



April 7, 2025

Dear Moderators and Clerks of Session,

In the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), we make decisions together, through ruling elders and teaching elders (or ministers of the Word and Sacrament) gathered in councils. While ruling elders and ministers have different roles in the church, when it comes to governance we participate equally, and in councils higher than the session, we strive for parity of representation. Ruling elder commissioners appointed by our sessions help us to benefit from the full diversity of our churches' leaders as we gather to make important decisions as a presbytery.

As instructed by NCP's "Policy on Ruling Elder Commissioners to Presbytery Meetings," I have put together an equalization plan for the next year, whereby each session is invited to appoint a certain number of ruling elder commissioners, so that the number of ruling elders who may participate is equal to the number of ministers on the membership roll of the presbytery. I invite you to share this information with your session, and to have them appoint ruling elder commissioners from your congregation for the year to come (May 2025 to April 2026).

A ruling elder commissioner must be an active member of your congregation who has previously been ordained as a ruling elder. The commissioner does not need to be currently serving on the session and may have been ordained by the session of another PCUSA congregation.

Stated meetings of the presbytery are generally held five times per year, on Tuesday evenings in January, March, May, September, and November. The current practice is to hold the May and September meetings in person at National Presbyterian Church, with the remainder of the meetings conducted over Zoom teleconference. [The meeting schedule may be found on the NCP web site.](#) I would be pleased to speak with any new or potential new commissioner who might be curious about what this role entails.

While we encourage sessions to appoint commissioners for the full year, we understand that this may not always be possible. You might consider appointing alternates, in addition to the regular commissioners, so that the church can still be represented at presbytery meetings when particular people are unable to attend.

Strengthening & Transforming Our Congregations

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www.thepresbytery.org

We make better decisions as a church when we listen for God's voice speaking through a diverse community gathered to pray and discern together. Thank you for appointing commissioners to presbytery to help make this a more faithful expression of Christ's church!

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David A. Baer". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Rev. David A. Baer, Stated Clerk

National Capital Presbytery

Ruling Elder Equalization Plan

2025-2026

Beginning with the **Stated Meeting on May 20, 2025**, and continuing through the **March 2026 Stated Meeting, and any Special Meeting that may occur before the May 2026**

Stated Meeting, each session is invited to appoint the number of Ruling Elder

Commissioners indicated below:

Adelphi	3	First (Annandale)	3
Aldie	2	First (Arlington)	3
Arlington	2	First United Dale City	3
Ashburn	3	Furnace Mountain	2
Bealeton	2	Gaithersburg	4
Berwyn	3	Geneva	3
Bethesda	2	Georgetown	4
Boyd's	3	Good Samaritan	3
Bradley Hills	4	Grace (Lanham)	3
Brambleton	3	Grace (Springfield)	3
Brentsville	2	Greenwich	4
Burke	4	Heritage	3
Bush Hill	3	Hermon	2
Calvary	3	Hope	3
Capitol Hill	3	Idylwood	2
Catoctin	3	Immanuel	4
Chesterbrook Taiwanese	3	John Calvin	3
Chevy Chase	4	Kirkwood	3
Christ (Fairfax)	3	Knox	3
Christ the King	3	Korean Presbyterian Church of Rockville	3
Christian Community	3	Laurel	3
Church of the Covenant (Arlington)	2	Leesburg	3
Church of the Pilgrims	3	Lewinsville	4
Church of the Redeemer	3	Litchfield	2
Clarendon	4	Little Falls	3
Clifton	4	Manassas	3
Colesville	4	Mizo	3
Covenant (Woodbridge)	4	Mt Vernon	3
Darnestown	4	National	6
Eastminster	3	New Hope	2
Ebenezer	4	New York Avenue	4
Emmanuel Indonesian	3	Northeastern	3
Fairfax	4	Northern Virginia Korean	3
Fairlington	3	Northminster	3
Faith	2	Oaklands	3
Falls Church	3	Old Presbyterian Meeting House	5
Fifteenth Street	3	Patuxent	3

Poolesville	3	Taiwanese PC of Washington DC	3
Potomac	3	Takoma Park	3
Prince Georges Community	3	The Rock	3
Providence	3	Trinity (Arlington)	4
Riverside	3	Trinity (Herndon)	4
Rockville	3	United Christian Parish	3
Rockville United	3	United Korean	3
Saint Mark	3	United Parish	2
Sargent Memorial	3	Vienna	6
Silver Spring	3	Warner Memorial	3
Sixth	3	Western	3
Southminster	3	Westminster (Alexandria)	5
St Andrew	3	Westminster (DC)	3
St Matthew	3	Wheaton Community	2

Calculation

1. Number of Teaching Elder members on the roll	337
2. Assign Ruling Elder Commissioners based on church size *	208
3. Ruling Elder Presbytery Officers, Committee Chairs, members of Leadership Council, and CREs	17
4. Total Ruling Elder Commissioners before equalization	225
5. Remaining Ruling Elder Commissioners needed for parity (subtract line 4 from line 1)	112
6. Assign one additional RE Commissioner to each church	102
7. Assign one additional RE Commissioner each to 10 churches in alphabetical order, beginning with "Church of the Pilgrims"	10
8. Total number of Ruling Elder Commissioners (add lines 4, 6, and 7)	337

* According to the NCP equalization policy, all sessions are invited to appoint one Ruling Elder Commissioner. Based on the number of active members reported as of December 31 on the prior calendar year, sessions are invited to appoint *additional* commissioners as follows:

Between 51 and 400 members	1
Between 401 and 800 members	2

Between 801 and 1200 members	3
Between 1201 and 1600 members	4
Between 1601 and 2000 members	5
More than 2000 members	6