

Anacortes Lutheran Church

A message from Pastor Scott

Jesus is Risen! He is Risen indeed!

We continue to make our way through the season of Lent and now soon will be entering one of the most holy times in the Church year – Holy Week. It is a time that begins in celebration, turns to suffering and death, and then returns to celebration as the tomb is found empty. It is a week of new followers, old friends, new friends, and friends that break trust in betrayal and abandonment. A week where we see what happens in speaking out against the establishment, even when it has become something that lives for its own survival instead of lifting up those for whom it is responsible.

And now as we enter the season of Easter, yes, the season. A season 50 days long where we see the power that has been unleashed in the world through the resurrection. A time when the rules that we thought we knew become opportunities to see the world in a new way. Even the certainty of death has been called into question. What does it mean for us to live in this new world of resurrection?

It calls us to live as a community centered in Christ. It calls us to live as a community that gathers to bless the world. It calls us to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the places where we are. It calls us to love, to live with grace, to live in hope. It calls us...

We often talk about “call” when we think about pastors or deacons. We hear talk about “the call to ministry” and we think that it is not something that is a reality in our lives outside the church. The truth is that we are all called. We are called into a life of service in the waters of Baptism. We are called to be a blessing to the world. We are called into relationship with those around us that we might share the gift of God’s love. We are called to lift up the power of the Resurrection in our world as it struggles.

Where are you being ‘called’ in your life today? Who is God putting on your heart that needs to hear from you today? What change can happen today that glorifies God tomorrow? How can you live a life of resurrection where all things are possible?

Living the Resurrection,

Pastor Scott



Church Council Minutes from March 13, 2025

Attendees: Pastor Scott, Steve Anderson, Michael Sullivan, Jeanette Christiansen, Don Devine, Julie Jacobson, Bill LeDuc, Janice Louie, Lane Phelan, Pat Carrie Smith

The meeting was called to order and Pastor opened with prayer.
February meeting minutes were approved as written.



Treasurer's Report: A balance sheet and Income/Expense report were handed out and reviewed. There was a \$5000 expense for the chairlift maintenance included in the expenses. A form was given to Don to review and sign regarding an upcoming memorial gift to the church.

Stewardship: A written report was submitted. The Finance Committee met (Bill, Nancy Loftess, John Parker and Roger Peckman). They will be talking to the legal department at the synod regarding where to keep money to get a better return. They are suggesting an "internal review" of the church finances (after June 1) since the accounting system changed in 2024. Bill and/or Lane will be talking to Rod Odegaard to see how to put together a loan from one of our accounts for the Parking Lot Repavement project. (See new business). The new copier is in and the old one is gone. Next meeting will be March 19 at 5:30pm.

Outreach: The Outreach committee, choir and ushers provided the first soup supper. There is a table in the fellowship hall that occasionally collapses when the quilters are using it. Steve has fixed it once, if it continues he suggests donating it elsewhere and using the smaller tables.

Pastor's Report: A written report was submitted. The Good Friday service will be at Anacortes Christian Church this year. The Ragnar Relay event is looking for community volunteers. The Family Promise of Skagit Valley requested some benevolence dollars go to them - this was discussed but no motion was made. There was a request from Youth Dynamics for ALC to sponsor them as was done last year. Jeanette made a motion to give \$500 to them, all were in favor and Lane will write the check.

Education: Janice is planning an ALC Family Pool Party in May, date TBD. Janice will get eggs for the Easter egg hunt and Dave will get the piñata.

WELCA: The volunteers are in place for Karen Sorenson's service.

Personnel: Dorothy Engom has volunteered to coordinate Sunday Coffee Hours. Rachel Divine has volunteered to serve on the Youth Committee.

Properties: A written report was submitted. The recent Radon test passed - there was no record it had been done before. Steve suggests it should be done one more time in the future for \$20-30. The coffee machine is repaired. PSE has offered to give a small credit for the burned out street lightbulb that ALC has been charged months/years for. The microwave has been changed out. The wall oven beneath it needs replacing, as the panel no longer works (25 years old), a scratch and dent model would be ideal for cost. The preschool fence back gate needs to be built and replaced.

Worship: A written report was submitted. The cabinets of old financial records need to be gone through and discarded as appropriate - it is a big job so done in small chunks would be ideal. Anything found related to the cemetery property must be kept. The worship committee discussed acolytes having the option of wearing the robes - discussion took place and some felt strongly that they should be worn out of respect.

Youth: Jobun and Michael will meet to begin planning VBS, it will likely be indoors this year using the unused curriculum purchased last year. Elementary Youth Nights continue to happen and are being attended. Middle School and High School Youth activities are quiet due to the busy youth schedules. The Wii box is missing from the basement so they are looking for a

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replacement.



Preschool: A written report was submitted.

New Business:

- Steve made a motion to request \$10,000-15,000 from the Memorial Committee for the Parking Lot Fund. Lane will fill out the request form. All were in favor.
- Don will cover The Brick dinner on March 16, Julie will on March 23 and Jeanette will on March 30.
- Lane made a motion to request \$500 from the Legacy Endowment Fund to give to the community Messiah Sing-Along at Westminster Presbyterian Church. It costs \$6000 to put on so the church is asking for other churches to help out this year.
- It was decided that the youth would help make the cinnamon rolls for Easter, it takes 1 hour to prep them on April 19 and then the baking takes place early on Easter morning.
- Bill made a motion to adjust the scholarship for students of a Lutheran college to \$3000/year (it was decided last month to increase the scholarship to \$2000 for any college), all were in favor.
- The Youth Committee will take over the work of the Scholarship Committee. Amanda sends out the applications to seniors so the committee will just need to review them and give a list to Lane.

Jeanette made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The Lord’s Prayer closed out the meeting.

Our next regular council meeting will be held April 10 at 6:30 pm. Please have committee reports in to Julie no later than midnight on Tuesday, April 8.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Jacobson, Council Secretary

A Note to the Congregation

A member of the congregation is severely allergic to latex. Please refrain from using latex balloons (mylar is OK), live poinsettias, and fresh bananas anywhere in the church. Her reaction can be similar to people who are allergic to peanuts. Thanks.

PRAY FOR OUR 2025 CHURCH COUNCIL & COMMITTEES

President: Don Devine
Vice-President:
Secretary: Julie Jacobson
Treasurer: Lane Phelan
Stewardship: Bill LeDuc
Outreach: Dave White
Personnel: Jeaneen Brogan
Josephine Delegates: Pastor Peterson, Linda Millo
Finance: Lane Phelan, Kirk Swanson
 Linda Millo
Finance Secretary: Linda Millo
Camp Lutherwood Rep: Kenny Holzemer

Fellowship :
Education: Janice Sullivan
Youth: Michael Sullivan
Preschool: Anne Barry
Properties: Steve Anderson
Worship: Pat Carrie Smith
WELCA : Jeanette Christensen
Legacy Endowment: Wayne Olsen, Rod Odegaard
 Julie Jacobson
Synod Assy Delegates: Pastor Peterson, Lois Cassidy
 Linda Millo



HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY - SERVICE APRIL 13 AT 10:00 AM

All children are invited to line up for the Palm Processional.

MAUNDY THURSDAY - SERVICE APRIL 17 AT 7:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY - SERVICE APRIL 18 AT 12:00 PM AT ALC - 5:00 & 7:00 PM AT ANACORTES CHRISTIAN CENTER, 1211 M AVE.

EASTER SUNDAY - SERVICE APRIL 20 AT 10:00 AM



EASTER FLOWERS - In memory or honor of loved ones

Altar Guild will be purchasing flowering plants to adorn the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 20th.

Forms & Envelopes are available

at the Opportunity Desk & on the Bulletin Board by the church office



If you wish to purchase a plant in memory or in honor of someone, place your completed form with money (*in the attached envelope*) in the offering plate on Sunday or bring it to the office by

Friday, April 11th / Each plant costs \$20.

SEWING NEWS

"For nearly 80 years, you have been the heart and soul of Lutheran World Relief. Your quilts and kits were one of our first ministries, and even now, they serve as a lifeline for so many of our neighbors in need. You are Christ's hands and feet in the world." This statement from the LWR Newsletter says what Tuesday morning at ALC truly is. We continue to assemble kits and make quilts. Even if you don't come to help, your prayers and donations of supplies and money make this ministry possible. We have started packing for our fall shipment. Thank you for being Christ's hands and feet around the world, we will meet April 1, 15, 22 and 29. All are welcome.

Education

Sunday school will be having an Easter party after church service that includes an egg hunt and piñata! Our last Sunday school will be May 11, and we will end the year with a pool party on May 18! More details to come.

MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00 PM

Join us for a "Living Lord's Supper" in Fellowship Hall as we present the play "Lest I Forget Thy Love For Me." We will communion together as the disciples spend their last moments with Jesus. If you would like a speaking or non-speaking role in the play, please contact Laurie Julius-Carver at ljc@fidalgo.net or the church office.

LWR Knitting

Upcoming knitting dates are as follows:

April 21 at 1:00 pm

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.



Happy Birthday

Dates to Celebrate in April

Birthdays

01 Paul Krasnowski	11 Rexanne Graham	18 Inez Pedersen	24 Dorothy Engom
01 Breann Morgenthaler	13 Steve Anderson	19 Agnes Wicknick	25 Mahayla Thomas
03 Isabelle Thomas	13 Treva Hanrahan	19 Fred Wicknick	26 Rachel Franulovich
07 Micah Spehar	13 Kevin Kennedy	20 Malena Baker	27 Lauren Long
08 Klaus Schoebel	13 Kathy Khile	20 Diane Berglund	
08 Lucy Sturgul	18 Harlan Eggleston	24 Payton Bush	

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

ALC NURSERY SCHEDULE	
MONTH: <i>April 2025</i>	
SUNDAY 6 9:30 Arrival 10:00 Service	Rachel Long Rebecca Burtney
SUNDAY 13 9:30 Arrival 10:00 Service	Rachel Long Rebecca Burtney
SUNDAY 20 9:30 Arrival 10:00 Service	Rachel Long Brooklyn Bush
SUNDAY 27 9:30 Arrival 10:00 Service	Rebecca Burtney Brooklyn Bush

Date	Events	In-Person	Nursery	Live-Stream
Feb 23	7 Epiphany/Baptism	119	2	56
Mar 2	Transfiguration of Our Lord	88	6	32
Mar 5	Ash Wednesday 12:00p	24	-	-
	Ash Wednesday 7:00p	40	-	-
Mar 9	1st Lent	86	3	31
Mar 12	Lenten Soup	47	-	-
Mar 16	2nd Lent	112	4	61
Mar 19	Lenten Soup	39	-	-
Mar 23	3rd Lent	108	5	57
Mar 26	Lenten Soup	49	-	-
Mar 30	Hymn Pick	**	**	**

** Not available at time of printing



Please arrive 15-30min before service starts. You may leave once sanitizing is done, or organize and deep clean until 11:30.

Please take down closed sign upon arrival and put it back up once all cleaning is done.

Parents are more than welcome to use the bathroom / changing pad when closed.

Thanks!



From the Bishop:

April 2025

As you probably know, thousands of bison once roamed the plains of North America. In the late 1800s they were almost brought to extinction. Thankfully, due to conservation efforts, bison are back in the United States plains – even if they aren't nearly as ubiquitous as they once were.

You probably also know that bison are the largest mammals in North America. Male bison (called bulls) can weigh up to 2,000 pounds and stand 6 feet tall, while females (called cows) weigh up to 1,000 pounds and can reach a height of 4-5 feet. Bison calves weigh 30-70 pounds at birth. These are large and powerful creatures.

But even though bison are formidable, the plains can still be dangerous. Their main predators are wolves and mountain lions (what we in the west call cougars), who prey on the weak and the slow – like young bison. Bison typically run when they sense danger, but when predators approach without warning, bison form a multilayer circle of protection. The cows form a ring around the young, and the bulls form an outer ring surrounding the cows.

Just picture this for a moment. A wolf is coming ... the bison cannot run anywhere. And instantly, instinctively, they corral their young in the middle, the females encircle the young, and the males encircle the females. The two rings facing outward. It is a pretty powerful picture. The bison community automatically protects those who cannot protect themselves.

May I ask why we, as humans, seem to do a worse job of protecting the vulnerable than bison? We know God's imperative from Genesis to Revelation. I mean, who did the prophets cry out for? The laborer, the prisoner, the widow, the orphan, the foreigner, the enslaved, the marginalized. Who did Jesus heal? The blind, the deaf, the paralyzed, the bleeding, the possessed, the outcast, the sinner, the forgotten. Again and again, God calls for each beloved person to be held safe – to be provided for and protected – and, when necessary, for those able, to encircle those who are defenseless, especially those society has called expendable.

This is the call God places on each of us – to protect and care for the most vulnerable. Yet, we are witnessing and experiencing the opposite in our society and through government actions. Beloveds in Christ, do not be deceived. When food assistance and benefits are slashed, the vulnerable are left defenseless. When rights are stripped away from women, people of color, the LGBTQ+ community, immigrants, and others, they are being cast to the wolves. Jesus himself warns in Matthew 7, "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves."

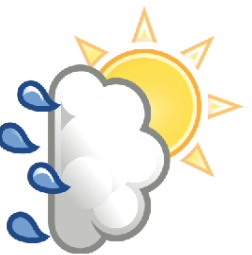
As followers of Jesus, in these times that may bring discouragement or a sense of being overwhelmed, in these times when it feels wolves are coming at you or for someone you love, may you feel encircled in love and protection – even as you are called to encircle others. May we advocate, love boldly, and protect those who are most at risk. Let us take heart in the promise of God's justice and mercy. Let us be a people who uplift the weary, feed the hungry, and shelter the displaced. May we be a church that embodies Christ's compassion and courage, refusing to look away, refusing to be silent, refusing to let the wolves win. For all people are beloved in God's eyes.

I close with this. I have a little miniature bison on my desk in my office. I look at it often to remember that I am protected by God and that I am called by God. May you remember – as a baptized and beloved child of God, God has called you in this time and in this place. And you are not alone. For even as you protect others, God protects you. Amen.

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

bishop@lutheransnw.org





Zipporah

2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>6 FAMILY & PRAISE SUNDAY</p> <p>EDUCATION Time 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a MS & HS Youth Night 6:30p</p>	<p>7</p> <p>O.A SCOUT B 7:00p 10:00a</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Sewing SCOUT G 7:00p 9:00a</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Staff Meeting 9:30a Prek Chapel 10:45a LENTEN Dinner 5:30p CHOIR Rehearsal 7:00p</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Mens Bible Study 7:00a Prek Chapel 10:45a Praise Team 1:30p EXECUTIVE BOARD 4:00p</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Elm Youth Night 5:30p</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>13 Palm Sunday</p> <p>EDUCATION Time 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a</p>	<p>14</p> <p>O.A Prayer Group 11:30a SCOUT B 7:00p 10:00a</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Sewing YOUTH Comm 6:30p SCOUT G 7:00p 9:00a</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Staff Meeting 9:30a Prek Chapel 10:45a CUB Pack 6:00p CHOIR Rehearsal 6:30p</p>	<p>17 Maundy Thursday</p> <p>Mens Bible Study 7:00a Prek Chapel 10:45a SCOUT G Leader 7:00p <u>Maundy Thursday Service</u> 7:00p at ALC</p>	<p>18 Good Friday</p> <p><u>Good Friday Service</u> 12:00p at ALC</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 Easter Sunday</p> <p>EDUCATION Time 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a MS & HS Youth Night 6:30p</p>	<p>21</p> <p>O.A LWR/Knitting 1:00p SCOUT B 7:00p 10:00a <u>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</u></p>	<p>22</p> <p>Sewing SCOUT G 7:00p 9:00a</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Staff Meeting 9:30a Prek Chapel 10:45a Fr-Conway Cont. 2:30p CHOIR Rehearsal 6:30p</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Mens Bible Study 7:00a Prek Chapel 10:45a Praise Team 1:30p</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Elm Youth Night 5:30p</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 2nd Sunday in Easter</p> <p>Education Time 9:00a WORSHIP 10:00a Fellowship Hour 11:00a SCOUT G PLC 1:00p</p>	<p>28</p> <p>O.A ALTAR Guild 11:00a Prayer Group 11:30a SCOUT B 7:00p 10:00a</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Sewing SCOUT G 7:00p 9:00a</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Staff Meeting 9:30a Prek Chapel 10:45a Liturgical Arts Comm 11:00a CHOIR Rehearsal 6:30p</p>			

