

Santa Cruz Lutheran Church
6809 South Cardinal Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85746

“Live in the moment. The only one who can go ahead of you already has – and He’s blessed the way.”



Building enduring relationships

in Jesus' Name:

- With God

- With each other

- And with our community

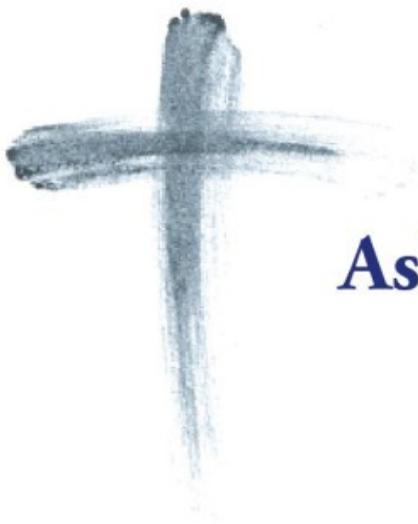
Santa Cruz News

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FEBRUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER

February 22, 2023 ASH WEDNESDAY



Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

February 2023

Dear Members and Friends of Santa Cruz Lutheran Church,

The last week of January was quite a week: With so many of our Winter Visitors back, it's great to see In Person Worship Attendance continue to climb on Sunday Mornings. Since mid-October, our Sunday Attendance has been between 40 and 55 with an average of 45. Last Sunday we had 61 at Worship. It's great that things are starting to feel nearly "normal" and also to see some new faces.

Personally, I am surprised at how busy things have gotten—especially with other Churches in the Conference and other Partners in Ministry: Our Spring Conference was on January 28. It was an opportunity for lay leaders of the congregations in our Conference to express their hopes and concerns with Bishop Hutterer and to catch up with each other after nearly three years of not being able to meet together in person.

We had our Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 29. In addition to a full slate on the ballot, we actually had a nomination from the floor for the Financial Review Committee. The New Budget was adopted. With the termination of the Sprint Cell Tower Lease in 2022 and an operating and mission budget of nearly the same size as 2022, we face the challenge to increase our giving by 5%

The Nordic Choir from Luther College was also in concert at Our Saviors Lutheran Church on January 29. It was wonderful to hear that 69 Voice Choir especially after the impact that Covid had on Choirs across the US over the past three years. Many of the Seniors and Juniors in the Choir were not able to perform or practice "in person" in 2020 and 2021.

On Monday, January 30, over 100 Lutherans gathered at the State Capitol in Phoenix for "Lutheran Day at the Legislature" to hear from our Bishop, to pray, and to visit with our State Representatives. The three of us who came up from Tucson visited with both of our State Representatives from District 18. In addition to getting acquainted, we advocated for two pieces of Hunger Related Legislation that are

before

February Birthday's

8 –Roger Heineck
10 - Fred Young
11 - Rosemarie Copper
13 - Ches Gandy
18 - Alice Davis
24 - James Hensley
25 - Joanie Contreras

February Anniversaries

8-92 Bob & Vicky Hohmann
21-87 Lowell & Carol Holum

SERVING OUR LORD DURING THE MONTH OF February

9:30 am Worship

- 5 Music Director** Mark Herr
Cantor Mark Herr
Asst Minister Melody Hensley
Lector Melody Hensley
Ushers Pam Kern, Jaden and Brooklyn Johnson
Potluck Melody Hensley & Ruth Senkbeil
- 12 Music Director** Mark Herr
Cantor Chuck Glen
Asst Minister Joanie Contreras
Lector Pat Fisher
Ushers LeAnne Mitts and Ruth Senkbeil
- 19 Music Director** Mark Herr
Cantor Bill Devinney
Asst Minister Kenny White
Lector Kenny White
Ushers Diane White and Joanie Contreras
- 26 Music Director** Mark Herr
Cantor Carol Radler
Asst Minister Stu Weidenschlling

Lector Stu Weidenschilling
Ushers Pat and Dave Fisher

COVID VACCINE AND BOOSTER CLINIC - FREE

Pima County Health Department will be doing COVID Vaccines and booster shots here at SCLC on **Wednesday February 15th** from 10 am to 2 pm. If you have not received vaccines or boosters please come in and bring your COVID cards with you. All ages are welcome.

The installation of our **2023 council members and delegates** will be Sunday February 5th, 2023. All council members, incoming and continuing, are requested to be in worship on the 5th. Our new council members are: Melody Hensley, Beverly Palermo and Pam Kern.

Two outgoing members that have served six years are Valerie Cook and Vicky Hohmann.

Council members continuing in 2023 are Cheryl Barychuk, Sandy Mathis-Arment, Guillermo Andrade , and Carol Radler.

Joanie Contreras and Melody Hensley were elected to attend the Grand Canyon Synod gathering in June.

Please support your church council and talk with one of them if you have concerns.

YARD SALE SATURDAY MARCH 18th. Time To be announced.

Time to clean out those closets, drawers and cabinets. Please do not bring your items in until the week before. We do not have space to store items until that week.

Heart Sunday is Sunday February 12th. This is the day that you take a heart from a basket by the ushers. Each heart suggests who or what you can say a daily prayer for.



Valentines Day is Tuesday February 14th. A time to remember those we love.

the Legislature this year: HB 2211 "SNAP Drug Felon Application Modernization for Recidivism Reduction" to lighten the burden on felons who have completed their time in prison as they apply for Short Term Relief in the process of returning to society. This is especially helpful for families of ex-convicts who suffer innocently.

The other bill is HB 2142 "Arizona Produce Incentive Program": It's a program that doubles the amount of SNAP money that is available to be spent on Arizona Grown Produce. We will have cards available at the Food Bank for those who are eligible so that they can double the SNAP dollars they can use at local Farmer's Markets on Local Produce. As you know, we provide a lot of canned goods and other shelf stable foods at our Food Bank, along with milk, meat, and eggs. We provide far less fruits and vegetables because they are not available through the Community Food Bank and are harder to store. This program has actually been in effect in Arizona since 2016. HB 2142 simply doubles the money that is available to be spent on it. Many of the folks that we serve at our Food Bank are eligible for temporary assistance through the SNAP Program. This is a way for us to help them to stretch their food dollars even further.

I don't expect many weeks in 2023 to be as busy as the last week in January was, but it is encouraging to see so many more opportunities opening before us to work together with other congregations and partners in ministry in the New Year.

Respectfully,

Pastor Robert Jones

Funds for our new Audio-Visual System have been raised. We have been told it will be up and running by Easter of this year.

We Live Stream our worship service **Sunday mornings** on our Facebook page...SantaCruzLutheranChurchTucson. You can watch it live or in the afternoon/evening on our Facebook page.

ZOOM MEETINGS

FRIDAY EVENING Lectionary Study 6:00 pm. This is a recurring meeting Join Zoom Meeting **Meeting ID: 829 4366 6767**
Passcode: 100921

Super Bowl Sunday of Giving. Sunday February 12th

This is the day we bring in the change and paper money that we have saved for the year. We will have a container on the back table for you to put donations in. All donations will be sent to ELCA World Hunger.

So kids and adults-lets clean out those coin jars and drop into our container on the 12th.

Kansas City Chiefs and Philadelphia Eagles are playing so we will have a bowl for each team.

In our newsletter this month I am featuring our **Prayer Shawl ministry** here at SCLC. The Prayer shawl group started about fifteen years ago and met regularly to knit, crochet and have fellowship. They stopped meeting about three years ago due to the loss of so many members of the group. We do have several ladies that are faithful and continue to knit and crochet prayer shawls and lapghans. Many of us have been blessed with one. Our ladies that contribute are Alice Davis, Vicky Hohmann, Carol Holum and June Keiflin. If I left your name out please let me know so I can give a shout out to you. These shawls and lapghans are available to you if you want to give one to a friend, family member, neighbor. We also have some items for children and babies. Talk to Melody Hensley and she will help you.

Ladies Lunch Bunch

Friday February 17, 2023

12:30 pm House of Cheng at 5975 W. Western Way # 115.

Located in the strip mall as you enter Tucson Estates.

Sign-up sheet is on back table in Sanctuary. Join us-bring a friend.

Perhaps you will be the next winner of a door prize.



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licensed
under



...To Dana & Todd Scholer and Kristin Smith for taking care of our grounds and memorial garden. Kenny White for keeping the walkways cleanup.

...to Bill and Cheryl Barychuk, Pat & Dave Fisher and Teresa & Mark Kissel for going to the Main Food bank and picking up the extra food that we give out on Wednesdays.

... To our lectors, assistant ministers, ushers, cantors and musicians on Sundays.

... To all of the Food bank volunteers and all that donate food.

... To Noella Reidinger and Beverly Palermo. These ladies come in every Thursday to prepare the bulletins for hand out on Sundays and special services and for preparing our newsletters for mailing and handing out.

...to all committees that do their work unseen and unknown.

WE CONTINUE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE...in the lives of so many in our community through our food ministry program. We are only open Wednesdays from 11 am to 7 pm. We welcome donations of canned vegetables, fruit, cereals, peanut butter, jelly, pasta and sauce, boxed macaroni and cheese, boxed potatoes, canned meat, tuna fish, and other non-perishables. Your donations are greatly appreciated by our clients. Thank you.

Santa Cruz Lutheran Church was a recipient of a \$10,000 grant in December 2022. We were so blessed to receive three grants last year but this was the largest. Two weeks ago I spoke with the Diane White, Cheryl Bahrychuk, Melody Hensley and Joanie Contreras and

told them they needed to spend \$2500. Immediately for meat, milk, cheese etc. (We are not receiving protein from the main food bank.) Well, off they went to shop and stocked our freezers and refrigerators. Our clients have been so appreciative. Thank you ladies.

***When we pray for one another,
it makes a difference***

Remember in your prayers this week...

Bella (age 15 recurrence of cancer) Jim Blake
Kathy Blake Chuck Conrad Alice Davis
Carolyn Dodson Sandi Geuder Larry Havenga
Betty Hossler Savannah Mendivil Freida Stehr
Myrna Wunder

Continued prayers for...

Gene & Rose Copper Allan & Brenda DePew
Ron Geuder Joyce Havenga Mark & Lisa Koch
Mary Mack Gary V Esther Wood
Fred Young & Lillian Kusy

Prayers for all Caregivers

Active Duty Members in the Military

Rey Alvarez Anjelica Corral
Connor Hensley William Hohmann
Eric Lopez Melissa McAdams Kenneth Marstall
Stephen Marstall Dillan Schneider
Gene Copper 10 Years in Marines