



# The Beacon

## South Central News Episcopal Diocese of Alaska

September 2024

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**GENESIS II**  
Re-Vision and Renew

## Revision and Renew...

### Revitalizing Our Ministries

JOIN THE REV THOMAS BRACKETT  
and STEVE MATTHEWS  
ON ZOOM FOR

**COACHING AND TEAM DEVELOPMENT**

November 10, 2024 1-2:30 p.m.  
Zoom: 885 1352 5596 / 793752 ([Join](#))  
(recurring 2nd Sundays)

November 24, 2024 1-2:30 p.m.  
Zoom: 856 5440 5797 / 996113 ([Join](#))  
(recurring 4th Sundays)

All are welcome to attend these zoom meetings...See you there!



**SOUTH CENTRAL CONGREGATIONS**

**14 in all:**

- Four in Anchorage
- One each in  
Cordova, Eagle River,  
Homer, Kenai,  
Kodiak, Palmer,  
Seward, Talkeetna,  
Valdez and Wasilla

**The Rev. Thomas Brackett**  
Manager for Church Planting  
& Mission Development  
Presiding Bishop's Staff  
tbrackett@episcopalchurch.org



**Steve Matthews**  
Genesis II Consultant  
for Redevelopment  
smatthews@episcopalnetworks.org



Genesis II meets the  
Second  
and  
Fourth Sundays  
Of each month  
1-2:30 p.m.  
These are recurring  
meetings.  
Please join us using the  
zoom links referenced  
above.  
Bring your questions  
and possibilities!

Genesis II: Continued on  
Page 2



## Redeveloping for Sustained Vitality “Genesis II: Re-Vision and Renew”

### The Practicing Communities of Genesis II:

**GENESIS II** **A Three Path Invitation:** The Practicing Communities of Genesis II, provide this **Re-Vision and Renew** framework by accompanying churches (five or more) within a diocese for up to 24 months. At the end of every six to seven month interval, churches and Genesis leadership will discern whether or not to continue this ever deepening “pilgrimage of transformation.”

### The Coaching Cohorts of Genesis II:

**A Six Month Journey for Churches Experiencing Decline:** This six-month Cohort program offers a structured and supportive environment for churches to explore faithful and empowered ways to address challenges of decline and options for moving forward.

Churches form teams of five or more members and we begin with five or more cohorts within each diocese. We are working on the development of these cohorts now. **Please contact The Rev. Katherine Hunt for more information or bring your questions to the second or fourth Sundays Genesis II zoom gatherings.**



**The Rev. Katherine Hunt**  
Genesis II Coordinator,  
Diocese of Alaska  
(907)331-8349  
RevKatherineHunt@gmail.com



Scan this  
QR code for  
additional  
Information.

## Genesis II— South Central Deanery Liaisons...



**The Rev. Gail Loken**  
Christ Church Episcopal  
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Gailloken@hotmail.com

Christ Church—Anchorage  
St. Bartholomew’s—Palmer  
Holy Spirit— Eagle River  
St. Francis—Kenai  
St. David’s—Wasilla  
St. Augustine’s—Homer  
Denali Episcopal - Talkeetna



**The Rev. Jake Lambers**  
St. Christopher’s  
(907)412-1532  
rev.jake.lambers@gmail.com

St. Christopher’s—Anchorage  
All Saints—Anchorage  
St. Peter’s—Seward  
St. James—Kodiak  
Epiphany Church—Valdez  
St. George’s—Cordova  
St. Mary’s—Anchorage



## South Central Deanery Polar Plunge Team

Come dressed as your favorite Saint and make a wave for inclusion!

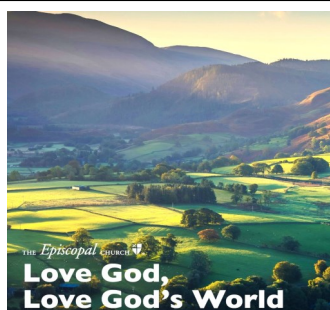
The Episcopal Church is committed to working for accessibility and civil rights for persons with differing abilities. The Rev. Dn. Jake Lambers has created a South Central Deanery Polar Plunge Team to help with fundraising for the Special Olympics. **COME & JOIN THE TEAM!**

The event happens on **December 14th**, and everyone is invited to participate. Prayerfully consider joining the plungers or financially supporting our team as we support this excellent program that strives for the inclusion of all people through sport.

For more information and to register go to: [Special Olympics page](#)

Each participant needs to raise \$125. You can donate to OUR team or an individual member on the special Olympics website.

If you would like to pay your own entrance fee, complete the registration under the team's name "South Central Deanery Polar Plunge" and then go back to click on your name to donate the \$125. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rev. Jake at [rev.jake.lambers@gmail.com](mailto:rev.jake.lambers@gmail.com)



## "Love God, Love God's World"

### Creation Care Curriculum from the Episcopal Church

Love God, Love God's World is a nine-session, film-based curriculum, ideal for Episcopalians anywhere on the journey with creation care and environmental ministry—from newcomers looking to take their first step to seasoned leaders seeking a transformative small-group experience.

Sessions include compelling films and readings, faith-based reflections, and discussion questions—each written by different contributors who draw from their own contexts and experiences.

Participants will also discover ways to learn, pray, advocate, and conserve.

For more information, [click here](#).

You are invited to join The Rev. Katherine Hunt and The Rev. Gail Loken for a nine week journey into the Creation Care Curriculum via Zoom  
Thursday Evenings, January 2—February 27, 2025

Please Register by December 20th  
to [RevKatherineHunt@gmail.com](mailto:RevKatherineHunt@gmail.com)  
to receive your curriculum sign in information  
and weekly zoom link.



You are Invited...



## Come and watch the new Dietrich Bonhoeffer biopic film

November 24th,  
All Saint's Episcopal Church  
(545 W. 8th; Anchorage, Alaska)

invites you to a simple German themed meal  
(brats, etc.) after the Sunday service (10:30)  
lunch will be from around noon to 2pm and  
then go to the 2:40pm showing of the film at  
the Regal Tikahtnu.

Tickets are now available.  
You are encouraged to buy them early.

For more information, contact  
The Rev. Jake Lambers (907)412-1532.



## A Blessing from Our New Presiding Bishop...

The Most Rev. Sean Rowe,  
28th Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church.

November 2, 2024 we joined in community for  
the investiture of The Most Rev. Sean Rowe,  
28th Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal  
Church.

To be mindful of our carbon footprint, the  
investiture service was held in a smaller venue  
in The Chapel of Christ the Lord at The Episco-  
pal Church Center.

We were honored to  
have Pearl Chanar  
and our Bishop, The  
Rt. Rev. Mark Lattime  
representing the  
Diocese of Alaska.



(Photo by Ginny Sears—All Saints)

## The Prayer Corner

by Georgia Knazovich (St. David's)

### Prayer for the Future of the Human Race (BCP Prayer 44, page 828)

O God our heavenly Father, you have blessed us and given us dominion over all the earth:  
Increase our reverence before the mystery of life; and give us new insight into your  
purposes for the human race, and new wisdom and determination in making provision for  
its future in accordance with your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

An aspect of Western Christian prayer customs is the use of prayer books.

The Book of Common Prayer, in the Episcopal Church contains a  
collection of pre-written prayers and liturgies that guide believers in their  
devotional practices. The act of reciting these prayers allows  
worshippers to participate in a shared spiritual experience and align  
themselves with the broader Christian tradition.



## St. Augustine's - Homer



During our Morning Prayer service we celebrated All Saints Day with an ofrenda altar set up by Emma Atkinson who is of Mexican descent. Here is her description of the ofrenda.

"Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is a traditional Mexican holiday celebrating the memory of the dead. It originated from the blending of All Saints Day with indigenous traditions honoring the dead. Families create ofrendas, or altars, that celebrate those who have passed, usually decorated with marigolds, candles, photos of the loved ones, and foods and mementos that those people loved."



At the start of our service we read prayers for the departed in Spanish and then in English. Between the prayers we lit candles.

(submitted by Judy Mullikin)

## Christ Church - Anchorage

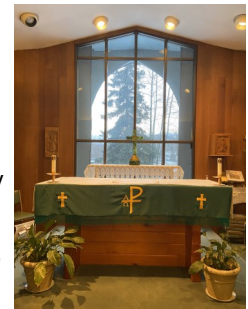


"Leaking from the inside out!"

While that could be an evangelistic approach, I'm afraid it is literal in this situation. This has been a year of water repair issues at Christ Church. The leak was found after the tearing out of walls, asbestos remediation and a lot of fan blowing to dry out the mess. We are now on our way to repair and remodel! Keep us in your prayers.

-Christ Church, where there's never a dry moment.

## St. Christopher's Anchorage



St. Christopher's is entering a new and exciting time. The Vestry and congregation members met to discuss our hopes and dreams for St. Christopher's. We are planning to replace our old sign and perhaps add a second small sign to let the community know who we are. We are making repairs and doing a lot of "house cleaning" to present a more welcoming place for visitors, our congregation and others. Deacon Jake Lambers is helping us with Vestry duties and commitment to serve. We had a great First Sunday potluck and discussion about what the congregation would like to do going forward as well as preparing for the Annual Meeting and election of Vestry members.

-Inez Larsen, Senior Warden

## "Lift High the Cross"



The Rev. Matt DuFour going to new heights to place the cross atop the steeple at St. Francis.



## St. Francis by the Sea - Kenai

DEANERY NEWS



**Foundations of Faith Community Nursing  
Providence Alaska Medical Center  
Jan 31 & Feb 1 and April 4 & 5**

The major focus of the course is related to the role of the faith community nurse. Anyone who is interested in developing a health ministry team within their church is welcome to attend.

Cost : \$275 for registration before Nov 30 (\$325 after Nov 30)

Course Content provides approximately 50CNEs

For course information e-mail: [afcnc@providence.org](mailto:afcnc@providence.org)

**For support in setting up and maintaining a Health Ministry in your congregation, contact:**

**Heather Double RN** Faith Community Nurse,  
Christ Church Episcopal, Anchorage

[Bigkheather@gmail.com](mailto:Bigkheather@gmail.com) / (509) 671-3321



**Don't miss our bazaars...**



**St. Mary's Holiday Bazaar**  
2222 E. Tudor  
Saturday, November 23  
9 am-3 pm (Waldron Hall)

Our fabulous annual bazaar features crafts, decorations, preserves, and other goods exclusively made by members of St. Mary's; a Souper Café; a Re-giftables Room filled with treasures; and much more!



All proceeds from the bazaar go to support programs for women and children.



**Christ Church  
Christmas Bazaar**  
5101 O'Malley Rd.  
Saturday, December 7  
9 am-4 pm (Founders' Hall)

Come and have a cup of cocoa and check out our hand crafted and homemade gifts.

Proceeds support the ministries of Christ Church.





Thank You!  
Magnificently Hosted!!!  
by  
All Saints  
with the support of the congregations of  
South Central Deanery

Diocesan Convention 2024

**A Thank You from the Courtesy Committee Resolution...**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that we thankfully recognize the congregation of All Saints in Anchorage for their hard work in preparing for this large gathering. We thank Carol Batson who chaired the convention preparations, Judy DeVries, administrator of operations, and Phil Lee who coordinated the transportation, and all the drivers and workers. Special thanks to everyone in the South Central Deanery who were responsible for the wonderful meals. We gratefully thank the kitchen team of Leslie Hepburn, Chair, Karen Saucier, Caroline Wells, Jane Jordan, and Matt DuFour, and the countless food donations and the clean-up crew.



Convention minutes, resolutions, documents and the Bishop's Address can be found on the Diocesan website: [2024 Convention and Clergy Conference – Episcopal Diocese of Alaska \(episcopalak.org\)](https://www.episcopalak.org/2024-Convention-and-Clergy-Conference)



# THE BEACON

South Central News is published every other month. You may submit articles to...  
TheBeaconSCD@gmail.com

# Executive Committee

## Be "The Beacon"...

- \*Share YOUR Light
- \*Submit Articles
- \*Join the volunteer staff
- \*Be a proof reader
- \*Hunt down articles
- \*Find and share resources.

## SCD Committee Monthly Meetings

Join us on Zoom the second Monday of every month at 5:00 p.m.

**Zoom ID: 814 4996 1457**  
**PW: 664141**

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St. Mary's - Anchorage

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St. Francis - Kenai

**Todd Mashlan, Member-at-large (2026)**

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St. Peter's, Seward

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Christ Church Episcopal— Anchorage

**The Rev. Gail Loken**

Christ Church Episcopal—Anchorage

## The Beacon Deadline: Annual Meeting Edition

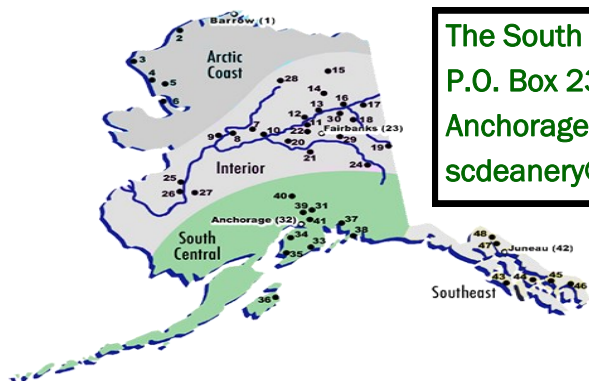
**January 14, 2025**

Please submit your articles to  
TheBeaconSCD@gmail.com

The January Edition will include information regarding our 2025 Annual Deanery Meeting scheduled for May 1-3, 2025, hosted by St. Augustine's in Homer.

please submit articles in Word or Publisher accompanied by a photo (jpeg).

-Thank you! The Beacon Editors



**The South Central Deanery**  
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**scdeanery@gmail.com**

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