

**The 50th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Dioceses of Alaska**  
St. Matthew's Fairbanks  
October 2nd – October 4th, 2025  
**Theme: Communities of Reconciliation "...God has committed to us the word of  
reconciliation."**  
2 Cor. 5:19b GNT

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**Thursday October 2nd, 2025 (Day One)**

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**6:30 p.m.** Opening Convention Eucharist with Ordinations

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**Friday October 3rd, 2025 (Day Two)**

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**8:00 a.m.** Breakfast

**9:00 a.m.** Morning Prayer – led by South Central Deanery

**Opening Business Session**

**9:15 a.m.** Welcome by Bishop Mark

**Quorum Established:** Convention secretary Erin Tulip, St. Bartholomew's, Palmer; called the roll to establish a quorum. 61 out of 64 registered certified delegates were present at the opening session of convention. Quorum was confirmed. See *Attachment #1 Delegate List*.

**Convention Officers and administration:**

- *Robert's Rules of Order:* The Bishop indicated the business of the convention would follow the Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska and Robert's Rules of Order which were accepted without objection.
- *Secretary:* The Bishop appointed The Rev. Erin Tulip, secretary; accepted by acclamation.
- *Treasurer:* The Bishop appointed Rev. Marilyn Duggar, St. Marks, Nenana; accepted by acclamation.
- *Chancellor:* The Bishop appointed Sarah Stanley, St. Mary's, Anchorage; accepted by acclamation.
- *Parliamentarian:* The Bishop appointed Peg Fisher, All Saints, Anchorage; accepted by acclamation.
- *Historiographer:* The Bishop appointed Rev. Jake Lambers, St. Christopher's, Anchorage, and Adam Lees, St. Mary's, Anchorage; accepted by acclamation.
- The Bishop appointed delegates to the convention committees with corrections as listed on Attachment #2 *Committee Assignments Corrected*; accepted by acclamation.
- The Bishop announced the general locations for the committee meetings and information about the facility.

### **Seat and Voice:**

- The Bishop invited a motion at the will of the convention to give seat and voice to all guests and visitors to the Convention. Moved: Maggie McKay, St. Mary's Anchorage seconded: Adam Lees, St. Mary's, Anchorage. Motion passed unanimously.
- The Bishop recognized the presence of the youth leaders in attendance.
- The Bishop announced a resolution received after the pre-file deadline: "*Resolution to Further the Work of the Episcopal Boarding School Commission by Supporting the Healing Work of this Newly Formed Commission in the Diocese of Alaska*" (see attachment #3). The convention voted unanimously to consider this motion.

### **Announcement of changes:**

- New clergy assignments:
  - The Rev. Matt DuFour, St. David's, Wasilla
  - The Rev. Lydia Wilson, Birchwood Camp
  - The Rev. Gail Loken, Priest in Charge, St. Christophers, Anchorage
- Resignations/Retirement
  - The Rev. Teresa Thomas, St. Jude's, North Pole
- Ordinations – (3) Diaconate Erin Tulip, Ross McKay & Hannah Moderow
- Deaths - 0

### **General Announcements:**

- General housekeeping was discussed including Morning and Noonday prayers, to be led by various Deaneries.
- Land acknowledgement offered by Amanda Frank, St. Matthew's, Fairbanks.
- The Rev. Judy Gau, St. James, Tanana; chair of the nominations committee, announced nominations were open (1st announcement)
- Doreen David, Good Shepherd, Huslia; chair of Courtesy committee announced she would need to depart early and asked Ross McKay to take her seat as chair
- Ellen Lester, St. James-the-fisherman, Kodiak; offered items from the church to give away.
- Canon Suzanne Krull – announced St. Andrews, Petersburg has items to give away
- Sarah Williams, St Peters by the Sea, Sitka; encouraged all churches to involve their youth and offered examples of how this is being done at St. Peters by the Sea
- The Rev. Martha Blanchett – African Methodist Episcopal Zion made correction to name of denomination as listed the delegate roster included in convention packets
- Debbie Tritt-Kendi, Bishop Rowe Chapel, Arctic Village; – announced the work she and others have done at the church in Arctic Village over the summer and gave encouragement to help one another and gave thanks to Bishop Mark.

- Janet Woods from Rampart – spoke about her concern over the church in Rampart
- Mary Moses Edwin, St. James, Tanana; – spoke of her availability to help in Rampart
- The Rev. Bessie Titus, St. Barnabas, Minto; – spoke of the desire to increase attendance at Interior Deanery meetings

**10:15 a.m.** Break - Chairpersons of the committees met briefly with their committee members.

**10:50 a.m.** – Bishop reconvened convention.

**Bishop's address** (see attachment #4)

**11:45 a.m.** – Noonday Prayers led by Interior Deanery

**12:00 p.m.** – Lunch

**12:30 p.m.** – The Rev. Judy Gau announced nominations were open and where list of openings could be found (second announcement)

**1:00 p.m.** – Committees Meeting

**2:00 p.m.** – Address given by keynote speaker, The Rt. Rev. Dr. Carol Gallagher, on the process of Reconciliation and the importance of remaining in community and holding space where many things can be true at once. Time was offered after the address to break into small groups for discussion. Groups were sent off in prayer by Paul Williams Jr.

**3:30 p.m.** – Break

**3:40 p.m.** –The Rev. Matt Dufour and The Rev. Judy Gau offered explanations on the nominations process.

**4:00 p.m.** – Bishop called convention back to order.

Presentation of the 2026 Diocesan Budget by Rev. Marilyn Duggar, St. Mark's, Nenana. *See attachment 5.*

**4:30 p.m.** – Bishop called on Chair of Dispatch of Business and The Rev. Bessie Titus announced the interior deanery has requested a caucus to resume business that was not completed at deanery meeting. Meeting will be held immediately following break.

The bishop offered explanations on the functions of various diocesan committees and convention procedures.

The Rev. Bessie Titus encouraged members, particularly indigenous, to volunteer to be on committees at both the diocesan and national level.

The bishop offered explanations on the history of the Anglican communion and episcopal church in response to questions from members.

Discussion was prompted by Paul Williams Jr. who expressed concern that federal government and statewide budget cuts will impact the church – losing jobs in rural villages may cause people to move.

There was further explanation of committees by the bishop.

Paul Williams Jr. asked about how the Episcopal Church is addressing Alaskan issues that confront largely indigenous communities (ANWR and Birch Creek Oil Development).

Todd Mashlin asked to clarify the name of the committee created by the task force on Truth Telling and Reconciliation Committee.

Belle Mickelson spoke on the need for creativity throughout the diocese to lift up the concerns expressed by Paul Williams Jr. and The Rev. Bessie Titus.

Adam Lees prompted discussion regarding the origination of the Prayer of the Innocents.

A visitor expressed their concern about technology and its impact on young people's participation in the church and how the church can help.

Amanda Frank suggested building a social media team as a way to embrace technology and include youth.

The Rev. Matt Dufour reminded everyone to bring their delegate tags for voting tomorrow.

Bishop closed session - convention in recess.

**6:00 p.m.** – Dinner

**7:15 p.m.** – Evening worship services

**7:30 p.m.** – Viewing of Emmy Award Winner “Dawnland”

### **Saturday October 4, 2024 (Day Three)**

**9:00 a.m.** – Morning Prayer led by Southeast Deanery

**9:15 a.m.** – Bishop called convention to order

### **Business Session:**

The bishop offered ways for congregations to set up vestry or leadership committees and ways the diocese can help to be custodians of funds while churches navigate restructuring. Discussion was brought forth on various issues the diocese can assist with.

Belle Mickelson spoke about the history and current functioning of Dancing with the Spirit.

People shared stories about different ways their congregations make offerings.

**10:15 a.m.-** Guest Speaker via video, The Rev. Canon Dr. Brad Hauff – small group discussion on reflection questions

- What is most important to me?
- What am I willing to surrender in favor of a better relationship?
- Am I open to the way of the Spirit?
- Can I see God in ways that I have not seen before?
- Can I see myself in ways that I have not seen before?

People shared personal stories and perspectives on the “myths” referred to in The Rev. Canon Dr. Brad Hauff’s message.

**11:00 a.m.** – Break.

**11:15 a.m.** – Group reconvenes to reflect on questions. People shared personal stories and perspectives on the “myths” referred to in The Rev. Canon Dr. Brad Hauff’s message. The nominations committee announced nominations for open positions officially closed at noon and that voting will take place today at 1:30pm following lunch.

**12:00 p.m.** Noonday prayer by arctic coast followed by lunch.

**1:30 p.m.** – The bishop called the convention back to order.

### **Business Session Resumes:**

Words of farewell and departing gift given to Bishop Brad Sparks.

Bishop Mark announced the offering total of over \$1,000 from the worship service of ordinations Thursday night. Offerings will be divided between the new deacons to use in their ministry and the delegate fee assistance fund.

The Rev. Matt Dufour, nominations committee, announced elections are open and first round of ballots were completed by delegates. Three rounds of balloting in total were conducted.

**1:50 p.m.** Bishop made final call for ballots to be collected

**2:00 p.m.** Standing committee report by Rev. Lauran Pifke, Holy Spirit, Eagle River. *See attachment #6, Ministry Report: Standing Committee.*

More stories of Alaskan Saints and Spiritual Leaders were requested to be sent to The Rev. Judy Gau of the Standing Committee.

The main part of the committee’s work was on forming a task force to begin the work of a Truth and Healing/Reconciliation committee – historiographers are concluding their work and have plans to go to UAF to research archives. The National Church has sent a professional researcher to assist. *See attachment #7 A128 Research.*

Committee member, Maggie McKay, St. Mary's, Anchorage; shared details of the planning of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and how to apply to become part of it. Applicants are invited to self-identify how they desire to be involved in commission.

Questions were asked about funding for this commission – there is \$80,000 in grant money currently and other funds set aside and there may be further grant money offered by the A127 commission.

Members stressed the importance of this commission being indigenous led.

Members asked about ways to involve youth in the commission and what the current age requirements are. Maggie responded there is currently no age restrictions.

Many members shared about the depth of their hurt and the importance of this work and how it has impacted culture and identity.

Members shared how they do not receive email and suggested the diocese mail a letter about this work to each church in the diocese.

Members shared that this work is a church responsibility because as baptized members of the church we claim responsibility.

Applications due October 11, 2025 and first meeting of commission is planned for January 2026.

Pearl Chanar shared that the work of the A127 commission continues.

**3:00 p.m.** Break

**3:20 p.m.** Bishop called convention back to order.

### **Business Session Resumes:**

Report from the Commission on Ministry by member The Rev. Matt Dufour. The committee is engaged in building discernment within congregations. *See attachment #8 Ministry Report: Commission on Ministry.*

The Rev. Chip Mills, St. James-the-Fisherman, Kodiak, chairmen of Committee on Constitution and Canons gave a general explanation of the work of the committee.

The Rev. Bessie Titus commented on the Interior Deanery's status with fewer clergy who are available to fill seats on various committees and how this can lead to burnout. She recommended introducing discussion around adjusting canons to address this issue.

The Rev. Marilyn Duggar chair of the Budget Committee moved to accept the budget as presented yesterday. Called to question by Loren Hill, St. Francis, Kenai; and passed unanimously.

The Rev. Kathryn Snelling, St. Peters by the Sea, Sitka; chair of the Next Convention Committee, moved that next year's online convention be held on October 3-10, 2026. There was a brief discussion on the format and process of the online convention.

The committee put forth a motion to host the 2027 convention at St. Mary's, Anchorage. Delegates from St. Mary's acknowledged and convention accepted unanimously.

The Rev. Judy Gau of the Nominations Committee announced the need for a second round of ballots for Standing Committee and Disciplinary Board elections. Ballots distributed and completed by delegates.

Belle Mickelson introduced partner in suicide prevention program that Dancing with the Spirit will be hosting tomorrow in Fairbanks.

The Rev. Mary Norton and the Committee of Bishops Address gave report with the following points

- 1. be the church in your community.
- 2. read the offices.
- 3. celebrate communion whenever you can.
- 4. Encourage your wider community to make use of your space.
- 5. Share Christ in the world.
- 6. We endorse the resolution furthering the work of Episcopal Boarding School Commission.
- 7. Closed with prayer of St. Chrysostom.

The Rev. Nick Schoob, Epiphany, Valdez, chair of the Resolutions Committee reported that they determined the resolution brought before convention yesterday be separated into two separate resolutions. Resolution 1 was brought before the floor and passed unanimously. (See attachment #9)

Resolution 2 was brought before the floor and Todd Mashlin, St. Peters, Seward; suggested an amendment to change "white" to "non-native". All in favor to amend. With amendment, the resolution was brought before the floor and passed unanimously. (See attachment #10.)

Paul Williams Jr. gave a report by the Prayer Committee and said the prayer bag will remain open. He concluded with vibrant prayer for the convention.

The Rev. Ross McKay, chair of Courtesy Committee submitted their resolution which was accepted unanimously and with acclamation. (See attachment #11)

A third round of voting was needed for the Standing Committee Election. Ballots were distributed to delegates.

**Bishop Appointments Announced:**

Commission on Ministry:

- Interior Clergy: The Rev. Judy Gau
- South Central Lay: Nell Gustafson

FIT:

- Seat #2: Char White

Our Lady of Alaska Icon will be sent to Saint Luke's, Shageluk; in honor of the ordination of The Rev. Jeanette Dementi.

Words of farewell and gift offered to Bishop Carol Gallagher.

Closing announcements about dinner details and worship opportunities over the weekend.

Loren Hill from FIT committee reminded everyone that applications for grants closes next weekend

Fourth and final round of voting for Standing Committee Election.

Nominations committee gave results of elections as follows:

- Commission on Ministry- Robert Coghill
- Standing Committee:
  - Seat #7: Arctic Coast Clergy- The Rev. Enoch Adams Jr.
  - Seat #8: South Central Clergy - The Rev. Chip Mills
  - Seat #9: Interior Lay- Linda Demientieff
- Disciplinary Board:
  - Seat D: Lay Position- Ella Lisbourne
  - Seat G: Clergy Position - Jeanette Dementi
- FIT:
  - Seat B: Clergy Position- The Rev. Bessie Titus
- General Convention Deputies:
  - Lay Positions: Maggie McKay, Ella Lisbourne, Janet Bifelt, Christina Talbott-Clark Alternates: Adam Lees, Juanita Turkrouk, Nancy Jo Bleier, Mim McConnell
  - Clergy Positions: The Rev. Bessie Titus, The Rev. Mary Norton, The Rev. Ross McKay, The Rev. Jeanette Dementi Alternates: Katherine Hunt, Matt DuFour, Gordon Blue, Jan Hotze

Adam lees made motion to adjourn. Approved unanimously.

**5:30 p.m.** Bishop closed convention.

Respectfully Submitted:  
October 16, 2025

Erin Tulip

Secretary 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska



<b>Name</b>	<b>Congregation/Church</b>	
Lawrence Williams	<i>Allakaket</i>	<i>St. John's</i>
Rev. David Terwilliger	<i>Anchorage</i>	<i>All Saints</i>
Peg Fisher	<i>Anchorage</i>	<i>All Saints</i>
Rev. Katherine Hunt	<i>Anchorage</i>	<i>Christ Church</i>
Dee Ford	<i>Anchorage</i>	<i>Christ Church</i>
Rev. Gail Loken	<i>Anchorage</i>	<i>St. Christophers</i>
Inez Larson	<i>Anchorage</i>	<i>St. Christophers</i>
Rev. Michael Burke	<i>Anchorage</i>	<i>St. Mary's</i>
Adam Lees	<i>Anchorage</i>	<i>St. Mary's</i>
Maggie McKay	<i>Anchorage</i>	<i>St. Mary's</i>
Rev. Ross McKay	<i>Anchorage</i>	<i>St. Mary's</i>
Christina Talbott-Clark	<i>Anchorage</i>	<i>St. Mary's</i>
Alberta Walker	<i>Anvik</i>	<i>Christ Church</i>
Angela Young	<i>Anvik</i>	<i>Christ Church</i>
Debbie Tritt-Kendi	<i>Arctic Village</i>	<i>Bishop Rowe Chapel</i>
Paul Williams, Jr	<i>Beaver</i>	<i>St. Matthew's</i>
no delegate	<i>Birch Creek</i>	<i>St. Peters</i>
Rev. Mary Nathaniel	<i>Chalkyitsik</i>	<i>St. Timothy's</i>
Irene Roberts	<i>Circle</i>	<i>Holy Trinity</i>
Rev. Belle Mickelson	<i>Cordova</i>	<i>St. George's</i>
no delegate	<i>Eagle</i>	<i>St. Johns</i>
Rev. Lauran Pifke	<i>Eagle River</i>	<i>Holy Spirit</i>
Fred Hansen	<i>Eagle River</i>	<i>Holy Spirit</i>
Rev. Stephen Reed	<i>Fairbanks</i>	<i>St. Matthew's</i>
Lorraine David	<i>Fairbanks</i>	<i>St. Matthew's</i>
Amanda Frank	<i>Fairbanks</i>	<i>St. Matthew's</i>
Rev. Anna Frank	<i>Fairbanks</i>	<i>St. Matthew's</i>

<b>Name</b>	<b>Congregation/Church</b>	
Nancy James	<i>Fort Yukon</i>	<i>St. Stephens</i>
Monica Peter	<i>Fort Yukon</i>	<i>St. Stephens</i>
Lucy Golilie	<i>Grayling</i>	<i>St. Paul's</i>
Margie Walker	<i>Grayling</i>	<i>St. Paul's</i>
no delegate	<i>Haines</i>	<i>St. Michaels &amp; All Angels</i>
Rev. Judith Lethin	<i>Homer</i>	<i>St. Augustines</i>
Christel Devlin	<i>Homer</i>	<i>St. Augustines</i>
Janet Bifelt	<i>Hughes</i>	<i>St. Paul's</i> registered, not able to attend
Doreen David	<i>Huslia</i>	<i>Good Shepherd</i>
Colleen Weter	<i>Huslia</i>	<i>Good Shepherd</i>
Mary Alice Mckeen	<i>Juneau</i>	<i>Church of the Holy Trinity</i>
James Talpey	<i>Juneau</i>	<i>Church of the Holy Trinity</i>
David Muldoon	<i>Juneau</i>	<i>St. Brendan's</i>
Tonya Muldoon	<i>Juneau</i>	<i>St. Brendan's</i>
Loren Hill	<i>Kenai</i>	<i>St. Francis</i>
Sieglinde Moore	<i>Kenai</i>	<i>St. Francis</i>
Sam Funk	<i>Ketchikan</i>	<i>St. John's</i>
no delegate	<i>Kivalina</i>	<i>Epiphany</i>
Rev. "Chip" Wallace Mills	<i>Kodiak</i>	<i>St. James-the-Fisherman</i>
Ellen Lester	<i>Kodiak</i>	<i>St. James-the-Fisherman</i>
Rev. Mary Norton	<i>Kotzebue</i>	<i>St. George's-in-the-Arctic</i>
Ella Lisbourne	<i>Kotzebue</i>	<i>St. George's-in-the-Arctic</i>
Rev. Bessie Titus	<i>Minto</i>	<i>St. Barnabas</i>
Pearl Chanar	<i>Minto</i>	<i>St. Barnabas</i>
Rev. Marilyn Duggar	<i>Nenana</i>	<i>St. Mark's</i>
Char White	<i>Nenana</i>	<i>St. Mark's</i>
no delegate	<i>Noatak</i>	<i>Episcopal Congregation</i>

<b>Name</b>	<b>Congregation/Church</b>	
Rev. Teresa Thomas	<i>North Pole</i>	<i>St. Judes</i>
Rev. Erin Tulip	<i>Palmer</i>	<i>St. Bartholomew's</i>
no delegate	<i>Petersburg</i>	<i>St. Andrew's</i>
no delegate	<i>Point Hope</i>	<i>St. Thomas</i>
no delegate	<i>Point Lay</i>	<i>St. Albans-in-the-Arctic</i>
no delegate	<i>Rampart</i>	<i>Episcopal Congregation</i>
Todd Mashlan	<i>Seward</i>	<i>St. Peter's</i>
Antonia Deacon	<i>Shageluk</i>	<i>St. Lukes</i>
Jeanette Dementi	<i>Shageluk</i>	<i>St. Lukes</i>
Rev. Kathryn Snelling	<i>Sitka</i>	<i>St. Peters-by-the-Sea</i>
Sarah Williams	<i>Sitka</i>	<i>St. Peters-by-the-Sea</i>
no delegate	<i>Stevens Village</i>	<i>St. Andrew's</i>
no delegate	<i>Talkeetna</i>	<i>Denali Episcopal</i>
no delegate	<i>Tanacross</i>	<i>St. Timothy's</i>
Mary Edwin	<i>Tanana</i>	<i>St. James</i>
Judy Gau	<i>Tanana</i>	<i>St. James</i>
Rev. Nicholas Schoob	<i>Valdez</i>	<i>Epiphany</i>
Rev. Margo Simple	<i>Venetie</i>	<i>Good Shepherd</i>
Myra Thumma	<i>Venetie</i>	<i>Good Shepherd</i> registered, not able to attend
Rev. Matt DuFour	<i>Wasilla</i>	<i>St. Davids</i>
Amy Pettit-Ruby	<i>Wasilla</i>	<i>St. Davids</i>
Tracey Martin	<i>Wrangell</i>	<i>St. Philips</i>

## Episcopal Diocese of Alaska 50th Convention Committees

Dispatch of Business	Bishop's Address	Nominations	Prayer	Resolutions
Sanctuary or Parish Hall	Upstairs Apartment	Parish Hall	Choir pews, Altar	Back of Parish Hall
<b>Bessie Titus - Chair</b> Maggie McKay Lauran Pifke Debbie Tritt-Kendi	<b>Mary Norton - Chair</b> Christel Devlin Dee Ford Anna Frank Michael Lukshin Todd Mashlan Teresa Thomas Colleen Weter	<b>Judy Gau - Chair</b> Matt DuFour John Holz Katherine Hunt Inez Larsen Tonya Muldoon Myra Thumma	<b>Paul Williams, Jr - Chair</b> Nancy James Judith Lethin Mary Nathaniel Irene Roberts James Talpey Angela Young	<b>Nicholas Schoob - Chair</b> Pearl Chanar Jeanette Dementi Amanda Frank Tracey Martin Sieglinda Moore Stephen Reed Christina Talbott-Clark
4	8	7	7	8

Minutes Review	Constitutions & Canons	Budget	Courtesy	Next Convention
Office	Upstairs nxt to Apartment	Library	Front of Sanctuary	Back of Sanctuary
<b>Erin Tulip - Chair</b> Ellen Lester Gail Loken	<b>Chip Mills- Chair</b> Peg Fisher Sam Funk Adam Lees Amy Pettit-Ruby Margo Simple Char White Sarah Stanley - ExOfficio	<b>Marilyn Duggar - Chair</b> Michael Burke Lorraine David Loren Hill David Muldoon Monica Peter Suzanne Krull - ExOfficio	<b>Ross McKay - Chair</b> Doreen David * Antonia Deacon Mary Edwin Frederick Hansen Mary Alice McKeen Belle Mickelson Alberta Walker * asked Ross to be Chair	<b>Kathryn Snelling - Chair</b> Lucy Golilie Ella Lisbourne David Terwilliger Margie Walker Lawrence Williams Sarah Williams <del>Janet Bifelt *</del> *(Unable to attend)
3	8	7	8	8

FINAL

**Resolution # \_\_\_\_\_**

**Resolution to further the work of the Episcopal Boarding School Commission by supporting the healing work of this newly formed Commission in the Diocese of Alaska.**

Where as: the Episcopal Church in Alaska recognizes the colonial policies and practices against Alaska Native peoples in the past that has led to intergenerational trauma, and is committed to rectifying them,

And where as: Alaska Native language, culture, values and spirituality were suppressed during colonization,

And where as: Alaska Native children were taken from their families and placed in government and church run missions and boarding schools that further suppressed language, culture, values and spirituality of Alaska Natives,

And where as: These practices have led to intergenerational traumas and behaviors such as higher-than-average rates of suicide, domestic violence, alcohol and drug addiction, child sexual abuse and neglect, mental illness, incarceration, homelessness, unemployment, and chronic health diseases such as diabetes and cancer for Alaska Native peoples,

And where as: the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska is now fully recognizing the depth of ECUSA's complicity in this trauma through the work of The Episcopal Boarding School Commission,

And where as: our Baptismal Covenant calls us to personal accountability as we strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being,

And where as: the work of Walking in Beauty—Roots and Wings has provided the opportunity for sharing stories acknowledging the grief and loss caused by colonization, the practice of boarding schools and the resulting intergenerational trauma, in a loving, supportive, confidential retreat setting, that has allowed Alaska Native women to begin healing from this trauma,

And where as: The leadership of Walking in Beauty—Roots and Wings recognize the gravity of continuing this work and pledges its full support, expertise, programs and processes to its success,

Therefore, Be It Resolved that this Convention applaud the work begun by The Rev. Dr. Anna Frank, and other participants from Tanana, Allakaket, Arctic Village, Hughes, Huslia, Venetie, Shageluk, Ft. Yukon, Chalkyitsik, Fairbanks and Anchorage, and encourage all congregations in the Diocese of Alaska to prayerfully gather to listen to stories of trauma and resilience that will lead to becoming healing and Beloved Community and further the work of Reckoning and Repair.

Submitted by: The Rev. Judith Lethin, St. Augustine's, Homer delegate

“Communities of Reconciliation”

Welcome to the 50<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska.

I want to begin with words of gratitude to St. Matthew’s, their rector, Steve Reed, Kaylee Nelson, their Parish Administrator, and all of the folks who have given so much to welcome and provide for us. I hope I speak on behalf of the entire Convention that we are very grateful for your hospitality.

I am also grateful for our extraordinary Diocesan Office staff: Melissa, Lynnette, and Suzanne who make it all look easy. But the reality is they are like ducks swimming on a river: on the surface they are serene and still, but under the surface they are paddling like crazy. It takes a lot to make a Diocesan Convention happen, let us give thanks to God for all who have given so much.

How wonderful was our opening service last night? Congratulations to Jeanette and Judy, our newest deacons in the church. We have had a run of diaconal ordinations since our last Convention. Last December Ross McKay, Hannah Moderow, and Erin Tulip were ordained Deacons and now with Judy and Jeannette ordained, that makes 5.

As I said in the sermon last night, it is often said that the role of the Deacon is to bring the needs of the world to church. Or as some wag once said: Deacons go out and find trouble and then bring that trouble to church.

Deacons bring trouble to the church.

Put in a much more diplomatic way, some would say Deacons bring the world to the Church.

But here's the thing, and it is important for us to remember this, the world is already in Church--for where Christ is, the whole world is also. As St. Paul said in 2 Corinthians: "In Christ God was reconciling the whole world to himself, not counting their sins against them."

Not just the folks in the pews, but the whole world.

So then, we are truly only the body of Christ when we realize and respond to the reality that the presence of Christ in us and with us connects us to the whole world.

The problem is that as *the* Church, we have become focused more on only the bodies we see in the pews. The numbers we can count for the parochial data. What if we were freed from the anxiety and long-standing idea that the number of people at worship was the only measure of a congregation's vitality? What if, instead, we began to focus on the importance of just being the Church—the body of Christ: The prayerful, faithful, presence of Christ in our community that connects us with the whole world?

There it is: my first--my primary vision for this Diocese: that we will continue to be a prayerful, faithful, presence in our communities. Numbers do not matter. Even if it you are only ONE person! Your prayers, your worship, your participation in the liturgies of the church are important, meaningful and powerful, because Christ—the reconciling love of God for the WHOLE world joins with you and makes present the whole world--even those who wouldn't seem to care.

Even if they are not in your pews, your family, your friends, your neighbors, the whole world, need your prayers. They need the prayers of the body of Christ the Church.

Make Christ present in their lives through your faithfulness in prayer.

[Great football school analogy]  
You are the prayer team.

This is why it is so important to me, why it continues to be my vision and hope for this Diocese, to support, teach, train, and encourage people to feel comfortable and empowered to pray and lead prayers from our church's long tradition of prayer as expressed in the Book of Common Prayer.

We will continue to support and encourage the training of Worship Leaders. And I am grateful for the clergy, deacons and priests, of this Diocese who are likewise dedicated to the formation of prayerful and faithful members of the Church.

The Small Mission Clergy Program will continue in this Diocese, and I am encouraged that we have some new relationships being established.

Let us pray. Let us say the offices of the Prayer Book. Let us worship for the sake of being in Christ, and not for the sake of counting noses in the pews.

This year, St. Andrew's parish in Petersburg came to the difficult and faithful decision that it was time for them to sell their building. They are now in the process of negotiating the sale of the building



with a dance school that has been renting their building for years. The dance school will be excellent stewards of the property, and will have the security to continue to provide the Petersburg community a safe and wholesome place for children to come and learn, and discover how to express the joy of being through dance.

Does this mean that the Church in Petersburg is gone? No. There is a faithful remnant who will continue to pray, say the offices, and gather in Christ with the world.

Never dismiss the power of two or three gathered in the name of Christ. Where Christ is, the whole world is being reconciled to God.

So, again, it seems so simple: Pray. Say the Offices in the Book of Common Prayer. Worship for the sake of being in Christ and not for the sake of counting the number of people in the pews. For when we are in Christ we are in the power of reconciliation being drawn together with the whole world in the love of God.

“Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their wrongdoings against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation..”

That last line is our Convention theme:

“God has committed to us a word of reconciliation.” ASB. Other translations use *message* of reconciliation.

St. Paul made clear to the Church in Corinth that God’s purpose in Christ Jesus was reconciliation: the restoration of harmony, unity, and

right relationship between God and humankind through the fullness of love made perfect in the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus. Reconciliation, therefore, is healing and God committed this word, this ministry of reconciliation and healing, to us by sending the Holy Spirit to fill us and lead us in the way of God's reconciling love in Christ.

While this theme for Convention was established months ago, the need for reconciliation in Christ, and the importance of this ministry of healing through the Gospel, is even more important in the context of our world today where we are witnessing a disturbing increase in political violence; the ongoing atrocities associated with war and global conflict; the continued starvation of God's children; the intimidation and persecution of the vulnerable and those who have been marginalized; and the rise of authoritarianism across the globe; and growing division in our communities.

In fact, at the recent House of Bishops meeting, after prayer, meditation and conversation on the growing divisions in our world and urgent need for reconciliation, the bishops were called to offer a witness to the Episcopal Church in the form of a word—a letter. That witness emphasized the need for the healing and reconciliation that can only be found through the Gospel. In their word to the Episcopal Church, the bishops wrote:

“We believe [that our response to broken relationships in our world] must be grounded in the Good News of the Gospel that injustice, violence, suffering, and ultimately death itself, are not the last word. We commit ourselves and invite the whole church to boldly proclaim by word and example that the cross and empty tomb stand forever as signs of the decisive victory of God's love over the forces of evil. We are being called to embody the values and imperatives expressed in the teachings of Jesus, the One we proclaim as Lord, who always stands with the poor, the vulnerable, the grieving, and the oppressed.”

In Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are committed to reconciliation. And as the body of Christ-the Church, we are called to be

communities of reconciliation by embodying the Gospel of Jesus and the Kingdom his love reveals.

Unfortunately, the Church throughout history has at times gotten this message--this word of reconciliation in Christ for the world, wrong. Instead of reconciliation grounded in the Word made flesh and sent by God who so love the world, the Church has acted in ways that have served to cause injury rather than healing.

In recent years the Episcopal Church, the same church that was the first mainline denomination to formally renounce the Doctrine of Discovery, our beloved Episcopal Church, has been seeking to come to terms with its participation in Boarding Schools and the wounds of colonialism. We are seeking to see the truth of our story so that we can also seek healing—reconciliation.

Over the past year, the Standing Committee in response to resolutions of this Diocese, established a sub-committee to formulate a plan for the Diocese of Alaska to address this work. That plan is the development of a “Truth Telling and Healing Commission,” which will create and guide our process. We will learn more about the Truth Telling Commission and its formation on Saturday in a report from the Standing Committee.

I ask all of us to pray for the work of the Truth Telling Commission.

I am grateful for the many expressions of healing and reconciliation that are already happening in this Diocese. A short list of examples from around the Diocese would include healing opportunities our congregations are supporting and offering like: “Talking Circles,” “Roots and Wings Healing Retreats,” “Dancing with the Spirit,” “AA and other 12 Step Programs,” “Contemplative Prayer Gatherings,” “Feeding and Clothing Ministries,” “Providing a Clear Message of Welcome and a safe space for our LGBTQ siblings,” and the list goes on.

There is much that we are doing already in the work of reconciliation. I look forward to the Truth Telling and Healing Commission helping this Diocese to discover more ways our Church and our communities can engage the word of reconciliation that has been give to us in Christ.

I am delighted and we are blessed to have as our Keynote speaker, The Rt. Rev. Dr. Carol Gallagher, one of only 3 Native American Bishops in the Episcopal Church. Bishop Gallagher has been a constant witness to the work of reconciliation in the Episcopal Church. Her blogspot Mamabishop, is a wonderful resource for reflections and prayers that speak to the heart of healing and reconciliation. If you haven't found Mamabishop, I encourage you to look for her on all your socials.

Bishop Gallagher was part of the leadership team for the Episcopal Church Jamestown Covenant and the launch of the "Decade of Remembrance, Recognition, and Reconciliation" between the Episcopal Church and our Native American siblings. I am delighted to have her back HOME, and I know that she has been looking forward to being here with us.

There will be other voices of truth telling, healing, and reconciliation before us at this convention in the form of video presentations.

Tomorrow we will have a video presentation by The Rev. Canon Dr. Brad Hauff, the former Missioner for Native American and Indigenous Ministries for the Episcopal Church. Canon Hauff is now working with Bexley-Seabury Seminary to assist its plans to strengthen theological education for Indigenous Ministries. He has prepared a message to further challenge us to reflect on this word of reconciliation that has been committed to us in Christ.

Finally, we have arranged an opportunity to view the acclaimed documentary film: "Dawnland," which reveals the untold story of Indigenous child removal in the US through the nation's first-ever government-endorsed truth and reconciliation commission, which

investigated the devastating impact of Maine's child welfare practices on the Wabanaki people.

September 4 this year marked the beginning of my 16<sup>th</sup> year as your bishop (Sweet 16?). We have witnessed a lot of change over those years—a lot of growth. Through it all the greatest blessing I have received is the blessing of seeing the love of Christ, the hope of Christ, and the joy of Christ in the lives of the people in this diocese.

Life is hard. We have experienced loss, pain, and suffering. We have grieved.

But Christ is raised from the dead: His cross, empty tomb, and resurrection stand forever as God's decisive victory over all of that. Signs of that victory surround us on every side. You, all of you, are signs of that victory through your faith and through your prayers.

Keep the faith, my beloved. Be constant in prayer. And in Christ, let us be communities of reconciliation in a fractured and divided world in need of healing.

# 2026 Budget

## Mission

Our mission is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. We pursue this mission in prayer, worship, sharing the Gospel (listening for the Gospel in the diverse languages and experiences of all people) and working for peace, justice and love.

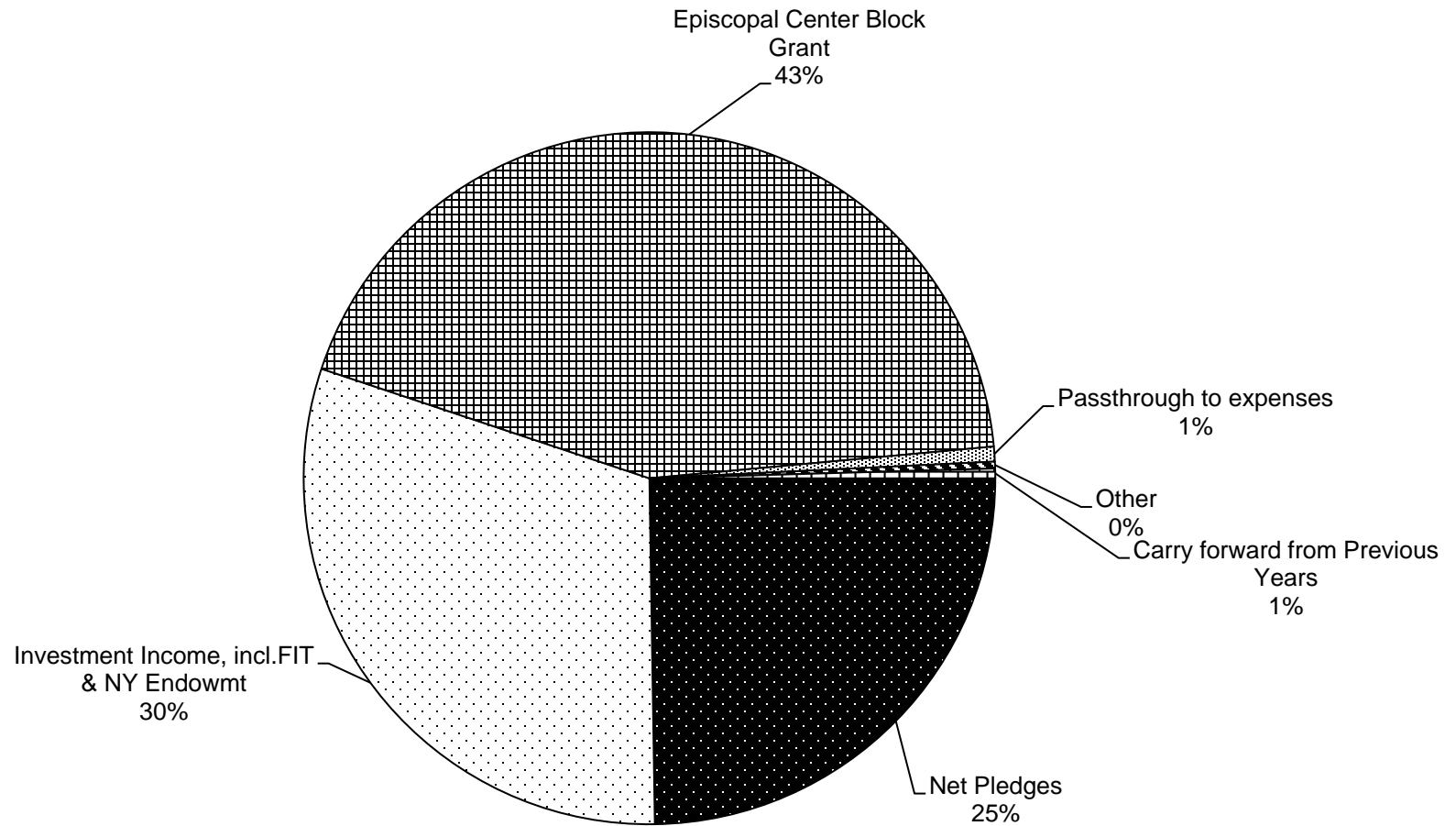
### Highlights:

- ☆ 4% increase in Congregational Pledge, for those not yet at Full 25% Giving.
- ☆ Investment Income based on current spending rules 4% of 5 year rolling average Fair Market Value of Endowments
- ☆ Block Grant from The Episcopal Church reflects 5% increase passed at 81<sup>st</sup> General Convention
- ☆ Majority of line items remain at 2025 Budgeted Levels.
- ☆ No New Hires to Bishop's Staff, 3.0% COLA for current staff based on 1<sup>st</sup> Half 2025 CPI (2.6%) and a 0% merit increase and medical insurance increase by 7.9% and dental 2.0%
- ☆ Continue Small Mission Clergy Program – stipend, retirement & travel – 6 resident, 5 non-resident clergy participating
- ☆ License Ministry Training & Development – two gatherings of License Ministry Leadership
- ☆ Provide Congregational Ministry Support through block grants to each of the 4 Deaneries
- ☆ Standing Committee, 2 face to face, non-delegate members attend Convention & Commission on Ministry 1 face to face, hosted by congregations with hotel lodging as needed, Zoom meeting in between face to face.
- ☆ Diocesan Convention will be online in 2026
- ☆ Add \$7,200 to the Diocesan Convention Reserve to offset higher costs for in-person years
- ☆ Meet our Obligation/Commitment to The Episcopal Center & Millennium Development Goals
- ☆ Use \$5,438 of the projected carry forward
- ☆ Costs of Resolution 2022-03 are covered by grants and designated funds; not in the operating budget.

**Episcopal Diocese of Alaska**  
Budget 2026 Table of Contents

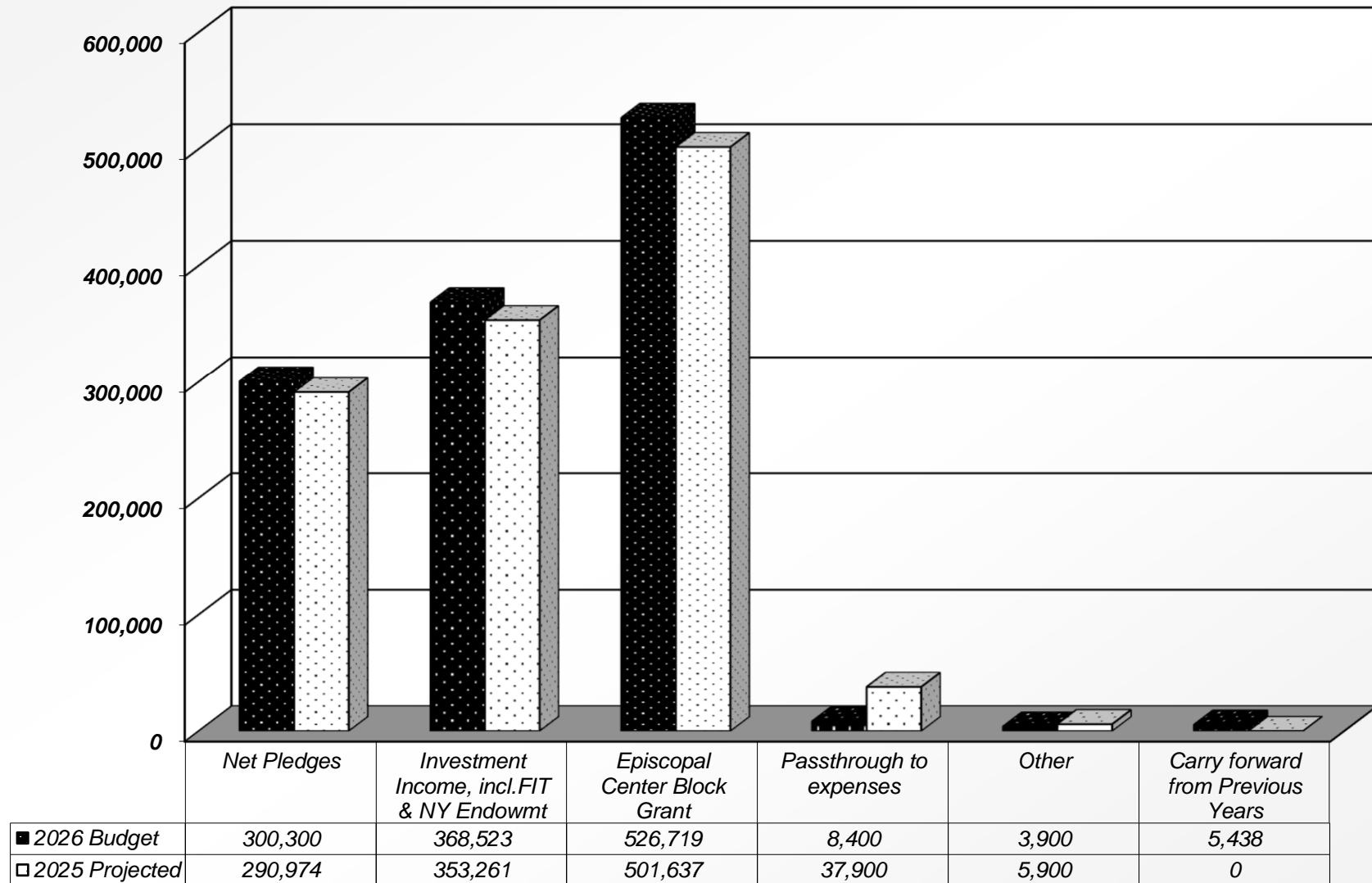
Accounts Categories and Numbers	Page
Income Pie and Comparison Charts	1-3
Expense Pie and Comparison Charts	4-5
Income and Expense Summary	6
Income	7
Expense:	
Office of Congregational/Ministry Develop't (inc. Youth/Communication)	8
Committees, Commission & Organizations	9
Continuing Education & Training	9
Diocesan Convention	9
Canonical Training (Safe Church)	9
Extra-Diocesan, support of Episcopal Church outside AK	10
Congregation Support	10
Office of Episcopal Oversight	10
Office of Finance & Administration	11
Total Expense excluding Reserves, Grants, Designated Expenses	11
Net Income/(Loss) before Reserves, Grants, Designated Expenses	11
Reserves	12
Total Expenses	12
Net Income/(Loss)	12
Congregational Ministry Support through Deaneries	13
Faith Into Tomorrow (FIT) Income Identified	14
Reserve, Designated Giving & Grant Analysis	15-17
2025 Diocesan Grant Awards	18
Convention Cost Comparison	19

### 2026 Budget Income



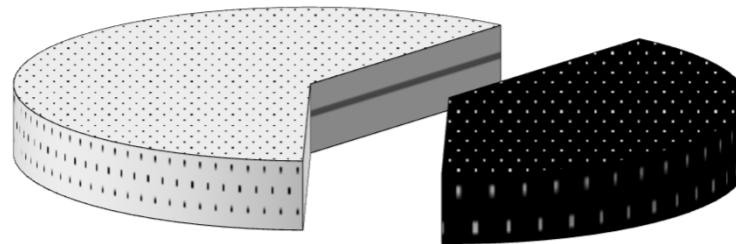


### Episcopal Diocese of Alaska Income Comparison



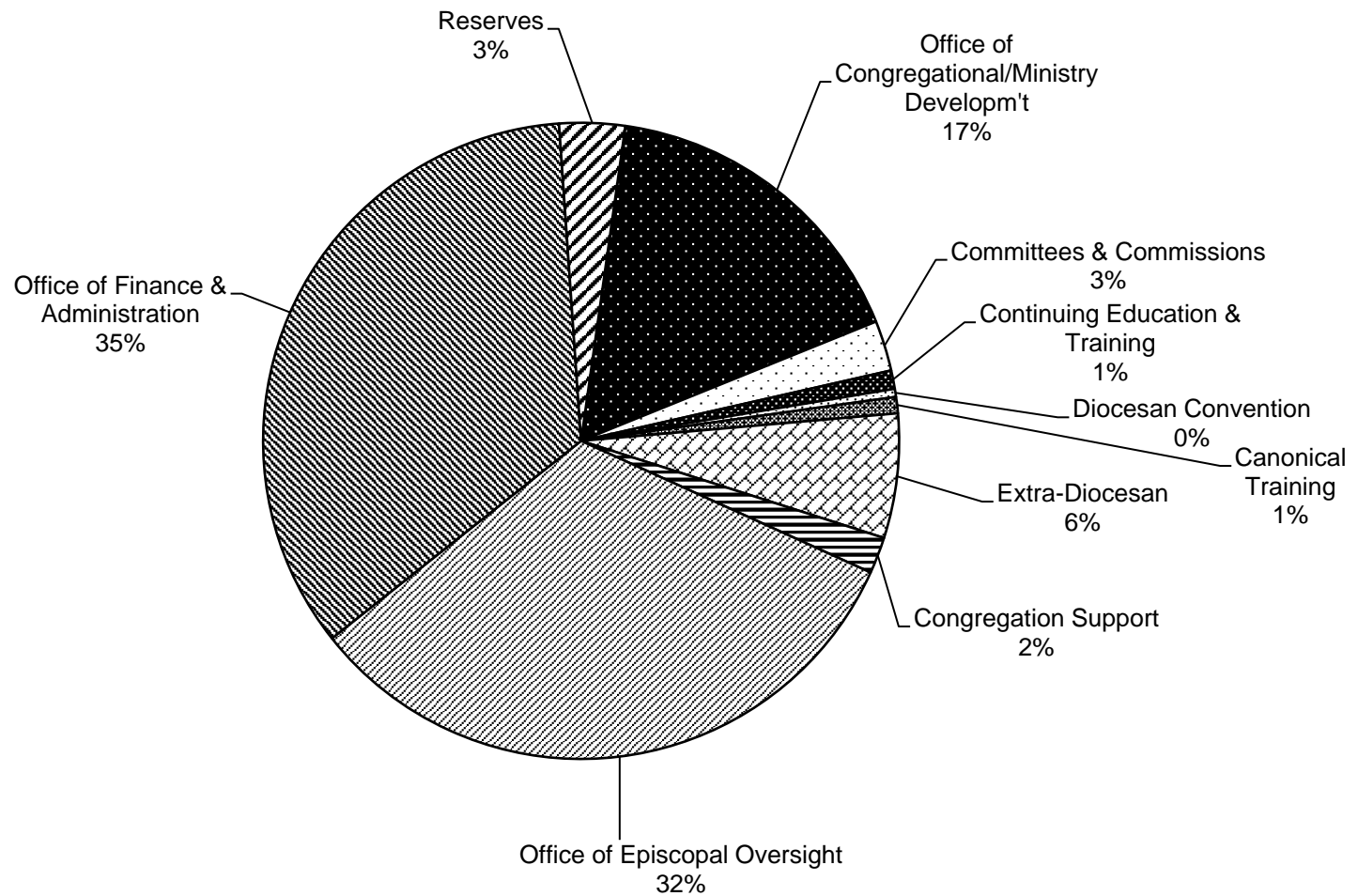
### 2026 Budgeted Congregational Pledge Income

Income missing, Churches  
not at full 25% Pledge  
61%

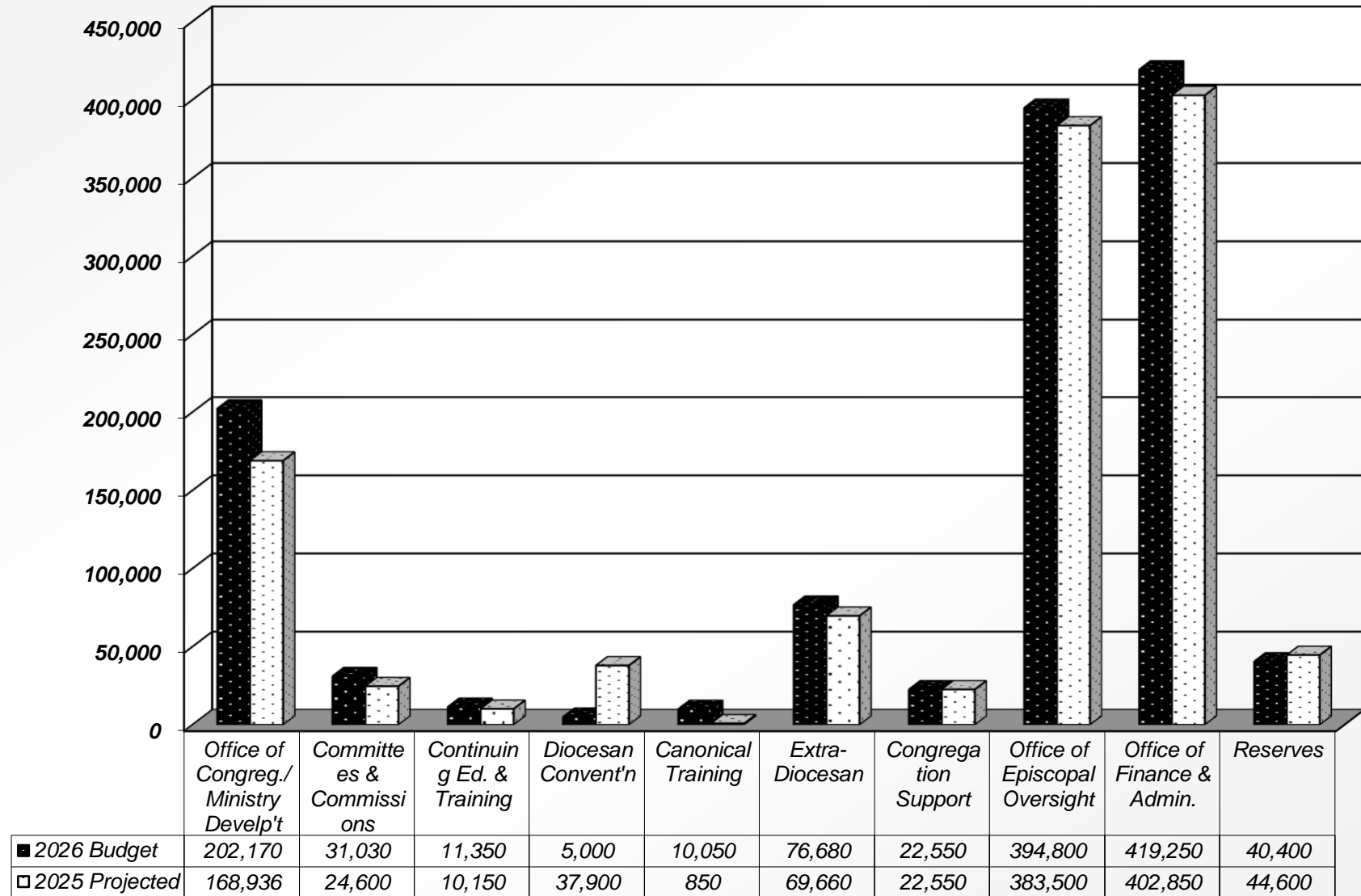


Budgeted 2026 Giving  
by Churches  
39%

### 2026 Budget Expenses by Account Groupings



### Episcopal Diocese of Alaska Expense Comparison



Episcopal Diocese of Alaska  
Operating Budget Activity  
Historical, Current Year, Next Year Budget

Approved Budget

Accounts	Actual Income/Expense		2025				2026 Proposed Budget
	2023	2024	Preliminary 7/31/2025 Results	Projected 12/31/2025 Result	Approved Budget Revised	(Over)/ Under	
<b>Income Summary</b>							
Full 25% Pledge	697,683	707,598	764,362	764,362	707,598	(56,764)	764,362
Allowance for Uncollectible Pledges	(426,687)	(421,478)	(609,014)	(473,388)	(412,948)	60,440	(464,062)
Net Pledges	270,996	286,120	155,348	290,974	294,650	3,676	300,300
Investment Income, incl.FIT & NY Endowmt	326,062	353,512	194,897	353,261	353,261	0	368,523
Episcopal Center Block Grant	455,000	477,750	292,622	501,637	501,637	0	526,719
Pass-through to expenses	32,925	32,675	11,252	37,900	37,900	0	8,400
Other	4,097	6,376	4,573	5,900	3,900	(2,000)	3,900
Carry forward from Previous Years	0	0	0	0	432	432	5,438
In God We Trust, Faith Offering	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,089,080</b>	<b>1,156,433</b>	<b>658,692</b>	<b>1,189,672</b>	<b>1,191,780</b>	<b>2,108</b>	<b>1,213,280</b>
<b>Expenses by Account Grouping</b>							
Office of Congregational/Ministry Developm't	135,484	154,970	101,379	168,936	195,420	26,484	202,170
Committees & Commissions	14,629	19,347	2,583	24,600	24,600	0	31,030
Continuing Education & Training	9,414	6,884	6,647	10,150	10,150	0	11,350
Diocesan Convention	32,925	32,675	8,116	37,900	37,900	0	5,000
Canonical Training	219	396	295	850	10,050	9,200	10,050
Extra-Diocesan	54,300	66,910	30,090	69,660	69,660	0	76,680
Congregation Support	22,213	22,266	24,673	22,550	22,550	0	22,550
Office of Episcopal Oversight	359,927	391,457	212,090	383,500	383,200	(300)	394,800
Office of Finance & Administration	384,923	405,526	216,940	402,287	402,850	563	419,250
Reserves	41,831	43,790	35,400	44,600	35,400	(9,200)	40,400
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>1,055,865</b>	<b>1,144,221</b>	<b>638,213</b>	<b>1,165,033</b>	<b>1,191,780</b>	<b>26,747</b>	<b>1,213,280</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>33,215</b>	<b>12,212</b>	<b>20,479</b>	<b>24,639</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(24,639)</b>	<b>0</b>

Episcopal Diocese of Alaska  
Operating Budget Activity  
Historical, Current Year, Next Year Budget

Approved Budget

Accounts	Actual Income/Expense		2025				2026 Proposed Budget
	2023	2024	Preliminary 7/31/2025 Results	Projected 12/31/2025 Result	Approved Budget Revised	(Over)/ Under	
Income							
5000 · Income							
5100G · Full 25% Pledges Arctic Coast	28,807	20,909	26,050	26,050	20,909		26,050
5100A · Allow. For Uncollectible Arctic Coast	(12,752)	862	(26,050)	(5,350)	(9)		(4,520)
5100 · Net Pledges Arctic Coast	16,055	21,771	0	20,700	20,900	200	* 21,530
5200G · Full 25% Pledges Interior	76,980	77,865	83,483	83,483	77,865		83,483
5200A · Allow. For Uncollectible Interior	(10,800)	(10,125)	(49,025)	(17,448)	(13,405)		(15,563)
5200 · Net Pledges Interior	66,180	67,740	34,458	66,035	64,460	(1,575)	* 67,920
5300G · Full 25% Pledges South Central	431,661	447,128	509,204	509,204	447,128		509,204
5300A · Allow. For Uncollectible South Central	(301,769)	(314,838)	(428,441)	(370,725)	(304,678)		(365,354)
5300 · Net Pledges South Central	129,892	132,290	80,763	138,479	142,450	3,971	* 143,850
5400G · Full 25% Pledges South East	160,235	161,696	145,625	145,625	161,696		145,625
5400 · Allow. For Uncollectible South East	(101,366)	(97,377)	(105,498)	(79,865)	(94,856)		(78,625)
5400 · Net Pledges South East	58,869	64,319	40,127	65,760	66,840	1,080	* 67,000
5550 · Undesignated Contributions	1,754	4,068	3,798	4,000	2,000	(2,000)	2,000
5613 · Interest Income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5620 · Investment Cash Income Diocese	191,845	221,086	119,701	215,800	215,800	0	* 228,700
5626 · Cash Investment Income FIT	12,164	12,250	12,761	12,761	12,761	0	* 13,223
5630 · Congregation Convention Assemnts	32,925	32,675	11,252	37,900	37,900	0	* 8,400
5640 · NY Endowment Account	122,053	120,176	62,435	124,700	124,700	0	* 126,600
5650 · Episcopal Center Block Grant	455,000	477,750	292,622	501,637	501,637	0	* 526,719
5695 · Miscellaneous Income	2,343	2,308	775	1,900	1,900	0	1,900
						0	
Carry forward from Previous Years					432	432	* 5,438
In God We Trust - Faith Offering			0		0	0	0
Total 5000 · Income	1,089,080	1,156,433	658,692	1,189,672	1,191,780	2,108	1,213,280
Total Income	1,089,080	1,156,433	658,692	1,189,672	1,191,780	2,108	1,213,280

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2026 Budget.xlsx, 9/3/2025 8:32 PM

Std. Comm. approved 2026 Budget on 8/23/25  
for recommendation to the 50th Convention

Operating Budget Activity  
Page 7

Episcopal Diocese of Alaska  
Operating Budget Activity  
Historical, Current Year, Next Year Budget

Approved Budget

Accounts	Actual Income/Expense		2025				2026 Proposed Budget
	2023	2024	Preliminary 7/31/2025 Results	Projected 12/31/2025 Result	Approved Budget Revised	(Over)/ Under	
Expense							
6200 · Office of Congregational/Ministry Devel							
6210 · Stipend/Salaries	0		0		0	0	0
6230 · Pension	2,457	2,660	2,038	3,828	9,180	5,352	9,180
6240 · Housing & Other Allowances	8,860	12,750	6,850	14,040	35,040	21,000	35,040
6250 · Workers Comp	301	347	268	268	400	132	400
6260 · Staff Travel	16,533	21,967	13,602	27,500	27,500	0	27,500
6270 · Outside Volunteer Support	891	0	0	2,100	2,100	0	2,100
6110 · Communications	3,545	3,605	2,767	5,400	5,400	0	5,400
6425 · Fr. David Salmon Ministry School	33,158	43,860	13,454	50,900	50,900	0	50,900
6420 · Congregation Ministry Arctic Coast	16,500	16,500	17,500	17,500	17,500	0	* 18,500
6421 · Congregation Ministry Interior	21,600	21,600	18,600	18,600	18,600	0	* 23,600
6428 · Congregation Ministry South Central	11,700	11,700	8,200	8,200	8,200	0	* 8,450
6430 · Congregation Ministry Southeast	9,600	9,600	10,100	10,100	10,100	0	* 10,600
6371 · Leadership Resource Trning Mat.	339	381		500	500	0	500
Sub-Total	125,484	144,970	93,379	158,936	185,420	26,484	192,170
Youth Ministries							
6310 · Diocesan Youth Ministries	2,000	2,000		2,000	2,000	0	2,000
6450 · Arctic Coast Youth Ministries	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	2,000
6452 · Interior Youth Ministries	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	2,000
6454 · South Central Youth Ministries	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	2,000
6456 · Southeast Youth Ministries	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	2,000
6401 · Subtotal Youth Ministries	10,000	10,000	8,000	10,000	10,000	0	10,000
Total 6200 · Office Cong/Ministry Devl	135,484	154,970	101,379	168,936	195,420	26,484	202,170

\* indicates change in budget  
2026 Budget.xlsx, 9/3/2025 8:32 PM

Std. Comm. approved 2026 Budget on 8/23/25  
for recommendation to the 50th Convention

Operating Budget Activity  
Page 8

Episcopal Diocese of Alaska  
Operating Budget Activity  
Historical, Current Year, Next Year Budget

Approved Budget

Accounts	Actual Income/Expense		2025				2026 Proposed Budget
	2023	2024	Preliminary 7/31/2025 Results	Projected 12/31/2025 Result	Approved Budget Revised	(Over)/ Under	
6300 · Committees, Commissions& Org							
6301 · Committee on Const. & Canons						0	0
6302 · Finance Committee				100	100	0	100
6304 · Standing Committee	14,629	18,747	2,583	19,700	19,700	0 *	26,130
6307 · Commission on Ministry		600		4,700	4,700	0	4,700
6316 · Investment Committee				100	100	0	100
Total 6300 · Committees, Commissions& Org	14,629	19,347	2,583	24,600	24,600	0	31,030
6320 · Continuing Education & Training							
6373 · Christian Learning (Resource) Center	339	381	78	500	500	0	500
6321 · Theological Education Support	0		129	600	600	0	600
6323 · Education for Ministry	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	0	1,750
6325 · Conf. for Diocesan Staff	5,541	2,953	4,690	5,500	5,500	0 *	6,500
6328 · Diocesan Staff Development	1,784	1,800		1,800	1,800	0 *	2,000
Total 6320 · Continuing Education & Training	9,414	6,884	6,647	10,150	10,150	0	11,350
6340 · Diocesan Convention							
6341 · Convention Administrative Cost	1,695	2,629		2,500	2,500	0 *	5,000
6342 · Convention Travel Expenses	26,730	24,946	3,016	30,300	30,300	0 *	
6343 · Host Congregation Support	4,500	5,100	5,100	5,100	5,100	0 *	
Total 6340 · Diocesan Convention	32,925	32,675	8,116	37,900	37,900	0	5,000
*** Total Cost of Convention***	59,326	42,167	8,116	57,700	57,700	0	5,000
Charged to Reserve.	26,401	9,492	(3,136)	19,800	19,800	0	(3,400)
Reserve is 43,683 as of 1/1/2025							
Canonical Training							
6350 · Safe Church Program							
6351 · Safe Church Training					5,600	5,600	5,600
6352 · Investigations	219				3,400	3,400	3,400
6353 · SCP Administration					200	200	200
6354 · Background Checks		396	295	850	850	0	850
6350 · Safe Church Program	219	396	295	850	10,050	9,200	10,050
Total Canonical Training	219	396	295	850	10,050	9,200	10,050

\* indicates change in budget  
2026 Budget.xlsx, 9/3/2025 8:32 PM

Std. Comm. approved 2026 Budget on 8/23/25  
for recommendation to the 50th Convention

Operating Budget Activity  
Page 9



Episcopal Diocese of Alaska  
Operating Budget Activity  
Historical, Current Year, Next Year Budget

Approved Budget

Accounts	Actual Income/Expense		2025					2026 Proposed Budget
	2023	2024	Preliminary 7/31/2025 Results	Projected 12/31/2025 Result	Approved Budget Revised	(Over)/ Under		
6360 · Extra-Diocesan (Outside Dio)								
6361 · TEC Appropriation	45,600	57,850	30,090	60,180	60,180	0	*	66,900
6363 · Province 8 Assessment	1,500	1,500		1,500	1,500	0		1,500
6366 · Millennium Development Goals	7,200	7,560		7,980	7,980	0	*	8,280
Total 6360 · Extra-Diocesan	54,300	66,910	30,090	69,660	69,660	0		76,680
6400 · Congregation Support								
6404 · Insurance	20,000	20,000	23,211	20,000	20,000	0		20,000
6412 · Taxes on Property	1,363	1,416	1,462	1,700	1,700	0		1,700
6435 · Prison Ministries	850	850		850	850	0		850
Total 6400 · Congregation Support	22,213	22,266	24,673	22,550	22,550	0		22,550
6500 · Office of Episcopal Oversight								
6501 · Stipend/Salaries	199,657	210,412	117,511	217,700	217,700	0	*	225,600
6502 · Medical, Life & Dental Insurance	59,034	74,598	32,447	47,100	48,700	1,600	*	51,100
6503 · Pension	37,419	38,502	23,512	40,800	40,400	(400)	*	41,700
6504 · Pastoral Care	2,993	3,000	1,864	3,000	3,000	0		3,000
6505 · Hospitality	1,069	856	276	2,000	2,000	0		2,000
6506 · Travel	15,143	16,690	9,037	23,000	23,000	0		23,000
6507 · House of Bishops	6,700	4,465	7,006	8,500	7,000	(1,500)	*	10,150
6508 · Lodging & Food	3,293	6,018	2,212	4,800	4,800	0	*	5,750
6515 · Episcopate Housing Allowance	32,500	32,500	18,750	32,500	32,500	0		32,500
6431 · Clergy Retreat	2,119	4,416	(525)	4,100	4,100	0		0
Total 6500 · Episcopate	359,927	391,457	212,090	383,500	383,200	(300)		394,800

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2026 Budget.xlsx, 9/3/2025 8:32 PM

Std. Comm. approved 2026 Budget on 8/23/25  
for recommendation to the 50th Convention

Operating Budget Activity  
Page 10

Episcopal Diocese of Alaska  
Operating Budget Activity  
Historical, Current Year, Next Year Budget

Approved Budget

Accounts	Actual Income/Expense		2025					2026 Proposed Budget
	2023	2024	Preliminary 7/31/2025 Results	Projected 12/31/2025 Result	Approved Budget Revised	(Over)/ Under		
6600 · Office of Finance & Administration								
6601 · Payroll Cost Stipend/Salaries	180,438	188,472	104,560	194,300	194,400	100	*	200,600
6602 · Payroll Cost Insurance	44,768	46,354	18,981	28,500	28,700	200	*	30,700
6603 · Payroll Cost Pension	19,707	20,176	12,287	21,700	21,400	(300)	*	22,100
6604 · Payroll Cost Payroll Taxes	19,863	20,520	12,047	20,200	21,200	1,000	*	22,400
6605 · Payroll Cost Workers Comp	2,860	3,298	2,548	3,000	3,000	0		3,000
6610 · Travel Administration	6,509	6,697	7,337	7,337	6,700	(637)	*	7,500
6620 · Computer Repair & Maintenance	1,355	1,766	675	1,300	1,300	0		1,300
6622 · Computer Supplies & Program	3,584	4,793	1,301	3,900	3,900	0	*	4,600
6623 · Office Equip Lease & Maint.	10,079	10,272	5,524	9,800	9,800	0		9,800
6624 · Office Equipment Purchase	3,751	2,732		3,000	3,000	0	*	3,200
6628 · Supplies	6,252	3,704	2,004	7,500	7,500	0		7,500
6630 · Postage	2,972	2,710	1,544	3,000	3,000	0		3,000
6635 · Telephone	9,631	10,140	7,293	10,900	10,300	(600)	*	10,900
6640 · Religious Supplies	5,046	4,303	2,014	5,200	5,200	0		5,200
6650 · BRH Repair & Maintenance	6,379	2,864	1,815	5,000	5,000	0	*	5,500
6652 · BRH Janitorial & Cleaning	38	320	150	1,200	2,000	800		2,000
6654 · BRH Utilities	20,423	16,722	10,984	22,000	22,000	0		22,000
6656 · BRH Insurance	14,767	19,889	22,215	23,000	23,000	0	*	25,500
6670 · Professional Serv. Audit	21,107	21,500	100	21,000	21,000	0	*	22,000
6671 · Professional Serv. Legal	37	7,650		850	850	0		850
6680 · Misc. Interest Expenses	2,615	3,431	1,616	4,000	4,000	0		4,000
6681 · Misc. Membership & Subscription	911	900	320	1,000	1,000	0		1,000
6682 · Miscellaneous	483	150	265	600	600	0		600
6130 · Vehicle Expenses	1,348	6,163	1,360	4,000	4,000	0		4,000
6683 · To be Distributed	0	0		0		0		
6684 · To be Reimbursed	0	0		0		0		
Total 6600 · Administration	384,923	405,526	216,940	402,287	402,850	563		419,250
Total Expenses before Reserves, Grant, Desg.	1,014,034	1,100,431	602,813	1,120,433	1,156,380	35,947		1,172,880
Net Income/(Loss) before Res., Grant, Desg.	75,046	56,002	55,879	69,239	35,400	(33,839)		40,400

\* indicates change in budget  
2026 Budget.xlsx, 9/3/2025 8:32 PM

Std. Comm. approved 2026 Budget on 8/23/25  
for recommendation to the 50th Convention

Operating Budget Activity  
Page 11

Episcopal Diocese of Alaska  
Operating Budget Activity  
Historical, Current Year, Next Year Budget

Approved Budget

Accounts	Actual Income/Expense		2025				2026 Proposed Budget
	2023	2024	Preliminary 7/31/2025 Results	Projected 12/31/2025 Result	Approved Budget Revised	(Over)/ Under	
Reserves							
6362 · General Convention Deputies Res.	19,000	19,000	15,200	15,200	15,200	0	15,200
6365 · Province 8 Deputies Reserve						0	
6364 · Lambeth Intern. Conf. Reserve	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	2,500
6416 · Non-stipendiary Emerg. Allowce.	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	1,000
6516 · Episc. Sabbatical Reserve Expense	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	1,000
6626 · Equipment/Vehicle Reserve Fund	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	0	6,000
6651 · BRH Repair & Maintenance Reserve	2,500	4,636	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	2,500
635X Safe Church Reserve	9,831	9,654		9,200		(9,200)	
6346 Diocesan Convention Reserve			7,200	7,200	7,200	0	7,200
6692 Staffing Reserve						0	*
							5,000
Total Reserves	41,831	43,790	35,400	44,600	35,400	(9,200)	40,400
Total Expense excluding Grants & Designated	1,055,865	1,144,221	638,213	1,165,033	1,191,780	26,747	1,213,280
Net Income/(Loss)	33,215	12,212	20,479	24,639	0	(24,639)	0
Less allocation to Designated Funds							
Less Bad Debt Reserve/Realized Losses	(49,204)	(12,533)					
Cumulative Surplus	385,507	385,186	405,666	409,825	384,754		404,387
**An \$80,000 Grant was awarded to fund for Resolution 2022-03 and so currently we do not anticipate using operating budget.**							

## Congregational Ministry Support through Block Grants to each of the four Deaneries

**\* Provide funding for Congregational Ministry Support - Deaneries decides how to use \$'s**

### **Funding is determined by formula:**

**(1) -- per congregation support; \$300 per congregation**

**(2) -- Base Deanery Support based on deanery Pledge % (Full Base = \$17,000)**

**Deanery Pledge %\*:**

**Greater than 20% = 100% or \$17,000**

**Greater than 15% but less than 20% = 75% or \$12,750**

**Greater than 10% but less than 15% = 50% or \$8,500**

**Less than 10% = 25% or \$4,250**

<b><i>Total Congregational Ministry Support via 4 Deaneries in 2026 Budget: \$61,150</i></b>
--

\* Deanery Pledge % = Average of Congregational %, excluding \$0 income congregations (Sum of % of all congregations in that deanery / # of Congregations with income)

Episcopal Diocese of Alaska  
2025 Activity & 2026 Budget

Faith Into Tomorrow (FIT) Income Identified in Operating Budget

	2025 Budget		Preliminary only Actuals as of 7/31/25		2026 Budget
	FIT Funding	Total Line Item	FIT Funding	Total Line Item	FIT Funding
Lay/Ordained Training 6425 Fr. David Salmon School	12,761	50,900	12,761	13,454	13,223
Total FIT Income available for the year 2025/2026	12,761	50,900	12,761	13,454	13,223

There is one FIT category/case that is identified in the operating budget (other 5 cases are granting opportunities).  
The column marked "Total Line Item" indicates the total dollars budgeted in that account.  
The column marked "FIT Funding" indicates the FIT dollars that are designated to partially funding that line item.

## EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ALASKA Reserves Only

		Prior Period	Additional			
	<b>Preliminary Only</b>	<b>Dec 31, '24</b>	Adjustment	Reserves	Expenses	Net Income
						<b>7/31/25</b>
	<b>Reserves Balance</b>					
	<b>3911 · Lambeth Convention</b>	6,761.49		2,500.00		9,261.49
	<b>3912 · Equipment/Vehicle Reserve</b>	71,875.03		6,000.00		77,875.03
	<b>3913 · Cash Flow Reserve</b>	30,521.00				30,521.00
	<b>3914 · General Convention</b>	11,339.14		15,200.00		26,539.14
	<b>3915 · Nonstipendary clergy relief</b>	20,455.41		1,000.00		21,455.41
	<b>3918 · Province 8 Deputies Reserve</b>	0.00				0.00
	<b>3919 · BRH Repair &amp; Maintenance Reserve</b>	118,171.44		2,500.00		120,671.44
	<b>3921 · Epis. Sabbatical Reserve</b>	16,360.41		1,000.00		17,360.41
	<b>3922 · Safe Church Fund</b>	162,668.69		9,200.00		171,868.69
	<b>3923 · Bequests</b>	0.00			(473,714.30)	473,714.30
	<b>3924 · Diocesan Convention</b>	43,682.94		7,200.00		50,882.94
	<b>3925 · Staffing Reserve</b>	5,500.00				5,500.00
	<b>Total Reserves</b>	487,335.55	0.00	44,600.00	(473,714.30)	473,714.30
						531,935.55

## EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ALASKA Designated Giving

		Prior Period	Additional			
	Preliminary Only	12/31/2024	Adjustment	Reserves	Expenses	Income
						7/31/25
<b>Designated Giving ONLY</b>						
<b><u>With Donor Restriction</u></b>						
3930 · Radio Show	1,013.96					1,013.96
3931 · Native Missioner Discretionary Fund	66.95					66.95
3934 · Special Needs Task Force	13,676.53					13,676.53
3938 · Norman Elliott Scholarship Fund	4,253.68					4,253.68
3947 · NEST	44,767.30					44,767.30
3948 · Fr. David Salmon Ministry School	53,428.66					53,428.66
3949 · Bishop's Travel	21,017.41				(499.00)	20,518.41
3951 · Alexander Orr Memorial	6,478.05					6,478.05
3953 · Children and Seniors	851.20					851.20
3954 · Indian Women Scholarship	4,222.78					4,222.78
3956 · Fr. David Salmon Fund	1,751.08					1,751.08
3958 · Lower Yukon	4,489.82					4,489.82
3971 · Theological Education	5,012.61					5,012.61
3972 · Prison Ministries	47,296.30				960.51	48,256.81
3973 · St. Mark's Institue	132.28					132.28
3974 · EFM	1,849.50					1,849.50
3975 · Bishop's Campaign	117.19					117.19
3976 · John Starr Youth Development	4,151.23					4,151.23
3979 · Delegate Fee Assistance	14,379.02					14,379.02
3981 · Dancing with the Spirit	73,040.51				(94,737.20)	25,345.38
3982 · Clergy Discretionary - Unassigned	44.80					44.80
3983 - Yukon Flood Relief/Recovery	11,561.81					11,561.81
3984 - ENMA (Epis. Native Min. Anc)	833.80					833.80
	0.00					0.00
	314,436.47	0.00	0.00	(95,236.20)	26,305.89	245,506.16
<b><u>Without Donor Restriction</u></b>						
3942 · Self Insurance Fund	205,499.77				23,685.72	229,185.49
3977 · Financial Discipleship Ministry	23,354.00			(12,000.00)	71,057.15	82,411.15
3978 · Mission Development	76,632.32				165,800.00	242,432.32
	0.00					0.00
	305,486.09	0.00	0.00	(12,000.00)	260,542.87	554,028.96
<b>Total Designated Giving</b>	<b>619,922.56</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>(107,236.20)</b>	<b>286,848.76</b>	<b>799,535.12</b>

## EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ALASKA Grant Analysis

Description	Start Date	Amount	Bal 12/31/24	Income	Expense	7/31/2025
<b>Preliminary ONLY</b>						
Allakaket Flood Relief Donations		\$ 26,720.04	\$ -			\$ -
ECIM - SE New Indian Ministry	Feb. 4, 1994	\$ 19,500.00	\$ 1,277.40			\$ 1,277.40
St. Andrew's Stevens Village UTO	1998	\$ 7,400.00	\$ 2,511.33			\$ 2,511.33
Subsistence Crisis PBWR	1998	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 176.01			\$ 176.01
Grief Care	2001	\$8,300	\$ 4,449.73			\$ 4,449.73
New Opportunities - Learning Our Language	2011	\$10,000	\$ 2,884.17			\$ 2,884.17
New Opportunities - Memories of our Elders	2014	\$8,000	\$ 1,976.63			\$ 1,976.63
New Opportunities - IONA	2014	\$8,000	\$ 938.36			\$ 938.36
New Opportunities - Arctic Coast Training	2015	\$9,000	\$ 9,000.00			\$ 9,000.00
Alaska Native Episcopal Council	2016	\$20,000	\$ 20,000.00			\$ 20,000.00
UTO-Pres. Bishop Choice: BCP Translation	2017	\$40,000	\$ 30,411.13			\$ 30,411.13
Sustainability Grants - TEC	2019	\$20,000	\$ 186.48			\$ 186.48
DFMS - Trauma (Indigenous people of AK)	2022	\$15,000	\$ 15,000.00			\$ 15,000.00
DFMS - Sustainability Boarding School	2023	\$80,000	\$ 80,000.00		\$ 2,342.91	\$ 77,657.09
DFMS - Sustainability Repairs	2025	\$60,000	\$ -	\$60,000		\$ 60,000.00
			\$ 168,811.24	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 2,342.91	\$ 226,468.33



Episcopal Diocese of Alaska  
Grant Programs  
For the Year: 2025

		as of 7/31/2025	
Awardee	Project/Program	Awarded not yet Distributed	Awarded & Distributed
<b><u>FAITH INTO TOMORROW (FIT)</u></b>			
<b><u>Case 2B - Traveling work Teams</u></b>			
Available for 2025 - \$3,000			
St. Mary's			\$500.00
Case 2B Total		\$0.00	\$500.00
<b><u>Case 2A - Facility Emergency Repair/Replacement</u></b>			
Available for 2025 - \$90,380			
St. Christopher's, Anchorage	Wind Storm Damage	\$10,000.00	
		\$10,000.00	\$0.00
<b><u>Case 4 - Youth Ministries</u></b>			
Available for 2025 - \$10,893 (awarded in November)			
St. James, Tanana (2024 award distributed in 2025)			\$1,500.00
Arctic Village Youth - returned unused funds for 2023 award			-\$458.95
Case 4 Total			\$1,041.05
<b><u>Case 5 - Caring for Victims of Poverty &amp; Abuse</u></b>			
Available for 2025- \$10,767 (awarded in November)			
Case 5 Total		\$0.00	\$0.00
<b><u>Case 6 - Encouraging Spiritual Growth &amp; Outreach</u></b>			
Available for 2025 - \$4,603 (awarded in November)			
Case 6 Total		\$0.00	\$0.00
<b><u>PRISON MINISTRIES</u></b>			
Available for 2025 - \$5,000 (Awarded in November)			
St. Brendan's, Juneau unspent 2023 grant			-\$960.51
Prison Ministries Total			-\$960.51
Total Diocesan Grants (FIT & Prison Ministry)			\$580.54

### Episcopal Diocese of Alaska Convention Cost Comparison

	2019 ANC-Homes	2020 Zoom	2021 Zoom	2022 ANC- Hotel	2023 JNU-Hotel	2024 ANC-Hotel	Projected 2025 Hotel	Budgeted 2026 online
Income Diocesan Convention Delegate/Visitors Fee	\$30,950	\$0	\$0	\$26,000	\$32,925	\$32,675	\$37,900	\$8,400
Cost of Diocesan Convention								
Airfare	19,623	0	0	12,302	31,876	15,914	20,750	
Lodging	0	0	0	15,860	21,255	18,524	29,350	
Meals	4,000	0	0	36,254	4,500	5,100	5,100	
Administrative/Other	3,714	5,606	7,226	8,874	1,695	2,629	2,500	5,000
Total	\$27,337	\$5,606	\$7,226	\$73,290	\$59,326	\$42,167	\$57,700	\$5,000
Difference between Income/Costs	3,613	(5,606)	(7,226)	(47,290)	(26,401)	(9,492)	(19,800)	3,400
# of Delegates	60	60	59	53	54	53	56	56
Cost per Delegate	\$456	\$93	\$122	\$1,383	\$1,099	\$796	\$1,030	\$89
Delegate Fee	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$550	\$600	\$650	\$150
Add to reserve to help offset costs							7,200.00	7,200.00

## **Episcopal Diocese of Alaska**

### **Ministry Report**

Thank you and God bless you for the ministry that you provide to the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska. Ministry Reports are a way to share your ministry news so we might better understand and appreciate God's work thru this ministry. This report is included in the Diocesan Convention delegate packets and Convention Journal. Ministry Reports received after the deadline may not be included in this year's convention packets! ***Please return by 9/15/2025.***

Name: **Lauran Pifke**

Committee/Deanery/Ministry: **Standing Committee**

**1. Please highlight the activities/ events and/or projects of your ministry/ committee since last year's convention.**

The main project of our committee was the plan to support the work involved in "Telling the Truth about The Episcopal Church's History with Indigenous Boarding Schools." We formed a task force that will accept applications to form a truth and healing commission (see attached report). We asked for and are prepared to accept stories about Alaska Native Saints and Spiritual Leaders, either written, voice recorded, or in video form. We are currently acting as the Bishop's Committee for St. Peter's, Seward. We assisted them in sorting out their finances and we supported their application for a grant from the Rasmusson Foundation to cover the cost of an Historical American Building Survey, which is the first step in their historic preservation plan. We approved the sale of St. Andrew's, Petersburg and Dancing with the Spirit's formation of their own non-profit organization. We also interviewed and recommended 3 candidates for Holy Orders: Erin Tulip to the priesthood, Judy Gau, and Jeanette Dementi-Edwards to the diaconate. We consented to several bishop's ordinations, received the Annual Diocesan Audit report, and recommended the 2026 budget to Convention. It has been a busy year!

**2. Tell us about the goals of your ministry for the upcoming year:**

Our goals for the coming year are to continue the work on research and begin to implement a plan for reconciliation and reparation regarding the Indigenous Boarding Schools, to continue to monitor the financial statements, and to implement any new Convention resolutions.

<b>3. Stewardship.</b>	Do you receive support from the Diocese?	Yes
	If Yes;are you within budget?	Yes
	Are you raising additional funds?	No

Please explain your overall financial situation:

**4. Please share any other comments or concerns that you have regarding your ministry.**

I am extremely grateful for the dedication and hard work that the members of this committee have shown and done. Thanks to: Barbara Collison (Arctic Coast), John Holz (Interior), Julie Platson (Southeast), Maggie McKay (Southcentral), Nancy Burke (Bishop's appointment), Michael Lukshin (Southeast), Enoch Adams Jr. (Arctic Coast), and Judy Gau (Interior). And a BIG thank you to Suzanne Krull, who keeps us organized. They are all truly faithful members of the Body of Christ, and it has been an honor and a privilege to serve with them.

# The Episcopal Church Truth Telling about Indigenous Boarding Schools

Committees and work focusing on Truth Telling:

- The Episcopal Church A127 commission formed by General Convention in 2022 and the Executive Council committee, MW062 formed in the spring of 2022 are two bodies that were created with related purposes at the national church level.
- The Diocese of Alaska also passed a resolution at the 47<sup>th</sup> Convention in 2022 supporting the Episcopal Church's truth telling initiative about Indigenous boarding schools and identifying work to be conducted at the Diocesan level.

## Background information:

**MW062 – the Executive Council of ECUSA, April 2022:** Executive Council met in the spring prior to the general convention of 2022 and passed a resolution creating a 'Committee on Native Boarding Schools and Advocacy' to examine the Episcopal Church's role in boarding schools either run by the Episcopal Church or other denominations. This committee named Leora Tadgerson as chair, who is Anishinaabe and Director of Reparations and Justice for the Diocese of Northern Michigan.

- The Executive Council of The Episcopal Church, meeting on April 20-23, 2022, acknowledges and mourns the devastation caused by Indigenous Boarding Schools during the 19th and 20th centuries and commits to investigate and tell whatever is true about The Episcopal Church's involvement with these schools.
- *Resolved* that Executive Council create an Executive Council Committee for Indigenous Boarding Schools and Advocacy as a Committee of Executive Council, charged with guiding and overseeing three initiatives:

(1) the gathering of historical information about Indigenous Boarding Schools that had any relationship to The Episcopal Church, including information revealing the nature and extent of that relationship (the Gathering Initiative),

(2) the curation of the gathered information in a collection, housed in the Archives of The Episcopal Church, that will tell the story of the schools' relationship to the Church and their impacts on Indigenous Episcopalians, even until today (the Story Initiative), taking care to interweave the stories of Episcopal Indigenous boarding schools with the ongoing Native oppression and white supremacy, and

(3) the development and implementation of a plan for gathering information and hearing stories about the varieties of ways that Indigenous and Native peoples are subjected to unequal treatment by the federal government, state governments, and

other authorities, including information provided by the ongoing investigation by the U.S. Department of the Interior, and, in conjunction, the development of proposals for advocacy and other action responding to the issues identified (the Advocacy Initiative). The Advocacy Initiative shall include in its focus, but not be limited to, information and stories about missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, and two-spirits whose deaths have not been investigated by authorities, as well as the lack of reporting and collecting of statistics on missing and murdered Native and Indigenous women, girls, and two-spirits.

**2022-A127- General Convention in July 2022:** General Convention passed a resolution authorizing a commission to investigate the Episcopal Church role in boarding schools. Native Alaskan leader, Pearl Chanar is a co-chair of this commission along with Warren Hawk from South Dakota.

The A127 resolution states:

“The dioceses of The Episcopal Church will be strongly encouraged to, before the 81st General Convention, begin to gather information from boarding school survivors and their descendants about the experiences of Indigenous children and families in Episcopal run and/or supported residential boarding schools within the territorial jurisdiction of that diocese.”

- Phase 1 the work is to conduct research of historical records and archives to reveal how many schools were in existence in each Diocese, the role of the Diocese and the roles of people who attended, including those who died at the institutions.
- The Commission hired Dr. Veronica Pasfield as an archival specialist to conduct this research.
- Currently there are 30 identified boarding schools. It was noted that in AK the US government created day schools in tribal locations. The impact of these schools will also be considered by the commission.

Activities called for by the commission/committee include:

- Identify 4 pilot areas to begin the work in obtaining research in conjunction with local historians. Alaska has been identified as one of the pilot areas.
- Develop a strategic plan to narrow the directives to accommodate the budget and time allowed and to develop priorities
- Gathering stories from survivors
- Create healing centers

### **Resolution 2021-01 and 2022-03: Diocese of Alaska support for the work of the A127 commission**

At the 46<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> convention of the Diocese of Alaska, resolutions were passed supporting the work of the Episcopal Church and General Convention in telling the truth of the intergenerational and historic trauma extending from the experiences of indigenous people who were forced into boarding and residential schools and the resulting abuse of children.

#### **Resolution 2021-01 (see attached for the full resolution)**

**Resolved**, that the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska recognizes the important work of truth and reconciliation in establishing right relationships, and the important need to “spend time with our Indigenous siblings, listening to their stories and history, and seeking their wisdom about how we can together come to terms with [...our history];” and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska supports Bishop Mark Lattime’s pledge to hold our church accountable to this work and, along with our elected Deputies to General Convention and Standing Committee, to ensure that Alaska Native voices, wisdom, and experience will be included in the Episcopal Church’s pursuit of truth and reconciliation with respect to the history of Indigenous schools operated by the Episcopal Church; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska Deputies to the 80th General Convention, along with the bishop, will report on this work to the 47th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska (2022).

**Resolution 2022-03 (see attached for the full resolution)** followed up this charge by directing the Standing Committee of the Diocese to put together a plan and budget to support the work identified in the General Convention A127 commission resolution:

- Be it therefore resolved that the Convention of the Diocese of Alaska direct the Standing Committee to put together a plan and budget to support the work identified in the above resolves here in Alaska to include at a minimum, research into archives of the diocese, the various congregations of this diocese, and the State of Alaska; and
- Be it further resolved that this plan be reported in time for the 2023 Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska; and
- Be it further resolved that the funding identified in this plan be included in the budget to be presented to the 2023 Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska; and
- Be it further resolved, that congregations are strongly urged to assist deaneries and other diocesan bodies in inviting and recognizing self-identifying boarding school survivors and their descendants in Alaska whether or not they are members of any congregation and gently encouraging them to share their stories; and that organizers

make provisions for a wide range of accessible and culturally competent mental health and trauma-informed supports during this process, in order to provide safety for all, and

- Be it further resolved that the congregations of this diocese are urged to include a prayer for survivors and their descendants during their intercessory prayers on the Sunday closest to Indigenous Peoples' Day, which is October 9th this year.

To fulfill this responsibility, the Diocese has two people working to gather initial research information and to assist the A127 commission. Adam Lees and Jake Lambers have volunteered to assist in this role. Bishop Lattime, who is also an A127 Commission member has coordinated activities with Dr. Veronica Pasfield along with Pearl Chanar and the commission to ensure Alaska is participating fully with the efforts.

### **Next Steps:**

## **The Standing Committee is forming a Diocesan Truth Telling Commission**

Truth Telling Commission will be appointed by and report to the Standing Committee.

Commission's work:

Assist in carrying out and implementing the Diocesan Resolutions.

Components:

- ✓ A listening component
- ✓ A truth telling component
- ✓ A healing component

Commission make-up

- Must be an episcopalian
- Nine-person Commission
  - 6 Alaska Native/Indigenous Members
  - 3 Non-Indigenous Members
- At least one person from each deanery, if possible
- Initial terms 1, 3 or 5 year, with possible renewal of terms
- Alaska Native/Indigenous Led

There will be many opportunities to be a part of this important work, beyond being on the commission. Information will need to be gathered broadly from all parts of Alaska.

Spending time with our Alaska Native siblings and seeking their wisdom and recommendations on how we can come to terms with the history of Episcopal boarding school is vital. The Truth Telling Commission will be leading and guiding us and the listening, truth telling, healing and reconciliation needs all of us.

Application process will open June 11, 2025, and close October 11, 2025. Applications will be available online. The Standing Committee will review the applications and make appointments at their November in-person meeting. The goal is to have the first gathering of the Commission in early 2026.

# Draft: Truth Telling Commission Application

[Form](#)[Sign in](#)

**Episcopal Diocese**  
**OF ALASKA**

## The Episcopal Diocese of Alaska

### Application for the Truth Telling Commission

The Standing Committee is taking applications to form the Truth Telling Commission, a nine member commission of Alaska Episcopalians, with a minimum of six Indigenous members and indigenous led.

Appointed by the Standing Committee per

Diocesan Convention Resolution 2022-03: Resolution Supporting The Episcopal Church's Truth Telling about Indigenous Boarding Schools

#### Name

#### Address

Country





Cell phone number is preferred.

Is this a cell phone?

☐ Yes☐ No



 Email

 Email Confirm

re-enter email address to confirm

***Please check to ensure you have entered your Email address correctly.***

I am

- ☐ Indigenous
- ☐ Non-Indigenous

We desire (6) six out of the (9) nine members of the Commission shall be Indigenous

**Help us understand how your background will support the work of the commission.**

Why do you want to be on the commission

**Length of Terms**

- ☐ 1 Year
- ☐ 3 Year
- ☐ 5 Year

Please select the term length you'd like to serve.

1st Choice

Select your first choice from the roles; that you would like to serve on the commission.

Drop down Menu:

- Doing the Work of the Commission – attend all meetings
- Elder Advisor – provide council
- Project Management
- Mental Health Support
- Note Taking
- Story Sharing
- Event Coordinator

2nd Choice

Select your second choice from the roles; that you would like to serve on the commission.

3rd Choice

Select your third choice from the roles; that you would like to serve on the commission.

What Episcopal Congregation/Church are you attending now?

The Commission will be made of  
Alaska Episcopalians

Is there anything else you want to share with us?

If there is something you'd like to share with the Standing Committee that wasn't asked, please provide here.

## Episcopal Diocese of Alaska Truth Telling Commission Application

Preferred method is on-line

The Standing Committee is taking applications to form the Truth Telling Commission, a nine-member commission of Alaska Episcopalians, with a minimum of six Indigenous members and this will be indigenous led.

Appointed by the Standing Committee per

Diocesan Convention Resolution 2022-03: Resolution Supporting the Episcopal Church's Truth Telling about Indigenous Boarding Schools

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ AK Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ (required)

I am

☐ Indigenous ☐ Non-Indigenous

We desire (6) six out of the (9) nine members of the Commission to be Indigenous.

Help us understand how our background will support the work of the commission:

## Episcopal Diocese of Alaska Truth Telling Commission Application

Why do you want to be on the Commission?

Select the length of term you'd like to serve:

☐ 1 Year      ☐ 3 Year      ☐ 5 Year

Select your 1<sup>st</sup> choice from the roles below by placing a (1) in the box, then select your 2nd choice from the roles below by placing a (2) in the box, and select your 3rd choice from the roles below by placing a (3) in the box.

☐ Doing the work of the commission – attending all meetings      ☐ Project Management  
☐ Elder Advisor – provide council      ☐ Mental Health Support      ☐ Note Taking  
☐ Story Sharing      ☐ Event Coordinator

What Episcopal Congregation/Church are you attending now?

---

The Commission will be made of Alaska Episcopalians

Is there anything else you want to share with us?

(Is there something you'd like to share with the Standing Committee that wasn't asked, please provide here: )

## How Were Indian Boarding Schools First Created in Alaska?

*Context is critically important to understanding archives.* There is no definitive history of Episcopal Indian boarding schools in Alaska to reliably contextualize the archival material we will gather. To glean any context at all, one must pick through contradictory, fragmented information from disparate sources.

This section offers a basic timeline aggregated from the information I found most legitimate. We will work through each record set, using this brief history for each school as baseline context.

- “The Alaska Division of the Office of Education was established in 1885 by Authority of sec. 13 of an act approved 5/17/1884 (23 Stat. 24), which directed the Secretary of the Interior to provide education for the children of Alaska.” (Edward E. Hill, *Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the BIA*, National Archives & Records Administration Finding Aid, 1965.)
- In 1885, Sheldon Jackson, Presbyterian Board of Home missions, was appointed General Agent for Education in Alaska. He “called for missionary teachers of various denominations for Government schools serving the Native population. Thus, was set up an informal agreement which farmed out different areas of Alaska to various Christian church groups. The Interior of Alaska was assigned to the Episcopalians due to the history of the Church of England’s work along the Yukon River.” (*Chronological History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Alaska*, UAF finding aid.)
- 1886: Rev. Octavius Parker arrived to St. Michael to do missionary work at the mouth of the Yukon River, but “under the arrangement with the Territorial Bureau of Education. Attempts to establish a school at Saint Michael is frustrated. As a result, Parker accepted an invitation tendered by Athabaskans from Anvik” in 1887. (*Chronological History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Alaska*, UAF finding aid.)
- “In July, 1886, under Dr. Sheldon Jackson’s urging, the DFMS of the Protestant Episcopal Church entered into a contract with the United States Bureau of Education to provide a teacher for a school in the Yukon Valley (who) was sent out to St. Michael at the mouth of the Yukon.” (Hudson Stuck, D.D., *The Alaskan Missions of the Episcopal Church: A brief sketch, historical and descriptive*. DFMS, 1920.)
- 1886: Rev. Octavius Parker arrived at St. Michael to do missionary work at the mouth of the Yukon River “under the arrangement with the Territorial Bureau of Education. Attempts to establish a school at Saint Michael were frustrated. Thus, Parker accepted an invitation tendered by Athabaskans from Anvik” in 1887 “to open a school there.” (*Chronological History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Alaska*, UAF finding aid.)
- The Episcopal mission was established in Anvik in 1887 and Alaska was made a missionary district a year later, said a couple of sources. The UAF finding aid says the Missionary District of Alaska was constituted in 1892. (*Native Boarding Schools* finding aid of the Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska.)

- In 1894, gold was discovered on the Yukon River. Several missions were created to offset the disastrous impacts of the gold rush and other industries on Indigenous Alaskan villages.
- In 1895, Rev. Peter Trimble Rowe of the Diocese of Michigan was elected Bp. of Alaska. He remained bishop for 47 years.
- In 1931, the Alaska Division of the Office of Education was transferred to the BIA. 1953: Last of Episcopal schools turned over to the Territorial school system. (*Chronological History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Alaska*, UAF finding aid.)

## Episcopal-Contracted Schools & Archival Series

### Christ Church Day & Boarding School / Anvik, AK

- **Episcopal Diocese of Alaska Records with possible relevance:** Parish registers listing dates of communions, confirmations and burials; village census and parishioner lists for Anvik; genealogies of village families (all Series I).
- **History:** In 1887, the Episcopal mission and school at Anvik est. (*Native Boarding Schools* finding aid of the Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska.) Another source says Christ Church Mission and school was [built in 1891](#), and was the first Episcopal Church in Alaska. The church building was largely funded by the United Offering of the Woman's Auxiliary according to [The Conquest of the Continent](#). The school building date is unknown. After the flu epidemic of 1918-19, and another in 1927, [many orphans became wards of the mission](#). Some children came from as far away as Fort Yukon.  
[According to NABS](#), "the large dorm and school was built in 1932. Reports indicate government paid for teacher salaries." The school closed "in the 1960s."  
1935: Anvik boarding school closed. (*Chronological History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Alaska*, UAF finding aid.)

### Tortella Hall, St. Mark's Mission / Nenana, AK

- **Episcopal Diocese of Alaska Records with possible relevance:** Parish registers from 1907-'73 that list dates of communions, confirmations and burials; village census and parishioner lists for Nenana (Series I) + St. Mark's Mission hospital record book, 1904-1913 (Series 2).
- **Archival Records:** Episcopal Diocese of Alaska Records; Drane Family Papers; Walter & Lillian Phillips Photograph Collection; Martha Swanson Papers.
- **History:** In 1907 or '08, Tortella Hall est. by Annie Cragg Farthing. She was sister of the Bishop of Montreal and had been a teacher in Fairbanks. The [NABS map](#) says the years of operation for Nenana are 1907-'55. The boarding school began as a log structure housing a maximum of 35 Native Alaskan children, according to [The Conquest of the](#)

[Continent](#), published by the Episcopal Church in 1911. Farthing died three years later and the encroaching “railway town” inspired calls to move the school. There is no information about the date Tortella Hall closed in the [Research Report](#) by the Archives of TEC or in Hudson Stuck’s 1920 book, [The Alaska Missions of the Episcopal Church](#).

### St. James Mission Day & Boarding School / Nuklakayet (Fort Adams), AK

- **Still searching for a dedicated records series for this mission.**
- **History:** This is the third mission in Alaska created by DFMS. In 1890, the Indian Rights Association sent theologian James Prevost to Alaska to investigate a controversy. A year later, he was assigned to a village near a riverine trading post called Ft. Adams. **“A contract for school teaching was entered into with the Bureau of Education, so that our first three establishments in Alaska were joint enterprises of the Church and the Government.”** (Stuck, *The Alaskan Missions of the Episcopal Church*.)

According to the Archives of The Episcopal Church, St. James was open in “1893 and 1896-1900 when mission was abandoned. (Rev. Prevost provides private instruction to 3 boarding pupils in 1894.)” According to Stuck, this mission was the base for reaching the village at Tanana. “The mission moved three miles above Fort Gibbon, establishing St. James’ Mission at Tanana.” (*Chronological History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Alaska*, UAF finding aid.)

When Prevost arrived, many of the villagers were living in Nuklakayet, which is close to Tanana. There was movement of people between the two villages, with Tanana becoming a more est. village. (Stuck, *The Alaskan Missions of the Episcopal Church*.)

### St. Timothy’s Mission School / Tanana Crossing, AK

- **Episcopal Diocese of Alaska Records with possible relevance:** Microfilm reels of mission records, including church registers, missionary diaries, parish records, annual reports, and financial information from the boarding school era + Rev. Stuck diaries + Martha Swanson Papers.
- **History:** In 1892-3, Rev. Prevost of the Ft. Adams mission, passed through Tanana Crossing. In 1910 (Stuck) or 1913 (Archives of TEC), the Episcopal Church established St. Timothy’s mission. It was open until 1930.

### St. Thomas Mission School / Point Hope or Tikigaq, AK

- **Episcopal Diocese of Alaska Records with possible relevance:** Microfilm reel #88 has the ledger of the Point Hope Mission School (!) and extensive mission records, 1890-1964. Annual reports of Pt. Hope mission should confirm the presence of the school and maybe list students. Census and genealogy records. Also, Laurel Bland Collection.



- **History:** This was the second Episcopal mission in Alaska. Founded in 1890, at the urging of Lt. Commander Stockton, of the American commercial cutter, *Thetis*. In 1889, Stockton pleaded with Rev. Jackson to save the decimated indigenous village, and appeared before the Board of Missions of the Episcopal Church. In 1890, the first coastal Arctic missions were established.

The Episcopal Church created a mission at Point Hope under Rev. John Driggs, M.D. "He began with the school, and he secured his first pupil by giving cakes or candies to those who would come," slowly learned "the native language," and ministered to the sick. Driggs taught a school "of forty more natives without a common language." (Stuck, *The Alaskan Missions of the Episcopal Church*.)

The flailing mission was able to survive, in part, because Rev. Driggs sold access to ancient Tikigaq burial and village sites to prominent museums. New York City's [American Museum of Natural History](#) "funded expeditions to source specimens, such as one that resulted in 500 bodies and over 10,000 artifacts taken from a site adjacent to the Native Village of Point Hope in Alaska between 1939 and 1941. A Point Hope elder Thompson interviewed said he was familiar with the history of the expedition, but he did not know that the Ipiutak remains taken from the region were housed at the New York museum."

In 1903: a new rail line arrived in Alaska. Bp. Rowe made a second visit to St. Thomas. Mission at Point Hope, ordaining Dr. Driggs deacon. (*Chronological History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Alaska*, UAF finding aid.)

In 1919, the Point Hope Association, a society organized to support the Episcopal work at Point Hope, in Santa Barbara, CA.

In 1920, Rev. Augustus Reginald Hoare "murdered at Fort Yukon by the schoolteacher there." (*Chronological History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Alaska*, UAF finding aid.)

- Why isn't this school on the list of 34 schools by the Archives of TEC?

## Fort Yukon Mission or St. Steven's Mission School / Fort Yukon, AK

- **Episcopal Diocese of Alaska Records with possible relevance:** Microfilm reels of mission records, including church registers, missionary diaries, parish records, annual reports, and financial information from the boarding school era + Rev. Stuck diaries.
- A Church of England "presence" was established in 1861 and a year later, Rev. Robert McDonald est. a mission here. (*Chronological History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Alaska*, UAF finding aid.)
- In 1897, a log church was built at Fort Yukon (*Chronological History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Alaska*, UAF finding aid.). "Episcopal Church, established by 1910 and operated through at least 1940. Also known as St. Steven's Mission and Hudson Stuck Mission. The Hudson Stuck Memorial Hospital was presumably also affiliated with the Episcopal Church mission." (*Native Boarding Schools* finding aid of the Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska.)
- 1908: Rev. Driggs retires from his post here. (*Chronological History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Alaska*, UAF finding aid.)



- *Why isn't this school on the list of 34 schools by the Archives of TEC?*
- **Archival Records at UAF:** Episcopal Diocese of Alaska Records; Lois Morey Collection; Davenport-Boaz Family Papers.

## Episcopal Diocese of Alaska

### Ministry Report

Thank you and God bless you for the ministry that you provide to the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska. Ministry Reports are a way to share your ministry news so we might better understand and appreciate God's work thru this ministry. This report is included in the Diocesan Convention delegate packets and Convention Journal. Ministry Reports received after the deadline may not be included in this year's convention packets! ***Please return by 9/17/2025.***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_Jan Hotze  
Commission on Ministry

1. Please highlight the **activities/events and/or projects** of your ministry/committee since last year's convention.

The commission has met monthly to review the progress of those who are in the process of ordination, to make recommendations to the Bishop on the readiness for ordination and to discuss ministry within our Diocese.

2. Tell us about the **goals** of your ministry for the upcoming year:  
Our plans include continuing meeting with aspirations, postulants and candidates as required by canons. We will continue to assist in providing mentorship as needed.

3. **Stewardship.**

Do you receive support from the Diocese?	Yes
Yes, are you within budget?	Yes
Are you raising additional funds?	Yes_

Please explain your overall financial situation: We meet via zoom, but budget for at least one face to face meeting

4. Please share any other **comments or concerns** that you have regarding your ministry.  
Our Diocese has ventured more extensively into the provision of the Eucharist in smaller parishes by the training and licensing of Worship Leaders. The training of WLs is handled by our Bishop. We are enriched by and thankful for their service to their parishes and people. The Com stands ready to work with those WLs that might want to explore ordination to the diaconate or priesthood.

*If you need more space, please feel free to use additional pages.*

**Resolution #2025-01**

**Resolution to further the work of the Episcopal Boarding School Commission by supporting the work of the future Diocesan Truth-Telling and Reconciliation Commission in Alaska.**

**Whereas**, the Episcopal Church in Alaska recognizes the colonial policies and practices against Alaska Native peoples in the past that have led to intergenerational trauma, and is committed to rectifying them,

**Whereas**, Alaska Native language, culture, values and spirituality were and are suppressed by colonialism,

**Whereas**, Alaska Native children were taken from their families and placed in government and church run missions and boarding schools that further suppressed the language, culture, values and spirituality of Alaska Natives,

**Whereas**, these and other colonialist practices and policies have resulted in ongoing, intergenerational trauma for Alaska Native peoples,

**Whereas**, the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska is now fully recognizing the depth of The Episcopal Church's complicity in this trauma through the work of The Episcopal Boarding School Commission,

**Whereas**, our Baptismal Covenant calls us to personal accountability as we strive for justice and peace among all people and respect for the dignity of every human being,

**Whereas**, resources such as Walking in Beauty—Roots and Wings have provided the opportunity for Alaska Native people to share stories acknowledging the grief and loss caused by colonialism in loving, supportive, and confidential settings,

**Be it therefore resolved**, that this Convention applauds the work of Alaska Native leaders and communities around the state, and encourages the future diocesan truth-telling and reconciliation commission to follow the lead of our Native communities in determining when and how to best serve them.

**And be it resolved**, that this Convention encourages all congregations in the Diocese of Alaska to support and further the work of reckoning and repair.

**Resolution # 2025-02**

**Resolution to support and expand the work of truth-telling and reconciliation in the Diocese of Alaska.**

**Whereas**, we proclaim a crucified Christ, a God of creation, and a Spirit of mutuality who work consistently for the liberation of all peoples and who remind us that our healing is inextricably bound up in the healing of one another,

**Whereas**, historically, Native American and Alaska Native communities have had their sovereign right to self-determination suppressed and rejected in favor of non-native peoples, organizations, and religions,

**Whereas**, the work of organizations such as Walking in Beauty—Roots and Wings have provided opportunities for Alaska Native women to begin healing from the trauma caused by colonialism,

**Whereas**, ministries such as Dancing in the Spirit continue to offer opportunities for Alaska Native youth to engage with their cultures and languages through music and dancing,

**Whereas**, Alaska Native men also benefit from healing spaces and support groups such as talking circles, but may not have them available in their communities,

**Whereas**, Walking in Beauty—Roots and Wings and similar organizations have found themselves in a position where new leaders are needed if these programs are to continue,

**Be it therefore resolved**, that we, the Alaska Diocese, in convention, uplift the importance of these communities as healing spaces, and give thanks to the leadership who have begun this difficult journey and the leadership who continue this work.

**Be it further resolved**, that all members of our Alaska Diocese enter into discernment about how their Episcopal communities can strengthen their relationships with their surrounding villages and tribal communities by promoting, hosting, and supporting healing groups and cultural programs for all Alaska Native people, and by considering whether they might be able to step into leadership roles to continue this important work.

**Be it further resolved**, that we, as the Alaska Diocese, will continue to devote ourselves to upholding these powerful community spaces in prayer, in financial accompaniment, in joyous celebration and through amplifying the stories that these organizations highlight.

**And be it further resolved**, that we commit to following the direction and will of Native leadership and those leaders who have blazed the trail before us as we strive to walk as neighbors, cousins and siblings.

BE IT RESOLVED that we express our sincere thanks to all those involved in organizing, hosting, and participating in 50<sup>th</sup> convention of the Diocese of Alaska.

BE IT RESOLVED we are grateful to share the gift of community. And we are grateful to do so on the ancestral homelands of Lower Tanana Dene.

We honor the mothers, grandmothers and all relatives from Chena, Minto, Nenana, Woodriver, Tolovana, Salchacket and surrounding interior communities which were established long before Fairbanks. We also honor all of those with whom we share this land. We honor the animals. We honor the plants. And we honor each other.

Na basi

BE IT RESOLVED that we give our gratitude to all those honored elders who have led us with their guidance and wisdom, particularly The Rev. Anna Frank, Pearl Chanar, Irene Robert's, Nancy James, Mary Edwin, The Rev. Belle Mickelson, Angela Young, The Rev. Scott Fisher, The Rev. Theresa Thomas, Margie Walker, The Rev. Judith Lethine, The Rev. Mary Nathaniel, Pauline Simmons, Lawrence Williams, Gracie Thomas, Sarah Williams, Shirley Gordon, Irene Robin Sherry, Seglinda Moore, The Rev. Chip Mills, and all our elders who lead us in our communities.

BE IT RESOLVED that we thankfully recognize the congregation of St. Matthew's in Fairbanks, AK for their hard work in preparing for this large gathering. We thank Diana Childs, Maggie, Amanda, Ann, Billie, Bonnie, Kaylee Fr.Stephen, Maureen, Lorraine, and Joanne

Special thanks to all those responsible for the wonderful meals. We heartily thank the kitchen team of Pauline, Lynn, Anne, Billie, Elizabeth, Bonnie, Joanne, Maggie, and other members of St Matthew's and St Mark's as well as all those from the congregations of St Matthew's Fairbanks and St Mark's Nenana who contributed to our meals.

BE IT RESOLVED that we thank the Diocesan staff for their preparation and support of this Convention: Canon Suzanne Krull, Melissa Ward, and Lynnette Winfrey-Frank.

BE IT RESOLVED we express our deep appreciation to the Right Reverend Mark Lattime for his address and for presiding at the Convention. We extend sincere thanks for his listening, insights, prayers, guidance, leadership, kindness, and humor.

BE IT RESOLVED that we thank our keynote speakers: the Right Reverend Carol Gallagher and the Reverend Canon Brad Huff.

BE IT RESOLVED that we thank Bexley Seabury Seminary and the Right Reverend Douglas Sparks for recognizing our beloved Bishop with a Doctorate of Divinity Honoris Causa.

BE IT RESOLVED that we express our thanks to the Convention Officers for their work, and for their part in making the meeting run smoothly, including Secretary Erin Tulip, Treasurer Marilyn Duggar, Parliamentarian Peg Fisher, and Historiographers Adam Lees and Jake Lambers.

BE IT RESOLVED we thank the Convention Committee Chairs for their work to ensure a seamless path for conducting committee work, including Bessie Titus, Mary Norton, Judy Gau, Paul Williams Jr, Nicholas Schoob, Erin Tulip, Chip Mills, Marilyn Duggar, Doreen David, and Kathryn Snelling.

BE IT RESOLVED we thank all those involved in leading and planning worship.

BE IT RESOLVED that we thank those leaders who have accepted nominations and appointments for committees and commissions for the coming year, including the Commission on Ministry: Robert Coghill; Standing Committee: Enoch Adams Jr, Chip Mills, Linda Dementiff, Debbie Tritt Kendi, Mary Edwin, Janet Woods; Disciplinary Board: Christina Talbott-Clark, Ella Lisborne, Dee Ford, Jeanette Dementi; FIT Committee: Bessie Titus; and General Convention Deputies both Clergy and Lay: Nancy Jo Bleier, Maggie McKay, Ella Lisborne, Christina Talbott-Clark, Janet Bifelt, Mim McConnell, Juanita Turkrouk, Adam Lees, Bessie Titus, Mary Norton, Katherine Hunt, Jeanette Dementi, Matt Dufour, Jan Hotze, Gordon Blue, and Ross McKay.

BE IT RESOLVED that we thank the guests of this convention who gave of their time in the important work of counting and tallying the votes of the Delegates.

BE IT RESOLVED that we thank those who have served on diocesan commissions and committees and those whose term expires at the end of this year's convention including for the Commission on Ministry: Nell Gustafson and Michael Rowcroft; Standing Committee: Enoch Adam's Jr, Lauren Pifke, and Judy Gau; Disciplinary Board: Chelsea Bifelt and Marilyn Duggar; FIT Committee: Wilson Valentine and Char White.

BE IT RESOLVED that we are thankful for the witness and service of The Reverend Teresa Thomas who has resigned from active ministry. We pray for her continued service in Christ.

BE IT RESOLVED that we send our condolences and prayers for the families of Monte Slusher, Margaret Sharrow, Paul Esau, and all who have joined the number of the Church Triumphant. We also remember all of those ministries, both lay and ordained, whose work continues within us, though they have departed from our midst this year. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we express our sincere appreciation to the clergy, delegates, and visitors who gathered here in the Name of Jesus to do the work of the Church. Above all we give thanks to the guidance of the Holy Spirit into the future of our Diocese.

Submitted by the Courtesy Committee

Doreen David  
Antonia Deacon  
Mary Edwin  
Frederick Hansen  
Ross McKay  
Mary Alice McKeen  
Belle Mickelson  
Alberta Walker

With special gratitude for the assistance of Amanda Frank in the composition of important portions of this resolution.