

## **2025 October East Central Presbytery Meeting**

**When:** October 3-4, 2025

Registration opens at 4:30 PM on October 3; Dinner begins at 5:30 PM

Meeting concludes at 12:00 PM on October 4; Boxed lunches will be available for those who sign up for one on the registration

**Where:** Third Church

600 Forest Avenue, Henrico, Virginia

**Parking:** Third Church has multiple parking lots off of Forest Avenue. We recommend parking in Lots B and C, which are closest to the main entrance, off of Lot B, where you will find registration. Both are also closest to the sanctuary where our meeting will be held.

**Lodging:**

A block of rooms has been reserved at:

Hampton Inn & Suites Richmond/Glenside

5406 Glenside Drive

Richmond, VA 23228

804-756-1777

Rooms have 1 king OR 2 queens for \$144 for the night of October 3rd, with free breakfast included. The best way to book is [with this link](#). Or you can call and ask for the “ECO Meeting” room block (the block is also associated with Third Church).

**Hotel rooms in this block must be reserved by Friday, September 26, 2025.**

**Meals:**

**Third Church has graciously offered to cover the costs of meals for those who register by Friday, September 26.**

Friday dinner and dessert will be catered, and the menu will be:

- Salad with homemade dressing
- Roasted pork tenderloin OR roasted Mediterranean chicken breast
- Herbed new potatoes
- Vegetable medley
- Carrot cupcake, key lime tart, or gluten-free bittersweet chocolate cupcake

A continental breakfast will be provided on Saturday morning for those who need it. Some may choose to enjoy a hot breakfast at your hotel.

Boxed lunches will be available on Saturday at the conclusion of the meeting, and you are welcome to take yours to go or stay and enjoy lunch at Third Church. An assortment of boxed lunches will be provided, including:

- Old-fashioned chicken salad on wheat bread
- Roast beef on kaiser roll
- Chicken, spinach, roasted red pepper and homemade pesto on kaiser roll
- Turkey, sharp cheddar and homemade apple chutney on wheat bread
- Kentucky club with dill mayo on sourdough bread
- Sides: potato salad, pasta salad, chips, cole slaw
- Dessert: lemon bar, pound cake, brownie, carrot cake
- Bottled water

**Speaker:** Dr. Jake Mulder of the Fuller Youth Institute

Jake Mulder, PhD, is the assistant chief of leadership formation at Fuller Seminary, executive director for the non-degreed online Christian leader training platform FULLER Equip, and senior adviser for the Fuller Youth Institute and TENx10 Collaboration.

The focus of Jake's presentation will be the research and results of their new book, *Future Focused Church*, a collaboration of Jake Mulder, Kara Powell, and Raymond Chang.

A synopsis of *Future Focused Church*:

*In the past few decades, the church has experienced rapid and distressing change. Hard-working pastors and leaders often know they need to embrace diversity, creatively engage younger generations, and equip their people to love their neighbors. But since they don't know how to make the changes needed, they feel stuck and wonder, "What do I do now? What steps can I take to lead our church purposefully and prayerfully into a more hopeful future?"*

*For these dedicated yet drained church leaders, this research-informed resource from the team at the Fuller Youth Institute offers a clear roadmap to faithfully and effectively navigate change that will revitalize your church. Through extensive research, interviews, and case studies, you will learn how to see the big picture, activate a transformation team, know your "why," discern where God is leading, communicate a compelling vision, maintain disciplined attention, and experiment toward a more fruitful, faithful, and lasting future.*

**Worship** will be led by Rev. Rob Burns and Third Church's Worship Team. Communion will be celebrated following the sermon on Friday evening, and will be led by Rev. Rob Burns and Rev. Elisabeth Hayes. Rev. Elisabeth Hayes will lead a devotional on Saturday morning.

**Business Meeting:** The presbytery will vote to confirm commissioners for the 2026 Synod business meeting. **Pastors and Clerks of Session: Please submit the names and contact information of your 2026 commissioners and alternates through the ECO Church Portal by Friday, September 26.** You can find more information in this email that went out to installed pastors last week: <https://conta.cc/4mLkmvb>