



PEVA PACKET
PRESBYTERY OF EASTERN VIRGINIA
144TH STATED MEETING
Saturday, January 24, 2026, at 10:00 am
King's Grant Church, Virginia Beach, VA

***We build bridges across divides to deepen connection
to Christ and one another to serve the world.***

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Please be sure to view and/or download other documents that complement this report and are posted separately at
<https://www.pcusa-peva.org/meeting>



ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. CHILD CARE – Childcare will be provided for this Presbytery Meeting with the following requirements:

- a. Only children aged 7 and under.
- b. Parent is to provide bag lunch for child.
- c. No medications or special needs to be met by caregivers.
- d. **Reservations must be made to** the secretary or office administrator of King's Grant Church at 757-340-2840 **by Noon, Tuesday, January 20, 2026.**

2. NOTE TIME - MEETING BEGINS AT 10:00 am.

3. MEAL – COST FOR PRE-MEETING & RECESS SNACKS IS \$5.00. Cash and checks accepted. Please make checks out to PEVA.

4. REGISTRATION - Registration of Minister Commissioners, Ruling Elder Commissioners, and Visitors at Presbytery Meetings will be done using three lists -

- A roster of Minister and Commissioned Ruling Elder Members of Presbytery as well as Council members and Presbytery officers to initial.
- A list of churches for Ruling Elder Commissioners.
- A sheet for all others to print name, organization, and indicate position (alternate ruling elder commissioners, ministers from other presbyteries, DCEs, visitors, etc.). Persons will be available to assist you.

5. REPORTS – Recommended actions of Commissions/Ministry Teams/Committee are listed first in the reports with other information following. Those actions recommended for the Consent Agenda are indicated with an asterisk (*).

6. ACTIONS – By action of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia, at its stated meeting of January 23, 1999, held at First Presbyterian Church, Portsmouth, Virginia, in matters in debate before Presbytery, each speaker is limited to three minutes, with speakers alternating between those in favor of the motion and those opposed. Robert's Rules of Order state that speakers may not speak more than twice on an issue and the second time only after everyone has had an opportunity to speak once.

7. MOTIONS/AMENDMENTS TO MOTIONS – Motions or amendments to motions are to be provided to the Clerks at registration in writing. Forms are available from the Clerks. **This rule will be enforced.**

8. DISTRIBUTION OF PAPERS – Any papers or other documentation not included in the Presbytery Packet or Pick-up Packet must be approved by two-thirds vote of the members present to be distributed at the meeting.

9. SPEAK OUT – Speak out has been discontinued. Information may be provided in writing to the Journal Clerk rrodrigues@pcusa-peva.org for publication in PEVA News & Events Around Presbytery by January 14, 2026.

10. DISPLAYS – Visit the display area to see what is available.

11. SESSION RECORDS – Representatives (including ministers) from the following churches are requested to pick up their records: Naomi Makemie, St. Andrew, Christ, Bethany, Suffolk.

12. NEXT STATED MEETING: The **next stated meeting of Presbytery** is Tuesday, April 28, 2025, 10:00 am, at **Second Presbyterian Church, 7305 Hampton Blvd., Norfolk, VA.**

DIRECTIONS

to King's Grant Presbyterian Church
745 Little Neck Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23452-5813
Telephone 757-340-2840

**** From Peninsula** – Take I64 east to I264 east towards Virginia Beach. Go east on I264. Go six miles to exit 18, Rosemont Road. Exit on 18 to bottom of ramp. Take a left at the traffic light at the bottom of the ramp. Proceed to Virginia Beach Boulevard and turn right. Go to the next traffic light, Little Neck Road and turn left. There is a Home Depot store on the northeast corner and Virginia Beach's social services complex on the northwest corner. Continue approximately one mile into the neighborhood. King's Grant Church is on the left, with two parking lot entrances.

**** From Downtown Tunnel or Downtown Norfolk** – Take I264 east towards Virginia Beach. Go six miles to exit 18, Rosemont Road. Exit on 18 to bottom of ramp. Take a left at the traffic light at the bottom of the ramp. Proceed to Virginia Beach Boulevard and turn right. Go to the next traffic light, Little Neck Road and turn left. There is a Home Depot store on the northeast corner and Virginia Beach's social services complex on the northwest corner. Continue approximately one mile into the neighborhood. King's Grant Church is on the left, with two parking lot entrances.

**** From Eastern Shore** – Cross the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel. Continue on Northampton Boulevard to the ramp for Independence Boulevard, South. Take the south ramp and continue south on Independence Boulevard to Virginia Beach Town Center (approximately six miles). Turn left at Virginia Beach Boulevard. Travel east on Virginia Beach Boulevard. After about three miles there is a traffic light at Little Neck Road where you turn left. There is a Home Depot store on the northeast corner and Virginia Beach's social services complex on the northwest corner. Continue approximately one mile into the neighborhood. King's Grant Church is on the left, with two parking lot entrances.

**** From Zuni, Franklin, Suffolk, Chesapeake** – Take US58 to I664 towards Chesapeake. I664 becomes I64 west towards Virginia Beach or Norfolk. Take I64 west to I264 east towards Virginia Beach. Go east on I264 six miles to exit 18, Rosemont Road. Exit on 18 to bottom of ramp. Take a left at the traffic light at the bottom of the ramp. Proceed to Virginia Beach Boulevard and turn right. Go to the next traffic light, Little Neck Road and turn left. There is a Home Depot store on the northeast corner and Virginia Beach's social services complex on the northwest corner. Continue approximately one mile into the neighborhood. King's Grant Church is on the left, with two parking lot entrances.

Goggle Maps Directions:
<https://www.google.com/maps/>

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SEEKING TO BE FAITHFUL TOGETHER:

Guidelines for Presbyterians During Times of Disagreement

Adopted by the 204th General Assembly (1992) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

In a spirit of trust and love, we promise we will...

1. Treat each other respectfully so as to build trust, believing that we all desire to be faithful to Jesus the Christ;

- we will keep our conversations and communications open for candid and forthright exchange,
- we will not ask questions or make statements in a way that will intimidate or judge others.

2. Learn about various positions on the topic of disagreement.

3. State what we think we heard and ask for clarification before responding, in an effort to be sure we understand each other.

4. Share our concerns directly with individuals or groups with whom we have disagreements in a spirit of love and respect in keeping with Jesus' teachings.

5. Focus on ideas and suggestions instead of questioning people's motives, intelligence or integrity;

- we will not engage in name-calling or labeling of others prior to, during or following the discussion.

6. Share our personal experiences about the subject of disagreement so that others may more fully understand our concerns.

7. Indicate where we agree with those of other viewpoints as well as where we disagree.

8. Seek to stay in community with each other though the discussion may be vigorous and full of tension;

- we will be ready to forgive and be forgiven.

9. Follow these additional guidelines when we meet in decision-making bodies:

- urge people of various points of view to speak and promise to listen to these positions seriously
- seek conclusions informed by our points of agreement;
- be sensitive to the feelings and concerns of those who do not agree with the majority and respect their rights of conscience;
- abide by the decision of the majority, and if we disagree with it and wish to change it, work for that change in ways that are consistent with these Guidelines.

10. Include our disagreement in our prayers, not praying for the triumph of our viewpoints, but seeking God's grace to listen attentively, to speak clearly and to remain open to the vision God holds for us all.

Give them a hearing... listen before we answer
(John 7:51 and Proverbs 18:13)

Speak the truth in love
(Ephesians 4:15)

Maintain the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace
(Ephesians 4:3)

As Presbyterians, we are called to work for the “peace, unity and purity of the Church”

(Book of Order) as we seek to be faithful to God’s work in the world. However, disagreements

and conflicts are inevitable in the life of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as we try to be faithful. They exist within committees, congregations, presbyteries, synods, at General Assemblies and in the national life of the denomination.

Conflicts are inevitable in all of life and certainly in the church. The history of the church is filled with conflicts and disagreements. Several of Paul’s letters address the conflicts that were common in the early church. There have been and are going to be disagreements as Christians attempt to discern God’s work in the world and as we interpret Scripture.

Conflicts can be harmful and even destructive. They can cause individuals a great deal of pain and the community of faith immeasurable damage. Congregations have been divided; denominations have experienced schisms.

At the same time, conflicts can be an opportunity for new insights, learning, and individual and corporate growth. Disagreements can illuminate a topic in helpful ways and can present solutions to problems that previously had not been seen. The successful resolution of conflict can also bind people together in a powerful way.

The Bible contains many stories of conflict and disagreement and much advice about how they can be addressed. As those stories indicate, God is already present wherever there is brokenness, granting wholeness and peace. God promises to be with us in times of disagreement and calls us to reconciliation, trust, love and forgiveness.

We realize that our perspectives are limited, so to help us affirm each other, enhance our community, stay open to the viewpoints of others and be sensitive to cultural diversity, we commit ourselves to the Guidelines in a spirit of prayer, trust and love, seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

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CIVIL DEBATE IN PEVA (EZ RROO)

SPEAK ONCE - each speaker should go to a microphone and when recognized, limit your comments to 3 minutes [Announcements 6. ACTIONS – PEVA Packet]

BE NICE – always respectful and courteous; no clapping or booing [Seeking to be Faithful Together – PEVA Packet]

MOTIONS – motions or amendments must be in writing to the Clerks [Announcements 7 – PEVA Packet]

STEPS OF THE MOTION [Adapted from *Parliamentary Procedures in Presbyterian Church (USA)* by Marianne L. Wolfe, PRP]

1. *Commissioner* rises and addresses the Moderator.
2. *Moderator* recognizes commissioner and grants the floor.
3. *Commissioner* makes motion. (No debate)
4. *Another commissioner* seconds the motion without recognition from the Moderator.
5. *Moderator* states the motion.
6. *Moderator* calls for debate. (Maker of the motion has the privilege of first debate.) All speakers must address the Moderator and be recognized by the Moderator.
7. *Moderator* states the motion.
8. *Moderator* takes the vote and announces the results.

USEFUL MOTIONS [Adapted from *Parliamentary Procedures in Presbyterian Church (USA)* by Marianne L. Wolfe, PRP]

1. Amend. There are only three forms of simple amendment.
 - a) to delete or strike out
 - b) to add or insert
 - c) to strike out and insertThe words proposed for deletion or addition *must be consecutive words*.
2. Commit or Refer. To commit or refer back to committee for further study.
3. Postpone to a Particular Time. This motion takes precedence over the preceding two and has the power to grant additional time to a particular member or committee or do further study or consultation. It should always be used in preference to "table" because it permits debate on the propriety of postponement.
4. Previous Question. The maker of the motion "to move the previous question" (close debate and immediately take the vote) must be recognized by the Moderator and the motion must receive a second. *It is never in order when called from the floor*. This motion should never be considered when it is used to prevent legitimate debate.
5. Lay on Table. This motion is seldom necessary. The motion "to postpone" is always preferable because of its lower rank and its debatability. Misuse of this subsidiary motion can be a strategy that seriously abridges the rights of the assembly because of its high rank and its adoption by a majority vote without debate. The Moderator is obligated to explain carefully to the assembly the implications of this motion should it be made.

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and one another to serve the world.**

“SNOW” DOCKET

PRESBYTERY OF EASTERN VIRGINIA
144TH STATED MEETING

“Taste and See that the Lord Is Good”

Saturday, January 24, 2026, at **9:30 am**

HYBRID MEETING

King's Grant Church, Virginia Beach, VA

Offering is for PEVA’s Hunger Grant

<https://abundant.co/peva/pevamtgjan2026>



Check in at 9 am

Prelude	“Song of Ruth” Dr. Tonya Holland, piano	J. Martin
Call to Order, Opening Prayer (10 am)	The Rev. Dr. Christina “Chris” Carrasco Moderator	
Quorum	Stated Clerk, Ruling Elder (RE) Q. John Tamm	
Adoption of Docket	Stated Clerk	
Consent Agenda	Stated Clerk	
Land Acknowledgement	RE Roxie Holder (New Horizons)	
Welcome to King’s Grant Presbyterian Church	The Rev. Kailey Stephens	
Call To Worship	Rev. Stephens	
Opening Hymn #548 “May God Support You All Your Days” KGPC Praise Team and congregation	Text: David Gambrell	
Confession Prayer/Assurance of Pardon	The Rev. Kimberly Priddy	
Sung Scripture Hymn #520 “Taste and See” Psalm 34	Verses - KGPC Praise Team Refrain - Congregation	
Scripture	Luke 22:14-23	
Sermon	“Put Your Oxygen Mask on First”	Dr. Carrasco
Sermon Response	“Goodness of God” KGPC Praise Team, Dr. Holland, soloist and congregation on refrain	J. Johnson
Anthem	“Follow Me” KGPC Sanctuary Choir	T. Osiek
Presbytery Council	RE Joyce Melvin-Jones , moderator (Carver Memorial)	
2026 Budget Proposal		
Presbytery of Eastern Virginia Overture to the 226th General Assembly (2026)		
Offertory Announcement	The Rev. Dr. Lyndsey McCall-Gilliam RE Jessica Fitzgerald (Third)	

Presbytery of Eastern Virginia's Nickel-a-Meal Hunger Grant
KGPC Chancel Bells - "Rigaudon" by Handel/Ivey

Offertory Prayer

RE Fitzgerald

Compassion Peace & Justice

RE **Gerry Ellis** (Denbigh United)

Suzy Farley – King's Grant SERVE Ministry Team

Nominations

RE **Linda Smith**

Unfinished Business

Supporting Small Churches with Pastoral Leadership

Dr. McCall-Gilliam

New Business

Recognition Outgoing Moderator the Rev. Dr. Chris Carrasco

Dr. Long

Installation of Incoming Moderator & Vice Moderator

Dr. Carrasco

The Rev. Dr. **Garrett B. Bugg** and
Commissioned Pastor **Sidnia "Sid" Etherington** (Lafayette)

Prayers of the People

Rev. Valena Hoy

Song

"Come to the Table" Sidewalk Prophets
KGPC Praise Team, Chuck Sandford – soloist, with congregation refrain

Commissioning of the People

The Rev. Dr. Garrett B. Bugg, Moderator

Break

Information and Blessing Before the break Meal break Dr. Carrasco
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper Dr. Carrasco and Rev. Stephens

Hymn #507 "Come to the Table of Grace" Congregation
Musicians: Alex Carrasco, Susan Kerr, and Dr. Tonya Holland.

Benediction and Adjournment

Dr. Bugg

The Presbytery Council (PC) of PEVA is charged with planning and organizing the meetings of the Presbytery and they would like to hear each commissioner's thoughts or comments on the meeting. Scan the QR code to take the survey, visit www.pcusa-peva.org/survey, or fill in the survey form you received at registration.



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CONSENT AGENDA/ACTION ITEMS
January 24, 2026

(NOTE: On request, any item will be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion at the time of the affected report if there is docket time remaining, otherwise at the time for new business.)

A Summary of the motions has been published separately.

MOTION: That Presbytery approve the following **RECOMMENDATION(S)** (items in the reports indicated by an asterisk (*) are recommended for consent agenda approval):

***REPORT of the STATED CLERK** [10-14] That the narrative report be received and printed in the Minutes of this meeting and that the RECOMMENDATIONS #1, #2, and #3 be approved.

***COMMISSION ON MINISTRY** [15-20] That RECOMMENDATIONS #1 be approved: that the ACTIONS taken by the Commission on Ministry and the narrative report be received by the Presbytery and printed in the minutes of this meeting.

***PRESBYTERY COUNCIL** [21-26] That RECOMMENDATIONS #1, and 2, be considered at the time of the meeting. That RECOMMENDATIONS #3, #4, and #5 be approved: that the Presbytery receive the actions taken by the Presbytery Council as reported in the Narrative Report and that they be printed in the minutes of this meeting

***CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY TEAM** [27] That RECOMMENDATION #1 be approved: That the narrative report of the CVT be received by the Presbytery and printed in the minutes of this meeting.

***NOMINATIONS** [28] That RECOMMENDATION #1 be considered at the time of the report and that RECOMMENDATION #2 be approved: That the report of the Nominations committee be received by the Presbytery and printed in the minutes of this meeting.

***PRESBYTERY BOARD OF TRUSTEES** [29-30] That RECOMMENDATIONS#1 that the Presbytery receive the report of the Presbytery Board of Trustees and the report be printed in the minutes of this meeting.

***COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY** [31] That RECOMMENDATION #1 be approved: that the narrative report, be received and printed in the Minutes of this meeting.

***COMPASSION PEACE & JUSTICE MINISTRIES (CPJ)** [32-37]

***PEACEMAKING MINISTRY TEAM** [32] That RECOMMENDATION#1 be approved: that the action of the Peacemaking Team and the narrative report be received and printed in the Minutes of this meeting.

***HUNGER MINISTRY TEAM** [34] That RECOMMENDATION#1 be approved: that the narrative report of the Hunger Ministry Team be received and printed in the Minutes of this meeting.

***SESSION RECORDS REVIEW** [38] That RECOMMENDATION #1 be approved: That the Presbytery receive the report for the Third Quarter of 2025 and that it be printed in the minutes of this meeting.

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STATED CLERK
Report to Presbytery
Ruling Elder **Q. John Tamm**, Stated Clerk
January 24, 2026

A. RECOMMENDATIONS to Presbytery: The Stated Clerk **RECOMMENDS** to Presbytery:

***1. MOTION:** That Chairs of Presbytery agencies and committees, not otherwise members of Presbytery for this meeting, be given privilege of the floor with voice but not vote.

Motion Made _____ Approved _____ Disapproved _____

***2. MOTION:** Those churches based on the 2024 Statistical Report and the parity rules, be authorized to elect ruling elder commissioners to presbytery meetings as follows:

Churches with 2000-2500 members (4 elders each) – First Norfolk

Churches with 501-1000 members (2 elders each) – First Virginia Beach, Great Bridge, Williamsburg.

Racial Ethnic Churches (2 elders each) – Carver Memorial, Community Portsmouth, First United, New Horizons

Churches authorized an additional elder based on number of pastors (less than 501 members) – Bayside, Denbigh United, King's Grant, KirkWood, Second Norfolk, Wycliffe

Remaining churches authorized one elder commissioner.

Note: In accordance with the Book of Order, G-3.0301 and the Manual of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia, a recommendation is made annually to the Presbytery concerning any imbalance of teaching and ruling elders based on the determination of resident ministers less those ministers that have not attended meetings in the past two years as approved at the January 26, 2013, Presbytery meeting. As of January 1, 2026, there were 112 minister members, less 5 honorably retired ministers who had not attended meetings for the past two years for a total of 107 ministers. Sessions are entitled to send a total of 60 ruling elder commissioners to each presbytery meeting plus three ruling elder members of Presbytery by virtue of office, one Certified Christian Educator, five commissioned pastors (CP), and four ruling elder members of the Presbytery Council, making a total of 73 ruling elders eligible to vote.

Motion Made _____ Approved _____ Disapproved _____

***3. MOTION:**

A. ACTIONS:

BY ACTION OF THE PRESBYTERY OF EASTERN VIRGINIA, AT ITS STATED MEETING OF JANUARY 23, 1999, HELD AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA, IN MATTERS IN DEBATE BEFORE PRESBYTERY, EACH SPEAKER IS LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES, WITH SPEAKERS ALTERNATING BETWEEN THOSE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION AND THOSE OPPOSED. Presbytery is reminded that, according to Robert's Rules of Order, speakers may not speak more than twice on an issue, and the second time only after everyone has had an opportunity to speak once.

B. MINISTERS:

ORDAINED/DECEASED/RECEIVED/DISMISSED/INSTALLED/DISSOLUTIONS/ RETIRED/ SINCE the October 28, 2025, REPORT

-Ordained: the Reverend **Andrea Jacqueline Alvord Wood** on December 21, 2025, at First Presbyterian Church, Norfolk, VA.

-Deceased: None

-Received: On November 4, 2025, the Reverend **Kimberly Knowles Priddy** from Salem Presbytery, Clemmons, NC, as the pastor of Great Bridge Presbyterian Church, Chesapeake. On December 2, 2025, the Reverend **Caroline B. "Carrie" Evans**, from Coastal Carolina Presbytery, Elizabethtown, NC, as the pastor of Bayside Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach.

-Dismissed: None

-Installed: On November 23, 2025, the Reverend **Kailey Noel Stephens**, as the associate pastor of King's Grant Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach.

-Dissolutions: None

-Honorable Retired: None

C. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. A letter dated November 10, 2025, to Ruling Elder **Stuart Nesbit** (First Church, VAB) outlining the examination requirements for the office of commissioned pastor.
2. Correspondence dated November 10, 2025, forwarding a request to establish a Commission to Ordain Andrea Alvord Wood on December 21, 2025, at First Church, Norfolk.
3. A letter dated November 11, 2025, from **Walter Iacovone**, Esq., Margolis and Edelstein, Attorneys at Law, Mt. Laurel, NJ, providing a copy of a deposition of the Reverend (sic) **Alyssa Mitchell**.
4. Correspondence dated November 11, 2025, to the Reverend **Valena M. Hoy** forwarding a draft of an order of worship for an ordination service.
5. Correspondence dated November 11, 2025, forwarding a color copy of the logo of the Presbyterian Church, (U.S.A.) to Archbell Signs, Norfolk.
6. Correspondence dated November 12, 2025, from the Interim Unified Agency, (IUA), transmitting the Quarterly Resource Preview.
7. Correspondence dated November 13, 2025, with a candidate for Ministry, with proposed language for invitations to an ordination.
8. Correspondence dated November 17, 2025, with a chairman of Associate Pastor Nominating Committee in the James Presbytery (Richmond, VA)
9. Correspondence dated November 19, 2025, receiving a copy of a pending terms of call from a Pastor Nominating Committee.
10. Correspondence dated November 19, 2025, receiving a copy of an interim pastor agreement from a church session.
11. Correspondence dated November 19, 2025, receiving a copy of an interim pastor agreement from a church session.
12. Correspondence dated November 24, 2025, forwarding to a minister member copies of real estate agreements from Los Ranchos Presbytery, Orange, CA.
13. Correspondence dated November 25, 2025, from the Session Records' Committee, requesting reimbursement for US Postage expense.
14. A letter dated November 25, 2025, on the behalf of the Commission on Ministry, to a potential minister member of the Presbytery.
15. Correspondence to the Commission on Ministry, dated November 27, 2025, enclosing the monthly report of the stated clerk.
16. Correspondence with a member congregation, dated December 2, 2025, enclosing an example of an unaffiliated pre-school lease.
17. Correspondence to the Presbytery Council, dated December 4, 2025, enclosing the monthly report of the stated clerk.
18. Correspondence dated December 8, 2025, to a minister member, enclosing a photograph, dated April 14, 1957, of **President Dwight Eisenhower** and **Queen Elizabeth, II**, leaving Covenant United Presbyterian Church, Washington, DC.
19. A letter dated December 10, 2025, from the clerk of session of First Church, Hampton, enclosing the annual terms of call for the pastor.

20. Correspondence dated December 15, 2025, to a minister member enclosing four years of statistics for her congregation.
21. A letter dated December 17, 2025, to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina, Elizabethtown, NC, advising of the reception of the Reverend Caroline B. Evans as a minister member.
22. A letter dated December 17, 2025, to the Stated Clerk of the Salem Presbytery Clemmons, NC, advising of the reception of the Reverend Kimberly Knowles Priddy as a minister member.
23. Correspondence dated January 6, 2026, to the clerk of session of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church of Princess Anne, Virginia Beach, forwarding an approved interim pastor agreement.
- 24.

D. CHURCH REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION

On December 3, 2025, the mortgage held by the Presbytery on the real estate of the dissolved congregation of Squires' Memorial Church, Norfolk, was satisfied for \$165,309.

D. JUDICIAL

In accordance with the Book of Order, D-5.0206b, the roster of those members of the Permanent Judicial Commission whose terms have expired within the past six years are listed for use in constituting a quorum when necessary.

Class of 2026

Rev. Dr. William C. Hedrick
Benjamin Mason (Hiddenwood)
Judy Piersall (Green Acres)

F. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS (*MOTION # 3 CONSENT AGENDA)

Reports:

1. Report and Minutes of the Commission to Install the Reverend Kailey Noel Stephens.

By appointment of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia, the Commission to Install the Reverend Kailey Noel Stephens, King's Grant Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach, met at King's Grant Presbyterian Church on November 23, 2025, at 1:30 pm. Members present at the meeting, and the service, were the Reverend Dr. **Christina Marie B. Carrasco**, Moderator of the Commission, the Reverend Dr. **Helen Louise Ventura**, the Reverend Dr. **Lyndsey McCall-Gilliam**, the Reverend **Robbie Miranda Trussell** (Grace Presbytery), (Ruling Elder (RE) **Jamie Ambrose** (Lynnhaven) and Ruling Elder **Brian Miller** (King's Grant).

A quorum being present, Dr. Carrasco opened the meeting with prayer. Ruling Elder Jamie Ambrose was elected Clerk.

The Commission approved the order of worship and arrangements as printed in the bulletin and then joined and participated in a service of worship with the congregation. There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was declared adjourned by the moderator and closed with prayer by Reverend Stephens.

The Call to Worship and the Call to Confession and the Assurance of Pardon was led by Dr. McCall-Gilliam. The prayer for illumination was offered by **Penny Chidester**. The Scripture was read by **Ellie Chidester**.

Reverend Trussell preached a sermon based on selections from Esther 2-4 and Matthew 5:14-16. The Litany of Ministries was led by RE Ambrose. The constitutional questions were asked of the candidate by the Moderator, and of the congregation by RE Miller. These being answered in the affirmative, Rev. Kailey Noel Stephens was installed by the Presbytery with prayer by Dr. McCall-Gilliam and the laying on of hands. The Moderator, Dr. Carrasco, made the statement of installation

RE Ambrose delivered the charge to the newly installed associate pastor.

Dr. Ventura delivered the charge to the congregation.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered by Rev. Stephens.

The Commission extended the right hand of fellowship to the newly installed associate pastor. The service was concluded with a statement and the benediction pronounced by the Reverend Kailey Noel Stephens.

/s/ the Reverend Dr. Christina Marie B. Carrasco, moderator of the Commission

/s/ Ruling Elder Jamie Ambrose, clerk of the Commission

2. By appointment of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia, the Commission to ordain **Andrea Jacqueline Alvord Wood** as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament at First Presbyterian Church, Norfolk met at the church on December 21, 2025.

Members present were the Reverend Dr. **Christina M. Carrasco**, Moderator, the Reverend Dr. **Melissa S. Long**, General Presbyter, the Reverend **Valena M. Hoy**, the Reverend **James M. Wood**, Ruling Elder **Karen Harris**, First Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach, and Ruling Elder **Peggy Mackey**, First Presbyterian Church, Norfolk Also present and sitting with the Commission, Deacon **Greg Alvord**, First Presbyterian Church, Norfolk.

A quorum being present, the Moderator, Rev. Dr. Carrasco convened the meeting. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Carrasco and Rev. Hoy was elected Clerk. The Commission approved the order of worship and arrangements as printed in the bulletin and then joined in a service of worship with the congregation.

Rev. Wood preached a sermon on Hebrews 12:1-2 entitled "A Great Cloud of Witnesses". The Moderator recited the proceedings of Presbytery leading up to this service. The constitutional questions were asked of Andrea Alvord Wood by Rev. Dr. Carrasco. These being answering in the affirmative, Andrea Alvord Wood was ordained as an Evangelist in the PC(USA). The installation prayer was given by Rev. Hoy.

The Commission extended the right hand of fellowship to the newly ordained pastor. The charge to the pastor was delivered by Rev. Dr. Long. The service was concluded with the benediction pronounced by the newly ordained pastor, Rev. Andrea Alvord Wood.

/s/ the Reverend Dr. Christina M. Carrasco, moderator of the Commission

/s/ the Reverend Valena M. Hoy, clerk of the Commission

3. The Administrative Commission (AC) to Stone House Presbyterian Church, Toano, VA.

The Reverend **Andrew P. Whitehead**

The Reverend **Pamela D. Hrncir**

Ruling Elder **Sarah Houghland** (Hiddenwood)

An Administrative Commission (Commission) for the Stone House Presbyterian Church, Toano was approved by the Presbytery on July 22, 2025, with the purpose of reviewing the church' finances for the Session and the church's Finance Committee, and to assure compliance with *Book of Order*.

The Administrative Commission has completed its work.

***MOTION:** That the Presbytery dismiss with gratitude the Administrative Commission to Stone House Church, Toano.

Motion Made **Approved** **Disapproved**

G. ANNUAL MINISTERIAL SUMMARY REPORT FOR 2025

The Presbytery of Eastern Virginia submitted its annual Ministerial Summary Report to the Office of the General Assembly for the year ending December 31, 2025. The Presbytery had 112 ordained ministers, five commissioned pastors, six candidates for ministry and no inquirers. The following changes for ministers are reported and the candidates listed:

Received	Presbytery	Date
Geneviéve Beauchamp	Peace River, FL	08/05/2025
Kailey Noel Stephens	Grace, TX	10/19/2025
Kimberly Knowles Priddy	Salem, NC	11/04/2025
Caroline B. Evans	Coastal Carolina	12/02/2025

Dismissed		
Elizabeth Grace "Liza" Hendricks	Mid-Kentucky	06/03/2025

Honorably Retired		
Barbara B. Shefelton		01/25/2025
James A. Goodbow		07/22/2025
L. Monica Gould		09/25/2025

Ordained		
Mary V. Brown		09/21/2025
Andrea Alvord Wood		12/21/2025

Necrology	Place of death	Date
None		

PASTOR RELATIONS

Installations	Church	Date
Laura M. Crihfield	Yorkminster	02/16/2025
Pamela D. Hrncir	Williamsburg	03/15/2025
Kailey Noel Stephens	King's Grant	11/23/2025

Dissolutions	Church	Date
L. Monica Gould	Francis Makemie & Naomi Makemie	09/25/2025

CANDIDATES FOR MINISTRY

Candidates	Church
Carol Bayma	Royster Memorial
Donna Graves	KirkWood
Donna Herring	Williamsburg
Lauren Hoak	Williamsburg
Marcy Wright	Carver Memorial
Summer Moore	Second

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COMMISSION ON MINISTRY (COM)

Report to the Presbytery

The Reverend **Charles M. Tucker**, moderator

January 24, 2026

Members: Elder **Leslie Brooks** (Hidenwood), Rev. Dr. **Michael T. Condrey**, Elder **Robin Cowherd** (1st Norfolk), Rev. **Clark DeSarro-Raynal**, Rev. Dr. **Wilbur C. Douglass, III**, Rev. **L. Monica Gould**, Rev. **Elizabeth M. "Beth" Hilkerbaumer**, Elder **Roxie O. Holder** (New Horizons), Elder **Tom Holt** (1st Hampton), Rev. **Pamela D. Hrncir**, Elder **Bruce Knight** (KirkWood), Rev. Dr. **Melissa S. Long**, General Presbyter, Rev. **Lyndsey Marie McCall-Gilliam**, Elder **David McKercher** (St. Andrew), Rev. **Catherine Hart Monroe**, Elder **Yvette Myrick** (1st United), Rev. **Jaechul "Jay" Pi**, Elder **Gail Pittman** (1st Portsmouth), Rev. Dr. **Christian R. Shearer**, Elder **Q. John Tamm** (1st VAB) Stated Clerk, Rev. **Veronica M. Thomas**, Rev. **Charles M. Tucker** (Moderator), Rev. Dr. **Helen Louise "Lou" Ventura**, Elder **Kenneth Wheeler** (Providence), and Elder **Marcy Wright**, (Carver Memorial)

MINISTERS TO BE INTRODUCED TO THE PRESBYTERY

The Reverend **Kimberly Knowles Priddy**, Pastor, Great Bridge Presbyterian Church, Chesapeake.

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

Reverend **Stanley H. Lin**—60 years
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:

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

Motion Made **Approved** **Disapproved**

Actions taken by the COM:

1. On November 4, 2025, approved the request to form an installation commission to install the Rev. **Kailey Noel Stephens** at King's Grant Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach.
2. On November 4, 2025, approved Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church's (Virginia Beach) Leadership Connection listing for a Designated Pastor.
3. On November 4, 2025, approved Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church's (Virginia Beach) proposed Designated Pastor compensation package.
4. On November 4, 2025, received the report of the Stone House Church, Toano, Administrative Commission.
5. On November 4, 2025, approved a policy that commissioned pastors will be commissioned to serve the entire Presbytery as defined in the *Book of Order*, G-2. 1001.

6. On December 2, 2025, approved the Covenant Pastor Agreement between Calvin Presbyterian Church, Norfolk and the Rev. Dr. **Larry O. Toney** effective 3/1/2026.
7. On December 2, 2025, approved the Interim/Transitional Pastor Covenant extension between St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Suffolk and the Rev. Dr. **Helen Louise "Lou" Ventura**, effective 1/6/2026 through 1/5/2027.
8. On December 2, 2025, approved the Commission to Ordain Candidate **Andrea Alvord Wood** as a minister of the Word and Sacrament, on December 21, 2025, at First Presbyterian Church, Norfolk.
9. On December 2, 2025, received from the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina the Rev. **Caroline B. Evans** as a minister member of the Presbytery and approved her to be the Pastor at Bayside Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach.
10. On December 2, 2025, approved the terms of call between Rev. Caroline B. Evans and the congregation of Bayside Presbyterian Church.
11. On December 2, 2025, approved the Rev. Dr. **Donna DeSarro-Raynal** as the Interim Pastor at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church of Princess Anne, Virginia Beach.
12. On December 2, 2025, approved the agreement between Rev. Dr. Donna DeSarro-Raynal and the session of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church.
13. On December 2, 2025, approved that the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia establish a Small Church Leadership Fund to be used to provide grants for the healthcare minimum required Board of Pension dues for small congregations seeking pastoral leadership.
14. On December 2, 2025, approved the 2026 Vice Moderator's slate for the Commission on Ministry:

Moderator-the Rev. **Clark DeSarro-Raynal**
 Vice Moderator Examinations-the Rev. Dr. **Wilbur Douglass, III**
 Vice Moderator Liaisons-the Rev. Dr. **Helen Louise "Lou" Ventura**
 Vice Moderator Commissioned Pastors-Elder **Robin Cowherd**
 Vice Moderator Wellness-the Rev. Dr. **Lyndsey McCall-Gilliam**
 Vice Moderator MARS-the Rev. Dr. **Christian R. Shearer**
15. On January 6, 2026, approved Commissioned Pastor **Sidnia "Sid" Etherington** as the moderator of the Session for Third Presbyterian Church for the year 2026.
16. On January 6, 2026, approved the request for honorable retirement from the Rev. **Michelle D. "Mike" Burcher**, effective April 15, 2026.
17. On January 6, 2026, approved the request of the session of Denbigh United Presbyterian Church, Newport News, to lease real property of the church, to the Agape School of the Virginia Peninsula, Inc., in accordance with the *Book of Order*, G-4.0206b.
18. On January 6, 2026, approved the covenant pastor agreement between the session of Bethany Church, Zuni, and the Reverend **Peter T. Atkinson** from 01/01/2026 to 12/31/2026 inclusive.
19. On January 6, 2026, sustained the examination of Ruling Elder **Stuart Nesbit**, (First Church, Virginia Beach) to become a commissioned pastor, commissioned to the Presbytery at large.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF WORK OF MINISTERS

As of January 13, 2026

Pastor – Co-Pastor- 101

Caroline Burslem Evans (Bayside)
Garrett Bradley Bugg (Wycliffe)
Christina Marie B. Carrasco (King's Grant)
Diedre Porter Carson (1st Virginia Beach)
Laura Marie Cribfield (Yorkminster)
Deborah Dalton Dail (Denbigh)
United) Clark DeSarro-Raynal (Hilton)
Brian Hugh Harroff (Royster Memorial)
Elizabeth M. Hilkerbaumer (Green Acres)
John Edward Morgan (Williamsburg)
Eric R. Peltz (1st Hampton)
Joel Matthew Phillips (Providence)
Jaechul Pi (Lynnwood)
Kimberly Knowles Priddy (Great Bridge)
Christian R. Shearer (KirkWood)
Kristin Reinhold (Stone House)
Julie Anna Sterling (Suffolk)
Veronica Martin Thomas (1st United)
Craig S. Wansink (Second)
Brian Jeffrey Wells (Carver Memorial)
Andrew Patrick Whitehead (Hiddenwood)
James Marshall Wood, Jr. (1st Norfolk)

Associate Pastor - 103

Boone D. Clayton (Denbigh United)
Valena Marie Hoy (1st Norfolk)
Pamela Dee Hrncir (Williamsburg)
Lyndsey Marie McCall-Gilliam (Wycliffe)
Emma Lee Ouellette (Bayside)
Nelson Lee Steinert (1st Virginia Beach)
Kailey Noel Stephens (King's Grant)

Interim Pastor or Associate - 105

Donna DeSarro-Raynal (Grace Covenant)
Helen Louise C. Ventura (St. Andrew)

Commissioned Pastor – 107

Paula Bass (Third)
Laura C. Chuquin-Naylor (Powelton)
Randolph C. DuVall (1st Virginia Beach)
Sidnia B. Etherington (Lafayette)
James Hamilton (Greenbrier)
Melinda Stroyeck (Grace Covenant)

Temporary Relationship - 108

Peter Tulane Atkinson (Bethany)
Mary Vincent Brown (Kirkwood)
*Michael T. Condrey (Groves Memorial)
Rebecca Page Lesley (Franklin)
Catherine Hart Monroe (Second)
*Vernon G. Murray (Holmes)
Addie Naomi Peterson (New Horizons)
Donald P. Troast (Jamestown)
Charles M. Tucker (Comm Hampton)

Pastor Emeritus – 109

*Walter C. Hunting (Green Acres)
*Arthur F. Jensen (Ocean View)
*Richard J. Keever (Bayside)
*Eugene S. Soud (Holmes)

Designated Pastor – 191

Geneviéve Beauchamp (Makemie
Churches)
Michelle D. Burcher (Wythe)

Honorably Retired - 299

Rebekah Jeanne Johns Armentrout
Georgianna Brabban Johnson
Elizabeth C. Baker-Smith
Gerritt W. Baker-Smith
Jeffrey S. Bell
Ronald T. Blade
Albert G. Butzer, III
Helen Bessent Byrd
Virginia S. Campbell
James Leighton Carter
Thomas K. Chadwick
Robert M. Close
Michael T. Condrey
Susan H. Cothran
Jan Amaimo Davis
Vincent C. de Lalla
Frances D. Dille
Francis E. Drake
James A. Goodbow
Wilbur C. Douglass, III
George H. Fitzgerald
Steven E. Frazier
Frederick P. Gibbs
M. Coleman Gilchrist
Leigh B. Gillis
L. Monica Gould
Robert W. Gustafson
Edward A. Hanawalt
Elnoria Lofton Harrison
William C. Hedrick
Walter C. Hunting
Arthur F. Jensen
Richard J. Keever
Allen V. Kemp
Deborah M. Kemp
Danny T. Klein
Stanley H. K. Lin
Davis Lee Main
Thomas F. Mainor
Donald R. Martin
Alfred C. McCall, Jr.
Fred L. McCaskill-Baker
Donald E. McLean, Jr

John R. Monroe
J. William Moore
Vernon G. Murray
Barry L. Phillips, Sr.
Linda K. Rainey
Nancy L. Rowland
Lynne E. Savidis
Barbara B. Shefelton
James Skimins
Eugene S. Soud
Irving R. Stubbs
Larry O. Toney
David J. Van Dyke
Louis B. Weeks
Robin E. Wooddell

Evangelist – 301

Andrea J. Alvord Wood

Executive/General Presbyter - 302

Melissa Sumner Long

**Serving Another Denomination,
Ecumenical Agency or Non-
Denominational Agency – 565 (Staff)**

Jennifer M. Spivey (Westminster-
Canterbury)
Carter Melvin Jones (Legacy Hospice)

Educational Institute (Faculty) - 644

**Craig S. Wansink (VA Wesleyan)
Octavius A. Gaba (St. Leo University)
Kimberly R. Wagner (Princeton Theological
Seminary)

Serving Other Institutions - 701

James B. Hoy (Sentara Norfolk General
Hospital)

Serving Other Institutions - 703

*Ronald T. Blade (Pastoral Counseling)
*Georgianna Brabban Johnson (Pastoral
Counseling)
Martha Elizabeth Mitchell (Insight
Therapists)

Navy Chaplain - 761

Autumn Butler-Saeger (USS Kearsarge)
(LHD3)
Brandon K. Hood (US Naval Station,
Norfolk)
Jeffrey C. Quinn (7th Fleet, Yokosuka,
Japan)

Member at Large - 797

Aram Bae Feinberg
Meredith L. Gantt
Thomas Clinton Mitchell

Parish Associate

*Richard J. Keever (1st Virginia Beach)
*Nancy L. Rowland (Second)

*Also listed as 299

** Also listed as 101

***Also listed as 108

**** Also listed as 701 (110)

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PROPOSED MOTION TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE 144th Meeting (January 24, 2026)

Revised 1/22/26

September 2, 2025

From: the Reverend Dr. Lyndsey McCall-Gilliam and RE Q. John Tamm, Stated Clerk

To: Commission on Ministry

Subject: Supporting Small Churches with Pastoral Leadership

Out of deep love for our smaller congregations—and in response to their need for consistent pastoral leadership that will preach, care, and help cast vision for the future—the Presbytery commits to making a significant investment in their vitality.

The Presbytery currently has assets of more than \$10 million invested with New Covenant and the Presbyterian Foundation. We propose setting aside \$1 million from these reserves in a dedicated account to support small congregations in calling and sustaining pastoral leadership.

This initiative will specifically address one of the greatest financial barriers facing small churches: the cost of Board of Pensions dues (pension, death and disability, and health insurance), which in 2025 total \$28,700 for a pastor with family coverage. For many congregations, these dues make it nearly impossible to call or sustain pastoral leadership—even when they can afford a salary.

Currently, 14 congregations in our Presbytery lack stable pastoral leadership, either operating with pulpit supply or with part-time temporary pastors. Without consistent pastoral presence, congregations remain stuck in cycles of instability. By covering Board of Pensions dues, the Presbytery hopes to break this cycle—ensuring congregations can have shepherds to walk with them, discern God’s call for the next season of ministry, and guide them toward sustainable futures.

Eligibility

- Congregations with 100 members or fewer are eligible to apply.
- Pastoral calls supported through this fund will be made as two-year designated pastorates, with the possibility of renewal subject to demonstrated vitality & viability discerned with COM, the availability of Presbytery funds, and the mutual agreement of all parties.
- Ministers serving under this initiative must be trained in transitional or interim ministry or, if not already trained, commit to completing transitional ministry training within the first six months of their pastorate.

The purpose of this initiative is not to create long-term dependence on Presbytery funds, but to mobilize congregations for stability and growth, giving them an intentional window of time to plan faithfully for their future. The expectation is that, at the conclusion of the designated period, congregations will either (1) have developed the capacity for long-term sustainability, (2) entered into a viable partnership with other churches, or (3) faithfully discerned other pathways forward in their ministry.

Three Pathways of Participation

Pathway A – Strengthening a Single Congregation

- For congregations (≤ 100 members) that can fund salary but not benefits.

Pathway B – Partnerships in Shared Ministry

- For two or more congregations (≤ 100 members each) willing to partner in pastoral leadership.

Pathway C – Creative Collaboration for the Future

- For any congregation ready to explore new ministry models beyond traditional calls. Let's have a conversation!

Motion:

That the Presbytery establishes a Small Church Leadership Fund drawn from available funds, to be used to cover the full Board of Pensions dues for small congregations seeking pastoral leadership.

Motion Made _____ **Approved** _____ **Disapproved** _____

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PRESBYTERY COUNCIL

Report to Presbytery

Ruling Elder **Joyce Melvin-Jones**, moderator

January 24, 2026

Members: Rev. Dr. **Garrett B. Bugg** (Vice Moderator), Rev. Dr. **Christina M. B. Carrasco** (Moderator), Rev. **Brian H. Harroff**, RE **Charity Houghton** (Wythe), RE **Joyce Melvin-Jones** Council Moderator (Carver Memorial), Rev. **Martha E. Mitchell**, Rev. **Emma L. Ouellette**, RE **Clyde Parker** (Community Portsmouth), RE **Dianne F. Schoonover** (Yorkminster), Stated Clerk **Q. John Tamm** (First, Virginia Beach), Rev. Dr. **Melissa S. Long**, General Presbyter.

RECOMMENDATION to Presbytery: The Presbytery Council **RECOMMENDS** to the Presbytery the following:

1. MOTION: That the Presbytery approve the submission of the following overture to the 226th General Assembly:

Motion Made **Approved** **Disapproved**

Revised 1/23/2026

From the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia Overture to the 226th General Assembly (2026) On Studying A Collaborative Approach to Ordained Ministry for the Faithful Support of Congregations and Ministers

Main Directive

The Presbytery of Eastern Virginia overtures the 226th General Assembly (2026) to direct: a special committee of eight to ten (8–10) members, in consultation with the Interim Unified Agency and the Advisory Committee on the Constitution, and in further consultation with the Committee on Theological Education and the Board of Pensions, to study and develop recommendations for an approach to ordained ministry in which ministers serve together as part of ministry teams, supporting faithful ministry in congregations by drawing on their particular gifts to meet the evolving needs of the church, and to report its progress to the 228th General Assembly (2028) and its final recommendations to the 229th General Assembly (2030).

Areas for Exploration

The study may explore, but is not limited to, the following areas as possible expressions of collaborative and team-based approaches to ordained ministry:

A. Team-Based Ministry and Shared Leadership

Models in which ministers serve together as part of ministry teams that share responsibility for leadership within and among congregations, allowing ministers to serve from their strengths rather than carrying the full weight of congregational leadership alone.

B. Relational Continuity for Congregations

Practices that ensure congregations experience consistent pastoral presence and relational stability—such as a designated liaison minister—while also benefiting from the broader gifts of a ministry team.

C. Deployment of Gifts and Guild-Like Structures

Methods for organizing ministry according to ministers' passions, gifts, and training (e.g., worship and preaching, pastoral care, administration, mission, education and formation, or envisioning future ministry), enabling congregations to receive well-rounded leadership.

D. Ministerial Flourishing and Equitable Compensation

Financial and structural models that promote equitable compensation, access to Board of Pensions participation, continuing education, sabbaticals, healthcare coverage, and vocational flexibility, supporting clergy well-being and long-term sustainability without imposing micromanagement.

E. Partnerships for Formation and Renewal

Collaboration with seminaries, camps, retreat centers, and other ministry partners to strengthen continuing education, spiritual formation, clergy cohorts, innovation, and ministerial renewal, recognizing that clergy renewal often becomes the spark that reignites imagination, energy, and hope for future ministry.

F. Presbytery-Based Support and Shared Services

Ways presbyteries may serve as hubs of vocational support and coordination, including regular check-ins with ministers and sessions, assistance in matching ministerial gifts with congregational needs, and optional shared services that reduce administrative burdens and strengthen collaborative ministry.

G. Pilot Programs and Phased Adoption

Encouragement of pilot projects testing collaborative ministry models across diverse contexts and consideration of phased or voluntary adoption, recognizing differences in presbytery resources, capacities, and needs.

H. Polity and Governance Considerations

Identification of any constitutional or polity considerations relevant to supporting collaborative and team-based approaches to ordained ministry, in consultation with the Advisory Committee on the Constitution.

Reporting Requirement

Directs that a progress report be given at the 227th General Assembly (2028) and that final findings and recommendations from this study be reported to the 228th General Assembly (2030).

Rationale

For generations, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has been shaped by a call system rooted in Reformed theology and covenantal relationships among congregations, ministers, and presbyteries. Formally articulated in 1788, this system has served the church well—forming faithful leaders, sustaining congregations, and carrying the gospel through changing seasons of ministry.

We honor this heritage. At the same time, the Reformed tradition calls the church to continual discernment. The principle of *ecclesia reformata, semper reformanda* reminds us that faithfulness requires examining even our most trusted systems in light of new realities. Today, those realities include significant changes in demographics, participation, and economics, as well

as a vocational pipeline in which retirements outpace ordinations and many who attend seminary are no longer entering parish ministry.

As a result, many smaller congregations experience prolonged seasons without pastoral leadership, while larger congregations often operate under staffing constraints that limit ministry potential. Ministers and sessions alike report increasing stress and burnout as individual pastors are expected to sustain congregational life with limited support. While dedication and creativity remain strong, isolation and exhaustion threaten long-term sustainability.

Importantly, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is already a collaborative and connectional church. This overture does not seek to abandon that system, but to deepen it—inviting intentional reflection on how collaboration might more fully support congregations and ministers alike.

Advances in communication technology now make sustained collaboration, shared leadership, and coordinated ministry more feasible than in previous generations. At the same time, research consistently shows that Millennials and Generation Z are drawn to collaborative, team-based leadership environments. If the church hopes to attract and retain future ministers, its structures must reflect these values.

Collaborative, team-based approaches to ordained ministry offer a hopeful path forward. When ministers serve together, they are freed to serve from their strengths and supported by colleagues whose gifts complement their own. Congregations benefit from broader leadership capacity, deeper pastoral care, and renewed imagination for mission.

Care for ministers is not secondary to congregational vitality—it is essential to it. Clergy renewal often becomes the spark that ignites enthusiasm, creativity, and hope for future ministry, and when ministers are supported and allowed to flourish, that vitality bears good fruit in congregational life and witness.

This overture calls not for immediate structural change, but for careful study, broad consultation, and faithful discernment. By engaging denominational agencies and constitutional advisors, the church can explore collaborative approaches responsibly and creatively, strengthening congregations, renewing ministers, and stewarding the gifts God has entrusted to the church—remaining, as always, a connectional and reforming people in service to the ministry of Jesus Christ.

2. MOTION: That the Presbytery approve the published 2026 Budget with expenses of \$795,918, including a 3.0% increase for personnel. Budgeted income from church pledges, gifts and other sources totals \$590,100 and use of approximately \$100,000 of unrestricted investment income, as necessary. The goal for church pledges and gifts is \$508,000 in line with actual pledges in 2025.

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

***3. MOTION** That the Presbytery establish an Administrative Commission (AC) for Stone House Presbyterian Church, Toano, (SHPC) to assist the SHPC congregation over the next 12-18 months. The Administrative Commission will be comprised of three to five persons.

The Commission shall have the following responsibilities and powers:

- A. To meet with the Session and learn about the concerns for the congregation.
- B. Report and make recommendations to the congregation and Presbytery based on the results of their inquiries and efforts to resolve concerns.

- C. Discern God's purpose for the congregation's continuing ministry in the Stone House community of Toano.
- D. Develop a clear and sustainable path forward for the congregation, rooted in both faith and fiscal responsibility.
- E. Rebuild trust and confidence within the congregation and the community as a witness to faithful stewardship.
- F. If the Commission determines that the Session is no longer able or is unwilling to manage responsibilities for leadership, the Commission shall report to Presbytery Council for permission to be authorized to assume original jurisdiction with all powers of the Session that it deems necessary, including acting as trustees.

Motion Made _____ **Approved** _____ **Disapproved** _____

Rationale: Over the last year the Session of Stone House Church, and their pastor, Rev. Kristin Reinholt, have worked together to establish healthy paths forward for Stone House Church. They have worked with the Mediation and Reconciliation Team from the Commission on Ministry (COM) to host listening sessions with members, with the Financial AC to identify fiscal concerns and needs moving forward, and with clergy mentors. The Financial AC recommended and COM concurred; Stone House Presbyterian Church could benefit from continued support. This AC will be walking with Stone House Church's Session, pastor, and congregation to offer support, encouragement, resources, and discipleship.

***4. MOTION:** That the Presbytery establish an Administrative Commission (AC) for Aragona Christ Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach, to assist the ACPC congregation over the next 12-18 months. The Administrative Commission will be comprised of three to five persons.

The Commission shall have the following responsibilities and powers:

- A. To meet with the Session and learn about the concerns for the congregation.
- B. Report and make recommendations to the congregation and Presbytery based on the results of their inquiries and efforts to resolve concerns.
- C. Discern God's purpose for the congregation's continuing ministry in the Aragona community of Virginia Beach.
- D. Develop a clear and sustainable path forward for the congregation, rooted in both faith and fiscal responsibility.
- E. Rebuild trust and confidence within the congregation and the community as a witness to faithful stewardship.
- F. If the Commission determines that the Session is no longer able or is unwilling to manage responsibilities for leadership, the Commission shall report to Presbytery Council for permission to be authorized to assume original jurisdiction with all powers of the Session that it deems necessary, including acting as trustees.

Motion Made _____ **Approved** _____ **Disapproved** _____

Rationale: Aragona Christ Presbyterian Church loves one another and is actively engaging in the mission of Jesus' church. They care for one another, worship faithfully, open their space for community groups, and study God's Word. They are the church together. Unfortunately, the building of Aragona Christ Presbyterian is not healthy. The roof has significant concerns, there are drainage issues, and water intrusion which needs to be examined. This is a lot to discern for a small congregation with limited resources. The AC will be a support system to help Aragona's members discern a sustainable path for the future and options available.

***5. MOTION** That the Presbytery receive the actions taken by the Presbytery Council as reported and that they be printed in the minutes of this meeting.

Motion Made **Approved** **Disapproved**

1. On November 11, 2025, received and approved a proposal to partially fund the Board of Pension dues of ministers in small churches, based on criteria established by the Commission on Ministry and with the concurrence of the Board of Trustees.
2. On November 11, 2025, adjusted the annual training requirements for the Sexual Abuse Policy to a training interval of 36 months.
3. On November 11, 2025, appointed **Elisabeth Writtenberry**, King's Grant Church, Virginia Beach, as the Young Adult Advisory Delegate to the 226th Assembly.
4. On December 9, 2025, approved a presentation by the Congregational Vitality Team of a 25-minute elder training video module for the January stated meeting, including coordination with the video presenter.
5. On January 13, 2026, approved the submission to the Presbytery, of an overture to the General Assembly titled, "On Directing a Denominational Study of Collaborative Presbytery-Based Models of Ministry and Supporting Technology."
6. On January 13, 2026, approved the submission to the Presbytery of a motion for an administrative commission at Christ Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach.
7. On January 13, 2026, approved the submission to the Presbytery of a motion for an administrative commission at Stone House Presbyterian Church, Toano.

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2026 Budget

 <p>Presbytery of Eastern Virginia, Inc.</p> <p>2026 Proposed Budget 11/11/25</p>				
	2026 Proposed Budget	2025 Budget	\$ +/- to 2025 Budget	2025 YTD Actuals (October)
REVENUES				
Total Pledges & Gifts	\$508,000.00	\$508,000.00	\$0.00	\$403,277.34
Total Youth Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,511.65
Total Campus Ministry	\$11,700.00	\$15,800.00	-\$4,100.00	\$17,175.00
Total Congregational Vitality	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Committee on Ministry	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Compassion, Peace, & Justice	\$30,600.00	\$30,600.00	\$0.00	\$3,333.30
Total Other Income	\$3,800.00	\$3,800.00	\$0.00	\$4,907.74
Total Revenues	\$590,100.00	\$594,200.00	-\$4,100.00	\$435,205.03
EXPENSES				
Youth Ministry Total	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$16,985.40
Campus Ministry Total	\$43,860.00	\$37,705.69	\$6,154.31	\$31,066.98
Congregational Vitality Total	\$30,800.00	\$30,800.00	\$0.00	\$26,057.30
Committee On Ministry Total	\$4,500.00	\$15,000.00	-\$10,500.00	\$2,365.44
CPM-Preparation for Ministry Total	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Compassion, Peace, & Justice Total	\$43,306.76	\$39,971.13	\$3,335.63	\$17,854.88
Council & Commissions Total	\$7,800.00	\$3,800.00	\$4,000.00	\$3,847.39
Personnel Total	\$407,644.27	\$340,039.60	\$67,604.67	\$274,804.16
Administration Total	\$102,225.00	\$90,863.00	\$11,362.00	\$102,512.32
General Assembly & Synod Total	\$137,782.48	\$131,818.06	\$5,964.42	\$110,536.00
PEVA Other Expenses Total	\$1,000.00	\$9,000.00	-\$8,000.00	\$7,413.88
Total Expenses	\$795,918.51	\$715,997.48	\$79,921.03	\$593,243.75
Net Total	-\$205,818.51	-\$121,797.48	-\$84,021.03	-\$158,038.72
Investment Allocation	\$100,000.00	\$90,000.00		

Approved by Council 11/11/25

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CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY TEAM (CVT)
The Reverend **Joel Matthew Phillips**, Moderator
Report to the Presbytery
January 24, 2026

Members: The Reverend Dr. **Garrett B. Bugg**, the Reverend Dr. **Christina M. B. Carrasco**, the Reverend Dr. **Melissa S. "Lissa" Long**, the Reverend **Joel Matthew Phillips**, the Reverend **Eric R. Peltz**, and the Rev. **Nelson Lee Steinert**.

RECOMMENDATION to Presbytery: The Congregational Vitality Team RECOMMENDS to the Presbytery the following:

1. ***MOTION:** That the narrative report of the CVT be received by the Presbytery and printed in the minutes of this meeting.

Motion Made **Approved** **Disapproved**

ACTION ITEMS: none

NARRATIVE REPORT

1. During this time of year, many congregations in our presbytery are ordaining and installing new elders and deacons. The CVT is available to provide resources for officer training. In addition to sharing a video during the January PEVA meeting we are also planning on offering additional opportunities throughout the year. Please contact the CVT if you are interested in receiving or offering officer training.
2. The CVT would like to remind PEVA that Clergy Coaches are available and ready to help pastors experience the joy of transformational leadership. Coaches offer one-on-one coaching, group coaching and sermon coaching. More information can be found under the CVT Toolbox on the PEVA Website.
3. The CVT is excited about the **Website Improvement Initiative**, or WII (pronounced "weeee!"), and the many church that are now improving or completely revamp their websites AND saving hundreds of dollars. So far, Great Bridge, Community Hampton, Stonehouse, Simonsdale, Kirkwood, Lafayette, First Hampton, Yorkminster, and Suffolk have all had their grants approved, and most are in process of working with our amazing consultant/creative contractor Christen Kinard of Digital Congregations. Does your website need a little tweaking or refreshing? Or does it need a complete overhaul and brand-new look? Go to the PEVA website to get a grant form and improve your church's front door.
4. The CVT helps provide resources and options for all churches in their efforts at stronger vitality. We are here for YOU! Please reach out to any CVT member, or directly to Rev. Joel Phillips, moderator, for help, with questions, or simply to workshop your vitality building ideas.

Check out our full toolkit at <https://www.pcusa-peva.org/congregational-vitality-team-cvt>

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NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Report to Presbytery

Elder **Linda Marley Smith**, moderator

January 24, 2026

RECOMMENDATIONS to Presbytery: The Nominations Committee **RECOMMENDS** Presbytery:

1. MOTION: The Nominations Committee places the following names in nomination:

President of the Presbytery of Eastern VA, Inc.

The Reverend Dr. **John E. Morgan** (Class of 2027)

Trustee of John Knox Homes, Inc.

The Reverend Dr. **Helen Louise "Lou" Ventura** (Class of 2029)

Motion Made **Approved** **Disapproved**

2. *MOTION: That the report of the Nominations committee be received by the Presbytery and printed in the minutes of this meeting.

Motion Made **Approved** **Disapproved**

NARRATIVE REPORT

The members of the Nominations Committee are as follows: The Reverend Dr. **Jeffery S. Bell** Class of 2026, The Reverend Dr. **Michael T. Condrey** Class of 2026, CP **Sidnia "Sid" Etherington** Class of 2027, Ruling Elder **Mike Fore** (KirkWood) Class of 2027, the Reverend **Linda K. Rainey** Class of 2027, and Ruling Elder **Linda Marley Smith** (Simonsdale) Class of 2026, the Reverend Dr. **Melissa Sumner Long**, General Presbyter (ex officio) and Ruling Elder **Q. John Tamm**, Stated Clerk (ex officio).

The Nominations Committee is made up of three classes having two members in each. One term of service is three years, and the members are nominated by the Presbytery Council. The Nominations Committee meets at the call of its moderator.

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PRESBYTERY BOARD OF TRUSTEES (Trustees)

Ruling Elder (RE) **Lorri Richardson**, (Community Portsmouth), moderator,
and President of PEVA, Inc.
Report to the Presbytery
January 24, 2026

Members: RE **Lorri Richardson** (Community Portsmouth), RE **Michael Broadhurst** (First Portsmouth), RE **Pax Goodson** (Hilton), Reverend **Donald E. McLean**, Reverend Dr. **John E. Morgan**, **Presbytery Staff:** **Regan Knutson**, Business Administrator, RE **Jessica Fitzgerald**, Administrative Assistant, (Third), Reverend Dr. **Melissa Sumner Long**; General Presbyter, RE **Q. John Tamm**; Stated Clerk, (First VAB) **Presbytery Council Liaison:** Reverend Dr. **Helen Louise "Lou" Ventura**

RECOMMENDATION to Presbytery:

***1. Motion:** That the Presbytery receive the report of the Board of Trustees and that the report be printed in the minutes of this meeting.

Motion Made **Approved** **Disapproved**

ACTIONS

Actions for the November 13, 2025, meeting:

- Trustees approved that PEVA's new CPA Aaron Leshner be granted remote access and web log in rights to PEVA's ACS Financials to view and run reports needed for financial reviews only.

Actions for the December 11, 2025, meeting:

- Trustees approved that the payoff amount of \$165,309.07 from Zion Community Church for the Squires Memorial property of 770 Ingleside Rd, Norfolk VA be deposited in PEVA's New Covenant Money Market account for future use.

Actions for the January 8, 2026, meeting:

- Trustees accepted the resignation as President of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia, Inc., with regret, from President, RE Lorri Richardson (Community Portsmouth) due to health concerns.
- Trustees approved the lease between the congregation of Denbigh United Presbyterian Church, Newport News and the Agape School of the Virginia Peninsula, Hampton, VA.
- Trustees approved a Church Capital Needs Grant Pilot Program. The PEVA Capital Needs Grant Program provides assistance to member churches for small to mid-sized capital projects. There are two grant cycles per year with written applications due March 31st and September 30th. Applications will be reviewed by the Board of Trustees, which expects to make decisions within 90 days of each deadline. In addition to preparing the written application, churches should expect to meet with the Board in-person, to have their COM Liaison provide input and a site visit. Requests of any size will be considered. The intentions are that this new grant program will replace the Small Church Grant.
- A board meeting of John Knox Homes, Inc., will be held concurrently with the next Board of Trustees meeting on February 12, 2026, at 2:00 pm. At that time the distribution of funds from John Knox Homes, Inc., will be discussed and acted on.

NARRATIVE REPORT

The trustees, council, staff and ministry teams worked to fine tune the proposed 2026 Presbytery budget for approval at the PEVA January Stated Presbytery meeting. The board is continuing to review temporary restricted funds and potentially consolidating temporary restricted funds.

The Trustees task force continues to work on a revised small church grant program suggesting that funds could be set aside to provide capital grants for building maintenance and other large expenses since the small church grant process as it is now if for an emergency basis. The program should assist churches with small to mid-sized capital projects, and therefore an apt title might be the Capital Needs Grant Program.

On November 13, 2025, the Trustees received a review from the New Covenant Trust Company Investment Funds provided the annual review of the Presbytery's investments. PEVA's investment portfolio is socially responsible investing.

Zion Community Church has completed the property closing of the former Squires Memorial property which was part of a larger refinancing process undertaken by Zion Community Church. PEVA's legal counsel has confirmed receipt of the payoff amount totaling \$165,309.07. Funds were received at the Presbytery office on 12/12/2025, Certificate of Lien Satisfaction signed by PEVA Stated Clerk on 12/15/2025 and the Certificate of Lien Satisfaction was recorded in the Norfolk Circuit Court on 12/17/2025.

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COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY (CPM)

Report to the Presbytery

The Reverend **Michelle D. "Mike" Burcher**, moderator

January 24, 2026

Members: Rev. **Michelle D. Burcher**, Ruling Elder (RE) **Karen Harris** (1st Virginia Beach), Rev. **Carter M. Jones**, RE **Charlie Reece**, Rev. **Andrew P. Whitehead**

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

1. ***MOTION:** That the narrative report of the CPM be received by the Presbytery and printed in the minutes of this meeting.

Motion Made **Approved** **Disapproved**

NARRATIVE REPORT

We currently have the following Candidates under our care:

		Status	Date	School		Status	Year	Church	Liaison
1.	Carol Bayma		Apr 2012	Dubuque		GD	16	Royster	C. Reece
2.	Donna Graves		Sept 2021	Union		GD	24	Carver Mem.	C. Jones
3.	Marcy Wright		May 2018	Union		GD	19	Carver Mem.	K. Harris
4.	Summer Moore		Sept 2023	G. Conwell		GD	22	2 nd Norfolk	A. Whitehead

We have two candidates ready to receive a call:

		Status	Date	School		Status	Year	Church	Liaison
1.	Donna Herring		June 2018	Union		GD	21	Wmsburg	A. Whitehead
2.	Katherine Dickens		Oct 2014	Princeton		GD	17	1st VAB	M. Burcher

*Status: FT=Full Time; PT=Part Time; DL=Distant Learning; NC=No Classes;
GD=graduated

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COMPASSION PEACE & JUSTICE MINISTRIES (CPJ)

Elder Gerry Ellis (Denbigh United), Moderator

Report to Presbytery

January 24, 2026

PEACEMAKING MINISTRY TEAM

RECOMMENDATIONS TO PRESBYTERY:

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

Motion Made _____ **Approved** _____ **Disapproved** _____

ACTIONS TAKEN:

Actions for the November 15, 2025, meeting:

After a financial overview and discussion, the following actions were taken:

Approved that the Journal entry that was discussed in January of 2025 be approved to action in the amount of \$698.96 from line 20-00-2410 to 10-13-5040 to offset the over budgeted MLK expenses.

Approved that the Racial Justice Team would cover the \$296.03 for the overage in line 10-13-5410.

Approved to disburse funds in the amount of \$500 dollars from the 2025 budgeted line 10-13-5002 Presbyterian for Earth Care to PCUSA Project E865715 - Tree Fund / Restore Creation.

After discussion of planning for the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. service at the November meeting the following actions were taken:

Approved that the 2026 MLK service take place at 3 PM on Sunday January 18, 2026, at Wycliffe Presbyterian Church followed by fellowship and light refreshments.

Approved that an honorarium be paid in January 2026 for the four speakers in the amount of \$150.00 each plus reimbursement for mileage.

There was a motion made, seconded and approved that an honorarium be paid in January 2026 to the Musician/Choir Director in the amount of \$500.

Approved that that funds in the amount of \$400 be paid in January 2026 to Wycliffe PC to help offset expense for the Light Refreshments during the fellowship time after the MLK service.

Actions for the January 10, 2026, meeting:

Final planning for the PEVA Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative service has been approved, including the bulletin and worship elements such as the Prayer of Confession and the Litany of Commitment.

Approved an outing to the Hampton University Museum on Thursday, February 26th at 10 A.M. to tour the museum, followed by lunch at the nearby university cafeteria.

The group discussed a video titled "A Framework for Courageous Conversations" and explored ways to engage people in conversations about racism and advocacy. Leigh raised

concerns about reaching individuals who are resistant to discussing these issues, noting that current approaches often target those who are already interested. PEVA acknowledged the challenge and suggested focusing on common ground and humanitarian aid as potential entry points for dialogue. The discussion highlighted the ongoing struggle to effectively engage diverse perspectives in conversations about racial justice.

NARRATIVE REPORT:

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. service: The theme for the service will be "Mentoring the Dream!" Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech and empowering a new generation of positive social change makers. Musician/Choir Director will be Dr. Matthew N. Russell. The worship leader will be the Rev. Leigh Beasley Gillis other leaders and readers are to be determined. The Rev. Garret Bugg and Rev. Lyndsey Mcall Gillman will be asked to give the welcome as the host church, and the Rev. Lissa Long will be asked to give greetings from the presbytery.

Advocacy: CPJ members were reminded of a **Day for All People 2026** and encouraged to participate and invite others. It is hosted by the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy (VICPP) In partnership with Virginia Interfaith Power and Light Wed. Jan. 21, 7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at the Centenary United Methodist Church 411 E Grace St., Richmond, VA 23219.

Hilton PC & St. Andrew's Episcopal Present "Sugarcane" Film Screening – Jan 25 at 12 PM | Indigenous Awareness: Hilton PC is joining St. Andrew's Episcopal in Newport News in the showing of the film "Sugarcane" at St. Andrew's Episcopal in NN on Main Street Jan 25, 12:00 PM EST. Sugarcane is a award-winning debut feature documentary from Julian Brave NoiseCat and Emily Kassie. It is a groundbreaking investigation into an Indian residential school, shedding light on years of forced separation, assimilation and abuse that Indigenous children experienced at the hands of Church and government. Those interested in joining them please visit 's interested please visit.

https://kinema.com/events/Sugarcane-q_aw9j?utm_campaign=Host+Campaign&utm_content=In+Person+Event+Approved&utm_medium=email_action&utm_source=customer.io&utm_source=Hilton+Presbyterian+Church&utm_campaign=dbfce60c0d-This+Week+%40+HPC+-+November+6+COPY+01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_116b360123-dbfce60c0d-28232521

February is Black History Month: If your church is doing something to highlight the month, please let the Presbytery office know so we can share the opportunity with others. CPJ would like to share that the Presbyterian Historical Society does an excellent job highlighting African American Presbyterian history, especially during Black History Month. Their archives often feature stories of early Black congregations, influential pastors, and the role of Presbyterian churches in civil rights movements. [Presbyterian Historical Society | Presbyterian Church \(U.S.A.\)](https://pcusa.org/historical-society/exhibits/presbyterians-and-civil-rights-movement#1) <https://pcusa.org/historical-society/exhibits/presbyterians-and-civil-rights-movement#1>

Celebrate Black History in Virginia with special events, guided tours, live musical and dramatic performances, lectures and films. Discover more about Black history attractions, Black history in Virginia, famous Virginians, and the Civil Rights History of Virginia.

<https://www.virginia.org/events/history-heritage/black-history-events-and-tours/>.

Hampton University Museum Gathering: To encourage local engagement and awareness of Black history in Hampton Road, CPJ will host a gathering on Thursday, February 26th at 10 AM to tour the museum, followed by lunch at the nearby university cafeteria. Please let (gerry.ellis@verizon.net) or Jessica Fitzgerald (jessica@pcusa-peva.org)know you are interested by February 23, 2026.

PEVA Advocacy & Network Congregational Contacts:

To encourage local advocacy, CPJ will host a gathering at the PEVA office to view the next scheduled Presbyterian Advocacy Hour on February 28, 2026, from 12:00–2:00 PM.

Topic: Homelessness. Please bring a brown bag for lunch and stay afterward for discussion. Contact Gerry Ellis (gerry.ellis@verizon.net) or Jessica Fitzgerald (jessica@pcusa-peva.org) to RSVP by February 23, 2026.

If you cannot attend in person, please register for the PCUSA Advocacy Hour at <https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministry-areas/public-witness/advocacy-hour>

A PEVA Zoom Room will be available for the after-discussion at 1:10 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87205727375?pwd=11YmC3f1RfJhJRBByXrbSk7608Efxr.1>

HUNGER MINISTRY TEAM

Report to Presbytery

January 24, 2026

Ruling Elder **Kelvin Jackson**, Co-Chair Moderator

Ruling Elder **Gail Schwartzer**, Co-Chair Moderator

Ruling Elder **Jessica A. Fitzgerald**, Hunger Action Advocate

RECOMMENDATION to Presbytery: Hunger RECOMMENDATION to Presbytery:

1.*MOTION: That the report of the Hunger Ministry Team be printed in the minutes of this meeting.

Motion Made _____ **Approved** _____ **Disapproved** _____

ACTIONS TAKEN:

Approved a Church Community Hunger Grant in the amount of \$500 for Community Portsmouth PC.

At the stated meeting on November 15, 2025, a Church Community was approved for Green Acres PC (Client Choice food pantry for the local community) in the amount of \$1,000. Green Acres PC currently provides food to about 120 families each month. They are partnering with the Food Bank of Southeastern VA to sustain the number of people they are serving each week.

Approved by email in the month of December a Church Community Hunger Grant in the amount of \$2,500 for Francis Makemie PC (Catherine Moore Project/ low-income seniors on the Eastern Shore) Francis Makemie PC will using the funds awarded to assist 45 seniors.

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

Holiday Outreach Ministry Highlights: Over 35 PEVA churches organized Thanksgiving and Christmas outreach ministry program, such as holiday food baskets, hot meals, or bagged lunches, angel trees to support neighbors and families in their communities, often working alongside partner agencies and organizations. These efforts frequently included fundraising, food drives, and distributing holiday baskets filled with meals or gifts. What a wonderful way to put Matthew 25 into action living out our mission and sharing Christ's love with others! If you would like to share your story of mission and ministry, please contact the PEVA office. PEVA is always looking for good news to share.

Kings Grant Presbyterian Church - Kings Grant Presbyterian Church (KGPC) partners with the Judeo Christian Outreach Center (JCOC) each year through financial donations and by providing quarterly meals at the JCOC facility. On December 12, KGPC volunteers helped serve meals to 160 people in need through the JCOC program.

KGPC also supports People in Need (PIN), a nonprofit that serves the homeless community in Virginia Beach through weekly volunteers who sort donations and assist with services and through clothing and blanket drives. They also support the Winter Shelter program by providing meals and financial support through an "Intentional Christmas Card" initiative.

Through participation in the Beach Bag Program, KGPC helps provide nonperishable food items to children who are food insecure. These grocery bags are distributed on Fridays through Virginia Beach Schools to ensure children have food over the weekend. The bags are packed by students with disabilities at a local high school to provide valuable work experience.

KGPC partners with the Department of Social Services to assist families in need by providing gift cards to local grocery stores, extending the support they receive from the department. KGPC also partners with School Social Workers from VBCPS to provide emergency assistance, including rent, utility, and hotel assistance, to families in need with the aim of preventing homelessness and eviction.

Meals on Wheels of Virginia Beach, the city's longest-serving homebound meal and safety-check service, began in 1974 at Thalia Trinity Presbyterian Church and moved its offices to KGPC during COVID. With the help of KGPC volunteers and others, hundreds of meals are delivered across the city each week. KGPC continues to be a strong supporter of this vital community service.

A dedicated team of KGPC volunteers also serves with the Kairos Prison Ministry, building transformational relationships within the prison community. The congregation supports this ministry by baking thousands of chocolate chip cookies and writing inspirational notes for the men they visit.

Each summer, KGPC supports the Migrant Farm Worker and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Ministry by donating food, clothing, cleaning supplies, and diapers. KGPC also holds an annual "Share Stuff to Share Love" yard sale which provides items to those in need in the community and raises funds for local and international missions.

KGPC also sponsors 116 children through Compassion International and has hosted the Compassion Journey, to raise awareness about global hunger and how we can support communities facing extreme poverty and the churches who serve them.

Calvin Presbyterian Church – Azalea Baptist Church, Burrows Memorial Baptist Church, Calvin Presbyterian Church, and **Third Presbyterian Church** have joined together to host a community food pantry that operates two days each week. This shared ministry is dedicated to serving individuals and families in need within their communities. Those seeking assistance can obtain a referral from any of the participating churches. Together, these congregations are providing the food items that fill the shelves, the bags, and—most importantly—the hearts of those they serve. Through this partnership, the churches are living out their shared mission of compassion, generosity, and faith in action.

Wythe Presbyterian Church – Had an amazing gift giveaway day Sat. Dec 6th, 2025, from 10 am-2 pm. They gave away so many items for families in need, many gently

used and some brand-new toys, dolls, stuffed animals galore, clothing, shoes, baby items and Christmas decorations, and they provided gift wrapping for items also. **The youth** put together 50 grab-n-go bags and decorated them with a message of hope for the Night's Welcome breakfast at **First Presbyterian Church's (Hampton)**. **First Presbyterian Church's (Hampton) hosted the** winter shelter. Nov. 5th-14th 2025.

First Presbyterian Church, Norfolk – December 21 – January 4, 2026, FPC served as a Winter Shelter for the community. They provided overnight housing, dinner and breakfast to men and women. Many faithful volunteers with a heart for the city pitched in help. The church offered some training beforehand for those volunteers.

Williamsburg Presbyterian Church – partnered with the Community of Faith Mission to provide safe, warm shelter for unhoused neighbors January 4–11, 2026

Great Bridge Presbyterian Church – GBPC hosted warm shelter for those in need *partnering with Chesapeake Area Shelter Team (CAST)* December 30, 2025 - January 7, 2026. Faithfull volunteers at GBPC assisted during that week providing bus intake, dinner, breakfast and a bagged lunch, overnight team for monitoring, and clean up. PW Socks and Mitten Tree collected new socks mitten, gloves scarves and hats throughout the month of December. These items were donated to the local schools in their area.

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Why a Land Acknowledgement

In June 2021, the PEVA Council approved a motion from the Peacemaking Committee of the Compassion, Peace, and Justice Ministries to adopt the practice of reading a Land Acknowledgement to begin presbytery meetings.

What is a land acknowledgement?

- A land acknowledgement is a formal statement presented at the beginning of public events and gatherings that are taking place on lands first inhabited by Indigenous peoples.
- It is a simple, respectful way of showing recognition to who the first people of the land were and counters the “Doctrine of Discovery.”
- It is a step towards correcting the stories and practices that erase Indigenous people’s history and culture and toward inviting and honoring the truth.
- It raises awareness about our own history and how we came to inhabit this land.
- It invites us to repair relationships with Indigenous communities and with the land.

What it is NOT:

- “... simply a politically correct gesture to make ourselves feel good. It can certainly be this, though, if we do not take further steps. Doing an acknowledgement ought not be a token gesture. That renders it meaningless. The invitation to change relationships, our understanding of history, and existing structures must follow.”
(Mennonite Church Canada)

The Presbyterian Connection:

- The 223rd General Assembly (2018) overwhelmingly approved the report, *The Doctrine of Discovery: A Review of Its Origins and Implications for Congregations in the PC(USA) and Support for Native American Sovereignty*, from the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Among its recommendations:
 - “Encourage mid councils to begin their meetings with an acknowledgment of whose land they are meeting on and that greetings to the assembly include a welcome from those Indigenous peoples currently living on the land.”
 - “Urge the session of each congregation—as well as each mid council, seminary, Presbyterian Women’s groups, and national church agency—to review the existing study resources on the Doctrine of Discovery (posted on the Facing Racism website: <https://facing-racism.pcusa.org/item/41901/>), and to lift up histories of Indigenous peoples and current issues facing Indigenous peoples.”
- In September 2020, the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, issued a Call to Action encouraging Presbyterians to address past injustices that still impact indigenous people and to give “deep consideration to how our churches and communities were formed in relation and/or opposition to the Indigenous peoples of the region and begin ever so carefully to discern the nature of that relationship today.” In addition, “This is far more than a call to recognize Indigenous peoples in one moment or on one day. Indeed, the Call to Action before us is a long-term call to unsettle and decolonize a church deeply intertwined in racist, settler-colonial systems of white supremacy,” “Let us bring to the fore our commitment to true justice and stand in solidarity with all Indigenous peoples in their efforts for sovereignty and human rights.”

The website <https://native-land.ca> can help you identify the Indigenous peoples who lived on the land where your church now sits. There are also websites with examples of Land Acknowledgement statements if your Session chooses to adopt the practice and include it in worship, bulletins, websites and so forth.

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SESSIONAL RECORDS COMMITTEE

Report to the Presbytery
Ruling Elder **Jill Keifer**, Chair
January 24, 2026

RECOMMENDATIONS TO PRESBYTERY:

***1. 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:

Exceptions: Wythe 9, 22, 28, 34b; Norfolk Second - 28b; Christ - 28b, 29b

No records from: Stone House, Franklin, Kings Grant, St. Andrew, First PC Norfolk

No exceptions: Naomi Makemie, Suffolk, Bethany, Denbigh, 3rd Norfolk

Motion Made _____ **Approved** _____ **Disapproved** _____

2026 SCHEDULE FOR EXAMINATION OF SESSIONAL RECORDS

NOTE: Clerks will be asked to submit records two months before the Presbytery Meeting.

AREA 1–Jill Keifer (Royster Memorial)

1923 Paddock Road Norfolk, VA 23518-4929 C. 757-567-4106

Feb. – First United	May – Knox	Nov. – King’s Grant
Feb. – Hiddenwood	May – Providence	Nov. – Naomi Makemie
Feb. – Groves Memorial	Aug – Grace Covenant	Nov. – St. Andrew
May – Great Bridge	Aug – New Horizons	

AREA 2– Maggie Van Guilder (First Hampton)

4600 Victoria Blvd Hampton, VA 23669 Tel. H. 757-869-2918

Feb. – Bayside	May - Lafayette	Nov. – Christ
Feb. – Community, Ports.	Aug. – Green Acres	Nov. – Denbigh United
May – Holmes	Aug. – Simonsdale	Nov. – Franklin
May - Jamestown	Aug. – KirkWood	

AREA 3 – Rose Busetti (Lynnhaven)

612 Lynn Shores Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23452-2639 H. 757-306-8901

Feb – Calvin	May – Yorkminster	Nov. – Bethany
Feb – First, Portsmouth	Aug – Community, Hamp.	Nov. – First, Norfolk
Feb – Greenbrier	Aug – Royster Memorial	Nov. – Suffolk
May – First, Hampton	Aug – Second	

A 4 – Debbie Braswell (Bethany)

8496 Winston Dr., Zuni, VA 23898 C. 757-593-5236

Feb. – Carver Memorial	May – Wycliffe	Nov. – Third
Feb. – Hilton	Aug. – Powelton	Nov. – Stone House
Feb. – Lynnhaven	Aug. – First, VA Beach	Nov. – Wythe
May – Frances Makemie	Aug. – Williamsburg	

2026 Presbytery Meetings	Letters/Forms Mailed to COS	Deadline for Receipt of Records	Committee Review Date
APRIL	JANUARY 12	FEBRUARY 16	MARCH 9
JULY	APRIL 15	MAY 15	JUNE 8
OCTOBER	JULY 13	AUGUST 17	SEPTEMBER 14
JANUARY	OCTOBER 12	NOVEMBER 16	DECEMBER 14

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**OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE IN MINISTRY
PRESBYTERY COMMISSIONS, MINISTRY TEAMS AND COMMITTEES.
OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE**

The Presbytery needs your service. If you are interested in serving on a particular commission, committee, or ministry team, please indicate below:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Church:** _____

Email: _____

Gender: Male _____ Female _____ Non-Binary _____

Please include ecclesiastical status if applicable:

Ruling Elder Minister of Word and Sacrament
 Deacon Congregation Member

Racial/Ethnic Designation:

Asian/Pacific Islander/South Asian Black/African American/African
 Middle Eastern/ North African Hispanic/Latino-a
 Native American/Alaska Native/ Indigenous White
 Multiracial Other _____

Age: 18-25 26-40 41-55 56-70 70 & over

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM, MARK WHAT INTERESTS YOU TO SERVE ON AND RETURN
THIS FORM TO THE PEVA OFFICE.

IF A VACANCY IS NOT CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR COMMISSION, MINISTRY TEAM AND OR
COMMITTEE YOU NOTED, THE FORM WILL BE KEPT ON FILE FOR LATER CONSIDERATION.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
 COMMISSION LAY PASTOR (CLP)
 COMMISSION ON MINISTRY (COM)
 COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION (COR)/ NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE
 COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY (CPM)
 CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY (CVT)
 COMPASSION PEACE & JUSTICE (CPJ)
 PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION (PJC)
 SESSIONAL RECORDS REVIEW COMMITTEE
 OTHER _____

Please write it in

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