

Summary of the
Called Meeting of the Presbytery of the James, November 13, 2025
Virtual Meeting 7:00 – 8:00 PM

Attendance Data

59 Teaching Elders

52 Ruling Elders

48 RE Commissioners representing thirty-seven of our ninety-seven sessions.

0 RE moderators of POJ committees, commissions, or other entities.

0 RE Certified Christian Educators

4 CREs commissioned to congregations

1 Corresponding Member (Cherry Peters, former POJ Moderator).

1 POJ Staff person who is not counted any other ways.

6 Visitors/Guests.

For a total of 119 people

The Called Meeting of the Presbytery of James opened promptly at 7:00 PM with Moderator Josh Andrzejewski gaveling and the opening directions. At 7:04 PM the Stated Clerk noted a quorum and the meeting began in earnest with a reading of Scripture and prayer.

The vice moderator of the Mission Council, RE Jen Rowe, presented the agenda for adoption and it was by acclamation.

TE Clay MacCauley on behalf of the Committee on Nominations moved the slate of nominees for various positions of service within the presbytery, not needing a second as this came from a committee.

TE Crystal Varner Parker, the chair of the Committee on Representation, stated that this committee is in support of the slate, offering the necessary detail that there is a need for further efforts of inclusion moving into the future.

The Moderator opened the meeting to floor nominations, and receiving none, closed the process and the vote was taken, with ninety-six “YES” votes and one “NO” vote. The slate was elected.

RE Jen Rowe from the Mission Council presented two nominees from Mission Council: RE Barbara Parks from New Hanover to fill a position on COR, class of 2027, first term (presented in the agenda). Also presented by voice for COR was TE Ashley Diaz Mejias for the class of 2028, first term. A ZOOM vote was tabulated with the tally of ninety-seven “YES” votes and one “NO.”

RE Jen Rowe, Mission Council, moved that the proposed Budget for 2026 come before the body for vote. It was noted that a clerical correction was made within the budget, restoring the amount of \$15,000.00 to Virginia Commonwealth University and \$10,000.00 to Mary Washington University. These two were accidentally transposed in the copy of the budget for the presbytery.

The budget duly presented and the clerical error corrected, the body was invited to discussion. There were no questions from the floor so the ZOOM vote was taken and tallied, with the totals being ninety-six "YES" votes and two "NO" votes.

Following the vote, TE David Forney from First Presbyterian Church Charlottesville offered thanks to the Mission Council Budget Committee. Additionally, TE Forney inquired about the possibility of the sale of the POJ office, with TE Joel Morgan, Moderator of Mission Council, responding "it is being explored."

RE Jen Rowe, Vice Moderator of Mission Council, then presented the proposed job description for the position of Transitional General Presbyter/Stated Clerk (TGP/SC). There were nine inquiries made from the floor with several members of Personnel answering the question. With no motions to the proposed job description the vote took place, with ninety-four "YES" votes and three "NO" votes.

The follow-up component of this item of business was to charge CON to recruit a 5-person search committee representing the fullness of the POJ with the names presented at the February 2026 meeting of the presbytery. An inquiry about the training of the search committee was responded to by the Mission Council moderator that outside help is/will be sought (with our own COM, neighboring presbytery executives and Stated Clerks, the CLC and other denominational entities). With no further questions the vote was taken with this tally: ninety-eight "YES" votes, zero "NO" votes and eight "I am not a voting member."

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:00PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Rev. Kerry Foster, Temporary Stated Clerk