



“...but **speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way** into [Christ] who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, **joined and knit together by every ligament** with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, **promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.**” (Ephesians 4:15-16)

This passage from the letter to the church in Ephesus is one of my framing scriptural passages for the year. I have long loved the phrase “building itself up in love,” but the more time I spend with this section of Ephesians, the more I learn to love.

In these words, we see that Christ **nurtures, joins, and equips** the Church (the Body of Christ). We also see that we have roles to play too – speaking the truth in love, maturing in our faith, and working to promote the Body’s growth.

As we move into the season of Lent and in these days where the Church is increasingly called to bear witness to God's mercy, justice, and truth, may we walk this path together in faith, hope, and love.

Pastor Amalia

Ministry Team and Staff Updates

Minister of Community Engagement - I am happy to officially welcome Paula Miller to a new quarter-time position, Minister of Community Engagement. Paula has been helping coordinate our Sunday morning sandwich making and has regularly helped provide compassionate welcome to people coming to our door seeking help and shelter. Paula brings considerable gifts and experience welcoming and providing support to all people, especially to immigrants and people who are unhoused. Paula’s gentle, approachable manner is grounded in the teaching of the Catholic Worker Movement, which is committed to nonviolence, voluntary poverty, prayer, and hospitality for the homeless, exiled, hungry, and forsaken. Paula will help all of us better relate to each other as neighbors.

Campus Caretaker - I am glad to share the good news that our Interim Campus Caretaker, David Zezulka, will continue in a more permanent role. David provides care for our grounds and buildings, working closely with Michele, Paula, and the property and grounds team.

Collaborative Musician (Keyboardist) - We are so grateful to Betsy Dunlap, our Interim Collaborative Musician who will be with us throughout the Easter season. We have begun a national search for a permanent person, focusing on a gifted church musician who can help the congregation proclaim God’s love in Christ through music.

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

Pam Hardman

Treasurer

Shelly Adrian

Kathy DeVinney

David Johnson

Joanna Keyl

**LUTHERAN CAMPUS
MINISTRY**

Interim Director

Wendi Van Beek

Community Engagement

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.



The Council had its first meeting of 2026 on January 20th. There were several items that the Council voted on. These included:

- We recommend the presentation of the 2026 Mission Plan to the Congregation for a vote at the Annual Meeting on February 8, 2026. The Mission Plan will be presented at the Sunday Forum on February 1, along with the nominees for Church Council. Please come.
- We approved the Memorandum of Understanding with Covenant Fellowship regarding the use of Koch Chapel for their 11:00 AM Sunday service. This continues our engagement with small local churches that need a place for worship.
- We approved fundraising efforts for the Grand Canyon Synod golf tournament that supports the ELCA Fund for Leaders. This fund supports those going to ELCA seminaries. Pastor Amalia was greatly helped by this fund. All proceeds from the golf game will go to the Fund.

We are pleased to welcome Paula Miller as our new Minister of Community Engagement, beginning February 1. She will embody the values of hospitality and welcome for all members and visitors. One function is to deepen the congregation's involvement in ministry with seniors, unsheltered neighbors, and immigrants. This is a quarter-time position

This was the last meeting for several members who are leaving the Council. We thanked David Johnson for his years of service, Pam Hardman for her amazing work on Council and as the Treasurer, and Kathy DeVinney for stepping up to serve when there was a vacancy. These people will be missed. The new Council members will start their tenure with the February meeting.

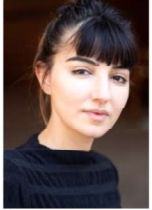
Also, the Council acknowledges the fantastic work of Michele Ruttinger during the Advent/Christmas season and the preparation of the Annual Report. The Council is looking forward to a thoughtful and productive 2026.

Thank you

We would like to thank
Our Saviour's 2025 Council
Members for your service
this year.

Music Notes - Aysen Milliogullari

February 2026



With the new year, the Music Ministry continues to share faith, positivity, unity, and hope through music with the congregation. The Bell Choir will have the first worship service of the year on February 1st, followed by the Chancel Choir at two services on February 8th and 22nd.

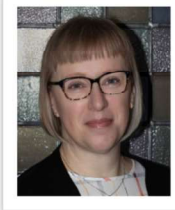
On February 8th, the choir will sing "Every Valley" by John Ness Beck, transcribed by Craig Courtney. On February 22nd, they will sing "I Love to Tell the Story" by Anna Laura Page.

We are grateful to the choir members, musicians, and volunteers whose contributions make these services possible. As the year continues, the Music Ministry looks forward to sharing more music and welcoming guest musicians to engage the congregation.

Through music, we hope to connect with one another, share our beliefs, and show compassion, making each service meaningful and uplifting. Music has a special way of uniting people and reminding us of the joy and hope we share as a church community.

Lutheran Campus Ministry - Deacon Wendi Van Beek

February 2026



Lutheran Campus Ministry
at University of Arizona

Grace and peace to you in this New Year!

The students are back! Classes have started at University of Arizona and at Pima Community College. Our first worship back at the LCM house was on January 14th, and it's so good to see the students return for dinner and worship. Just as Pr Amalia invited us to choose a star word to guide us in our relationship with Christ in the new year, the LCM students are doing the same... but with a twist! In our first week back, we chose a star word to guide us as individuals; in the second week, we chose star words to guide us in our community; and in the 3rd week of Epiphany, we chose star words to guide us in our intentions for the world. As we center ourselves in Christ, and lean into exploring the ways that we grow every day in our faith and discipleship, we pray that the star words that we chose, and the star words you have chosen, provide us a means of prayer, reflection, and personal growth, helping us all find deeper meaning and connect with God throughout the year.

God's Peace,

Deacon Wendi

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church February 2026

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM Forum: Mission Plan and Council Nominees	2 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30PM Pray Without Ceasing 5:30PM Book Club 6:30PM Bell Choir sanctuary 6:30PM	3 *Men's Bible Study 7 AM AB Staff Meeting 10 AM Come and See 11 AM Spanish Class AB Café 6:30PM	4 Bible Study 10:30AM Pocket Room LCM dinner and worship 6 PM	5 Choir Practice 6:30pm	6 OFFICE CLOSED	7
8 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM Annual Meeting 10:30AM	9 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30PM Bell Choir Sanctuary 6:30PM	10 *Men's Bible Study 7 AM - AB Staff Meeting 10 AM Come and See 11 AM Spanish Class AB Café 6:30PM	11 Property 9AM Bible Study 10:30AM Pocket Room Good Neighbor Coalition AB 6:30 PM LCM dinner and worship 6 PM	12 Choir Practice 6:30pm	13 OFFICE CLOSED	14 Grief Support Group 10:00am Ramada Room
15 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM	16 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30PM Pray Without Ceasing 5:30PM Book Club 6:30pm Bell Choir sanctuary 6:30PM	17 *Men's Bible Study 7AM - AB Staff Meeting 10 AM Come and See 11 AM Council 6:30PM Patio Rm Spanish Class AB Café 6:30PM	18 Bible Study 10:30AM Pocket Room Ash Wednesday 12:00PM Ash Wednesday 6:15PM	19 Poz CAFÉ 11AM Choir Practice 6:30pm	20 OFFICE CLOSED	21
22 Sunday Worship 9AM Coffee 10AM Sandwich Making 10:30AM	23 *Mindful Meditation Ramada Room 1:30PM Luther Day at the Legislature - Phoenix Bell Choir sanctuary 6:30PM	24 *Men's Bible Study 7AM - AB Staff Meeting 10 AM Come and See 11AM Spanish Class AB Café 6:30PM	25 Roadrunner Assembly 9AM Patio Room Bible Study 10:30AM Pocket Room Lent 12PM Chapel Lent 6:15PM Chapel	26 Choir Practice 6:30pm	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28

FEBRUARY 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 -February 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.

Gospel of Luke Book Study - Monday, February 2 and 16 at 6:30 PM

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 in our communities, both locally and globally. Contact: Paula Miller for more information.

Monday February 23 - Lutheran Day at the Legislature



Join us for Lutheran Day at the Legislature at the Arizona State Capitol on Monday, February 23, 2026, from 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. for a day packed full of learning, witness and activities.

This annual gathering equips and encourages Lutherans “to strive *for justice and peace in all the earth.*” Throughout the morning, participants will meet their legislators, connect with congregational LAMA liaisons, hear from policy council members, and join other Lutherans committed to justice shaped by our Lutheran faith.

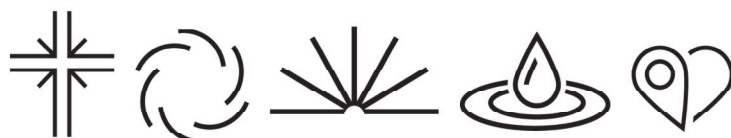
- Registration (and light breakfast) begins at 8:30 a.m. at Wesley Bolin Plaza, 1700 W Washington St, Phoenix, AZ 85007.
- Register now at: forms.gle/He6fERxfw4cc9G1Q8

More information on Senate/House bills and discussion topics will be shared as it becomes available.

Reprinted from: [https://www.gcsynod.org/calendar/lutheran-day-at-the-legislature#:~:text=Lutherans%20from%20across%20Arizona%20will,Lutheran%20Advocacy%20Ministry%20Arizona%20\(LAMA\)](https://www.gcsynod.org/calendar/lutheran-day-at-the-legislature#:~:text=Lutherans%20from%20across%20Arizona%20will,Lutheran%20Advocacy%20Ministry%20Arizona%20(LAMA))



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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.

Lent with Our Saviour's and Lutheran Campus Ministry

Daytime services are led by Our Saviour's; Evening services led by LCM. All are invited to attend either – or both.

Ash Wednesday February 18 - 12:00 PM & 6:15 PM – Service in Koch Chapel

Wednesdays, February 25 – March 25 - 12:00 PM - Service

Wednesdays, February 25 – March 25 - 6:15 PM – Service with communion, followed by dinner

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, February 8, 2026

Worship at 9:00 a.m.

**Meeting immediately following
in the Activity Building.**

**Sunday Forum, February 1: Mission Plan Review
Review the plan and ask your questions.**