

## Licensing Toward Ordination For Carmen B.

**Introduction:** Lorrie S.

### **Mutual Commitment**

**John:** God calls each of us to be co-workers with God, providing us with the support of a church community in which we may learn and grow and serve together. We believe that God has called and prepared you, Carmen, for ministry both in and on behalf of the church. We rejoice in your commitment to serve as you discern and live out your calling to ministry.

### **Congregation:**

Carmen, we join in this covenant so that together we may joyfully respond to God's goodness and grace, learn and grow in faith, and be a caring and supportive community, living justly and peacefully wherever God calls us. Today we affirm your gifts and calling to ministry and join in licensing you toward ordination as a minister in the Mennonite Church.

### **Licensing Toward Ordination**

**Henry:** All who love Jesus, answer the call to feed his sheep, and enter the covenant of baptism become Christ's ministers. All receive the Spirit; all are given gifts. Through the Spirit, God calls some women and men to ordained ministry. We gather here today because we believe that God is calling Carmen Brubacher to ordained ministry.

The years ahead, while engaged in active ministry, will be a time of prayer and discernment to see if you, Carmen, are willing and able to follow this path, to see if this set-apart ministry is one to which God and the church are calling you. This congregation and Mennonite Church Eastern Canada have

confirmed your emerging sense of calling, and promise to join you in this time of discernment. As you live into the public affirmations of faith that you are about to make, may you become more certain of God's will for your life.

### **Questions to Carmen: Henry**

### **Declaration**

**Henry:** Carmen, on behalf of Mennonite Church Eastern Canada, we license you toward ordination for Christian ministry, in the name of the God our Creator, Christ our Saviour, and the Spirit who sustains us.

I charge you to be faithful to God, to remain open to the Spirit in this community of faith, to serve in the spirit of love, as you extend Christ's hospitality to all. May God empower you with wisdom and insight, strength and love. We exhort you to share the biblical story, provide nurture and support to all entrusted to your care, live in the way of Jesus, learn and grow always.

*"The LORD bless you and keep you; may God's face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; may the LORD's countenance watch over you, and give you peace." Amen.*

**Congregation:** Carmen, we have witnessed your commitment to God and to the church and we commit ourselves to supporting you through our gifts of prayer, friendship, counsel and encouragement as you serve in whatever capacity God calls you. May you be filled with joy and love as you serve in the church and community.

### **Signing the Covenant of Ethics in Ministry**

### **Prayer of Blessing and Laying on of Hands**