



As you read this, we have begun the season of Lent. This year, I find myself leaning into any signs of hope in this season. Back when I was in seminary, a friend of mine called me to share that her supervising pastor was planning a "Happy Lent." I'm not sure I'd go that far, but I am looking for glimpses of joy and reminders of hope.

We have heavy work to do. Yet somehow, the more we engage as a congregation in serious conversation about supporting our most vulnerable neighbors, the more hopeful I feel. I see signs of goodness in the way more people are asking hard questions, thinking more deeply, and speaking up about abuses of power that they see or are concerned by. It's one of the reasons we chose the song "Beautiful Things" as a theme song for our Midweek services. The words of the song speak to the reality of the season, but the hope of God's presence.

Lent can be a challenging season. It is a time that invites introspection. We are challenged to think deeply about ourselves and our relationship with God. On one level, it feels personal. Yet, it is also a communal ritual where we can build community with each other. Lent calls us to turn towards one another and God.

The beauty of Lent is to empty ourselves to make space for the promise of Easter. My friend's congregation in Arkansas (Good Shepherd Lutheran in Fayetteville) puts the Lenten disciplines this way:

- Pray more
- Consume less
- Give generously

The dust and ash of Lent speak to the suffering and pain of life. They also point us to the treasure and beauty that begins and ends in God.

Hope is springing up and life is being found in you – the hope of God, through Christ, by the Spirit.



Pastor Amalia

STAFF**Ministry Team**

Rev. Amalia Vagts (ex 1004)
Pastor
Pastoramalia@lutherantucson.org

Michele Ruttinger
Parish Administrator
Michele@lutherantucson.org

Dr. Aysen Millioğullari
Music Director
Aysen@lutherantucson.org

Betsy Dunlap
Interim Collaborative Musician

Paula Miller
Minister of Community
Engagement

David Zezulka
Interim Campus Caretaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS

oslc@lutherantucson.org

Patty Sirls
President

Meg Hughes
Vice President

Jennifer Strand
Secretary

Sheila Bustamante
Treasurer

Shelly Adrian

Eric Howard

Joanna Keyl

Diane Siefkes

Rachel Starner

**LUTHERAN CAMPUS
MINISTRY**

Interim Director
Wendi Van Beek
wendi.lcmuofa@gmail.com
520-771-9742 (LCM Office)

Online Offering

We have partnered with the ELCA and Tithely to offer secure online giving. Scan the image below using your smart phone to make your offering.



We started our February 17th meeting by welcoming our new council members, Diane Siefkes, Rachel Starner and Eric Howard. We elected the following officers for 2026: President- Patty Sirls, Vice President - Meg Hughes, Secretary- Jennifer Strand, and Treasurer- Sheila Bustamante.

The water heater in the Activity Building was replaced for around \$9,000.

Our Saviour's and Multifaith for Pride will host Tucson-based musician, Namoli Brennet, for a concert March 1 at 4pm in Koch Chapel. Suggested donation is \$15. A potluck will follow this concert

March 29st coffee hour will feature a 55 minute movie entitled "A Time for Burning". This movie is a documentary featuring conversations between members of a Lutheran church and members of an all Black church in Omaha in 1966. It will be interesting to compare and contrast those discussions with discussions around race and LGBTQ+ populations being held now.

Lenten services will be held Wednesdays at noon with a soup lunch following the service. Lenten offerings will benefit ELCA World Hunger. LCM will hold Wednesday evening Lenten services at 6:15pm. All are invited.

We thank you all for attending the Annual Meeting. We had a great turnout and some good discussion regarding the plans for the year ahead.

Fund for Leaders in Ministry Annual Golf Classic

The Ken Ahlstrand Memorial Fund for Leaders Golf Classic will be held at Oro Valley Country Club on Monday, March 30. This annual golf event has been raising money for ELCA seminarians for 27 years and is expected to surpass the \$200,000 mark this year in donated funds to the Rev. Ken Ahlstrand Seminary Scholarship Endowment Fund within the ELCA Fund for Leaders. To celebrate this milestone, the Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, Yeheil Curry will be in attendance at this year's event.

You can support future ELCA leaders by participating by golfing, donating something for the raffle and silent auction, be an event sponsor or donor, or attending the dinner. Contact David Lester if you are interested in learning more about this annual fundraiser to help seminarians across the ELCA. Find David after church or email him at: lesterda313@gmail.com

Music Notes - Aysen Milliogullari**March 2026**

This March, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church is excited to present a rich and inspiring lineup of music for our worship services. The Chancel Choir will lead the congregation in the timeless beauty of Adoramus Te by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina. Its expressive qualities capture the essence of the Renaissance.

Additionally, the choir will perform Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley by William L. Dawson, showcasing the soulful depth of the African American spiritual tradition. We are also delighted to welcome guest musicians and to feature a special Bell Choir performance during our March services.

We hope you enjoy the diversity of music during our March services and the beliefs we share through worship.

Lutheran Campus Ministry - Deacon Wendi Van Beek**March 2026**

Lutheran Campus Ministry
at University of Arizona

Blessed Lent to you all,

By the time you read this note, several of the students and I will be on our way, or way back, from our Spring Break trip to Sedona. It's hard to believe that Spring Break is nearly upon us, and the students and I are excited to explore and serve in Arizona. We will be taking time to worship, pray, and serve during Lent with Christ Lutheran Church. We also plan to volunteer at an Eco Farm with Volunteer Sedona & the Verde Valley. We'll do some hiking, stargazing, and experience one of the infamous Sedona Jeep tours. We'll continue our tradition of delicious home-cooked meals, and take some time for crafts, puzzles, movie nights, homework time, and time to slow down.. We are grateful for this time together, and love the opportunity to serve and enjoy God's good creation, right here in Arizona!

The LCM Board and student leaders are dedicating so much time, thought, and prayers, as they are focused on the process to call the next leader to LCM. We ask that you keep us in your prayers during this time of discernment.

Wishing you a prayerful Lenten Season,

Deacon Wendi
Interim Director



I'm so grateful to be writing my first piece for the Roadrunner. These past few weeks I have been settling into the position of Minister of Community Engagement. This role will embody the values of hospitality and welcome for all members and visitors and engage the congregation in building authentic long-term relationships with one another in ways that intersect with our neighbors' interests. Last month I had the privilege, with two other members of OSLC, of visiting a migrant shelter in Nogales, Sonora, Casa de Misericordia y Todas Las Naciones. With support that includes the Grand Canyon Synod, this shelter provides long-term support for migrant women and families. We had a great tour of the campus, the ukelele workshop, tortilla making room and enjoyed talking with the families.

I have also been getting to know some of our neighbors experiencing homelessness. I look forward to engaging with our neighbors at a deeper level accompanying them wherever they are on their journey and connecting them to resources as needed. I will be assessing our available resources that embody both the corporeal and spiritual works of mercy. This past month we also began discussing how our OSLC community can support our immigrant neighbors during this difficult time. I look forward to sharing more with you as these ideas turn into activities and we continue to live into our values of being a Christ-centered community through faith and action.

Prayer Requests: Our Saviour's Community: Mary Wildner-Bassett (daughter's health diagnosis); Paul Stum (at-home care); Corky Ronstadt (at-home care), Mary Neff (memory care), Schatzi Taylor (care facility), and all at home and in care facilities.

Our Extended Friends & Family: Family and Friends of David Hendrickson (friend of Pat Alvord and former Our Saviour's member); Mary Pflibsen (Aunt Kay G., recovering from hip replacement); Sarah and family (great niece of Donna Lounsbury); Shawn (friend of David Lester); Becky (Daughter of Mary Wildner-Bassett) Frenchie (Friend of Judy and John Indermark); Lia (granddaughter of Angie Grandison), Beverly (Mother of Hildi Williams), David (Son of Geoff and Suzy Swann); Jeanne (Cousin of Alan Bales); Barbara (sister-in-law of Kenith Ijams); Peggy (sister of Bonnie Phelps); Josh, Melissa, Mary Ann, and Libby (friends of Chris and Theda Doak); Megan (niece of Chris and Theda Doak); Sandy and Doug, Sally, Ashley, and Kamri (friends of Kathy DeVinney); Grant and Shirley (brother and sister-in-law of Theda Doak; John (son of Martha Neff Stum and Paul Stum); Sam; Eleanor (mother-in-law of Kris Sanchez; Daniel (neighbor's son of Gloria Schmidt); Rich (cousin-in-law of Jennifer Strand) Misty (friend of Schatzi Taylor) Will (nephew of Chris and Theda Doak); Leaticia, Azogan, Meivis, Sidibe, Bintou, Zinsou, and Mabel (friends of Rachel Starner).

Names will generally remain on the list for three weeks, unless requested for renewal. Please contact the church office for corrections, updates, and additions.

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church March 2026

For a complete listing of all campus events, please visit our website: www.lutherantucson.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 AM Sunday Worship - Sanctuary 10:15 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:30 AM Sandwich Making 4:00 PM Namoli Brennet Concert and Potluck	2 1:30 PM Mindful Meditation - Ramada Room 5:30 PM Pray Without Ceasing 6:30 PM Bell Choir	3 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study - AB Cafe 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 11:00 AM Come and See - Patio Room 6:30PM Spanish Class - AB Cafe	4 10:30 AM Bible Study - Pocket Room 12:00 PM Lent Service and meal 6:15 PM Lent Service and meal	5 6:30 PM Choir - AB Main	6 Office Closed	7 14 10:00 AM Grief Support - Ramada Room
8 9:00 AM Sunday Worship - Sanctuary 10:15 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:30 AM Sandwich Making	9 1:00 PM Isobel Barnhill Memorial 1:30 PM Mindful Meditation - Ramada Room 6:30 PM Bell Choir	10 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study - AB Cafe 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 11:00 AM Come and See - Patio Room 6:30PM Spanish Class - AB Cafe	11 10:30 AM Bible Study - Pocket Room 12:00 PM Lent Service and meal 6:15 PM Lent Service and meal	12 6:30 PM Choir - AB Main	13 Office Closed	
15 9:00 AM Sunday Worship - Sanctuary 10:15 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:30 AM Sandwich Making	16 1:30 PM Mindful Meditation - Ramada Room 5:30 PM Pray Without Ceasing 6:30 PM Book Club - Ramada Room 6:30 PM Bell Choir	17 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study - AB Cafe 9:00 AM Quilters - AB 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 11:00 AM Come and See - Patio Room 6:30 PM Council Meeting - Patio Room 6:30PM Spanish Class - AB Cafe	18 10:30 AM Bible Study - Pocket Room 12:00 PM Lent Service and meal 6:15 PM Lent Service and meal	19 11:00 AM POZ Cafe Main	20 Office Closed	21
22 9:00 AM Sunday Worship - Sanctuary 10:15 AM Sunday Forum - RIC 10:30 AM Sandwich Making	23 1:30 PM Mindful Meditation - Ramada Room 6:30 PM Bell Choir	24 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study - AB Cafe 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 11:00 AM Come and See - Patio Room 6:30PM Spanish Class - AB Cafe	25 10:30 AM Bible Study - Pocket Room 12:00 PM Lent Service and meal 6:15 PM Lent Service and meal	26 6:30 PM Choir - AB Main	27 Office Closed	28 9:00 AM Kino Conference - ELCA Spring Gathering - Sanctuary and AB
29 9:00 AM Sunday Worship - Sanctuary 10:15 AM Sunday Forum - RIC 10:30 AM Sandwich Making	30 1:30 PM Mindful Meditation - Ramada Room 6:30 PM Bell Choir	31 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study - AB Cafe 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 11:00 AM Come and See - Patio Room 6:30PM Spanish Class - AB Cafe				



MARCH HAPPENINGS

Pray Without Ceasing - 1st and 3rd Mondays at 5:30 PM - Chapel

Open prayer space on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 5:30.

The service lasts about half an hour. Rooted in Christian tradition, open to the Tucson community.

Come & See - Tuesdays, 11 AM - Patio Room

Weekly faith formation conversations for everyone. We focus on the upcoming readings for the week. We'll spend time with the "Hidden Gem" reflection prepared by John Indermark, which will take us deeper into one of the texts. Held in the Patio Room. Bring your Bible or borrow one of our Lutheran Study Bibles

Grief Group - March 14, 10 AM - Ramada Room

Meets on the second Saturday of each month in the Ramada Room at 10:00 AM. Led by Pastor Ricki from Hospice of the Valley. Free and open to all.

Namoli Bennet Concert - March 1 at 4 PM (potluck following)

On Sunday, March 1, we will revive our Koch Chapel Concert Series with a return performance from Namoli Brennet. Dubbed, "Among the best folk-rock artists in the US" by the Tucson Weekly, singer/songwriter Namoli Brennet has been touring the US and Europe for 12+ years. A 4-time Outmusic award nominee who was featured in the inaugural Trans 100 list, Brennet has self-released 13 albums. Her music has been featured in The Advocate, on NPR and in the Emmy-award-winning documentary Out In The Silence which details the struggle of a gay teen growing up in rural Pennsylvania. An artist whose music has evolved, along with their gender, into something sophisticated, powerful and moving that defies categorization. Hosted by the Reconciling in Christ team and Tucson Multifaith for Pride.

Admission: \$15 payable at the door (cash preferred)

Potluck: Hang out after the show! Bring a main dish, salad, or dessert to share! Beverages, plates & utensils provided.

Kino Conference Spring Gathering - Saturday, March 28, 2026 9:00 AM

You are invited as the Grand Canyon Synod gathers across Arizona and southern Nevada under the theme Rooted in God's Story. Each gathering offers a chance for rostered ministers, lay leaders, and congregational members to come together for learning, conversation, and community grounded in God's Word. These events remind us that our lives and ministries are woven into God's greater story of love, grace, and renewal. Can you help with hospitality? Please sign up on Sunday or contact the church office.

RIC Forum - March 29, 10:30 AM

The Reconciling in Christ team will lead several forums this spring on the topic of "Expansive Welcome." On March 29th (Palm Sunday), the congregation is invited to watch and discuss [A Time for Burning](#). This 55-minute film by Bill Jersey was commissioned by the national Lutheran Church and documents Pastor Bill Youngdahl's unsuccessful efforts to drive reform by arranging visitations between his parish, the Omaha Augustana Lutheran Church, and Calvin Memorial and Hope Lutheran, two nearby black churches, in 1966. The film aired nationally on public television and was nominated for the Best Documentary Picture Academy Award in 1967. It is a raw, honest, and still relevant conversation about racism, church communities, and social change.



WHERE HELP BRINGS HOPE
FOOD BANK DONATIONS



The Food Bank gratefully accepts prepackaged, canned, non-perishable and in-date items. Personal hygiene supplies are always needed.

Pantry Staples

Peanut butter
 Canned meats: tuna, chicken, Spam, etc.
 Meals in pop-top cans: chili, ravioli, etc.
 Pasta
 Canned fruits and vegetables

Please put items in the shopping cart that is on the patio on Sundays



Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network
Helping People with HIV to Live Well

TIHAN Red Concert Benefit March 8th

Please join us for a late afternoon of music under the beautiful Arizona sky to support TIHAN, the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network. Our Saviour's Lutheran Church is one of 48 faith communities supporting Tucson-area people living with HIV/AIDS and their families through TIHAN. The concert takes place at Three Canyon, an outdoor music venue serving food and drink on Tucson's northeast side at 4999 N Sabino Canyon Rd. Arrive between 4 and 4:30 to get the best parking, grab your preferred seats, and order some delicious food and drink so you'll be ready when the band starts at 5pm! This is an outdoor concert, with covered seating areas and fire pits. Ruta Verbena is an 8-piece Latin band based in Tucson, Arizona, delivering high-energy, dance-driven music inspired by the rich rhythms and melodies of South America. Blending traditional instruments like flute, trumpet, and congas with fresh, vibrant arrangements, Ruta Verbena creates an electrifying sound that gets crowds moving and spirits soaring.

Tickets are \$30 each in advance, or \$40 at the door. Event sponsorships start at \$150 and include event tickets. Tickets and sponsorships are available at <https://www.centerforhealthandhope.org/the-red-concert>. Last year's Red Concert sold-out, so don't delay in securing your tickets! All proceeds are split evenly, supporting the work of TIHAN serving people living with HIV here in Tucson, and the Center for Health and Hope providing services to people affected by HIV globally.



OUR SAVIOUR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

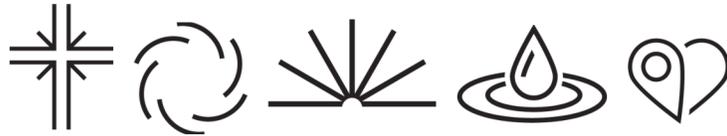
1200 N. Campbell Ave

Tucson AZ 85719

www.lutherantucson.org

OSLC@lutherantucson.org

(520)327-6521



A Reconciling in Christ congregation of the ELCA:

Being Christ-centered community through faith and action in the heart of Tucson.

LENT SERVICES



OUR SAVIOUR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Lutheran Campus Ministry
at University of Arizona

Wednesdays - 12PM & 6:15 PM - Chapel

Co-led by Our Saviour's and Lutheran Campus Ministry

A light meal will be provided after each service.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Maundy Thursday April 2 - 6 PM

service for healing, prayer & action

Good Friday April 3

Noon - Procession Downtown

Service - 6:00 PM - Sanctuary

Easter Sunday April 5

7:30 AM - Koch Chapel

9:30 AM - Sanctuary



Our Saviour's Lutheran
www.lutherantucson.org