

Presbytery of Great Rivers  
Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report  
February 20, 2024

Committee Actions:

- A scholarship was approved via an e-vote that was ratified at our January 17, 2024 meeting for Julio Garcia in the amount of \$1,000.00. This scholarship is to be used towards the needs of the Ministry Formation Program expenses he began in January 2024.
- The committee met in-person on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> in Galesburg, Illinois to conduct the interview for readiness to receive a call with candidate Lorna R. Blackford. She submitted prior to this meeting CPM Form 3, including her Statement of Faith, and a list of references; and her preliminary Personal Discernment Profile (PDP). Also submitted were transcripts for her undergraduate and other degree programs as well as a current transcript from the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. The Committee also reviewed her Ordination exam responses and the responses her references gave in preparation for this interview. A sermon was successfully given followed by an interview to ascertain readiness to receive a call. A vote was taken and the Committee approved Lorna as ready to receive a call. During the interview suggestions were given for her Personal Discernment Profile (PDP) which Lorna took under advisement and then resubmitted her PDP for the committee's approval. Her PDP was approved by the committee via e-vote and is now live in the Church Leadership Connection (CLC).
- The remaining dates for regularly scheduled Committee on Preparation for Ministry meetings in 2024 are:
  - Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>
  - Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>
  - Wednesday, August 7<sup>th</sup>
  - Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>

All meetings will be held at 5:30 p.m. and conducted via Zoom unless otherwise arranged.

Committee Celebrations:

- ✚ The Committee calls on the Assembly Commissioners to celebrate with us this milestone in Lorna Blackford's journey to ordination. Please put a note of celebration in the assembly chat and we will collect them and compile them into a remembrance for Lorna!