



The Roadrunner

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



Volume 76 No. 6
June 2020

Dear OSLC:

I don't think we will ever forget this Easter season of 2020. Usually this is a celebratory time, filled with joyful music and hopeful texts after the Resurrection. However, our current reality with COVID-19 has shadowed our joy a bit, hasn't it? This year, we identify more closely with the fear, uncertainty, and frustration of the disciples. **"Where do we go from here?"** is a question heavy on our hearts and ever present on our lips.

Let us draw strength from knowing God is always with us and believers found creative ways to gather even in the early church. As our community remains in diaspora, let us learn from the earliest followers of Jesus recorded in Acts 2:46, *"Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at homes and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people."* Worshipping at home has become our new reality.

Amidst the anxiety of waiting, let's focus our energy towards future hospitality. We can't wait to open our doors again and welcome new families so this seems the perfect time to improve the church nursery! In case you haven't been over there lately, there was carpet damage/leaks and it's sorely in need of a fresh update. We've cleaned out old toys and want to start fresh with items we can easily sanitize. During "normal" months, we're delighted the nursery is used daily by Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest and the two other churches meeting in our building.

Wish List (new or gently used):

Love Seat (neutral color)
1-2 rocking chairs
Books (under age 5)
CD player
Audio CD's for ages 0-5
Sturdy kids table (to seat 4-6)
Small kitchen table (with chairs)
Matchbox cars, Wood blocks, wood puzzles, etc.

We've also created a **Church Nursery Registry at Target!** Just search for "Our Saviour's Lutheran Church" under Organization and you can find other useful items. You can shop online or in the store. We could certainly use help painting, making shelves, etc. so contact Kathryn or myself if you are interested!

Thank you for caring for one another during this unprecedented time of isolation. While it is too soon for an exact "reopening" timeline, please know your church leadership is listening diligently to ELCA, CDC & Arizona guidelines to do this as safely as possible. We will keep hosting worship on our YouTube channel until it is safe to return together. Prayers and blessings to you!

Peace,
Rev. Rebecca Boardman, Interim Pastor

Council Corner

May 20, 2020



One of the questions that is likely on all of minds these days is “When may we begin worshipping together in person again?” The answer to that question is much more complex than naming one specific date. A special committee will be tasked with creating plans and protocols for safely and sensibly resuming gatherings of all kinds at OSLC. The committee will need to prioritize the congregation’s health and safety while considering all of the diverse activities that take place at OSLC: worship services (our own as well as those of the congregations who share our space), our various groups and committees, L.S.S. activities, and more. Even if worship and some other in-person activities at OSLC are able to safely resume sooner rather than later, though, worship services will continue to be made available online at least through the end of July for those who still feel most comfortable worshipping from home. Watch for more detailed announcements in weekly emails as re-opening plans take shape.

In the meantime, our congregation keeps finding creative ways to connect with each other and continue God’s work. A committee has been calling to check on the wellbeing of all of our members, and to verify that we have correct contact information for everyone. (If you know that you need to update your contact information, or if you’d like to volunteer to help make calls to other members, please contact the church office or Bonnie Phelps at bphelps10@cox.net). And the Zoom Coffee Hours have been a fun way for members to “see” and visit with each other on Sundays; if you haven’t joined us yet, consider connecting this week. Good things are happening around our campus, too: renovations to our nursery are well underway, and new security cameras have been installed. Our preparations for calling a new permanent pastor are still ongoing. Plans for hiring a new youth leader position remain on hold, though. Given that the global circumstances have shifted our original hiring timeline (and we’re now heading into a summer when few youth activities may take place), it now seems more practical to prioritize the search for a new pastor; our new pastor, in turn, can then take part in the search for a new youth leader.

Our overall finances remain healthy at this time, although we have seen a small dip in our weekly offerings. Thank you for your faithful support even while we are worshipping from home, and please remember to either mail your offerings to the church office or arrange for automatic online giving; both of these methods help ensure that all of your offerings go directly to the church (without any bank fees).

It is a comfort and a joy to remember that God is always good, and always with us. Please join us in caring for each other and in praying for our church and community.

**Report respectfully submitted,
OSLC Church Council**

Refugee Sewing Program

Just like everything else that happens at the church, the weekly gathering of the Women’s Empowerment Program that teaches refugee ladies to sew has had to stop meeting. But that hasn’t prevented the ladies (and at least one husband) from sewing at home, using the skills they have learned to create masks for health care workers. The LSS program is completely coordinated and run by volunteers who, partnered with Imago Dei Middle School, have been able to obtain the elastic needed and prepare kits for the sewers to pick up Monday mornings in the church parking lot and return the completed masks the following week. Our Saviour’s quilters have been able to help by contributing many yards of wonderful 100% cotton fabric from our “stash” which the volunteers cut and then package into 40 or 50 mask bundles. The refugee stitchers receive cash for every mask they make which has really helped their families as well as giving the ladies a wonderful way of giving back to the community. It is quite a sight to see the cars that line up in the parking lot on Monday mornings around 9:30 to make the exchanges, safely of course, of kits and masks. Even the teaching was done while everyone stayed in their cars!!



The Family of Mike Bonura would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and words of condolence. It is greatly appreciated. A memorial service will be held in the future; an announcement will be made. Thank you all!

Thank You

Congratulations To Our 2020 Graduates! We are so proud of you all!!!!



Bella Rose Wilson
graduating from Young Harris College with
a degree in Media Communications.

James Hughes
graduating from Canyon del Oro High
School. Planning on attending the
University of Arizona, majoring in history.



"Annie is the embodiment of hard work. She is someone who never quits, rises to any challenge, and exceeds expectations. Keep that work ethic Annie because it will take you so far in life!"
-Mr. Kyle Brady

"Annie Wilson is a super student. I still use her binder in Biology class as an answer key! Her work was so careful and precise it is a useful model for other students!"
-Ms. Marea Jenness

Annie Wilson
will graduate from
Tucson High Magnet
School.



Sophia Rankin is the piano
accompanist for the 7:30 a.m. Sunday
Services. She is graduating Magna
Cum Laude from the University of
Arizona! Her brother

Connor Rankin is graduating from
high school as well!



Casa Maria Soup Kitchen

Our Saviour's continues to support Casa Maria Soup Kitchen, even in the midst of the current Pandemic, which has made it impractical to assemble meals the way we have pre-Covid-19. We made arrangements at the beginning of May to deliver to the soup kitchen their requested and much-needed supplies of foodstuffs, and indeed followed through. Our next scheduled delivery is around June 27th, and instead of simply dropping off supplies, we have talked about collecting prepared foodstuffs from different homes for delivery to the Soup Kitchen. Call, text or email Quentin Peterson if you would like to participate:

bimmermanusa@netscape.net or
(520)331-3778



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News From the Office

By Kathryn Barrera,
Parish Administrator

Hello Everyone!

Hope you all are doing well and had a nice Mother's Day. Things here at the church are moving along. The big project right now is the nursery! Mark and I have been working for the past few weeks on cleaning it out and he has now started tearing things apart. We are ripping out the carpeting, fixing plumbing issues, installing new cabinets and sinks, repainting, and much more. The other big change to the campus is that we have installed 6 new security cameras on the premises. They are recording all the main locations where we have vandalism and hopefully will help us keep things more under control.

That's all for now.
Stay safe and hopefully we can resume worship together soon!

| Total Income & Expense through April, 2020 | |
|---|-----------|
| Income | \$236,645 |
| Expense | \$220,970 |

- Kathryn

