

**Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA
Credentialing Ministry Team
Zoom meeting
April 20, 2023**

Present: Dick Barrett, Dee Custar, Doug King (chair), Larry Rohrer, Rachelle Lyndaker Schlabach, LaVerne Yousey, Judy King (recorder)

1. **Welcome and devotional time.** Doug welcomed everyone to the meeting. He read from Matthew 28 and then invited everyone to share their Resurrection/Easter Sunday experiences.
2. **Minutes.** The minutes from the March 16, 2023, meeting were approved as presented.
3. **Preparation for the interview.** Time was spent preparing for the interview with Alvis Pettker.
4. **Interview with Alvis Pettker for ordination.** (Friendship Mennonite Church). Larry led in prayer and introductions were made.

Alvis was affirmed for ordination. Dick led in a prayer of blessing for Alvis and his ministry.

5. **Foundations for Justice Training.** We were reminded that this training is required for Ohio Conference personnel. The link to the 2022 winter training sessions is available from the Conference office for both new personnel and those that would like a refresher.
6. **Healthy Boundaries Training.** This training is to be completed by all of our credentialed pastors every three years. The last training was offered in the fall of 2020, which means it should be offered again in 2023. The last time, our resource persons were Jon Bohley from SpringHaven and Andy Stoner. Our preference would be for one of the presenters to be female. Dick will contact possible presenters. We will plan to offer this in-person training this fall, once in the east and once in the west.
7. **Summer Credentialing Ministry Team retreat.** A retreat was tentatively scheduled for Aug. 25-26, 2023.
8. **Assessments for new pastors.** Pastoral assessments have in the past been done between licensing and ordination. Ideally, assessments should be done prior to licensing. Two persons have inquired about licensing and are planning to do the assessment ahead of the licensing interview. The assessment costs \$700. Of that total, Conference pays \$300, the candidate pays \$200 and the congregation pays \$200.

Glenn Nofziger was licensed with Ohio Conference, and shortly after, his congregation, Martins Creek, left Ohio Conference. He was ordained during the time he was away from Ohio Conference, and we accepted his ordination credential when he began pastoring at Sonnenberg. He is inquiring about having the assessment done. We are willing to pay our normal \$300 share of the assessment fee that we offer to new pastors. It is encouraging that he is reaching out to Conference to have this done. Dick will contact Glenn with this information.

9. **Next meeting.** The next meeting was scheduled for May 18, 2023, possibly in person. Judy will check on possible locations.

Judy King, recorder