

From: Presbytery of Great Rivers <office@greatriverspby.org>
Sent: Monday, August 6, 2018 8:03 AM
To: Patti Parrish
Subject: Good News from Great Rivers



GOOD NEWS
from the
Presbytery of Great Rivers

We are called to share Christ's love by partnering in service,
uniting in worship, and risking in ministry.

August 6, 2018

A Word from Your Lead Presbyter For Transformation

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Allow me to (re)introduce myself: I am your Lead Presbyter for Transformation, which is the new title for the role formerly known in Great Rivers Presbytery as General Presbyter. Last year, our presbytery held four town halls across the presbytery, to ask you directly what you needed in this position. As I personally witnessed each of these conversations unfold, it was consistently expressed not only that there was an ongoing need for such a position, but that there was a need for something new, a different nomenclature that did not come with the preconceived notions identified with the wording of General or Executive Presbyter. As I reflect on the title we created as a presbytery, I notice that "Lead Presbyter" implies a single unifying voice among presbyters working together, while the addition of "for Transformation" names a brave, intentional choice to embrace the reality that we need to live as a different kind of community together. I intend to embody these elements as best as possible in my ministry. I should also state that the job description extends for three years, which gives us more flexibility to discern what the job description should look like based on our experience of the kind of transformation we are seeking to achieve.



The question now is how we move into that reality together, a challenge that brings me a sense of honor and excitement. Though I have been a part of this presbytery for the last three years, there is still so much about you I have yet to learn in my commitment to foster relationship, trust, connection, and purpose as a community of churches. This will require some experimentation, and it will require

patience. It may mean larger structural changes, but it may also involve the smaller changes you can only feel, those less measurable, like how we think of and relate to one another. Whatever we do, may it be for the purpose of strengthening each other for the ministry of Jesus Christ, modeling God's love, and creating space for God's reign to prevail in us and around us.

I plan on regularly communicating with you on a number of different platforms-our newsletter, assembly meetings, Facebook, etc. My new email address is rlandino@greatriverspby.org, and my new work cell phone is **309-251-9958**; feel free to text message me on this number as well. I can be reached at the Peoria office during the middle days of the week when not doing visitations. I plan to continue my Sabbath rest practice on Mondays, and I request that if you have a similar practice that you let me know your Sabbath day so I can honor your spiritual renewal as well. I do welcome the opportunity to preach as the schedule allows it, but I typically prefer opportunities to preach with your current pastor present (and less so to fill regular vacation leave) so I can maximize my time with you. I will also share that it is my joy to participate in Sunday worship with you, with no agenda other than to experience Christ's love as it manifests in your faith community. All in all, it may take some time for me to find my best work rhythm, so if I make tweaks as we go along, it is so I can be as effective as possible as your Lead Presbyter.

Looking forward to getting to know you better in the weeks and months ahead!

Blessings in Christ,

Rev. Ryan J. Landino
Lead Presbyter for Transformation
Great Rivers Presbytery
Synod of Lincoln Trails, PCUSA

Mark Your Calendar

AUGUST

Interfaith Group

Friday, August 10
10 am - 11 am
Presbytery Office

ORDINATION & INSTALLATION

Sunday, August 12 @ 4 pm
CPM Candidate Brandan Ouellette
Monmouth-Faith United Presbyterian Church

Leadership & Admin Team

Wednesday, August 15
10 am - 4 pm
Peoria-First Federated LTC

Leadership Meeting

Wednesday, August 22
10 am - 2 pm
Presbytery Office

COM Meeting

Tuesday, August 28
10 am - 3 pm
Peoria-First Federated LTC

SEPTEMBER

Office Closed
Monday, September 3
Labor Day

Interfaith Group
Wednesday, September 12
11 am - 1 pm
Presbytery office

COM Meeting
Tuesday, September 25
10 am - 3 pm
Peoria-First Federated LTC

CPM Meeting
Thursday, September 27
10 am
Presbytery Office

[Click here for the PGR Calendar](#)

Presbytery of Great Rivers, 1230 W Candletree Dr, Suite D, Peoria, IL 61614

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