Northern Shenandoah Valley Region Report 2026

The Very Rev. Melanie Lewis, Dean

Due to rector searches, Webster Gibson+ and I are currently the only full-time clergy in the region.

Last month I held a regional training for Officiants and LEMs, with a result of 5 people licensed as worship leaders, and 3 licensed as LEMs.

In collaboration with the Southern Shenandoah Valley Region, we hosted **I Will, With God's Help**, the diocesan racial reconciliation training, on Saturday, September 19th at Grace Church in Berryville. A photo of a part of the group is attached.

Christ Church Millwood (Cunningham Chapel Parish)

Christ Church continues to provide food for 60 local families every week through our Christ Church Cares Food Pantry. The first concert in our popular free concert series will be this Sunday afternoon, with pianist Charles Roberts. Melanie Lewis+ is the full-time rector.

Christ Church Winchester (Frederick Parish)

The parish continues with their ministry to the downtown community of Winchester. Webster+ also does a weekly Episcopal eucharist at Shenandoah Valley Westminster-Canterbury. Webster Gibson+ is the full-time rector.

Grace & St. Mary's in Berryville (Clarke Parish)

The previous rector, Justin Ivatts+ left for a parish in North Carolina in March. The Rev. Julie Harris, retired priest in the parish, and priest associate, served as long-term supply until very recently. Unfortunately, the scheduled interim for this parish decided that they couldn't take this call, after all. Grace is working to find weekly supply priests until a new interim is selected. Kim Davis is senior warden of Grace, Felicia Goldberg is senior warden of St. Mary's.

Calvary in Front Royal

Calvary has been led by interim rector Tom Crittenden+ for over a year. They recently hired a new organist and choirmaster, which has inspired the congregation, and led to some new attendance. They continue to work on their search process. Tom Crittendon+ is interim rector.

Good Shepherd in Bluemont

Good Shepherd is a mission congregation, with congregational leadership. The Rev. Debbie Rutter and The Rev. Martha Clark, who are retired, provided periodic supply for them. Tim Hall is senior warden.

Meade Memorial in White Post

Meade also has mission status with congregational leadership, but they have a permanent supply priest in The Rev. Howard Humphrey. Howard+ works full-time as a math teacher at Massanutten Military Academy, and celebrates and preaches on most Sundays. Caroline Roberts is senior warden.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie+



Some of the participants in I Will With God's Help at Grace Berryville on September 19, 2026.