

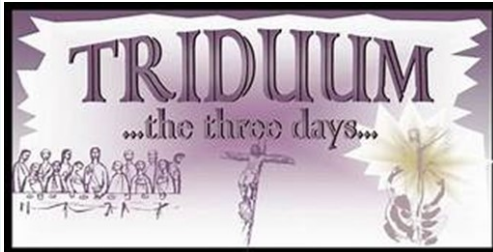


The Roadrunner

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



Volume 77 No. 3
March 2021



The Triduum or The Three Days are the most sacred days of the church year. We enter these three days on Maundy Thursday, recalling the new commandment to love one another. We receive individual absolution. Worship concludes with the Stripping of the altar as a reminder of the fleeing disciples who left everything behind and Jesus, too! The bare chancel is now set for Good Friday.

On Good Friday we hear John's account of Jesus death and burial. We hear the judgement of crucifixion and his being led to fulfill the mission that he was set to accomplish, namely, "for God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son." He dies with the words, "It is finished" – Mission Accomplished. We pray this day for the all believers and those who do not believe. We conclude worship remembering and honoring that Holy Cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

On Holy Saturday we gather around a new fire that reminds us of the purification that comes through the new birth in the resurrection of Christ. We process with lighted candles. We hear the ancient stories of creation and salvation for God's people, Israel. We are pointed to the message of the resurrected Jesus and we celebrate the first Great Thanksgiving of Easter having renewed the faith of our baptism.

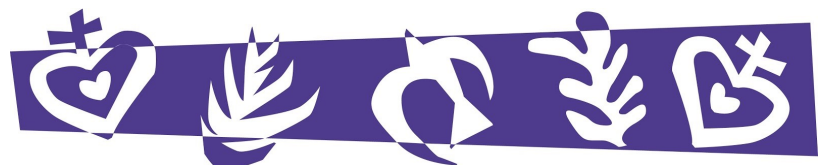
It is important to note that the Three Days is one continuous worship service held over the three days of Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The benediction and final blessing come at the end of the Easter Vigil. Thursday ends in darkness; Friday begins and ends in darkness; Saturday begins in the darkness of the tomb and ends with the bright light of the resurrection.

Please note all worship services will be held on-line. Go to www.lutherantucson.org and click the YouTube icon at the top left of the front page.

We join together for the most sacred mystery as Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Blessed Holy Week and Eastertide!

Interim Pastor



Council Corner

February 16, 2021

Thank you to everyone in the congregation who helped with the work of the church by joining our recent forums on the budget and returning their ballots. More than 80 ballots were returned, and all three items on the ballot (approval of the 2021 proposed budget, approval of last year's minutes from the Congregational Annual Meeting, and the election of the slate of new Council Members) passed unanimously or by a clear majority. We're pleased to welcome Kris Sanchez, Kathy DeVinney, and Ginny Phillips to the Council for three year-terms, David Johnson for a two-year term, and Michael Marty and Tracy Ratliff for one year terms. (As you may recall the congregation recently changed the length of Council terms from two years to three years; electing a few members to one- and two-year terms this year will help us now establish a nine-member Council in which just three new members should need to be elected each year.) We also extend our thanks to Sheila Bustamante and Mary Pflibsen (Appointed Treasurer) for their service as their time on Council draws to a close.



We're pleased to report that OSLC's financial picture remains strong. For the second year in a row we'll be operating from a balanced budget, and we'll be paying the remaining balance on our last property mortgage early through funds received via an anonymous bequest at the end of 2020. Not only will paying the mortgage early save the congregation's general fund approximately \$75,000 in interest, but OSLC will be debt-free for the first time in many years. Thank you for your ongoing generosity, especially during these challenging times. If you have not yet made your pledge for 2021 you may still do so, either through the link on our website or via mail.

The Transition and process for calling a new Senior Pastor to OSLC is moving ahead as planned. If you'd like to learn more about how the process is coming along, join the Council and members of the Transition Team during the Zoom Coffee Hour on March 7 for updates and an opportunity to have your questions answered.

We give thanks for all of the good gifts that abound at OSLC, and invite you to join us in praying for our congregation and community.

**In Christ—
OSLC Church Council**



On Sunday, March 7 at 10:00 am there will be a special coffee hour with Pastor Len regarding the Transition and Call process. Please join us and bring your questions. It will also be recorded and placed on our website. Thank you for your on-going prayers and support.

My sisters and brothers in Christ,

Every year as Lent approaches I find that I greet it with very mixed emotions. I enjoy the extra times of worship on Wednesdays. I look forward to the drama of Holy Week as I anxiously await the glorious resurrection on Easter. I do, however, struggle during the 40 days of honest reflection and soul searching.

This year Lent started for me with the drive through imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday. I have always felt humbled with the privilege of imposing the ashes during service. With COVID restrictions in place this year had to be different. I actually enjoyed the drive through experience because I was able to talk with those who came by. It was a wonderful opportunity for me to physically meet and talk with those of you who drove through. I am looking forward to in person worship even more!

This year for our Mid-week Lenten services we are doing a series of interviews with prominent figures from the passion in a series called **Dateline: Jerusalem**. We will hear from Pontius Pilate, Caiaphas, Peter, Mary Magdalene, John and the Centurion. Join us on Wednesdays on OSLC's YouTube channel. The service will "go live" at noon and will be available anytime after.

One last thing, if you ever have ideas, suggestions or complaints about my work for you at OSLC please feel free to contact me by email (mstum@aol.com), text or a phone call (707-400-8820). I look forward to hearing from you!

Peace,

Pastor Martha





Seventy-five years ago, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church was established to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to the people of Tucson. The mission began dependent on the promise of God that his love and Word would not return void.

Today, in there are many challenges not the least of which is a global pandemic the mission to share the love of Christ is still dependent on God whose promise is faithful. It is our trust in this promise gives us confidence and hope as we face uncertainty and fear.

As your interim and transitional pastor, it is my call to lead you into a conversation that will do the following:

1. Examine your history and help you to discover and affirm your roots. (completed)
2. Look into your congregational and community demographics. (completed)
3. Articulate a Vision and Mission for the future that are based on your Core Values. (in progress)
4. Identify key leadership qualities and characteristics in the next pastoral leader. (March)
5. Complete the congregational biography otherwise known and the Ministry Site Profile. (April – May)

In May we will assemble the Call Committee and have a review of the Ministry Site Profile with the Transition Team and the Congregational Council.

The Call Committee will then work with the Synod Staff to review and interview prospective candidates. After interviews the Call Committee will seek to make a unanimous recommendation to the Council. The Council will vote and if in the affirmative the candidate will be forwarded to the congregation to vote by at least a 2/3rds vote to extend the call to the candidate who has up to 30 days to decide to accept or decline the call. When the call is accepted the transition to the new pastor leader will lead to his or her installation.

So, we are moving deliberately but not hastily forward in our discernment as God calls us into the future and leads us in calling the next pastoral leader.

- Pastor Len

TIHAN April Poz Cafe

OSLC will again be one of the sponsors of the April TIHAN Poz Café. As you can imagine, the event looks very different these days. Instead of an in person sit down meal, CarePartners can pick up a delicious home cooked to-go meal and their monthly CarePackage, drive-through style. This is followed in the afternoon by virtual BINGO via Zoom. The number of people with HIV that TIHAN serves has really surged over the past year, so there is a lot of need out there.

As a sponsoring congregation, we hope to provide contents for the Care-Packages as well as a couple of Bingo prizes. Here's what we would like to collect: Toilet Paper (140 rolls), Paper Towels (55), Deodorant (55, non gendered, or 1/3 women and 2/3 men), Shampoo (55), and Hand Sanitizer (30).

Donated items can be dropped off at the rear church parking lot on Saturday between 10 am – 11am, on the following dates: March 6, March 13, March 20, March 27. We will be stationed there to receive the donations. If you're not up to shopping, a cash donation would also be appreciated. We will use that money to buy supplies to supplement the donated items. It may also be possible to drop off donations at the Church office, but given the current limitations, you must call in advance, to ensure someone will be there to receive your contribution.

OSLC has been a dedicated supporter of TIHAN's work, and we trust even in these difficult times that you will offer your generous support.

If you have any questions, please contact Ted Adams: Home: 520-647-9863, Text or Cell: 301-346-6427, or email adamstg@aol.com.



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News From the Office

-Kathryn Barrera, Parish Administrator

Hello Everyone!

I only have baby news this month and nothing office related :-)

Christine Danielle Barrera was born on 1/22 weighing 7lbs 13oz. She decided to show up at 4am and we haven't had much sleep since, but we love her. She is eating great and getting slightly better at sleeping and I am recovering well. Thank you for being patient while I'm out of the office and thank you for keeping us in your prayers.

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

- *Kathryn*

