

Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA
April 2012- March 2013 Narrative Spending Plan Proposal

This represents the goals and plans for the mission and ministry of Ohio Conference.

Empowering Pastors & Congregations

The majority of Regional Pastor time goes towards the support of the pastors of our 78 congregations. In addition to bestowing and maintaining credentials, the Conference offers a variety of specialized retreats (i.e. couples in ministry, women in ministry) as well as resourcing events.

Regional Pastors facilitate regular pastor peer meeting times as well as offer support to pastors in crisis. For the congregations, Regional Pastors oversee the pastoral search process and are available to elder groups as well as for congregational discernment or crisis.

Mentoring newly credentialed leaders as well as providing financial support for ministry interns are just some of the ways the Conference nurtures and supports persons exploring a call to ministry.

Support for these ministries helps to maintain healthy pastors and relationships between pastoral leaders and congregations so that all of us can be about the work of the Kingdom.

((Office/Travel for credentialing interviews & meetings, Pastoral Assessment Requirements for new pastoral candidates, Retreats & Seminars, Ministry Inquiry Program opportunities for college students, 60% of the Regional Pastors' salaries & benefits, 20% of Conference Minister salary & benefits))

Subtotal: \$118,095 (22.78%)

Stewardship Education

The work of equipping people to be faithful stewards of time, money and talent has been a primary task of the Stewardship Ministry. This group also provides fiscal accountability for Conference work. A series of events over the past two years (including Stewardship University and the Revitalization seminar) are some of the resources that the ministry has overseen. Support for this ministry allows for low cost events as well as allows for additional resourcing for pastors and lay leaders.

((Office/Travel for meetings, Financial Review of Conference books, Seminars & Workshops for Stewardship Education))

Subtotal: \$1250 (.24%)

Equipping Conference Ministries

Administrative support for the work of Conference is essential for maximizing the volunteer time and financial resources of the Conference. Records are kept of official actions as well as credentials. Conference wide publications which promote the available resources as well as network the congregations help to foster understanding and community. Cluster meetings and

Annual Conference Assembly are important events that assist us in getting to know each other and conducting the work that we do together, which cannot be done apart.

Support for these ministries ensures the efficiency of the Conference work, allowing volunteers to engage their passions and to promote projects of congregations.

((Office/Travel for meetings (Administrative & Pastoral Staff), Theological Resource Team, Gifts Discernment Committee meetings, Kidron Office - General expenses, Kidron Office - Equipment expenses, Kidron Office - Maintenance expenses, Printing Expenses, Resource Library Expenses for new materials, Publicity Expense, Annual Assembly Expenses, Annual Assembly Receipts, Administrative Salaries & Benefits (Judy, Ann, Stan), 30% of the Regional Pastors' salaries & benefits, 70 % of Conference Minister salary & benefits, Staff Honoraria))

Subtotal: \$277,555 (53.54%)

Embodied Worship, Faith & Witness

Strengthening congregations to promote worship, faith and witness is one of the primary aims of Conference work. Through equipping and supporting pastors and congregational leaders, more gifts are released for witness to the community.

Support for this work enables ministry teams to respond to congregational needs and cultural concerns in areas such as military recruitment, immigration, and human trafficking. Hispanic ministries, youth ministry resourcing, a Conference-wide youth event, and church planting with a Vietnamese group and in Strasburg are additional projects supported by the Conference.

((Office/Travel for meetings, Prayer Ministry Team, Retreats & Seminars, Resource Team expenses, Mennonite Mission Leaders Conference, Resource Team Coordinator salary & benefits, MDT Ministry Support including, Hispanic & New Ministries, Youth Initiative Ministries, Pastoral Scholarship Fund, Reserve for New Ministries, 10% of the Regional Pastors' salaries & benefits))

Subtotal: \$63,494 (12.25%)

Denominational Support

Conference provides the link between congregations and the national denominational structure. The resources and connection that this provides are valuable to the Conference and to member congregations.

Support of this work releases the gifts of ministry at a national level. It also demonstrates our commitment to first fruits stewardship and the witness of Mennonites through the work of Mennonite Mission Network and the Executive Leadership.

((MC Executive Leadership Support, Delegates to General Assembly, 10% of Conference Minister salary & benefits))

Subtotal: \$57,831 (11.15%)

GRAND TOTAL: \$518,225