OCTOBER STATED PRESBYTERY MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2014
MINUTES OF FALL STATED MEETING—Tuesday, October 21, 2014

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CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING PRAYER
Moderator TE Steve Bong convened the presbytery with prayer on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

Declaration of Quorum:
TE Tammy Gregory Brown, Stated Clerk declared a quorum present.

INTRODUCTION OF FIRST TIME COMMISSIONERS AND SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS
Elders attending Presbytery as commissioners for the first time were introduced: Wayne Whitmore, RE Faith, Anne Peters, RE First, Huntsville, Houston Matthews, RE First, Huntsville, Franklin Bevel, First, Guntersville, Ray Norris, First, Decatur

SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS
None

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS
RE Carol Barron, Copeland; Arlene Ashe, Sheffield; Karla Conway, Presbyterian Home for Children Resource Director; Rola al Ashkar, First Huntsville Seminary Intern; Rev. Dr. Sam Cooper, Pastor First Presbyterian Church in Nashville;

Karla Conway brought greetings on behalf of Presbyterian Home for Children. TE Jana Anderson, First Athens brought greetings on behalf of Colombia Alumni Counsel with a presentation made available in reception area.

WELCOME BY THE HOST FACILITY
TE Patrick Laney, Maranatha Camp and Conference Center Executive Director welcomed commissioners and guests to the stated presbytery meeting. Patrick recognized the MCCC staff, Pat Hughes, Camp Administrator, Jimmie Smith, Maintenance and Grounds and Roger Widgeon Maintenance and Grounds. He also recognized Diane Widgeon for assisting with today's meal preparation.
**ENROLLMENT**

Roll of Churches, Teaching Elders, Commissioners (Ruling Elders)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHURCH</th>
<th>TEACHING ELDER</th>
<th>COMMISSIONERS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albertville, First</td>
<td>Ed Hamlett, SS</td>
<td>Mary Snyder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athens, First</td>
<td>David Palmer, SS</td>
<td>Doug Harbin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Athens, Copeland</td>
<td>Jaina Anderson, Assoc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belgreen, Mountain Home</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Brenda Copeland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brownsboro, Big Cove</td>
<td>Rosemary McMahan, SS</td>
<td>Excused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cullman, First</td>
<td>Mel Strain, Interim</td>
<td>Debbie Book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decatur, First</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Nathan Woodard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decatur, St. Andrew</td>
<td>Toby Mueller, Designated</td>
<td>Ray Norris *</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decatur, Westminster</td>
<td>Jeff Parker</td>
<td>Dan Watt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florence, First</td>
<td>Richard Gillespie (Excused)</td>
<td>Sara Bush</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florence, Westminster</td>
<td>Brandon Miles, Associate</td>
<td>Absent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fort Payne, First</td>
<td>John McKell</td>
<td>Charles Malone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gadsden, Trinity</td>
<td>Les Anderson, CLP</td>
<td>Len Hephner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guntersville, First</td>
<td>Mark Knowles</td>
<td>Franklin Bevel *</td>
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<td>Hartselle, First</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Sam Gugliotta</td>
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<tr>
<td>Huntsville, Covenant</td>
<td>Hal Oakley</td>
<td>Jack Royster *</td>
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<td>Huntsville, Faith</td>
<td>Tom Lovell</td>
<td>Roland Walker</td>
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<td>Huntsville, Fellowship</td>
<td>Greg Bentley</td>
<td>Wayne Whitmore</td>
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<td>Huntsville, First</td>
<td>Mark Mueller</td>
<td>George Grayson</td>
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<td>Huntsville, Hope</td>
<td>Christie Ashton</td>
<td>Houston Matthews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Huntsville, Trinity</td>
<td>Darryl Goldman, SS (Absent)</td>
<td>Roy McCorkle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madison, Grace</td>
<td>Robin Palmer</td>
<td>Anne Peters *</td>
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<td>Mount Hope, Rock Springs-</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Debbie Adsit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mitchell Memorial</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tony Crutcher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Muscle Shoals, Old Brick</td>
<td>Carl Malm, TS</td>
<td>Jamie Clay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Market, New Market</td>
<td>Brad Hall, SS</td>
<td>Absent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheffield, First</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Devon Reynolds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toney, Madison Crossroads</td>
<td>Kerry Campbell, TS</td>
<td>Braxton Ashe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Valley Head,</td>
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<td>Norm Helmts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winston Memorial</td>
<td></td>
<td>Absent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waterloo, Williams Chapel</td>
<td></td>
<td>Absent</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCD Sa-Rang Fellowship</td>
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<td>Absent</td>
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*First Time Commissioners
Roll of At Large/Retired Clergy
William Allen (excused), Edward Babcock (absent), John W. Bolton (absent), Frank Broyles (excused), John Bush, Kerry Campbell (excused), Maricarmen Castro, Jerry Davis (absent), Margaret Davis, (excused), Van Edington (absent), Chris Hauer (absent), Lyndall Hamlett (absent), Don Haas, (absent), John Herndon, Houston Hodges (excused), John Johnston (absent), Donald Kaller (absent), Leigh Ann Looyenga (excused), Mark Looyenga (excused), Jim Matthews, Peggy McClure, Robert McGehee (excused), James Nash (absent), Amanda Ragland (excused), Jack Ragland (excused), Paul David Reynolds (absent), Judy Mitchell Rich (absent), Rob Seitz (absent), William Shouse (absent), Steven Soon Son (absent), Steve Stager (absent), Mel Strain, James Thompson, Terry Tingle (absent)

Roll of Other Elders with Voice and Vote
Steve Bong, Moderator; Bob Copous, MCCC Study Team Moderator; Lee Matthews, COM Moderator,

Roll of North Alabama Presbytery Officers and Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. Tammy Gregory Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Manager/Recording Clerk</td>
<td>Linda Wheeler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCCC Executive Director</td>
<td>Rev. Patrick Laney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCCC Camp Administrator</td>
<td>Pat Hughes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDF Secretary</td>
<td>Harriett Bibb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMT Moderator</td>
<td>Albert Schild</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Roll of Visitors
Arlene Ashe, Rola al Ashkar, Carole Barron, Dr. Richard Borie (SLW Stated Clerk), Karla Conway, Rev. Dr. Sam Cooper, Karen Madison, Janet Gugliotta, Robyn Hyden (ARISE), Sarah Martin, D Anne Norris

WORSHIP SERVICE
Worship music was led by TE Toby Mueller. Worship leader was TE Tom Lovell. TE Patrick Laney, delivered the sermon based on Genesis 3: 8-24 using topic of "Where has God shown up in your life?" TE Rosemary McMahan voiced prayer of thanks for the offering received. The offering will be given to Marantha to defer cost of office renovations.

STATED CLERK REPORT
ADOPTION OF DOCKET AND OMNIBUS MOTION
Motion to suspend the rules of Presbytery (2/3 majority required to suspend the standing rules) for the following to be added to the docket for action.
1. Lee Matthews (COM Moderator) recommendation to amend the Terms of Call for Rev. Dr. Tammy Gregory Brown, Executive Presbytery/Stated Clerk to include Personal Dental Insurance. APPROVED.

Presbytery was reminded that several years ago Stated Meeting Minutes are to be sent electronically and paper copies are not to be included in the current Stated Meeting agenda/docket.
The Docket and Omnibus Motion were APPROVED. (Appendix A)

Correction made to July Stated Meeting "Roll of At Large/Retired Clergy" to reflect Maricarmen Castro as present.

The Stated Clerk, Tammy Gregory Brown, made the following appointments:
- Temporary Clerks and review of minutes - RE Braxton Ashe, First Sheffield
- Leave of Absence - RE Devon Reynolds, New Market and RE Brenda Gilmore, Copeland
- Thanks - TE Hal Oakley, Covenant

FOCUS GROUPS

Presbytery offered two focus groups. EP/Stated Clerk Tammy Gregory Brown facilitated actions of 221st General Assembly(GA Divestment Recommendation and GA Proposed Amendment to W-4.9000.) Reflections on Call was facilitated by guest, Rev. Dr. Sam Cooper.

CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY TEAM

Rosemary McMahan, CDMT Moderator gave an overview of a recent grant received from Mission Program "Pastoral Leader Development for Congregations." The grant helps fund the Vital Churches Institute Barnabas Leadership Group, a two-year, in-depth pastoral leadership training. The grant will also help fund training for NAP coaches to lead congregations in assessing their strengths and weaknesses using the Vital Signs inventory.

Nine NAP Pastors are participating in the Barnabas Leadership Study. Eight NAP members and four Teaching Elders have volunteered to take the Vital Signs training and will be available to help NAP congregations with the inventory process. The inventory and coaching assistance is FREE!

MISSION STRATEGIES RESOURCE TEAM

TE Toby Mueller, MSRT Moderator brought attention to the updated NAP Website, reviewed the NAP Clusters as a reminder of the current Cluster chairs.

Toby invited Rola al Ashkar to speak to Presbytery. Rola is Lebanese. She earned a B.A. in Computer Sciences from Business and Computer University in Chtoura, Bekaa and is pursuing her Master of Divinity at The Near East School of Theology (NEST) in Hamra, Beirut. She has been preaching in Synod Churches (Arabic) since 2013 and continues to preach at NEST chapels which she began doing in 2011, she has several years of experience assisting in summer camps, Sunday School, and ladies meetings. She contributes to the Synod Website, translating articles Arabic-English. Rola presented an enlightening aspect of her time in Huntsville, Alabama. She spoke of the conflicts in the Middle East and of her determination to demonstrate her call in the ministry. Rola will be serving as Senior Seminary Intern with First Presbyterian, Huntsville.

Toby introduced John Bush as representative of Peacemaking Committee. The Peacemaking Dove was passed from First, Guntersville to Copeland, Athens. The Dove is passed on to churches who have signed the commitment to be a Peacemaking Church; to remind us of our call as people of God to be peacemakers in our families, in our communities, in our nation, and in the world.

Robyn Hyden, North Alabama Organizer at Arise Citizens' Policy Project, presented a briefing of the mission, vision, and core values of Arise Citizens' Policy Project (ACPP.) 2015 Arise
issue priority will be to untax groceries and make Alabama income tax more balanced (Alabama is one of four states with no tax break on groceries.) Robyn is available to speak to churches, organizations, special interest groups.

**COMMISSION ON MINISTRY**

RE Lee Matthews COM Moderator made a motion to Presbytery to add Dental Insurance to Terms of Call for the Executive Presbytery/Stated Clerk. Enrollment for this coverage deadline is November 14, 2014 with coverage to begin January 2015. **APPROVED.**

RE Lee Matthews, introduced the Rev. Patrick Laney as Executive Director of Maranatha Camp & Conference Center (MCCC) to be approved at this meeting. He asked Patrick to share with the presbytery some of his Faith Journey. Lee reminded the body that they had approved a new process for the COM to use in examining new people to be received into NAP which shortens the process. A committee from COM examines the candidate and then only a representative question is asked on the floor of presbytery. Mel Strain was chair of the committee that examined Patrick and he asked a two-part question, “As Executive Director of MCCC, how do you view yourself as a spiritual leader and how will you in practical ways relate this to MCCC staff and campers?” Patrick expresses that he will teach and remind that ‘each are a child of God’; Patrick and the three regular staff members have a weekly devotion and they discuss ways to be good stewards of what the God and the Presbytery have entrusted to them. Patrick wants MCCC to a place set apart as a special place for all to experience God. Patrick reinstated that his first calling is to be the camp director and his second calling is to be one a listening device for pastors.

No questions were posed, the motion was made and passed to sustain the examination as a whole.

The Terms of Call are:

<table>
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>$42,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manse Value</td>
<td>12,600.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Effective Salary</td>
<td>54,600.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board of Pensions</td>
<td>19,110.00</td>
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<td>SECA (1/2 NAP Portion)</td>
<td>3,213.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Expenses</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing Education</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PACKAGE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$70,323.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A question from the floor regarding Sabbatical policy was discussed.

The Terms of Call were **APPROVED.**

Patrick was then asked to sign the registration book making him officially the Executive Director of Maranatha Camp & Conference of North Alabama Presbytery and a member of North Alabama Presbytery.

Lee thanked the Maranatha Search Committee for their diligence in the process.
INSTALLATION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MCCC
RE Steve Bong conducted the installation of the Rev. Patrick Laney as the new Executive Director of Maranatha Camp & Conference Center of North Alabama Presbytery.

ORDER OF THE DAY – LUNCH
TE Patrick Laney gave instructions for the process of lunch and returned thanks for the meal.

PRESBYTERY RECONVENES
Moderator RE Steve Bong reconvened Presbytery at 12:50 p.m.

Report from the Committee on Thanks
TE Hal Oakley gave thanks to the staff of Maranatha Camp & Conference Center for their hard work in the preparation of this meeting, and to those who prepared and served the lunch. He offered thanks for the offering received today to further the work of MCCC.

Announcements
TE Robin Palmer reminded pastors of the Pastor/Spouse retreat to take place Thursday, October 30 at Space & Rocket Center. COM will reimburse ministers and spouses for meal expense. Contact Robin for more information and get receipts for reimbursement to her.

RE Richard Borie, Synod of Living Waters Stated Clerk gave a brief report and announced that churches will soon get information regarding Legacy Christmas 2. Legacy Christmas is a project offering a CD of Celtic Christmas music in support of Living Waters for the World. The cost is $15 each.

MARANATHA STUDY COMMITTEE REPORT
RE Bob Copous, Chair of the Maranatha Study Team, reminded the presbytery the report is the second reading. (Appendix B)

Motion was made to approve recommendation items 1 - 7 of the report. Following questions and comments from the floor, TE John Brock made motion to pull item 4. Motion was seconded. The motion was amended to keep the item but to change the wording to reflect:

4. That the NAP in collaboration with MMT and the Camp Executive Director together identify a seven member promotion/marketing team. It is strongly recommended that this team be trained by a marketing professional to take responsibility for actively expanding the user-base. The team would seek alternative use groups of adults, especially through the off season, through active marketing of the camp within North Alabama as well as beyond to other presbyteries and other areas of the country. This marketing would include Church Groups, Civic Groups, and Corporate Groups as well as others identified. North Alabama continues to have many attractions that can be used to entice Christian conferences and other conferences to choose Camp Maranatha as a location.

The amendment was APPROVED.
The report was APPROVED.
NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

TE Jim Thompson, Nominating Committee Moderator the slate provided in Packet for the consideration of the presbytery. There were no nominations from the floor and the slate was elected as presented with the following corrections/additions:

Maranatha Ministry Team
'17 RE John Brandon, St. Andrew, Decatur
'17 RE Nathan Woodard, Cullman, First

Permanent Judicial Commission
TE Mark Knowles, First, Guntersville
RE Tennant Lee, Big Cove, Brownsboro

Regional Facilitator for Session Minutes Review
Linda Rass, Faith, Huntsville, South Cluster

Youth Ministry Team
'17 Andrew Bevel, First, Huntsville

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEE

Leaves and Absences
RE Brenda Gilmore reported Ruling Elders:
- Excused Leaves: Mountain Home, Belgreen, First, Fort Payne, Bert Bock, First, Florence
RE Devon Reynolds reported Teaching Elders:
- Excused Leaves: Rosemary McMahan ½ p.m., Bill Allen, Kerry Campbell, Margaret Davis,
- Richard Gillespie, Lyndall Hamlett, Houston Hodges, Robert McGehee, Amanda Ragland,
  Jack Ragland.
- Absences: Brad Hall ½ a.m., Mark Knowles ½ a.m., Greg Bentley ½ a.m., Kyu Lee

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER'S REPORT

EP, Tammy Gregory Brown thanked the Presbytery for all the work that is being done in the Name of our Lord and for approving Patrick Laney today. Tammy’s first months consisted of many road trips between Huntsville and Maranatha. She gave thanks to God for the remarkable and swift transformation that has been done by Patrick and our new staff at Maranatha. Tammy said that coming on board in July on the heels of a somewhat controversial General Assembly Meeting has given her many opportunities to meet several members of the Presbytery. She has attended worship with 17 of our churches and preached in several. She lead the Bible Study portion of the Presbyterian Women’s Fall Gathering and asked the Presbytery to pray for these women as this is not an easy study. One of the great joys she has experienced in July was attending the Synod Racial Ethnic Youth Leadership Development Conference that began at Fellowship Presbyterian Church in Huntsville and returned to Fellowship this year. She said to see that sanctuary packed with young people on a weekday night and who were excited about church was a blessing. To hear those young people articulate their faith was an amazing gift of God. She stated that even though we are a small presbytery she has seen incredible and tremendous gifts in which we share in the Name of our Lord. Tammy said she looks forward to continuing the work.
ADJOURNMENT AND PRONOUNCEMENT OF APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved by the Presbytery.
The Fall Stated Meeting of North Alabama Presbytery concluded with prayer and benediction by Tom Lovell, Vice-Moderator.

ATTEST: ____________________________________________________

Stated Clerk

Date approved by Presbytery: ________________________________
Appendix A

OMNIBUS MOTION

A. Stated Clerk Report
   • Minutes of Stated meeting of July 15, 2014
   • Stated Meeting Locations for 2015:
     Saturday, February 21, 2015 - First Presbyterian Church, Florence, AL
     Tuesday, July 21, 2015 - First Presbyterian Church, Albertville, AL
     Tuesday, October 20, 2015 - Maranatha Camp and Conference Center

B. Commission on Ministry
   • Approve Policy for Churches using Teaching and Ruling Elders from the pulpit supply list.
   • Presbytery approve adding Dental Insurance coverage to EP/Stated Clerk package

Appendix B

MARANATHA STUDY COMMITTEE REPORT

1. RE Bob Copous presented the report for its second reading. The committee worked on the process for six months with the first reading of the report presented at the Presbytery Stated Meeting, July 2014. That North Alabama Presbytery commend the Maranatha Ministry Team for its passionate work in oversight and development of the ministry of Maranatha Camp and Conference Center that has grown from 200 campers to more than 1200 campers in five years, and expanded beyond the PC(USA) to be the preferred resource for Christian nurture through camping ministry for denominations across North Alabama.

2. That North Alabama Presbytery keep the camp as a ministry of North Alabama Presbytery with funding at the current level of 22% of the presbytery’s unified giving budget in recognition as a ministry of North Alabama Presbytery while continuing to explore possibilities for sharing in the support of camp maintenance and development with other denominations to serve on the Maranatha Ministry Team in an advisory capacity.

3. That North Alabama Presbytery establish a Maranatha Maintenance Endowment Fund with the Presbyterian Foundation, and that all users be invited through printed brochure, personal invitation and the Website to designate gifts to provide for the ongoing ministry of Maranatha facilities.

4. That the NAP in collaboration with MMT and the Camp Executive Director together identify a seven member promotion/marketing team to be trained by a marketing professional to take responsibility for actively expanding the user-base. The team would seek alternative use groups of adults, especially through the off season, through active marketing of the camp within North Alabama as well as beyond to other presbyteries and other areas of the country. This marketing would include Church Groups, Civic Groups, and Corporate Groups as well as others identified. North Alabama continues to have many attractions that can be used to entice Christian conferences and other conferences to choose Camp Maranatha as a location.

5. That the Director communicate with other camp directors and church sponsored camps to stay current on excellent successful opportunities for Christian nurture through
camping ministry. Membership in the Presbyterian Camp and Conference Center Association and the Christian Camping Association are encouraged.

6. That NAP support and augment the fine work of the Maranatha Ministry Team by convening another Maranatha Study Team in five years and every 5 years thereafter to seek feedback from stakeholders including supporting churches, users and staff and report its findings and recommendations to the presbytery.

7. That representatives of the trustees of the presbytery and of the Maranatha Ministry Team inspect the buildings, including the manse and the office, and require an inspection of adventure equipment annually to ensure the ongoing value of this asset of the presbytery.