

Anacortes Lutheran Church

A message from Pastor Scott Peterson

SEPTEMBER 2026 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Dear Members and Friends of Anacortes Lutheran Church,

We have enjoyed a beautiful summer and are now thinking about 'regular' things starting up again. School, regular meetings, choir, Sunday School, and more! Some of course never took time off during the summer and so may not even notice that life is getting busier. But of course, added to the traditional happenings that we look forward to are some new ones.

Some things that are looking a bit different in September and October: We will be starting off September with worship on the 6th at 9:30am. We will then be returning to our 10am worship time on September 13th. And entering into October (the 4th) we will be kicking off our 9am Education Hour (for all ages) with a breakfast and then start into classes on the 11th. Sunday School and Confirmation will begin their classes and the adults are invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall for a conversation about ideas of what should be offered for education. I have some ideas, but would also like to hear about what you would like to be learning during this time.

During September and October, I will also be offering opportunities for conversation with those who are interested in more formalizing their participation with Anacortes Lutheran. There have been some new faces around on Sundays and I would like to have some conversations with those who are interested in membership. There will be different times offered so that people can work it into their schedules.

One more focus as we enter into the Autumn, is that we will be opening up a search for a new Director of Music and Worship. We continue to thank Laurie for the many years she put into this position and now we are looking forward to a new chapter. More detail to follow.

There are a few other surprises that are coming up as well, but we can't let all the rabbits out of the hat at one time! Stay tuned to the weekly emails, the social media posts on Facebook and Instagram, the Scoop, and other announcements happening around campus.

May we walk this path together as God's people at Anacortes Lutheran Church!

Blessings,

Pastor Scott

New Member Conversation Dates:

Sunday, September 20 – 9am

Wednesday, September 23 – 6pm

Sunday, September 27 – 11:15am

Thursday, October 1 – 6:30pm

Saturday, October 3 – 10am

Thursday, October 8 – 11am

Anacortes Lutheran Church
Council Minutes for August 6, 2026

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

The meeting was called to order and Pastor opened with prayer.

Pat-Carrie made a motion to approve the June minutes as written, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: For the last 30 weeks, offerings averaged \$7102 (\$100 less per week than budgeted for). So far \$16,000 has been given away in benevolence and we currently have \$5,000 more to give (10% of offerings are given as the ALC benevolence).

The online payment and reimbursement system is working.

Pastor's Report: A written report was submitted. Vacation August 18-24.

Youth & Education: A written report was submitted.

Properties: A written report was submitted. Highlights:

Six of the eight furnaces have been serviced and inspected. The churches outside windows have been washed. The damaged fascia board, second story, in playground area have been repaired. The way the roof was done, without cleaning out the water drainage area, water just spills over the side of the building. Roger Peckman is working to get multiple bids to install one auto door opener on the handicap ramp.

New Business:

- Rosemary made a motion to accept hiring this position and to approve a flat fee stipend of \$325/month for the Social Media position, with the expectation of spending 10-15 hours/month. This was seconded and all were in favor. Rachel Long left for this portion of the meeting as she is fulfilling this role.
- Rachel made a motion to approve the Legacy Endowment Fund grants of \$1500 for a hard-sided drum set cases, \$1500 for the ALC Christmas Dinner, \$1500 for the Fidalgo Chaplaincy group and \$3000 to the Lutheran Disaster Response. This was seconded and all were in favor. Note that \$700 has already been spent on a fabric cutting machine for the quilters and there is \$4700 left in the account for 2026 grants.
- The Education Kick-Off breakfast will be October 4 at 9am with Sunday School, Confirmation and Adult Ed to start October 11. There is a need for someone to give their available Thrivent Grant towards the cost of the breakfast. The Education Committee will be meeting to confirm a Sunday School plan for the year.
- The Worship time change begins on Sept. 13. Don will make sure the sign gets put back up. Worship will handle the fall kick-off on this day.
- Lane noted that there is \$5000 of available benevolence offering at this time. Rosemary made a motion to pre-approve up to \$1000 gift to the Anacortes School Foundation for their Ready to Learn Fair, if they need this now Lane can pay it (she will talk to Treva). It was seconded and all were in favor. \$1000 will be given to Josephine Caring Community. Lane may ask congregation for local ideas of where offerings might go.
- It was agreed to hold the future council meetings at 4:00pm on the second Thursday of the month.
- Rachel reports that as of today there are 53 kids signed up for VBS and 15 helpers. She will make a specific announcement on Sunday where they could use more volunteers.
- There was a request for WELCA to give a more specific request as to what items they need most of when asking for donations.
- Discussion took place as to how best communicate what/how often the custodians need to do specific tasks. Don will look into a weekly checklist.

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

Our next council meeting will be held September 10 at 4:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Jacobson, Council Secretary

Fall Worship Hours– We will go back to fall hours on September 13th. Service will start at 10:00 am and fellowship hour will be at 11:00 am.

Fall Kick Off Brunch– We are having a potluck brunch after worship.

FALL KICKOFF

It's almost Fall Kickoff Sunday time again; it's hard to believe the summer is almost over! Worship Committee is planning a lunch on September 13th as part of our Fall Kickoff. We will be serving pulled pork and rolls, coleslaw, and cookies. We would like to have the congregation bring salads to go with the sandwiches. A variety of salads would be fun! So, if you can bring a salad, please do. We might have as many as 80-100 people to feed. It's a great way to start the Fall/Winter season, and on that day we also start back to our 10am service schedule. See you there!

Fall Kickoff



Luncheon

Date: September 13th

Time: 11:00 am

Join us to celebrate going back to fall hours with fellowship and fun!

Please bring a salad or dessert to share.

PRAY FOR OUR 2026 CHURCH COUNCIL & COMMITTEES

President:	Don Devine	Fellowship :	
Vice-President:	Bill LeDuc	Education:	Rosemary Walter
Secretary:	Julie Jacobson	Youth:	Rosemary Walter
Treasurer:	Lane Phelan	Preschool:	Lane Phelan
Stewardship:	Bill LeDuc	Properties:	Steve Anderson
Outreach:	Julie Jacobson	Worship:	Pat Carrie Smith
Personnel:	Don Devine	WELCA :	Lane Phelan
Josephine Delegates:	Pastor Peterson, Linda Millo	Legacy Endowment:	Wayne Olsen, Rod Odegaard
Finance:	Lane Phelan, Bill LeDuc		Julie Jacobson
	Linda Millo	Synod Assy Delegates:	Pastor Peterson, Lois Cassidy
Finance Secretary:	Linda Millo		Linda Millo
Camp Lutherwood Rep:	Kenny Holzemer		

WELCOME BACK TO CHOIR!

It's time to play the music. (and sing)

It's time to light the lights (if they work :)

It's time to get back together!

Our welcome back dinner will be on: Wednesday, September 2, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. El Jinete Restaurant 509 Commercial Ave.

Our first rehearsal will be on: Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at church in the loft!

I am excited to get the year started and to sing Praises to our Lord and share our ministry within the church. Please invite anyone who might be interested in joining choir to our dinner and/or our rehearsals.

If you have been thinking about joining choir, check us out – we are a great group of folks who care about each other and have a great time singing together. Here are a few quotes that I love:

It is my belief that everything you need to know about the world can be learned in a church choir. Connie Willis A choir reminds us that singing together is a fundamental human need, and they do great work. Keep it up.

The true beauty of music is that it connects people. It carries a message, and we, the musicians, are the messengers. Do not let the torch go off. The church choir is not just a group of singers it is a family united in song and the Love of our Lord.

Heavenly Father,

As we stand here, ready to practice, we want to express our deep gratitude for the gift of music and the opportunity to be part of this choir. Thank you for the voices you've given us and the chance to use them to glorify your name. May we never take this privilege for granted, and may our gratitude shine through our singing today. Amen.



SEWING

Summer is over and people are returning to their fall routines. We would love for you to consider giving some time to working with the sewing group. Come see what we do each Tuesday in the fellowship hall.

This group continued their work over the summer. We made quilts and put kits together. We packed boxes in preparation for shipping. And now begins our final push. Shipping is just around the corner and our quilt blessing will happen before the boxes begin their journey. As soon as we know those dates, we will publish them. While we are busy here making quilts and kits, Lutheran World Relief is helping where disaster strikes. Especially right now LWR is providing help and resources in the Spokane area where fires destroyed over 700 homes and in Venezuela following a major earthquake.

September Dates to Celebrate



September Birthday Blessings

01 Rich Berentson
 01 Chris Franulovich
 01 Deneva Schultz
 08 Mirth Moore
 10 Caden DeAtley
 13 Dave Moore
 15 Maxine Greenfield
 15 Michael Phelan
 16 Howard Sorensen
 18 Linda Millo
 19 Hildy Radke
 23 Matt Kerschbaum
 23 Chris Long
 23 Lorraine Sund
 24 Rachel Long
 25 Vicki Long
 25 Stan Berntson
 29 Roger Peckman

September Wedding Anniversaries

01 Jerry & Jan Woodall
 06 Bryan & Linda Walker
 07 Kenny & Anita Holzemer
 17 Duane & Janey Dent
 18 William & Patricia Rasar
 18 Chris & Jeanne Anderson
 20 Chuck & Bev Landgraf
 20 Bill & Melanie Sahnaw



Worship Attendance

Date	Events	In-Person	Nursery	Live-Stream
July 26	9th Sunday in Pentecost	84	5	52
Aug 2	10th Sunday in Pentecost	90	2	62
Aug 9	11th Sunday in Pentecost	94	0	32
Aug 16	12th Sunday in Pentecost	90	3	22
Aug 23	13th Sunday in Pentecost	63	3	**
Aug 30	Hymn Pick Sunday	**	**	**

** Not available at time of printing

ALC SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY PRIME TIMERS

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

Upcoming quarterly events

September 12, Saturday, at 11:00 a.m. – Conference Room #1.
 La Conner “Crabby” Cruise with lunch. Carpool to La Conner.

December 11, Friday, at 10:00 a.m.
 Get-Together in the Fellowship Hall

Sign-up sheet for December is available at the Opportunity Desk.

For more information, please call, text, or email Julie.

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

Paul - Julie Dusenbury





During the Bishop's Sabbatical we are lifting up guest writers from the synod staff.

Thank you to Rev. Dr. David Hahn, our featured writer for **September 2026**

Called to Be Human: Introducing the LiVE Project's 2026-2027

What does it mean to be human?

Adrienne Marie Brown's *Emergent Strategy* names a principle that's been on my mind: **"There is a conversation in the room that only these people at this moment can have. Find it."** What is the conversation the church, at this moment, needs to be having? This year's LiVE Project theme is our answer: **Called to Be Human**. What kind of people does our world need us to show up as, in light of our life in Jesus?

Amid our challenges, disagreements, and anxieties, the Spirit is calling the church to wrestle with this question in ways that honor the dignity of being human — even as so much of our world, its economics, politics, and digital cultures, works to divide our attention and our intentions to live with and for one another.

Across four retreats and two online courses, we'll explore what it means to live fully into our humanity in light of our Christian faith, our motivations and presuppositions, our affections and desires, our freedom, our consciousness, our conscience.

A passage from *Inviting the Mystic, Supporting the Prophet*, by Katherine Dyckman and Patrick Carroll, has been sitting with us as we've built this year's programming:

It is as if each human person constitutes a committee constantly sitting to decide life's questions and the behavior desired in a given situation. This committee has many members within, each voicing a particular slant—our fears, feelings, dreams, and hopes, our history and relationships, our member, our various subpersonalities, and our reason. Hopefully, the chairperson of that committee is reason, deeply influenced and guided by affectivity. All the voices need to be heard and listened to. Ultimately, at their best, people make choices that chart the direct and, over time, develop the person.

That's the heart of **"Called to Be Human."** Not a call to have it all figured out, or to quiet the noisy parts of ourselves, but a call to the ongoing, sacred work of listening to every voice at the table, so that, choice by choice, we become more integrated, more whole, more truly *ourselves* in Christ.

This year's retreats and courses put in conversation various members of that inner committee: our desires, our freedom, our conscience, our imagination, our history. We'll ask what it looks like for God to be present in these, in our community conversations, and with curiosity rather than judgment. None of us chairs that committee alone; we do it in relationship, with God, with each other, and with the communities we're called to serve.

We can't wait to gather alongside you this year, to wonder together about this timely and necessary question: who is God calling us, and not challenging us, to be?

Peace,

Pastor David

Director of Formation and Learning | Northwest Washington Synod | david@lutheransnw.org



SEPTEMBER

2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Sewing BANNER Comm 11:30a SCOUT G & B 7:00p	2 Staff Meeting 9:30a WORSHIP COMM 11:00a <u>EXECUTIVE BOARD</u> 3:00p CUB Pack 6:00p	3 Men's Bible Study 7:00a Praise Team 1:00p	4	5
6 WORSHIP 9:30a Fellowship Hour 10:30a YOUTH Comm 11:00a	7 Labor Day O.A 10:00a A.C of A 6:30p	8 Women's Bible 10:00a <u>WELCA Picnic</u> 11:30a <u>Women's Bible</u> 3:30p SCOUT G & B 7:00p	9 Staff Meeting 9:30a A-Town Clay Mtg 12:30p CHOIR Rehearsal 6:30p	10 Men's Bible Study 7:00a <u>CHURCH COUNCIL</u> 4:00p SCOUT B Leader 7:00p	11	12
	OFFICE CLOSED					
13 FALL WORSHIP TIME WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a	14 O.A 10:00a LWR Knitting 1:00p A.C of A 6:30p	15 Sewing 9:00a SCOUT G Leader 6:00p SCOUT G & B 7:00p	16 Staff Meeting 9:30a CUB Pack 6:00p CHOIR Rehearsal 6:30p	17 Men's Bible Study 7:00a SCOUT B Leader 7:00p	18	19
20 New Member Convo 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a	21 O.A 10:00a ALTA R Guild 11:00a A.C of A 6:30p	22 Sewing 9:00a SCOUT G & B 7:00p	23 Staff Meeting 9:30a Prek Chapel 10:45a New Member Convo 6:00p CHOIR Rehearsal 6:30p	24 Men's Bible Study 7:00a Prek Chapel 10:45a Praise Team 1:00p	25	26
	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE					
27 WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a New Member Convo 11:15a	28 O.A 10:00a A.C of A 6:30p	29 Sewing 9:00a SCOUT G & B 7:00p	30 Staff Meeting 9:30a Prek Chapel 10:45a CHOIR Rehearsal 6:30p			

