

**Living Water Association, ONE (Ohio NorthEast)  
Heartland Conference UCC**

**Committee on Ministry Meeting  
Thursday, March 4, 2020 | 10:00am | ZOOM  
Co-chair: Doris Powell and Nanette Pitt**

Present: Jack Acri, Pam Beck, Allison Gallaher, Ruth Garwood, Sam Greening, Jill Goodman, Amy Gopp, David Herrin, David Hill, Sprite Johnson, Steve Johnson, Allen Kahler, Nayiri Karjian, Patti Komperda, Donna-Marie Lain, Luke Lindon, Nanette Pitt, Doris Powell, Earl Rogers, William Smith

Excused: Dick Beck, Kim Cran, Kathy Ketchum, John King, Deb Oden

Key:

CoM = Committee on Ministry

WG = Working Group

WC = Wisdom Circle

Welcome & Introductions

Centering Prayer/Meditation - Doris

Approval of Minutes from December 3, 2020 – MSP

Reports from Working Groups

- Credentialing – ask for recent sermon from interviewees; remind about what can be cited for continuing education; considering requesting licensed ministers to tell us who they might like as a mentor (think that everyone should have one); workshop on the Marks for Licensed Ministers in the fall
- Discernment – finalizing MID discernment plan; meeting people and helping them in the process of preparing for ordination
- Oversight – Healthy Practices: 5 May – Hybrid Worship; Oct – Ethics & Boundaries; conversations around ongoing concerns, ethics for departing pastors

Discussion about MINISTERIAL FORMATION PLAN FOR ORDAINED MINISTRY Document [see also red print in document, attached] –  
**consensus to move forward with this document**

- Looking for language to explain the options for the process toward ordination
- If someone seeking Privilege of Call with the Credentialing WG – would this be useful there? – not a standing, but a 1-year status process, still required to meet the requirements of the body who holds your original standing
- Trying to objectify the subjective, but still need to find a way of evaluation – of the system as well as of the MIDs
- Endorsement of the Plan is with the WG, not the WC
- Discussion around concern about sources of education for people preparing to serve UCC congregations
  - May be different for different congregations (small/large; conservative/progressive, etc.)
- Sometimes may emphasize what is *required* – regardless of what a MID/congregation desires
- God/Holy Spirit is part of the process along with the MID and CoM/WG
- Discernment of call is a community process, not only individual; request for Discernment comes from the local church
- A list of approved educational sources will be provided – possibly have at least 1 alumni contact for each
- It is the responsibility of the (potential) MID to initiate all contacts
- In specific/exceptional circumstances, the CoM/WG may depart from this document – need to express this clearly somewhere in the document (may be somewhere – but need to include it on this iteration)

Adjourned at 11:30 am

Submitted by Sprite Johnson