

Ministerial Leadership Team Report - May 2021

1. Overview of the Year: As we all know, this year has interrupted many of our annual plans. The annual pastors' retreat and anticipated plans to call and develop future pastors were put on hold due to Covid-19 restrictions. The Team learned to meet and interview credential candidates via online connections. The Team has found that using the Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective for devotional reflection as we begin each meeting helps ground us in understanding the scope and importance of our work.
2. The ongoing work to keep credential files and lists up to date will be reflected below. We want to remind the congregations that Mennonite Church USA does not hold ministerial credentials; they are held by the individual conferences within MC USA meaning that we maintain credentials for all SCMC congregations; including those that have chosen to withdraw from MC USA while continuing as members of South Central Mennonite Conference.
3. As a part of resourcing, encouraging and nurturing pastors all active credentialed pastors are required to take a Health Boundaries Training on a rotating basis. The focus of this training is to give guidance in maintaining moral and ethical boundaries and to help pastors understand the importance of self-care to prevent the things that often damage pastors' families and lead to burnout and moral failures.
4. With the awareness that our churches will continue to need trained and called pastors in the future a part of our ongoing work will be to challenge your congregation to be more intentional in encouraging persons to hear and test the call of the Spirit in their lives.
5. Commission Work the past year

During this past year this commission has been involved in the credentialing, or the transfer of credentials, for 3 persons.

License for a Specific Ministry

Cathy Wagler Licensed for ministry as Conference Network Director

License toward Ordination

John Stainbrook Crystal Springs Mennonite Church, Harper, Kansas

Ordination

Jerry Acosta At The Feet of Jesus, Wichita, Kansas

Network Leadership Team Members

Kurt Horst, Chair

Kenzie Intemann

Todd Lehman

Delvin Mast

Amy Claassen