Opening
The meeting was opened 9:30 a.m. by Neil McDavid. Steve Furr was out of town. Shirley Woodie was absent due to receiving an award. Members of the CORE Team introduced themselves.

Present
See attached.

Prayer Concerns/Requests and Devotion
Rev. Bob Sweet took prayer concerns/requests. Prayer was given. Rev. Debora Bishop gave the devotion on Micah chapter 4.

Minutes
A motion was made to approve the minutes from the November 2010 meeting. A second was heard. The minutes were approved.

Business
Circles™ - Susan Hunt gave a overview of the Circles™ program. The plan is to partner with Move The Mountain and Spiritual Leadership, Inc (SLI). The General Board of Global Ministries is interested in a conference being a pilot program for Circles™. Susan has been talking to GBGM about our conference. The Dothan District Incubator Group is interested in partnering/working with Susan and Circles™. A name has been presented to be the director of this program. SLI and Move The Mountain would do the training.

We are at a place to seek approval to allocate funds. We have money available from 2010 that affords the opportunity to begin the Circles™ program. We will solicit community and business partners as well. Discussion was held on whether or not said monies could be distributed instead to the agencies; over and above what was voted on them receiving at the last CORE team meeting in November. Question was raised, do you allocate these monies to agencies who are already meeting the needs of the poor or do you use said monies to start a new kind of ministry to the poor. Susan Hunt is working with the agency directors to help them grow in their leadership of the agencies. If we were to allocate these monies available to the agencies over and above what was given to them, it would be a one time distribution and not be sustained.

Several members of the CORE Team see Circles™ as a one-time opportunity to start this new ministry, the purpose of which is to break the cycle of poverty.

Discussion was also held on making sure that we give the Circles™ program long enough to work and be successful.

Susan has met with families in a circle in Pensacola of persons engaged in the program. Bishop and Mrs. Leeland have personally met with individuals who have been engaged in the Circles™ program as well.

Larry Bryars moved to approve $100,000 for Circles™. Sam Williams second the motion. The motion was approved.

10:55 BREAK

11:10 RESUMED MEETING

Following the agenda (see attached) the Core Team went over the vision of the conference – Fruitful leaders and congregations making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Neil described his call to ministry as a clarion call. What if we had a clarion call that permeated throughout our annual conference. We need to remind ourselves of the three (3) questions we need to continually ask ourselves: (1) what are we doing that we don't need to do; (2) what aren't we doing that we need to do; (3) how can we move closer to the vision.

11:25 BROKE INTO GROUPS

11:50 RESUMED MEETING

Discussion was on various ideas/ways to better our conference. Ideas such as having conference trainers travel to different locations instead of a training session being in one central place. Other ideas included more communication, more passion, leadership development. The lay leadership within the local church must step up and assist the clergy.

12:15 **ADJOURNED**

FUTURE CORE TEAM MEETING DATE:

•May 21 – Dalraida UMC. Gathering at 9:00 a.m.; Business at 9:30 a.m.
•September 1 - Blue Lake. Gathering at 9:00 a.m.; Business at 9:30 a.m.
•December 1 - Blue Lake. Gathering at 9:00 a.m.; Business at 9:30 a.m.

Addendum
" In conjunction with the discussion around the significance of lay and clergy leadership, the work on the academy of church leadership, the SEND model, the Call To Action report, the non-negotiables from the AWF Leadership Summit, and EQUIP leadership training were referenced."