

Regional Pastor West Report

I am honored to continue to serve with the Ohio Conference staff through this past year. The half-time assignment involves serving as the regional pastor for the west half of Ohio, which includes the congregations in and west of Columbus, including one congregation in southern Michigan.

Primary responsibilities include the following:

- Pastoring the pastors in this region. I continue to affirm the kinds of pastors that God and the congregations have called into pastoral ministry in this region. They share much wisdom and commitment to making disciples in their locations.
- Facilitating pastor peer groups in this part of the state. There are two groups that meet, and they are centered in the West Liberty, Ohio, area and the Archbold, Ohio, area. There has been some desire expressed to clarify the purpose of pastor peer groups, particularly in the northwest Ohio group. I believe we will be well served to review the purpose and the best practices of the pastor peer groups in the state in the near future.
- Working with congregations in pastoral search. As of Jan. 1, 2018, Bethel (West Liberty) and West Clinton (Wauseon) are in pastoral search processes.
- Working with credentialing for pastors in this area. In the past year, this included:
 - Participation in installation and licensing of Corben Boshart, Zion Mennonite, Archbold; and Sue Short, installation at Zion Mennonite, Archbold
 - Installation of Rob Burdette as interim pastor at Sharon Mennonite, Plain City
 - Support for pastors and congregations in which pastors have needed to take an unplanned leave
 - Support for pastors and congregations as they engage in learning more about and practicing healthy boundaries
- Representing Ohio Conference at the gathering for the leaders of the mid-states conferences four times a year.

Cliff Brubaker, Regional Pastor West