

**Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA
Credentialing Ministry Team
Ohio Conference Office, Kidron, Ohio
May 18, 2021**

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

Absent: Dee Custar

1. **Devotions/prayer.** Vickie opened the meeting with a devotional about preparing a place for blessing. She led in prayer.
2. **Minutes.** The minutes of the April 7, 2021, meeting were approved as presented.
3. **Interview with Keith and Rachelle Lyndaker Schlabach. (Millersburg).** Regional Pastor Ralph Reinford was present for the interview. Introductions were made. LaVerne led in prayer.

Keith and Rachelle were approved for licensing toward ordination. LaVerne explained about scholarship funds that are available for pastors. Dick explained about learning opportunities that available through the Journey program and Ralph gave a brief explanation of the licensing period. Myron Weaver offered a prayer of blessing for them and for their ministry.

4. **Interest in credentialing by an individual.** Ralph and Vickie have had communication with an individual who is interested in being credentialed with Ohio Conference. He is in southeastern Ohio and is interested in church planting or chaplaincy roles. The first step would be for him to complete an MLI (Ministerial Leadership Information) form. Ralph and Dick will process further and get back to the team.
5. **Next steps for non-compliant pastors.** Some pastors have not followed through with Healthy Boundaries training and some have not signed the code of ethics forms. Dick explained that some pastors didn't sign the code of ethics form in its present form due to the way some of the statements were worded. It may be possible to break the form into two pieces. We will revisit after the all pastors gathering planned for late summer. Judy and Dick will compile a list of pastors that still need to sign the form. In regards to those not yet completing Healthy Boundaries 101 training, contacts will be made by Dick or Vickie to explain that their credentials are being suspended.

Judy King, recorder