



Recently, my beloved coffeemaker of nearly 20 years stopped working. This was a basic Cuisinart - but a true workhorse. Anyone who has spent time with me in the morning (and sometimes early afternoon) knows that I am a serious coffee drinker. When David searched for a replacement, he found that our old model had been replaced by a newer and so-called "better" one. But I am still grieving the familiar feel and style of my old one. Change is hard.

We all know it, but to experience it is another thing. We are experiencing a lot of change together at Our Saviour's - most immediately with Pastor Glenn Schrader and Ted Adams' move to Colorado and Greta Pasztor's move to Safford. This fall we will explore some new forms of faith formation and music ministry. It is a fitting time of year for change - the "sunbirds" who feel the Tucson heat are returning and soon we will welcome the "snowbirds" back too. The students are back at Pima and UA and area schools. We will meet new people, have new conversations. And I WILL get used to my new coffeepot. I promise. Please read below about a new faith formation series from John Indermark. These will be weekly reflection pieces for personal study and will also be the basis for our Come & See weekly gatherings, which I will lead. - Pastor Amalia

HIDDEN GEMS

Back in the days of sharper eyes and flexier knees, I used to hunt for beach agates. There were certain disciplines that helped. A slow plod made for the best pace. Eyes angled slightly forward to catch glistenings of mineral illuminated by a coastal sky. A modest light from the overcast was best, much preferred over a sunny blinding glare or the curtaining of Pacific Northwest soaking rains. Once a candidate was spotted, the knees took over to provide a closer look that would confirm the find. Or not. In any case: time must be taken, attention must be paid.

I have long since lost the mimeographed sheet from my first year at seminary that laid out a process for digging into a Biblical text. As I remember, the pattern followed that of hunting for agates. Time must be taken - to search words in search of Word. Attention must be paid - not just to the obvious and familiar, but to the things and ones hidden in plain sight. Things and ones that might be revealing of the Big Picture. Hidden gems.

All of which is to introduce a trial run of this digital companion for worship preparation. For the next 8 weeks, I will root around in the coming Sunday's texts for some hidden gem. Perhaps a word easily overlooked but telling. Perhaps meanings or patterns or parallels clearer in the original languages than their English renderings. Perhaps some aspect of context or rhetoric that sheds light on the whole. Or perhaps ? Your opinions will be welcomed by Pastor Amalia and me as to whether this is a useful guide to continue. . . or to give it a proper burial.

There will be a link to Hidden Gems in the weekly e-mailings. I will seek to keep each one close to the length of this introduction. Not because more could not be said - but in hopes that more of your time and attention will be spent in your own further exploring.

- John Indermark

Council Corner - Ted Adams, Secretary September 2025

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Online Offering

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We started our time together with a potluck meal, giving time to say farewell to our two departing members. With Mel Bowman – Member at Large and Ted Adams – Council Secretary and Endowment Member at Large departing, there were several actions taken at the meeting to fill open seats.

As per our Governing Documents, when a vacancy occurs, the Council shall elect by majority vote, a successor to serve until the next annual meeting (February 2026). Council by unanimous vote appointed Tracy Ratliff to fill Ted's remaining term on the Endowment Committee. Current Council member Jennifer Strand was approved without objection to serve as Council Secretary. By unanimous vote Kathy DeVinny was appointed to serve as Council Member At Large, filling one of the two open seats. Several names were put forward as possible candidates to fill the second open seat. Council will address that opening at the next meeting.

Mary and Asher Havenhill shared their experience in working to provide a Thanksgiving meal to the Lot at 22nd Street, a homeless

encampment here in Tucson. They wanted to invite the members of OSLC to join them in supporting the effort for this year's Thanksgiving. The focus of the OSLC participation would be providing side dishes for the meal. Donations would be collected, food prepared, and volunteers would be involved in serving. Council discussed this later in the meeting under new business and voted to wholeheartedly support the effort with a grant from the Ministry Growth Fund interest. More information will be coming out to the Congregation about this worthy endeavor.

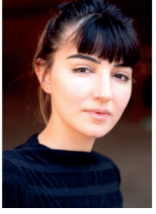
Jennifer Strand reported that she had been reviewing annual reports going back to 1945 as part of the prep for the 80th Anniversary Celebration. Many great ideas are surfacing for the event. It is envisioned that there will be a series of skits highlighting different aspects of OSLC over the years. The committee continues to look for volunteers to work on writing the skits and serving as story guides. They will also need actors for the skits. If you have every felt you were destined for Broadway, this could be your big chance to launch that career.

A Thank-You from Pastor Glenn and Ted Adams

What a great time we had on our last Sunday at Our Saviour's, sharing time and stories together, and reminiscing about our wonderful time with this congregation! We want to take this opportunity to thank you all for the support, good wishes, and prayers that we have been showered with since we announced our impending departure. Not that it's a surprise, as this congregation has been so kind and loving over all the years that we have been members. And although we are physically taking our leave, we will carry you with us in our hearts. You have enriched our lives and we are better people for having known you. As Ginny prayed this past Sunday, we hope we can find our warm hats and gloves to get us through the Colorado winter. But even if we cannot, we'll be cozy in front of the fireplace wrapped in our beautiful quilts, when we will again remember the love in which you have wrapped us. May God bless and protect you.

Music Notes - Aysen Milliogullari

September 2025



We are excited to announce that the Chancel Choir will begin its new season on Thursday, September 4, with rehearsals held weekly from 6:30–7:30 p.m. in the activity building. The choir's first worship service of the season will be on Sunday, September 21, when they will perform Seek Ye First, words and music by Karen Lafferty, in a choral setting by Douglas E. Wagner.

Our Saviour's Bell Choir starts this season's rehearsals on Monday, September 8th, in the Sanctuary. Practice begins by 6:30 and runs for about an hour. We welcome all who are interested in ringing or just curious to see what is involved. If you have any questions just ask any current bell ringer or contact Kathie (kmmmiller@hotmail.com)

Lutheran Campus Ministry - Deacon Wendi Van Beek

September 2025



Dear Siblings in Christ,

As I write this note, it is less than 2 weeks before the students at University of Arizona and Pima Community College return to their fall studies, and we begin to worship and serve together at Lutheran Campus Ministry in Tucson on August 27.

The summer has gone by so quickly, but I am excited for this new year!



Lutheran Campus Ministry
at University of Arizona

And as the students transition back into their studies, I also transition into the interim director role at Lutheran Campus Ministry. I have had the pleasure of working with the students at LCM since November of last year. They are kind and thoughtful people who are welcoming to all, and I am grateful to know them and lead them in this part of their journey to discipleship. If you want to check out the ministry that we are up to at LCM, go to our website www.lcmuofa.org. And if you know of a college student or young adult that is looking for a worshipping opportunity, please let them know about LCM U of Arizona. God is up to good things in campus ministry!

The board of LCM and I, as well as the students, welcome your prayers and encouragement during this new academic year at LCM. As we gather for a meal and worship on Wednesday evenings at our Campus Ministry House, we are also grateful for the ways that you might consider supporting us this year. You could volunteer to provide a meal, sponsor a meal, purchase items on our Amazon wishlist to stock our student food pantry by searching LCM - U of Arizona (or go to https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2JM7PSVQAQH4Z?ref_=wl_share). Or by providing financial support to campus ministry through our website, through Zelle (lcm.uofa@gmail.com) or by mailing a check to us at 1200 N Campbell Ave, Tucson, AZ 85719. In all the ways you can, or have, supported LCM, we are grateful!



Sandwich Making every Sunday after worship We make about 100 sandwiches that will be served the next day at the welcome center at Grace St. Paul Episcopal Church. We can often use an extra hand or two with sandwiches following worship.

Quilt Ministry Third Tuesday of every month in AB

The OSLC Quilt Ministry would love for anyone who wants to stitch at home to pick fabric from our "stash" and make a quilt top at home. You don't need to join us in person on our third Tuesday get-togethers to help. When your top is done just bring it back and the group will get it backed, batted, quilted, bound and delivered.

Spanish Class Tuesday Nights at 6:30 in the AB Cafe

If you wish to join us in person, come to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church at the Activity Building in tCafe. We will have copies of the lesson printed for you. If you wish to join us by zoom, you will print the lesson. Please contact Annette Chavez at amchavez111@yahoo.com for more information.

Wednesday Bible Study Wednesdays at 10:30 AM AB Pocket Room

Bible study group meets Wednesday at 10:30AM in the AB pocket room. Contact Lauretta Olson for more information - landjo@cox.net.

ICS - Interfaith Community Services

The need for assistance is increasing as more people in our community are losing jobs, benefits and rising food insecurity. The Food Bank is on a mission to collect 10,000 jars of peanut butter in a month. Canned, packaged and in-date non-perishable items including pasta, peanut butter, canned meats, rice, beans, cereal, children and adult diapers and wipes are always needed. Please put items in the shopping cart that is on the patio on Sundays. Angie Grandison

Youth On Their Own

As the school year gets going, more unaccompanied youth (those without a parent, guardian, or stable home) will be identified by the schools and subsequently referred to YOTO. Current YOTO clients will also be returning to school. What does YOTO do to help them? There are three components that YOTO addresses. 1. Financial assistance is provided to each student in the form of a monthly stipend as long as the student is attending school. 2. Basic human needs are addressed include food, hygiene and household supplies (LIKE THOSE YOU HAVE DONATED - THANK YOU!!), and transportation via bicycles and SunTran passes should they stop being free to riders. 3.) Guidance is provided in collaboration with other local agencies in the form of housing referrals, personal counseling, one-on-one success coaching, medical, dental & vision care, and employment and community involvement opportunities.

In a nutshell, YOTO helps at-risk students become successful, productive adults. The Back-To-School Challenge is still in progress, so feel free to bring in school supplies to church and place them in the YOTO bin. Thank you! Asher Havenhill

TIHAN Newsletter Folding Party

TIHAN (Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network) provides support and encouragement to people living with HIV or AIDS in the Tucson-area community. Their quarterly newsletter will be going out in September. They would welcome help at their newsletter folding party. It's fun, easy, and open to all – no training required! This is a fantastic opportunity to give back, meet like-minded people, and make a real impact. This activity is mostly sitting and will be done in the TIHAN office space in the OSLC Activity Building. Snacks are provided. The fun starts on Monday, Sep 8 (10 am-2pm), plus Tues. and Wed., Sept 9 and 10 (12-4 pm). Help may also be needed Thursday, Sept 11, but be sure to check with the TIHAN office first as they may be finished by then. You can help for a short time or stay for an entire shift. Feel free to come any time during the listed times; however, If you know in advance that you're able to help, please RSVP to Kristen (520-299-6647 ext 204) as it helps for planning purposes. Feel free to invite family and friends to join you! Thank you for all the ways you support TIHAN and the Care Partners they serve.

Via de Cristo Weekend October 9 - 12. This is a three-day retreat based on the fundamentals of Christianity, concentrating on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ. The purpose of Via de Cristo is to inspire, challenge, and equip local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, and communities. See Kathy DeVinney or Pam Hardman for more information.

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

September 2025 Calendar

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM	1 *OFFICE CLOSED Labor Day	2 *Men's Bible Study 7:00AM - AB Staff Meeting 10:00AM Centering Prayer 12:15PM Spanish Class AB Café 6:30pm	3 Bible Study 10:30am Pocket Room LCM Dinner and Worship 6:00pm	4	5 OFFICE CLOSED	6
7 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM Newcomer Gathering 1015AM Pocket Room	8 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30pm	9 *Men's Bible Study 7:00AM - AB Property 9AM Library Staff Meeting 10:00AM Come and See 11:00AM Centering Prayer 12:15PM Spanish Class AB Café 6:30pm	10 Bible Study 10:30am Pocket Room LCM Dinner and Worship 6:00pm	11	12 OFFICE CLOSED	13 Grief Support Group 10:00am Ramada Room
14 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM Last Supper Club 6:00pm Chapel	15 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30pm Pray Without Ceasing Chapel 5:30 PM	16 *Men's Bible Study 7:00AM - AB Quilting 9AM AB Staff Meeting 10:00AM Come and See 11:00AM Centering Prayer 12:15PM Council Meeting 6:30PM Pato Rm Spanish Class AB Café 6:30pm	17 Bible Study 10:30am Pocket Room LCM Dinner and Worship 6:00pm	18 Poz CAFÉ All Day	19 OFFICE CLOSED	20
21 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM Newcomer Gathering 1015AM Pocket Room	22 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30pm	23 *Men's Bible Study 7:00AM - AB Staff Meeting 10:30AM Staff Meeting 10:00AM Come and See 11:00AM Centering Prayer 12:15PM Spanish Class AB Café 6:30pm	24 Roadrunner Assembly 900AM Pato Room Bible Study 10:30am Pocket Room LCM Dinner and Worship 6:00pm	25	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27
28 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM	29 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30pm	30 *Men's Bible Study 7:00AM - AB Staff Meeting 10:00AM Come and See 11:00AM Centering Prayer 12:15PM Spanish Class AB Café 6:30pm		These are community organized events, held at Our Saviour's. More information can be found on our Events Page - https://lutherantucson.org/events-page		



SEPTEMBER HAPPENINGS

Come & See - Tuesdays, 11 AM, begins Sept 9

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. Please note the new day and time.

Centering Prayer - Tuesdays, 12:15

Centering Prayer is a form of Christian contemplation that involves sitting in silence, focusing on a sacred word, consenting to God's presence and action within. We pray for 20 minutes. Held in Koch Chapel. Beginners welcome!

Newcomer Gatherings - Sept 7 and 21, following Worship

If you are new to the Our Saviour's community and thinking about joining, or engaging more deeply in worship and community life, and would like to get to know more about Our Saviour's, please join a Newcomer Gathering on September 7 and 21. We will meet in the Activity Building "Pocket Room" following worship. Email Pastor Amalia if you would like to sign up or learn more. We will receive newcomers to the congregation in worship on October 26 (Reformation Day).

Last Supper Club - Sept 14, 6 PM

We will hold another **Last Supper Club** (dinner church) on Sunday, September 14 at 6:00 PM in the Chapel. Dinner church is a model of worship that combines dinner and a worship service. Last Supper Club is open to anyone. Filled with Spirit. Alcohol-free. LGBTQ+ affirming. This is a meal and church all at once. The music and worship style is more relaxed than Sunday worship. We will gather around one big table in the Chapel. Led by Pastor Amalia and Sophia Rankin.

We are looking for a small team to help prepare and set-up for the service and meal. If you can help with this meal and worship, please contact Pastor Amalia.

Bearing Witness: A Public Witness from Southern Arizona

On Tuesday, August 26, the Tucson Star published a letter co-signed by over 75 Southern Arizona clergy, including Pastor Amalia and other retired clergy from our congregation. The letter begins: "On behalf of over 75 Southern Arizona faith leaders representing a spectrum of Christian traditions, we write with an urgent call to Christians to speak out for the way of Jesus and against devastation being done to our neighbors and planet. As faith leaders, we bear witness daily to the teaching of Jesus Christ — a message grounded in love and compassion that provides wisdom for humans seeking to live in respectful relationship with God's creation and one another."

You can read the full letter and list of signers at www.bearwitnessnow.org. This fall, we will continue to find ways that we can respond and bear witness to God's message of hope and healing in Christ.

God Be With You Til We Meet Again

With gratitude, good wishes, and some sadness the congregation said thank you and farewell to Rev. Glenn Schrader and Ted Adams on Sunday, August 17. Pastor Glenn and Ted shared with the congregation in mid-July that they were relocating to Colorado.

Pastor Glenn was called as Associate Pastor for Faith Formation at Our Saviour's in October of 2023. In the 20 years prior to ordination and during his years as a professor and dean at University of Arizona, Pastor Glenn was an active member of Our Saviour's. His partner Ted Adams was a regular attendee for those years as well, becoming a member in June of 2022. As a lay leader, Pastor Glenn led numerous education and faith formation opportunities over the years, providing key leadership for the Sunday Forum, which sometimes filled the Activity Building and included guest presenters for the University of Arizona, Wartburg Theological Seminary, and other parts of the country. Pastor Glenn was a key leader in the Diakonia program, and a graduate of the program before beginning seminary at Wartburg. Pastor Glenn served in leadership roles around the Synod as well. During his call as Associate Pastor, he revived the Sunday Forum, launched a new pastor-led Bible Study called "Come & See," helped launch and lead the Reconciling in Christ process, the Scattering Group, and provided regular preaching and worship leading at Our Saviour's. His passion for faith formation and leadership development will leave a lasting legacy at Our Saviour's. Also an avid desert gardener, Pastor Glenn could often be found around the Our Saviour's campus, planting or tending to many desert plants he brought from his and Ted's home. After officially joining the congregation in 2022, Ted Adams was quickly enlisted to serve in a range of ways with the congregation, bringing his skills of financial expertise, attention to detail, and care for the congregation. Ted served on Council, including as Secretary of the congregation beginning in 2022. He served in worship in a range of roles (assisting minister, acolyte, usher, greeter), on the Endowment Committee and Finance Committee. Ted could often be found helping out in the kitchen before and after events. In addition to their generous service with the congregation, Ted and Pastor Glenn were involved with a number of local organizations, notably TIHAN and Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest. Additionally, their public and long-time presence as a couple paved the way for our Reconciling in Christ decision in 2025.

On August 17th, we blessed and sent these two faithful leaders, with grateful hearts and quilts from the Our Saviour's quilting ministry to keep them warm during the Denver winter. We also put together a few of the many wonderful photos taken by Jack Wahl. The banner that Pastor Glenn and Ted made for Pastor Glenn's ordination was given to the congregation as a continued sign of their ministry and work to join in God's reconciling love.

We give thanks for the many years of ministry and care from Pastor Glenn and Ted - as you have been a blessing to us, may you be carried by God to be a blessing in your new community in Colorado.

As Pastor Glenn liked to say at the beginning of worship: This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!





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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.

Pray Without Ceasing

The first and third Monday of the month at 5:30PM in Koch Chapel

Come and See

Every Tuesday at 11:00AM in the Patio Room

Centering Prayer

Every Tuesday at 12:15PM in Koch Chapel



Save the date: Saturday October 25, 2025 80 years of Service & Love

We will hold a special day of events on Saturday, October 25, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM to celebrate the past, present, and future of Our Saviour's. The coordinating committee is: Mary Lou Forier, Patty Sirs, and Jennifer Strand.

Call for Actors! Help us bring our story to life. Talk to the Coordinating Committee.