



The Roadrunner

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



I'm writing to you this month from a place that didn't exist a year ago. At this time last year, David and I had packed up our home in Decorah, Iowa and were driving across the country towards our new one in Tucson. Ahead of the journey, we'd joked about the romantic idea of packing all that you own in a truck and driving away. The reality of moving, of course, is that it can be a jarring and stressful time.

This kind of transitory or *liminal* space is something we talked at length about at the fall Bishop's gathering in October. This event gathered rostered ministers from around the Grand Canyon Synod for learning and kinship. One of our speakers used the frame of *liminality* – the idea of threshold or in-between spaces. I first encountered theological conversations about liminality in a three-week borderland immersion course I took during seminary. The Rev. Jay Alanis, one of our instructors and guides for the course has written eloquently about liminality, grounding his work in the writing of Gloria Anzaldúa and her book *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza* (5³²¹). Liminality describes the exodus narrative of the Hebrew Scriptures, and the in-between “already-not yet” place of life in Christ.

Even as natural as liminal space is for all of creation, we are often in great pain to arrive at the next destination. Are we there yet? What's for dinner? What's next? We wonder and worry about how things will turn out, forgetting to pay attention to the way things are.

We are one year into our journey together and I join you in wondering (and sometimes, worrying) about the next steps. When we embrace the liminal space, we follow in the steps of Jesus, who stopped to look deeply, listened to people who were often ignored, told stories, and took time for dinner with strangers.

I've quoted this passage from Martin Luther at least twice already this year. I was given a framed copy of the quotation from the Board of Directors of Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries when I left my role as Executive Director to follow a call to ordained ministry. On a typical Sunday morning, I pause to read it before we begin worship together as a way of getting centered and reminding myself of the unfolding mystery of God and life in Christ:

“This life therefore is not righteousness, but growth in righteousness, not health, but healing, not being but becoming, not rest but exercise. We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it, the process is not yet finished, but it is going on, this is not the end, but it is the road.

As we begin a new year, may we see that we are growing, going on, and on the road.

Pastor Amalia

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



Council Corner

October 18, 2022

Hi to our OSLC family!

Can you feel Fall in the air? Isn't it nice to feel the cooler temps, have a respite from the 100's for awhile?



Your council is still busy, getting ready for the holidays (it seems like they are "far" away...) but planning is already in the works! The finance team is working on the budget for 2023, the property committee is looking at short and long term projects which need attention (like placing rubber mulch under the playground equipment for safety). If you notice anything on campus which needs attention, please let the office, council, or property committee know. Committee members work hard, but voice the fun they have working together. If you have an interest in serving on one of the committees, let us know!

Current finances, thanks to your faithfulness, look strong, permitting us to serve our congregation, our community, and needs around the world (do you know about the ELCA disaster relief services?).

Attendance is rising, both at the new chapel service at 7:30 on Sundays and the sanctuary service at 9:45. The workshops held between the services are informative and a great way to build fellowship. Join us at 8:30!

Choir meets weekly on Thursdays at 7 pm and new members are cordially invited to join. Handbells meet Mondays at 6:30 and they are encouraging new ringers to join---previous experience not needed. Great opportunities for you to serve your congregation!

We continue to monitor the Covid numbers and maintain safety as our primary directive. We encourage all of you to use good judgment in your own health.

Exciting news! Mark your calendars---the Luther College Nordic Choir will be with us on January 29th at 4 pm for a concert! (Not to worry---it is NOT Super Bowl Sunday! That is Feb 12th) Watch for additional news on this choir visit as we will need housing and meals for these gifted singers!

Exciting things are happening here at Our Saviour's---be a part of all that is happening!

Blessings to you all!
Your OSLC Church Council



All Saint's Worship, Sunday November 6



On Sunday, November 6 we will remember deaths and baptisms from our lives and congregation this past year. In this special service, we trust and remember the way our lives are united and held in Christ. We will name those from our congregation - please email the church office if you have additional names to add.

Holiday Food Drive

The Holiday Food Drive starts this month and continues through December. In-date canned and packaged non-perishable food items such as canned meats, peanut butter, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, beans, cranberry sauce, boxed stuffing and cake mix are needed. Please put items in the shopping cart that is on the patio on Sundays. Monetary donations can be sent to Interfaith Community Services, 2820 W Ina Rd. Tucson, 85741.



Sophia's Section - by Sophia Rankin, Minister of Community Engagement

October has been eventful as we learn about the traditions behind Día de Los Muertos with Our Saviour's Youth and share that knowledge with the congregation. Our ofrenda will be set up in Koch Chapel throughout the first week of November until Monday the 7th. You are welcome to bring photos and memorabilia of your departed loved ones to add to our ofrenda until that time! Our next Youth Night will take place on November 16th at 5:30 PM. There will be a Ministry Fair during Workshop on November 20th where there will be opportunities to discover all involvement opportunities here at Our Saviour's as well as community engagement opportunities around Tucson! Stay tuned for weekly announcements about how to get involved in and out of the church, or feel free to email me with questions!

With gratitude and excitement,
Sophia



November Workshop Learn + Engage + Serve

NOVEMBER	EVENT	WHERE	LED BY
6	National Alliance on Mental Illness	AB Main	Judi Maikoff
13	Lutheran Campus Ministry Open House	LCM House	Lutheran Campus Ministry
20	Ministry Fair	AB Main	Congregation
27	Advanced Care Planning Part 2	AB Main	Karen McDonald

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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

We are looking forward to a few musical highlights in November: we will hear the Chancel Choir, as well as guest musicians Noah Weig-Pickering (guitar) and Anesu Samuel Masango (voice) during the 9:45 services. In addition, I will perform my Doctoral Chamber Recital on Wednesday, November 9th at 7pm in Holsclaw Recital Hall at the Fred Fox School of Music! Mark your calendars!

Best,
Greta Pásztor
Director of Music Ministries
Our Savior's Lutheran Church



November 2022