



Anacortes Lutheran Church

AUGUST 2025 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

A message from Pastor Scott

And the Lord stood beside him and said, “I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring, 14 and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. 15 Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” 16 Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!” 17 And he was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven. -Genesis 28: 13-17

Members and Friends of Anacortes Lutheran Church,

We often expect to meet God only in the sanctuary—under stained glass, between the pews, among our hymns and candles. We might think that there are certain conditions that need to be met before we can encounter God fully. But this passage from Genesis reminds us that God will meet us even in the most unlikely of places. Here, Jacob is on the run and full of uncertainty—he stops for the night in the middle of nowhere, with nothing but a rock for his pillow. Far from home and comfort, he encounters the living God in a dream: a ladder reaching to heaven, angels ascending and descending, and the Lord speaking a promise of presence and protection. When Jacob wakes up, he declares, ““Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!”

We all traverse through these wilderness moments. Perhaps you find yourselves in one now— navigating uncertainty, anxiety, or change. But like Jacob, we discover that God is not confined to temples, sanctuaries, or traditions. God is not limited or confined to the places that we label “holy”. Our Lord is wherever we are, especially in those unexpected places—workplaces, kitchen tables, hospitals, meandering trails, and quiet moments in the dark. Scripture shows us again and again that God meets people in wildernesses, on mountainsides, by wells, on roads, and even in prison cells. Every single place can be seen as holy when we recognize God’s presence in it. This does not take away the beauty of the church building or our sacred practices. Instead, it invites us to expand our awareness—every encounter with grace, every act of love, every moment we notice God’s hand at work becomes a “Bethel”—a house of God, a thin place where heaven and earth meet. As our summer continues to take us to new and different places—on vacation, to visit family, or even just going outside—take the time to look around and ask yourself, “Where is God meeting me here? How is God meeting me in this moment?” Perhaps, it’s in a mountain view, a quiet morning, or a conversation with a stranger. Holy spaces aren’t always built—they’re revealed to us, as we open our hearts and our minds. I invite you to slow down and notice the sacred in your daily life. This summer, may you carry the awareness of God’s presence with you. Whether you find yourself at a cabin, in a pew, or somewhere in between—know that God is already there and calls it holy because you are there, too.

In Christ,

Pastor Scott

Church Council Minutes from June 5, 2025

Attendees: Pastor Scott, 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.

The Executive Board was voted on - the new constitution states that these are 1 year terms.

Don Devine was nominated to serve as president, all were in favor.

Bill LeDuc was nominated to serve as vice-president, all were in favor.

Lane Phelan was nominated to serve as treasurer, all were in favor.

Julie Jacobson was nominated to serve as secretary, all were in favor.

Committee Heads remain the same as last year. All committees should send Julie and their council contact a written report each month prior to the council meeting.

Designated contacts are as follows:

Youth and Education contact is Rosemary Walter.

Stewardship and Finance contact is Bill LeDuc.

Worship contact is Pat-Carrie Smith.

Personnel contact is Don Devine.

Properties contact is Steve Anderson.

Outreach contact is Julie Jacobson.

WELCA contact is Lane Phelan

Preschool contact is Lane Phelan.

Treasurer's Report: Lane introduced the finance report to the new council members. Since council met one week early, there wasn't an updated report yet for May.

Pastor's Report: A written report was submitted.

Properties: A written report was submitted.

Worship: A written report was submitted.

Preschool: A written report was submitted.

New Business:

Idea was discussed to put ministry opportunities in the newsletter so the congregation knows where they might fit in with specific needs or ongoing ministries.

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

Note there is no meeting in July. Our next regular council meeting will be held August 14 at 4:00 pm. Please have committee reports into Julie no later than midnight on Tuesday, August 12.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Jacobson, Council Secretary



DAY OUTING
La CONNER - DECEPTION PASS
CRUISE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, at 11:00 a.m.

Meet in Conference Room #1 (carpool to La Conner)

2 1/2 hour crab/chicken lunch cruise



Sign-up at the Opportunity Desk as soon as possible as seating is limited.

Please call Julie for more information.

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

Paul - Julie Dusenbury

Security— A reminder that ALC would never call, text or email you asking for money or your financial information. If you get an email from the office or Pastor asking for something, please hang up and call the office to verify that it was me or him. Also, be very wary of a fellow members reaching out asking for personal information or money. With AI, sometimes things can seem very convincing.

WELCA News

Annual WELCA brown bag indoor picnic is scheduled for 8/26/25 at noon, in the fellowship hall. Come join us for lunch and fellowship. A signup sheet will be available in the narthex so you can pick your preferred sandwich.

Thank you!

Bob and I would like to thank each of you for your prayers and concern during his recent hospitalization at Harborview, surgery, and rehab. He is now home and continuing his recovery. I am also grateful that so many of you have also asked about how I was doing. May God bless you for all your kindness.

Bob & Anne Barry



PRAY FOR OUR 2025 CHURCH COUNCIL & COMMITTEES

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

<i>Fellowship :</i>	
<i>Education:</i>	Rosemary Walter
<i>Youth:</i>	Rosemary Walter
<i>Preschool:</i>	Lane Phelan
<i>Properties:</i>	Steve Anderson
<i>Worship:</i>	Pat Carrie Smith
<i>WELCA :</i>	Lane Phelan
<i>Legacy Endowment:</i>	Wayne Olsen, Rod Odegaard Julie Jacobson
<i>Synod Assy Delegates:</i>	Pastor Peterson, Lois Cassidy Linda Millo

PROPERTIES

A Bit About Grease Traps

A grease trap is like a septic tank system only flipped. On a septic system, the tank holds the “solid” stuff and as it liquefies, this floats to the top and out the drain field tubes. Septic systems need to have chemicals “enzymes” to facilitate the breakdown of the solids. Recommendations call for monthly treatments.

A grease trap has the outlet pipe on the bottom of the vault. So F.O.G. (fat, organics and grease) float to the top of the vault. And like a septic tank, this needs to have digesters and enzymes to break down the FOG, to become very liquid. Very important since the out drain line is on the bottom.

In the Churches case, no treatment has ever been done. This is my second year as Property Manager and I’m beginning my research. As of now, the outlet pipe is plugged with FOG compounds. Until it is cleared, possibly monthly pump-outs may be required to keep the vault low. This would be at a cost of \$200/month.

This report is not for me, but for the next Property Manager who will take my place.

Toilets:
Many of our toilets in the church and preschool are very old. Rather than spending a lot of time and effort to fix or replace the guts in the tank, I choose to have them replaced. A big thanks to our President Don Devine on this undertaking.

Steve Anderson

SEWING NEWS

Summer is here and the work of quilts and kits continues. Sewing will meet August 5, 12 & 19. There is a WELCA luncheon on August 26th. Over the summer there was a change in leadership. Julia Rogers stepped down as chair of this group after many years of awesome leadership. When you see Julia, thank her for her faithful work. But she only retired to become a worker bee, having been trained in all the areas of work. Peggy White, who has been a member of this group for many years, stepped up to chair of the sewing group. Thank you Peggy for accepting this responsibility.

School sales are going on. Here are the items we need for school kits: 70 sheet notebooks, pencil sharpeners, blunt scissors, #2 unsharpened pencils w/ erasers, black or blue ballpoint pens, crayons (16 or 24 box), 2 1/2” erasers, 30 centimeter rulers (or one with centimeters on one side and inches on the other). Anything you can donate will be appreciated.



<i>August 2025</i> ALC NURSERY SCHEDULE	
SUNDAY 3 9:00 Arrival 9:30 Service	Rebecca Burtney Brooklyn Bush
SUNDAY 10 9:00 Arrival 9:30 Service	Rachel Long Brooklyn Bush
SUNDAY 17 9:00 Arrival 9:30 Service	Rebecca Burtney Brooklyn Bush
SUNDAY 24 9:00 Arrival 9:30 Service	Rebecca Burtney Brooklyn Bush
SUNDAY 31 9:00 Arrival 9:30 Service	Rachel Long Rebecca Burtney

Fall Kick Off - September 7th we will return to fall hours. Worship will start at 10:00 am and following service, the Worship Committee will provide a luncheon during fellowship hour.

Prayer Requests - Starting in September there will be some changes to the prayer request page in the scoop and online. Names given for prayer requests will stay online and in the scoop for four weeks and then they will be removed. If you would like to put the person on the list for another four weeks, you will have to email or call the office to add them back on. This will keep the prayer list current, shortened and also draw more attention to the names if they are being updated more often.

Dates to Celebrate in August



Birthdays

01	Fred Wintermantel	17	Cathy Odegaard
03	Karen Peterson	18	Elton Hanneman
12	Rosemary Walter	19	Jeanne Anderson
14	David Bjornson	19	Ray Fowler
14	Paula Fors	24	Linda Anderson
14	Yvonne Paul	28	Maggie Santos
15	Karen Caracciola	28	KJ West
15	Alyssa Costenbader	29	William Gusa
15	Paul Phelan	29	Tim Hofferth
15	Bryan Walker	30	Sharon Ohm
16	Lillian Devine	30	John Parker
16	Jobun Tornnga	30	Paddy Sarvis
17	Reese Morgenthaler	31	Jerry Woodall

Anniversaries

05	Paul & Julie Dusenbury
10	Michael & Wendy Atterberry
17	Tim & Connie Walters
19	Ray & Nancy Fowler
19	Charles & Corine DeWitt
22	Kirk & Marta Swanson
27	Anthony & Amanda Bush
29	Maurice & Helene Fink



Worship Attendance

Date	Events	In-Person	Nursery	Live-Stream
May 25	6th Sunday in Easter	100	3	37
June 1	Graduation Sunday	126	7	32
June 8	Day of Pentecost	98	5	26
June 15	Holy Trinity/ Father's Day	91	3	47
June 22	2nd Sunday in Pentecost	86	4	50
June 29	3rd Sunday in Pentecost	99	1	28
July 6	Patriotic Sunday	112	4	30
July 13	5th Sunday in Pentecost	107	0	22
July 20	6th Sunday in Pentecost	80	1	62
July 27	7th Sunday in Pentecost	103	2	**

** Not available at time of printing



From the Bishop:

July - August 2025

I thank you for calling me to a second term as bishop. I am honored and to be on this journey with you all. Below is a shortened version of the speech I gave during our last Synod Assembly.

Beloveds in Christ, there's a lot happening in our world. You know this. And it's easy to get overwhelmed or discouraged. But let me say this clearly: ***There is no better time than now to be the church.*** The world is complex and the work before us might be at times frustrating and messy and hard. And yet, I truly believe that in this complicated moment in time, for the sake of every beloved child of God, we are called to be the church of Jesus Christ.

And Christ is calling us for this moment – not to fear, but to love. Not to look backward, but forward. Not to hide, but to hope. Not to retreat, but to rise. Not to hate, but to love. Now is the time. Rooted in God's presence and promise through Jesus the risen Christ - now is the time to stand in courage and truth. ***There is no better time than now to be the church.***

Six years ago, when you called me to serve as your bishop, I promised – through the power of the Holy Spirit – that together we would focus on four things:

1. We would walk alongside both traditional congregations and new ministries – honoring sacred practices while also innovating.
2. We would deepen lay leadership across the synod – building richer, more vibrant communities of faith.
3. We would strengthen relationships with our ecumenical and interfaith partners.
4. We would listen to and lift up the diverse voices around us and amongst us – especially those who have long been silenced or marginalized.

In these last six years we have made great strides in all of these four areas. We haven't always been perfect. We have learned, reflected, and grown. And yet, even through COVID and all the challenges and complexities that have come in these six years, by the Spirit's breath and power, we are practicing these things together. Thanks be to God!

Now, in these days and as we look ahead to the next six years, I feel the Spirit calling us to something more. Let us be the church that publicly leads in love.

- In a time of rising hate speech, we are called to speak boldly – in love.
- As Christian nationalism distorts our faith, we are called to publicly resist – in love.
- When people are erased or excluded, we are called to uphold every person's dignity and act for justice - in love.

Above all things, through all things, in everything we do and say, we are called to live and move and breathe in Christ's love and, in this love, love every person – even those we are tempted to call our enemies. For we hold the promise that no matter what comes, Jesus Christ who died and is risen lives and moves and breathes in us. And Christ calls us not to fear, not to hate, but to love – to radically love.

I look forward to partnering with you for the next six years. I am grateful to be church together. For truly, we are chosen, forgiven, gathered and sent in Christ's name and love for the sake of the world. Beloveds in Christ, let us show the world what it means to love in Christ. For there is ***no better time than now to be the church.***

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee
bishop@lutheransnw.org



August

2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
3 FAMILY & PRAISE SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:30a Fellowship Hour 10:30a SCOUT G.PLC 1:00p MS&HS Youth Night 6:30p	4 O.A Bell Choir SCOUT B	5 Sewing SCOUTS G	6 Staff Meeting WORSHIP COMM. 11:00a ALC Picnic	7 Men's Bible Study 7:00a EXECUTIVE BOARD 4:00p	8 Eiem Youth Night 5:30p	9
10 WORSHIP 9:30a Fellowship Hour 10:30a	11 O.A Prayer Grap Bell Choir SCOUT B	12 Sewing SCOUTS G	13 Staff Meeting A-Town Ogy Mtg ALC Picnic	14 Men's Bible Study 7:00a CHURCH COUNCIL 4:00p SCOUT B Leader 7:00p	15	16 <i>Kate Boye Baptism</i> 10:00a
17 WORSHIP 9:30a Fellowship Hour 10:30a MS & HS Youth Night 6:30p	18 O.A LWR Knitting Bell Choir SCOUT B	19 Sewing YOUTH Comm SCOUTS G	20 Staff Meeting ALC Picnic	21 Men's Bible Study 7:00a SCOUT G Leader 7:00p	22 Eiem Youth Night 5:30p	23
24 WORSHIP 9:30a Fellowship Hour 10:30a	25 O.A ALTAR Guild Prayer Grap Bell Choir SCOUT B	26 WELCA Luncheon 12:00p SCOUTS G 7:00p	27 Staff Meeting 9:30a	28 Men's Bible Study 7:00a	29	30
31 Hymn Pick WORSHIP 9:30a Fellowship Hour 10:30a	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE					