council meeting. The Team elected John Indermark and David Lester as co-convenors. During these meetings the team developed a long-term approach involving phases with goals to be met for each phase. This process will continue through at least the next 12 months and will involve conversations with the congregation and others. Various updates will be presented to the Council and congregation as how best to support our mission within the church and the community is discerned.

This was the last Council meeting that Diane Siefkes attended. She was celebrated with chocolate brownies and cupcakes. Her contributions and wit will be missed. We wish her the best. On a happier note for us, Sheila Bustamante has agreed to fill Diane's place on the Council as a voting member until the Annual Meeting. Sheila has been serving as Treasurer in a non-voting role. We look forward to her additional contributions.

Reconciling in Christ - Judy Indermark

Restoration of harmony – restoring a broken relationship – between God and humanity through Christ. For our RIC team it means helping ourselves, our congregation and friends, Our Saviour's Church as a body to find that restoration between ourselves and our human family in all its glorious differences. We have moved forward in that quest and continue to find ways to help open our hearts and minds to our LGBTQIA+ family. We are also focusing on how to challenge the mistaken idea that things like our skin color and where we live in this world are connected to our value as human beings. We seek to become a people who live with respect for all.

Thank you for attending the Youth On Their Own forum in October. It is such an important organization. The information was very well presented and we understand that they would like to continue with the dialog we have begun.

STAFF
Ministry Team

Rev. Amalia Vagts (ex 1004)
Pastor

Michele Ruttinger
Parish Administrator

Dr. Aysen Millioğullari
Music Director

Dawn Hartley
Collaborative Musician

Paula Miller
Minister of Community Engagement

David Zezulka
Facilities Director

COUNCIL MEMBERS
oslc@lutherantucson.org

Patty Sirls
President

Meg Hughes
Vice President

Jennifer Strand
Secretary

Sheila Bustamante
Treasurer

Shelly Adrian

Eric Howard

Joanna Keyl

Rachel Starner

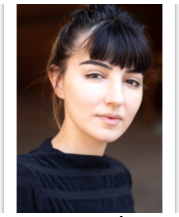
LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY

Pastor Jenn Luong
Director
prjenn.lcmuofa@gmail.com
520-771-9742 (LCM Office)

Rev. Wendi Van Beek
Deacon of Community Engagement
wendi.lcmuofa@gmail.com

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.

Music Notes - Dr. Aysen Millioğullari **November 2026**



I am happy to share that our Chancel Choir has been growing this season! It has been such a blessing to welcome more singers and to make music together during worship. I am grateful for everyone who gives their time to the choir. This month, the Chancel Choir will sing Amazing Grace by Daniel Kallman on November 15th, and Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence, arranged by John Ferguson, on November 22nd. We will collaborate with our Bell Choir for Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence, which will be a special opportunity to make music together.

Our Bell Choir will also play on November 1st, and our dear church member Bill DeVinney will share his music with us on November 8th.

I hope you enjoy the music we have prepared for this month. Thank you for your continued support and for helping make music such a meaningful part of our church community.

Minister of Community Engagement - Paula Miller **November 2026**



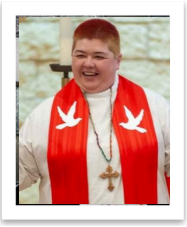
Memory is powerful. It plays a significant role this month as we honor those who have passed on into the cloud of witnesses on All Soul's Day also known in the Mexican culture as Día de Los Muertos or Day of the Dead. Remembering our ancestors helps ease the grief we feel for their loss and celebrate their life with us.

Memory also was the theme at this year's Arizona Faith Network's Annual Gathering. The keynote speaker, Rev. Dr. Gary Mason, is an internationally recognized peacebuilder, author, and Methodist minister. Drawing on the Northern Ireland peace process, Rev. Mason mentioned two ways we can go from Conflict to Community, the theme of the gathering. One is to use the power of storytelling. He encouraged us to create "Once upon a time" moments. Sharing stories and memories will help create a "felt history" where we can learn perspectives from the other side.

He also asked us to reflect on what all faith traditions know – grieving. If we share more of the things and people we grieved for, it will help us build understanding and empathy with each other. This month I encourage you to share your "Once upon a time" moments with someone and see what happens.

One of the goals of the Public Faith Team will be to share more stories from our neighbors in our community to break down walls and build up bridges of compassion, kindness, and justice. Stay tuned.

Lutheran Campus Ministry - Pastor Jenn Luong **November 2026**



Time flies when you're having fun! The old saying seems to ring true every time I think about it. When you're reading this, the students at the U of A will be just six weeks from the end of the academic term. We're having fun!

With the help of Deacon Wendi, we continue to share a meal at the dinner table followed by the Lord's Supper each Wednesday evening. So much happens around the table. Around our dinner table on Wednesdays, the students share lighthearted fun conversations. We get updates on the students' weeks, along with Dancing With The Stars weekly updates, while Deacon Wendi and I share what it was like in 'the old days'. Once again, we're reminded how fast time flies when we think about how long ago we were the student's age. Ugh!

Around the Communion Table we share something else special. We connect with something bigger than ourselves, we share the invitation of Christ to be free from all that burdens us. It gives all of us the pause we need in the chaos of the world and the chaos of our lives. We get to breathe and receive the peace we can only find in that particular meal. Though the two meals feed and fill us in different ways, both are equally necessary. Every week, I am grateful to share the time around the tables with an amazing group of students, and I'm grateful to the folks at Our Saviour's for hosting LCM with open arms.

Lutheran Campus Ministry
at University of Arizona

In peace and gratitude,
Pastor Jenn

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

SHARE WARMTH AND JOY THROUGH YOUR GIFTS

IIt's hard to believe that Christmas is just around the corner! 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. In 2026, TIHAN has reached a milestone with 406 registered CarePartners! This achievement reflects both the growing need for compassionate community support and the dedication of everyone who makes TIHAN's work possible. As more people seek connection, resources, and care, TIHAN continues to be a place where individuals can find support and a sense of belonging. For many CarePartners, the Christmas gift they receive from TIHAN is their only gift, and it means the world to them. Will you help us make this heartfelt tradition possible again this Christmas? A gift is more than just a present — it's a reminder that someone cares! Here are a few guidelines if you'd like to contribute:

- 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, blankets, small kitchen appliances, cooking tools, bed pillows, or anything to make their life a little easier.
- Please try to avoid sized items like shoes, clothing or bed sheets
- We are also hoping to give a $25 gift card from 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 Monday, November 30th**. Any questions? Please see our TIHAN Liaison, 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!

Mary Durham-Pflibsen

As you may know, the Reconciling in Christ Team just hosted a YOTO speaker at a recent Sunday Forum.

The talk was very enlightening. As a former YOTO student herself, the speaker stressed the importance of basic needs such as the food and hygiene supplies OSLC has been donating as well as financial support. When a student joins YOTO, they are often torn between attending school and going to work to provide for themselves. The speaker was in this situation when she joined YOTO. In addition to the basic needs mentioned above, YOTO also provides a monthly stipend, so that the student can focus on school rather than work.

The Tuesday after Thanksgiving is Giving Tuesday. On this day Tucson Electric Power will match financial gifts up to $20,000 given to YOTO. These funds will go to student stipends which are up to $220 per month. If you have been donating food and hygiene supplies already and would like to increase your YOTO contribution, or if you are unable to bring gifts in kind but would like to help YOTO financially, Giving Tuesday would be a great way to start. Thank you so much for your generosity!

Asher Havenhill

The Lot on 22nd Street Thanksgiving Dinner

While Thanksgiving Day is a day to be grateful and a day that involves a lot of food for most of us, for many (even here in Tucson) it is just another day to be hungry. You may remember The Lot on 22nd Street from Thanksgiving last year. Our Saviour's partnered with Beautiful Savior to provide, deliver, and help serve Thanksgiving dinner to around 350 or so homeless people there. This year Our Saviour's will be the sole organization responsible for providing the meal. We are expecting around 350 people to be fed again this year. Donations of food and/or cash are very much welcomed and needed, but we need volunteers as well. Food donations can be left in the church kitchen, church office, or given directly to Mary or Asher Havenhill.

Volunteer activities include:

At home: Preparation of turkeys

Preparation of food for taking to The Lot: carving turkeys, heating vegetables & stuffing, cutting pies, putting
cranberry sauce in serving containers, etc.

The list of items we will need is given below. Note that potatoes are not on the list. This is because First Watch has agreed to supply the potatoes for this event.

Note: We will be inviting ANYONE in the community who is willing and able to help with this, whether a member of OSLC or not. It is our belief that an important role of the church is to provide opportunities for everyone to be generous.

If you are interested in helping with any of the above activities on Thanksgiving Day, we will be starting around noon. The food will not be served until around 5 pm, so we don't want the hot food to be ready too early.

If you are interested in volunteering and/or would like to donate cash for this effort, please text Mary Havenhill (520-481-5684) or Asher Havenhill (520-771-5994). Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity.

We have received many commitments and items already - thank you! In addition to volunteers on Thanksgiving Day, we are primarily looking for people to cook turkeys, as well as for donations of canned green beans and corn.

Asher & Mary Havenhill

Prayer Requests

November 2026

Paul Stum; Chris Doak; Alecia Chrin; Justin Schneider; Gerry Meyer; Corky Ronstadt; Mary Neff; Lydia Slipp; Family & Friends of John Petrik (Wendi Van Beek's father); and all at home and in care facilities.

Our Extended Community: Friends and Family of Kathy Greggory upon the death of her husband Gary (friends of Ann and Bill DeVinney); Liz (friend of Mary Wildner-Bassett); Sarah (great niece of Donna Lounsbury); Becky (Daughter of Mary Wildner-Bassett); Josh, Mary Ann (friends of Chris and Theda Doak); Megan (niece of Chris and Theda Doak); Jennifer, Sally, and Ashley, Gwen, and Tyler on the passing of their daughter Elora (friends of Kathy DeVinney); Grant and Shirley (brother and sister-in- law of Theda Doak); Daniel (neighbor's son of Gloria Schmidt); Will (nephew of Chris and Theda Doak); Leaticia, Azogan, Sidibe, and Zinsou,(friends of Rachel Starner); Mary Etta (friend of Suzanne Hesh); Rita (friend of John and Judy Indermark); Nancy (friend of Cindy Bales); Marcus ahd his care team (friend of Suzanne Hesh).

"Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words."

-Romans 8:26

ICS INTERFAITH COMMUNITY SERVICES

WHERE HELP BRINGS HOPE

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE



October to December31

TheICSFoodBank gratefully accepts prepackaged,canne non-perishable and in-date items and monetarydonatic

Holiday Items Needed

- *Instant, canned, or freshpotatoesandyams*
- *Cranberry sauce*
- *Canned veggies especiallygreenbeansandcorn*
- *Boxed and bagged stuffingmix*
- *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*
- *Cereal*

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

Interfaith Community Services. 2820 W Ina Rd. Tucson, AZ 85741

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
November 2026

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Day 9:00 AM Sunday Worship - Sanctuary 10:15 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:30 AM Sandwich Making	**2** 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Mindful Meditation - Ramada Room 6:30 PM Bell Choir - Sanctuary	**3** 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study - AB Cafe 11:00 AM Come and See - Patio Room 6:30 PM Spanish Class - AB Cafe	**4** 10:30 AM Bible Study - Pocket Room 4:00 PM Endowment 6:00 PM LCM Dinner and Worship	**5** 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice	**6** Office Closed	**7**
8 9:00 AM Sunday Worship - Sanctuary 10:15 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:30 AM Sandwich Making	**9** 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Mindful Meditation - Ramada Room 5:30 PM RIC - Patio RM 6:30 PM Bell Choir - Sanctuary	**10** 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study - AB Cafe 11:00 AM Come and See - Patio Room 6:30 PM Spanish Class - AB Cafe	**11** 10:30 AM Bible Study - Pocket Room 6:00 PM LCM Dinner and Worship	**12** 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice	**13** Office Closed	**14** 10:00 AM Grief Support - Ramada Room
15 9:00 AM Educaton Sunday Worship - Sanctuary 10:15 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:30 AM Sandwich Making 10:30 AM Forum - YOTO	**16** 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Mindful Meditation - Ramada Room 1:30 PM Finance Team 5:30 PM Pray Without Ceasing - Chapel 6:30 PM Bell Choir - Sanctuary	**17** 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study - AB Cafe 11:00 AM Come and See - Patio Room 6:30 PM Council - Patio Room 6:30 PM Spanish Class - AB Cafe	**18** 9:00 AM Property 10:30 AM Bible Study - Pocket Room 6:00 PM LCM Dinner and Worship 6:30 PM Good Neighbor Coalition - AB Main	**19** 11:00 AM POZ Cafe 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice	**20** Office Closed	**21**
22 9:00 AM Sunday Worship - Sanctuary 10:15 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:30 AM Sandwich Making 10:30 AM Forum - inquiring members	**23** 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Mindful Meditation - Ramada Room 6:30 PM Bell Choir - Sanctuary 6:30 PM Public Faith Team - Patio Room	**24** 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study - AB Cafe 9:00 AM Quilters - AB 11:00 AM Come and See - Patio Room 6:30 PM Spanish Class - AB Cafe	**25** 10:30 AM Bible Study - Pocket Room 6:00 PM LCM Dinner and Worship	**26** Office Closed - Thanksgiving	**27** Office Closed	**28** 1200 PM LCM U of A Parking Lot
29 9:00 AM Sunday Worship - Sanctuary 10:15 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:30 AM Sandwich Making Advent begins	**30** 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Mindful Meditation - Ramada Room 6:30 PM Bell Choir - Sanctuary					

OUR SAVIOUR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
1200 N. Campbell Ave
Tucson AZ 85719
www.lutherantucson.org
OSLC@lutherantucson.org
(520)327-6521

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

Advent & Christmas at Our Saviour's

Advent begins on Sunday, November 29. We will hold **Midweek Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesdays at 7 PM in the Chapel on December 2, 9, and 16.** We will gather for a simple meal at 6 PM prior to the service.

Christmas Eve with Holy Communion – 5 PM on Thursday, December 24
Christmas Day – 10 AM on Friday, December 25
Christmas Lessons & Carols – 9 AM on Sunday, December 27