

# DREAM BIG

Jeremiah 29:11

Anacortes Lutheran Church  
June 2021 Newsletter



## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR WALT

I'm amused by some of those strange laws which are still on the books throughout America. Here are some federal laws I bet you didn't know.

You are not allowed to sell runny ketchup. And in case you didn't know it, there are also only three ways you are allowed to spell the name of that thick red sauce: Ketchup, Catsup and Catchup (I've never seen that one before). So I guess you better have your spell checker working so you don't break any laws.

There's a federal code which doesn't allow you to sell noodles which are too thick or too thin.

15 U.S.C. § 330a prohibits you from using lasers in order to make it rain. Violators could be slapped with a \$10,000 fine.

In Rhode Island you can't bite off another person's arm.

Nearby in Everett you are not allowed to hypnotize someone unless you are indoors.

My favorite has always been this one which is on the books in Denver: it is illegal to open a can of beans with a shotgun.

However, the one law which caught my attention in my most recent internet search was this one: In Texas you cannot hold public office if you don't believe in a Supreme Being.

Now, I'm all for people who are inspired to do good deeds or perform public service because they are motivated by their belief system. I also favor having faith, especially so because I'm in the faith business. But is it really a good idea to mandate belief? In fact, can you regulate someone into faith?

Obviously, such legislation has been tried throughout history. There have been times when people of the wrong Christian persuasion have been burned at the stake. Some governments have mandated a state religion. However, is that really the best way for Christians to spread the Gospel?

It seems faith by fiat, by command, is really a lazy way to do evangelism and I doubt it is that effective. Jesus sent out his followers to "make disciples of all nations," but doing so by legal imposition doesn't seem to be our Lord's *modus operandi*. And that certainly isn't what the Twelve were doing. They spoke of what they had witnessed with their eyes and about what God was doing in the lives of people. Some were persuaded and became baptized followers of Jesus. Others were not convinced and chose not to follow. But a common thread throughout the Book of Acts was the work of the Spirit in the

*Continued on page 2*

transformation of people's hearts. The Apostles simply proclaimed the Word while the Spirit created faith.

Reflect on what brought you to faith. It probably wasn't because someone commanded you to believe, but because you sat on your grandmother's knee when she told you Bible stories or because your family worshipped together or because a compassionate Christian neighbor walked with you in your journey during dark times. Faith comes from hearing and from the work of God the Spirit.

We are called to bear witness, to pronounce the gospel and then to entrust the other into the care of the Holy Spirit. There is no law which is going bring about true transformation.

You can regulate how to open a can of beans in Denver, but true faith is still an amazing miracle. We are called. We speak. And God takes it from there.

Walt

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## **FROM THE TREASURER.....**

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Our first quarter has shown good and steady giving. We have met all our expenses and paid first quarter benevolences. Benevolence paid: NW WA Synod of ELCA, \$3,500, World Hunger \$1,000, Josephine Caring Community \$1,000, Young Life of Anacortes \$500 for a total of \$7,000.

The Scholarship fund has received \$7,730 in honor of Pastor Debra Benson and \$928. from the Lorene Rhoads fund.

We are blessed to have a congregation in good financial standing and ready to welcome a new lead pastor. Praise the Lord.

Lane Phelan

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## **INVITATION TO WORSHIP**

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Are you longing for some normalcy? Are you waiting for the day when you can have conversations with someone outside your household? Are you hoping one day to be worshipping in the sanctuary with your church family, but are feeling hesitant or worried about being safe now?

Well, wait no more! Your church council, committee members, volunteers and staff have been working hard to make in-person worship safe, comfortable, and meaningful.

Yes, we register to attend service. Yes, we wear masks. Yes, we sit socially distanced.

BUT, we get to join our church family in worship. We get to participate in responsive readings. We get to hear beautiful recorded music of our choir while the sun shines through the stained glass windows at the altar. And we get to share in the Body of Christ as a community of believers.

So, put down that coffee cup! Go to your computer now and register for next Sunday's worship service. No computer? No excuse. Simply call the church office to register.

***"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."*** Matthew 18:20

Worship Committee

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## CALL COMMITTEE - UPDATE

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Pastor Andy Yee met with the committee via zoom on May 18<sup>th</sup>. He introduced the committee to four prospective pastor's profiles. He gave us an overview and sent us a link of their Candidacy Documents. We then had time to read them in detail and pray for guidance.

Each one was notified that we had read their documents and they are scheduled to be interviewed the first week of June via zoom.

Be assured that the committee has the congregation's wishes, gathered from the questionnaire that you participated in, upmost in our minds. As you may know, from those questionnaires a Ministry Site Profile was prepared and these four pastors wishing to move have read it. Also, because of confidentiality policies, we are not at liberty to give you detailed information about them.

Watch for more updates on the bulletin board in the Narthex and at church services. In the meantime, please continue to pray for discernment and spiritual guidance.

May the peace of the Lord be with you.

Lois Cassidy



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### CONFIRMATION SUNDAY- JUNE 20<sup>TH</sup>

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**During the 10 am Church service.**

Reed Meyers, Joey Pestar and Micah Spehar  
will be Confirmed.

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### PASTOR CALL COMMITTEE

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Rexanne Graham; *Chair*  
Melanie Sahnaw, *Recorder*  
Steve Anderson  
Lois Cassidy  
Janey Dent  
Bob Ford  
Kenny Holzemer  
Bill Gusa, *Alternate*

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### CHURCH COUNCIL & COMMITTEES

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<i>President :</i>	William Leduc
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Lane Phelan
<i>Secretary:</i>	Jane Nelson
<i>Education:</i>	Kendra Kennedy
<i>Outreach:</i>	Peggy White
<i>Personnel:</i>	Jeaneen Brogan
<i>Preschool:</i>	Jo Rockwood
<i>Properties:</i>	Les Olsen
<i>Stewardship:</i>	John Parker
<i>Worship:</i>	David Bjornson
<i>WELCA :</i>	Jeanette Christensen
<i>NW Synod Reps:</i>	Linda Millo & Pastor Butler
<i>Josephine Delegate:</i>	Jerry Bongard & Grace Boggio

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## SEWING News

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### WE ARE BACK TO SEWING, COME JOIN US!

#### Sewing Dates are:

**TUESDAYS, JUNE 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29**

**9:00 am - Noon**

**in the Fellowship hall**

We will continue to have sewing during the summer from 9am– 12pm

I am taking time off, we always go boating. Jeaneen will take over throughout the summer. I will be back in September.

All are welcome to come & see what we do.  
God Bless all of You!!!

~ Julia Rogers

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## ZOOM MEETING

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9 AT NOON**

*(I will email the Zoom invite at a later date.)*

The theme is:

*“Summer Chores”*

## GET-TOGETHER

**FRIDAY, JUNE 18 from 10:00 - 11:30 AM**

**in the Fellowship Hall**

The theme is:

*“Happy Summer”*

Please call, text, or email for a reservation.

*Have a great month,  
stay safe, & be happy.*

*We look forward to  
seeing you soon.*



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## OUTREACH - The everybody committee

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Ideas and suggestions welcome!

**We will meet Monday, June 14 at 1:00 pm**  
to discuss upcoming projects.

Fall Open House/Rally,  
new member Support teams,  
lay missionary classes,  
All Saints Celebration, and more.

Questions? Call Peggy White 360-299-1184

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## THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY WITH WALT

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**Join Pastor Walt on Thursdays at 12:00 pm**

in an examination of the coming Sunday's scripture lessons. Our hope is to discover a little background about the original context of each passage and then to share thoughts about how those particular verses might speak to us today.

**Call or email the office for the Zoom link**

If you have any questions about logging on to Zoom we will help you do so. **Welcome to the study.**

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## LWR Knitting News

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### MEETING DATE:

**MONDAY, JUNE 21**

**1:00 - 3:00 pm**

**in the Fellowship Hall**

Our church ships about 100-150 baby layette sets every 6 months to Lutheran World Relief. One sweater/hat goes in each layette set.

Our current Fall 2021 total is:

Sweater/hat sets - 7

Hats - 0

Sweaters - 0

We use a fun one piece sweater pattern. Beginners are welcome. Teaching is available.

If you need more yarn, please call me.

~ Linda Anderson 360-588-1730

## SAVE THE DATE

**SUNDAY, JUNE 13TH**

**2:00 PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**

*Celebrate the Sweet Life of  
Pastor Debra Benson*

Join Lewis Benson and the congregation in sharing loving memories, funny stories and some of Deb's favorite sweets in fellowship together.

Email or drop off a written memory you would like to share with everyone. We will have a few people designated to read portions of your responses.

Registration through Eventbrite is required and is limited to 225 people.

*Mask restrictions and 6 ft spacing still apply.*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**ANACORTES LUTHERAN CHURCH  
VBS 2021**

**Monday, July 12- Thursday, July 15  
6:00—7:30 pm**

Register to participate or volunteer  
by going to our website.

<https://www.anacorteslutheran.org/>



*Our ALC Services:*

*What do you think?*

Service Content, Length of Service ...

Music ...

Sermons ...

Date of Service ...

Name (optional)...

*Jot your thoughts down, drop them off in church office, mailbox  
or mail them to ALC, 2100 'O' Avenue. Thanks!*





## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2021 GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

We will be honoring and blessing ALC's graduating seniors. The Sewing Ladies will present each of them with a quilt and recipients of the ALC & Lauren Rhodes scholarships will be given out.

**Graduate Recognition Sunday - June 13th at 10:00 am service**



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**Matthew Lowrie**

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**Madeline Lowrie**

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**Lauren Long**

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# DREAM BIG



**Katie Parker**

*"For I know the plans I have for you,"  
declares the LORD, "plans to prosper  
you and not to harm you, plans to  
give you hope and a future."*

*~ Jeremiah 29:11*



**Sydney Long**



**Hayden Long**

# Worship with us Near & Afar

We have resumed in person Sunday worship services at 10:00 am  
Live stream and recorded services will still be available.

Reserve your seat for in person worship and access the Live Stream Services at  
~ <https://www.anacorteslutheran.org> ~

## JUNE- Worship Readings, Psalm & Gospel

<b>June 6</b>	Readings: Psalm: Gospel:	Genesis 3:8-15 / 2 Corinthians 4:13- 5:1 130 Mark 3:20-35	Reader: Lane Phelan
<b>June 13</b> Graduate Recognition Sunday	Readings: Psalm: Gospel:	Ezekiel 17:22-24 / 2 Corinthians 5:6-17 92:1-4, 12-15 Mark 4:26-34	Reader: Carol Olsen
<b>June 20 - FATHER'S DAY</b> Confirmation Sunday	Readings: Psalm: Gospel:	Job 38:1-11 / 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 107:1-3, 23-32 Mark 4:35-41	Reader: Donald Devine
<b>June 27</b>	Readings: Psalm: Gospel:	Lamentations 3:22-33 / 2 Corinthians 8:7-15 30 Mark 5:21-43	Reader: Lois Cassidy

## BITS & PIECES

- **DO YOU NEED TO TALK TO THE PASTORS?** Schedule an appointment by calling or emailing the office.  
Pastor Walt Rice: [walicoli@comcast.net](mailto:walicoli@comcast.net) / Pastor Deborah Butler: [revdeb.48@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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?** Groceries, a mask, a friend? Call the church office - maybe we can help.
- **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:** The Third Monday of every month.

Available for you in the basket outside the church office door-


- **CD RECORDINGS:** If you would like them delivered directly to you, call the church office, 360-293-9586, and ask to be put onto the delivery schedule.
- **DEVOTIONALS AND MORE:** Christ in Our Homes devotionals, Living Lutheran Magazines, newsletters.



## JUNE - BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO YOU!

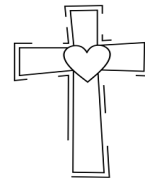
1	Sara Asrat	14	Gary Card
1	Kathryn Parker	14	Wyatt Ott
3	Evie Hanes	14	Bryan Trafton
3	Elena Holzemer	14	Stacy VanSweden
3	Lori Rogers	15	Maurice Fink
4	Zephryn Ehrheart	16	Liam Poor
4	Ellamina Ehrheart	16	Gunilla Wold
4	Rod Odegaard	17	DeAnna Claus
5	Laurie Julius-Carver	17	Noel Johnson
6	Michael Bastrom	18	Linda Braski
6	John Collins	18	Bill Faulkner
6	Hank Knutsen	19	Leo Dumas
6	Laura Smythe	19	Wayne Olsen
7	Lori Hrovat	19	Chris Parker
8	Lauren Conrardy	19	Sharon Wedell
8	Juliann Conrardy	21	Nita Ostlund
8	Megan Kennedy	22	Brooke Nibarger
8	Kate McFarlin	23	Keegan Kennedy
9	Patty Pedersen	24	Bob Barry
10	Robert Ford	24	Serena Partch
10	Jerry Smith	25	Austin Thomas
11	Lora Andersen	27	Don Bird
12	Lynn Arendse	27	Jane Salnick
12	Jacob Carver	28	Ryan Franulovich
13	Andrea Arendse	30	Alan Dent
13	Enid Ott	30	Dianne Gibbons
		30	Talin Kerr

## JUNE - ANNIVERSARIES!

1	Andy & Krista Morgenthaler
6	Howard & Serena Partch
8	Mark & Ruth Backlund
8	Brian & Nikki Bakke  25 years
14	Thomas & Sue Larsen
16	Kevin & Kendra Kennedy
16	Steve & Jeni Richards
25	George & Jo Rockwood
26	Chris & Vicki Long
28	Justin & Brenda Lust
29	Matt & Bonnie Kerschbaum
30	Dana & Anita McCoy

## MAY - WORSHIP SERVICES

Date	Events	Live Stream	In person
2	5th Sunday of Easter	66	44
9	Mother's Day	62	56
16	7th Sunday of Easter	120	42
23	Day of Pentecost	41	59
30	Holy Trinity		



## SYMPATHIES – PRAYERS OF COMFORT & PEACE

**Barbara Ann Atterberry**

**October 21, 1962 - April 21, 2021**

## ALC PRAYER GROUP MEET TUESDAY'S at 1:30 pm (Join By calling: 1-518-351-9735)

For a 'Party Line' style phone call connecting us together in prayer (voices only no visual).

**In our Prayers:** For a current list of prayer concerns, go to: <https://www.anacorteslutheran.org>  
Look for the "Prayer Page" tab in the menu. Call the office to add or update a prayer to the Prayer Page.

**Prayer Chain:** The Prayer Chain is open for you from 9am to 9pm. For personal and/or confidential prayer chain requests call Peggy at: 360-299-1184.

As always, our Pastors are available to pray with or for you. Please let them know if you are hospitalized, ill, or needing their prayers

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## **ALC COUNCIL MINUTES SUMMARY - MAY 13, 2021**

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**Attended:** Bill LeDuc, Lane Phelan, Pastor Walt Rice, Dave Bjornson, Jeaneen Brogan, Jeanette Christensen, Kendra Kennedy, Les Olsen, John Parker, & Peggy White.

- Meeting opened 6:30 pm with Bill leading The Lord's Prayer.
- Minutes of April 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting M/S/P.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- Balance Sheet was given and discussion was had regarding Assets. Giving is steady and good.
- Net income after first quarter of \$36,901. Annual gifts would decrease it by \$20,000.
- \$7,000 was paid in first quarter Benevolence dollars.
- \$8,658.75 has been given as memorials for Pastor Benson Scholarship Fund.
- Still have the \$25,000 given as preschool scholarships remaining in our checking account.
- Six high school graduates have applied for scholarships.
- \$20,000 left in savings from a special gift. Suggestions: pay down "remodel loan", Earmark for Maintenance, Earmark some for Technical software & hardware upgrades. Discussion was had regarding Heritage Bank assets, and whether we should have it go toward Maintenance and our new Pastor. We have \$54,000 in the Heritage account. A motion was made by Bill, regarding moving the \$20,000 to the Heritage Savings. M/S/P.

### **PASTOR WALT'S REPORT:**

- Andy Yee will be giving a recount next Tuesday regarding interviews. Walt will not be involved with the deciding (just the advising) until it is presented to the church congregation. Everyone needs to be aware of the new CDC update, i.e. masks, etc.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

- Bill states the call committee is moving forward. The Call Committee progress should have the names by May 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- John Parker was appointed as Stewardship Chairman for remainder of the year. M/S/P.

### **STEWARDSHIP:**

- John Parker states that "Stewardship implies that you're the caretaker". In our case, it's the stewardship of the Christian belief. John's emphasis will be to nominate people to look into the concept of the "Church Family". John is looking forward to it and will work with Lane on this.
- Celebration of Life for Pastor Deb Benson: Walt has contacted Pastor Lewis Benson and secured a date of June 13th at 2:00 p.m. for a reception/service here at ALC with the church members. Discussion was held about content and numbers of people allowed. Pastor Walt will work with volunteers on this event.
- Chris Anderson reported on getting new scout leaders.
- Lane mentioned CDC rules and singing in church.

### **WORSHIP COMMITTEE:**

- Laurie & Pat Smith following the CDC rules. Bill & Diane Guza are ushers doing a great job. We are determined to add the pew pads and also bulletins. Coffee time after church will be added

### **WORSHIP & MUSIC REPORT:**

- Dave Bjornson spoke about updates on proof of vaccinations and maintain wearing of masks in church. (This will be set out under "New Business" at end of this Council meeting). We have some people on the Worship Committee that know how the guidelines are being interpreted. Suggests that the Music Committee have this on their agenda for the next meeting: Singing & Coffee time Social.

*Continued on page 11*

...Council Minutes continued.

### **EDUCATION:**

- Kendra and Stacie reported delivery of Sunday School items on May 9<sup>th</sup>
- Confirmation will be June 20<sup>th</sup> during the Church service. Micah, Reed, Elijah and Joey will be Confirmed. No reception will follow.

### **VBS UPDATE:**

- Had a May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting with a few volunteers attending.
- This year's VBS Title/Theme "MYSTERY ISLAND". July 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> 6:00-8:00pm.
- Kendra stated that we will not have the kids be singing with masks! Therefore will not be doing VBS IF the CDC guidelines have not changed to (OK'd to sing without masks). June 9<sup>th</sup> is the deadline.

### **OUTREACH COMMITTEE:**

- Peggy states: "we are anxious to get people into the fellowship area after church for "Coffee Time". Need new recruits to help with bringing "goodies" to go with the coffee-time. Pastor Butler has said she will help with this.

### **WORSHIP COMMITTEE:**

- Dave says "re-introducing people is a must and we need get acquainted by using name-tags".

### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:**

- Jeaneen is using name tags again. Pastor Debra Butler has been on vacation for a week. Evaluations are on the agenda and will run to June 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **WELCA:**

- Jeaneen reported on behalf of Jeanette:
- WELCA will meet end of August (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday). Discussed having 50 maximum in Fellowship Circles starting in September. An indoor picnic will be in August sometime.

### **PROPERTY:**

- Les Olsen states they had a Work Party on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Did Windows, Pruned Trees, Lawn, Etc. Working with Maggie at the Preschool to put new plywood & Cement replacement to the door area they've been modifying there. Next Work Party will be June 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **NO YOUTH REPORT**

### **NO FELLOWSHIP REPORT**

- Bill closed the meeting with everyone saying "The Lord's Prayer"
- Meeting adjourned 8:20pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Nelson, Recording Secretary

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## **ALC MAILBOX**

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Thank you from the Heart!

Thank you so much for your prayers and well wishers.  
I am getting better every day.

God Bless,  
Faith Legan

Thank you so much for your continual support to our ministry. Your gift to Lutherwood helps to keep us going.

God Bless,  
Robert K. Gillespie, Director  
Lutherwood Camp and Retreat



I began my Bishop's Report for the 2021 Synod Assembly on May 15, 2021 by quoting Paul in his letter to the Romans, "I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world."

I am so glad to be the Northwest Washington Synod with you – as we walk, journey, travel together. We are connected as the body of Christ – as siblings in Christ – together. We are the Northwest Washington Synod in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully. As people forgiven and redeemed, beloved and welcomed, we are called to embody God's grace in speech, action, and relationships. I am reminded daily that it is Jesus Christ who loves, welcomes, and forgives. As baptized children of God, we are called to participate in this love, hospitality, and forgiveness. I am thankful for all of you for your love, your welcome, and your forgiveness.

We on the synod staff have agreed to embrace the following statement as we work together with the congregations and ministry sites of this synod: "Trusting in the Spirit, we are journeying together with God's people so that all may discover and participate in what God is doing among us through Jesus."

Further, there are five focus areas interwoven in the work that we are doing as we journey together in Christ:

1. Faithful Innovation
2. Youth and Young Adults
3. Leadership
4. Connection
5. Racial Justice

I'd like to lift up a few of the actions from the 2021 NW WA Synod Assembly:

- We had our first online assembly with 332 voting members in attendance on Zoom and over 200 following along on our Facebook Livestream.
- We approved the Recommended Changes to the Constitution that were forwarded from the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.
- We approved the changes to the Constitution proposed by the Synod Council (with a minor amendment to have the Nominating Committee changed to 5 persons).
- We elected persons to the following: Synod Council Committee on Discipline Consultation Committee Voting Members to the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly
- Approved budget.
- We shared videos from our ministry partners and synod committees/teams.
- Announced Grace Grants recipients.

As we do the work of this synod, I am reminded that it is not us but the Spirit that leads and guides. Trusting God's promises and participating in the Holy Spirit, we have reached places beyond what I thought possible. We have exceeded priorities and we are moving forward towards God's preferred future. I am grateful to be on this journey with you.

+ Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee