

**28. RESOLUTION CLARIFYING AND REAFFIRMING THE PRESBYTERY'S COMMITMENT  
TO THE PASTORAL COUNSELING CENTER**  
Presbytery of St. Augustine

- I. Findings           The Presbytery of St. Augustine hereby finds:
- A. The Presbytery of Suwannee began the Pastoral Counseling Center in 1971 as a ministry to the people of northeast Florida without regard to one's capacity to pay; it was also the intention of the presbytery to provide educational and training opportunities for church professionals at affordable rates.
  - B. It was understood in the original decision to begin the Pastoral Counseling Center that a continued subsidy would be necessary if the Center were to continue as a ministry to all persons including those of limited means, and to continue to provide training and educational opportunities for church professionals as a affordable rates. A goal was set for the Center to reach a level where 67% of its income was generated by fees and 33% was received as subsidy. At the present time the Center is generating about 80% of its income through fees and about 20% comes from subsidy.
  - C. Through continued efforts by the Center and despite inflation, the presbytery was able from 1971 through 1978 steadily to reduce the amount of its subsidy to the Center. By 1979 the Center had reached the maximum of efficiency and the rock-bottom in its need for subsidy; it has therefore requested the same level of funding plus a small increase to cover inflation.
  - D. The presbytery now has two partners in its sponsorship and subsidy of the Center: The Jacksonville United Methodist Mission Board (JUMMBO) and St. Mark's Episcopal Church. These two bodies joined the presbytery in order to expand the service of the Pastoral Counseling Center. They have been steadily giving inflationary increases in subsidy and manifest expectation and determination to continue.
  - E. The presbytery has determined that 1982 will have to be a year of financial stringency for all of its programs and services so that its budget processes can be reorganized on a firm basis. Therefore the Division of Corporate and Social Ministries has recommended that the Pastoral Counseling Center be given no inflationary increase for 1982, but that it be funded at the same level as 1981. Nevertheless, the presbytery is appreciative of the fact that at this time it appears that its two partners (JUMMBO and St. Marks) will provide an inflationary increase.
- II. Declaration of Policy           It is the commitment and intention of Presbytery of St. Augustine:
- A. To continue its witness by its sponsorship of the Pastoral Counseling Center as a ministry to all persons regardless of their level of income and as a provider of educational and training opportunities to church professionals at affordable costs;
  - B. To encourage the Pastoral Counseling Center to continue its endeavor to establish sponsorship with other Christian ecumenical bodies with the goal of achieving parity in funding;
  - C. To declare its policy that so long as the same conditions prevail, and the goals of the Pastoral Counseling Center concur with those of the presbytery, and if the way be clear, that the presbytery shall continue to provide funding for the Pastoral Counseling Center at the same base level (\$18,200) with an increase annually to accommodate inflation after 1982;
  - D. That the Goals and Priorities Task Force of the presbytery be instructed to include as part of its studies of goals for the future, the place of the Pastoral Counseling Center in the presbytery's on-going goals;
  - E. That this statement of presbytery policy be transmitted to the Board of Directors of the Pastoral Counseling Center.

Adopted 27 October 1981

\*\*\*\*\*