

Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA
Credentialing Ministry Team
Zoom meeting
Jan. 6, 2021

Present: Dick Barrett, Doug King, Vickie Yoder (chair), LaVerne Yousey, Miriam Zehr, Judy King (recorder)

Absent: Myron Weaver

1. **Welcome/prayer.** Vickie opened the meeting with prayer. Members were asked to share how the Lord has been speaking to them during this time of the pandemic.
2. **Minutes.** The minutes of the Oct. 14, 2020, meeting were approved as presented.
3. **Response letter.** The Credentialing Ministry Team received a letter from a concerned member of our constituency regarding our policies and procedures in reporting about pastoral sexual misconduct. Dick composed a letter of response, requesting feedback from the group before sending it. The team gave their approval to the response letter, affirming the kind manner in which it was written.

3. **Interview procedures.** Interview procedures were reviewed.

4. **Interview with Matt Weaver** (associate pastor at Lockport Mennonite). Tony Doehrmann joined the meeting for the interview. Introductions were made, and Tony led in prayer..

Matt was affirmed for ordination Doug led in a prayer of affirmation and blessing.

5. **Pastors with no Healthy Boundaries training.** There are several Ohio Conference pastors that have not had any Healthy Boundaries training. We hold their credentials. We cannot be negligent. The ministerial staff will try one more time to reach out to these individuals.

Dick noted that there is a fairly significant number of pastors that have not returned a signed ethics form. Some are struggling with the wording of the ethics form. He suggested sending an email reminder and if they have questions about it, let us know.

6. **Ashland seminary cohort.** Dick reported that he has been in conversation with Ashland Theological Seminary about how they might collaborate with Ohio Conference. One way this is happening is that they are offering to resource a cohort of 12-15 Ohio Conference pastors, focusing on pastoral wellness. The cohort will begin in the fall of 2021 and run through April 2022. They are able to do this because of a Lilly Fund Thriving in Ministry grant
7. **Next meeting:** The next meeting was scheduled for April 7, 2021, at 9 a.m. via Zoom.

Judy King recorder