A Letter from Church Leaders in Alaska By Bishop Shelley Wickstrom

The Alaska Synod has a rich partnership with full-communion partners. The leadership of the Presbytery of the Yukon, Alaska Conference of the United Methodists, The Episcopal Diocese of Alaska and the Alaska Synod have a standing relationship in which we discuss and share our ministry and mission opportunities and offer mutual support. This relationship resulted in PLUME and the calling of UMC Pastor Robert Hicks as Mission Developer in the MatSu.



The Orthodox bishop has joined our conversations and we look forward to conversation with our Roman Catholic bishops and Covenant leaders. We are open to conversation with any denomination.

Out of our shared awareness of the impact of climate change on Alaska, and undergirded by the theological commitments we share, a version of this statement is being published in the Alaska Dispatch.

Note that we write as individuals serving in unique roles in our denominations in Alaska. My participation is informed by the ELCA Care for Creation Social Statement found here: https://www.elca.org/en/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements/Caring-for-Creation

 <u>Statement from Christian Denominational Leaders</u> on a future for Alaska including compassion for people and care for creation.