



There are three great festival days within the Christian calendar. Two of those you know very well, namely Christmas and Easter. However the third seems to be an afterthought, not only in the world, but within the church as well. The third is Pentecost.

Why is Pentecost overlooked? For one thing, it isn't unusual for Pentecost to fall on Memorial Day weekend when folks have other things to do. For another, churches often schedule other important observances on the day of Pentecost, such as the Rite of Confirmation. But the biggest reason probably has to do with the very fact Christmas and Easter have been secularized and are therefore celebrated throughout world, whereas Pentecost is overlooked outside of churches.

Christmas has its elves and reindeer. There's Santa in a sleigh and presents under the tree. Chestnuts roasting over open fires are celebrated in song (although truthfully I've never actually eaten or even seen a roasted chestnut). Bing Crosby is resurrected to sing of white Christmases while we deck our halls with boughs of holly.

Come Easter there are the special Easter dresses. Egg hunts are part of every community. Then there is that rodent with the elongated ears who fills baskets with chocolate and jelly beans, much to the delight of your dentist.

What does poor Pentecost offer? Nothing which can compete or compare with the other two holidays. There is no Pentecost dove to bring presents or candy. Elvis doesn't sing of a blue, blue Pentecost. And no special turkey or ham or even cheeseburger is part of any Pentecost tradition. Christmas and Easter are the headliners while Pentecost doesn't even get a supporting role.

But you know, that's OK. Pentecost is the observance of the day the Holy Spirit was released upon the whole world. Whereas things started with a bang that first Pentecost as the disciples witnessed the Spirit manifest in wind and tongues of fire, the same Spirit is now a kind of silent secret agent aspect of the Trinity. The Spirit is known as the Comforter, and we live in a time when we need the power of God's comfort to penetrate the closed doors of isolation. The Spirit is called the Advocate which is actually a technical Greek term for a defense attorney, and we often long for someone to stand by our side as we face the pains and the problems of our lives. And Luther explains the Spirit's job description is that of one who calls, gathers, enlightens, sanctifies and keeps the Christian church.

In a world of hype and hyperbole, it is good to know there is a powerful divine presence advocating and empowering us, comforting and loving us; a faith-inducing, hope-building force which holds us in love.

This year we celebrate Pentecost on the May 31st. You can join ALC virtually on the website to join the celebration. And remember God's Spirit is here now, silently and powerfully breaking into a world of need.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Walt

From Pastor Deborah Butler

I know that I've referred to the passage in Ecclesiastes 3 before. These words have come to mind once again as I write this newsletter article:

To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven – Ecclesiastes 3:1.

Now we see and feel the change in season from spring to summer, though the winter seemed endless. Now we live in isolation, separated from one another by a pandemic disease; the day will come when we are together again with a renewed appreciation for relationship with one another.

Our ALC community is in transition, moving from one season of ministry to another. We are blessed to have the guidance and leadership of our Transition Pastor, Walt Rice. He will help us as we give thanks for our ministry in the past while we build upon it and envision new and exciting ways of serving God in the future.

Now I am entering a new season of ministry with you as I go from serving full time as your Respite Pastor to part time as Visitation Pastor. I remain with you, though you will not see me as often as you have in the past. The plan is for me to preach once a month as I did when I first came to ALC. I will no longer be attending meetings, except for Outreach which coordinates pastoral care, new members, and community involvement that are the areas of ministry for which I am responsible. I am still available to visit with you (someday even over coffee at Penguin Coffee). I am still just a phone call, text, or email away.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your helpfulness and encouragement during my time as Respite Pastor. You assisted me in figuring out who does what and when as I suddenly took on administrative duties. Together we managed to have Advent, Christmas, Lenten, and Easter services that ran smoothly. I am grateful for your prayerful support, and I know I will be held in prayer in the days to come, as I will also hold you.

Seasons come and go, but one thing remains constant—the passionate, self-giving, unconditional love of God. No matter what may come, God will protect us, will guide us, will challenge us, will most certainly give us everything we need to thrive as individuals and as God's faithful people of Anacortes Lutheran Church.

Now is our time to walk into new seasons of ministry with joyful anticipation.

Blessings! Pastor Deborah

A Tribute to DAD Riddles ...

Sunday, June 21st



1. Why are Fathers like parking spaces?
2. If you ask your father, "What's on the TV," what would his answer be?
3. How would your dad say is the best way to count cows?
4. What does you dad answer when you ask him what the movie he's watching is about?
5. What did the pirate dad say on his 80th birthday?
6. After you've awakened in the car which your father has been driving for a long distance, what does he say when you ask him where your are?
7. The waiter asks your dad how he would you like his steak, what's his response?
8. What's the difference between a poorly dressed man on a tricycle and a well dressed man on a bicycle?
9. What does your dad say when you ask him to make you a bowl of cereal?
10. What does a dad say when after dinner, you ask to leave the table?

...TURN to page 11 for ANSWERS

From your Transition Team



Hello Church!

Your Transition Team has been meeting and working with Pastor Walt in this season of Transition for ALC. Part of our job has been to develop some means of getting congregation input into what ALC means to each of us and how we see the church moving forward. To start us off, we have written a short questionnaire that we would appreciate you taking a few minutes to complete. You can remain anonymous if you wish but it would help us if you could indicate what age bracket you fit in. Also, if there is more than one person in your household, please feel free to have everyone fill out their own questionnaire. We would love to hear from everyone!

We have at least two delivery methods for you to receive the questionnaire. There will be an email sent in June with the questionnaire as an attachment for those whose email addresses the church has. Feel free to copy the attachment for those in your household. A paper copy will also be in the July Newsletter. There will be return instructions with each delivery method. We are also working on having the questionnaire on the ALC website that could be filled out online and submitted as well.

We look forward to the time we can meet together again for worship and fellowship. Until then...

Your Transition Team,

Nancy Loftis, Matt Kerschbaum, Jim Fors, Jane Nelson, Boyd Veer, Kristen Nations, Bob Ford & Pastor Walt.

Congratulations to Our AHS Graduates - Class of 2020



Graduate Recognition Sunday - June 14th at the Online Worship Service

Lets celebrate our graduates! They will receive a gift quilt from the Sewing ladies and our blessings. We will also be presenting awards of the "Laurene M. Rhodes & Anacortes Lutheran Scholarship".

A Word about "Laurene M. Rhodes & Anacortes Lutheran Scholarship Fund"

Thanks to your generosity, through the ALC endowed scholarship fund, we have youth from our congregation studying engineering, teaching, nursing, business, pre-law and other vocations. Each approved high school graduating applicant receives a one time gift of \$1,200, or \$1,500 if they attend a Lutheran College.

For those who wish to send cards of congratulations to a graduate please either mail them to the church or drop them off at the office.

On the next two pages you will get to know a little more about our 4 graduates and what their plans for the future might be,
Ryan Franulovich, Logan Hanrahan, Garrett Kennedy and Aiden Ufkes.

Congratulations to Our 2020 High School Graduates!

Your Anacortes Lutheran Church family sends you off with our love and support for the years to come. We have enjoyed watching all of you as you grew up in our church. Thank you for all your hard work in the ministries here at ALC. You are a special group of young adults who have a strong faith and have dealt with many changes! May your faith in Jesus Christ continue to be strong in the years ahead, and may you know that God's Love and ours will always be with you.

Our graduates answered some questions about themselves, here are their answers:

Ryan Franulovich

Ryan Franulovich - son of Chris & Rachel Franulovich and Angela Coston-Franulovich

Ryan has helped out at ALC for the past few years. He actually attended Anacortes Lutheran Preschool and started attending ALC full time in 2015.

His favorite memory was Go Night with Bryant (*Youth minister here at ALC a few years ago*). Bryant took them to Kirkland and the youth group stayed up all night at a video arcade, trampoline park and skating rink!

Ryan is attending Skagit Valley College in the fall and plans to train to be a firefighter.

ALC loves you, Ryan.

We are so excited for your future! God's Speed!



Logan Hanrahan



Logan Hanrahan - son of Brian Hanrahan & Treva King

Logan and his family have attended ALC since he was a baby. He has always loved VBS. As a child, Logan loved attending and doing all of the fun activities and as a teenager he enjoyed helping out and being a leader.

One of Logan's favorite memories was playing hide and seek in the church during an overnight youth group activity when he was in middle school.

Logan's favorite bible verse is Romans 12:2 - *Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will.*

Logan plans on attending Reed College in Portland Oregon.

ALC loves you, Logan.

We are so excited for your future! God's Speed!

Garrett Kennedy

Garrett Kennedy - son of Matt & Bonnie Kennedy

Garrett Kennedy came to ALC in 2011 when his family moved back to Washington from Nebraska.

His favorite event/memory at ALC was attending the Mission trip in Idaho with the HS youth group.

For the past two years, Garrett has been the accompanist at Westminster Presbyterian Church. He hasn't been able to attend ALC regularly, but does enjoy coming back to ALC with the rest of his family when he gets the chance.

His favorite Bible verse is John 3:16

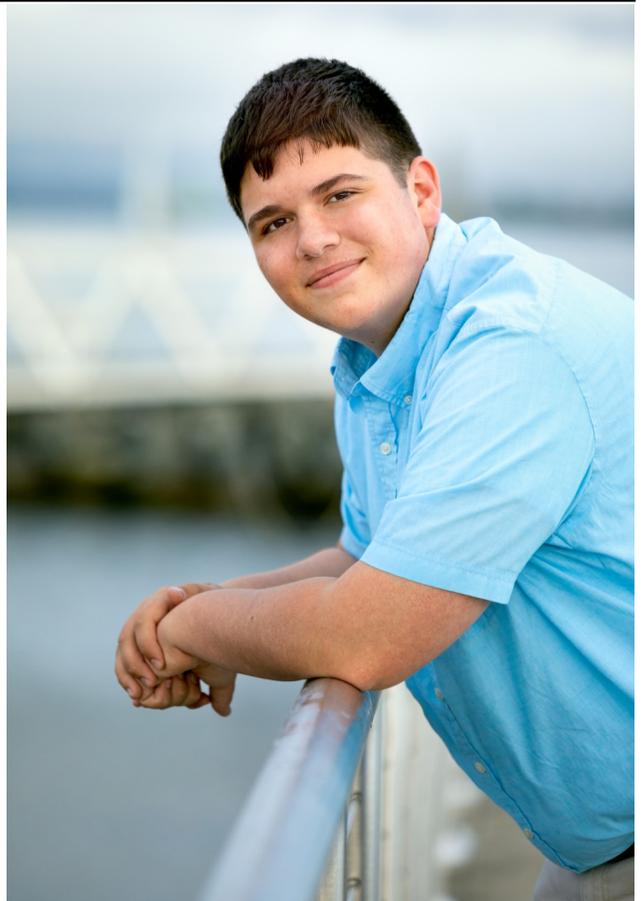
For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Garrett's favorite hymn is "What Child is This?"

In the fall, he plans to attend Montana State University to major in Mechanical Engineering and minor in flute performance.

ALC loves you, Garrett.

We are so excited for your future! God's Speed!



Aidan Ufkes

Aidan Ufkes - son of Megan Angier and Eric Ufkes

Aidan has attended ALC since 2004.

His favorite event at our church was the Lent suppers.

He has many favorite memories but the one that stands out is coming out after a service and enjoying the company of the congregation in the fellowship hall.

Aidan has a favorite Bible verse – Matthew 7:1
Do not judge, or you too will be judged.

Aidan did running start at Skagit Valley College for his senior year and will continue to go to SVC this fall to complete his AA in June of 2021. Then he plans to transfer to a 4 year University (*undecided at this point*) next year / fall 2021.

ALC loves you, Aidan.

We are so excited for your future! God's Speed!



Prayer Time - The Power of Prayer!

Join these members of the congregation as they pray for the people on the Prayer Chain & Prayer List.

Every Tuesday BY PHONE at 1 pm

Or **Pray from where you are.** If you feel a call to join them or would like more information contact Peggy 360-299-1184

If you have a **PRAYER REQUEST** for the **“Prayer Chain”** (confidential) or to update the **“Prayer List”** (printed in the Sunday Scoop & published on the ALC Website Prayer Page) please call the church office 360-293-9586

Sewing Circles - Faith & Julia

We want to let you all to know we are Thinking about you and Praying you are all staying safe and healthy. We are looking forward to when we can start sewing again. At this time we don't know how long it will be before that can happen. In the mean time keep doing what all of us need to do to keep safe and healthy.

A verse to think about:

**Because of the LORD's great love
we are not consumed,
for his compassions never fail.
They are new every morning.
Great is your faithfulness.**



WELCA has cancelled the strawberry social...we hope to be able to have one next year.
Be safe and have a good summer.

ALC SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY **PRIME TIMERS**

**ALL EVENTS ARE STILL CANCELLED -
INCLUDING THE JUNE BRUNCH.**

Hope you are having a Happy Summer.

SONGS OF SUMMER

Crickets begin their magical tune.

Ladybugs jig for the joy of June.

Dragonflies dance as they dart by.

Their whirring wings sing a lullaby.

Bumblebees buzz a melody sweet.

Caterpillars tap their many feet.

Oh, happy hearts beat just like drummers
as June brings on the songs of summer.

Looking for a fun thing to do:

Take a walk along the Guemes Trail or
around Washington Park.

Please remember to recreate responsibly.



Stay healthy and happy. We look forward to getting Together in the Future. We miss y'all. Please call Julie if you have questions.

LWR Knitting News - Linda Anderson

June 15th, 2020 Knitting 1:00 – 3:00 pm
CANCELED

Our church ships about 100-150 baby layette sets every 6 months to Lutheran World Relief. One sweater/hat goes in each layette set. This year there will be one shipment in the Fall.

Our last counts were:

Sweater/hat sets – 71

Hats – 6

Sweaters – 6

We will update the count when we get together.

We use a fun, one piece sweater pattern. Beginners are welcome and teaching is always available.

I have yarn. Please call me if you want more.

I hope you are all healthy.

~Linda Anderson, 360-588-1730

Sunday School's News - Dave White / Children's Ministry

The Anacortes Lutheran Church Sunday school remains inactive during the Covid 19 pandemic. The question before us now is whether or not we will be able to resume classes in the fall. We now have a plethora of committees discussing the re-entry into the Church building. At this time we are utilizing the Phase format suggested by the State of Washington. These guidelines indicate that Public schools may open in the fall but that Sunday schools may have to wait for a longer period of time. The Education Committee is working with the newly formed Re-Entry Committee and the Church Council to determine how and when we can resume our classes.

In the meantime, We hope that you have been using the resources recommended on the Anacortes Lutheran Web-Site. If you go to the Sunday school page, you will find the links to two different resources.

Sparkhouse and **Sermons4Kids**. Give them a try. Both of these resources have lessons based on the Lutheran liturgy and offer coloring pages and other things for the kids to do. Another source that might be useful is found on Facebook. Here is the URL: <http://www.facebook.com/pg/skitguys/videos>. This source comes highly recommended by some of our own students. It appears to be non-denominational and is an entertaining skit of a well known bible story each time and is delivered as a bedtime story.

Last month we celebrated Mothers Day. This month **SUNDAY, JUNE 21ST** is **FATHERS DAY**. So all you Sunday school kids out there - Go find poppa and say "I'm sure **glad** you're my **Dad**." It'll make his day, We guarantee!

Let's change the subject just a bit. It sure seems like it's been a long time since we gathered together in worship or fellowship. At this time we would like to remember our volunteer teaching staff. Our dedicated teachers have been on a forced sabbatical. We are pretty sure that they are missing Sunday school and their students just as much as the rest of us. Let's spend a moment thinking about them and wishing them well. Many of our teachers have been with us for a long time.

- Ms. Anne has been there the longest with around 15 years of service. She is our pre-school teacher. She shares some of the pre-school, kindergarten and first grade teaching responsibilities with Stacey Pestar.
- Stacey is one of the hardest workers we have ever seen and is willing to help at a moments notice. Stacey has also served on the Education Committee and served as the chair person to the Church Council.
- Rachel Franulovich has been with us for around 7 years teaching the second and third grade classes. Rachel has been indispensable as a teacher and also serving several terms on the Education Committee and at least two stints as the chair person to the Church Council.
- Co-teaching the second and third grade classes is Ginny Connelly. Ginny has been teaching for several years now and serves with the Scouts and has taken on several other assignments with the church. She has been training the acolytes recently and that has resulted in better acolyte participation at worship services.
- Michael Hanes has been teaching our 4th and 5th grade classes for the last couple of years. He brings a lot of enthusiasm to the classroom and the kids enjoy his approach to teaching.
- Leah Ott is our newest member and is helping with the 4th and 5th grade classes. We hope she is enjoying the challenge. We give thanks for these wonderful servants of the Lord.

Dave White; Children's Ministry Director.

From the Treasurer...

Blessings and Thank you to all. Many have been faithful in getting your offering to the church.

The June Newsletter reflects our finances for the first quarter of our fiscal year, Feb-Mar-Apr 2020.

First quarter Revenue \$118,088 First quarter Expenses \$118,014 Ending +\$74.

Average through week 15 (May 10) is \$6,514.

Benevolence dollars paid to date \$3500., our quarterly pledge to the NW WA Synod office and \$1000. to the Salvation Army Food Bank. The church council voted at our May 14 zoom meeting to send \$2000. to the NW WA Synod Covid-19 Relief fund in support of congregations in financial need.

This will certainly not be a usual year for our finances. We are blessed to have ample reserves and faithful family members at ALC that will see us through the special times.

We ask you to continue your offerings as you are able.

God's love and faithfulness will see us through.

Blessings, Lane Phelan; Council Treasurer

We Now have 4 Ways to Give:

1. Mail your offering envelopes or checks to the church office, 2100 "O" Ave, Anacortes, WA 98221

2. Mobile - Download the GIVEPLUS+ app from the App Store or Google Play

Choose to either make one time donation or

Create an account with an email address and password for recurring donations.

- a) **Enter & Select** "Anacortes Lutheran Church" • **TAP: Give Now**
- b) **Choose** preset amount or **Enter** another amount.
- c) **Select: Add** to add another fund or move forward to the payment information
- d) **Scan or Enter** your card or bank account information
- e) **Review** your donation summary then **Select: Complete Donation**
- f) You will receive a verification notice.

3. Church Website - www.anacorteslutheran.org

Click on GIVING tab and follow directions.

4. Simply Giving Program - (An Authorization Form is included in this newsletter)

This is a direct giving plan from your savings or checking account. These gifts are recorded and reflect on your statement. We already have members using this program.

To keep this confidential, you may fill out form and mail to the church with

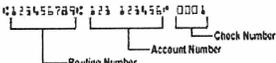
Attention to LINDA MILLO, our financial secretary. She will pass these forms on to

Simply Giving for processing. You may fill out a new form anytime you wish to make changes.



AUTHORIZATION FORM

The **Simply Giving** Program
 endorsed by
 Thrivent Financial Bank

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	ENVELOPE/DONOR #	DATE
Name of Church _____		
Effective date of authorization: ____/____/____		
Type of Authorization Form: <input type="checkbox"/> New Authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Change banking information <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation amount <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue electronic donation <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation date		
Last Name	First Name	
Address		
City	State	Zip
Email Address		
Please debit my donation from my (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account (attach a voided check below) <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #)		Routing Number: _____ <i>Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3</i> Account Number: _____ 
FIRST DONATION DATE: ____/____/____	FREQUENCY OF DONATION: <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly on _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Monthly (transferred on 1 st and 15 th of each month)	FUNDS AND AMOUNTS: <input type="checkbox"/> General/Operating \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Building \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Evangelism/Outreach \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ \$ _____ Total \$ _____
AGREEMENT I authorize the above church and Vanco Services, LLC to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.		
Authorized Signature: _____		Date: _____

Please attach voided check here.

We still do not know when to expect resumption of our Sunday worship and gatherings. So please continue to:

Meet us for Worship Online
 by visiting our Website: www.anacorteslutheran.org
 Or see what's up on our Facebook page.

Below is a list of the Sunday readings so that you may follow along while watching the online worship. If you would like to be recorded doing a reading for an online Worship Service please contact the church office or Becky.

Sunday Worship Readings & Gospel

Follow along as you listen and watch our online worship.

June 7	<i>Readings :</i> Genesis 1:1-2:4a / 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 <i>Psalm:</i> Psalm 8 <i>Gospel:</i> Matthew 28:16-20
June 14 Graduate Recognition	<i>Readings :</i> Exodus 19:2-8 / Romans 5:1-8 <i>Psalm:</i> Psalm 100 <i>Gospel:</i> Matthew 9:35—10:8-23
June 21 Father's Day	<i>Readings :</i> Jeremiah 20:7-13 / Romans 6:1-11 <i>Psalm:</i> Psalm 69:7-18 <i>Gospel:</i> Matthew 10:24-39
June 28	<i>Readings :</i> Jeremiah 28:5-9 / Romans 6:12-23 <i>Psalm:</i> Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 <i>Gospel:</i> Matthew 10:40-42

Our 2020 ALC Church Council

<i>President</i>	• Bill LeDuc
<i>President –Elect</i>	•
<i>Treasurer</i>	• Lane Phelan
<i>Secretary</i>	• Melanie Sahnov
<i>Education</i>	• Kendra Kennedy
<i>Youth</i>	• Bob Ford
<i>Fellowship</i>	• Kathy Khile
<i>Outreach</i>	•
<i>Personnel</i>	• Steve Richards
<i>Preschool</i>	• Jo Rockwood
<i>Properties</i>	• Les Olsen
<i>Financial</i>	•
<i>Stewardship</i>	•
<i>Worship</i>	• David Bjornson
<i>WELCA</i>	• Jeaneen Brogan • Linda Walker
<i>Josephine Del.</i>	• Jerry Bongard • Grace Boggio
<i>Lutherwood Rep</i>	• Jim Fors
<i>ELCA Synod Rep</i>	• Pastor Butler • Linda Millo

Congregational Mission Statement:

To Proclaim the Gospel
through Word and Deed.



Anacortes Lutheran Church
Anacortes, Washington

**Visit our Website “Prayer Page”
for a list of people we are praying for.**



Happy June Birthday to You!

1	Sara Asrat	14	Stacy VanSweden
1	Kathryn Parker	15	Maury Fink
3	Elana Holzemer	16	Liam Poor
3	Evie Hanes	16	Gunilla Wold
3	Lori Rogers	17	DeAnna Claus
4	Rod Odegaard	17	Noel Johnson
5	Laurie Julius-Carver	18	Elizabeth Brown
6	Michael Bastrom	18	Bill Faulkner
6	Hank Knutson	18	Linda Braski
6	Laura Smythe	18	Teresa Symonds
6	John Collins	18	Sharon Wedell
7	Lori Hrovat	19	Leo Dumas
8	Katelyn Bolin	19	Chris Parker
8	Megan Kennedy	19	Wayne Olsen
8	Kate McFarlin	20	Michael Flanigan
9	Patty Pedersen	21	Nita Ostlund
9	Ayden Suiter	22	Brooke Nibarger
10	Nora Dunnington	23	Keegan Kennedy
10	Bob Ford	24	Bob Barry
10	Jerry Smith	24	Serena Partch
11	Lora Andersen	25	Austin Thomas
12	Lynn Arendse	27	Don Bird
12	Jacob Carver	27	Jane Salnick
13	Andrea Arendse	28	Ryan Franulovich
13	Enid Ott	30	Alan Dent
14	Gary Card	30	Diane Gibbons
14	Wyatt Ott	30	Talin Kerr
14	Brian Trafton		

June - Wedding Anniversary!

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

May - Online Worship Views

Date	Church Closed due to COVID-19	Views
3		152
10		114
	<i>Mothers Day Video</i>	62
17		138
24	<i>Not available at time of printing</i>	
31	<i>Not available at time of printing</i>	

ANSWERS to DAD Riddles... from page 2

1. The good ones are already taken.
2. Dust.
3. With a cowculator.
4. "About 2 hours."
5. "Aye Matey."
6. "In the car."
7. "On a plate would be nice."
8. Attire (a tire)
9. He waves his hands over your head and says, "Poof! You are now a bowl of cereal."
10. "Where do you want to leave it?"

Sunday, June 21st



ALC COUNCIL MINUTES - May 14, 2020

Attended: Via Zoom- Dave Bjornson, Jeaneen Brogan, Kendra Kennedy, Kathy Khile, Bill LeDuc, Lane Phelan, Steve Richards, Melanie Sahnaw, Dave White, Pastor Deborah Butler & Pastor Walt Rice, Bill opened the mtg at 6:30 pm and Melanie said a prayer

Treasurers Report: Lane gave report and we are holding our own. For the first quarter we are ahead \$73. Discussion on treasurers report, MSP. Linda Millo asked about connection to Vanco website, an easy way of giving with just a few clicks.

Presidents Report: Welcome to Dave White sitting in on the meeting.

Pastors Report: As of May 1, Pastor Deborah is working ½ time with Pastor Walt at ¾ time. Pastor Deborah has been making calls checking in, with prayer committee keeping her list updated. Pastor Deborah will do one service a month when we get back. She is now working ¼ time at Celebration Lutheran. Have had no indication of members needing help and many offers to help others. Pastor Walt is recording services and still doing, “get acquainted phone calls” and working closely with the Transition team.

Old Business: The Transition Team has had meetings and have the team full. They will be sending out a survey to the congregation in July. What is the mission of the church? Lane has talked with our insurance company for recommendations, more to come. Still having a hard time hooking up to the WIFI in both pastor’s offices. Bill will look into this and also call Comcast.

New Business: Lane made motion to give NWWA Synod Covid-19 Relief Fund \$2000 to share what we have and also be part of our benevolence. Discussion MSP. We received a letter from Bishop Wee, nothing to report yet as we wait for the CDC to make recommendation. We are discussing live streaming services or keep prerecording as it is now. Not ready for live stream yet, but Laurie, Jim and Becky are working on it. Becky has been working 8-10 hours a week on filming and editing. Steve made motion that we pay Becky \$100 a week for this job, then council looking at this each month going forward. Discussion, MSP

Personnel Report: Steve reports that Dave, Mirth & the preschool teachers are now getting unemployment. Colleen Legan is still working. Getting ready for renewed staff contracts in June and preschool in July. Rachel and Becky will do time sharing in the office, then Becky also, for now editing the service video’s from home.

WELCA Report: Jeaneen says Strawberry Social is cancelled. Senior quilts are ready and will be at the church for blessing before the Senior’s pick them up. Can we go back to sewing in Phase 3? Les is working on the guidelines and will report.

Outreach: No Report

Property Report: No report.

Education: Kendra met with her committee via Zoom, hoping that August will open things up and planning a celebration to cover all events missed, maybe at a park. Will see.

Fellowship Report: Kathy has been planning and un-planning.

Youth Report: Ginny has resigned as Youth Chair, Bob Ford was approved by council to fill this position, MSP. We have four Seniors graduating this year, Congratulations to Logan Hanrahan, Garrett Kennedy, Ryan Franulovich & Aidan Ufkes. We have two scholarship applications in and approved, MSP with two more possibly coming in. Scholarships amounts are \$1200 or \$1500 if Lutheran School. June 14th service will have the graduates quilts blessed and ask the graduates to do a short video telling what their plans are in their future.

Preschool Report: No report.

Stewardship Report: No report

Worship Report: Dave reports that they are in a holding pattern, they have been doing zoom meetings to keep in contact. Thank you to Pastor Deborah for all your help.

The next Zoom Council meeting is June 11th at 6:30pm

Pastor Deborah said the Lord’s Prayer and closed the meeting at 7:50 pm



Dear Beloveds of Northwest Washington Synod,

*By the rivers of Babylon – there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion.
Psalm 137*

When the people were exiled in Babylon, they grieved for what they once had. The practices and comfort of what they'd known through worshiping at the temple in Jerusalem were not available to them in that foreign land. In that time of exile, they were challenged by prophets and re-formed as God's people. When they returned to Jerusalem, the temple they longed to gather in did not exist anymore. Their homes were gone. Much had to be rebuilt.

This scripture speaks of our time right now.

Truthfully, we are not going to go back to what we had before. And I am grieving this as I am sure you are. The verse from Psalm 137 speaks so clearly to me as we all weep for what was. The longing to be with all of you continues and I hope for the day when we can gather bodily again.

But let me also say this: While we long for what was, we also are living now. We are in worship now. We are in community now. Yes, it feels different. Yes, it is not the same. But rostered ministers are preaching God's word, people are gathering together, the gospel of Jesus Christ is being proclaimed and prayers, singing, community and fellowship have never stopped. As a faithful people, we trust that God is with us, even in this time that we are physically separated and we are still Holy Community – joined together by Jesus.

As your rostered minister and your leadership teams begin to make plans for re-opening church buildings, please keep in mind safety, vulnerable populations, and guidelines issued. I highly recommend listening to this online presentation hosted by the ELCA Minneapolis Area Synod in which Dr. Michael Osterholm, a Lutheran, an epidemiologist and the Director of the University of Minnesota Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy, presented and answered questions about COVID-19.

I also strongly urge congregations and ministry sites to follow the guidelines of the CDC, the state, and each local municipality as well as recommendation from the ELCA the synod. (You can find links here: www.lutheransnw.org/covid-19.) When we all follow these guidelines, we all benefit. Remember to be in conversation with your insurance provider about their recommendations for the use of your facility. Many insurance carriers are refusing to cover churches if they are going against state or local recommendations. *Please know that the Northwest Washington Synod highly recommends following CDC, Washington state, and local guidelines as well as the guidelines set out by this synod and the ELCA.*

I close this letter with another Psalm. While we hear the despair in Psalm 137 above, we also hear the hope in Psalm 121: *I lift up my eyes to the hills - from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.*

Dear people of God, remember that we are people of faith, trusting in God's grace and providence, informed by science, who desire to respect, protect, and care for the most vulnerable among us.

Take care. Be safe. Trust in God. Be community for one another.

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.