

The South Central Deanery

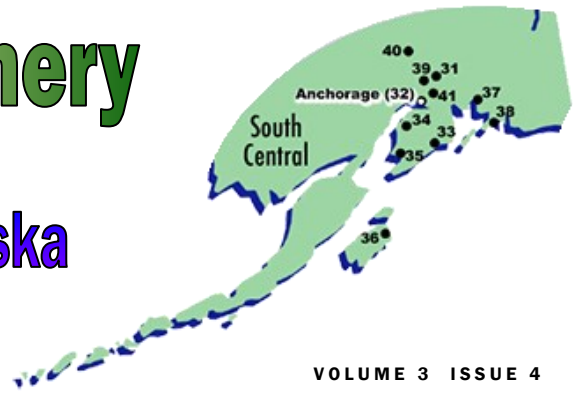
of the

Episcopal Diocese of Alaska



JUNE-JULY -2023

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED ONCE EVERY TWO MONTHS



VOLUME 3 ISSUE 4

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

FROM THE DEAN 2

INTRODUCING THE SECRETARY 3

UPCOMING EVENTS 4

INVITATIONS 6

AROUND THE DEANERY 7

BOOKWORM CORNER 9

CALLING ALL PHOTOS 10

SOUTH CENTRAL CONGREGATIONS

14 in all:

Four in Anchorage

One each in

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

College of Congregational Development

Here's a great opportunity for discovering ways to help your congregation thrive as a healthy, faithful and effective body of Christ...

In June, Christ Church in

Anchorage was able to send the Rev. Katherine Hunt, Nicole Popp, and the Rev. Gail Loken to attend the College of Congregational Development. We gathered with 50 other participants from around the country at Fort Worden on Washington's Olympic peninsula for an intensive week of learning about church development and practicing facilitation skills for bringing back to our parish. During the year, we'll work on projects we designed with feedback from other participants at the College for Congregational Development. We're looking forward to another week of learning as we complete the College next summer.

If you would like to send a team to the College next summer, call Suzanne Krull at the Diocesan office. (Can you find Suzanne in the picture above?) Suzanne helps send teams from Alaska and is also an excellent instructor at the College. You can also find more information on the web at <https://www.cdcollege.org/>



The College for Congregational Development. The College is a 2 year comprehensive training program for laity and clergy (1 week each summer) We encourage congregational teams of clergy and laity! Grounded in both organizational development theory and practice and in our unique ecclesial tradition, ethos, and character of the Episcopal Church. A Program to equip leaders to help their congregations thrive!

FROM THE DEAN



Greetings South Central Deanery!

I hope this newsletter finds you all happy and healthy. I hope you are enjoying the few beautiful days we have had in the South-Central area.

On July 1st I was fortunate to celebrate my mother's 90th Birthday, she is a member of St. Bartholomew's in Palmer. That Saturday was one of the few gorgeous days we have had this summer.

I want to Thank St. Bartholomew's parish and Fr. Jim for celebrating her Birthday on Sunday, July 2nd. She enjoyed celebrating with her Church Family.

Your Deanery Executive Committee meets monthly, and we had a face-to-face meeting in June where we had team building and were able to look at the Deanery By-laws.

Let me know if there is anything your Deanery can do for your Parish.

Yours in Christ,

Peg Fisher
Dean, South Central Deanery



Rita Grady of St. Bartholomew's, Palmer
celebrating her 90th Birthday



Hi! My name is Christina Talbott-Clark.

I grew up attending Episcopal churches in Southcentral Alaska, and am a member of St. Mary's in Anchorage. I was elected to be the secretary of the Southcentral Deanery Executive Committee in April, after Maggie McKay term-limited out of the position. This is my first time serving as an Executive Committee member, and I am excited to get to know the wider community of Episcopalians in Southcentral and in Alaska. I have some big shoes to fill, but I will do my best to help the Deanery continue to grow in fellowship.

I live in East Anchorage with my husband and three children, along with my father-in-law, three cats, and a few chickens, all of whom keep me pretty busy. Over the last twenty years, I have worked as an administrative assistant at the University of Alaska Anchorage, as a stay-at-home parent, and now part-time as a communications specialist for St. Mary's. I love to sing, read, play board games, and spend time with family and friends. My favorite thing in the world is to share a good meal and stimulating conversation with people I care about - something I think fits well with the goals of our church as we are called to break bread together and live as the body of Christ in the world. Over the next two years, I hope to share good food and good times with many of you in the Southcentral Deanery as we grow together in community.



In Christ,

Christina Talbott-Clark
Secretary, Southcentral Deanery



Upcoming Events

Summer Institute in Theology at All Saints'

August 8th, 15th and 22nd, 2023 7:00 PM
All Saints Episcopal Church, Anchorage

Purpose: To provide a forum for Theological reflection and dialogue to cultivate intellectual and spiritual growth.

This year's topics and speakers:

August 8, 2023 - 7:00 PM

"Faith Or Reason? Or, Reasonable Faith?"

The Rev. David Terwilliger

August 15, 2023 - 7:00 PM

"The Word of God and the will of man: Karl Barth and modernity"

The Rev. David Dobler

August 22, 2023 - 7:00 PM

"An Instructed Eucharist: The Work of the People of God"

The Rev. Deacon Jake Lambers

Upcoming Events

Call for a Deanery Choir!



Greetings to all who desire to “Lift up your voice and SING!” The Deanery, under the direction of Alberto Alvarez, is reviving the Anglican Tradition of “Lesson’s and Carol’s” to be said/sung this coming First Sunday in Advent, December 3rd at 4:00 pm. Program will be held at St. Mary’s Episcopal, Anchorage. Preparations are well under way. We are now ready to call for all who are interested in singing in the choir!

Interested? Please contact Al Alvarez directly at 813-915-2496
or email albertjalvarez08@gmail.com.

Three or four rehearsals are planned with dates in October and November.

Save the Date: November 8, 2023

for the Deanery Wide 2nd Annual

“Homecoming and Healing” worship service

for Veterans and their Families and Friends.

Wednesday November 8th at 7:00 pm to be held at
All Saints Episcopal, Anchorage.



An Invitation from St. Augustine's



Plan your next special event indoors in our beautiful sanctuary with a view of Kachemak Bay and the surrounding mountains.



Located at 619 Sterling Hwy., Homer, AK

Or celebrate outdoors in our community labyrinth.

No fees, but donations are appreciated. For details and reservations call 907-235-1225 or 907-235-8975

An Invitation from St. Mary's

Youth Mission Trip to Colombia

Who: Youth who are currently in grades 7 -12 and are active in their home church

What: 17 days-16 nights (4 in Bogota, 6 in the Amazon, 6 in Cartagena)

Supporting a children's soup kitchen in Bogota and a boarding school in the Amazon and helping to build a church in Cartagena

When: May 28 to June 13, 2024 Spanish classes have already started and you must register and begin preparing no later than October.

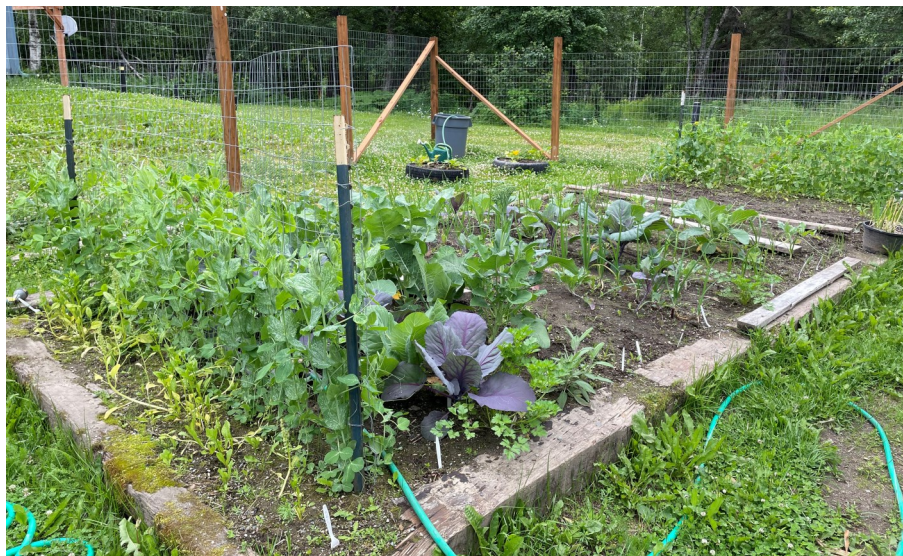
For more information: Contact the Rev. Israel Portilla Gomez at St. Mary's
Israel@godsview.org

At St. David's in Wasilla

In May, Episcopalians from around the Deanery gathered at St. David's to dig the holes and "plant" the fence posts for the garden at St. David's. (St. David's received a Deanery Ministry grant that helped to purchase the materials)

The St. David's congregation continued the work of fencing the garden and building garden beds. The garden is now complete with fence and special small fencing at the bottom to keep the little critters outside of the fence as well.

Composting has begun as well and all church members are encouraged to bring products for the composting bins.



Around the Deanery...

St. Bart's School Supply Giveaway

Around the Deaenery...



St. Bartholomew's in Palmer held its 5th annual "School Supply Giveaway" on Saturday the 5th of August from 10:00 am until about 10:35. Why so short of time? Because we ran out of supplies!

Around 9:00 am vehicles lined the streets around St. Bart's awaiting the School Supplies offered to families.

Shortly after 10:00 am volunteers from St. Bart's began to hand out bags of school supplies to families as they drove through the St. Bart's parking lot then back to their day. Within 35 minutes over 400 FULL BAGS OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES had been handed out and...we ran out of supplies. Well over 200 cars were turned away.



Donations from local businesses and Church members provided the needed funds. Vestry members led the way. A great event for the entire Community





Book Worm Corner

COMING ATTRACTION!!!

Always We Begin Again, the Benedictine Way of Living

by John McQuiston and Phyllis Tickle

Available in Paperback \$11.99 or Kindle \$9.99

It's a book not just to read, but to absorb and to incorporate into your daily walk and thinking. We'll have Deanery Book Groups on Zoom in October.



The Hymn of Mael Isu

The Holy Spirit around us,,
in us and with us,
the Holy Spirit to us,
may it come, O Christ, suddenly!

The Holy Spirit to inhabit
our body and our soul
to protect us speedily
against peril, against diseases!

Against demons, against sins,
against hell with many evils.
O Jesus, may it sanctify us,
may your Spirit free us!

This prayer is attributed to Mael Isu an artist in 11th century Ireland. He was the son of Bratan Ua Echan.

Money may not grow on trees, but funds are available from the Deanery for congregational mission and ministry projects.

Grants of up to \$1500 can be used for supporting outreach and ministries of your congregation. All it takes is submitting a simple request to the Deanery Executive Committee.

To receive the application form, send an email to scdeanery@gmail.com.

Grant requests are reviewed at the monthly meetings of the Deanery Executive Committee.



**PUBLISHED ONCE EVERY
TWO MONTHS**



The South Central Deanery
P.O. Box 231534,
Anchorage, Alaska 99523
scdeanery@gmail.com

**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

SOUTH CENTRAL DEANERY

Monthly Meetings

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

Zoom Meeting ID:
821 8957 8598
Passcode: 945288

August 14, 2023
September 11, 2023
October 9, 2023
November 13, 2023
December 11, 2023

Executive Committee

Peg Fisher, Dean (2025)

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Georgia Knazovich, Vice-Dean (2024)

ghoundsnm@gmail.com
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St. David's - Wasilla

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(2025)**

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gailloken@hotmail.com
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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

Photos for Facebook

We'd like to showcase each of our 14 congregations on the South Central Deanery Facebook page. Please send photos of your sanctuary to scdeanery@gmail.com

Of course, we'd also love to highlight events and news from your parish on the Facebook page as well. So, please feel free to send the information to scdeanery@gmail.com.