



The Roadrunner

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



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Christ Risen! He is risen indeed!

As we enter the season of Easter (note that the Sundays following Easter are Sundays of Easter not after Easter) we celebrate the gift of new life for 50 days.

In the northern hemisphere Easter comes and brings with it signs of new life. I have seen baby squirrels in my back yard. I'm seeing green shoots erupting from the dark earth recently revealed with the melt of the winters snow. We have the beginning of new life.

I was researching Arizona desert and discovered that the greatest diversity of spring-blooming species can be seen in **April**. The cactus show continues as the abundant prickly pears bloom in early **May**, followed by saguaros from mid-**May** to mid-**June**. So, new life is beginning.

New life is beginning with the arrival of three Covid-19 vaccines, and although it remains to be seen how effective they are with the emergence of new variants, yet we have the beginning of new life springing forth. It is hoped that fall will bring some semblance of new normal and the beginning of new life.

It is also the beginning of new life for Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. As the Transition Team moves forward toward the completion of its work, and a call committee is assembled by the end of May Our Saviour's will be on the way to selecting a new pastoral leader who together with you will be making a new beginning in the next chapter of OSLC.

So, Easter brings new beginnings, and we celebrate with joy what God has done for us in Christ, who is risen! He is risen indeed!

Blessed Easter to Everyone!

Interim Pastor

Please get vaccinated when it's your turn!



Council Corner

February 16, 2021

Following the Council Member Orientation on February 27, new officers were elected in our March Council meeting. The 2021 officers are Bonnie Phelps, President; Tracy Ratliff, Vice President; Amy Fatzinger, Secretary; and Pam Hardman, Treasurer. Meanwhile, even though we continue to worship together from afar for everyone's health and safety, the Transition Team has nearly completed its work and we're preparing to move to the next stage of calling a new Senior Pastor to OSLC: forming a Call Committee. If you are interested in serving on the Call Committee, please contact Bonnie Phelps (bphelps10@cox.net or 520-991-9490). During the next several weeks we'll be inviting the congregation to complete a survey of time and talents; please don't miss this opportunity to share your interests and availability so we can find creative ways to stay connected as a church community.



We continue to keep a close watch on the church's financial well-being on a month-by-month basis as well as in the bigger picture. We have much to be grateful for this month; we received a bequest from Osborne Reynolds's estate, celebrated the payment in full of OSLC's last remaining debt (the mortgage for the property at 1135 N. Norris), and we're excited to report that Our Saviour's will be participating in a year-long stewardship program called Stewardship for All Seasons. Please also note, though, that we've observed that offerings have been under budget during the first months of 2021. So far our expenses have also been below budget this year, but we invite you to consider giving generously through the button on the OSLC website, by mailing a check to the church office, or by setting up weekly or monthly automated offerings.

Please join us in praying for our church and community during this season of reflection and renewal. May you and your loved ones have a blessed and happy Easter!

**In Christ—
OSLC Church Council**

Christos Anesti - Christ is Risen - He is risen indeed!

Easter is my favorite season of the church year. I love when I am able to start worship services with this simple declaration of our faith. It is simple, strait forward and really says it all. We often use another simple 3 sentence statement of faith in the Eucharistic Prayer during communion, "Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again." Our past, our present and our future with Christ. We are now ready to move forward in to the new church year to learn more about Jesus about Jesus in new ways that, hopefully, will be different, informative, maybe a little challenging and enjoyable.

We never would have made it through Lent without all the wonderful volunteers, staff and singers. You have each earned a special "sparkly" on your angelic crown for everything you have done to make all of the services happen. I have a special thank you to Steve VanMeter. Not only has Steve been doing his usual brilliant job with church publications, taping, and editing the weekly worship service, he has been filling in part time while Kathryn is out on maternity leave. During Lent Steve has also had the responsibility of taping, editing and uploading an extra 4 full worship services plus 4 midweek worship services. Please reach out to Steve in an appropriate way and let him know just how much he is appreciated.

(If I could figure out how to do emojis on my very old computer this line would be filled with clapping hands!)

I do fervently pray for the day when we can worship together face to face and hand to hand. I yearn for the day that I can start meeting each one of you and begin to call you friend. In the mean time, know that I am here for you and that I am only a phone call or email away.

God's Blessings surround each and every one of you,

Pastor Martha



Are you being called to serve on the Call Committee to help discern who the next pastor will be? It's an important commitment and will require at least a monthly meeting or more once interviews begin.

If you are interested and willing to serve, or know someone who is, please contact council president Bonnie Phelps at bphelps10@cox.net.



- *Pastor Len*



Thank you from Ms. Ellie

I have said "goodbye" to Tucson, after 44 years and to OSLC after 22 years. I am both sad and happy; however, I feel that it is the best decision, as had for my 80th birthday. In spring of 2022, God willing, I will move to Texas with my youngest son, when he separates from the Army. Meanwhile, I'll be with my eldest son, in Glendale, AZ.

Thank you so much to OS members who have been a great gift to me! I have enjoyed serving with you on many ministries, being your TIHAN liaison and caring for many of your children years ago in the nursery.

Thank you so much to my dance students who brought interest, dedication and their unique talents to class for 3 years.

Thank you very much for coming to say "goodbye" at my drive-by; for your many meaningful cards; good wishes by phone or "in person" and for your generous gifts.

You have helped me grow personally, creatively, professionally and spiritually. The Lord bless and keep you.

Until we meet again,

Ms. Ellie

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News From the Office

-Kathryn Barrera, Parish Administrator

Hello Everyone!

He is Risen! HE IS RISEN INDEED! I hope you all had a wonderful Easter and thank you for all the generous gifts to the ELCA World Hunger outreach in lieu of Easter Lilly donations this year. This is the second Easter now that we have celebrated apart from each other and hopefully it will be the last. Vaccines are being distributed more generously and we are looking forward to returning to some form of worship together soon.

The office is still running smoothly and there is not much to report. A few minor leaks in the activity building that Graham was able to repair quickly. You will be pleased to see that the Koch chapel women's restroom as well as the sanctuary restrooms have been redone and have nice new paint and flooring.

That's all for now. Have a wonderful month!

- Kathryn

