

Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA
Credentialing Ministry
Job Description

As stated in the Conference Constitution (dated 3/14/09)

Membership

Consists of a chairperson, four (4) additional members and the Conference Minister as a nonvoting member. (Article X, C.1.)

- Regional Pastors may attend Credentialing Ministry meetings as needed.
(Article X.C.3a)

Purpose

The Credentialing Ministry exists to assure that the Conference congregations have suitable, approved, cared-for, accountable pastoral leadership. (Article X, C.2)

Responsibilities

1. Functions as defined in Article X.C.4:

a. Credentials for Pastors

- 1) It is the responsibility of the Credentialing Ministry to establish policy and procedures for the credentialing of pastors called to serve Ohio Conference congregations and/or other specialized ministries.
- 2) The Credentialing Ministry will examine ministerial candidates, act upon congregational requests for licensure, ordination, and transfer of leadership credentials, and authorize the conference minister and/or the regional pastor and/or a member of the Credentialing Ministry to officiate on behalf of the Conference in such situations.
- 3) The Credentialing Ministry will oversee the implementation of disciplinary procedures in accordance with Ministerial Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedures.

b. Education and Nurture

- 1) Establish educational requirements for credentialing and promote continuing professional development in consultation with the Ministry Development Team.
- 2) Manage the Conference Scholarship Aid Fund which provides financial assistance to pastors and pastors-in-training.
- 3) Assist regional pastors in offering guidance and care for retired pastors.

c. Vision for the Future

- 1) Develop strategies to identify, nurture, and call prospective pastoral leaders from within the congregation.
- 2) Provide financial support for the Ministry/Camping Inquiry program of Mennonite colleges as it relates to the Ohio Conference.

2. Work with regional pastors in the credentialing of pastors for serving Conference congregations or other specialized ministries. (Article X.C.3a)

3. Work with congregations through the Regional Pastors and the Conference Minister. (Article X.C.3b)

Other

1. Has access to ministerial information and resources through the Congregational and Ministerial Leadership of Mennonite Church USA. (Article X.C.3c)