

DIGEST

ONE HUNDRETH FORTY-FIFTH STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF EASTERN VIRGINIA Norfolk, Virginia

April 28, 2026

Second Presbyterian Church

Moderator: The Reverend Dr. **Garrett B. Bugg**

Vice Moderator: Commissioned Pastor **Sidnia B. Etherington**

Stated Clerk: RE **Q. John Tamm** (1st VAB)

Journal Clerk: Mr. **Raymond Rodrigues**

WORSHIP

- The Reverend Dr. **Antipas L. Harris** preached a sermon titled, "God's Scandalous Choices," based on Luke 14:15-24
- The Reverend **Catherine Hart Monroe** and Reverend **Mary V. Brown** led the celebration of the Lord's Supper.
- The offering was for PEVA's Hunger Grant.
- Special music was provided by Mr. Steve Kolb and Cathy Sturgeon

MODERATOR

- The Reverend Dr. Garrett B. Bugg, was the Moderator

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT RE **Claudette Gravely** (New Horizons)

Today, we acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional territory of the Chesepian (or Chesapeake) and Lumbee tribes, the inhabitants of this place from a time beyond remembering. We acknowledge that through this land, God nurtured and sustained them with the thriving natural environment of the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

We honor these tribes and others for their tender stewardship of the land and waters. We also acknowledge the sin of forced displacement of Indigenous peoples and the sin of past injustices against them.

Indigenous people are with us today still striving for sovereignty, justice, and human rights. Indeed, members of the Nansemond and Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) nations reside in PEVA's boundaries.

So, a Land Acknowledgement is but a first step. We must commit to learning more, doing more, and realizing healing and justice for all indigenous people. Rev. Lauren Sanders, an ordained PC(USA)

minister and a member of the Potawatomi nation, reminds us that a Land Acknowledgement and the actions that follow are an attempt to live into and answer to a question that is always central for people of faith: "How can we be Christian, in this current context?"

STATED CLERK

The report was published to the Presbytery in the packet.

The Presbytery establish an Administrative Commission (AC) for Stone House Presbyterian Church, Toano, (SHPC) on January 24, 2026, to assist the SHPC congregation over the next 12-18 months.

The Commission's responsibilities and powers have been previously published. The Commission facilitated the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the congregation of Stone House Church, and the Reverend Kristin Reinhold effective April 6, 2026, consistent with the severance requirements of the Commission on Ministry. The severance agreement provides effective salary and benefits from April 6, 2026, to September 30, 2026, inclusive.

PRESBYTERY COUNCIL (PC)

The Reverend Dr. Christina M.B. Carrasco, moderator.

The Presbytery approved the following:

MOTION: The Presbytery elected RE Roxie O. Holder (Carver Memorial), Stated Clerk for a term commencing May 1, 2026, and concluding on December 31, 2027.

MOTION: The Presbytery approved the actions taken by the Council.

The Council distributed a monograph on a proposed Director of Spiritual Growth.

SESSIONAL RECORDS REVIEW COMMITTEE

RE **Jill Keifer**, Chair, (Royster Memorial)

MOTION: That the report of the Sessional Records Committee be received and printed in the minutes of this meeting. The following church records were/had:

No exceptions: Community (Portsmouth) and Denbigh United
Exceptions: Christ 28b, 29b (2019 records rec'd); First (Portsmouth) 28b; Franklin 2, 18, 20, 22, 24, 29a&b, 30, 34a&b; Green Acres 2b
No records from: None

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY (COM)

Report to Presbytery
Reverend **Clark DeSarro-Raynal**, moderator.

IN MEMORIUM

The Reverend **Stanley Hsiang King Lin**, age 92, died, March 24, 2026, in Venice, FL. Reverend Lin was born February 21, 1934, on Kulangsu Island in Amoy, now Xiamen, China. His family endured the occupation of the Japanese Army during World War II. After the war, and during the Communist takeover of mainland China, Reverend Lin's family fled to Hong Kong. Inspired by Presbyterian missionaries, he immigrated to the United States where he attended Hope College and Western Theological Seminary (Reformed Church in America) in Holland, MI. He met his wife, Carolyn, at Hope College. They have been married 63 years.

Reverend Lin was ordained on June 6, 1965, by the Presbytery of Southern Arizona, now the Presbytery de Cristo. He initially served on the Gila River Indian Reservation, AZ, ministering to the Pee Posh Tribe. Later, Reverend Lin moved to northwest Pennsylvania, in the Presbytery of Lake Erie, Erie, PA, serving several churches including Mill Village Presbyterian Church. Additionally, Reverend Lin was an associate Professor and Coordinator of Technical Services of the Library at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. He was honorably retired on November 2, 1998. The Lins, Stanley and Carolyn, moved to Accomac, VA. They established a relationship with Francis Makemie and Naomi Makemie Churches. During the winter months they lived in Venice, FL.

Reverend Lin is survived by his wife Carolyn and his daughter Susanne Lin Hirshberg.

MINISTERS and a COMMISSIONED PASTOR TO BE INTRODUCED TO THE PRESBYTERY

The Reverend **Kimberly Knowles Priddy**, Pastor, Great Bridge Presbyterian Church, Chesapeake.
The Reverend **Caroline Burslem Evans**, Pastor, Bayside Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach.
Commissioned Pastor **James Stuart Nesbit**, commissioned pastor, Knox Presbyterian Church, Norfolk.

HONORABLE RETIREMENT RECOGNITION

The Reverend **Michelle Dickerson "Mike" Burcher**

The Reverend **Addie Naomi Peterson**

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

Reverend Dr. **Gerrit "Skip" Baker-Smith**—45 years
Reverend Dr. **Robin E. Wooddell**—45 years
Reverend **Michelle D. "Mike" Burcher**—41 years
Reverend Dr. **John Edward Morgan**—40 years
Reverend **James Marshall Wood, Jr.**—35 years
Reverend **James A. Goodbow**—35 years
Reverend **Susan H. "Suzy" Cothran**—35 years
Reverend Dr. **Danny T. Klein**—30 years
Reverend **Clark DeSarro-Raynal**—25 years
Reverend **Kristin Reinhold**—10 years

RECOMMENDATION to Presbytery: The Commission on Ministry RECOMMENDS to the Presbytery the following:

***Motion:** That the ACTIONS taken by the COM be received by the Presbytery and printed in the minutes of this meeting.

- On February 3, 2026, approved the commissioned pastor agreement between CP Sidnia B. Etherington and the session of Lafayette Church, Norfolk, effective 4/1/2026 to 3/31/2027.
- On February 3, 2026, approved the commissioned pastor agreement between the session of First Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach and CP **Randolph C. DuVall** effective 4/21/2026 to 4/20/2027.
- On February 3, 2026, approved the Covenant Pastor Agreement between the session of Community Presbyterian Church (Hampton) and the Rev. **Charles M. Tucker** effective 1/1/2026 to 12/31/2026
- On February 3, 2026, approved, retroactively, the status of

honorable retirement for the Reverend **Addie Naomi Peterson**, effective, 01/31/2026.

- On March 3, 2026, approved the Commissioned Pastor Covenant between the COM acting for the Presbytery and the session of First Church, Virginia Beach and Elder **James Stuart Nesbit**, effective 03/15/2026 to 03/26/2027.
- On March 3, 2026, approved the appointment CP Randolph C. DuVall as moderator for the Session of New Horizons Presbyterian Church, Norfolk, for an indeterminate period of time.
- On March 10, 2026, approved the appointment of the Reverend Dr. **Melissa S. Long**, the Reverend Dr. **Donna M. DeSarro-Raynal**, and the Reverend Dr. **Christian R. Shearer** as moderators for the Session of Stone House Presbyterian Church, Toano
- On March 13, 2026, approved the appointment of the Reverend Dr. Donna DeSarro-Raynal to accompany the Rev. **Kristin Reinhold** to severance negotiations with Stone House Presbyterian Church, Toano.
- On March 17, 2026, approved the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Stone House Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Kristin Reinhold.
- On March 25, 2026, approved the appointment of CP James Stuart Nesbit as moderator for the congregational meeting and session meeting at Knox Presbyterian Church on Sunday, March 29, 2026.
- On April 7, 2026, approved the Covenant Pastor Agreement between Holmes Presbyterian Church, Cheriton, and the Rev. **Vernon G. Murray**, effective 04/05/2026 through 04/04/2027.
- On April 7, 2026, approved the request of the Reverend **Caroline Burslem Evans** and the Session of Bayside Church, Virginia Beach, to install Reverend Evans as pastor on Sunday, April 26, 2026, at 2:00 pm at the church.
- On April 7, 2026, approved the request from CP Randolph C. DuVall to officiate at the marriage of **John Archer Beasley** and Meridith **Elizabeth McGraw** on or about

August 29, 2026, in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.

- On April 7, 2026, approved the request of CP Randolph C. DuVall to officiate at the marriage of **Jonathan Lee Muiers** and **Erin Clemons** on or about October 17, 2026, in Virginia Beach, Virginia,
- On April 7, 2026, approved the Shared Ministry Covenant between Community Presbyterian Church (Hampton) and Wythe Presbyterian Church, Hampton.
- On April 7, 2026, approved the Mission Study Report from St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Suffolk.
- On April 7, 2026, approved the Presbytery's Transitions Manual UPDATE (Final).
- On April 7, 2026, approved the severance agreement between the Session of Stone House Church, Toano and the Reverend Kristin Reinhold.
- Removed on the behalf of the Presbytery, from the roll of the Presbyterian Church, (U.S.A.) on April 7, 2026, the Reverend **Brandon K. Hood**. Reverend Hood as accepted membership in another denomination, A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians.
- On April 7, 2026, approved a revised examination process for examinations by the COM. Examinations for ordination, commissioning, membership and fit will now be conducted by a separate examinations committee of the COM with three to five members. The examination will be at least one week prior to the COM stated meeting. The examinations will take place at the Presbytery office, and the examinee will be present in person. A report and recommendation will then be made to the entire COM.

Pastoral Relations

-Ordained: **None**

-Deceased: the Reverend Stanley H.K. Lin on March 24, 2026, in Venice, FL.

-Received: **None**

-Dismissed: **None**

-Dismissed and removed from the rolls: the Reverend **Brandon K. Hood**, to East Central Presbytery, A Covenant Order of

Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO), effective April 28, 2026.

-Installed: **None**

-Dissolutions: The Reverend **Kristin Reinhold** and the congregation of Stone House Church, Toano, April 6, 2026.

-Honorably Retired: the Reverend **Addie Naomi Peterson** on January 31, 2026, and the Reverend **Michelle Dickerson "Mike" Burcher**, on April 30, 2026.

NOMINATIONS

The Reverend Dr. **Michael T. Condrey**, moderator

The Nominations Committee places the following names in nomination:

Member, Commission on Preparation for the Ministry

The Reverend **Nelson Lee Steinert** (Class of 2029)

Member, Commission on Ministry

The Reverend Dr. **Jeffrey S. Bell** (Class of 2028)

Elder Commissioner of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic

Ruling Elder **Thomas Holt** (First Church, Hampton) (Class of 2029)

Trustee of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia, Inc.

The Reverend **Donald P. Troast** (Class of 2028)

Ruling Elder **Larry H. Hull** (Second) (Class of 2028)

Ruling Elder **Karen Dixon** (Providence) (Class of 2029)

Trustee of John Knox Homes, Inc.

The Reverend Donald P. Troast (Class of 2028)

Ruling Elder Karen Dixon (Providence) (Class of 2029)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Reverend Dr. **John E. Morgan**, moderator.

***MOTION:** The Presbytery received the report of the Presbytery Board of Trustees and said that the report be printed in the minutes of this meeting.

ACTIONS:

Actions for the February 12, 2026, meeting:

•Trustees approved the typical end-of-year transfers of funds from the Church Legacy Funds and the Community Ministry Funds for the typical end-of-year transfers of funds for the Congregational Vitality Team and the Compassion, Peace & Justice Team to offset the 2025 budget.

•Trustees approved the use of the funds in Presbytery's Towne Bank Account as the first source of funding for the Church Property Capital Needs Improvement Grants Program and the Small Church Leadership Program until exhausted.

• Trustees approved to transfer any funds exceeding the FDIC insurance limit in the Presbytery's Truist Operating Checking Account to the New Covenant Trust Money Market Account.

•Trustees appointed RE **Micheal Broadhurst** as the independent third-party reviewer for Presbytery's bank reconciliations and financial books on a quarterly basis.

Actions for the March 24, 2026, meeting:

•Trustees approved the cost share severance package between Stone House Presbyterian Church and their pastor. Stone House Presbyterian Church's responsibility total is \$17,613.00 and the Presbytery's responsibility is \$20,742.00; severance agreement period is April - September of 2026.

Actions for April 9, 2026, meeting:

•Trustees approved the transfer of \$25,000.00 from the donor restricted income Endowment PCUSA Camp and Conference (interest earned) to the PCUSA Camp & Conference Temporarily Restricted Fund to be used for PCUSA Camp and Conference scholarships.

•Trustees approved that RE **Roxie O. Holder** be elected as the Secretary of Corporation contingent upon her election as Stated Clerk on April 28, 2026.

•Trustees approved RE Holder as a signatory for the Truist Bank account and removed RE Q. John Tamm contingent upon the Stated Clerk election on April 28, 2026.

COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY (CPM)

The Reverend **Carter Melvin Jones**, moderator.

***MOTION:** The narrative report of the CPM was received by the Presbytery and printed in the minutes of this meeting.

Narrative Report

We currently have six candidates under care. Three candidates are actively seeking a call.

COMPASSION PEACE & JUSTICE MINISTRIES (CPJ)

Elder **Gerry Ellis** (Denbigh United), Moderator

**PEACEMAKING MINISTRY TEAM
RECOMMENDATIONS TO PRESBYTERY:**

MOTION: That the Narrative Report of the Peacemaking Ministry Team be received by the Presbytery and printed in the minutes of this meeting.

ACTIONS TAKEN:

GraceInside Prison Ministry - The Compassion, Peace & Justice Ministries Team expressed enthusiasm about providing support now and agreed to consider GraceInside for inclusion in the 2027 CPJ budget during the next budget planning cycle.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved that \$1,000 be dispersed from PEVA's share of the Peace & Global Witness Offering to GraceInside Prison Ministry.

Service of Inclusion and Welcome - After hearing a presentation from Rev. Lyndsey McCall-Gilliam, the Compassion, Peace & Justice Ministries Team voted to endorse the service and approved announcing it at the April 2026 Presbytery meeting. Dr. McCall-Gilliam will be invited to speak at the April meeting.

HUNGER MINISTRY TEAM

NARRATIVE REPORT

FOOD CLOSET, PANTRY, OUTREACH, CREATION CARE & GOOD NEWS AROUND PEVA: MATTHEW 25 IN ACTION:

SECOND PC - partners with and supports a wide range of local organizations to address hunger, education, housing stability, and community well-being across Hampton Roads. Partners include St. Columba Ecumenical Ministries, which provides food pantry services, clothing assistance, transitional housing, and financial support, and Park Place Child Life Center, which supports children and youth through literacy programs,

arts-based after-school activities, and neighborhood enrichment. Additional partnerships include St. Mary's Soup Kitchen, where Second PC members regularly volunteer to prepare and serve weekly meals; Youth Outreach Urban Resources & Services (YOURS), a faith-based leadership and outreach program serving at-risk middle and high school students and supported by Lafayette PC and First PC, Norfolk; and LAUNCH (Learning, Access, Unity, Nutrition, Career, and Health), a collaborative network that offers monthly resource distribution and community services. Through LAUNCH, Second Presbyterian Church supports the Peace on Earth LAUNCH Christmas Event, a community-wide outreach held each December in Norfolk, Virginia. Volunteers assist with logistics, hospitality, and coordination, offering a visible expression of unity, compassion, and faith-based service within the community. Other PEVA churches, including First United PC and Royster Memorial PC, support the Prince of Peace event, while New Horizon PC, Lafayette PC, and First PC, Norfolk also support broader LAUNCH initiatives. Second PC received a both a Peacemaking and Hunger grant to support the Prince of Peace event, Park Place initiatives, and the church's Feed My Sheep Hunger Ministry in late 2025.

Second PC also supports Tidewater Pastoral Counseling Services, which provides pastoral counseling and education to individuals and families of all backgrounds, and the Norfolk Street Choir Project, a ministry that serves unsheltered neighbors through music, arts, meals, and access to essential services in a safe and affirming environment. In addition to the many local outreach partnership, Second PC supports international mission partners, including the Seidels in Germany, Youth with a Mission (YWAM), and Campus Crusade for Christ in East Asia.

ENROLLMENT REPORT

51 ministers of the Word and Sacrament
51 Ruling Elder
102 Total voting members
27 Visitors
129 Total Registered

•The offering was for the PEVA Migrant's & Seasonal Farmworkers' Ministry in the amount of \$1,726.00.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday July 28, 2026, at 10:00 am, at
Hilton Presbyterian Church, Newport
News.