



MESSAGE FROM PASTOR WALT

This summer I've been hearing five words which rarely pass the lips of those living on the wet side of the mountains: "I wish it would rain." The few brief interludes of sprinkles we've recently experienced may clear the air, but they don't do much for our lawns or our fears of fire.

I've heard anecdotal stories of people fleeing the southwest for wetter and cooler climates. Of course, if you move too far east you may be dealing with the opposite precipitation problem, namely floods.

I heard one woman explain the rain for her was that frequent reminder of her baptism. Whenever she walked out into a mist or into a downpour, she recalled the promises that washed over her when the waters were poured.

Luther reported a similar experience. He said whenever he washed his face in the morning, he recalled God's baptismal grace.

Such memory triggers are rare right now when the land dries out. In fact, many of us weren't at a point in life to remember the water dousing our heads. Nevertheless, it does us good to reflect on the promise made to us when we were washed. The promise is this: you are God's child. You are not only set free from Luther's trinity of evil (sin, death and the devil), in addition you are provided with an identity, a family and a calling. You have purpose. You are sent. You are equipped. And you are loved.

I have grave concerns about the implications of drought and "heat domes." However whatever causes you to fear, know this:

The God of grace is with you every day in all you do and in all that is to come. You are baptized.

It's good to remember.

Pastor Walt

FROM THE TREASURER.....

We are halfway through our fiscal year and giving trends are down. July member offerings totaled \$22,990. Needed on average monthly to meet adopted budget is about \$28,000. We have met all our expenses with revenue through the first 6 months, but that might begin to be a challenge. Council will be watching the budget closely for the rest of the year.

Thoughts to ponder.....

Although we all believe Anacortes to be a desirable place to live, potential pastoral candidates are keeping their eye on our housing costs. We would certainly like our pastor to live in our community and to live at a level to which they are accustomed. Will a pastor need some temporary housing to begin with? Will our congregation need to add an additional housing stipend? How can we help?

In His service, Lane Phelan, Treasurer

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

CHURCH COUNCIL & COMMITTEES

<i>President:</i>	William LeDuc	<i>Treasurer:</i>	Lane Phelan
<i>Secretary:</i>		<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		

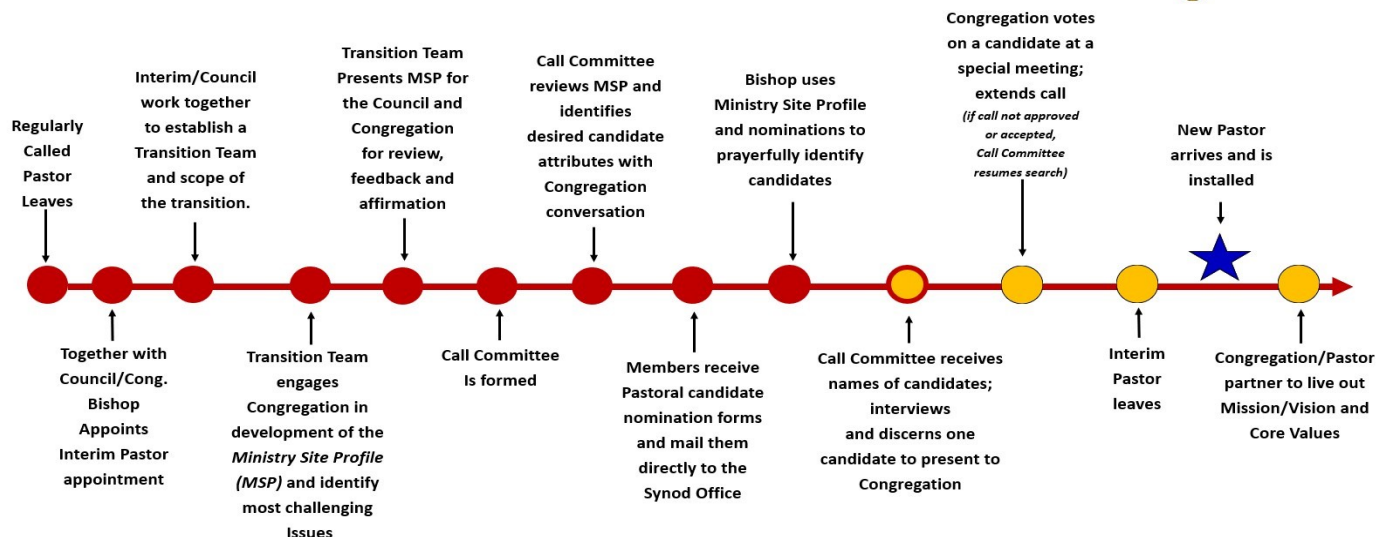
PASTOR CALL COMMITTEE

Rexanne Graham; *Chair*
 Melanie Sahnnow; *Recorder*
 Steve Anderson
 Lois Cassidy; *Communications*

Janey Dent
 Bob Ford
 Kenny Holzemer
 Bill Gusa, *Alternate*

Anacortes Lutheran Transition Timeline

- Completed
- Started
- To be done in coming months



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

SEWING News- All are Welcome!

FALL SEWING BEGINS SEPTEMBER

TUESDAYS, SEPTEMBER 7, 21 & 28

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

in the Fellowship hall

Bring your lunch, as we stop to eat at noon.

We are excited to have ladies from Celebration Lutheran Church joining us in sewing.

We started packing School kits and still need some more rulers & crayons –24 pack.

We have 109 Baby layettes packed and need more hand towels, bath towels, tooth brushes, full size soap: Ivory or Dove (for Baby kits) and any other for personal care kits.

I want to thank Jeaneen, Jeanette & Lane for helping out while I was gone.

Love in Christ, Julia

LWR Knitting News

MEETING DATE:

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

1:00 - 3:00 pm

in conference room #1

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 - 41

Sweaters - 7

Hats - 2

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

LOOKING AHEAD

In October WELCA will have a **Pillowcase Sew-a-Thon for homeless.**

Going to Compass Mission, Friendship House & Light House Mission.

WOMEN'S Bible Study Circles- We are back!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

in conference room #2

At 10 am & 6:30 pm

Look to the weekly emails for more information.

MEN'S Bible Study - Has started again!

EVERY THURSDAY'S AT 7:00 AM

In conference room #1

Led by Boyd Veer

ALC SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY **PRIME TIMERS**

GET TOGETHER - Sticky Buns Bonanza

FRIDAY, September 17 - 10:00 am

in the Fellowship Hall

The theme is:

"Grandparents are the Greatest"

Please call, text, or email to sign up before Wednesday, September 15. 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



SCOUTS SELLING POPCORN

Our chartered Scout Troop 4084 will be having their Fall fundraiser selling their delicious popcorn!!!

You can find them in the fellowship hall during coffee hour on Sundays, September 10 through October 10.

POP BY & SUPPORT OUR SCOUT TROOP



Worship with us Near & Afar

In-person Sunday Worship Services at 10:00 am

Live stream and recorded services will still be available.

- Please enter through the handicap ramp to the right of the main church doors.
- Reservations are no longer needed but signing in is required for contact tracing.
- **Masks are required of everyone indoors regardless of vaccination status.**

SEPTEMBER- Worship Readings, Psalm & Gospel

September 5 15th Sunday after Pentecost	Readings: Psalm: Gospel:	Isaiah 35:4-7a / James 2:1-10 -17 Psalm 146 Mark 7:24-37	Reader: Grace Boggio
September 12 16th Sunday after Pentecost	Readings: Psalm: Gospel:	Isaiah 50:4-9a / James 3:1-12 Psalm 116:1-9 Mark 8:27-38	Reader: Lois Cassidy
September 19 17th Sunday after Pentecost	Readings: Psalm: Gospel:	Jeremiah 11:18-20 / James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a Psalm 54 Mark 9:30-37	Reader: Don Devine
September 26 18th Sunday after Pentecost	Readings: Psalm: Gospel:	Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29/ James 5:13-20 Psalm 19:7-14 Mark 9:38-50	Reader: Jan Woodall

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 / 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 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.

SEPTEMBER - Birthday Blessings to You!

1	Rich Berentson	15	Maxine Greenfield
1	Chris Franulovich	15	James Butler
1	Deneva Baker	15	Michael Phelan
1	Jerika Duquaine	17	Aiden Ufkes
2	Teresa Chang	18	Linda Millo
2	Brooke Geffe	19	Hildy Radke
3	Karen Elling	21	Elyse Etlicher
8	Mirth Moore	22	Deborah Butler
8	Romany Kerr	23	Lorraine Sund
9	Tammy Tornga	23	Matt Kerschbaum
10	Robert Salnick	23	Chris Long
10	Brian Mavar	23	Kristin Fors
10	Floyd Dent	23	David Holzemer
11	Arlene French	24	Rachel Long
11	Eve DeFrancesco	25	Vicki Long
12	Jorgina Moore-Larson	26	Geoffrey Thompson
13	Dave Moore	27	William French
13	Robert Collins	27	Dillon Piacentino
13	Polly Myers	28	Matthew Tracy
13	Rowan Myers	30	Allison Sherman
14	Wanda Rock		

SEPTEMBER- Wedding Anniversaries!

1	Jerry & Jan Woodall
6	Bryan & Linda Walker
7	Kenny & Anita Holzemer
7	Jeff & Lori Hrovat
8	Gil & Vera Harvey
8	James & Deborah Butler
14	Mike & Kim Trafton
17	Duane & Janey Dent
18	William & Patricia Rasar
18	Chris & Jeanne Anderson
20	Chuck & Bev Landgraf
20	Bill & Melanie Sahnaw
20	Kyle & Romany Kerr
24	Tom & Stephanie Poor
27	Michael & Erin Flanigan
28	Joshua & Deneva Baker

AUGUST - Worship Services

Date	Events	Live Stream	In person
1		37	52
8	Hymn Pick Sunday	33	49
15	Gospel Sunday	32	66
22	not available at time of printing		
29	not available at time of printing		



THANK YOU FROM THE HEART

Thank you to my Congregation Family and those wonderful Sewing Ladies for the cards, warm wishes and prayers for my hernia surgery and kidney stones. My recovery has gone well and smoothly.

Thank you,
Les

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

On August 1, 2021 I began my third year in the office of bishop for the Northwest Washington Synod. It is my pleasure and joy to serve God and to journey with you through this office. I am thankful for your partnership, your understanding, your forgiveness, your passion, and your faithfulness.

We are living in a time of great turmoil and great opportunity. We are living in (to use a much-overused word) unprecedented times. What does this mean for us as individuals? The Northwest Washington Synod? The ELCA? The Body of Christ?

Many of us feel **grief**. Grief at what once was but is no longer. Grief that the world keeps changing around us and we cannot figure out our place or our sense of call in the middle of so much shifting. It is difficult when the world feels rocky and unsteady. It is hard to understand that what we often took for granted is no longer. Recently I visited my hometown in eastern Washington. The town is half the size it was when I was growing up. As I walked through the downtown, businesses that have been there for decades are gone. Boarded up. Abandoned. My world felt rocked. And I grieved. What do you grieve?

Many of us feel **anger or resentment**. We divide ourselves into camps. We use the words, “us” and “them” and act as though “our” camp is always right and holy and just. We throw words around like weapons and we refuse to truly listen to the other – because we are “right” and they are “wrong.” And nothing will persuade us otherwise. In John 8 we hear Jesus tell the men who wanted to throw rocks at a woman accused of adultery, “Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” When the men leave, Jesus says to the woman, “Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.” What would it mean for us to live into these words of Jesus?

Many of us feel **exhausted**. We are tired. We are weary. For a brief moment it felt as though we were moving beyond COVID19 and then suddenly, with the Delta variant, we were pushed back into worry and concern (I am writing this in the middle of August – perhaps the numbers will be better before you read this in September!). Quite frankly, I am tired of changing things on the calendar – wondering if something should be in-person or online, wondering if I am doing something risky or if I am not taking the variables into enough consideration. It is wearisome. What makes you exhausted?

Many of us feel there is **something more that we are missing**. We ache for connection with God and with others. We feel lonely when we are alone, and we feel even more isolated when we are in a group. We long for meaning. We yearn to truly live, move, and have our being in the Spirit (Acts 17). How does the community of Christ answer the loneliness so many are feeling? What have we missed in the life of the church and participants? How do we sink even more deeply into the waters of life that God has called us to and given us in our baptisms?

Many of us are **hopeful**. Yes, I fully am living in the reality of all that I said above. I am not a Pollyanna. And yet, I trust that God is here, God is present, God is active – in this beautiful, flawed world of ours. Right now, in our congregations and in our neighborhoods, there are grief-stricken, angry, exhausted, aching-for-connection people. And right now, God has given us the opportunity to not only reach out to these people, but to listen and reflect, grow and learn together. What a calling! What an opportunity!

I encourage you to check out the **LiVE Project** where you can connect, learn, and grow deeper in faith together and with others. <https://lutheransnw.org/ministries/the-live-project>

You might also be interested in **Living Legacy** where congregations are encouraged to have deep conversations about their values, their dreams, and what God is calling them to do and to be into the future. <https://lutheransnw.org/programs/livinglegacy>

The synod staff and I are here to journey, listen, and reflect with you. Thank you for these last two years. I look forward to this new year together in Christ.