

Anacortes Lutheran Church

A message from Pastor Scott Peterson

SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

Dear Members and Friends of Anacortes Lutheran Church,

We have enjoyed a beautiful summer filled with festivals, music, Wednesday picnics (and how about that Corn Feed!) and now thoughts turn to more 'regular' things starting up again. School, regular meetings, choir, Sunday School, and more! Some of these programs never took time off during the summer and so may not even notice that life is getting busier. But added to the traditional happenings that we look forward to are some exciting changes.

Some things that are looking a bit different in September: We will be starting off September with a "welcome back to 10am" picnic in the Fellowship Hall on the 7th following worship. And entering into October (the 5th) we will be kicking off our 9am Education Hour (for all ages) with a pancake breakfast and then start into classes on the 12th. Sunday School and Confirmation will begin their classes and the adults are invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall for a conversation about ideas of what should be offered for education time. I have some ideas, but would also like to hear about what you would like to be learning during this time. I hope to have a couple of options for people to start the ruminating.

During September and October, I will also be offering opportunities for conversation with those who are interested in becoming members of Anacortes Lutheran. There have been some new faces around on Sundays and I would like to have some conversations with those who are interested in membership. There will be different times offered so that people can work it into their schedules.

We will also be returning to the Revised Common Lectionary to guide us in our Sunday worship reading selections. Just as a reminder - the Revised Common Lectionary is the one that gives us 1st and 2nd Readings, a Psalm, and a Gospel Reading. Laurie is very excited as she has been digging around for her RCL resources and is just giddy with the possibilities.

There are a few other surprises that are coming up as well, but we can't let all of the rabbits out of the hat at one time! Stay tuned to the weekly emails, the social media posts on Facebook and Instagram, the Scoop, and other announcements happening around campus.

May we walk this path together as God's people at Anacortes Lutheran Church!

Blessings,

Pastor Scott

Church Council Minutes from August 14, 2025

Attendees: Pastor Scott, Steve Anderson, Don Devine, Julie Jacobson, Bill LeDuc, Lane Phelan, Pat Carrie Smith, Bruce Rolfe, Rosemary Walter, Claude Woodall

The meeting was called to order and Pastor opened with prayer.

June minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Lane reviewed the Profit and Loss statement through July. Offering is down and expenses are up - Don will pass on this information in an announcement at church.

Steve made a motion to transfer \$45,000 from the money Markey account to cover September operating expenses, all were in favor.

Julie made a motion to accept the treasurers report, all were in favor.

Pastor's Report: A written report was submitted.

Properties: A written report was submitted. Steve says thank you to Don for working on swapping out old for new toilets around the church. He will follow up with the paving company to make sure they are still on track to repave at the end of August. Don/Steve will snake out the grease trap plug. Steve may have a source to get new play chips for the play ground at a good price.

Worship: A written report was submitted. There are old church records upstairs - there is an option of storing these in a climate controlled room at PLU. This can be put on the September agenda.

Outreach: A text report was submitted.

New Business:

The church received a sizable donation from the estate of Helen Hearon. The motion was made to not respond to a personal letter written by a family member, with 1 abstention and the rest in favor the motion passed.

The Microsoft License is up for renewal, price went from \$12/month to \$50 per year per license. Rosemary made a motion to approve purchase of 4 licenses, one more can be added if the need arises.

Parking Lot Paving: Currently a few local residents have been using our parking lot overnight. Bill made a motion to offer those using the lot to register their cars with the office and pay \$50/month for use of it. If this doesn't happen, then tow signs can go up. Motion passed and Bill offered to take care of putting this information on these cars. The cars will need to move for the repaving project.

Pastor requests a Council Retreat to occur in October, date TBD at the September council meeting. Pat-Carrie will take care of reserving the room at Fidalgo Bay RV Resort. This time will be used to set direction and focus for the upcoming ALC ministry programs.

Bill requests for committees to start looking at 2026 budgets and input would be appreciated by the October council meeting. Council members to pass this on to their assigned committees.

Education Committee will be meeting with Pastor Aug. 19 at 6:30pm.

Worship moves to 10am on September 7. Don will take care of getting sign swapped out.

Consider ideas as to how to move forward with youth involvement and how to structure leadership for youth at ALC.

In regards to the cemetery property by Lake Campbell, we have the tax bills in hands and are clear owners of the property.

Bill made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

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Our next regular council meeting will be held September 11 at 4:00 pm. Please have committee reports in to Julie no later than midnight on Tuesday, September 9.

Respectfully submitted,

Music News

SUMMER CHIME CHOIR

Thank you to all who participated in the chime choir this summer! We had a great combination of experienced players and brand new ones and had a lot of fun and met new friends! Thank you to Madelyn Case, Rosemary Walter, Mira Knowles, Linda Braski, Cathy Odegaard, Karen Caracciolo, Carol Hanneman and Anita Holzemer! We hope you like our music this summer.

ALC CHOIR STARTS UP

Our famous ALC Choir is starting rehearsal on Wednesday, September 3rd at 5:30 p.m. with a potluck dinner at Steve and Julie Jacobson's home(14795 Entner Lane, Anacortes, WA). We will resume rehearsals at church on Wednesday, September 10th at 6:30 – 7:40 p.m. Steve and Julie are providing the main dish and we will be bringing side dishes. Please RSVP to Laurie so that we can have a good head count – spouses, families are invited!

Singing in a church choir allows individuals to express their faith, build community, and enhance their worship experience through music. It also provides emotional and physical benefits, such as reducing stress and fostering a sense of belonging. Please join us!

Did you know a church choir is considered a “Small Church” within the Church? When a congregation sees a choir, they're not just witnessing musical performance—they're encountering a visible community.

A choir is more than a collection of singers. It's a **spiritual family** that rehearses together, serves together, and often cares for one another in times of joy or crisis. In seasons of change or uncertainty, a worship-leading choir can offer **stability**, presence, and purpose. Please join us!

“Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through music.” Please join us!

— Martin Luther (1483–1546)

PRAY FOR OUR 2025 CHURCH COUNCIL & COMMITTEES

<i>President:</i>	Don Devine	<i>Fellowship :</i>	
<i>Vice-President:</i>	Bill LeDuc	<i>Education:</i>	Rosemary Walter
<i>Secretary:</i>	Julie Jacobson	<i>Youth:</i>	Rosemary Walter
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Lane Phelan	<i>Preschool:</i>	Lane Phelan
<i>Stewardship:</i>	Bill LeDuc	<i>Properties:</i>	Steve Anderson
<i>Outreach:</i>	Julie Jacobson	<i>Worship:</i>	Pat Carrie Smith
<i>Personnel:</i>	Jeaneen Brogan	<i>WELCA :</i>	Lane Phelan
<i>Josephine Delegates:</i>	Pastor Peterson, Linda Millo	<i>Legacy Endowment:</i>	Wayne Olsen, Rod Odegaard Julie Jacobson
<i>Finance:</i>	Lane Phelan, Bill LeDuc Linda Millo	<i>Synod Assy Delegates:</i>	Pastor Peterson, Lois Cassidy Linda Millo
<i>Finance Secretary:</i>	Linda Millo		
<i>Camp Lutherwood Rep:</i>	Kenny Holzemer		

Fall Kickoff Sunday

It's almost Fall Kickoff Sunday time again; it's hard to believe the summer is almost over! Worship Committee is planning a lunch on September 7th as part of our Fall Kickoff. We will be serving pulled pork and rolls, coleslaw, and cookies. We would like to have the congregation bring salads to go with the sandwiches. A variety of salads would be fun! So, if you can bring a salad, please do. We might have as many as 80 - 100 people to feed. It's a great way to start the Fall/Winter season, and on that day we also start back to our 10am service schedule. See you there!

From the TREASURER

Our Member offering is currently down about 7% to our budget.

Our 2025 budget set Member offering at \$400,000 or \$7,692. weekly.

Our weekly average through 31 weeks is \$7191. weekly.

If 100 people give an extra \$5. weekly we would be at average.

We are so grateful for the generous giving toward our capital campaign for the parking lot.

Sewing News

Summer is over, school is back in session and the fall session of sewing and kit making is starting. Our shipping day isn't far off so there is a lot to do. If you would like to put kits together, stop by and help. No former experience is needed and we meet on the following Tuesdays in September 2, 16, 23 and 30.

Did you know that in the early days of the Texas floods, your compassion provided Lutheran World Relief Quilts and Kits as well as distributing emergency food, water, tarps, clean up kits, hygiene supplies and clothing to people whose homes were damaged and destroyed. When you come help on Tuesdays or make a donation for the quilts and kits or directly to LWR, you are providing this necessary help.

On behalf of Anacortes Schools Foundation, I want to thank you for your generosity in collecting school supplies for our Ready to Learn Fair. The event was a smashing success with a record high attendance, which just goes to show the need is there. Lutherans know how to give, and we are grateful.

Peace,

Treva King

Dates to Celebrate in August



Birthdays

01	Rich Berentson	16	Howard Sorensen
01	Chris Franulovich	18	Linda Millo
01	Deneva Schultz	19	Hildy Radke
03	Karen Elling	23	Matt Kerschbaum
08	Mirth Moore	23	Chris Long
10	Caden DeAtley	23	Lorraine Sund
11	Ella Flanigan	24	Rachel Long
13	Dave Moore	25	Vicki Long
15	Maxine Greenfield	25	Stan Bernston
15	Michael Phelan	29	Roger Peckman

Worship Attendance

Date	Events	In-Person	Nursery	Live-Stream
July 27	7th Sunday after Pentecost	103	2	50
Aug 3	Family & Praise Sunday	104	3	60
Aug 10	Gospel Sunday	99	2	60
Aug 17	10th Sunday after Pentecost	78	1	34
Aug 24	11th Sunday after Pentecost	95	1	**
Aug 31	Hymn Pick	**	**	**

** Not available at time of printing



Anniversaries

01	Jerry & Jan Woodall
06	Bryan & Linda Walker
07	Kenny & Anita Holzemer
17	Duane & Janey Dent
18	William & Patricia Rasar
18	Chris & Jeanne Anderson
20	Chuck & Bev Landgraf
20	Bill & Melanie Sahnaw
27	Michael & Erin Flanigan

PASTORAL ACTS

Pastor Scott Peterson

BAPTISMS

August 10, 2025

Keeley Irish

Parents: Christopher & Kimberly Irish

August 16, 2025

Karl Boge

Parents: David & Annarose Boge



From the Bishop:

September 2025

For the Life of the World was the theme of the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, held July 28-August 2 in Phoenix, AZ. This theme is rooted in the Nicene Creed (this year celebrating its 1,700th anniversary) and in Pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer's reminder that, "The church is the church only when it exists for others." The theme felt especially timely in today's environment where hateful words and actions continue to demean neighbors, sow division, and target the most vulnerable. While it was not done perfectly, and while there is always more work to do, I left Phoenix trusting that we have a shared commitment to walk in the way of Jesus: speaking truth in love, protecting the dignity of every person, and bearing public witness to God whose way is marked by justice, mercy, and peace for all people. In short: to live and move and act *for the life of the world*.

Here are a few highlights of what occurred during the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. Please click on the links or go to www.elca.org if you would like more information. (Note: several links below are preliminary copies and have not been not copyedited or finalized. We will share them as they become available.)

Actions

- We elected Bishop Yehiel Curry as the new Presiding Bishop. ([read more](#))
- We elected Pastor CeCee Mills as the new ELCA Secretary. ([read more](#))
- We adopted our newest Social Statement: Faith and Civic Life. ([read more](#))
- We approved updates to the Human Sexuality Social Statement. ([read more](#))
- We heard the Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church's final report along with the ELCA Church Council's response to the report ([read more](#))
- We adopted the Churchwide Memorial *Toward Ending the Occupation of Palestine*. (This memorial came about in part due to the Memorial we passed during the Northwest Washington Synod Assembly – [read more](#))
- We adopted a Memorial on Indian Boarding School Remembrance ([read more](#))
- We received the Common Statement on the Filioque (this is regarding the Nicene Creed – [read more](#))
- We made Constitution revisions that I encourage you all to read as they become available. I am especially grateful for the new revisions concerning on-leave-from-call for Rostered Ministers.
- We thanked Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and Secretary Sue Rothmeyer for their ministry and service.

Worship, Education, and Social Opportunities

- We worshiped every day in a variety of ways, we prayed before every significant vote, and we had a chaplain available. It is always a highlight to join in singing with over 1000 Lutherans!
- We participated in a Powwow that was moving and educational. Bishop Eaton received a blanket representing thanksgiving for her advocacy with the indigenous peoples of this country.
- AMMPARO held a Candlelight Prayer Vigil to pray and advocate for refugees and immigrants. It was heartening to see elected officials and interfaith leaders present at this as well as ELCA voting members.
- Our synod joined voting members and guests from the Southwestern Texas Synod (our domestic companion synod) for a wonderful dinner and conversation.
- Rev. Dr. Chad Rimmer, Rector and Dean of Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary of Lenoir-Rhyne University, led a beautiful reflection on the Nicene Creed for today.

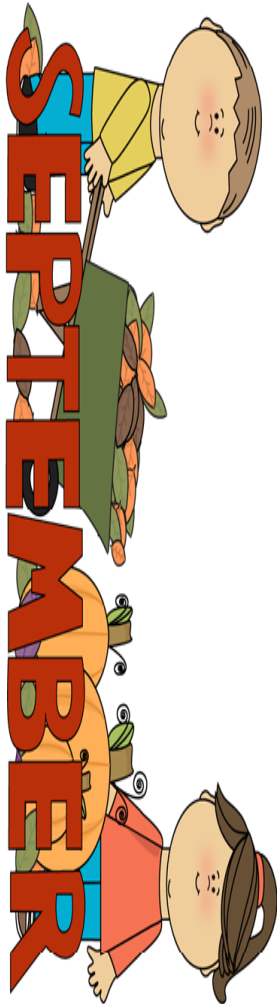
I am thankful for the nine voting members from the NWWA Synod who attended and gave of their time and attention at the Churchwide Assembly. Additionally, many others from our synod went as observers, resource people, advisors, volunteers, and more.

In my reflection of this assembly, I continue to hear Martin Luther's words (as quoted by Rev. Dr Chad Rimmer in his keynote). As Dr. Rimmer stated:

Luther knew justification as a process of becoming. ... Luther writes, "This life, therefore, is not righteousness but growth in righteousness, not health but healing, not being but becoming...we are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it; the process is not yet finished, but it is going on; this is not the end, but it is the road; all does not yet gleam with glory, but all is being purified." *Defense and Explanation of All the Articles*

May it be so. For the Life of the World.

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee | bishop@lutheransnw.org



2025

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Labor Day O.A. 10:00a SCOUT B 7:00p OFFICE CLOSED	2 Sewing 9:00a SCOUTS G 7:00p	3 Staff Meeting 9:30a WORSHIP COMM 11:00a ALTAR Guild 11:00a CUB Pack 6:00p CHOIR Rehearsal 6:30p	4 Men's Bible Study 7:00a Praise Team 1:00p EXECUTIVE BOARD 4:00p	5 Prek Orientation 5:30-7:00p	6 Prime Timers Lunch Cruise
7 FALL WORSHIP KICKOFF WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a MS & HS Youth Night 6:30p	8 Prek Starts O.A. 10:00a Prayer Group 11:30a SCOUT B 7:00p	9 WOMEN'S BIBLE 10:00a WOMEN'S BIBLE 3:30p SCOUTS G 7:00p	10 Staff Meeting 9:30a A-Town Cgy Mtg 12:30p CHOIR Rehearsal 6:30p	11 Men's Bible Study 7:00a CHURCH COUNCIL 4:00p SCOUT BL leader 7:00p	12 Bem Youth Night 5:30p	13
14 Holy Cross Day WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a	15 O.A. 10:00a LWR Knitting 1:00p SCOUT B 7:00p	16 Sewing 9:00a YOUTH Comm 6:30p SCOUTS G 7:00p	17 Staff Meeting 9:30a CUB Pack 6:00p CHOIR Rehearsal 6:30p	18 Men's Bible Study 7:00a SCOUT BL leader 7:00p	19	20
21 WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a Ministry Fair 11:00a MS & HS Youth Night 6:30p	22 O.A. 10:00a Prayer Group 11:30a SCOUT B 7:00p	23 Sewing 9:00a SCOUTS G 7:00p	24 Staff Meeting 9:30a Prek Chapel 10:45a CHOIR Rehearsal 6:30p	25 Men's Bible Study 7:00a Prek Chapel 10:45a Praise Team 1:00p	26 Bem Youth Night 5:30p	27
28 WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a	29 O.A. 10:00a ALTAR Guild 11:00a SCOUT B 7:00p	30 Sewing 9:00a SCOUTS G 7:00p				

