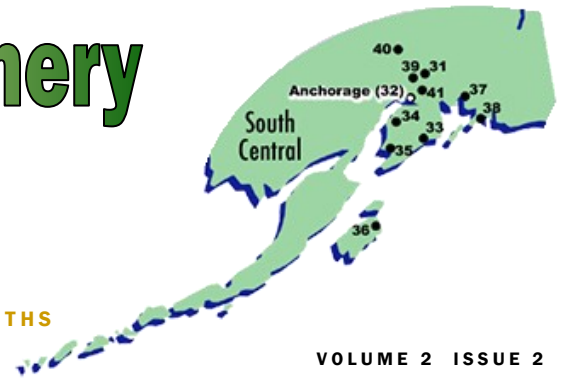


The South Central Deanery of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED ONCE EVERY TWO MONTHS

APRIL-MAY 2022

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 2

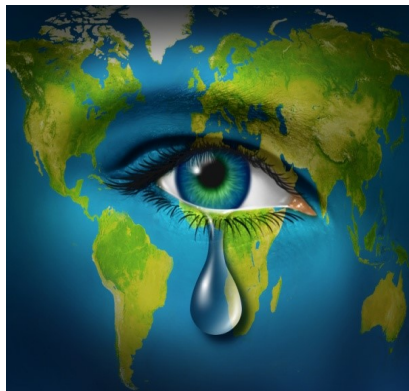


THE WORLD WEEPS



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As our world weeps...

For the loss of innocence,

For the death of children, friends and loved ones,

For the brokenness of humanity,

May we find our place amidst our tears and the tears of others and seek, through prayer, faith and action, the reconciling, healing presence and grace of God to change our world and restore us to wholeness and love.

(published with permission of the author)

Picture credit: <http://www.moonflowerblooms.com/2016/07/25/the-world-weeps/>

SOUTH CENTRAL CONGREGATIONS

14 in all:

Four in Anchorage

One each in

Cordova, Eagle River, Homer, Kenai, Kodiak, Palmer, Seward, Talkeetna, Valdez and Wasilla



Loren Hill

SC Deanery Member-at-large

DEANERY MEMBER-AT-LARGE

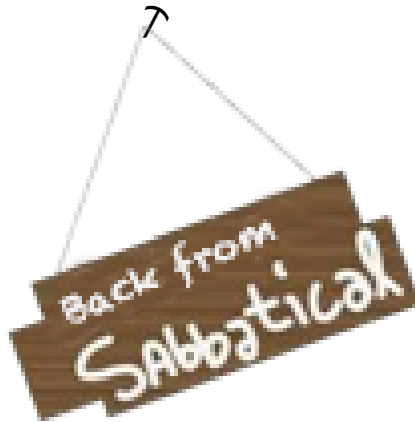
I'm Loren Hill. My wife and I moved to Ninilchik Alaska 2 years ago, in May of 2020. We've built a home here and became active with St. Francis by the Sea in Kenai. I have completed the course to become a Lay Minister at St. Francis and am currently filling that duty as well as being Senior Warden. I was elected to

Continues on page 13 member-at-large

8TH BISHOP OF ALASKA



The Rt. Rev. Mark Lattime



**We welcome our
Bishop home
from his time of
sabbatical**

FROM THE DEAN



The Rev. Katherine Hunt



From the Dean... THANK YOU!

I write with gratitude for all of the hard work from our Executive Committee, Delegates to Deanery, Visitors, our host community of St. Mary's, technology personnel, Suzanne Krull our Diocesan Chief of Staff, Peg Fisher our Parliamentarian, Gene Hill and Deirdre Ford – behind the scenes and elections, Erin Tulip and Rev. Jim Brisson for leading the Clergy gathering and production of our first clergy podcast and to everyone who assisted with the closing Eucharist. My apologies if I have missed anyone! As you can see it takes a village to hold the Annual Deanery meeting.

continue page 3

While this event was our first hybrid annual meeting, flexibility and God's grace guided our time as we came back together in this new way to accomplish the work of the Deanery. Both in person and virtually we had opportunities to meet in small group discussions around the topics of "I Don't Want to Be on That Committee – Coming out of COVID," followed up with a second breakout group of "We Have the Best Coffee and Let's go to Narnia."

Our business sessions resulted in the passing of our St. Simeon/St. Anna resolution to create the South Central Deanery SS/SA Society. Stay tuned for upcoming information from The Rev. Gayle Nauska who will be convening and assisting in the creation of the Society. We passed our annual budget with a revision to add a line item for crosses for the SS/SA. We held our elections of the Deanery Executive Committee as well as Diocesan Convention Nominees. We passed the 2022 suggested changes to our By-Laws and have invited anyone who would like to work on the continuing rewrite of our By-Laws to please contact Loren Hill from the Executive Committee at SCDeanery@gmail.com. Our By-Laws Committee will continue to work throughout the year to bring a new revision at our 2023 Annual Meeting.

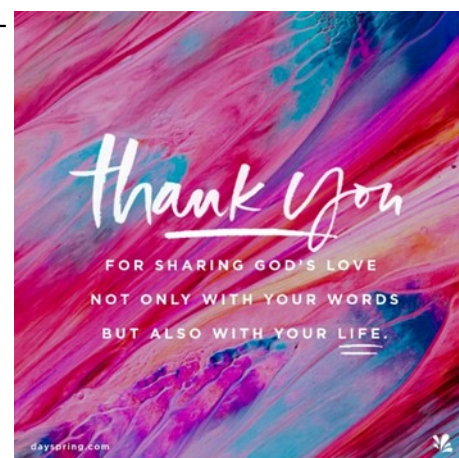
Our Executive Committee has already met once since the Annual Meeting and are beginning the plans for several events to bring our churches together in prayer, worship and fellowship. Please be sure to check out the wonderful details found in this newsletter about events happening throughout South Central. Next year's Annual Meeting will be held the last weekend of April, hosted by St. Francis Kenai.

Our Executive Committee convenes our business meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of each month via zoom (we will not meet in June 2022), The Executive Committee also meets every other month for full day work sessions, team building, spiritual care and to plan deanery events. We extend a special thank you to Rev. David Blanchett who has worked behind the scenes with our Executive Committee putting our newsletter together to improve our communications.

In faithful service to our Lord, we look forward to sharing in the ministries of this Deanery.

In the peace and love of God,

The Rev. Katherine Hunt,
Dean, South Central
revkatherinehunt@gmail.com



St. David's, Wasilla – “Bags of Blessing”

Ministry Supported by a Grant from South Central Deanery

Way back in April of 2020, when the pandemic hit, a group of St. David's parishioners began to meet daily on Zoom for Noonday Prayer. Over time, the group had many discussions about ways that they might make a difference for people in the Mat-Su Valley. In late 2021, the idea was hatched to make “Bags of Blessing” to be given to people who are homeless. The group gathered snacks, socks, band-aids, disinfectant wipes, and hygiene items. Then, they gathered to decorate and fill the bags, which also includes a



Left to right: Amy Pettit Ruby, Barbara Childs, Rev Gail Loken and Debbie Carroll

prayerful note. Church members picked up bags to keep in their cars to hand out to folks on the streets. In April of 2022, they applied for and received a \$500 grant from South Central Deanery in support of this ongoing ministry.



Left to right:
Georgia Knazovich, Debbie Carroll, and Rev Dn. Linda Riley





In the midst of the business of our South Central Deanery Annual Meeting, May 7, 2022, during our lunch hour we invited those gathered to join in solidarity with St. Augustine's, Homer and the rest of the world, to celebrate World Labyrinth Day.

An annual event, on the first Saturday in May, we are called for one day to walk as one world!

While our delegates from St. Augustine's, Homer were missed in person at our deanery meeting, they were able to join the business of the Annual Meeting using zoom, and also celebrate their community gathering in Homer for World Labyrinth Day at their own labyrinth. Next year's South Central Deanery Meeting has been moved to the last weekend of April to accommodate this wonderful day of unity and prayer as a world. In 2023 may we all join together for this day of praying and walking together.

Do you know where these labyrinths are hiding in South Central?

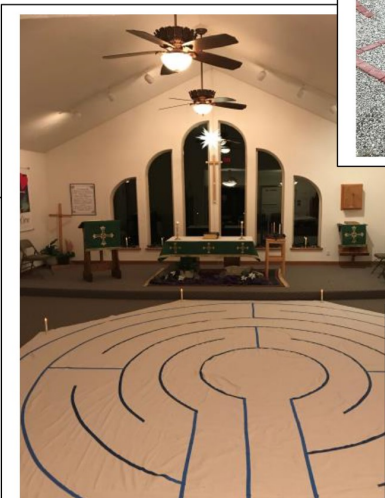


Picture #1

Picture #2



Picture #4



Picture #3

Reference
The pic #
with your
answer
and

E-mail to:
Scdeanery@gmail.com



OUR LABYRINTH

ST. AUGUSTINE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

AN INVITATION TO WALK A SACRED PATH

The labyrinth at St. Augustine's has changed over time. The first version was built in 2009 as a joint project by members of the church and a voluntary church youth work crew from All Saints Episcopal Church in Omaha, Nebraska.



Beach rocks were lovingly hauled to the site and arranged into a beautiful 8 circuit, left-handed design, a modification of the great French medieval labyrinth in Chartres Cathedral.



In 2017, a new neighbor informed us that we were over the line, so we removed a circuit or 2 on the outside of the labyrinth.

Between warming winter weather, increasing ice, all of us aging and concerns over tripping, we did a major modification and upgrade in 2019. Wood chips and beach rocks were replaced with gravel, brick and marble



chips to make a completely flat surface. The entire labyrinth was moved to the east slightly, scaled back in size to approximately 40' in diameter, and the layout was simplified to 5 circuits, wide enough to accommodate a wheelchair. With help of special funding, we hired Dutch Boy Landscaping in Homer to build it.



The labyrinth has been used for Sunday services, World Labyrinth Day celebrations, memorials and general meditation.

We love labyrinths so much that we also have one for indoor use. It was made in

2017, when serious upgrading of our outdoor labyrinth was a twinkle in our eye. It's made of painter's drop cloth/canvas and blue painter's tape. It is used every Saturday in Advent and Lent with Noonday Prayers or Compline, when the weather prevents us from being outdoors.

Standing quietly inside the church and designing this labyrinth felt like one of the most spiritual things I've ever done.

If you are interested in designing a labyrinth for your church there are tons of resources and I would happily give you even more.

Nell Gustafson
staughomak@gmail.com



Turning Deanery GRANT into Ministry...



(pictured above: Erin Tulip, setting up for taping the podcast on annual Clergy retreat day).

“Morning Prayer Alaska” is our new Podcast opportunity to join our voices together in morning prayer! Using modern technology “where two or three are gathered together” becomes at anytime and with members of the body of Christ across the Deanery, the Diocese, the nation and the world! We use the Liturgy of Morning Prayer Rite II in the Book of Common Prayer as our guide.

How do I join this prayer opportunity, you ask?

You may find us on either Apple Podcasts or Spotify under “Morning Prayer Alaska”. Once you find us on either of these platforms please “follow” us and make a comment. By doing this it will help others find us who may be searching for Morning Prayer Opportunities.

You may also find us on the St Bartholomew’s website at www.stbartsak.com. Scroll down the front page and the link to Morning Prayer is readily available.

On Sundays the weekly sermon from St Bartholomew’s is posted.

Jim Brisson

What do you do when you gather for coffee?



Pictured above: Center -Rev. Jake Lambers, L-R: Rev. Gayle Nauska, Rev. David Terwilliger, Rev. Jim Brisson, Rev. Gail Loken, Erin Tulip, Suzanne Krull, Rev. Dawn Allen Herron, (not pictured but present: Rev. Paul Smith, and Rev. Katherine Hunt

Clergy Gathering on May 6th at Lexie's Café: The Clergy of South Central gathered for our annual meeting of clergy, under the direction of Rev. Jim Brisson and Erin Tulip we learned how St. Bartholomew's creates their new podcasts. As we learned something new, we had the opportunity to record our opening Morning Prayer for our South Central Deanery Annual Meeting on May 7th.

Save the Dates...

Let's Go Fishing!

August 6th

St. Francis, Kenai



It's a **Deanery Get Together** to live out the joy of our faith as we serve the community of Kenai, feast on fish and worship together.

Saturday, August 6th at **St. Francis by the Sea** in Kenai. Meet at St. Francis at 1 p.m. and we'll pull on our gloves, roll up our sleeves and work on beach clean-up until 3 p.m. From 3 to 6, we'll have a grand Fish Fry and then close with Evening Prayer at 6 p.m.

So... Mark the Date and send an RSVP email to scdeanery@gmail.com.



November 9, 2022

“Homecoming and Healing Worship Service”

**Celebrating Veterans and their families from across the Deanery.
ALL are welcome to join us for an evening of Worship
in healing prayer and celebrating the Eucharist**

Stay tuned: Time and place to be determined.

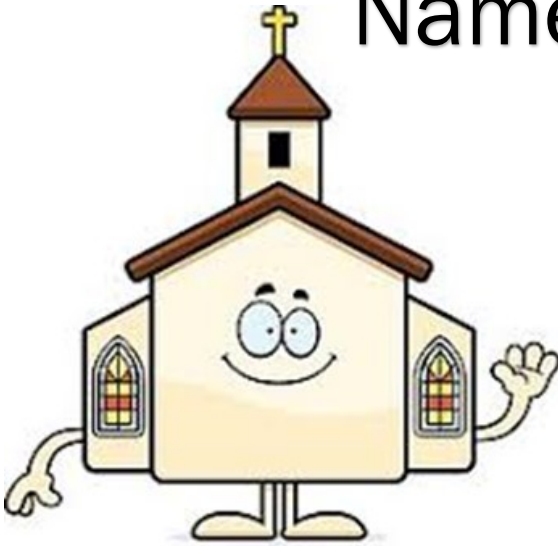
We are putting together a **South Central Deanery Choir**

Contact South Central Deanery at: SCDeanery@gmail.com

Or text your interest to: (907)331-8349

To help lead or sing in the choir.

Name that Place...



At our South Central Deanery closing Eucharist, our communion hymn had a video slide presentation of all fourteen churches in South Central. While we had to get creative for some churches, see if you can find your church home... (Thank you to The Rev. Gail Loken for her expertise and sharing her gifts of technology)

[CTRL \(control\) plus click to watch the video](#)

St. Simeon St. Anna Update

Have you been inducted into the Society of St. Simeon & St. Anna? Do you have ideas about ways the Society can be active in South Central? Would you like to work with other members to build up the society? Would you just like to get to know the other members?

The Rev. Gayle Nauska will be convening an organizational meeting of the Society and she would love to receive an email from you!

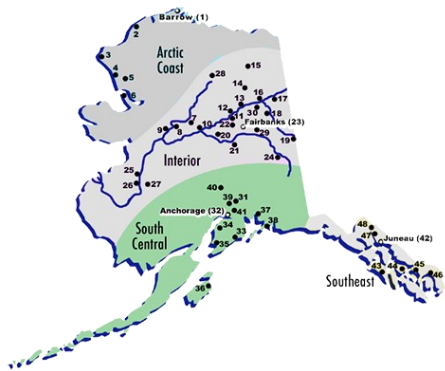
gnauska@gmail.com

A Rule of Life



The Episcopal Society of
St. Simeon and St. Anna

**PUBLISHED ONCE EVERY
TWO MONTHS**



**The South Central Deanery
P.O. Box 23154,
Anchorage, Alaska 99523**

**South Central Deanery is a family
of congregations committed to help
each other grow in Christ and share
in the spreading of God's "Good News"**

**Find us on FaceBook
South Central Episcopal Deanery - Alaska**

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Continued from page

to the Deanery Executive Board in 2021 as a member at large and have been active in this position since then.

I have been active in Episcopal Parishes since we married in College, serving on vestry and working with youth groups in different churches as we have moved to different areas of California.

Professionally, after college I worked in Agriculture 20 years before transitioning into teaching. I taught 7th and 8th grade math until retiring in 2016. During this time I was also active in both Rotary and Elks, which I am still a member but not very active.

Loren Hill

Monthly Meetings

Join us on Zoom the second Wednesday of Every month at 2:00pm

**Zoom Meeting ID:
821 8957 8598
Passcode: 945288**

June: *No Meeting*
July 13, 2022
August 10, 2022
September 14, 2022
October 12, 2022
November 9, 2022
December 14, 2022

Executive Committee

- The Rev. Katherine Hunt, Dean (2023)**
Revkatherinehunt@gmail.com
Mobile: 907-331-8349
Christ Church - Anchorage
- Georgia Knazovich, Vice-Dean (2022)**
ghoundsnm@gmail.com
Home: 505-217-6361
St. David's - Wasilla
- Maggie McKay, Secretary (2023)**
Maggie.mckay.ak@gmail.com
Mobile: 907-223-6514
St. Mary's - Anchorage
- The Rev. Gail Loken, Treasurer (2022)**
gailloken@hotmail.com
Mobile: 907-350-4157
Christ Church - Anchorage
- Loren Hill, Member-at-large (2023)**
Mobile: 209-531-6494
St. Francis - Kenai
- The Rev. James Brisson Member-at-large (2022)**
Chaplain.james.brisson@gmail.com
St. Bartholomew - Palmer

MINUTE TAKER

Deirdre Ford
Christ Church—Anchorage

NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION

Fr. David Blanchett Sr.
fatherblanchett@gmail.com

**I
AM
THE
LIGHT
OF
THE
WORLD
IN
SOUTH CENTRAL
ALASKA**

