

Alabama-West Florida Conference
CORE Team Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2012 – Blue Lake

Opening

The meeting was opened 9:30 a.m. by Steve Furr. Introductions were conducted around the room.

Present

The members of the Conference Board of Laity joined the CORE Team for the meeting. See attached.

Prayer Concerns/Requests and Devotion

Bishop Paul L. Leeland led the devotion. Rev. Frederick Outlaw offered prayer.

Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the December 2011 meeting. A second was heard. The minutes were approved.

Business

Neil McDavid reminded the group that a Ministry Fruitfulness Task Force was formed. They have been working for about 18 months on the topic of lay, clergy, and congregational fruitfulness. He thanked them for their work.

Lynn Beshear, Executive Director of ENVISION 2020, was present to facilitate today's meeting. Envision 2020 is a community driven, strategic planning effort involving citizens and leaders in the Central Alabama counties of Autauga, Elmore, Lowdnes, Macon and Montgomery – The River Region.

With Lynn's help, we can pool our ideas together to help develop a common language for fruitful and effective leaders and congregations.

Lynn facilitated the conversation around the four (4) basic questions (see attachment)

11:55 a.m – Steve Furr adjourned the meeting and led us in a sending forth prayer.

CORE Team 2012 Meeting Dates:

- (tentative) May 19 - location Blue Lake. Gathering at 9:00 a.m.; Business at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be served. **Please rsvp your attendance**
- September 6 - location Blue Lake. Gathering at 9:00 a.m.; Business at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be served. **Please rsvp your attendance**
- November 29 - location Blue Lake. Gathering at 9:00 a.m.; Business at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be served. **Please rsvp your attendance**

TRAVEL EXPENSE AND ATTENDANCE RECORD

INSTRUCTIONS:

Do not write in Column A.

Give complete address in column C. PLEASE PRINT (INCLUDE ZIP CODE)

Round Trip Miles are required in Column D.

Number of persons traveling in one car is listed in Column E.

Per mile rate: 1 person = \$.14; 2 persons = \$.17; 3 or more persons = \$.20

Mail with completed check order form to: Fiscal Office, 100 Interstate Park Dr., Suite 106, Montgomery, AL 36109

Meeting Name: CORE Team

Date: 1/28/2012 Location: Blue Lake

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>
	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address (City/State/Zip)</u>	<u>RT Miles</u>	<u>Number</u>
	Steve Fump	214 Montation Trace Jackson, AL 36545	249	1
	VAUGHN Nichols	3880 Bay Wind DR Gulf Breeze, FL 32563	—	—
	Shirley H. Woodie	171 Meadowview Drive Ozark, AL 36360	158	2
	Barbara Sadler	3 Fairpoint Pl. Gulf Breeze, FL	—	—
	SUSAN HUNT	Montgomery	—	—
	Bob Sweet	SEA DASHOME, AL	—	—
	Robert Powell	Dothan, AL	0	
	Eugenia Liggins	Opp. Ala	0	
	Georgette T. Griffith	1503 Indian Hill Rd Demopolis, AL 36732	346	1
	Martha Rovira			

34.86

26.86

48.44

316.45

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Meeting Name: _____

Date: _____ Location: _____

A	B	C	D	E
	Name	Address (City/State/Zip)	RT Miles	Number
	Dunford Cole	21280 Range St Thomaston, AL 36783	304.38	
	Deborg Bishop	33567 Boardwalk Dr Spanish Fort, AL 36527	—	
	Judy Reiter	1481 State Hwy 153 Samson, AL 36477	80	1
	HAROLD FAULKNER	6124 Bell Rd. MNR Montgomery, AL 36117	266.12	
	David Bowen	16 - B Brentwood Dr Montgomery AL 36104	256.08	1
	JOHN CROFT	207 STANLEY AVE. ANDALUSIA	—	1
	Ian Butler	121 Wilson Ave Ozark	—	—
	Clara J. Ester	517 Highland Woods Dr. E. Mobile, AL 36608	270	1
	Sam Williams	203 N Live Oak St Geneva AL 36340	122	1
	DAN DELONEY	3612 OAK RIDGE LN. DOTHAN, AL 36303	175	1

Frankie Tom
SAM BRIDGERS - 559 Cove Dr.
 PWRB, FL 32547

FRUITFULNESS AND EFFECTIVENESS

CORE Team and Conf Bd of Laity Meeting – January 28, 2012

WHEN WE TALK ABOUT FRUITFULNESS AND EFFECTIVENESS, WHAT DO WE MEAN?

- Open lines of communication between clergy and laity
- Clear set of goals with specific action plan
- Understanding God's love so that others might know it
- Mutual respect between laity and clergy
- Making sure we pass on the fruitfulness to our children
- Openness to change
- Open mind and heart to serving the community. True open doors. Be the church for all God's people.
- Strive for excellence; set a high standard
- Equipping the saints (leaving great leaders)
- Be willing to trust the laity
- Measures of lives being changed
- Going beyond the walls of the church
- Follow the example of Jesus Christ and the Disciples
- Fruit comes from effectiveness; trust is foundational; everyone has to be part of the team; identify what is fruitfulness (which is to be more Christ-like)

- Be willing to be pruned (congregations and individuals); striving to perfect the cause will produce effectiveness
- Risk is not a bad 4-letter word
- Includes inspiring and uplifting worship – clearly articulate what that means
- Trust, quality and love matters (internal and external)
- Show youth how to be effective; leadership development in youth programs
- Professions of Faith and baptisms become more routine and not unusual
- Laity have clearly defined expectations in leadership roles.
- Covenant-directed fun; be yourself, have fun as you want what Jesus wants; trust who God wants you to be; Metric: steady stream of people
- Decide what your church's niche will be. Clearly define strengths (of the church) and focusing on those
- Sustaining vibrant churches staying active in the community
- Clarity of purpose and mission; don't focus on what you are not; know what you are trying to do; how are we different from other non-profits; beliefs/strategies/values
- Well-defined mission; know what is still relevant; be willing to change (pruning)
- Consistency between words and actions
- Acknowledging every person's journey is unique
- Fruit bears fruit; extravagant generosity generates more generosity.

WHAT DO CONGREGATIONS WANT IN A MINISTER? (related to fruitfulness)

- Christ-like servant
- Passionate preaching
- Integrity
- Maturity
- Willingness to listen
- Authenticity and vision
- Competence
- Determination
- Fresh anointing (fresh passion)
- Trustworthiness
- A shepherd, not a hired hand
- Presence
- Personal investment because of calling
- Growing disciple
- Compassion; passion for the Gospel
- Love the people
- Burden for the lost
- Honest
- Minister – someone who care and serves (personal connection to the congregation)

- Commitment to their calling
- Compassionate connection
- Shining God's light
- Inclusiveness to the entire congregation
- Leadership
- Empower the laity
- Visionary leader
- Energy (energetic leadership); not related to age
- Ability to be "in the Bible"; Biblical knowledge

WHAT DO MINISTERS WANT FROM THE LAITY?

- For the congregation to have their back
- Acceptance
- Vision
- Commitment
- Held and support; partnership
- Members who are willing to work and serve
- A fair chance
- Willingness to be followers
- Real; open
- Prayers for the minister
- Willing to take leadership roles
- Don't let the pastor fail
- Partnership
- To remember the congregation's past; a sense of history
- Have ownership of the future; investment in the future
- Open to change
- Involvement
- Welcoming congregation
- Members committed to spiritual growth
- Humble confidence

- Open to diversity
- Openness
- Partnered leadership
- Embrace pastor's family
- Christ-like servants
- Clear sense of mission/vision
- Desire to grown spiritually; grown as disciples
- Willing to be generous; sacrificial giving
- Spirit-led leadership
- Openness to new ideas; new ways
- Energy

WHAT QUALITIES TO PEOPLE HAVE TO BE EFFECTIVE?

- Integrity
- Humility
- Spirituality
- Confidence
- Open minded
- Vision
- Effective Communication
- Passion
- Life long learners
- Connected to the community
- Decisive
- Know all people are valuable
- Willingness to be a team player
- Willingness to take risks
- Engaging
- Having the same mind of Christ
- Sacrificial
- Have a presence
- Be a good follower
- Be a friend

- Good time manager
- Discernment
- Inspirational
- Self confidence
- Affirming
- Originality
- Creativity
- Good listener
- Relational

COMMON THEMES?

- Character
- Vision
- Inspirational
- Communication
- Appreciation
- Christ-like in all actions/deeds
- Competence

HOW DO WE IMPLEMENT THESE IDEAS?

- Start from the beginning (Board of Ministry)
- Set a covenant with a new pastor appointment
- Whole church in the process. Not just the SPRC.
- Use church ministry profile form process
- Set out expectations (specifically)
- Reminders of the covenant (regular)
- Do no harm
- Balanced approach