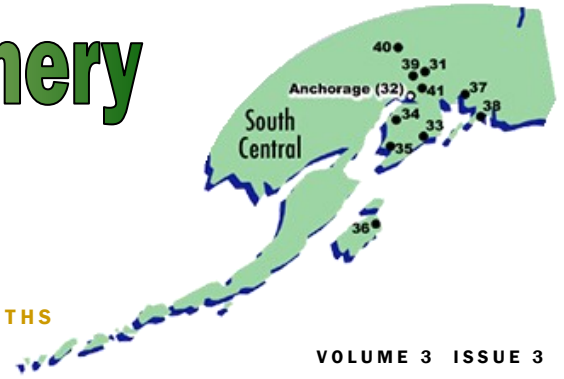


# The South Central Deanery of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED ONCE EVERY TWO MONTHS

APRIL-MAY 2023

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 3



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>FROM THE DEAN</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>ANNUAL DEANERY MEETING</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>VALDEZ INSTALLATION</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>ST. DAVID'S WORK PARTY</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>MOUNT MARATHON</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>NEW ZOOM MEETING DATES</b>	<b>13</b>

## SOUTH CENTRAL CONGREGATIONS

**14 in all:**

Four in Anchorage

One each in

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

# New Installation of Pastor

**Epiphany Lutheran Episcopal Church - Valdez, Alaska**

*May 21, 2013*

*Pastor Nicholas Schoob*

*Bishop Shelley Wickstrom  
Alaska Synod—ELCA*



Continues on page 6

# From The Executive Committee



**From L to R: The Rev Jim Brisson, Christina Talbott-Clark, The Rev Gail Loken, Georgia Knazovich, Peg Fisher and Loren Hill**



## **Grant Funds Available for Your Ministries**

Summer is a great time to launch new outreach projects and Youth Ministries.

**The Deanery has grant funds (up to \$1500) available to help make your idea a reality.**

The Executive Committee reviews grant applications at each of our monthly meetings on the Second Monday of the Month. Please submit your applications by the first Monday of the Month. You can request an application by sending an email to [scdeanery@gmail.com](mailto:scdeanery@gmail.com).

FROM THE DEAN



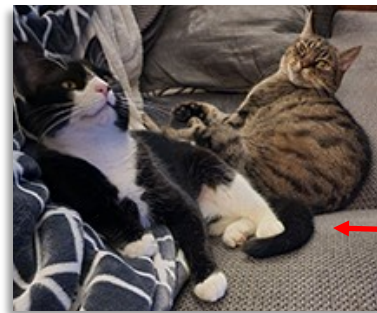
**Greetings South Central Deanery!**

You might be asking yourself who is this new Dean? My name is Peg Fisher, I was elected to serve as your Dean at our Annual Deanery Meeting April 27 – 29, 2023 in Kenai. I am truly honored to be elected as your Dean.

I am a lifelong Episcopalian; I grew up at the Jersey Shore in a small town called Ocean Grove. I was confirmed at St. James Episcopal Church in Bradley Beach, New Jersey (many years ago). I moved to Alaska in 1981 and attended St. Mary’s in Anchorage until 1992 when I started attending All Saints in downtown Anchorage. I must admit I am a bit of a traditionalist when it comes to our liturgy, I LOVE Rite II!

I raised my two children (now adults) here in Anchorage and am proud of them both. I work as the Senior Accountant/Executive Assistant for The Eyak Corporation, which is an Alaska Native Corporation.

My favorite place to visit is Disneyland, I love my pilgrimages to “the mouse”.



My (best) vacation must be when I went to Europe to visit my niece when she received her PhD, and we went to Liverpool and did the Beatles tour. I live with my youngest and my **two cats Tibo and Frodie**. I am looking forward to our wonderful Alaskan Summer.

I would like to thank the **Rev. Katherine Hunt** and **Maggie McKay** for serving our Deanery as Dean and Secretary respectfully. These two ladies are a wonderful example of how to serve our Church family. I know both will be missed on the Deanery Executive Committee. We can’t thank them enough for everything they have done for our Deanery. If you see either of them, please thank them for their service to our Deanery.

Serving as Dean will be a learning experience for me, but I know with God’s help and guidance our Deanery will continue to thrive.

Yours in Christ,

Peg Fisher  
Dean, South Central Deanery



# The Annual Deanery Meeting – April 27 – 29 The Cannery Lodge - Kenai



Rev. Gail Loken

“Thank you for such a great event” “This was a wonderful experience!” “What a great location!” “We should do this again.” “Next year, I want more people from my church to come.”

All of these sentiments were shared by participants in this year’s Annual Deanery Meeting. The theme was “Fresh Wineskins” and the event was full of rejuvenating experiences of being together as the body of Christ.



Bulletin Cover page

The Mediterranean Feast at our Agape Meal on Thursday night set the tone for a Spirit filled weekend. At Thursday night’s campfire complete with singing and S’Mores we talked about how the church can respond to homelessness and we heard stories from members of the Society of St. Simeon and St. Anna. The evening closed with Compline around the Campfire.

Friday morning began with the Bishop celebrating Holy Eucharist in the midst of the circle of delegates and visitors. Our first Deanery Meeting Speaker was the Rev. Tom Bracket from the Presiding Bishop’s staff who joined us virtually to talk about seeing the work before us in fresh ways. He asked us to ponder the question of “Can we go forward in our ministries truly believing that our best days are still ahead of us?”



Bp. Mark Lattime (yellow jacket) leading song fest

After lunch Dr. Julie Lytle from Bexley-Seabury talked with us about the “Pathways for Baptismal Living” courses that are online and open to everyone. Following the session with Julie, participants were able to choose among small group sessions: Fred Hansen from Holy Spirit Church shared his computer program which plays organ music matched to the hymnal; the Bishop hosted a Q and A; Dr. Lytle invited participants to talk about how the seminary might help meet our education and formation needs; the Rev. Katherine Hunt shared Church Redevelopment and Revisioning resources; and Judy Mullikin from St. Augustine’s in Homer introduced walking the labyrinth.



St. Augustine’s brought their indoor labyrinth for a workshop

In the evening, we gathered around the campfire again, to visit, share grant stories, roast marshmallows, sing and pray the Service of Compline.

On Saturday morning, members of St. Simeon and St. Anna led us in Morning Prayer and the Rev. Jim Brisson presented ideas for Living the Liturgical Year in the Home, Canon Suzanne Krull shared FIT grant opportunities and Diocesan pledge information, and the Bishop shared thoughts and visions in his address followed by leading us in a closing service of Noonday Prayer.

Oh... and yes we also did the business of Deanery—we passed a budget and elected new members to the Executive Committee. It was a full, fun, and Spirit filled time together exploring and being inspired by one another as we strive to go forward being “fresh wineskins” in our ministries, remembering that we are one church in 14 different locations.



Diocesan Canon Suzanne Krull



Bishop's Address



Cannery Club

# South Central Deanery Annual Meeting

## Kenai, Alaska



Jim Brisson—The liturgical Year in the home

### April 28-29, 2023



Dr. Julie Lytle from Bexley Seabury Seminary

Continued from page 1

# Installation - Valdez, Alaska

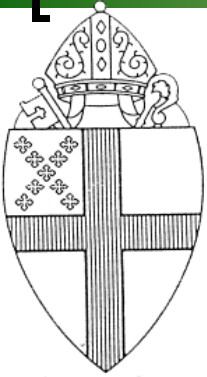


**Left to right: Pastor Nicholas Scxhoob, The Rt. Rev. Shelley Wickstrom, Bishop, Alaska Synod-ELCA and The Rev. Katherine Hunt, Episcopal Diocese of Alaska (on behalf of Bishop Mark Lattime)**

**The Rev. Katherine Hunt on behalf of the Rt. Rev. Mark Lattime is reading a letter of welcome to Pastor Nicholas Schoob**



**The Body of Christ are witnesses at Epiphany Lutheran Episcopal Church—Valdez, Alaska**



**Rev. Gayle Nauska**

## Society of Saint Simeon and Saint Anna

Members of the Society of St Simeon and St Anna lead Morning Prayer at the Annual Deanery Meeting in Kenai, Alaska



*Pathways for  
Baptismal Living  
at Bexley Seabury Seminary*



We were privileged to have Dr. Julie Lytle from Bexley Seabury Seminary with us for our Deanery Meeting. Julie introduced us to the courses and programs available for all interested people through the Seminary. There are courses (most are 4 to 6 weeks long) to prepare lay members for licensed ministries, courses for personal enrichment and courses to support leaders in particular ministry roles.

**[Here's the link to find out more: https://www.bexleyseabury.edu/pathways/](https://www.bexleyseabury.edu/pathways/)**

# Deanery Work Party at St. David's in Wasilla



On May 20, 2023, folks from around the Deanery gathered to help put in the fence posts for St. David's Garden. St. David's received



a Deanery Ministry grant to help expand their food production garden and to protect it from 4 legged critters like Moose and Rabbits. With a rented 2 (or 3 or 4) person augur, we dug holes and then placed the posts and added concrete. There were jobs for everyone including cooking to feed hungry workers, measuring and marking, keeping an eye on the bubbles in the levels, auguring holes, chopping out roots, digging and widening the holes, pouring concrete and hauling buckets of water. By mid afternoon the project was done. It was a wonderful way to come together as a Deanery



and support each other's ministries. Stay tuned for future Deanery projects.





**Group Photo with finished fence posts  
Charice Chambers, Ron Strode, Rev. Jeff Watters, Nicole Popp, Georgia Knazovich, Amy Pettit-Ruby, Linda Strode, Rev. Katherine Hunt, Arthur Hunt, Nancy Kelley, Lon Kelley, Michael Knazovich**



**Group Photo by the Truck  
Lon Kelley, Nancy Kelley, Charice Chambers, Michael Knazovich, Linnea Nystrom, Linda Strode, Arthur Hunt, Amy Pettit-Ruby, Rev. Jeff Watters, Rev. Katherine Hunt, Nicole Popp, Ron Strode**





# JOIN US IN SEWARD FOR THE 4th OF JULY

## MOUNT MARATHON WORLD CLASS FOOT RACE!

- Who?** All Episcopalians across the South Central Deanery
- What?** 4th of July and Mount Marathon Race Day Festivities
- Why?** Fellowship! Fun! Support visitors to the wonderful port town of Seward, AK.
- Where?** Seward Alaska and St Peter's by the Sea Episcopal Church.
- When?** July 4th, 2023 meeting at St Peter's around 0800 until festivities are complete.

**Come for the entire  
time or just a  
few moments.**



Join Bishop Mark Lattime and the South Central Deanery Executive Committee and the Episcopal Community of Seward, AK in opening up St Peter's by the Sea to the visitors of Seward on the biggest race day of the year.

We will gather for fun and fellowship and support the visitors with water, popcorn and a friendly smile.



**The National Historic St Peter's Episcopal Church in Seward - a must see.**

**Will be open for a short while for visitors to sit and pray.  
A great opportunity!**

### **Logistical questions:**

Housing arrangements, food for the day, parking are found by you.

### **There are three races:**

0900 Juniors. 1100 Women's Race. 1400 or 2:00 pm Mens race.  
4th of July parade held in between Women's and Men's races.

### **Questions?**

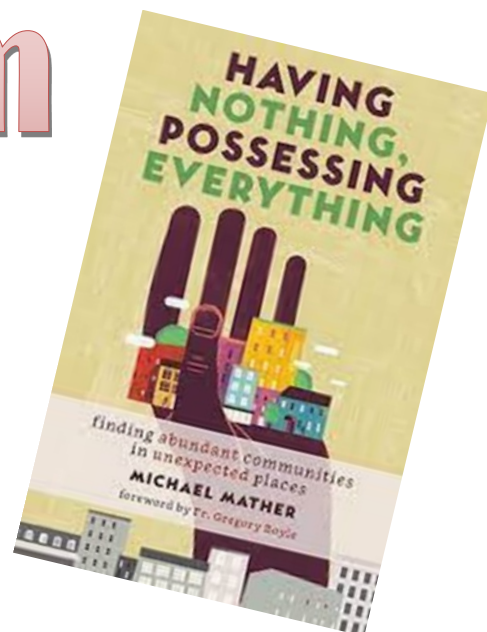
Call The Rev Jim Brisson at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church at 907-745-3526 and leave a detailed message

Jim Brisson





# Bookworm Corner



Deanery Meeting Attendees all received a copy of this energizing and thought provoking book by Michael Mather. More copies are available. To request a copy of the book, please send a note to [scdeanery@gmail.com](mailto:scdeanery@gmail.com).

Now it's time to gather online for some conversation, so there are two time slots to choose from.

Discussion Groups on Zoom led by The Rev. Katherine Hunt and The Rev. Gail Loken—Pick one and please RSVP to [scdeanery@gmail.org](mailto:scdeanery@gmail.org) to let us know you are planning on attending.

**Sunday, June 11 at 3 p.m. OR Tuesday, June 13 at 7 p.m.**

Zoom Meeting ID: 810 5016 0686

Passcode: 820220

# A Letter from the Outgoing Dean



The Rev. Katherine Hunt

What an amazing two years as Dean! It has been an incredible time of “re-establishing,” building, and developing relationships between our churches as we ventured through this time of a pandemic and a plethora of world events.

It has been humbling to work with such an incredible team of leaders over these last two years, Maggie McKay, Loren Hill, Rev. Gail Loken, Rev. Bob Thwing, Georgia Knazovich, Rev. Jim Brisson and Dee Ford.

I also thank The Rev. David Blanchett who has graciously offered his ministry as the Editor of our Deanery Newsletter. His gifts and grace have blessed all of our communities as he has helped us to establish a new means of communication for our fourteen churches. I will miss this team of leaders!

Each year our Executive members brought their gifts, passions and trust to the ministry and mission of the Deanery. Their work has been impeccable and is the very essence of what has brought new fervor to our communities. This committee worked hard behind the scenes. The hours/days of team building, our outreach, and Deanery gathering projects, the Annual Deanery meetings and the demonstration of listening for God’s voice in all that we do has been awesome! This has personally been a great time of growth and renewal and a leadership role that I have embraced.

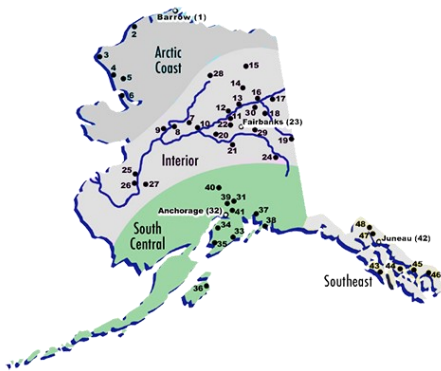
As I tend to my own spiritual renewal, and prepare for a much needed sabbatical, I leave with a sense of anticipation. I welcome our new Dean, Peg Fisher and Secretary, Christina Talbott-Clark. My thoughts and prayers surround this new Deanery Executive Committee and I know with all my heart that we are in good hands...and God’s hands.

Continuing to see Christ in each other,

The Rev. Katherine Hunt  
(outgoing) Dean



**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"**

## Monthly Meetings

Join us on Zoom the second  
Monday of Every month at  
4:00pm

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

June 12, 2023  
July 10, 2023  
August 14, 2023  
September 11, 2023  
October 9, 2023  
November 13, 2023  
December 11, 2023  
January 8, 2024

**Find us on FaceBook**

**South Central Episcopal Deanery - Alaska**

## Calling All Photos

We'd love to showcase your church in the newsletter, please send **4-5 photos** .

Here are some suggestions

1. A current picture of your church building
2. A current picture of the inside of your church
3. A fellowship picture
4. An outreach picture
5. A worship picture
6. A picture of your congregation
7. A picture of a special celebration

Pictures can be e-mailed to [scdeanery@gmail.com](mailto:scdeanery@gmail.com)

Have fun deciding what pictures you'd like to share with the rest of deanery.

## Executive Committee

**Peg Fisher Dean (2025)**

pegfisher@gci.net

Mobile: 907-301-2120

All Saints - Anchorage

**Georgia Knazovich, Vice-Dean (2024)**

ghoundsnm@gmail.com

Home: 505-217-6361

St. David's - Wasilla

**Christina Talbott-Clark, Secretary (2025)**

Mobile: 907-8302187

ctalbottclark@gmail.com

St. Mary's - Anchorage

**The Rev. Gail Loken, Treasurer (2024)**

gailloken@hotmail.com

Mobile: 907-350-4157

Christ Church - Anchorage

**Loren Hill, Member-at-large (2025)**

Mobile: 209-531-6494

St. Francis - Kenai

**The Rev. James Brisson Member-at-large (2024)**

Chaplain.james.brisson@gmail.com

St. Bartholomew - Palmer

### MINUTE TAKER

Michael Knazovich

St. David's - Wasilla

### NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION

Fr. David Blanchett Sr.

scdeanerynews@yahoo.com

PIP: Priest in the Pews