



A Message from Pastor Walt

There are some changes coming to ALC. Pastor Peterson has accepted your call and will probably arrive soon. Having gone through a lengthy transition period, you are ready for a permanent pastor to journey with you through many years to come. Of course, this means my time here is completed. Nevertheless, I would be remiss as a transition pastor if I didn't offer a few words as you look to the future.

Pastor Benson had provided a long term ministry. She worked alongside you to develop certain patterns and routines which are essential to carrying out your mission as a church. However be aware a new pastor will bring new ideas and provide a vision with some new directions. Whereas this is certainly exciting, it also becomes a bit threatening since new vision and direction cause change. Change can be uncomfortable because it does disrupt patterns and routines. Undoubtedly each individual will discover something new which will call them to move outside their comfort zone.

With each generation the church is required to change. The world outside our doors is never stagnant, but always dynamic. Change in the world will require change in the way the church carries out its mission. Remember, the church does not exist to pacify any of us; the church is here to carry out the mission to which it is called. One potentially disturbing truth is this: This is never "our church;" this is *Christ's church*. How must we adapt to better serve God's people here and now?

Here is an example. One of the top priorities you provided for the Transition Team was ministry to youth. It appears Pastor Peterson has abilities in this area. However, if you think a pastor or a youth worker or anyone else can simply step in and "fix" this ministry, you are mistaken. Youth work is not the job of one person, it requires a congregation to become welcoming and adaptive. What if one of the identified needs is to make a worship service more youth friendly? If the songs change and if there are guitars and drums, do we feel someone has stolen our comfortable way of gathering, or do we realize we are reaching out to speak to a new generation? What if there are cries of young children during worship? Do we attempt to hush them up or shame the parents, or do we rejoice that the congregation is getting younger?

Be ready for change. It is coming. Recognize this is not a disruption to "your church," it is the exciting expressions of ministry happening in "Christ's church."

Walt

There are many people I need to thank at the conclusion of my ministry in your midst. This has been a strange transition time; my first Sunday was March 15, 2020; the very day the country shut down. That

Continued on next page...

...A Message from Pastor Walt continued

means there are many of you I haven't even had an opportunity to meet, or who I wouldn't recognize because of masks. Yet you've been patient and supportive, even as I had to transition to a walker. I have been the recipient of your hospitality and grace.

I was planning on naming names of all who have provided leadership during my time among you. However I realize that list would be too long to include here. Allow me to mention a few groups which have been so integral not only to me, but to ALC during this time. First I have to mention the staff. Sometimes they can be taken for granted. Don't. You have some very talented and dedicated Christians doing ministry in your midst. Support and cherish them.

Then there has been the important committees which have carried this congregation through the call process. My thanks to Nancy Loftis and the Transition Team, and to Rexanne Graham and the Call Committee. They both worked many hours to bring you to this point.

I thank Bill LeDuc and the church council. They were patient with me and guided this congregation during a difficult period. The various committees have stepped up, taking on addition tasks. Possibly you can show your support by joining a committee or even taking on one of the vacant council positions, if that's in your wheelhouse.

I thank each and every one of you, some whom I've never met. God bless you all.

Grace and Peace,

Walt

FROM THE TREASURER... Respectfully, Lane Phelan

As of the end of September YTD member offering \$209,728 or average weekly giving of \$6168.

* This includes 4 annual gift that came earlier in the year. We are very close to what we expect to have. We are not in deficit spending.

The first 2 weeks of offering in October has totaled more in than all of September.

Our compensation package passed for Pastor Scott Peterson. Once we have a signed contract, I will cut a check using reserve funds for \$10,000 for moving expenses.

I am currently picking up and depositing Preschool Tuition checks as I continue to work with Maggie Santos and John Parker on Preschool transition into our budget.

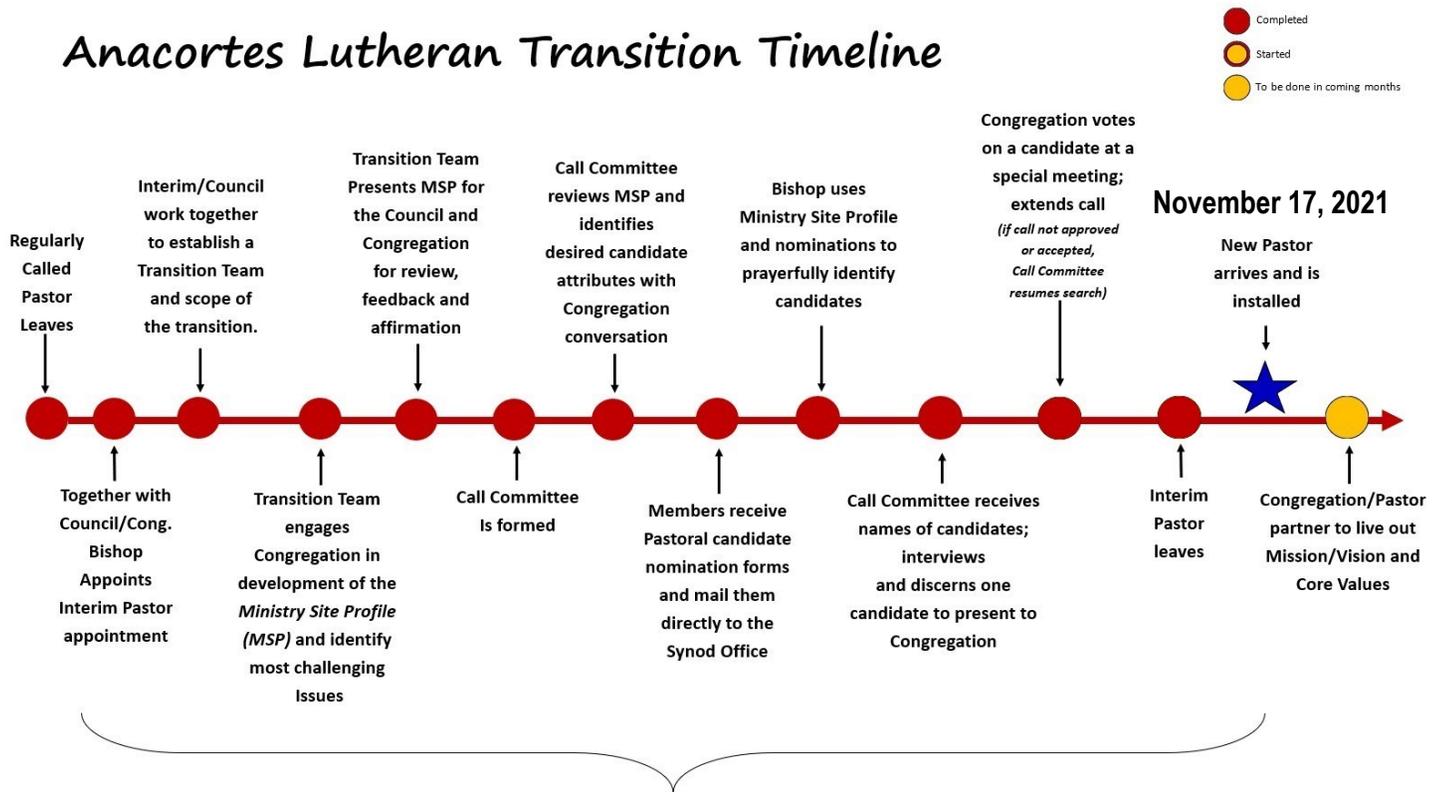
Congregational Mission Statement: To Proclaim The Gospel Through Word and Deed

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE - HE SAID YES!

He said YES! Pastor Peterson has signed the Call Agreement and will be joining us as of November 17th. His first Sunday to preach will be November 21, Christ the King Sunday. We hope to see everyone at church to welcome Pastor Scott.

Please note: As of October 18, the Petersons are still looking for a home to buy or rent. They are looking for a 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home and if it's a rental, they will need a pet-friendly place. If you know of anything coming available in the near term, please contact Rexanne Graham at 253-222-6014.

Anacortes Lutheran Transition Timeline



TRANSITION PERIOD - Congregation engages in prayerful missional experiments for self-discovery and discernment for its next chapter in ministry.



OUTREACH—REACH OUT - *Sharing and Caring*

The **EVERYONE** committee.

Are you a good Christian trying to live your faith?

Do you feel called to share your beliefs with others?

Have you wondered how to share God's love and Grace with your family, friends, and neighbors?

Our Winter Series of seminars on

SHARING AND CARING begins on:

Monday, November 8th

1:00—2:00 pm in Conference room #1

In anticipation of holiday visitors, our first topic is

“NEW VISITORS - Welcome, Teach, Integrate.”

Next month's topic is “Inviting Visitors - no handcuffs required.”

Please call Peggy at 360-299-1184 with questions, or if you prefer an evening session.

JOSEPHINE CARING COMMUNITY

Training available if you interested in becoming a Volunteer Chaplain for Josephine Caring Community. Call Jerry Bongard at 360-588-8061.

Also if you would like to give a Christmas present for a resident would you let him know at that same number. Thank you.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



It's Shoebox Season!

Every gift-filled shoebox has the potential to change lives in a positive way. Brochures with labels will be available near the church office (or you can print your own online).

We have a few boxes available at the welcome desk, or you can use a shoe box or plastic shoe box of your own to fill with items listed in the brochure.

COLLECTION WEEK IS NOVEMBER 15-22

Monday, November 15 is the last day to drop off your shoebox in the church narthex.

Blessings,

Linda Walker; Coordinator

ALC FREE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Once again we will be providing our Annual free Christmas day dinner under the same Pandemic Model as last year.

Planning Phase:

It's time to begin thinking about how you might wish to be a part of this important outreach ministry. Look for more information and volunteer signups at the Welcome desk in December.

Anne Barry & Don Devine
Dinner Co-coordinators



Bring the family to help decorate the Sanctuary & Church for the holidays.

SEWING News - All are Welcome!

SEWING DAYS

TUESDAYS, NOVEMBER 2, 16 & 30

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Bring a sack lunch & stay.

In the Fellowship Hall

Shipping is 3pm on Thursday November 4th. We bring the boxes down, weigh & load the truck. On November 5th Paul Dusenbury and Bob Higgins will take the truck down to Seattle.

Love in Christ,
Julia Rogers

LWR KNITTING News

MEETING DATE: Taking Fall/Winter Break

Thank you all for your Fall 2021 knitting. We turned in 68 sweater/hat sets. We didn't miss a "stitch" even given our circumstances. May God use all of our love filled stitches to warm babies and bring families to know Him: to have their names included in His Book of Salvation. Now, on to Spring 2022!

Our current Spring 2022 total is:

Sweater/hat sets – 18

Sweaters – 0

Hats – 0

Our church ships about 100-150 baby layette sets every 6 months to Lutheran World Relief. One sweater/hat set goes into each layette set. We use a fun one piece sweater pattern. Beginners are welcome. Teaching is available. For more yarn, and/or to report sweater/hat counts, please call me.

~Linda Anderson 360 588-1730

GET-TOGETHER - Hawaiian Hodgepodge

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

at 10:00 am

In the Fellowship Hall



The theme is:

"What Are You Thankful For?"

Please call, text or email to sign up before Wednesday, November 17.

Don't forget to bring your drink.

**Have a great month, stay safe, and be happy.
We look forward to seeing you soon.**

Paul & Julie Dusenbury

ALC WEEKLY UPDATE EMAIL

Have you been getting our Thursday Weekly Update email Blast? It contains all up and coming events and meetings at church, notices, announcements, Sunday scripture readings, and links newsletters, community events and much, much more.

Don't miss out of what's going on,
start receiving the Thursday email blast

"ALC Weekly Update"

Send an email to: info@ancorteslutheran.org

Subject line: ALC Weekly Update

PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENT

Our secretaries are being asked to do things on Sundays while they are in church. They do not work on weekends but attend church to worship. They are very happy to help you on Mondays. Thank you for your understanding.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - *K-5th grades*

10:00 am in sanctuary

Join us in Worship for the first 15 minutes in church and then be dismissed to Sunday school after the children's sermon.

CONFIRMATION - *Grades 6th - 8th*

SUNDAYS 9:00 - 10:00 am

In conference room #2

Confirmation will be meeting from 9:00 –10:00 am on Sundays to allow the kids and teachers to attend services.

Kids enter through the doors by the office. Parents please enter by the handicap ramp doors and sign in.

BSA SCOUT TROOPS 4084

- **BOY TROOPS** - ages 11-17
Mondays at 6:00 pm
In the Fellowship Hall
Leader: Robert Eggleston
509-230-9648 / manu_tara@hotmail.com
- **GIRL TROOP** - ages 11-17
Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
In the Fellowship Hall
Leader: Rebecca Eggleston
360-588-8328 / scoutmaster4084g@gmail.com
- **CUB SCOUT PACK** - ages 5-10 or K-5th grade
Wednesdays at 6:00 pm
In the Sunday School rooms
Leader: Riley Suffridge
291-507-7880 / rjsuffridge@gmail.com

GIRL SCOUT TROOP 41804

(Brownies - 2nd grade)

1st & 3rd Tuesdays on 6:30 pm

Meet in Youth room

Leader: Cherie Goyer

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY CIRCLES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

- **Ruth Circle at 10:00 am**
In conference room #1

- **Hannah Circle at 10:00 am**
In conference room #2

Will begin a six week study of the book of Roman's using Max Lucado's video & study guide.

- **Anna Circle at 6:30 pm**
In conference room #1

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

EVERY THURSDAY'S at 7:00 am

In conference room #1

Led by Boyd Veer



PRAYER GROUP - IN PERSON

EVERY TUESDAY at 1:00 pm

In Prayer Chapel

Or Conference call 1-518-351-9735

Contact Peggy White for more information



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday school started on the October 3rd. The start was exciting since we hadn't held Sunday School for over a year. Pastor Butler invited the children to the front of the church for the Children's Message.

While the children were on the steps, we installed all the teachers with a blessing from Pastor Butler. Don Devine, Paul Dusenbury, Ginny Connelly, Kathryn Parker and Stacey Pestar were there to receive the blessing. After the installation we took a moment to Thank Dave White and Anne Hofferth for their many years of dedication to our Children's Program and to presented them with a gift from the Education Committee.

The children and teachers were then dismissed from service and moved upstairs to our "Books of the Bible" Carnival. Because of our small class sizes, we are combining all grades K-5th together in the open space to learn about the Books of the Bible, starting with Genesis.

Confirmation also started on October 3rd for grades 6-8th taught by Don Devine & Paul Dusenbury. They are meeting in Conference Room #2 during services in October. In November, Confirmation will be meeting 9:00-10:00 am on Sundays to allow the kids and teachers to attend services.

A great big thank you goes out to all our volunteer teaching staff. Without them we have no Sunday School. We invite you to help us show our appreciation by saying "thanks for what you do for our kids" the next time you see them in passing.

SNACK DONATIONS APPRECIATED

This year, we decided to provide the children with a small snack/drink immediately following Sunday school. They always rush downstairs looking for treats/donuts so we think this will provide a healthy environment for all during COVID. We also want to encourage parents to meet & greet in the Fellowship Hall after service.

BIBLE PRESENTATION

The church will be presenting Bibles to the Sunday School students in November. The actual date has not been set as yet.

We are so thankful for your continued support of our Sunday school programs. May we all continue to enjoy our many blessing in this new school year.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS STORE

December 12-19

Kendra Kennedy will be putting on the famous Children's Christmas Store again this year, and

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Bring your gently used donations for the kids to shop for their friends and family. The items are sold for less than a dollar so they can buy items for their whole family with their own money. Also taking financial donations to buy supplies to make home made gifts.

Please drop off donation items in the Christmas Store box located in the Narthex, October 24 - November 21.

Thank you for all your support!

Kendra Kennedy
Education Committee Council Chair

WORSHIP WITH US NEAR AND AFAR

Watch the livestream service from your home by going to our website at <https://www.anacorteslutheran.org> & click tab "Online Ministry"
Or join us in person for Sunday Worship Service at 10:00 am

This is what you can expect when coming to Worship in person.

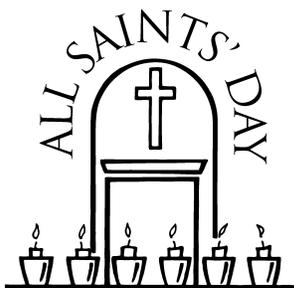
- Please Enter by way of the handicap ramp to the right of the main church doors.
- Masks are required of everyone inside of the church building.
- Signing in is still necessary for contact tracing.
- Communion is given with a prefilled all-in-one juice & wafer communion cup.
- Singing is permissible with your mask covering your nose and mouth.
- A full service Bulletin is available with the Sunday Scoop announcements.
- Hymnals & Bibles are in the pews.

After Worship please join us for Coffee hour in the Fellowship hall.

During coffee hour please remember to wear your mask when not eating and drinking, Thank you!

NOVEMBER - Worship Readings, Psalm & Gospel

November 7 All Saints Day	<i>Readings:</i> Wisdom 3:1-9 / Revelation 21:1-6a <i>Psalm:</i> Psalm 146 <i>Gospel:</i> John 11:32-44	<i>Reader:</i> Grace Boggio
November 14	<i>Readings:</i> Daniel 12:1-3 / Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25 <i>Psalm:</i> Psalm: 16 <i>Gospel:</i> Mark 13:1-8	<i>Reader:</i> Bill LeDuc
November 21 Christ the King	<i>Readings:</i> Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 / Revelation 1:4b-8 <i>Psalm:</i> Psalm 93 <i>Gospel:</i> John 18:33-37	<i>Reader:</i> Anne Barry
November 28 1st Sunday of Advent	<i>Readings:</i> Jeremiah 33:14-16 / 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 <i>Psalm:</i> Psalm 25:1-10 <i>Gospel:</i> Luke 21:25-36	<i>Reader:</i> Bill LeDuc



ALL SAINTS DAY - Sunday, November 7th

We gather in worship to remember the saints that have entered the Church Triumphant.

Candles are lit:

Candles will be lit in memory of all who have died in the past year. This is a special day of thanksgiving for all the saints.

NOVEMBER - Birthday Blessings to You!

1	Conner Richards
3	Emma Hanes
3	Denise Lowrie
3	Phil Weber
4	Lynn DeFrancesco
4	Sue Latendresse
5	Robert Higgins
5	Stephanie Sherman
5	Liam Ufkes
7	Warner Berglund
8	Fred Fisher
8	Thomas Larsen
10	Grace Boggio
10	Tristyn Connelly
10	Lorna Higgins
10	Les Olsen
10	Iliena Tracy
15	Kaylee Lust
16	Sally Pagh
16	Steve Richards
17	Signe Anderson-Graves
17	Zoey Nibarger
19	McKinley Baker
19	Stan Zimmerman
21	Linda Walker
22	Ken Klepsch
23	Barbara Schmidtman
24	Alfred Engen
24	Reed Espinoza
24	Karen Faulkner
25	Jo Rockwood

NOVEMBER - Wedding Anniversaries!

4	Boyd and Ginny Veer
10	Bud and Wanda Rock
14	Matthew and Bonnie Kennedy
17	Jim Carver and Laurie Julius-Carver
18	Fred and Sharon Fisher
20	Dave and Diane Brosten
21	Robert Collins and Kristen Hoffbuhr
21	Phil and Sue Latendresse
25	Jerry and Ann Knutsen
25	Mark and Penelope McCaughan
30	Brian and Cami Mavar

OCTOBER - Worship Services

Date	Events	Live Stream	In person
3	Meet & Greet	87	122
10	Congregational Mtg	41	118
17	Quilt Blessing	47	73
24		33	65
31	Reformation Day	<i>Not available at time of printing</i>	



Church Office will be Closed
Thursday, November 25 & Friday, November 26

ALC COUNCIL MINUTES - OCTOBER 14, 2021

Attendees: Bill LeDuc, Lane Phelan, Pastor Walt, Jeanette Christensen, John Parker, Anita Holzemer, Jeaneen Brogan, Kendra Kennedy, Dave Bjornsen

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Bill LeDuc followed by an opening prayer. September council meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Offering is up in October. Plans are underway to pay for the new pastor's moving expenses. Lane is continuing to work on preschool tuition checks transitioning to ALC.

Pastor's Report:

- Church mask policy discussion. Council revisited the wording of the policy and after a few minor clarifications it will be updated in the Sunday bulletin.
- Pastor Walt's last Sunday will be Oct 31, Reformation Sunday. Pulpit supply will be used after that until the new pastor is on board.

President's Report: Discussion was held on tentatively holding a council retreat following council elections next February. If any committees have planning activities on the table, now is the time to refocus and make goals. ACTION ITEM for ALL: Bring in your action items for next month's council meeting. What does your committee want to focus on going forward.

Old Business:

1. Parking Lot Rental Agreement: We are asking for \$450/month for shared usage of our parking lot across the street. MSP for John to present this contract to ProAlliance.
2. Estimates for South Wall Repair: We received an estimate from Deckard Construction of up to \$13,000 to repair foundation. We will table the estimate discussion for one month until funds will be raised. ACTION ITEM: John will organize a maintenance appeal for the congregation to solicit donations.
3. Establishment of ALC Zoom account: MSP to direct Kendra to set up an ALC Zoom account and an ALC Amazon account connected with church credit card. ACTION ITEM: Kendra will coordinate this with Rachel.

New Business:

1. Legacy Endowment requested to donate \$2000 to Josephine Caring Center. Executive Board voted to instead split that \$2,000 donation between Josephine and El Camino de Emaus.
2. There is a vacancy on the Legacy Endowment Committee. Wayne Olsen has been appointed to fill that vacancy.
3. Discussion was held on when to restart the FAST Teams. Rachel will put sign-up sheets at the back of the church for readers. A more formal process should be discussed/formalized at a council retreat.
4. Recognition for Mirth Moore and Dave White is planned for November. Lane and Jeaneen will put an announcement in the Nov newsletter. WELCA has quilts for them and also Pr Walt. Details will be in the newsletter and in the Sunday bulletin and slide display.

Committee Reports:

Worship Committee: will look at streamlining the Sunday morning sign-in process. They are looking at the nametag process. They have reinstated the offertory and bringing forward the offering gifts. There will be no change in the communion process or adding additional services until the new pastor is on board. Choir has resumed.

continued on page 11...

Council Minutes continued from page 10...

Education: Confirmation and Sunday School has started. Confirmation meets Sunday mornings from 9-10. Books of the Bible carnival was small but a good time was had by all. The Christmas program is tentatively scheduled for Dec 19. Kendra is also organizing this year's Christmas Store again.

Personnel: Pastor Deborah will preach on All Saint's Day. Discussion held on nursery status. Put notice in newsletter asking for a volunteer to disinfect nursery toys. Jeaneen will speak to custodians re: washing communion bowls. Beginning talks on salary amounts for next year.

Stewardship: Working with Maggie Santos to develop Preschool Operating Guidelines and a budget tool. Budget season is coming up. Planning needs to start. Committee chairs, please get your numbers in to Lane and John soon.

WELCA: Quilt Sunday is this Sunday. Over a hundred quilts will be shipped. A freewill offering will be taken to offset shipping costs. Circles have resumed.

Meeting adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Our next meeting is scheduled for November 11th at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted by
Anita Holzemer, Council Secretary



THIS & THAT– BITS & PIECES

- DO YOU NEED TO TALK TO THE PASTORS? Schedule an appointment by calling or emailing the office.
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? Ride to worship, a mask, a friend? Call the church office - maybe we can help.
- NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The Third Monday of every month.
- PRAYER UPDATES: Call or email the church office additions or updates to the prayer list.

Available for you on the counter next to the church office.

- CD RECORDINGS: If you would like them delivered directly to you, call the church office
- DEVOTIONALS AND MORE: Christ in Our Homes devotionals, Living Lutheran Magazines, newsletters.

BISHOPS MESSAGE – *The Spirit* November 2021

What is Our Purpose? The ELCA's Statement of Purpose is found in every congregation constitution, every synod constitution and in the ELCA Constitution. In the ELCA Constitution (4.01) we read: "The Church is a people created by God in Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, called and sent to bear witness to God's creative, redeeming, and sanctifying activity in the world." This same Statement of Purpose is found in the NWWA Synod Constitution S6.01 and in the Model Constitution for Congregations C4.01. I encourage you to read ELCA's entire Statement of Purpose. It is beautiful and energizing. (Find the constitutions here: <https://www.lutheransnw.org/resources/constitutions>)

When I read the Statement of Purpose, it helps me remember who and whose I am and what I am called to do and to be. You see, sometimes we forget. Sometimes we forget what it means to be children of God, redeemed by Christ, and sent into the world. Sometimes we get caught up in finances or building maintenance, we get lost in petty disagreements and who should do what and so many other things, that we forget that we are created, empowered, called, and sent by God – by *GOD* – to live into and to share what God is already doing in the world – in God's creative, redeeming, and sanctifying work in and for the world.

How do we live into this Statement of Purpose?

Below I propose three ways that we can (there are many more but I only have so much space).

Relationship: There are so many people in this world who are lonely, who are discouraged, who are anxious, who are tired. There are so many who feel unloved, unwelcomed, unwanted. They are living in your neighborhood, they are shopping at your grocery store, they have kids in school with your kids or grandkids, they are walking by your church every day. They are looking for relationship and for friendship. In a 2019 survey by CIGNA, 61% of working people identified as lonely. Did you catch that? Over half of people who are working are lonely. And this survey was taken before the pandemic. I can only surmise that the number is higher after 18 months of COVID life. Other studies I have read state that loneliness and isolation lead to physical and emotional difficulties as well as societal polarization. This is obviously a problem in this country. So, how do we have deep meaningful conversations so that people feel welcome and heard? Have connection and deep friendship? How does this fit with our Statement of Purpose?

Impact: There are so many people in this world who are looking to do something meaningful, to change the world for the better. There are so many people who wonder how they can make a difference, how they can positively influence their communities locally, nationally, and globally. These people are living in your neighborhood, they are shopping at your grocery store, they have kids in school with your kids or grandkids, they are walking by your church every day. They are looking for impact in this world. How can they be our partners in the ministries we are already doing and in the ministries they are doing? How can we listen to them to hear what other ideas might come through the Holy Spirit working in them and through their innovation? What partners do we need to multiply the impact of your ministry site in your neighborhood? How does this fit with our Statement of Purpose?

Transformation: There are so many people in this world who are looking for transformation, for new life, for a new path. There are so many people who have lost hope in institutions, in the church, in their lives. These people are living in your neighborhood, they are shopping at your grocery store, they have kids in school with your kids or grandkids, they are walking by your church every day. They are looking for resurrection. How is your ministry site set up to not only welcome those searching, but honoring who they are? How do they know that their story is welcome? How is the good news shared with those who have never heard it and are desperate to hear? How does this fit with our Statement of Purpose?

I invite you to look at ELCA's Statement of Purpose – or your own congregation Statement of Purpose and discuss in your councils, Adult Forums, small groups, and elsewhere. What other questions or thoughts come out of what you read?

Together may we live drenched in God's love and sent out to share the Good News. For we are created, redeemed, called, and sent to live into and share in God's creative, redeeming, and sanctifying activity in the world.

+ Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee / bishop@lutheransnw.org