



The Roadrunner

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



THE PULSE

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December 2022



A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots. (Isaiah 11:1)

Suddenly, it seems, Advent is upon us. The season of Advent is often associated with expectation, anticipation, and waiting. This year, as we move from the last year in the Gospel of Luke to a year dwelling in the Gospel of Matthew, the focus is more on action than waiting. "Get ready!" God's word declares – the time has come. The passage above from Isaiah, which we'll read in the second week of Advent shows the growth and movement of our lives, the earth, and our faith. **A shoot emerges, a branch grows – we can expect fruits and blossoms to follow.**

Lately, I have been noticing the contrast between movement and rest. Last month, I was invited to join Lutheran Campus Ministry for one of their Wednesday evening gatherings. After dinner, I led them in the practice of "Nap Chapel," a brief and worshipful experience that involves just what it sounds like – napping! I created this practice on internship at Luther College when I was in seminary. Getting the rest we need allows us to wake up to be fully present in our lives and in the world around us. During these weeks of Advent, and the pull of the world to fill our days with the busyness (and "business") of Christmas, may you find rest, restoration, and peace. May that found space bring you to deeper awareness of the Spirit's movement within and around you. May you be alert and awake to God's promise of new life and hope in Christ Jesus.

Advent Worship at Our Saviour's (see Christmas Schedule on page 2)

Tuesdays at Noon – *Lectio Divina*

Reading, meditation, prayer using the Gospel text for the Coming Sunday. We will gather at noon in the Chapel and begin around 12:10. We will read the text three times, with prayer and reflection, following the pattern of read, meditate, pray, contemplate.

You are invited!

Advent Open House at Pastor Amalia and David's home. Sunday, December 18
1-4PM. Sign up for a 45 minute slot.

Pastor Amalia

"Let all that you do be done in love." (1 Corinthians 14:16)



COUNCIL CORNER

November 18, 2022

Greeting from the Church Council. Can you believe it?! We have arrived at the last month of the year! We marvel at how far we have come and the renewed energy and enthusiasm that has sprung up in our church. Our new Sunday schedule is providing new and varied worship opportunities, and the Sunday Workshops are alive with discussion and fellowship. We are looking forward to the New Year with the opportunities and the challenges that lie ahead. To give us the guidance for growth and expand our mission, the council is exploring options for strategic planning in 2023.



This is also the time of year that we begin developing our budget for next year. The finance committee is in the process of creating a draft budget for the council to review. Thanks to your generosity and the generosity of our saints we expect to end the year in a solid financial position.

As activity on our campus and interest in our facilities from the wider community has increased, we have updated our policies regarding weddings and the use of the activities building. With the updated policies, we hope to provide a consistent approach and fee structure aligned with our current resources, mission, and staff.

The stewardship & generosity team continues their work on our Abiding in Christ appeal. I want to remind everyone that you can return your Statement of Intent at any time – on-line, to the church office or with your Sunday offering. Your participation in the life and mission of OSLC is greatly appreciated and so very needed.

The status of the Covid virus within our community is a permanent fixture on the council agenda. While there is concern for the winter season ahead, the status in the Tucson community has not changed. We encourage everyone to consider getting the current Covid booster and flu vaccine for the continued health and safety of our community.

As we end the calendar year and begin again the church's liturgical year, the council would like to express our gratitude for the leadership of Pastor Amalia and the love and support of this wonderful congregation. Thank You.

Your OSLC Church Council

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Longest Night (Wednesday, Dec 21) - 6:00 pm

A quiet and reflective service with prayer and song that reflects the difficulty or grief that can come at this time of year.

Christmas Eve (Saturday, Dec 24) - 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm

Both services include special music, communion, and candle lighting



Christmas Day (Sunday, Dec 25) - 9:00 am - ONE SERVICE - No Workshop

Gather for a hymn sing, readings, and communion.

New Year's Day (Sunday, Jan 1) - 9:00 am - ONE SERVICE - No Workshop

Gather for a casual service to welcome the New Year with song, readings, and communion.

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

The Holiday Food Drive continues through December. In-date canned and packaged non-perishable food items such as canned meats, peanut butter, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, beans and personal hygiene items are needed. Please put items in the shopping cart that is on the patio on Sundays.



SOPHIA'S SECTION - by Sophia Rankin, Minister of Community Engagement

November helped us to further strengthen our connection with each other at Our Saviour's through socializing and discussion. Our youth met for a spirited game night in which we got to know each other better and planned our December meet up. At our ministry fair, I had the chance to discuss the "cornerstones" of ministry engagement with members of our congregation and hear their thoughts and questions. This next month, I encourage you to consider and act upon what these words mean to you: community, family, faith, and legacy. The next Youth Night will be at Winterhaven on December 18th. Those wishing to carpool from OSLC with Scott and I will need to email me in advance; we will meet at the North Lot at 5:30 PM. Parents and immediate family of our youth are also welcomed to join us at the neighborhood. Thank you for such wonderful memories this last month and those yet to come.

With kindness,
Sophia



DECEMBER WORKSHOP LEARN + ENGAGE + SERVE

December 4 - Social Time on Patio (8:30 - 9:30)
December 11 - Sanctuary Decorating
December 18 - Kit Assembly (Activity Building)
December 25 - No Workshop

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OUR STAFF

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Donation Options



Please scan the image you see here using your smart phone or tablet to donate directly.

You can also donate via Tithe.ly
Text-To-Giving at
(855) 959-0821

Thank you!

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Sunday Schedule

7:30am

Worship in Chapel

8:30am

Workshop

9:45am

Worship in Sanctuary



GRETA'S GRACINGS - by Gréta Pásztor, Director of Music Ministry

December will be filled with lots of music at Our Savior's! We will hear our own members - the Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, Alex Dunning, Sophia Rankin, and Gréta Pásztor, as well as guest musicians Olivia Blackman, Justin Chua, Yaowen Mei, and more! You will also get a

chance to contribute to the service on Christmas Day when we will do a sing-along when you can request your favorite songs (in Hungarian we call this a "wish-basket").

Best,
Greta Pásztor

