

Diocese of Virginia: 2018 Culpeper Region Report

The Culpeper Region of the Diocese of Virginia is composed by 10 church communities centered around Culpeper.

Region churches range from medium-sized community churches (St. James' Church, Warrenton and St. Stephen's Church, Culpeper, with ASA ranges well above 100) to small community and rural churches (ASA ranges from 15-90). Several churches use supply clergy and retired clergy for their services. A few churches have no web page, social presence, or email contact available. Several of our churches face challenges simply keeping their doors open and church buildings maintained.

The Region held three meetings so far in 2018. The main focus has been to get together to work out how we can function to assist each other. The Region received funding from the disbanded Region1, and gifts from 2 member churches. So far, we have not disbursed any funds, but we have prioritized mission funding in our proposed budget.

Culpeper Region elected officers: President: Cady Soukup, Trinity Church, Washington; Vice President: Terry Miller, Piedmont/Bromfield Parish Church; Secretary: Mary Ann Cowherd, St. Stephen's Church, Culpeper; Treasurer: Mary Frances LeMat, Trinity Church, Washington. The Rev. Dr. Pete Gustin prepared a set of draft By Laws that remains under consideration. Region church delegates and clergy are becoming acquainted with each other's churches, worship, events, and ongoing missions.

Region Dean Benson Shelton convened Culpeper Region deanery meetings. Disaster preparedness, relief, and recovery was discussed at a recent meeting held prior to hurricane Michael.

Region churches engage in many local ministries, from food banks and preschool/after-school enrichment programs, to youth and adult Christian education, and addiction and recovery programs.

The region is coming together. We look forward to sharing events, worship, and ministries.