

# Anacortes Lutheran Church

*May 2025 Newsletter*

*A message from Pastor Scott*

*“Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city.”*

*Proverbs 16:32*

Alleluia, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

I was doing some reading the other day on the subject of the “Fruits of the Spirit” and I was struck by how these are expressed in our lives together as a community centered in Jesus. We are quite good (or at least better) at living out the first eight, but when it comes to the ninth in the list, we many times falter a bit. One of the most underrated and underappreciated ways – but one of the most important – is in the fruit of self-control. Self-control is not flashy, and it’s probably not newsworthy. It probably won’t gain you a thousand followers on social media. But it doesn’t take much effort to see how vitally important it is in our lives. Just consider some of the ways that self-control is a blessing to you and to those around you...

**Bodily:** self-control helps us to stay in good health, as we regulate what we put into our bodies (the types of food and drink and their quantities). And as Gina and I have discovered, when control is lost (for any reason) it takes a greater amount of effort to return to where you began.

**Financially:** self-control keeps us out of debt and helps us to live within our means, setting us up for success both in the present and the future.

**Emotionally:** self-control allows us to respond to circumstances and to relate to others appropriately, with thoughtfulness and grace.

**Relationally:** self-control protects our marriages, families, and other relationships as it leads us to think and to act in ways that don’t just feel good in the present but serve ourselves and those around us for years to come.

We can easily see how important self-control is when we compare it to its opposite – being out of control. We lose control of our emotions, and we end up hurting the people around us. We lose control of our spending, and we are heading for bankruptcy. If we operate a vehicle in an out-of-control way, we endanger people’s lives. What a gift self-control is!

And self-control is possible for us as we place our trust in the crucified and risen Christ. He is the One who gives us peace when worry and fear would tempt us to panic. He is the One who gives us hope and a vision for the future when we would be tempted to live without direction or vision or discipline in the moment. He is the One who willingly denied himself in order to save us and who strengthens us to look out for the needs of others, not just ourselves.

*Continued on page 2.*

Self-control is usually not flashy or outwardly impressive, but it is a precious gift from God that allows our lives to be a real blessing to others.

May God bless you as you employ the gift today!

Pastor Scott



## *Church Council Minutes from April 10, 2025*

**Attendees:** Pastor Scott, Steve Anderson, Jeanette Christiansen, Don Devine, Julie Jacobson, Lane Phelan, Pat Carrie Smith, Dave White, Jeaneen Brogan

**Guest:** John Parker

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

March meeting minutes were approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** Written reports were sent out. The Parking Lot Fund is at \$28,284.

John Parker spoke for the Finance Committee - they looked at higher interest rate options for the church checking and savings accounts. WAFED has better rates and has a night drop box. Pat-Carrie made a motion to allow the Finance Committee to begin the process of switching banks. All were in favor.

**Worship:** A written report was submitted. Don volunteered to hang the "He is Risen" banner by the front doors for Easter. It was noted that there are no Confirmands this year, therefore no Confirmation service. June 1 will be the service to honor Seniors and hand out scholarships.

**Pastor's Report:** A written report was submitted.

**Outreach:** Two ads have been submitted to the paper for Holy Week.

**Properties:** A written report was submitted. Foam coverings over the vents have been removed. Steve is working on building the back gate by the preschool. Moss has been removed from the preschool roof. The Youth kitchen is a mess, after it is cleaned up a new dishwasher can be purchased/donated. Lane and Jeanette will look into getting rid of surplus dishes that are old and stored in the youth kitchen. There will be 6 roasters to be given away.

Jeaneen made a motion to hire window washers this year for \$1300 for the outside windows, motion passed (not enough volunteers showed up last year).

**WELCA:** This is the last year for WELCA to make the Easter cinnamon rolls, they will be teaching some of the kids how to make them on Saturday with the plan that the youth will take over this ministry.

**Personnel:** The office would like to get more information for the newsletter and the Scoop, this is up to the different groups to get this to Amanda. The people who accompany any music will now be referred to as "Service Accompanist", (rather than organist or pianist ...). Jobun is focusing on the younger youth and Pastor will be focusing on the older youth. The nursery staff were given 2 additional hours this month to clean the toys. There is a new sound board being purchased for worship.

### **New Business:**

- Jeanette made a motion to add verbiage in the Legacy Endowment Policies and Procedures to read VII.B.3. "Minimum of 20 percent for capital improvements, property upgrades or replacements, debt reception or a building program of Anacortes Lutheran Church." Motion passed.
- Steve and Bill will start getting parking lot bids once Bill is back in town.
- Discussed making a list of those who could use a home visit or be checked on - keeping the list with Amanda and those who would like to reach out to someone could check the list. Discussion will continue.

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- There was a Facility Use request by Trinity Lutheran Coeur d'Alene to spend one night at ALC en route from a mission trip in the San Juan Islands. An ALC member will meet them when they arrive later on July 12 and Pastor or Pat-Carrie will be there July 13 am when they leave.
- Those willing to stay on as Council members are Don Devine, Pat-Carrie Smith, Steve Anderson, Julie Jacobson and Bill LeDuc (will double check with Bill). Whomever continues as Treasurer will also be on Council so 3 spots are open for the congregation to volunteer. Julie will write this up for the newsletter and Scoop. Our next Congregational Meeting is June 1 (Senior Sunday) so the meeting will take place in the sanctuary before we move into the Fellowship Hall for the Senior reception.

Jeanette made a motion to adjourn the meeting. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Our next regular council meeting will be held May 8 at 6:30 pm. Please have committee reports in to Julie no later than midnight on Tuesday, May 6.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Jacobson, Council Secretary

**Newsletters** - We are always looking for information to put in our newsletters. Please send any upcoming events and information for the congregation to the office at [info@anacorteslutheran.org](mailto:info@anacorteslutheran.org). Also, a **reminder** that **June and July's newsletter** will be combined, so please submit for those two months together by May 19th.

**MICAH SPEHAR**

Many of you may remember Micah Spehar (Caroline Spehar's grandson) growing up in our church. Micah is transitioning from the current program that he is in to the Attic program at Burlington Edison High School. We won't be able to recognize him as a graduate this June, but we can offer prayers and some may want to send cards of encouragement to Micah! If you would like to send a card, below is an address. Thank you!

Micah Spehar  
 225 N. Walnut Street  
 Burlington, WA 98233




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**PRAY FOR OUR 2025 CHURCH COUNCIL & COMMITTEES**

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<p><i>President:</i> <b>Don Devine</b></p> <p><i>Vice-President:</i></p> <p><i>Secretary:</i> <b>Julie Jacobson</b></p> <p><i>Treasurer:</i> <b>Lane Phelan</b></p> <p><i>Stewardship:</i> <b>Bill LeDuc</b></p> <p><i>Outreach:</i> <b>Dave White</b></p> <p><i>Personnel:</i> <b>Jeaneen Brogan</b></p> <p><i>Josephine Delegates:</i> <b>Pastor Peterson, Linda Millo</b></p> <p><i>Finance:</i> <b>Lane Phelan, Kirk Swanson</b> <b>Linda Millo</b></p> <p><i>Finance Secretary:</i> <b>Linda Millo</b></p> <p><i>Camp Lutherwood Rep:</i> <b>Kenny Holzemer</b></p>	<p><i>Fellowship :</i></p> <p><i>Education:</i> <b>Janice Sullivan</b></p> <p><i>Youth:</i> <b>Michael Sullivan</b></p> <p><i>Preschool:</i> <b>Anne Barry</b></p> <p><i>Properties:</i> <b>Steve Anderson</b></p> <p><i>Worship:</i> <b>Pat Carrie Smith</b></p> <p><i>WELCA :</i></p> <p><i>Legacy Endowment:</i> <b>Wayne Olsen, Rod Odegaard</b> <b>Julie Jacobson</b></p> <p><i>Synod Assy Delegates:</i> <b>Pastor Peterson, Lois Cassidy</b> <b>Linda Millo</b></p>
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## LWR Knitting

Upcoming knitting dates are as follows:

May 19 at 1:00 pm

Make baby sweaters and hats for LWR. A fun one piece pattern & yarn are both provided. Beginners are welcome, teaching is available.

## Education

Our last Sunday school will be May 11, and we will end the year with a pool party on May 18!

## Property Report

It's spring time, and time to plan on caulking, painting, replacing rotted wood trim and replacing windows with failed seals. But first, I wish to thank Roger Peckmen, Don Devine and Paul Dusenbury. Also wish to thank Bill LeDuc for grass mowing and trimming and Dorthy Engom for gardening and flower care.



Steve Anderson – Properties/Handyman

## ALC CHOIR NEWS

WHOO HOO! We have made it to the end of another choir year! Thank you to all who have come every Wednesday and Sunday to rehearsals and to services (week day ones, too!) to give your talent back to God and our congregation. We will have our last rehearsal on Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> and our end of year party on Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. More details about the party will be shared later and please know that all of you are needed and loved in our choir! New members are always welcome!



## ALC SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY PRIME TIMERS™

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

### GET-TOGETHER - SUPER STICKY ROLLS FRIDAY, MAY 9, at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The theme is: "**Marvelous Moms**".

*Please bring a picture of you as a mom or of your mom to share with the group.*

*Sign up at the Opportunity Desk or call, text, or email Julie before Wednesday prior to the event.*

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

*Paul - Julie Dusenbury*



## A Note From the Treasure

Budgeted Total Offering - \$603,375

Total Offering to Date - \$150,843

We are on target and thank you for your faithful giving.

At the **JUNE 1st** biannual meeting we will be electing a new treasure. Please consider if you would like to serve this way.  
Lane Phelan - Treasurer



**The time is coming!** Our new Constitution states that we now have two Congregational Meetings per year. Our second meeting is coming up on **June 1** for the purposes of electing our new council members. The council structure is changing with these elections - downsizing to nine members, within this group, the officers will be selected by the council. There will be three openings for new members this election (six continue from the current council). Council members will no longer be designated committee heads, committees and meetings will take place outside of the council structure. **Please prayerfully consider one of these positions!** Talk to Don Devine or any of the current council members to get more information ... it's a great group and ministry to work with! Meetings are the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30pm.



# Dates to Celebrate in May

## Birthdays

01 Lily Dumas	07 Susan McCutcheon	12 Owen Kennedy	18 Susan Reed
01 Carter Eggleston	07 Judy Pesaturo	14 Anita Holzemer	20 Connie Walters
01 Catherine Eggleston	08 Emma Flanigan	15 Thomas Knowles	22 Jean Brown
01 Jennifer Hansen	10 Lois Cassidy	16 Nathan Dent	22 Vera Jones
01 Donna Maricich	10 Brian Hanrahan	17 Judy Card	25 Scott Peterson
02 Corine DeWitt	10 Kendra Kennedy	17 Katelyn Ferckovich	27 Lane Phelan
07 Ethan Lust	10 Lara Knowles	17 Bill Sahnaw	28 Bill LeDuc

## Anniversaries

02 Dave & Peggy White	20 Tim & Anne Hofferth
06 Al & Judy Littlefield	24 Chris & Rachel Franulovich
06 Robert & Lorna Higgins	27 Bob & Anne Barry
09 Dan & Kathy Khile	27 Tom & Yvonne Paul

## Worship Attendance

Date	Events	In-Person	Nursery	Live-Stream
Mar 30	Hymn Pick Sunday	101	7	44
Apr 2	Lenten Soup Dinner	37	-	-
Apr 6	Family & Praise Sunday	108	9	25
Apr 9	Lenten Soup Dinner	37	-	-
Apr 13	Palm Sunday	128	9	32
Apr 18	Good Friday	33	-	-
Apr 20	Easter Sunday	241	7	55
Apr 27	2nd Sunday in Easter	97	9	**

\*\* Not available at time of printing



**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY** to all the wonderful moms of ALC!





## From the Bishop:

May 2025

There is a well-known parable where Jesus talks about seeds thrown in wild abandon. Seeds thrown randomly, haphazardly, you could almost say carelessly ... some seeds tossed upon a path, some seeds on rocky ground, some seeds among thorns and other seeds on so-called “good soil.” (To read the whole parable, go to Matthew 13:1-9, Mark 4:2-9, Luke 8:4-8.)

In the parable there is extravagance, luxury, lavishness. Truth be told, it is terrible farming. But if you take out what we all know about farming techniques, the throwing of seeds in this parable is unfathomable and incomprehensible and beautiful to behold.

And yet ... so often we want to tame the throwing of seeds. We want to make straight lines and uniform rows. We want organization and structure. We might want new things to grow, but we want them to be what we want. Perhaps newish ... but not new. Undergirding it all, I think we want control over this seed thing.

But this isn't how the Spirit works.

Instead, as we hear in this parable, God's seed-throwing is all about possibility and energy and the extravagance of God. This parable is about the wildness of God's Spirit. The Sower is throwing out seeds with abandon so that something may develop, sprout, and grow – something unexpected, something astonishing.

This, of course, doesn't mean we cast aside everything already growing. Not at all. Nowhere in this parable does it say that the plants already rooted must be cleared before new seeds can be sown. There are deep-rooted plants already flourishing in God's Garden. These plants have lived through trials and joys and still bear fruit. They need to be watered and tended. They deserve our care, our gratitude, our celebration. The new seeds being scattered don't replace what is planted. Instead, they add to the texture and beauty of God's Garden. Old and new. Rooted and scattered. This parable reminds us that God's Garden is not static—it's alive, growing, evolving.

Of course, some seeds that have been thrown have not always taken root. As the parable says – some seeds fall on rocky ground, other seeds land on thorns. There have been experiments that started with high hopes that ended sooner than we would like. There were perhaps disagreements or different ways of doing things. It is true that what works in one section of God's Garden doesn't necessarily work in others.

But this is why we plant and trust and sow and dig in the dirt. This is why we trust this Sower sowing seeds. For God's Garden is founded not on the quality of soil but on the lavishness of God the Sower through the Spirit.

When I hear this parable, I celebrate the many different ways that we are living into and sharing God's love and grace in this synod – in ways that the saints before us would recognize and cherish, and in ways they might never have imagined. I invite you to pause for a moment and think of the place and space where you are promised forgiveness and new life, where you receive the body and blood of Jesus, where you hear the proclamation of grace through faith, where you have holy community. What are some ways that you are deeply rooted? What are some ways that seeds of new possibilities are being planted? What are seeds that are in the wind right now but haven't landed yet? When you think of the broader community where you live – what is your congregation called to in partnership and imagination? How is the Sower throwing seeds of God's love and grace where you live and move and breathe?

In the Northwest Washington Synod, let us rejoice in this time when old and new things come together. Now is the time that the Spirit is opening us up to new possibilities. Now is the time for listening and collaboration and being in community. Now is the time when we both hold that which we already love and, at the same time, open our hands in order to receive other gifts of promise and wonder.

The dirt, the soil that we are becomes holy ground when God is present. God's seeds of grace fall indiscriminately into the lives of all God's children, into the rocky, thorny, barren and fertile soil of our lives and ministries. The outcome of this gracious sowing cannot be known immediately. One never knows what may come of decadent grace. And yet, day by day, the Sower sows in wild graciousness. And we receive. Together.

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee | [bishop@lutheransnw.org](mailto:bishop@lutheransnw.org)





SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU



FRI

SAT



2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p><b>4 FAMILY &amp; PRAISE SUNDAY</b>            EDUCATION Time 9:00a            WORSHIP 10:00a            Fellowship Hour 11:00a            MS &amp; HS Youth Night 6:30p</p>	<p><b>5</b>            O/A 10:00a            SCOUT B 7:00p</p>	<p><b>6</b>            Sewing 9:00a            SCOUT G 7:00p</p>	<p><b>7</b>            Staff Meeting 9:30a            Prek Chapel 10:45a            WORSHIP Comm 11:00a            CUB Pack 6:00p</p>	<p><b>1</b>            Men's Bible Study 7:00a            Prek Chapel 10:45a            Praise Team 1:30p            EXECUTIVE BOARD 4:00p</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>
<p><b>11 Mother's Day</b>            EDUCATION Time 9:00a            WORSHIP 10:00a            Fellowship Hour 11:00a</p> 	<p><b>12</b>            O/A 10:00a            Prayer Group 11:30a            SCOUT B 7:00p</p>	<p><b>13</b>            WOMEN'S BIBLE 10:00a            WOMEN'S BIBLE 3:30p            SCOUT G 7:00p</p>	<p><b>14</b>            Staff Meeting 9:30a            Prek Chapel 10:45a            A-Town Cigy/Mtg 12:30p            CHORR Rehearsal 6:30p</p>	<p><b>15</b>            Men's Bible Study 7:00a            Prek Chapel 10:45a            SCOUT G Leader 7:00p            Beyond Malibu Young Life 4:00p</p>	<p><b>16</b>            Beyond Malibu Young Life</p>	<p><b>17</b>            Beyond Malibu Young Life            Leaves Sunday 8:00a</p>
<p><b>18 5th Sunday in Easter</b>            WORSHIP 10:00a            Fellowship Hour 11:00a            MS &amp; HS Youth Night 6:30p</p>	<p><b>19</b>            O/A 10:00a            LWR/Knitting 1:00p            SCOUT B 7:00p</p>	<p><b>20</b>            Sewing 9:00a            YOUTH Comm 6:30p            SCOUT G 7:00p</p>	<p><b>21</b>            Staff Meeting 9:30a            Prek Chapel 10:45a            CUB Pack 6:00p            CHORR Rehearsal 6:30p</p>	<p><b>22</b>            Men's Bible Study 7:00a            Prek Chapel 10:45a</p>	<p><b>23</b>            Elem Youth Night 5:30p</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> 
<p><b>25 6th Sunday in Easter</b>            WORSHIP 10:00a            Fellowship Hour 11:00a</p>	<p><b>26 Memorial Day</b>  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>            O/A 10:00a            ALTAR Guild 11:00a            SCOUT B 7:00p</p>	<p><b>27</b>            Sewing 9:00a            SCOUT G 7:00p</p>	<p><b>28</b>            Staff Meeting 9:30a            Prek Chapel 10:45a            CHORR Rehearsal 6:30p</p>	<p><b>29</b>            Men's Bible Study 7:00a            Prek Chapel 10:45a            Praise Team 1:00p</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b>            Laurie Piano Recital            2:00 - 6:00p</p>
<p><b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b></p>						