



HOPE RISES

Anacortes Lutheran Church
August 2021 Newsletter



MESSAGE FROM PASTOR WALT

During a conversation with Dr. Fred Niedner, the then chair of the school of theology at Valparaiso University, he shared an observation which I think is worth reflection. He suggested along with the so-called “basic necessities” of life (food, shelter, clothing, oxygen, etc.) there might be one more need human beings can hardly do without, namely the need to be right.

Since that conversation of many years ago I’ve often considered the truth of that, usually when I’m examining my own life and habits, and I’ve decided it is probably true. I don’t like to be wrong or for someone else to suggest I’m wrong. That especially applies to my major beliefs. Whether it’s politics, morality, or even my faith, I don’t want to be questioned.

You might tell me I was mistaken about a football score, and I can begrudgingly admit my error. You can announce I left the thyme out of a recipe, and I’ll simply be a little embarrassed. But don’t you dare suggest I’ve supported the wrong candidate or that I need to rethink some of my long-held values or that I might envision God in another way. My temperature will rise, my face will take on an angered look, and I will prepare to go to war with you. I don’t want to be wrong.

However, when I finally encounter my Lord upon entry into the Church Triumphant, I just might discover I was terribly mistaken about some aspect of my theology or beliefs; there might be something I was absolutely positive I knew better than others which requires correcting. I hope (this being heaven and all) that I will be enlightened and able to admit I was wrong.

The wonderful thing about our God is that we live in grace. God doesn’t expect us to totally understand the divine will; we are not required to check off our beliefs on a long list of true or false questions. Rather we are simply called to follow Jesus and to bask in forgiveness and love.

Some folks believe doubts are the opposite of faith. However, doubt is really the flip of the same coin. Our faith grows when we constantly re-examine new ways in which God might be at work in our world. And we are completely free to do so.

One passage of scripture which has always caused me to pause and ponder is Mark 9:24, a quote from a father desperately beseeching Jesus’ aid on behalf of his sick son. The man responds to the Christ saying, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief.” It’s a prayer worth praying.

When it comes to faith, I don’t need to always be right; grace covers my shortcomings and failures. So, we pray to our God for a faith which trusts, and we follow Jesus wherever he leads. I know I’m right on that one.

Walt

WITH THANKS...

Dear Anacortes Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for the \$1200 scholarship and the quilt! The quilt is just so gorgeous and cozy! I promise the scholarship will be put to good use in furthering my educational goals! Thank you for everything over the years, miss yall!

Love,

Sydney (Long)

Thank you

I would like to thank everyone for praying for my arm to heal, for all the food that I have received, and all the support from the church members.

Jeaneen Brogan

Anacortes Lutheran Church,

Thank you very much for the graduation scholarship. The Anacortes Lutheran church and Laurene M. Rhodes Scholarship for \$1,200 will help me in pursuing my goals at Baylor University. I appreciate your generosity and thank you again.

Madeline Lowrie

Anacortes Lutheran Church

Thank you very much for the Laurene M. Rhodes graduation scholarship. The \$1200 will help me in pursuing my goals at Baylor University. I appreciate your generosity and thank you again.

Matthew Laworie

Dear Anacortes Lutheran Church,

Thank y'all so much for the scholarship and for furthering & funding my education. I will miss the welcoming community you provided me as I grew up. Thank you so much to the quilt group for the beautiful quilt they made me. It will find a home with me in my dorm.

Thank you,

Hayden Long

Hi it is Katie Parker!

I just wanted to thank Anacortes Lutheran Church again for awarding me a scholarship. I am incredibly thankful for your guys' generosity and support of my pursuit of education. I really appreciate it and can not thank you enough. Over the years it has been such a pleasure to get to know all the wonderful members of the congregation, and the continual support from everyone is something I will always treasure. I also want to extend a thank you to the quilting group for gifting us with those wonderful and beautiful quilts. (I plan to use it as my comforter for my dorm room!)

Thank you so much again!~

- Katie Parker



PASTOR CALL COMMITTEE

Rexanne Graham; *Chair*

Melanie Sahnaw; *Recorder*

Steve Anderson

Lois Cassidy; *Communications*

Janey Dent

Bob Ford

Kenny Holzemer

Bill Gusa, *Alternate*

CALL COMMITTEE - UPDATE JULY 17

We are waiting for a brand new list of pastoral candidates from the synod office. The first list did not work out.

Please pray that the pastor that God has chosen for us will be sent to us.

Call Committee

CHURCH COUNCIL & COMMITTEES

President: William LeDuc

Secretary:

Outreach: Peggy White

Preschool: Jo Rockwood

Stewardship: John Parker

WELCA : Jeanette Christensen

Josephine Delegate: Jerry Bongard & Grace Boggio

Treasurer: Lane Phelan

Education: Kendra Kennedy

Personnel: Jeaneen Brogan

Properties: Les Olsen

Worship: David Bjornson

NW Synod Reps: Linda Millo & Pastor Butler

FROM THE TREASURER.....

We are 5 months into our fiscal year and we are slightly to the positive side of Revenue verses Expense. I am due to pay 2nd quarter Benevolence dollars before the end of July. Giving trends are slightly downward. We will be watching closely in the 3rd quarter for any need for adjustments on expenses. Thank you to all who are giving faithfully.

OUTREACH- *Sharing and Caring*



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Open House / Rally
Sat. - Aug. 28th
11:00 to 1:00

Free food—burgers, salads, deserts.

Everyone gets a name badge.

Free Gifts

Pick your **FAST TEAM**

**REGISTER FOR
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Get your children registered for Sunday school



shutterstock - 250937182

REMEMBER ME? - *Open House/Rally*

WHAT: Fall Open House / Rally

WHERE: Anacortes Lutheran Church
2100 "O" Avenue

WHEN: Saturday, August 28th

11:00am to 1:00pm

Come and enjoy a quick, relaxing, free lunch - burgers,
salads and deserts

Enjoy a tour of the facility as you pick up your free gifts.

Come as you are!

No pets - Service animals only

Food service is subject to Covid 19 restrictions in place at the time of the event.

(Share this invitation with family and friends)



WELCA News

Tuesday August 24th we will have a picnic lunch at 12 noon. Food will cost \$10.00 each. Sign up with your circle chairman, or call Jeaneen at 360-293-7829. All women are welcome to share some time together.

Circles will start in September.

SEWING News

WE ARE BACK TO SEWING, COME JOIN US!

Sewing Dates are:

TUESDAYS, AUGUST 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

9:00 am - Noon

in the Fellowship hall

LWR Knitting News

MEETING DATE:

MONDAY, AUGUST 16

1:00 - 3:00 pm

in the Fellowship Hall

Our church ships about 100-150 baby layette sets every 6 months to Lutheran World Relief. One sweater/hat goes in each layette set.

Our current Fall 2021 total is:

Sweater/hat sets - 30

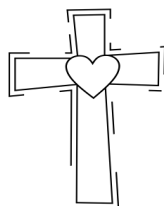
Hats - 0

Sweaters - 0

We use a fun one piece sweater pattern. Beginners are welcome. Teaching is available.

If you need more yarn, please call me.

~ Linda Anderson 360-588-1730



LWR Kits - collecting supplies

We are doing a variety of projects for Lutheran World Relief in August. We need your help in collecting supplies to put the kits together. Look down below to see what things we need.

Sewing quilts

We are sewing, tying, and getting them ready for fall shipment.

Baby kits

We are sewing, diapers, blankets, and the knitting group is knitting sweaters and hats. We need flannel for blankets, flannel sheets for making diapers, soap (ivy or dove), and hand towels.

School kits

For each kit we need four spiral notebooks, 24 pack of crayons, an eraser, a pack of pencils, 6 ink pens, and a 12-inch ruler. Last year, because of COVID we were not able to send any kits so this year we are going to try to send double what we usually do.

Health Kits

We need bath towels and bars of soap. We invite you all to come help us get these kits ready. Our days to be together will be August 3, 10, 17, and 31.

If you have questions call Jeaneen. 360-293-7829.

Hope to see you there!

OUTREACH - The everybody committee

Ideas and suggestions welcome!

WE WILL MEET MONDAY, AUGUST 9

AT 1:00 PM

to discuss upcoming projects.

Fall Open House/Rally,

new member Support teams,

lay missionary classes,

All Saints Celebration, and more.

Questions? Call Peggy White 360-299-1184

CHURCH SUMMER POTLUCK PICNICS

WEDNESDAYS , AUGUST 4, 11 & 18 — 5:30 PM AT SEAFARER’S MEMORIAL PARK.



The final picnic is our **ANNUAL CORN FEED and Service by the beach,**
Wednesday, August 25 at 5:30 pm at WA Park

All picnics are potluck, bring chair, utensils and plate.



ALC SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY
PRIME TIMERS” - Get Together Schedule

GET TOGETHER - SANDWICH SMORGASBORD

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20 - 11:00 a.m. at Seafarer’s Memorial Park
or in the Fellowship Hall in case of inclement weather.

The theme is:

“Take a Wild Guess.”

Please call, text, or email for a reservation by Wednesday, August 18. A \$5 donation is appreciated to cover the cost of the sandwiches.

Have a great month, stay safe, and be happy.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Paul - Julie Dusenbury



Anacortes Lutheran Church Education Committee hosted this year's VBS July 12-15th in the evening. It was a huge undertaking not knowing what COVID restrictions we will have or if it will be cancelled due to a rise in cases. Nonetheless, God prevailed and gave us over 70 volunteers and 66 children attended.

Each day the kids sang praises to God, played games, learned about the One True God, ate snacks and sang praises again! The daily themes were

- Day 1 - God is Great
- Day 2 - God is Almighty
- Day 3 - God is Ruler
- Day 4 - God is Trustworthy



Thank you to all the volunteers that helped behind the scenes with all the prep work, setting up, tearing down, clean up, moving treasure boxes, changing slides and playing the music, providing crafts and organizing snacks AND those that helped register the children when they arrived and signing them out when they left, teach the word of God to the children by leading them through VBS, act in the Drama and skit, play games, and share science experiments.

It was an awesome sight to see so many people in this church enthusiastically teaching and learning about the One True God. The voices of the children and adults singing praises together and shouting "God is Great!" shook the stones on this church. A special shout out to Kendra Kennedy's family and to all the leaders for helping make VBS possible this year: Bill, Carol, Dorothy, Don, Paul, Rachel, Stacey, Lane, and Kenny. Thank you to all of our youth volunteers. Lastly, Thank you to this church for financially supporting our children's ministry and outreach event.

- Kendra Kennedy, Education Committee Chair

BSA in ALC

It has been an exceptionally exciting month for our two BSA Troops. Boy Troop (B Troop) traveled down to Camp Meriwether in Oregon for a week of summer camp. They were able to go sand boarding, and sail carting on the beach. They practiced their teamwork, and patience, as they worked together as a Troop to accomplish 7 completed merit badges overall, several nearly complete merit badges, rank requirements, awards, and fun just for the fun of it. They also visited the Tillamook factory, and the nearby Tillamook air museum while in the area.

Girl Troop (G Troop) opted to stay local for their first ever summer camp. They traveled to Fire Mountain Scout Camp in Mt. Vernon, by Big Lake. The tiny-but-proven-mighty Troop of three learned a lot about paddle sports, swimming, shooting sports, a little about sacrifices for the better of the whole team, a lot of improvisation, and had a blast. They also enjoyed the famous zipline, the longest continuous zipline in Washington state, made a "best friends" Troop with a Troop out of Spokane Valley, and really impressed the socks off the much larger boy Troops and the staff. They earned the Baden Powell Honor Troop award, and won the Cultus Cohort Challenge, all through hard work and determination. The three of them knocked out 9 merit badges overall, several nearly completed partial merit badges, and earned several other patches along the way.



G Troop represented ALC and our BSA units by acting as Flag bearers at the head of the Anacortes 4th of July Parade, and B Troop chipped in the ALC's VBS.

B Troop will have their Court of Honor on the 24th of July (so after this writing).

G Troop held their Court of Honor / One Year Anniversary Birthday Bash on June 30th. G Troop is the first Girl BSA Troop in Anacortes, and the Troop is now a year old! They even had the Mayor, Pastor Deborah, Bill and Dorothy LeDuc, visitors from BSA council and district, and the Anacortes American out to help celebrate. Both Troops are ensuring Anacortes Lutheran Church has every reason to be so proud to charter these units.

Our Cub Scout Pack, for youth grades K-5 has found a lot of interest and is restarting their program this September. Keep your eyes open, because we have no doubt that they will do great things as well.

Want more information on any of these? Maybe you have a youth you know that would be interested in visiting and seeing what we do? Contact Becky or Robert Eggleston in your directory for any questions.

Worship with us Near & Afar

In-person Sunday Worship Services at 10:00 am

Live stream and recorded services will still be available.

- Please enter through the handicap ramp to the right of the main church doors.
- Reservations are no longer needed but signing in is required for contact tracing.
 - Unvaccinated people must still wear a mask.

AUGUST- Worship Readings, Psalm & Gospel

August 1 <i>10th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	Readings: Psalm: Gospel:	Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 & Ephesians 4:1-16 Psalm 78:23-29 John 6:24-35	Reader: Grace Boggio
August 8 <i>11th Sunday after Pentecost</i> Hymn Pick Sunday	Readings: Psalm: Gospel:	1 Kings 19:4-8 & Ephesians 4:25—5:2 Psalm 34:1-8 John 6:35, 41-51	Reader: Lois Cassidy
August 15 <i>12th Sunday after Pentecost</i> Gospel Sunday	Readings: Psalm: Gospel:	Proverbs 9:1-6 & Ephesians 5:15-20 Psalm 34:9-14 John 6:51-58	Reader: Dave White
August 22 <i>13th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	Readings: Psalm: Gospel:	Joshua 24:1-2, 14-18 & Ephesians 6:10-20 Psalm 34:15-22 John 6:56-69	Reader: Anne Barry
August 29 <i>14th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	Readings: Psalm: Gospel:	Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 & James 1:17-27 Psalm 15 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23	Reader: Bryn & Wayne Kremling

To everyone at ALC,

Thank you so much for granting me a month leave of absence from my job. I needed the break and have used this time to help refresh and center myself so that I can start again on August 1st. Thank you to the staff for picking up different parts of my work and to the congregation for support. Here is to many more years at ALC!

Love,

Laurie



AUGUST - BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO YOU!

2	Nathan Thomas	18	Ryan Connelly
3	Karen Petersen	18	Madden Nations-Pearson
3	Randy Arendse	18	Stanley Tracy
5	Brenda Lorentzen	19	Jeanne Anderson
5	Reilly Nations-Pearson	19	Ensley Cook
5	Dylan Thomas	19	Ray Fowler
6	Emerson Ott	21	Matt Connelly
7	Adrienne Eide	21	Lorraine Kelly
8	Conor DeFrancesco	23	Megan Campbell
13	Jacob Duquaine	24	Linda Anderson
14	David Bjornson	25	Zackary Anderson
14	Paula Fors	25	MaKenna Nations-Pearson
14	James Parker	26	Emma Knutson
14	Yvonne Paul	26	Kevin Long
14	Blake Trafton	26	Mallory Sullivan
15	Karen Caracciolo	28	Trevor Ott
15	Paul Phelan	29	William Gusa
15	Bryan Walker	29	Tim Hofferth
16	Lillian Devine	29	Bud Rock
16	Jobun Tornga	30	Jennifer Brosten
17	Reese Morganthaler	30	Sharon Ohm
17	Kira Oates	30	John Parker
17	Cathy Odegaard	30	Adam Salnick
17	Kayla Pierce	31	Daniel Elling
		31	Jerry Woodall

AUGUST - WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES!

3	Ralph Heacox & Colleen Kenimond
5	Paul & Julie Dusenbury
9	Jerry & MaryBeth Pollard
10	Michael & Wendy Atterberry
12	Stacy & Erin Roux
13	Mathew & Johanna Tracy
17	Tim & Connie Walters
18	William & Arlene French
19	Ray & Nancy Fowler
21	Phil & Madelyn Case
24	Robert & Faith Legan
28	Dennis & Jeri Hanson
29	Maurice & Helene Fink

JULY - WORSHIP SERVICES

Date	Events	Live Stream	In person
4	Independence Day	35	43
11		38	72
18		25	64
25		33	61



ALC PRAYER GROUP MEET TUESDAY'S at 1:30 pm (Join By calling: 1-518-351-9735)

For a 'Party Line' style phone call connecting us together in prayer (voices only no visual).

In our Prayers: For a current list of prayer concerns, go to: <https://www.anacorteslutheran.org>
Look for the "Prayer Page" tab in the menu. Call the office to add or update a prayer to the Prayer Page.

Prayer Chain: The Prayer Chain is open for you from 9am to 9pm. For personal and/or confidential prayer chain requests call Peggy at: 360-299-1184.

As always, our Pastors are available to pray with or for you.
Please let them know if you are hospitalized, ill, or needing their prayers

ALC COUNCIL MINUTES - July 8, 2021

Attendees: Bill LeDuc, President; Peggy White, Outreach; Jeaneen Brogan, Personnel; Les Olsen, Property; Jeanette Christensen, Welca; John Parker, Stewardship; Pastor Walt Rice

Meeting convened: 07/08/2021 @ 6:30 PM

Meeting opened with prayer led by Les Olsen.

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously accepted as submitted.

President's Report:

Jane Nelson has submitted her resignation as Council Secretary, effective 7/7/21. Temporary minutes takers will be recruited until a replacement can be found.

Treasurers Report:

Submitted in-absentia by Lane Phelan, was read by Council President, LeDuc. Treasurer reports that we are approximately \$1000 ahead Revenue vs Expense YTD, however that is primarily due to receiving 4 annual gifts as one-time, lump sum donations, and that for the balance of the year she expects us to be \$5000/month short. We have reserves sufficient to make up the shortfall, but the Treasurer's committee recommended the financial secretary, Linda Millo, be instructed to prepare and send financial statements to members. Motion to this effect was passed unanimously.

Pastor's Report:

Per Worship Committee, there will not be any communion by intinction until at least September. Non-vaccinated attendees will be offered seating in pews to accommodate social distancing and masks if they desire, but ushers will not enforce any mask mandate. Pastor requested a vacation day July 18, which Personnel approved. Pastor Butler will preside. Pastor Rice suggested we re-institute name tags as people start to come back to regular's attendance.

Property Report:

Les Olsen reported that he was in the process of investigating contracting with a new Fire Security firm as our existing firm is relocating to Tacoma, and charges mileage and hours for travel for on-site inspections. Les will be on an extended road vacation for three months beginning in about two weeks and that Paul Dusenbury has agreed to fill in while he is gone.

Education:

VBS is the main focus right now and that Dorothy Engom needs assistance in preparing the craft packages for 4 days of crafts.

Stewardship: No Report

Worship: No Report

Personnel Report:

All paid staff have signed contracts thru June 2022. There will be no raises this year. Vacation time will not be accrued for part-time nursery attendants or part-time janitors. Mirth Moore has announced her retirement from Sunday nursery duty.

Continued on page 11

...Council Minutes continued.

Outreach Report:

Prayer requests were distributed, and Peggy White ordered 100 pocket prayer books. Outreach has arranged for volunteers to provide rides to worship and meals to sick or needing caretaking. The main focus right now is the Open House/Rally Day August 28 11:00-1:00. The purpose is to re-acquaint members after Covid and to introduce friends and neighbors to ALC. There were questions about what was included in the Outreach budget, and how to fund the Open House. A \$250 Thrivent grant may be available.

WELCA Report:

10-12 WELCA women sew every Tuesday and about 50 quilts are already done. Sewing ladies include 3-5 Celebration Lutheran members who come for the fellowship. WELCA Circles will resume in September.

New Business:

The Executive Board won't meet again until 9/2/21 at 4:30 pm.

The next Council meeting is 9/16/21 at 6:30 pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer and 7:45 PM

Submitted,
John Parker

BITS & PIECES

- **DO YOU NEED TO TALK TO THE PASTORS?** Schedule an appointment by calling or emailing the office.
Pastor Walt Rice: walicoli@comcast.net / Pastor Deborah Butler: revdeb.48@gmail.com
- **PASTORS OFFICE HOURS:** Thursday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm (by Appointment Only)
- **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** Monday - Friday / 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
- **CHURCH OFFICE EMAIL & PHONE #:** 360-293-9586 / info@anacorteslutheran.org
- **“LIKE” OUR FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE PAGES:** Anacortes Lutheran Church
- **WORSHIP SERVICES, UPDATES & NEWS:** Visit our website - <https://www.anacorteslutheran.org>
- **HAS YOUR PHONE #, ADDRESS OR EMAIL CHANGED?** Are you receiving emails from church? Call the office!
- **DO YOU NEED HELP?** Groceries, a mask, a friend? Call the church office - maybe we can help.
- **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:** The Third Monday of every month.

Available for you in the basket outside the church office door-

- **CD RECORDINGS:** If you would like them delivered directly to you, call the church office, 360-293-9586, and ask to be put onto the delivery schedule.
- **DEVOTIONALS AND MORE:** Christ in Our Homes devotionals, Living Lutheran Magazines, newsletters.

My dining room table has been my office for sixteen months. Right now, as I look at the surface I see my computer, a picture of my kids, my phone, a coffee cup, two glasses filled halfway with water, my notebook, gum, sticky notes, my Bible, *The Management of Policies and Procedures for Management of the Roster of the ELCA*, *The ELCA Constitution*, various stacks of paper, some books I want to read, the ELW, my devotion book, and pushed way out of the way, at the very edge of the table, my lovely quilted table runner and candles that used to sit in the middle of the dining room table (when it wasn't being used to eat on).

If my dining room table could speak, it would say, "I am tired. I am tired of you sitting here day after day. I am tired of you making a mess on me. I am tired of not being used for what I'm supposed to be used for. I am tired."

Or maybe ... I'm projecting.

When this pandemic first hit, the synod staff and I went into emergency mode. We made plans. We sent out emails. We revised (and revised and revised) COVID-19 guidelines. Like you, we kept going and going. And we have survived. And you have survived. Together, we have survived.

And together ... we are tired.

As you might recall, Jesus also got tired. There are many verses throughout the Gospels where we read: "Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed." ... "Jesus was sleeping." ... "He didn't want anyone to know which house he was staying in."

And it didn't start in the Gospels. Truly, from the beginning of time, we hear how God rested. In Genesis, God rested on the seventh day. And God understood rest not only for Godself but also for the very creatures that God created. The only thing that God calls holy in the creation account is the sabbath. When God gave Moses the Ten Commandments God specifically declared, "Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy." And this commandment was for everyone – including outsiders and animals. Fully fifteen percent of life was to be sabbath. In this commandment we hear how the sabbath is sacred for those who live in relationship with a living God – this God who rescued people from slavery in a land where no rest was allowed.

I think somewhere we forgot the rhythms that God placed on this earth. The rhythm that is in the very way that trees grow and lay dormant; how tides ebb and flow; how spring moves into summer and into fall and into winter and back to spring. While it is true that Jesus did say, "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath," he also said, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

Sabbath is a time of rest, a time of renewal, and a time to listen for what God is up to in our lives, in our communities, and in our world. Sabbath is a time to reflect on the world without rushing to "fix it." Sabbath is not "guilt-ridden stolen time." Instead, sabbath is holy. Sabbath is sacred. Sabbath is commanded and modeled by God.

Beloveds, we are called to sabbath. We are called to sabbath even when it seems the needs of all are pressing in on us. While you – and your vocations, your desires, your gifts, your responsibilities – are important, so is understanding that the world does not revolve around your work. And, in taking sabbath, you become a better leader and servant.

Enjoy August. Take sabbath. Let others take sabbath. The world is in good hands. In the best hands. In God's hands. (And yes, I am going to clean off my dining room table. Soon.)

+Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee
bishop@lutheransnw.org