



What Do You Fear?

Pastor Amalia

Insisting on Hope this Advent

We have entered a new Church year and the season of Advent. This time fills some with joy, some with stress, and some with grief. Or a mix of all this and more. In this, we gather for worship on Sundays and Wednesdays to revisit the story of Christ's birth.

From the season of Advent to the festival of Epiphany this year we will be using worship materials from Sanctified Art (a collaborative worship resource). We will follow a different pattern than the Revised Common Lectionary for our readings and our worship words will reflect the theme "What Do You Fear? Insisting on Hope."

From the authors of the series:

We've crafted an Advent series that takes seriously the angels' message and trusts that Christ's birth truly is good news of great joy for all people. This series looks closely at the fear and terror looming in the background during the time of King Herod and invites us to consider the fears we hold now. Fear can divide and paralyze us, and even be used as a tool for oppression. But what if we formed a different relationship with fear? Can we acknowledge fear without letting it rule us? Might we catalyze our fears into love and action? What if naming our fears helps us see more clearly how God is breaking in and where God is at work? This series gently invites us to identify where fear is present—both in the Advent story and in our lives—while also finding our way toward hope, with the angels' voices in our ears. Every Advent, we light candles, sing carols, and pray for Christ's coming because we believe God entered a frightened world to bring good news. We hold onto hope because we believe that Christ did come—that's the promise of the season. Our hope is not flimsy or fleeting. It's gritty, resilient, and can endure—no matter what we fear or face. This season, let us insist on hope and trust that good news is greater than fear.

- A Sanctified Art



December 7 - "When We are Running Out of Hope, God Is at Work"

December 14 - "Even In Our Fear We Are Called Forward"

December 21 - "When You're Afraid, Give Me Your Hand"

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day - "Good News Is Louder Than Fear"

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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.

**Council Corner** - Jennifer Strand**December 2025**

The Council meetings begin with a devotion and end with prayer. The devotion this meeting focused on care for our neighbor. Using a summation of Martin Luther's essay The Freedom of a Christian and an excerpt from 1 Corinthians it was emphasized that we are redeemed in Christ, not bound to external rituals, but we are free to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Thank you for your continued generosity. The rental houses are in good shape. The property insurance is going up. With the list produced by Quality Air, that indicates when the HVAC units were installed, we are aware of possible future needs. The fire panel in the Activity Building will be replaced. This was necessary for safety reasons. The Church Office is working with Tucson Electric Power to see about rebates for the upgrades we have made to the lighting on the campus.

The Finance Committee continues to work on the 2026 budget. The Pie lunch hosted by the Generosity Committee was delicious and much appreciated. The Council noted that the brochures and lunch were well received. A big thank you to those who have returned their pledged card for next year. It is never too late.

Two topics from last month were examined. Lutheran Campus Ministry has conducted the feasibility study for the Center of Grace. They will be talking with the Synod and our church before anything is finalized. The "Open Stage" proposal by Paula Miller was discussed and the Council voted to move forward with the idea of a place and time for unhoused musicians to play. Further logistical information is needed before implementation, but we wish to support this part of our community.

Generosity Update

We had pie! We have purpose! Thank you for being part of conversations this fall about stewardship, generosity, pie charts and pies.

We have received 46 Statements of Intent. We are off to a good start toward our goal of 70 returned Statement of Intent card. This practice of considering what you can give and then making a plan helps – our goal is 70, so we are already over halfway there! Please send in your Statement of Intent – you can place it in the offering plate or bring it to the office.

Our Saviour's Pledge History

2020 – 241,000

2021 – 214,000

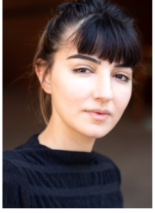
2022 – 240,000

2023 – 275,000

2024 – 281,000

2025 – 266,000

2026 – Together, we hope to reach 70 households and 285,000 in intended giving.



As we enter Advent, a time to wait and prepare our hearts, the Chancel Choir will offer music that encourages reflection and stillness. Libby Larsen's Lord, Before This Fleeting Season invites us to pause and notice those quiet moments when God's love touches our lives.

For Christmas, we turn to the joy and wonder of Christ's birth. From Bach's Christmas Oratorio, BWV 248, "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light" (Brich an, o schönes Morgenlicht,) reflects on the meaning of Christ's birth, reminding us how a small, humble child can bring hope and light to the world. That feeling of awe continues in "Still, Still, Still," arranged by Norman Luboff, a gentle Austrian carol that reflects the calm beauty of the holy night.

Together, these pieces carry us from the reflective waiting of Advent into the celebration of Christmas, filling hearts with peace, wonder, and joy.

Lutheran Campus Ministry - Deacon Wendi Van Beek**December 2025**

Lutheran Campus Ministry
at University of Arizona

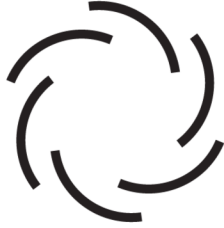
Dear friends and partners in ministry. I am grateful to be able to write to you today to share my deep personal and professional gratitude for your generosity.

Only a few short years ago, I stepped foot into the sanctuary at Our Saviour's. Having never been here before, you were generous with your welcome, your care, and your support of me as a seminary student. Not long after, you were generous in saying yes to me serving my internship in this congregation. You showed up with kindness and joy when I was ordained in this sanctuary in February of this year. Your generosity is one of the many reasons I am grateful to call Our Saviour's my church home.

And, professionally, you have supported my call at Lutheran Campus Ministry. You support the students who attend LCM. You welcome them into church on Sunday mornings, and worship with them on Wednesdays during advent and lent seasons. You opened your doors by providing LCM with a house to rent for our dinner and worship space, and offices for the campus ministry staff. And you support the ministry and mission of LCM with your financial contributions. Quite simply, because of Our Saviour's stewardship of financial resources, LCM can exist in this space, as your neighbor and partner in ministry, thanks to the generosity of this congregation.

And mine is just one individual story and LCM is just one benefactor of your generosity. Many of us had the opportunity to spend time at Our Saviour's last month, celebrating 80 years at this corner of Campbell and Speedway, and learning more about the history of our congregation, our ministry, and our mission. Who we are and where we have come from is an important story to tell. And with your continued generosity, you are saying yes to the next stories of ministry and mission yet to come for Our Saviour's, and for Lutheran Campus Ministry!

DECEMBER HAPPENINGS



Advent - Wednesdays, Dec 3, 10, 17 at 6:15PM - Chapel
Sundays December 7, 14, 21 at 9:00 AM - Sanctuary

Come & See - Tuesdays, 11 AM - Patio Room

Weekly faith formation conversations for everyone. This fall we will 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.

Centering Prayer - Paused until the New Year

Grief Group - December 13, 10AM - Ramada Room

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

Pray Without Ceasing - Paused until the New Year

Gospel of Luke Book Study - Monday December 1 at 6:30PM

Gospel of Luke Book Study - Ramada Room

Ched Myers, Healing Affluenza and Resisting Plutocracy - Luke's Jesus and Sabbath Economics. This journey with Luke will challenge us personally, in our households, and our communities, both locally and globally. Contact: Paula Miller for more information.

Christmas Eve - Wednesday December 24 at 5:00 PM - Sanctuary

Christmas Day - Thursday December 25 at 9:00 AM - Hymn Sing

Rescheduled for January.

Save the Date: Rain Garden Work Day
January 31

sign up by emailing oslc@lutherantucson.org



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

December 2025

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM	1 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30pm Book Club 6:30PM Ramada Room Bell Choir sanctuary 6:30pm	2 *Men's Bible Study 7:00AM - AB Scattering Group 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00AM Come and See 11:00AM Spanish Class AB Café 6:30pm	3 Bible Study 10:30am Pocket Room Advent Service 6:15 PM	4 Choir Practice 6:30pm	5 OFFICE CLOSED	6 Grief Support Group 10:00am Ramada Room
7 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM	8 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30pm Bell Choir sanctuary 6:30pm	9 *Men's Bible Study 7:00AM - AB Scattering Group 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00AM Come and See 11:00AM Spanish Class AB Café 6:30pm	10 Property 9AM Bible Study 10:30am Pocket Room Advent Service 6:15 PM	11 Choir Practice 6:30pm	12 OFFICE CLOSED	13 Grief Support Group 10:00am Ramada Room
14 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM	15 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30pm Book Club 6:30PM Ramada Room Bell Choir Sanctuary 6:30pm	16 *Men's Bible Study 7:00AM - AB Quilting 9AM AB Staff Meeting 10:00AM Come and See 11:00AM Council Meeting Patio Rm Spanish Class AB Café 6:30pm	17 Roadrunner Assembly 9:00AM Patio Room Bible Study 10:30am Pocket Room Advent Service 6:15 PM	18 Poz CAFÉ All Day Choir Practice 6:30pm	19 OFFICE CLOSED	20
21 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM	22 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30pm Bell Choir sanctuary 6:30pm	23 *Men's Bible Study 7:00AM - AB Staff Meeting 10:00AM Come and See 11:00AM Spanish Class AB Café 6:30pm	24 Christmas Eve Service 5PM	25 Christmas Day Hymn Sing Service 9AM	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27
28 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM	29 OFFICE CLOSED *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30pm Bell Choir sanctuary 6:30pm	30 *Men's Bible Study 7:00AM - AB Staff Meeting 10:00AM Spanish Class AB Café 6:30pm	31	HAPPY NEW YEAR OFFICE CLOSED		

Just SNAP out of it...

The last month and a half have been a turbulent time for many of us. Federal government closures have left our family, friends and neighbors stranded in airports, without jobs, paychecks and critical services. Most recently without critical food assistance.

Our Saviour's responded to these crises as we always do... Thank you to all who have offered extra support by volunteering, donating funds and collecting food and supplies! This was evident by the overflowing ICS shopping cart last Sunday! Last week the Endowment committee funded additional grants to keep important medical and mental health services available to unhoused and veteran neighbors!

As you plan your holiday and contributions for the following year, keep the momentum going. The Tucson community has many people who remain in need of our support. Here are just three suggestions:

1. Take the SNAP food challenge. This challenge was promoted by the Food Resource Action Center last Lenten season. It is "simple" way to learn the limitations of the SNAP program. The average SNAP payment is \$6.00 per day per person. Purchase 5-day's groceries for yourself using ONLY \$30.00. Do not use food items you already have stored in your home. Additionally, you cannot spend money on "hot food" items like the COSTCO roast chickens we all enjoy. I have tried this myself. It's quite eye-opening. I look forward to hearing about your experiences.
2. Continue to support community resource agencies. Following are a few agencies Our Saviour's actively supports:
 - Grace Saint Paul Episcopal Church (St. Joseph's Pantry) – Community outreach.
 - Interfaith Community Services (ICS) – Food and household supplies.
 - Pay it Forward Tucson – Veterans.
 - TIHAN – HIV/Aids.
 - Youth on Their Own – Youth.

Join Lutheran Day at the Legislature (February 23, 2026) and/or sign up for the LAMA newsletter to stay abreast of weekly news and action updates: <https://lamaz.org/contact> or on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/LutheranAdvocacy>.

Prayer Requests Mary W-B, Isobel, Mary N, Schatzi, Jackie, Paul, and those at home and in care facilities.

Our Extended Friends & Family: Pat (mother of Lisa Delaossa); 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 Shatzi Taylor) Will (nephew of Chris and Theda Doak); Leaticia, Azogan, Meivis, Sidibe, Bintou, Zinsou, and Mabel (friends of Rachel Starner); Pat (freind of Suzanne Hesh).

How to support Interfaith Community Services' Holiday Food Drive

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

November to December 31

The ICS Food Bank gratefully accepts prepackaged, canned, non-perishable and in-date items.

Holiday Items Needed

Instant, canned, or fresh potatoes and yams

Cranberry sauce

Canned veggies especially green beans and corn

Boxed and bagged stuffing mix

Boxed baking mixes (Bisquick, Jiffy)

Gravy mix or canned gravy

Canned pumpkin

Cream of mushroom soup

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.

Youth On Their Own

At Youth On Their Own, there is a place, known as the MiniMall, where your in-kind donations are shelved in a store format. Students have access to the MiniMall once a week, either online or by visiting in person. As of 9/10/2025, the wish list from the YOTO website contains the list shown below. At the moment, the item in particular need is underwear for teenage boys and girls. School supplies are also in demand, as the school year is now underway. Thank you so much for your generosity. The YOTO personnel are always so happy to see me with the donations from Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. **Food:** Individually packaged snacks (chips, granola bars, trail mix, fruit snacks, jerky, etc.), Mac & cheese cups, Raman cups & pouches, Dry pasta, Pasta sauce (no glass please), Canned fruit, Shelf-stable milk (dairy & non-dairy) **Hygiene:** Toilet paper, Body wash, Shampoo (full-sized), Conditioner (full-sized), Face wash, Shaving cream, Chapstick, Toothbrushes **Linens/Household:** Full size bath towels (new only), Pillows (new only), Paper towels, Multipurpose cleaner, Toilet cleaner.

Asher Havenhill



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A Reconciling in Christ congregation of the ELCA:
Being Christ-centered community through faith and action in the heart of Tucson.



**OUR SAVIOUR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Advent 2025

Wednesdays, Dec. 3, 10, 17 at 6:15 PM in the Chapel
Sundays, Dec. 7, 14, 21 at 9:00 AM in the Sanctuary

1200 N Campbell Ave, Tucson



**OUR SAVIOUR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve 5:00PM
Christmas Day Hymn Sing 9:00AM

1200 N Campbell Ave, Tucson



ELCA

WELCOME

Your presence builds up the body of Christ. We welcome and affirm God's diversity, including all ethnicities, cultures, races, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, abilities, ages, and life experiences. You are invited to full participation in our congregation because of who you are. We lament and confess how the Christian Church has withheld Christ's love by misusing the power of institution. We commit to advocating for God's justice and mercy for all of creation, including humans. We commit to anti-racism and other ways of ending systems that cause harm. Christ is our peace and breaks down the walls that divide us. Our communion table is Christ's table. You and all people are welcome without exception.



RECONCILING IN CHRIST