

Dear Fellow Workers in Christ's Vineyard:

The February 2008 POJ meeting launched a year of discernment for the Presbytery to discover God's purpose and mission for our Presbytery. Rev. Brint Keyes laid a good foundation about the concept of discernment for Christian and the church (a one page synopsis of his sermon is enclosed).

Every Session had a 'homework' assignment before the June Presbytery Meeting. The assignment consisted of answering two questions:

1. Which of your current ministries have come about in response to the discernment of God's Will for your congregation?
2. How can other congregations and/or the presbytery help you develop these ministries that have come about in response to God's Will?

We want to gather the answers to these two questions during the month of April. There are three ways to send us your information: (1) Mail to POJ office at 3218 Chamberlayne Avenue, Richmond, VA 23227; (2) email to: carsonrhyme@pbyjames.org or (3) fax to us at 804-355-8535 or 877-259-4441.

It is the desire of the Discernment Task Force to share the results of the questions at the June Presbytery meeting. It will enable us to take the next step in understanding more clearly God's desires for us.

Finally, the Discernment Task Force wants to share a resource for Sessions interested in discerning God's will for your congregation. It is also attached and makes use of the Discernment Study Guide available at the February Presbytery Meeting.

We are in the process of doing a new thing for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and for his church. Thank you for your eager and active participation.

Sincerely yours,

The Discernment Task Force