

Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report
August 24, 2021

Upon examination by the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, the committee finds that Samuel W. La Mere has satisfactorily achieved the goals of the Inquirer phase of preparation and is now ready to be moved to Candidacy.

To accomplish this, the Committee on Preparation for Ministry moves to proceed with the examination of Inquirer Samuel La Mere with respect to his christian faith, forms of christian service undertaken and motives for seeking the ministry.

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry recommends that Inquirer Samuel W. La Mere be received as a candidate for the office of Minister of Word and Sacrament upon the successful completion of an examination by the assembly.

Background:

Samuel W. La Mere was received as an Inquirer at the August 29, 2020 Presbytery Assembly and is a senior at Dubuque Theological Seminary.

Pertinent references from the Manual of Operations CPM handbook on moving from Inquiry to Candidacy:

II B 1. Admission to Candidacy an Inquirer becomes a Candidate by action of presbytery. At that time the Candidate formally agrees to accept the presbytery's supervision in her or his preparation for the office of Minister of Word and Sacraments. The process of the candidacy phase can be as follows:

- a. An Inquirer shall apply to the presbytery through the session of his or her church and the presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry to become a Candidate for the office of Minister of Word and Sacraments.
- b. The session shall confer with the Inquirer, review the evidence of the inquiry phase, and make recommendations to the presbytery through the Stated Clerk with respect to the Inquirer's application. The Stated Clerk shall communicate this information to the CPM moderator.
- c. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry shall confer with the Inquirer and review the evidence which indicates whether the Inquirer is ready to proceed to candidacy
- d. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry shall make a definite recommendation to the presbytery with respect to whether the Inquirer should be received as a Candidate. Presbytery shall act on every committee recommendation regarding application for candidacy.

e The presbytery shall receive the report and recommendation of its committee and shall examine the Inquirer in person with respect to his or her Christian faith, forms of Christian service undertaken, and motives for seeking the ministry.

f. If the examination is approved, the presbytery shall receive the Inquirer as a Candidate after the following manner. The moderator shall propose the following questions to the inquirer:

(1) Do you believe yourself to be called by God to the office of Minister of Word and Sacraments?

(2) Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a Christian character and conduct, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for this ministry?

(3) Do you accept the proper supervision of the presbytery in matters that concern your preparation for this ministry?

(4) Do you desire now to be received by this presbytery as a Candidate for the office of Minister of Word and Sacraments in the PCUSA?

g. If these questions are answered in the affirmative, a brief charge shall be given, the Candidate's name shall be recorded on the presbytery's roll of Candidates, and the proceedings shall close with prayer.