



Our Mission: To support leaders, congregations, and ministries in growing followers of Jesus Christ who joyfully live out God's mission in the world.

Theme for 2026 Stated Meetings: Called to Serve in Unity, Called to Give Sacrificially, Called to Love Unconditionally

122nd Stated Meeting • Saturday, February 21, 2026 • Hybrid Format

**Host/Physical Location: Fairfield Church
6930 Cold Harbor Road., Mechanicsville, VA 23111**

Section I – Registration and Worship Information

Registration Information

Ministers and Clerks of Session: We will need to know the names and contact information (email and phone number) for your commissioners ahead of time. Please email this information to Barbara Espigh at barbara@presbyteryofthejames.org.

All attendees: Please use the link below to access registration on our website, even if you intend to attend in person. You will be asked for your name, phone number, whether you plan to attend in person or via Zoom, your church's name and city, and whether you are a ruling elder commissioner (a ruling elder who was elected by the church session to represent the congregation), ruling elder serving as moderator of a POJ committee, minister member, commissioned ruling elder, certified Christian educator, Corresponding Member (member of another presbytery), or guest; and you will find a place to indicate your lunch preference as well. All registrants will receive an email from Zoom including information regarding virtual meeting access. Please save that email to use on February 21 to log in to the meeting should you prefer to attend via Zoom.

There will be NO additional advance registrations allowed after the deadline, so please be sure to register prior to noon on Friday, February 20. If you miss the deadline and wish to attend the meeting, you will need to attend in person.

Registration: <https://www.presbyteryofthejames.com/stated-meetings/>

If you have questions or concerns not covered in the above information, please contact Barbara Espigh at barbara@presbyteryofthejames.org.

****Emails and calls will be returned during POJ office hours Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please be sure to contact the office with any questions well before the registration deadline****

Overture Deadline: Overtures must be at the presbytery office by noon eight (8) weeks prior to a meeting. For the June 17, 2026 meeting, the deadline will be noon on April 22, 2026.

Upcoming Stated Meetings

June 17, 2026.....	Invitation needed
October 17, 2026.....	Invitation needed
February 20, 2027.....	Invitation needed

General Information

At their earliest opportunity, each moderator or clerk of session is requested to put Sections I, II and III of this packet in the hands of the ruling elder commissioner(s) representing their church. Participants should thoroughly review Sections II and III of the packet prior to the meeting to become familiar with the topics that will be discussed and voted on.

- ◆ **Presbytery convenes promptly at 9:30 a.m.**
- ◆ **To participate in person:** We are asking all attendees to register online and receive a Zoom link. This will help you attend virtually should your plans change at the last minute. On the day of the meeting, check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. Please check in with POJ staff/volunteers to receive your nametag and be counted present.
- ◆ **To participate via Zoom, you must have completed registration before the deadline (noon on February 20).** The Zoom link will open at 9:00 a.m. for all commissioners and attendees. If you are participating virtually by phone, please use *6 to mute or unmute and *9 to raise or lower your virtual hand.

Excused Absences: All ministers and sessions are reminded that email excuses are required for absences to be approved – you may email requests for excused absences to office@presbyteryofthejames.org. Please plan to stay for the entire meeting and attend to all matters.

Physical Location Information:

- ◆ **Address:** Fairfield Presbyterian Church is located at 6930 Cold Harbor Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23111.
- ◆ **Parking and Facility Accessibility:** Welcome! The meeting will be in our Family Center (gym) which is located in the back of the property. Drive all the way around and park in the gravel lot, or any available parking spot. Handicap accessibility can be found from any exterior sidewalk - there is a ramp directly into the Family Center entrance. Please be mindful of those needing van-accessible handicap parking.
- ◆ **Childcare:** There will be no childcare available at this meeting.
- ◆ **Meals:** Refreshments will be available during registration. Lunch will be assorted sandwiches, chips, and cookies. There will be gluten free and vegan options available. Cost is \$15 payable by cash or check made out to Fairfield Presbyterian Church.
- ◆ **Wi-Fi:** Please download the packet to your laptop, tablet, or other device prior to arriving at the meeting location. We would respectfully ask that you refrain from connecting to the Wi-Fi so that we may reserve maximum bandwidth for those running the virtual side of the meeting. Please do not use your Zoom link if you are attending in person. Thank you for your cooperation.

Motions/Amendments:

- ◆ Should you wish to make a motion, please fill out a motion form, which may be found near the microphone in the meeting space. When you have completed your motion form, present it to the Stated Clerk. If you are on Zoom, use the motion form on the stated meeting page of the POJ website and email it to the Stated Clerk at statedclerk@presbyteryofthejames.org. Please present your motion form to the Stated Clerk prior to making your motion.

A blank motion form has been included in this document on page 8.

Ruling Elder Commissioners from Each Session

January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026

Four Ruling Elder Commissioners from congregations having 900 or more members:

First Charlottesville, First Richmond

Three Ruling Elder Commissioners from congregations having from 550 to 899 members:

River Road, Salisbury, Second Richmond

Two Ruling Elder Commissioners from congregations having 130 to 549 members:

Bon Air, Brandermill, Chester, Culpeper, Fairfield, Fredericksburg, Gayton Kirk, Ginter Park, Grace Covenant, Lord Jesus Korean, Meadows, Olivet, Providence Forge, Rockfish, Southminster, Summit, Swift Creek, Three Chopt, Tuckahoe, Westminster Charlottesville, Westminster Richmond

One Ruling Elder Commissioner from congregations having 129 or fewer members:

Aberdour, All Souls, Amelia, Amptill, Ashland, Bethesda, Bethlehem, Blackstone, Blue Ridge, Bott Memorial, Brett Reed Memorial, Burkeville, Byrd, Campbell Memorial, Colonial Heights, Concord, Cove, Covenant, Eastminster, Ebenezer, First Chase City, First Emporia, First Hopewell, First United, Forest Hill, Genito, Gregory Memorial, Hartwood, Hawkins Memorial, Hebron, Holy Trinity, Kings Chapel, Kirk O'Cliff, Laurel, Lawrenceville, Louisa, Madison, Mattoax, Milden, Milford, Mitchells, New Hanover, Oak Grove, Ogden, Orange, Overbrook, Pine Grove, Praise The Lord, Providence Gum Spring, Providence Powhatan, Pryor Memorial, Rennie Memorial, Rivermont, Rosewood, Salem, Sandston, Scottsville, Second Petersburg, South Hill, South Plains, St Andrews, St James, Tabor, Tappahannock, Thyne Memorial, Village, Waddell Memorial, Westminster Petersburg, Woodlawn, Woodville, Zion Hill

Presbytery of the James News

If you would like to be added to the mailing list to receive our e-newsletter, the Current, please visit <https://www.presbyteryofthejames.com/news/current/> to subscribe.

The POJ has a [Facebook](#) page as well as a [private Facebook group](#) which gives you a forum to seek the expertise of others, share your experience, and invite others to your congregation's events.

Please email news you wish to share in the Current e-newsletter and on social media to communications@presbyteryofthejames.org

Teaching Elders of the Presbytery Milestone Anniversaries of Ordination

As we begin 2026, the Presbytery wishes to recognize its teaching elders who will be celebrating five-year milestone anniversaries of their ordination in the coming year. We list them below with each person's date of ordination. We extend our congratulations to each one of them.

65 Years

- Phillip O. Miller, December 31, 1961

60 Years

- William V. Arnold, July 1, 1966

55 Years

- Eugene Locke, June 1, 1971
- Hunter R. Hill, October 10, 1971

50 Years

- Mary H. Johns, February 8, 1976
- Richard E. Mahlmann, June 6, 1976
- John W. Turner, June 12, 1976
- Charles A. Summers, July 11, 1976
- H. Denny Burnette, July 25, 1976
- Mary Jane Winter, October 17, 1976
- Etta C. Rossman, October 31, 1976

45 Years

- Franklin Reding, January 15, 1981
- David B. Howell, February 1,, 1981
- Judith A. Sutherland, February 15, 1981
- Stephen Starzer, June 7, 1981
- Keith Curran, June 21, 1981
- Dale Elizabeth Dealtrey , June 28, 1981
- James L. Moseley, July 7, 1981
- Louie Andrews, July 19, 1981
- Cindy Kissel-Ito, September 27, 1981
- Jonathan M. Barton, November 22, 1981

40 Years

- Thomas Launius, August 24, 1986
- Katherine C. Jackson, August 31, 1986
- Frances Taylor Gench, October 26, 1986
- J. Jefferson Butler, November 8, 1986

35 Years

- Jaehie Lee Kim, October 26, 1991
- Felecia T. Douglass, November 3, 1991

30 Years

- Janet Winslow, April 20, 1996
- Karen Allamon, June 13, 1996
- Kerra B. English, November 1, 1996
- Nicholas Cammarata, December 8, 1996

25 Years

- Karen V. Stanley, February 18, 2001
- Marc Kerry Foster, May 21, 2001
- Arthur Edward Kross, June 10, 2001
- Samuel Adams, June 10, 2001
- Stephen Hollis Cobb, August 26, 2001
- Derek Starr Redwine, September 29, 2001
- Ulysses S. Payne, September 30, 2001

20 Years

- Yung-Suk Kim, June 3, 2006
- Thomas D. Nichols Jr., July 16, 2006
- Timothy Kim, September 12, 2006
- Jane Govan, September 24, 2006
- John Vest, October 15, 2006

15 Years

- Gina Maio, March 20, 2011
- Taylor Lewis Guthrie Hartman, July 24, 2011
- Robert G. Shenk, August 21, 2011
- Wonho Chang, October 15, 2011

10 Years

- Lynne Clements, March 6, 2016
- Rachel Thompson Orfield, May 8, 2016
- Christopher Tweel, July 17, 2016
- Daniel Mensah Awuah, August 3, 2016
- Seth Lovell, September 18, 2016
- Kelsey Hawisher-Faul, September 25, 2016
- Mark J. Grussendorf, September 25, 2016
- Eric Douglass, October 16, 2016
- Nicole Ball, November 20, 2016
- James Taneti, December 11, 2016

5 Years

- Keli Shipley Cooper, October 3, 2021
- Colleen Earp, October 24, 2021
- Patrick F. Lane, October 24, 2021
- Anthony Saturno, December 5, 2021

Expectations for Boundary Training

For your safety and ours, the presbytery expects all teaching and ruling elders attending presbytery meetings to have had boundary training. Commissioners who attend events sponsored by the Presbytery of the James agree to be governed by the boundaries policy and behave accordingly.

Boundary training is designed to promote healthy relationships and prevent sexual misconduct, harassment, racial discrimination, microaggressions, and gender bias. The goal is to maintain personal awareness, avoid risky behavior and use appropriate settings to keep behavior healthy and appropriate. Boundary training should address:

- Addressing harassment, discrimination, and bias
- Confronting Racial Discrimination
- Recognizing biases and systemic issues
- Overcoming Gender Bias
- Awareness and promoting gender equity
- Creating a Culture of Respect and Safety
- Bystander expectations - “if you see something say something”

Adopted by the Mission Council May 15, 2024

This policy on boundary training brings the Presbytery of the James into compliance with our Book of Order. That said, we acknowledge that not all congregations may have had the opportunity to train ruling elder commissioners to the Presbytery. Regardless of a commissioner’s status on the training, all attendees are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that respects appropriate boundaries of their fellow attendees.

Health Expectations

It is important to prioritize the health and safety of all attendees at any meeting of the Presbytery, committees, commissions, teams, workshops, etc. By adhering to these health expectations, we can help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the flu, or any other airborne or contagious illnesses, and create a safe and welcoming environment for all participants.

1. Participation in the meeting includes possible exposure to and illness from COVID-19 and other illnesses. Following recommendations for being vaccinated and attending to healthy practices may reduce the risk, but the risk of serious illness and death does exist. By attending the meeting, you knowingly assume the risks.
2. Please do not attend the in-person meeting if you feel sick or if you have tested positive for COVID-19 anytime 7 days prior to the meeting. If someone comes in your stead, please let the Presbytery staff (Barbara Espigh at barbara@presbyteryofthejames.org) know who that person is before the meeting starts.
3. If you experience any of the symptoms associated with COVID-19 or other illnesses while attending the meeting, please notify the stated clerk immediately and avoid contact with other persons attending the meeting.
4. Even if you are vaccinated, you are invited to wear a mask and keep a comfortable distance from others if you choose to do so for any reason.
5. Please bring a mask to the meeting. If requested by the POJ moderator for health reasons for any of the group, we ask that you agree to wear the mask.
6. Frequent hand washing is highly recommended. All attendees are strongly encouraged to wash their hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, hand sanitizer should be used.

Following public health guidelines such as wearing masks and getting tested can feel inconvenient or uncomfortable at times, but they are important measures to protect ourselves and those around us from the spread of infectious diseases. By taking these actions, we are showing empathy and consideration for others, and doing our part to keep our communities safe and healthy. It's important to remember that we are all in this together, and small actions can have a big impact on the health and well-being of our families, friends, and neighbors.

Adopted by the Mission Council, May 17, 2023

Approved by Presbytery June 20, 2023

**Worship :: Presbytery of the James
122nd Stated Meeting :: February 21, 2026**

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Music

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you. We have lived for ourselves and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, passing by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy forgive our sin and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

(silence)

Assurance of Pardon

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Psalm 32
John 19:30-42
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

the Rev. Russ Kerr
The Pace Center for Campus Ministry at VCU

Installation

Peggy Fox, Presbytery Moderator
Alex Creager, Presbytery Vice Moderator

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Music

Benediction

the Rev. Russ Kerr