Episcopal Diocese *of* Washington | Diócesis Episcopal *de* Washington

Our Mission

To draw people to Jesus and embody his love for the world by equipping faith communities, promoting spiritual growth, and striving for justice.

Vision 2026

To be a Diocese that draws on the gifts of all God's people to serve Christ together and live Jesus' Way of Love.

Revitalize our churches

- We will implement a church revitalization strategy to promote healthy, thriving congregations throughout the diocese
- Our leadership and congregations will reflect the demographics of our surrounding communities
- We will develop a stewardship strategy for our facilities and finances to alleviate parish building concerns
- We will launch or relaunch three worshiping communities focused on rising generations

Inspire every person to grow in faith & equip our leaders to lead well

- We will establish a school for Christian leadership for clergy and laity
- We will develop and implement a collaborative strategy for spiritual growth and discipleship
- We will support congregations in nurturing pathways of faith that lead people toward baptism, confirmation, and reception

Impact our communities through service & justice

- We will strengthen our collective witness in service and justice
- We will promote Creation Care practices in all our faith communities
- We will stand with our neighbors on issues such as racial justice, gun violence prevention, LGBTQ equal rights, and immigrant rights through training, pilgrimage, and public witness

Year Seven Priorities
Measurable Objectives

Church Revitalization *- to support and equip our churches for renewed vitality and deeper engagement in sharing the Gospel.*

- We will strengthen and expand opportunities for revitalization initiatives, including the launch of Planting Seeds of Renewal (PSR), which will engage 12 congregations; the completion of Tending Our Soil; and the Committee on Black Ministries Workshops, which will engage 10-14 congregations.
- We will, through the School for Christian Faith and Leadership (SCFL), share the learnings from our revitalization initiatives with other congregations in the diocese as they pursue vitality in ways that honor their unique context and mission.
- We will launch at least two new cross-parish collaborations (shared clergy, staff, resources: office/administrative).
- We will take the next strategic steps for our three new communities of faith: The Well, Water and Wilderness Church, and East-of-the-River initiative—so they can grow in stability, visibility, and long-term impact.

Faith & Leadership *- to promote spiritual growth and equip all ages to carry out the ministry Jesus calls us to.*

- We will offer four interactive Learning Days on topics identified in consultation with congregational leaders: discernment of lay and ordained ministry, effective vestry spiritual leadership, wardens' summit, and community organizing tools for use in congregations.
- We will release a newly developed guide to confirmation preparation, expand the reach of the School's comprehensive online Vestry training, and develop online resources focused on parish finance, prayer, and discernment.
- We will provide dependable and visible diocesan support for youth and young adult ministries across EDOW, including support for the newly organized DC Episcopal Fellowship (for 20's-30's), a retreat for formation leaders, a youth confirmation retreat day in the spring, and a youth service day in the fall.
- We will invest funding and coaching in support of at least four parishes near colleges and universities looking to cultivate meaningful ministry and relationships with their campus neighbors.

Equity & Justice *- to equip our congregations and leaders for equity and justice work.*

- We will strengthen diocesan leadership teams to advance efforts for reparations/racial justice, creation care, and ministry with migrants and refugees by recruiting new members for each team, supporting teams through retreats, and offering ongoing leadership formation.
- We will continue building capacity for local ministries by providing online and in-person skill-building opportunities, including trainings, congregational visits, and individual meetings throughout the diocese.
- We will convene four Regional Deacons Meetings to foster collegiality, identify shared ministry priorities, and strengthen diocesan connection across parishes, including engagement with parishes without deacons as active partners in service.