

The Navigator

December 2024



St. Brendan's Episcopal Church
Juneau, Alaska

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Hello Everyone,

Happy Liturgical New Year!! Advent is the first season of the church year, beginning with the fourth Sunday before Christmas (December 1) and continuing through the day before Christmas. We are in Year C, and the color is purple or royal blue except for the 3rd Sunday which is rose, for those of you that keep track of these things.



In December:

December 7 – Holiday Market, see page

December 19 – 6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting



December 24 – Christmas Eve Service – St. Brendan’s will have one service on Christmas Eve beginning with singing at 7:30 p.m. with the service of Holy Communion to follow at 8:00 p.m.

Pledge Secretary Report to Vestry:

As of November 17, 2024 – for 2025, 18 pledges have been received for a total of \$78,200.

For 2024 – 19 pledges were received for a total of \$78,596

If you would like to pledge and haven’t, you will find pledge cards in the narthex or contact Dan or you can find a pledge card on St. Brendan’s website:
www.stbrendansjuneau.org

Looking to January:

Finance Committee Meeting to develop budget for 2025 – January 13 at 6 p.m.

Annual Parish Meeting – January 26 at 10:30 a.m.

All the best
Dan

EVERY VALLEY: AN ADVENT REFLECTION

Each year as the calendar turns to Advent, I find myself thumbing through my music library to pull up The Messiah. Best known for its ending movements and the rousing Hallelujah Chorus, the first movement is my favorite, and the one I begin humming to myself in early December. The prophets tell us of a great power, a person to come, who will level the field and reveal the right path. “Every valley shall be exalted,” the Tenor boldly asserts!

Whether it is the Tenor stepping forward for the first solo aria, or visions of a prophet standing in a rocky, winding landscape, the effect is the same: a great work starts with a promise, with a proud proclamation, with someone to point the way. The prophet has something exciting to share with us, something so important that the barriers that stand in the way of hearing and acting on their words will melt away. There is an exchange happening here: the prophet has something to share, and we, who hear the message, have something to receive. When we do, the shock waves of those words will batter down mountains and smooth the rough edges within us.

This same transformation happens when we share our gifts with the church. Our investments of time, talent, and treasure are the natural response to having heard the words of the prophet and having been changed by their message. However you respond to the prophet, the world around you is being made ready to receive what you will share with it. And in every direction, as the chorus answers the Tenor, “The Glory of the Lord will be revealed.”

This is the Advent Reflection for our upcoming 2025/26 Annual Campaign.

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 1 – First Sunday of Advent

December 7 – Annual Holiday Market

December 25 – Christmas Day

December 25 – Hanukkah begins

December 26 – Kwanzaa begins

December 28 – Navigator submissions due

December 31 – New Year's Eve

19. PRAYER FOR THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND ALL IN CIVIL AUTHORITY

O Lord our Governor, whose glory is in all the world: We commend this nation to your merciful care, that, being guided by your providence, we may dwell secure in your peace.

Grant to the President of the United States, the Governor of this State, and to all in authority, wisdom and strength to know and to do your will. Fill them with the love of truth and righteousness, and make them ever mindful of their calling to serve this people in your fear;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, world without end. *Amen.*

BCC p. 820



A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP SEAN ROWE

November 6, 2024

Dear People of God in The Episcopal Church,

Early this morning, we learned that President Trump has been elected to another term as president of the United States. I pray that he will govern wisely and justly. Regardless of our political allegiances, we must remember that God has called us in The Episcopal Church to seek and serve Christ in all persons. No matter the party in power, we are one church, and we will continue to fulfill our baptismal covenant by proclaiming in word and example the Good News of God in Christ, striving for justice and peace among all people, and protecting the dignity of every human being.

We commit to working with the new administration to advance policies that follow the teachings of Jesus by supporting the most vulnerable among us. Through **Episcopal Migration Ministries**, we abide by God's command to welcome the stranger, and since 1988, we have resettled more than 100,000 refugees through a bipartisan program with a strong record of success. We urge President Trump and members of Congress to exercise compassion toward the immigrants, asylum seekers, and refugees we serve and to know that, at every turn, we will stand for the dignity and human rights of all of God's people. We are Christians who support the dignity, safety, and equality of women and LGBTQ+ people as an expression of our faith. I pray that President Trump and his administration will do the same.

In the coming months, I ask us all to be agents of peace and reconciliation in our communities, both in person and online. As people of faith, we can work and pray for peace and unity among God's people whether we are joyful, hurting, or afraid. Especially now, when we know of efforts by domestic terrorists and foreign adversaries to undermine our trust in institutions and in one another, we can combat the misinformation and fear by which the Enemy seeks to divide us from one another.

I give thanks for all the ministries in dioceses and congregations across the church that are tangible expressions of our belief in a God of compassion and mercy. In every season, this is the work that God has set before us.

The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe
Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church

ST. BRENDAN'S 13th ANNUAL HOLIDAY MARKET

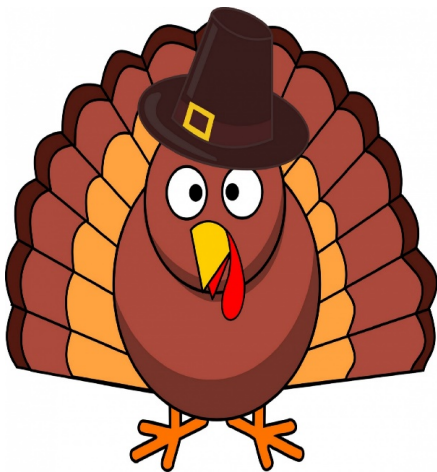


Saturday, December 7, 2024

Please talk to Ingrid, Carla, or Carol if you think you have something to add to the Market

THANKSGIVING DAY BASKETS

Thank you for all the donations to the St. Vincent De Paul/Love Inc. Thanksgiving baskets. We did an amazing job collecting non-perishable items to be added to the baskets for those in need this Thanksgiving. A simple donation of an item like canned vegetables or gravy help in making a whole meal put together along with other members of our community.



It is my understanding that 400 thanksgiving baskets were distributed through this program this year, a number that continues to grow year after year.

Along with the nonperishable food that we collected, our church also donated \$500 to St. Vincent using Holiday Market funds so that they could purchase any additional items that they needed.

Be well, Carla

HATS / GLOVES / MITTENS / SOCKS FOR THE GLORY HALL

In October, our Outreach project was to collect hats/mittens/gloves/socks etc. for the patrons at the Glory Hall. Warm weather gear is especially needed this time of year as the weather gets colder.

We did an amazing job filling up the tree with love. During the first week of November, we delivered 30 pairs of gloves, 44 pairs of socks and 47 winter hats!! Included with the warm weather gear was a note wishing them a warm and peaceful winter. Thank you to everyone for helping keep our community warm this winter!

Stay warm, Carla

FOOD DRIVE NEWS!

We continue collecting non-perishable food for the Southeast Alaska Food Bank on an ongoing basis. St. Brendan's has been a member agency in partnership with the Food Bank for many years, and we are proud of the contributions we continue to make to their agency.

Food can be dropped off at St. Brendan's on any Sunday. We have "milk crates" set up in the Nursery where food is collected. (Please ask for help bringing items inside if you need assistance). You can also call me and I can come pick up your donations.



Donations can also be made via check and put in the offering plate. Please be sure to make the notation "food pantry" or "food bank" on the memo line.

We are making a difference, this is a great way for us to stay involved, we are getting food to a major player in our community, and then they in turn make it available to those in need.

Thank you for helping feed those in need in our community!

Carla

OUTREACH ~ "REACHING OUT WITH JOY AND LOVE"

Fall has come and gone, along with Thanksgiving. Winter has taken its place with beautiful cold crisp days, snow, and the excitement of Christmas and the joy it can bring to all of us. A time of reaching out to family, friends, and to others within our community. Some we know and others we don't. We do know in our hearts that we are all God's children.

Our fall ministries brought the Hats & Mittens Tree for Glory Hall in October and the Thanksgiving Basket project in November. We also had the wonderful Halloween bags full of goodies for the JYC girls. Outreach thanks all of you for your donations to these ministries.

Don't miss out on our 13th Annual Holiday Market on Saturday, December 7 from 8:30am to 3pm. There will be lots of special treasures, gifts, and wonderful baked good to enjoy. Please help spread the word about this annual event.



The funds raised at the Holiday Market are used throughout the year to support ministries in our community.

Our December project is making up ten large bags of Christmas goodies and gifts for the JYC girls. Each bag will include a throw blanket purchased with budget funds. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board with items needed. The bags will be made up on Sunday, December 15th, after you have had a chance to enjoy a quick coffee hour. Cookies, in 10 sandwich bags of 3, need to be brought to church on Sunday, December 22nd, so the bags will be delivered the following day.

Glory Hall patrons will receive Christmas cards from St. Brendan's to brighten their day, along with cards and stamps to mail out to relatives & friends. Each of our ministries will also receive a holiday card thanking them for their ministry and happy holidays.

Thank you for the great support you always show for our ministries. It's all of us working together that makes Outreach happen.

Outreach also thanks all those who participate in our weekly and special services in various ways. You make it possible for St. Brendan's to worship together as a church family every Sunday, either in person or by online video, and enjoy a nice coffee hour for visiting. It also reaches out to others who are not part of St. Brendan's family.

Merry Christmas! I wish you all a wonderful Christmas season with beautiful winter days.

With joy and love, Penny

CREATION CARE

Every Once in a While Someone Steps Up

By tjlord in Daily Kos, October 02, 2024

I had one of those “am I really reading this” moments when I read the CNBC article on Fortescue Mining, the fourth largest iron mining company in the world, and it took a massive turn at the beginning:

Australian mining tycoon Andrew Forrest, founder and Executive Chairman of Fortescue Mining, says it is time for the world to walk away from the “proven fantasy” of net zero emissions by 2050 and to embrace “real zero” by 2040 instead.

“All those leaders who say to me, say to the world, say to their kids, ‘oh you know we can’t do it, my company can’t do it, I can’t do it, you don’t understand, we can’t actually do it,’” Forrest said in an exclusive CNBC interview. “What they are really saying is that *they* can’t do it.

And I’m saying to each of those chief executives and those political leaders who use the words ‘I can’t’ – OK, what about you get off the stage and let on a young girl or wiser leader who can. Someone with a bit of ticker, because the technology is there.”

I like this guy. Let’s see if it plays out in reality.

Notes from the Office

The next Vestry Meeting will be December 19, 2024, 6:30 p.m. in Adams Hall. Contact any vestry member (see page 14) if you have any questions or concerns for the Vestry.

Scheduling a meeting?

Please let me know...

FYI - Building Use

September 20-21 Petersburg High School
Cross Country Team

Oct. 4-5 Petersburg High School Swim
Team

November 11-16 Students on Stage
rehearsal and play production

December 13-15 Petersburg Robotics Team

Loose Offering

1st Sunday of the month:

**Rector's Discretionary
Fund**

2nd Sunday of the month:

Glory Hall

3rd Sunday of the month:

General Fund

4th Sunday of the month:

**Vestry Discretionary
Fund**

5th Sunday of the month:

Meals on Wheels

Email Dan at:

sbrendans1985@gmail.com

**for approved minutes and
financials from any vestry
meeting**

*Lori posts the financials on the
bulletin board in the entry after
each vestry meeting*

Dan Hall, Office/Building Manager

sbrendans1984@gmail.com

702 374-7475

Dave will be leading the service on Christmas Eve...Dan will contact you about filling out the schedule by December 22.

If you are unable to do the assigned below, please find someone to exchange or substitute and make changes on schedule in narthex. I will check the schedule each week before printing the bulletin.

December 1 ~ December 29 ~ 2024 Schedule

	December 1	December 8	December 15	December 22	December 29
Altar	Daisy/Dan	Lori	Brita	Dianna	Daisy/Dan
1st Reading	Barbara	Dave	Jackie	Brita	Barbara
Psalm	Jo	Stephanie	Rob	Jackie	Jo
2nd Reading	Brita	Barbara	Stephanie	Rob	Brita
Gospel	Jackie	Dan	Dave	Jo	Michael
Prayers of the People	Rob	Jo	Barbara	Stephanie	Jackie
Chalice Bearer	Jo & Rob	Barbara & Dave	Jo & Rob	Barbara & Dave	Jo & Rob
Worship Leader	Jackie	Dan	Dave	Jo	Jackie
Godly Play	Michael, Tamara, Tonya	Michael, Tamara, Tonya	Michael, Tamara, Tonya	Michael, Tamara, Tonya	Michael, Tamara, Tonya
Coffee Hour	Carol	Shop Holiday Market	Carla	Ingrid	Ingrid
Ushers	Jeff/Carol	Barbara	Jo	Dave	Jeff/Carol

December
Building Use 2024

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2 Holiday Market Set-up	3 Holiday Market Set-up	4 Holiday Market Set-up	5 Holiday Market Set-up	6 Holiday Market Set-up Pentecostal 7 pm-Midnight	7 Holiday Market 8:30 am – 3:30 pm
8 Pentecostal 2 – 5 pm	9	10	11	12	13 Pentecostal 7 pm-Midnight Petersburg Robotics	14 Pentecostal 10 am – noon Petersburg Robotics
15 Pentecostal 2 – 5 pm	16	17	18	19 Vestry Meeting 6:30 pm	20 Pentecostal 7 pm-Midnight	21
22 Pentecostal 2 – 5 pm	23	24 Christmas Eve Service 7:30 Hymns 8:00 Holy Communion	25 Christmas Day	26	27 Pentecostal 7 pm-Midnight Girl Scouts 6-7 pm	28
29 Pentecostal 2 – 5 pm	30	31				

**St. Brendan's Episcopal Church
4207 Mendenhall Loop Road
Juneau, Alaska 99801**

**Office/Building Manager: Dan Hall
Cell: 702 374-7475**

Church Contact Information:

Phone: 907 789-5152

Email: sbrendans1985@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.stbrendansjuneau.org>

Vestry ~ 2024

(leadership positions are held until the Annual Meeting in 2025)

Senior Warden: Dave Muldoon (2024-2026)

Junior Warden: Jeff Fujioka (2022-2024)

Vestry Clerk: Michael Rowcroft (2023-2025)

Jo Schoeppe (2023-2025)

Jackie Schulz (2022-2024)

Rob Smith (2024-2026)

Treasurer: Lori Seymour (Ex-officio)

Prayer for the Parish

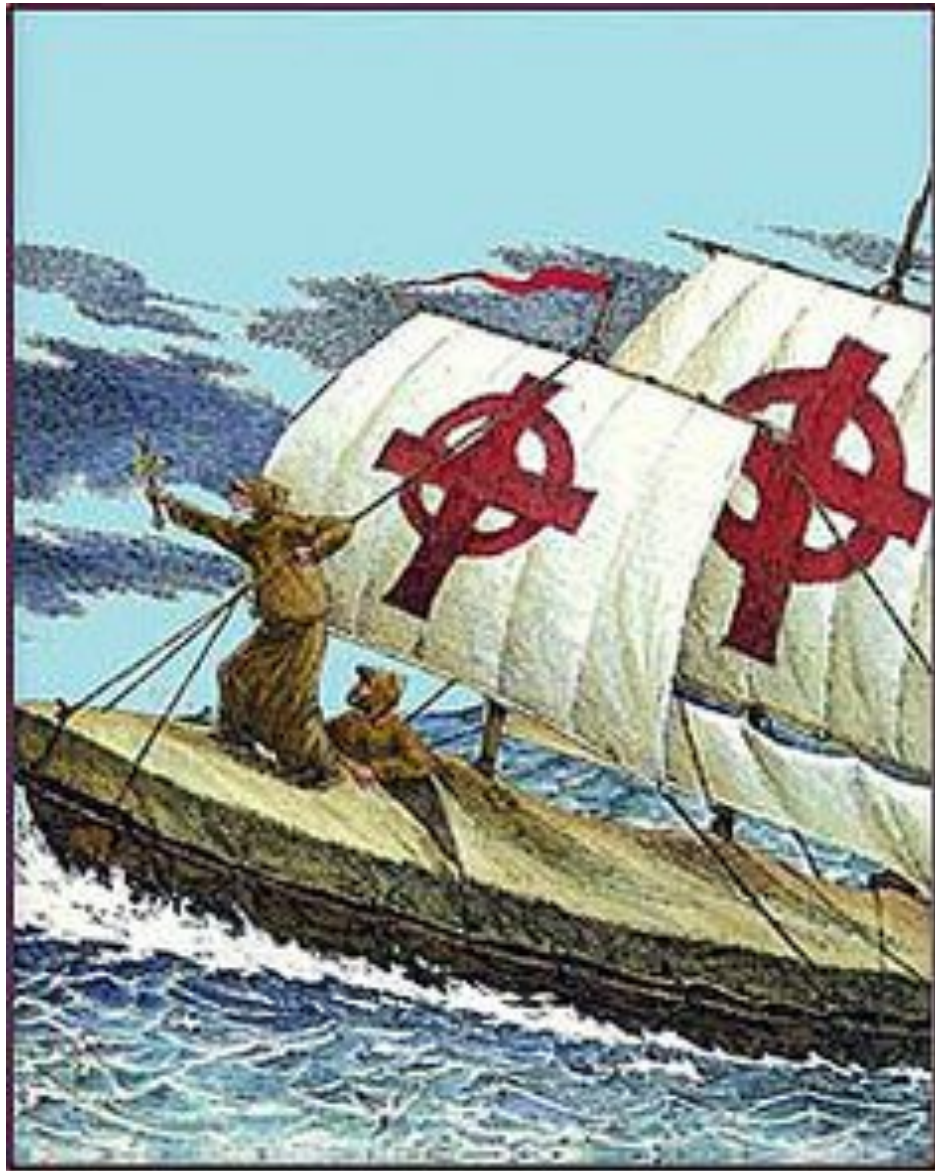
Disturb us, Lord, when
We are too pleased with ourselves,
When our dreams have come true
Because we dreamed too little,
When we arrived safely
Because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, Lord, when
With the abundance of things we possess
We have lost our thirst
For the waters of life;
Having fallen in love with life,
We have ceased to dream of eternity
And in our efforts to build a new earth,
We have allowed our vision
Of the new Heaven to dim.

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,
To venture on wilder seas
Where storms will show Your mastery'
Where losing sight of land,
We shall find the stars.

We ask you to push back
The horizons of our hopes'
And push back the future
In strength, courage, hope, and love.

This we ask in the name of our Captain,
Who is Jesus Christ.
(attributed to Sir Francis Drake, 1577)



St. Brendan's is named after a Celtic saint. Brendan was a sefarer and his symbol being a raven made it very suitable for a congregation in Southeast Alaska. He and a small group embarked on a voyage of faith with only their trust in the Lord to guide and guard them. Like the sefarer, we hope St. Brendan's Church will always have new horizons upon which to set its sail.