



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE *of* SPOKANE

News & Notes | May, 2026

ARTICLE FROM THE BISHOP'S PEN

Hello Diocese of Spokane!

I pray that you are having a glorious Easter season. I am still in Seattle working on recovering from my lung transplant and working to get stronger every day. It is a journey that has ups and downs, but the key is to keep going. I think about how our life with Christ it is like this. Our call is to keep walking with and trusting in Jesus in whatever circumstance we find ourselves in. There have been times over the past six weeks I have not wanted to get off the couch and walk, or even do my seated exercises, but my sister pushed me. She has supported my recovery and pushed me to engage with the work needed to get better. She reminds me of the four friends who helped their paralyzed friend get to Jesus, doing what it takes to help bring healing. This is the power of friendship and community. This is the power of the church. A community that can be both gentle and firm with one another, a community that supports and carries and pushes one another to walk with Jesus, to engage in healing and reconciliation, and bring good news not only to ourselves, but our wider community. I am getting regular visits from members of Diocese of Olympia bringing communion on Sunday, again a great witness to how the wider church community reaches out to those in need. As the church we are called to live in a different way from the ways of the world, a way of love and respect, compassion and mercy, reconciliation, and healing. I find it way easier to live this way in the community of the faithful! And I give thanks for all of you who are showing up and

faithfully engaged in the work of our congregations following Jesus in our communities.

I am uplifted by your prayers, it has meant a great deal to me knowing I am in prayers around the diocese, and indeed around the world. All of your cards and the newsprints of notes was overwhelming, and I am grateful for your support and love. I am not currently working, I am concentrating on my own health, and I have complete trust and confidence in the diocesan committees and staff to do the work in front of us. I do look forward to being home! It will probably be another couple of months, the doctors here are very cautious, which is good. In the meantime, please know you are in my daily prayers.

My love to you all,

+Gretchen

Follow along with Bishop Gretchen's healing journey by clicking the button below. New updates are shared each Friday—offering a way to stay connected and hold her in prayer in the weeks ahead.

[Bishop's CaringBridge Link](#)

IMPORTANT THINGS COMING!



Spokane PRIDE

Join us at the 2026 Spokane Pride Parade as we celebrate God's love for all, showing up with joy, welcome, and a commitment to affirm and uplift our LGBTQIA+ siblings.

[Read About It Here](#)



Camp Cross

Registration for Camp Cross 2026 summer sessions are open! There's a camp for everyone so make sure you sign up today. Scholarships are available!

[Sign Up Today](#)



DIO CON | Pasco, WA

Save the date for Diocesan Convention in Pasco, WA and make sure to book your room ahead of time! Registration opens June 1st.

[Learn More Here](#)

CANON'S CORNER

Camp Cross Cabin Furniture Campaign Big Things Are Happening!

Cn. Alex Flannagan

New cabins are rising at Camp Cross—and thanks to generous support, they're already becoming spaces of rest, renewal, and belonging. Take a look at our progress and see how you can be part of the story.



[Full Article Here](#)



Building Bridges; Healing Divides Exciting Cohort News!

A new cohort is continuing the Building Bridges; Healing Divides journey this May. Meet the congregations stepping forward in faith to deepen connection, heal divides, and serve their communities.

[Full Article Here](#)

HERE'S THE NEXT 3 MONTHS

MAY

7 - Wardens and Treasurer's Zoom Meeting

15 & 16 - BB;HD In Person Training

29 & 30 - Council Meeting

JUNE

4 - Wardens and Treasurer's Zoom Meeting

5 to 7 - Lay Leaders Retreat IHRC

6 - Walla Walla PRIDE

13 - Spokane PRIDE

14 - Tri-Cities PRIDE

JULY

2 - Wardens and Treasurer's Zoom Meeting

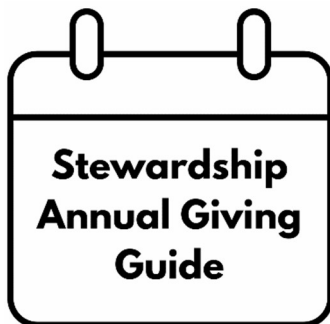
9 to 12 - Sandpoint PRIDE

27 to 31 - Hawaii Pilgrimage

All Bishop Visitations have been cancelled until further notice.



ANNUAL GIVING GUIDE 2026



Find monthly ideas for approaching your annual giving campaign throughout the entire year.

In **May**, it's a great time to plan out the annual giving calendar for the remainder of the year and think through what considerations and work this involves. Consider the following:

- Open staff and lay leadership input and creative conversation on theme, content, and schedule of the annual giving plan.
- Design the calendar, goals, and materials that will be needed throughout the year.
- Send thank yous to congregants who have made annual pledges.

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