

WINTER CLUSTER 2015

AGENDA

- Devotional
- Brief report and discussion on Mennonite Church USA pastors' survey
- Proposal for discussion at Annual Conference Assembly
- Financial report
- Stewardship visits and Five-Year Plan
- Constitutional Amendment
- Spending plan proposal
- Congregational Sharing

Pastors Survey

- Overview – 66% response rate (1323 responses)
- Denominational Findings – responses vary by age, by gender, by geography; pastors today more likely to be older, more women, more highly educated, and more urban than 2006 study; conferences divide into three categories (on views of LGBTQ membership): Group 1 represented 8 conferences (31.6% of credentialed pastors), Group 2 represented 7 conferences (39% of credentialed pastors), Group 3 represented 6 conferences (29.4% of credentialed pastors)
- Ohio Conference Findings – in Group 1

Proposal for Discussion @ ACA

- Discussion of Polity issues; our connections with one another and the wider church
- Offered three options for discussion with pastors
- Recognition that there are alternate affiliations being proposed
- Leadership Team proposal for ACA discussion

Stewardship Visits w/Congregations

- Marion Beyeler & I are visiting all our congregations
- Asking specific questions
- Sharing conference initiatives
- Sensing level of connectedness
- Inviting indication of future financial support

Ohio Conference 2015 ACA

Proposed Constitutional Amendment

(in blue italics, underlined)

Article X - Standing Groups

D. Gifts Discernment Ministry

4. Functions

b. Recommend Nominees in due time for:

2) Members of Standing Ministries in consultation with the respective chairpersons for Conference Assembly
action