

**Summary**  
**116TH MEETING**  
**PRESBYTERY OF THE JAMES**  
**FEBRUARY 17, 2024**  
**HYBRID MEETING AT THE GAYTON KIRK**

Moderator Rev. Rosalind Banbury called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and led the presbytery in prayer and made a statement of land acknowledgement. A quorum was present.

Moderator Banbury led the service of installation of presbytery's 2024 moderator, ruling elder Cherry Peters (Second, Richmond) and vice moderator, Rev. Joshua Andrzejewski (First, Richmond), and presided over the commissioning of General Assembly Commissioners, ruling elders Barry Parks and James Lockett and Revs James Taneti and Nicole Ball (in absentia).

Total membership in the presbytery in 2023 totaled 14,417 (down from 15,651 in 2022) after 242 reported deaths, 84 transfers, and 1424 other losses (mostly from cleaning the rolls). The demographics continue to reflect the aging profile of most of our congregations. There were 114 baptisms and 59 youth confirmations.

The presbytery approved a deadline of June 1, 2024, for all members of the POJ to complete boundary training. Members will be notified by presbytery staff and given a 60-day window to complete the required training.

Rev. Gordon Mapes, pastor of Chester Church, presented an initial report from the Strategic Plan Review Task Force and invited persons to meet with members of the Task Force during the lunch break. He also invited persons to respond to a short survey available on the presbytery website.

Rev. Crystal Varner Parker conducted the examination of Candidate Virginia Nambiar, Presbytery of Philadelphia. Ms. Nambiar reported on the nature of her work at the validated ministry of chaplain at Bon Secours Regional Memorial Medical Center. The examination was approved.

Moderator Peters thanked all those who helped to make this meeting happen. She led the presbytery in prayer and declared the meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m.