



The Roadrunner

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

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Holidays always remind me previous times when I have celebrated usually with family and food. The 4th of July always brings memories of picnicks, BBQ's and family fun waiting for the sun to go down. It was terrible having to then wait for the sky to be dark enough. Finally, finally the sky would explode in a riot of color. I still love watching fireworks.

One 4th of July is very special to me. It was 1971 and I was celebrating with a group of teenagers from across America on the shores of a lake in an inactive volcano in Nicaragua. Some were firing off bottle rockets over the lake. Some were swimming. All were enjoying speaking in English and eating stale peanut butter sandwiches and dry chocolate chip cookies. These were the last of the rations we had brought from home almost 3 weeks prior. We were members of an organization, Los Amigos de las Americas, that provided vaccinations to rural areas in Nicaragua, Guatemala, Honduras and Columbia.

For 3 weeks I lived in a village along with one other American that I met 2 days before we left the states. We gave vaccinations, taught English, and rendered basic first aid at no cost to the villagers. They had to house and feed us. (Beans, rice and tortillas 3 meals a day.)

One day when we were going door to door with our shots, we came to one house where the mother was very nervous about us being there. She kept trying to send us away. My Spanish wasn't that good so I thought she just didn't want the shots. She finally pulled us into the house, closed the door and slowly explained. We were not allowed in that part of town because they were not Catholic. If the Mayor found out they were getting the shots there would be trouble. We had her send her children out to the other houses in the area to tell the residents where we were. They came in through the back windows so as not to be seen. One by one they came for their shots.

It was then that I started realizing just how amazing it is to live in the U.S.A. We live in a country where we are allowed to worship where and how we please. We live in a country where we have the right to vote for our leaders and our laws. We live in a country where we can peacefully disagree with our leaders.

We need to remember to be grateful for the country that we have.
We need to hold our governmental leaders in prayer.

Peace,

Pastor Martha



Council Corner

June 18, 2021



As we head into the hot Tucson summer, we find ourselves in the midst of several transitions at OSLC. Pastor Len's last day with us was June 15, and Pastor Martha began serving as OSLC's Interim Bridge Pastor on June 16. Josh Nichols's last day with us as our Music Director was in early June, and Elizabeth Seal is now serving as our Interim Music Coordinator. OSLC's Transition Team has completed our Mission Site Profile (which has been submitted and approved), and the Call Committee is commencing its work of calling a new Senior Pastor to Our Saviour's. Please join us in praying for, and extending appreciation to, all of these leaders in our community.

And we're pleased to share news of still another transition at OSLC: we're now worshipping indoors, and beginning July 1, masks will be optional for fully vaccinated people at OSLC. Unvaccinated people will need to continue to wear masks, and we ask that everyone continue with physical distancing and hand sanitizing for the wellbeing of everyone in our community. As of the first Sunday in July, we'll resume singing and using hymnals, although communion will remain prepackaged for now. Coffee hour and other activities involving food and drink may resume, and these same guidelines will apply to worship services as well as other meetings and activities that take place at OSLC. As we resume worshipping together again, we're in need of volunteers to serve on the Altar Guild; please contact Bonnie Phelps if you are able to serve.

As always, we continue to look out for the financial wellbeing of Our Saviour's in the short and long term. Offering income continues to be a little lower than budgeted, which is concerning as we head into the summer months; please continue to give as you are able. As you may recall, we received a significant bequest at the end of 2020; we'll be investing the majority of the bequest with the ELCA's Fund A incrementally during the next year and a half so as to make the most of this generous gift. We give thanks to God for all of the ways he has richly blessed our congregation, and to all of those who continue to support OSLC and its mission.

May we find courage and comfort during these transitional times as we remember that God is guiding us at every turn. Please join us in praying for the wellbeing of our church and community.

**In Christ—
OSLC Church Council**





altar guild, lectors, ushers, greeters, communion assistants, acolytes, and sound technicians. These are not gender specific or age specific positions (although a couple of them are confirmed member only positions.) Please send your willingness to serve (even if you have served in the past in some of these) to **Kathy DeVinney** (kmdrainbow@aol.com, 520-419-4321). We need YOU!

Our sincere appreciation to **Bonnie Phelps** for serving as the organizer/scheduler over the past few years!

Food Donations for Interfaith Community Services

The past year has taken a toll on many families COVID, unemployment and increasing debt have left many families food insufficient. The ICS Food Bank is in need of donations as more people are using their services. For the month of **July** we will be collecting **peanut butter (16 ozs)**.



Other canned foods or packaged products such as spaghetti, canned meats, beans, rice, cereal, spaghetti sauce and personal hygiene products are gratefully appreciated. A shopping cart will be on the patio Sundays for donations. Thanks for your generosity.



LSS Servant of Christ Award presented to OSLC!

Bonnie Phelps (Council President) & **Pastor Martha Neff Stum** accepting the *Servant of Christ Award* from Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest President & CEO **Connie Phillips** at Sunday Worship, July 20, 2021. Thank you, LSS! Thanks to Pam Hardman for the photo.



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News From the Office

-Kathryn Barrera, Parish Administrator

Hello Everyone!

It is wonderful to be back in person and see some smiling eyes behind the masks. We are so excited to be resuming some sense of normalcy and we hope to resume coffee and donuts after the service very soon. LSS has officially moved out as of June 30th and so we are working on cleaning those houses and finding new renters.

Feel free to pass along the word to anyone you know who may be interested in renting one of the houses.

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

- Kathryn

