

# Anacortes Lutheran Church

NOVEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

*A message from Pastor Scott Peterson*



Dear Members and Friends of Anacortes Lutheran Church,

As we enter November, I am reminded of how in many of the apostle Paul's letters he includes, "I give thanks for..." and then names a person or group that has walked alongside him in fulfilling the calling to ministry that Christ has given him. What is it like to live a life where 'thanksgiving' is not just something we celebrate as a holiday this month (or last month if you are in Canada), but rather as a lifestyle or practice that changes the way we see this world?

Diana Butler Bass has written a book titled "Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks" where she explores what changes in a person's life when they begin to approach situations in life through the lens of gratitude. Weaving in the social sciences, spirituality, and community engagement, she gives credence to how gratitude can strengthen our relationship with God, our neighbors, and even with ourselves. This is a follow-up book to "Grounded: Finding God in the World, A Spiritual Revolution" and takes the work and practice of gratitude to a place that feeds our very souls.

Gratitude, giving thanks, is an activity that becomes easier the more a person practices, just like anything else requiring practice. What would the change be in ourselves, and in our wider congregation and community, if we began an intentional practice of Giving Thanks this month? When we finally approach Thanksgiving, having had many days of practice, how might our experience of that holiday differ from how we have lived it in the past. Giving thanks for the gathering of family and friends – even when we don't see things the same way – reminds us that it is love that ultimately gathers us. Giving thanks for the wiggly youth during worship reminds us of the playfulness and energy that being in God's presence should raise up in us. Giving thanks for the rain that reminds us that winter is coming and that life continues even as the darkness lingers. Giving thanks for the bread and wine that reminds us that Jesus is with us.

Let us celebrate this month as we work toward living a life of gratitude!

Grateful,  
Pastor Scott



## Church Council Minutes October 10, 2024

**Attendees:** Anne Barry, Jeaneen Brogan, Jeanette Christiansen, Don Devine, Julie Jacobson, Janice Louie, Lane Phelan, Pat Carrie Smith, Michael Sullivan, Dave White

The meeting was called to order and Dave opened with prayer. September minutes were approved as submitted.

Jeaneen made a motion to accept Janice Louie as the new Education Chair, motion was approved.



### **Treasurer's Report:**

Lane, John and Linda have been working to update finances in Quickbooks. Giving isn't quite as high as the approved budget, but spending is lower than budgeted, more details to come as the updates are completed.

Bill LeDuc is working on the 2025 budget; all committee chairs should have their requests in or Bill will use 2024 numbers.

**Pastor's Report:** A written report was submitted.

**Property:** A written report was submitted.

**Worship:** A written report was submitted. Bill and Diane Gusa will recruit both Communion helpers and Ushers to be sure slots are filled. Pat-Carrie will submit a 2025 budget request to Bill.

**Education:** Sunday school classes resume this Sunday, October 13. Three high-school students will teach the younger students in class following the singing. Adult teachers will be in attendance.

**Youth:** A retreat has been planned to go to Fort Casey with other youth groups. The cost is down to \$50 per student but there are always scholarships available. There was a good response to the first youth meeting.

**Preschool:** A written report was submitted. The committee will meet next Wednesday. Lane will get a budget report to Anne prior to the meeting.

**WELCA:** A written report was submitted. October 22 is the Thankoffering event. Linda Millo will be the speaker, telling us about the Christmas needs for Josephine. From the Thankofferings, \$400 will be sent to the NWSynod WELCA, \$300 to the Anacortes Family Center, \$200 to Lutherwood and \$200 to Josephine. The Quilt Blessing will take place at worship on October 13. The quilt raffle tickets will be sold again on Oct. 13 & 20 to help pay for shipping.

**Personnel:** The budget will be reviewed for any potential changes in salaries.

**Outreach:** All Saints Day is November 3. If anyone knows someone who has experienced a loss in 2024, let Dave know. There will be a brunch following worship for those people on Nov. 3.

Christmas Dinner - Anne would like all publicity ready to go before Anne leaves town on 11/13, it can go out after Thanksgiving. Don will distribute it to the Anacortes American and the Clamdigger.

**Old Business:** The kitchen refrigerator will be purchased prior to the Christmas Dinner. Laurie will apply for a Thrivent grant for the Christmas Dinner. The ovens should be cleaned before the dinner takes place.

### **New Business:**

- Advent Dinners - Dan and Kathy Khile will cook on Dec. 11 & 18. Clean-up crews are needed for those dates. Jeanette, Jeaneen, Lane and Don will cook on Dec. 4 and will apply for a Thrivent grant.
- Let's Go Together - we are invited to be a part of this partnership that connects faith, civic and social service organizations to better know each other. The pledge can be \$5-\$1000 and there would be three gatherings. This will be decided on at the November Council meeting when pastor is present.
- Westminster Presbyterian Church cooks and hosts a meal each Sunday in their church. Their kitchen will be undergoing a remodel and so have asked if our kitchen and fellowship hall would be available for use. Lane made a motion to have a representative come in November to present their needs. Don or Pastor will reach out to them to request this briefing, it is unknown if they were asking for every week or if they would be traveling to other churches as well.

### *council minutes continued...*

- The Christmas Store earns about \$1000 for the youth each year. Kendra has volunteered to run the store for 1 week only, including 2 Sundays. Requests for donations will start soon. It worked well to have volunteers drop off tables for the event.
- Jeanette made a motion that would allow Thanksgiving Benevolence to be split between the Salvation Army Food Bank and the Lutheran Disaster Response fund. All were in favor.
- Dave is currently taking donated food to the Salvation Army Food Bank. It was discussed that maybe the youth with cars would like to do that, it may serve as a school "service project".
- Legacy Endowment Fund policies were handed out to review before the November meeting for some possible changes in the verbiage.

Pat-Carrie moved to adjourn the meeting.

Our next regular council meeting will be held November 14 at 6:30 pm. Please have committee reports in to Julie no later than midnight on Tuesday, November 12.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Jacobson, Council Secretary

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### **PRAY FOR OUR 2024 CHURCH COUNCIL & COMMITTEES**

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<b>President:</b>	Don Devine
<b>Vice-President:</b>	
<b>Secretary:</b>	Julie Jacobson
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Lane Phelan
<b>Stewardship:</b>	Bill LeDuc
<b>Outreach:</b>	Dave White
<b>Personnel:</b>	Jeaneen Brogan
<b>Josephine Delegates:</b>	Pastor Peterson, Linda Millo
<b>Finance:</b>	Lane Phelan, Kirk Swanson Linda Millo
<b>Finance Secretary:</b>	Linda Millo
<b>Camp Lutherwood Rep:</b>	Kenny Holzemer

<b>Fellowship :</b>	
<b>Education:</b>	Janice Sullivan
<b>Youth:</b>	Michael Sullivan
<b>Preschool:</b>	Anne Barry
<b>Properties:</b>	Steve Anderson
<b>Worship:</b>	Pat Carrie Smith
<b>WELCA :</b>	Jeanette Christensen
<b>Legacy Endowment:</b>	Wayne Olsen, Rod Odergaard Julie Jacobson
<b>Synod Assy Delegates:</b>	Pastor Peterson, Lois Cassidy Linda Millo



### **CELEBRATE THE SAINTS TRIUMPHANT**

### **ALL SAINTS BRUNCH FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE**

**NOVEMBER 3, 2024**

On November 3, 2024, there will be a brunch for all those who have suffered the loss of a loved one over the past year beginning October 31, 2023 to the present. If you have lost a loved one, please plan on attending this special gathering to celebrate and honor the Saints Triumphant. If you would like to join us, contact the church office ( 360-293-9586) or call/text Dave White at 206-226-7182.



Quilt blessing Sunday was a special time. Our boxes are now truly ready to go after receiving the prayers of the congregation.

The quilt raffle was held and Rexanne Graham was the recipient of the beautiful quilt. Over \$500 was raised to help with shipping costs. Thank you all for your support.

While shipping is a few days away yet, our numbers are pretty amazing. Quilts - 158; Baby Care kits - 308; Personal Care kits - 259; School kits - 209. But here are some even more amazing numbers. Consider what goes into each kit.

**Baby Care kits (308):** 616 lightweight cotton tee shirts, 616 sleepers, 616 receiving blankets, 1232 cloth diapers, 308 sweaters, 616 pairs of socks, 308 hand towels, 616 bars of soap, 616 diaper pins.

**School kits (209):** 836 70-page notebooks, 209 rulers, 209 pencil sharpeners, 209 scissors, 1045 pencils, 1045 ink pens, 209 boxes of crayons, 209 erasers, 209 back pack style bags.

**Personal care kits (259):** 259 bath towels, 518 bars of soap, 259 combs, 259 toothbrushes, 259 nail clippers.

WOW!! Thank you for your donations. It takes a village and we have an amazing village at ALC.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Let's send the joy of Christmas to children around the world. It's simple! Just fill a shoebox with toys, school supplies, clothing & hygiene items. Empty boxes for you to fill will be in the narthex by October 20th. Return filled boxes to church by 11/17/24. Call Linda Walker 925-963-3879, for more information.

### ***LWR Knitting News***

The knitters made 215 baby sweater/ hat sets for the Baby Layette Sets sent to LWR this year. This was a record setting year for us! Thank you all knitters. Great job!

Linda Anderson



**Properties:** Still looking into non functioning outside security lights.

Steve Anderson

## CHRISTMAS DINNER

Christmas Dinner is coming! How do you want to be a part of it? Volunteers are always needed before and during the dinner. Sign ups begin the first Sunday of December. In addition to volunteering, you can support the dinner by praying for those in need of being fed and those joining us as volunteers. Those of us involved in the planning would also be grateful for your prayers. Thank you and God bless you.

Anne Barry and Don Devine



## LITURGICAL ARTS COMMITTEE

Are you interested in more art in our church? With the blessing from Gunilla Wold, Altar Guild Chair, Laurie is forming a liturgical arts committee here at ALC and would love for people to join!

So far, we have three people interested – Gunilla, myself and Rachel Devine. So, what is liturgical art?

At its finest, Lutheran worship makes use of liturgical practices that have been handed down to us from the Apostolic age. The Liturgy is the rite of worship that includes centuries-old hymns, prayers, and scriptures. Broadly defined, liturgical art is any work of art that pertains in some way to the rite of Christian worship. The altar, the font, the pulpit, the cross, and every painting, window, vestment, banner, and candle—even the church itself—are potentially vehicles for conveying the truths of scripture. Liturgical artwork attempts to translate the gospel into a physical beauty that can be seen and felt—not just heard. All of these play some role in the worship service, all are created to Glorify God and to focus the worshipper on God. Simply put, liturgical art is a tool used to engage us and offers a deeper understanding of God's loving plan for us. Liturgical artwork can be a visual sermon, a parable in pictures and a source of comfort and joy. Our church is so blessed with all of our stained glass windows – did you know that the beautiful red and blue windows on the sides of our sanctuary were made by our own Ruth Backlund? Incredible gift of Liturgical Art from Ruth!

Interested yet? Please let Laurie know if you would like more info on Liturgical Art! Here are two pictures of a “Paper Lace Banner”, I find these to be so beautiful!

**An idea for the Narthex area: An idea for in front of the altar:**



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO LIGHT THE ADVENT WREATH

Advent Sundays are Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> this year. We will be looking for families (definition of family can be any age and any size) to light our Advent Wreath at the start of each Sunday service. You may be asked just to light the candles, with the ushers help, or light candles and read a short passage. Please let Laurie know if you would like to be a part of the Advent Wreath lighting this year!

Thanks, Laurie – [ljc@fidalgo.net](mailto:ljc@fidalgo.net)



## Youth News

- \* Youth Retreat registration is already closed but it is taking place Nov. 8-10. We will be leaving from the church around 4:30 pm and carpool to Camp Casey. We will arrive back at the church on Nov. 10th sometime in the afternoon.
- \* Nov. 3rd Youth night will be an “update the youth room night.”
- \* Nov. 17th Mario Cart/ game night.



# NOVEMBER 2024

## ALC NURSERY SCHEDULE

NOV

3

10:30  
Service

Lead: Rachel Long

Asst: Brooklyn Bush

NOV

10

10:30  
Service

Lead: Rebecca Burtney

Asst: Brooklyn Bush

NOV

17

10:30  
Service

Lead: Rachel Long

Asst: Brooklyn Bush

NOV

24

10:30  
Service

Lead: Rebecca Burtney

Asst: Brooklyn Bush

## the Christmas Store Hours:

### Children Only Shopping Days:

Sunday, December 8th 11:00am - 1:00pm

Tuesday, December 10th 5:00pm - 6:30pm

Wednesday, December 11th 4:30pm - 6:30pm

Thursday, December 12th 5:00pm - 6:30pm

Saturday, December 14th 11:00am - 1:00pm

Sunday, December 15th 11:00am - 1:00pm

### Adult Shopping Days:

Monday, December 16th- 18th 10:00am - 1:00pm

(\$ donations will be taken in the front office)



## ALC SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY PRIME TIMERS

— Retirees gathering together for Fun, Food, and Fellowship.

### GET-TOGETHER - SUNNY SLIDERS

Friday, November 8, at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The theme is: "World Freedom Day."



### OUT TO LUNCH - GERE-a-DELI

Friday, November 15, at 11:00 a.m. Meet in Conference Room #2 - carpool to the restaurant.



Please sign up for the monthly events at the Opportunity Desk or call, text, or email Julie before Wednesday prior to the event.

\*\*\* News - We are retiring at the end of 2024 and plan to travel. \*\*\*

2025 will bring changes - monthly Get-Togethers will be held on the 2nd Friday and hosted by volunteers. A monthly sign-up sheet is available on the Opportunity Desk.

Thank you, fun-loving seniors, for your continued support and participation.

Have a fantastic fall, stay safe, and be happy. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Paul - Julie Dusenbury



## From the Bishop:

November 2024

Dear Beloveds,

As the election season is here – and for many, your vote has already been cast – I have been doing some reflecting on what it means to vote as a Lutheran Christian. Please know that I am not telling you who to vote for in this election. It is not for me to tell you who to vote for. I mean, after all, God is neither Republican or Democrat, or even American.

But in saying that, I am not abdicating the responsibility that we have as Lutheran Christians who live in a country where voting matters. As children of God, we are called to vote beyond our own self-interest or individuality. As people who follow Jesus, we are called towards God's vision of a just and mercy-filled world. As people who have received grace upon grace, we are called to stand against injustice, and to remind everyone that, in God's eyes, every single person is loved and beloved.

So, here are a few thoughts and questions:

1. Jesus is all about loving one's neighbor. Even when it is hard. When he is asked, "Who is my neighbor," Jesus expands his answer beyond imagination. In Jesus' stories and actions he constantly goes to those who are on the outside, those marginalized, those without status, and shows how they are loved by God – how they are, in fact, his neighbor.

*As you vote: Who is your neighbor?*

2. Throughout scripture, hospitality to the stranger is embraced. In the Old Testament, the command to welcome strangers is repeated 37 times. In Matthew 25:35 Jesus says, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

*As you vote: Who is the stranger?*

3. God's will and God's calling is towards equity and justice for those who have been silenced, oppressed, or harmed. As we hear in Isaiah, "Learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, and plead for the widow."

*As you vote: Who are the silenced, the oppressed, the harmed?*

4. The eighth commandment declares that we are called to not bear false witness against our neighbor. This, of course, means not lying about another. This means no name-calling or false accusations. But it goes beyond this. As Martin Luther tells us in his Small Catechism, we are to defend our neighbor, speak well of our neighbor, and explain everything in the kindest way.

*As you vote: Who is speaking truth?*

5. God created this beautiful earth and declared that we are both part of the creation and are also called to be stewards. As we read in the ELCA social statement, *Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice*, we affirm that it is God's intention for the healing and wholeness of creation.

*As you vote: Who is caring for creation?*

Dear Beloveds of God, there is so much more that could be written about the state of the country and what voting means. We could make this all complicated and intricate and difficult. (And to be fair, the United States sometimes feels shaky and unmoored). But truly it comes down to this: God's love is unconditional and unending. Jesus came to this earth to show, to embody, to be God's love for us and for all people. And so, knowing this, trusting this, believing this, we are called. We are called, as baptized and sent children of God, to show this love to the world. We are called to vote against hate. We are called to vote for God's love. As we hear in 1 John, *There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear ... We love because God first loved us.*

+Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

[bishop@lutheransnw.org](mailto:bishop@lutheransnw.org)



## DATES TO CELEBRATE IN NOVEMBER



### Birthday Blessings

01 Joy Walter	04 Sue Latendresse	10 Kristen Ellsworth	21 Mindy Sorensen
02 Marta Swanson	05 Robert Higgins	10 Lorna Higgins	21 Linda Walker
03 Denise Lowrie	07 Warner Berglund	16 Kevin Harrington	22 Ken Klepsch
03 Steve Jacobson	08 Fred Fisher	19 McKinley Baker	
04 Lynn DeFrancesco	10 Grace Boggio	19 Stan Zimmerman	



### Wedding Anniversaries

04 Boyd & Ginny Veer	20 David & Diane Brosten
14 Matthew & Bonnie Kennedy	21 Phil & Sue Latendresse
16 KJ & Erica West	25 Mark & Penny McCaughan
17 Jim & Laurie Carver	25 Jerry & Ann Knutsen
18 Fred & Sharon Fisher	30 Brian & Cami Mavar

### Worship Attendance

Date	Events	In-Person	Nursery	Live-Stream
Sept 22	1st Day of Fall	95	8	30
Sept 29	Hymn Pick Sunday	94	8	35
Oct 6	Family & Praise Sunday	88	6	32
Oct 13	Quilt Blessing Sunday	124	3	38
Oct 20	22nd Sunday after Pentecost	105	7	46
Oct 27	Reformation Sunday	120	3	



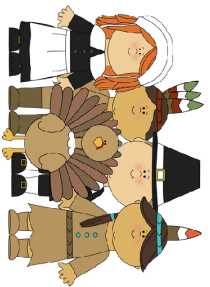
## Pie Sunday

Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>


Join us following worship to celebrate  
Thanksgiving with a pie social.

Bring a pie to  
share.





# 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>3 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</b> <b>FAMILY &amp; PRAISE SUNDAY</b> EDUCATION Time 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a SCOUT G PLC 2:00p MS & HS Youth Night 6:30p	<b>4</b> O.A. 10:00a SCOUT B 7:00p	<b>5</b> Sewing 9:00a SCOUT G 7:00p	<b>6</b> Staff Meeting 9:30a Prek Chapel 10:45a WORSHIP COMM 11:00a CUB Pack 6:00p CHOIR Rehearsal 6:30p	<b>7</b> Men's Bible Study 7:00a Prek Chapel 10:45a EXECUTIVE BOARD 4:00p	<b>8</b> PRIME TIMERS GET-TOGETHER-F/H, Elem Playgroup 5:30p SCOUT G Camp in 6:00p	<b>9</b> SCOUT G Cake Camp in
<b>10</b> EDUCATION Time 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a	<b>11</b> O.A. 10:00a Prayer Group 11:30a SCOUT B 7:00p	<b>12</b> WOMEN'S BIBLE 10:00a WOMEN'S BIBLE 3:30p SCOUT G 7:00p	<b>13</b> Staff Meeting 9:30a Prek Chapel 10:45a A-Town Cdy Mtg 12:30p Ft-Conway Conf. 2:30p CHOIR Rehearsal 6:30p	<b>14</b> Men's Bible Study 7:00a Prek Chapel 10:45a CHURCH COUNCIL 6:30p SCOUT B Leader 7:00p	<b>15</b> PRIME TIMERS Out to Lunch SCOUT B Camp in 6:00p	<b>16</b> SCOUT B Camp in 6:00p
<b>17</b> EDUCATION Time 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a MS & HS Youth Night 6:30p	<b>18</b> O.A. 10:00a LWR Knitting 1:00p SCOUT B 7:00p	<b>19</b> Sewing 9:00a SCOUT G 7:00p	<b>20</b> Staff Meeting 9:30a Prek Chapel 10:45a CUB Pack 6:00p CHOIR Rehearsal 6:30p	<b>21</b> Men's Bible Study 7:00a Prek Chapel 10:45a Praise Team 1:00p SCOUT G Leader 7:00p	<b>22</b> Elem Youth Night 5:30p	<b>23</b>
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE						
<b>24 CHRIST THE KING</b> <b>PIE SUNDAY</b> EDUCATION Time 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a	<b>25</b> O.A. 10:00a ALTAR Guild 11:00a Prayer Group 11:30a SCOUT B 7:00p	<b>26</b> Sewing 9:00a SCOUT G 7:00p	<b>27</b> Staff Meeting 9:30a Prek Chapel 10:45a Ft-Conway Conf. 2:30p	<b>28 OFFICE CLOSED</b> <b>THANKSGIVING DAY</b> 	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 