

Anacortes Lutheran Church

A message from Pastor Scott Peterson

NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever" (Psalm 107:1).

Dear Members and Friends of Anacortes Lutheran Church,

As the air grows crisp and the leaves turn vibrant colors, we are reminded of God's abundant gifts. November is a special time for us to intentionally pause, reflect, and give thanks for the countless blessings in our lives—not just the earthly ones, but also for our faith, trust, and peace in Christ Jesus. We begin this month by remembering the blessings that have come into our lives through those saints who have gone from this life to life eternal, and the wonderful examples of faith and perseverance they have shared on All Saints Sunday (November 2).

We continue through the month and finish up the church year with the celebration of Christ The King Sunday. As the plans for Thanksgiving come together, we are also strengthened by our annual Pie Sunday on November 23rd. As the schedule fills up with holiday planning and celebrations, we also remember to focus our attention on strengthening the relationships with those around us. In a world filled with constant distractions, let us follow the Apostle Paul's words to "give thanks in all circumstances" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). This does not mean we are thankful for bad circumstances, but that we are thankful in them, because God's presence, love, and mercy are always with us, especially through Jesus Christ.

We are especially thankful for the victory Jesus won for us through His cross and resurrection. Because of this, we are claimed as His own dear children. May this knowledge bring you comfort and strength throughout this season.

In Christ,

Pastor Scott



Church Council Minutes from October 9, 2025

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

The meeting was called to order and Pastor opened with prayer.
September minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Written report was submitted. Lane reviewed highlights. She will continue to put a weekly offerings report in the Scoop. Giving was up the past two weeks. To stay on budget we need to average \$7692 per week in offerings, through September we have averaged \$6770 so are behind in member offerings. It was suggested that we have a stewardship theme for two Sundays in November to help prepare for our next budget year.

Worship: A written report was submitted.

Properties: A written report was submitted. Don thanked Steve Anderson for all of his work on our property/facilities in the past two years.

Pastor's Report: A written report was submitted. He will ask the congregation if anyone wants to participate in bell ringing for the Salvation Army on 12/8 or 12/11.

Youth & Education: Rosemary wrote up notes from a recent meeting. The Elementary night was canceled for 10/10, there needs to be more adult presence. They are still looking for volunteers to lead Sunday School from the end of Children's Sermon to Communion for 1 Sunday a month.

WELCA: There will be a raffle for 2 quilts, the money collected will go towards shipping costs of the quilts that will be sent around the world. The drawing will be on 10/26 when the quilts will be blessed. It cost about \$2900 last year to ship the quilts.

Finance Committee: Because of being behind in giving, the committee is looking at a flat or austerity budget for the next year.

Preschool: The heating vents heat the preschool unevenly. Steve or Don can help with working on cold or hot spots. Lane will talk to Maggie about letting them know if it continues to be a problem.

Council Retreat: The date is set for the council retreat 10/18 at the Salvation Army 9:30am-2:30pm. Lane will take care of morning treats and coffee, Julie will take orders for Gere-a-Deli. Main topics will include Strategic Planning for upcoming years.

1. Ministries for the near future to focus energy on - Youth & Families being a priority
2. Budget for the next year
3. Facilities - upcoming needs/projects for near and long term.

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

Our next regular council meeting will be held November 13 at 4:00 pm. Please have committee reports in to Julie no later than midnight on Tuesday, November 11.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Jacobson, Council Secretary



ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Let's send the joy of Christmas and the word of Christ to children around the world. It's simple, just fill a shoebox with toys, school supplies, clothing and/or hygiene items. Empty boxes for you to fill are in the narthex. Return filled boxes to church by 11/16/25. Call Linda Walker 925-963-3879, for more information.



WELCA NEWS

Please join us for the annual Christmas Potluck brunch, December 9th at 10:00 am. Bring a dish to share. All ALC ladies are welcome to join us.

Our Sympathies to Bob and family on passing of Ida Ford on Saturday, October 11, 2025. Her funeral will be on November 8, 2025 at 11 am at Anacortes Lutheran Church.

ALC's Liturgical Arts Group is making plans for another visually inspiring season. This year we will be minimizing decorations in the sanctuary, adding to the narthex experience, and emphasizing God's blessings in fellowship hall. Traditional favorites will be included, plus a lot of re-purposed decorations, and a few new ones.

Please think about staying for a short time to lend your hands and hearts and enjoy the fellowship. After fellowship on Sunday, November 23 boxes will have to be brought down from storage. The large sanctuary tree will need to be assembled and decorated, and the pew candles installed. There are also trees for the narthex and hall that will need to be assembled. And a few other tasks to help complete.

Please join in and help prepare God's house for the holy days ahead.

Properties: The Church is in need of a Handyman (or Handy woman) to make all manner of building fixes and repairs.

This is a volunteer position, work as few or many hours you want. If you are a handy person at your own house, you can do it at Church.

Point of contact: Steve Anderson or Don Divine



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		

Sewing News

By the time you read this, Quilt & Kit Blessing is over and the boxes are all safely in Seattle. But while I am preparing this to send to Amanda in the office, those things are still to happen. So watch for a full report in a later newsletter. Two Sundays of the quilt raffle have happened, Thank you to everyone who bought tickets and made donations. Your generosity helps cover the cost of shipping. We pay by weight and the 2024 cost was about \$2900. Holidays are coming up. In November the group will meet November 4 and 18. The next week is Thanksgiving week. November 25 will be an informal drop in day. Come if you are able. There is always something to do.

CHRISTMAS DINNER: We're already working on Christmas Dinner 2025. Sign ups begin the Sunday after Thanksgiving. We hope you'll join us! Anne Barry, Don Devine, Melanie Sanhow, Roger Peckman.

Pie Sunday

Sunday, November 23rd

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

Bring a pie to share.



ADVENT RETREAT

Saturday, December 6

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

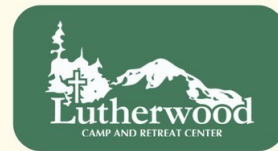
Come get cozy at Lutherwood!

Bring your whole family for lunch, holiday snacks, cookie making, crafts, and more!

Adults \$20, Kids \$12

(Under 5 FREE)

camplutherwood.org/programs-and-events



NOVEMBER 2025

ALC NURSERY SCHEDULE

NOV

2

9:30 Arrival
10:00 Service

Lead:
Rachel Long

Assistant:
Stacey Fischer

NOV

9

9:30 Arrival
10:00 Service

Lead:
Rachel Long

Assistant:
Catherine Eggleston

NOV

16

9:30 Arrival
10:00 Service

Lead:
Rachel Long

Assistant:
Stacey Fischer

NOV

23

9:30 Arrival
10:00 Service

Lead:
Stacey Fischer

Assistant:
Catherine Eggleston

NOV

30

9:30 Arrival
10:00 Service

Lead:
Stacey Fischer

Assistant:
Catherine Eggleston

ALC SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY "PRIME TIMERS"

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

SPECIAL THANK YOU to the volunteers who graciously hosted the monthly get-togethers in 2025.

2026 will bring changes – events will be held quarterly on the 2nd Friday or Saturday. The schedule is as follows: March 13 – Bingo, June 12 – Out to Lunch, September 11 or 12 – Day Outing planned by Paul and Julie, and December 11 – Get together in the Fellowship Hall.

If you have an idea for the day outing or if you are interested in hosting an event, please call, text, or mail Julie.

Have a fun fall, stay safe, and be happy.

Julie - Julie Dusenbury





Dates to Celebrate in November



Birthdays

01	Joy Walter	10	Grace Boggio
02	Marta Swanson	10	Lorna Higgins
03	Steve Jacobson	10	Bruce Rolfe
03	Denise Lowrie	15	Kaylee Lust
04	Lynn DeFranscesco	19	McKinley Baker
04	Sue Latendresse	19	Stan Zimmerman
05	Robert Higgins	21	Mindy Sorensen
07	Warner Berglund	21	Linda Walker
08	Fred Fisher	22	Ken Klepsch

Anniversaries

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

Worship Attendance

Date	Events	In-Person	Nursery	Live-Stream
Sept 28	16th Sunday after Pentecost	106	6	28
Oct 5	Praise Sunday/ Rally Sunday	112	5	42
Oct 12	18th Sunday after Pentecost	143	6	67
Oct 19	19th Sunday after Pentecost	95	0	59
Oct 26	Reformation Sunday	112	1	**

** Not available at time of printing





Dear Beloveds,

Across our country, people are struggling – financially, emotionally, spiritually. Division, violence, and uncertainty are paramount. We are living in a time when the weight of the world feels heavier than most of us can bear. Families are being torn apart, communities are threatened, and political leaders are trading compassion for power. Every day seems more chaotic and unmoored than the day before.

For many, fear has become a daily companion. We might cry, along with the psalmist in Psalm 13, *“How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I bear pain in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all day long? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?”*

[Pause here. For we must acknowledge the pain that is happening within us and around us. Pause. This might be a long, long pause.] ... Now let us take a deep breath. Now let us move forward.

After we have named the deep wounds within us and across this nation; after we have confessed our grief, our weariness, and our complicity in the broken systems that bind us; after we have allowed the truth to settle in, let us remember that this is not the end of the story. As people of faith, we don't stop at despair and fear. We don't close our eyes or turn inward or try to protect ourselves from more pain. No. Instead we open our eyes, turn outward, and we rise to follow Jesus once more – into the very places and spaces where pain still lingers and where love is most needed.

How do we do this? As people saved by grace through Jesus, how do look outward and love our neighbor? Here are some ideas from a letter (<https://www.lutheransnw.org/news/letter-from-elca-bishops>) signed by many of the bishops that was published in October 2025. These ideas include:

- Pray for those who are vulnerable and for all who work for justice.
- Advocate in your communities, legislatures, and Congress for laws that protect migrants, advance racial justice, and safeguard LGBTQIA+ people.
- Engage in the holy work of hospitality, creating spaces of safety, affirmation, and belonging for all of God's children.
- Model respectful dialogue in a polarized world, seeking understanding rooted in love.
- Hold fast to hope, trusting that the Spirit is still at work renewing creation and reconciling the world to God.

As a guide to this holy work, I have always loved the story of Martin Luther who, when the plague was raging in Wittenberg, chose to stay in order to care for the sick and comfort the dying. We might sometimes think of Luther as curmudgeonly and argumentative. We might also think he was more concerned with being saved by grace through faith than loving his neighbor. But Luther's courage and pastoral care during the plague shows his heart and his response to God's amazing grace. For during the plague, as people were dying around him, he stayed and cared and ministered. In 1527 he wrote, *“We are bound to each other in such a way that no one may forsake the other in his distress but is obliged to assist and help him as he himself would like to be helped.”* (*“Whether One May Flee from a Deadly Plague”*)

Above all things, let us not grow weary. Let us continue to hear the summons of Jesus. Let us continue to answer the call to love our neighbor – especially the most vulnerable. And, may we be the ones who, in a weary world, hope as the psalmist hopes at the end of Psalm 13: *“But I trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord because God has dealt bountifully with me.”*

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

bishop@lutheransnw.org





November

2025

SUN

MON


TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2 All Saints Sunday FAMILY & PRAISE SUNDAY EDUCATION Time 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a MS & HS Youth Night 6:30p	3 O A SCOUT B 10:00a 7:00p	4 Sewing Piano Tuner SCOUT G 9:00a 2:00p 7:00p	5 Staff Meeting Prek Chapel WORSHIP COMM CUB Pack CHORR Rehearsal 9:30a 10:45a 11:00a 6:00p 6:30p	6 Men's Bible Study Prek Chapel EXECUTIVE BOARD 7:00a 10:45a 4:00p		8 Ida Ford's Mem. 11:00a
9 EDUCATION Time 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a	10 O A Prayer Group SCOUT B 10:00a 11:30a 7:00p	11 Veteran's Day WOMENS BIBLE SCOUT G 10:00a 3:30p 7:00p	12 Staff Meeting Prek Chapel A-Town Cgy Mtg CHORR Rehearsal 9:30a 10:45a 12:30p 6:30p	13 Men's Bible Study Prek Chapel CHURCH COUNCL 7:00a 10:45a 4:00p	14	15
16 EDUCATION Time 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a MS & HS Youth Night 6:30p	17 O A LWR Knitting SCOUT B 10:00a 1:00p 7:00p	18 Sewing YOUTH Comm SCOUT G 9:00a 6:30p 7:00p	19 Staff Meeting Prek Chapel Liturgical Arts CUB Pack CHORR Rehearsal 9:30a 10:45a 11:00a 6:00p 6:30p	20 Men's Bible Study Prek Chapel 7:00a 10:45a	21 Etern Youth Night Kleiders Construction 5:30p 9-3p	22
23 CHRIST THE KING PIE SUNDAY EDUCATION Time 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a	24 O A ALTAR Guild Prayer Group SCOUT B 10:00a 11:00a 11:30a 7:00p	25 Sewing SCOUT G 9:00a 7:00p	26 Staff Meeting Prek Chapel CHORR Rehearsal 9:30a 10:45a 6:30p	27 Thanksgiving Day 	28	29
30 1st Advent EDUCATION Time 9:00a WORSHIP						