



**ARISE & LIVE**  
CHRISTIAN COUNSELING, INC.

## **MARRIAGE RETREAT & WELLNESS CENTER PROPOSAL**

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## Executive Summary

Arise and Live Christian Counseling (ALCC) is pleased to submit this request for your review. We look forward to your partnership in our cooperative efforts to grow the Body of Christ and preserve the institution of Marriage. ALCC will use the funds raised to develop a Marriage and Wellness Sanctuary (Retreat Center) in the Atlanta, GA area. This facility will be used to refresh and minister to marriages, families, pastors, for church development and leadership training, as well as a ministry retreat center.

The total (maximum) funding need is \$650,000. This will purchase the property, allow for any refurbishing (any repairs), and for furnishing. Cost may be lower if property price is lower; however, based on properties currently on the market, this is a comparable figure.

Our goal is to create a Marriage and Wellness Sanctuary, a retreat center for couples where they would be able to stay for the weekend, receive counseling services, marital-education & enrichment, and engage in activities with other couples visiting the center. Among other services, the Marriage and Wellness Sanctuary will primarily be a place where couples can come to relax, relieve themselves of their experienced and stored stress, leaving enriched and revived.

As a functioning for-profit corporation, we will utilize some of ALCC's ongoing revenue streams to keep costs affordable for pastors and their families seeking renewal opportunities. We will also be able to provide smaller churches with resources and retreats at much lower costs. The Marriage and Wellness Sanctuary will have meeting facilities suitable for up to 80 people and over-night accommodations in the home for a minimum of 6 couples engaged in structured or semi-structured or retreat sessions.

By creating stronger marriages, we create stronger individuals, families, leaders, and churches. Marriage is a cornerstone relationship and institution foundational to any healthy and successful civilization. We make important resources available to under-served communities. For many marriages, the church is a place to turn to in times of distress, often the only one; however, the church is not always equipped. This retreat facility is an important step in being able to meet these needs. We share a key common goal in our desire to reach the communities for Christ and nurture the family.

For years ALCC has worked with experienced pastors and lay leaders and even counseled many. When it comes to marital wellness, we know what does not work and what does; we know how to teach it, and we teach others how to use and pass on these skills. Our programs are the result of much persistence until success is achieved, and most of all, of having been given a dedicated, clear vision.

As you read further into the heart of our proposal, you will understand that there is a response to the general distress of marriages in our country. Introducing the trauma of divorce to our fragile families does not have to be the solution to marital distress, nor does being unhappily married. There are people to help lead, build, and equip marriages. Much of our targeted population are those who are married, but the individual, for the struggling layperson or the disappointed pastor, we also offer solutions.



## Needs Assessment: General

There is an increasing need for marriage counseling and mental health services in the church and community at large. Struggles with poverty, lack of social services, cost of health care, lack of qualified professionals, increase in suicide rates, increase in mental health diagnosis, and lack of professional training for existing volunteers all create the conditions that exacerbate the challenges couples and families face.

Married adults are, in general, healthier and wealthier than unmarried individuals and are said to experience an all-around protective effect via marital status, as compared to their unmarried peers.<sup>i</sup> Marital distress is characterized by emotional, mental, and psychological stress or conflict that is experienced by one or both individuals in the marriage. Distress in marriage can often lead to great sadness, worry, a high level of tension, anxiety, and depression.<sup>ii,iii</sup> And, if prolonged, it can negatively impact one's physical health. The effect on families is also profound, especially when conflict is high. Children raised in high-conflict homes tend to have more emotional difficulties and an increased risk of behavioral problems and maladaptive behaviors.<sup>iv</sup>

Currently, in America, forty to fifty percent of first marriages end in divorce, with remarriage increasing in divorce.<sup>v</sup> Researchers report that alternative family relationships provide far less stability<sup>vi</sup> given a dissolution rate that is more than doubled that of married, yet many mistakenly believe alternative unions, such as premarital cohabitation, will strengthen marital longevity.<sup>vii</sup>

Divorce is expensive, with an average cost of approximately \$15,000 per person. Expenses usually include a divorce attorney and court fees but can also include tax advisors, child custody evaluators, private investigators, fees for serving subpoenas, an accountant, as well as the costs of finding separate living arrangements.<sup>viii</sup> With a median American household income of just over \$60,000, a divorce would cost a couple (and their children) almost half of their yearly income.

Research consistently shows that marriage education and enrichment programs help keep couples together; programs that focus on dynamic factors such as negative interactions, communication, problem-solving, education, peer influences, forgiveness, maintenance of fun, friendship building, and preservation of intimacy.<sup>ix</sup>

Our approach to counseling incorporates all the research-based factors that contribute to effective outcomes to counseling, while maintaining the preeminence efficaciousness of the Word of God.

## Needs Assessment: Pastoral

To equip churches and ministries, we have identified several key areas in churches that need assistance. The proposed plan will continue to target our missions' audience, which encompasses churches that do not have the resources to address the marital and mental health concerns of their congregation. Under this mandate, the proposed center will address particular areas within the church as follows.

### Pastoral Needs

Pastors who have been working in a declining church for some time are generally worn out, frustrated, and feeling alone as they struggle with failure. They have not had staff to assist them, and their congregations are small, making it very difficult to find volunteer help. They have often been hurt by people in their congregation or people leaving. At the same time, their congregations expect their own needs to be met in various ways, all by their pastor.

These pastors need rest and revitalization. They need time to reconnect with God and tend to their marriage. This can come through a combination of services, including time away alone with God, family holidays, couples retreats, counseling, coaching, mentoring, retreats and peer conferences. They are more likely to stay in their pulpits if provided time and resources, which enable some healing to take place.

- 80% of pastors and 84% of their spouses are discouraged or are dealing with depression. More than 40% of pastors and 47% of their spouses report that they are suffering from burnout, frantic schedules, and unrealistic expectations. Majority of pastors feel they have insufficient time together.<sup>x</sup>
- 80% of pastors and 84% of their spouses have felt unqualified and discouraged as role of pastors at least one or more times in their ministry.<sup>xi</sup>
- 66% of churches have no lay counseling support. Most pastors starting out never imagined themselves spending time counseling others and have little to no training.<sup>xii</sup>

Pastors often lack professional counseling experience and education in providing or training their staff and lay leaders in the area of counseling and mental health.

ALCC offers Christian counseling training that focuses on the unique needs of those needing mental health counseling and overall counseling for life distresses. Training must be designed for simplicity of implementation while still holding the quality and content essential to produce good fruit. It is vital that pastors have support and resources in this area so they can focus on the work of pastoring and tending to other community and congregational needs



## **Needs Assessment: Pastoral**

### **Congregational Needs**

The spiritual and emotional health of congregation members is critical to assess and improve upon in order to successfully disciple. Healthy Christ followers continue to grow and become servants. In every church we have worked with, we have seen a rewarding increase in workers and outreach as a direct response to the spiritual and emotional healing of congregation members. As they were taught how to allow Christ's healing over past wounds to take place, their personal relationships were enhanced, there was more church fellowship and love, they mentored others, and their new freedom and growth bore fruit.

It is vitally important that churches have access to very good counseling programs that address the needs of the wounded, assist with healing, and disciple Christians effectively. ALCC provides access to programs as well as in-person and virtual counseling. The Marriage and Wellness Sanctuary center would provide a place to bring churches together, achieving program goals in a cost-effective manner. ALCC is dedicated to providing training and retreats to address this need for healing.

### **Strategic Planning**

Pastors often lack professional counseling experience and education in providing or training their staff and lay leaders in the area of counseling and mental health. Additionally, there are few volunteers who are properly trained.

It is vital that pastors have support and resources in this area so they can focus on the work of pastoring and tending to other community and congregational needs. While meeting this need and staying consistent with our goals, ALCC offers Christian counseling training that focuses on the unique needs of those needing mental health counseling and overall counseling for life distresses.

Without this need being met, unresolved personal trauma, marital discord, and church hurt will continue to propagate throughout a church, leading to church abandonment, broken families, and severed relationships.

## Goals & Objectives: Product Overview

The Marriage & Wellness Sanctuary will offer the following:

- Christian-based support services for individuals, marriages, families, and ministries that desire marital related services. Services include:
  - Mental health literature
  - Workshops and classes (e.g., stress management, parenting, conflict resolution, theology)
  - Referral services. Our goal is to either help or refer to those who can.
- Mental health and therapeutic counseling services targeted toward couples and individuals within the context of the marital relationship.
  - Our primary target is the marriage. However, in order to holistically address the distress of the husband and wife, we offer individual and family counseling services.
- Low-cost counseling and related services that raise awareness for mental health importance through partnerships with churches and ministries.
  - Low-cost counseling services are offered by Christian counselors, eliminating the barrier of high-priced secular counseling.
  - Partnerships with churches and ministries help keep costs low and congregations healthy.
- Education, leisure, and counseling services that target relaxation and stress reduction.
  - There will be a focus on relaxation (low-stress levels) and the importance of lifestyle pray, meditation, and relational relationship with God.
  - Part of the Marriage and Wellness Sanctuary will be areas (primarily a garden and relaxation room) where individuals can go to pray or simply relax and destress.
  - The relaxation area and garden also where couples can come to leisurely explore the horticultural garden, listen to soothing music, or relax in a naturalistic setting.
- Weekly retreats offering marriage intensives that uncover core issues driving dysfunction and bring about breakthrough and transformation.
  - Retreats will host a minimum of 6 couples per weekend (3 days) in an intimate group setting. Marriage counseling for each couple is made available to optimize the experience and effectiveness of retreats. Follow-up care is also provided.
- Training for Christian counselors who desire to serve individuals, families, and couples.
  - Training Christian counselors provides ALCC with a pool of counselors who are qualified to meet the spiritual and psychological needs of others.
  - Counselors are trained in the areas of Theology, Psychology, and Counseling/Therapy.
  - Training is conducted both in-person and virtually.

### **Building/Property**

Once funding is secured, ALCC will make an offer on a property that is currently listed at a value no greater than \$600,000. Funds will be used to obtain a thorough property inspection and secure legal counsel to assist and advise throughout the purchase.

Once the property is purchased, possession should be available within 30 days. Necessary repairs and updates will begin immediately.

If needed, areas of the retreat center will be updated if the living quarters were neglected. Furnishing the inside and exterior grounds will also commence upon acquisition.

Since the property has yet to be identified because of the lack of ability to financially secure a property, below represents a list of 5 potential locations. These are properties that fit our criteria and were actively listed as available at the time of this proposal.

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#### Criteria

**Price:** Property must not exceed the price of \$600,000. The remaining \$50,000 is allocated to cover the costs for bringing the center to the operational stage, given a maximum purchase price of \$600,000.

**Condition:** The property must be in good condition needing little to no renovations.

**Location:** Property must be no greater than a 2-hour commute from Metro Atlanta. This allows for day trips and day commutes for those who will utilize the facilities. The property must be located in a mixed-use, commercially/business, or other zoned area that would prohibit the property be used as a retreat center.

**Lot Size:** Property lot size must be a minimum of One Acre. This minimum will allow for reasonable privacy and silence of the facility.

**Bedrooms & Bathrooms:** Property must have at least 6 private bedrooms and 6 private bathrooms. If this criterion is not met, then the property must have the potential for these modifications.

**Common Areas:** Property must have at least one area is about 1000 square feet for meeting space.



## Methodology: Potential Properties

Address: 2953 Tommy Lee Cook Rd., Newnan, GA 30263  
Price: \$589, 900  
Beds: 9  
Baths: 7  
Lot Size: 5.65 Acres  
Distance: 35 miles (40 mins) from Metro Atlanta



Address: 7600 Scenic Heights Rd, Manchester, GA, 31816  
Price: \$529, 900  
Beds: 7  
Baths: 9.5  
Lot Size: 13.81 Acres  
Distance: 77 miles (1 hr. 30 mins) from Metro Atlanta



Address: 1925 Keys Ferry Rd., McDonough, GA 30252  
Price: \$465,000  
Beds: 6  
Baths: 5  
Lot Size: 1.35 Acres  
Distance: 45 miles (1 hour) from Metro Atlanta



Address: 1131 E Mize Rd., Demorest, GA, 30535  
Price: \$599,900  
Beds: 11  
Baths: 7.5  
Lot Size: 6.9 Acres  
Distance: 80 miles (1 hr. 18 mins.) from Metro Atlanta





Address: 3721 Post Road, Winston, GA 30187  
Price: \$349,900  
Beds: 6  
Baths: 6  
Lot Size: 4 Acres  
Distance: 30 miles (35 mins.) from Metro Atlanta





### *Marriage Retreats - \$500-700*

Marriage retreats will be planned primarily on the weekends, Friday through Sunday; however, weekdays are available too. The retreat center will be closed to the public during these times. During the times that the retreat center is not in use for retreats, the center will accommodate other services.

It is our intent to give marriages a refreshing time away and an opportunity to get to know ALCC and become familiar with the services we offer that support marriage. These retreats will include options to engage in daily counseling sessions for 1-hour a day.

Retreats will be priced per couple, between \$500 and \$700 in cost, and based on demand and season. Retreats will be advertised on an availability basis but forecasted annually. Meals will not be included, as the couples will be encouraged to meal plan communally. We find that the most effective experience for couples is in smaller groups with a community feeling and responsibility.

Based on the success of our programs, we will provide packages that contain materials geared to these times of refreshing, a journal, recommended activities, scheduled meetings, and a tentative daily plan. Retreats are also accommodating to each couple's individual plans and group's collective plans. The only requirement when there is no itinerary is to join everyone for dinner, where we will enjoy guided conversations and offerings of encouragement.

## Methodology: Primary Sources of Revenue

*Strategic Workshops & Classes -Free to \$40 - \$80 per person.*

Mental health awareness and training for pastors, ministry leaders, couples, families, and individuals will be offered several times a year. Attendees will leave with a solid plan and resources on how to develop and implement learned skills, as well as any other relevant actional item. They will be equipped to go back to their church, communities, marriages, relationships, and families and continue with developing what they have learned.

Meeting space will be able to facilitate up to 80 people in one room. Workshops & classes will be conducted 1-3 times a week.

Sample topics include:

### Church Related

- Trauma Awareness
- Trauma-Related Hurt and the Church
- Mental Health and the Church
- Ministry Burnout & Compassion Fatigue
- Recognizing Mental Illness
- Caring for the Psychologically Vulnerable
- Sexuality and the Church

### Family Related

- Building Healthy Families
- Challenges of Blended Families
- Intergenerational Families
- Parenting: Raising Adults
- Balancing Home, Work, Family, and Self
- Families with Special Needs
- Violence and Abuse

### Martial and Couples Related

- Building A Healthy Marriage
- Sexual Fulfillment and Marriage
- Communication and Conflict
- Learning Responsiveness
- Living as One & Dying to Self
- Heeding the Predictors of Divorce
- Protecting Your Marriage with Boundaries

### Individual Related

- Managing Anger
- Dealing with Depression
- Emotional Dysfunction and Regulation
- Finding Meaning and Purpose
- Dealing with Grief
- Sexual Trauma
- Denial, Acceptance, & Healing

## Methodology: Primary Sources of Revenue

### *Counseling Services*

ALCC provides a variety of counseling services. All of our counseling services are Christian based conducted by Certified Christian counselors. Some counselors also hold advanced degrees, specialty credentials, or state licensure.

Counseling services are conducted both in-person and virtually (telehealth). While in-person counseling is the preferred method and often necessary with severe cases, telehealth has been proven to be just as effective. Telehealth also allows ALCC to reach more people in more places and offers revenue stability when the facility is not being used.

Clients who would like to use personal insurance may; however, availability is limited due to the number of staff counselors who are able to accept insurance. Churches and ministries are also able to pay for services on behalf of clients.

Current counseling services offered and rates:

- Individual Counseling  
(adult/child) .....\$50
- Couples Counseling .....\$60
- Marriage Counseling .....\$60
- Family Counseling .....\$75
- Group Counseling .....\$40 per person

Referrals are available for substance abuse counseling and treatment, and severe child & adolescent treatment.



## Methodology: Primary Sources of Revenue

### *Christian Counseling Certification and Training – Cost TBA*

ALCC is currently developing a Christian counseling certification curriculum that will provide training in Systematic Theology, Psychology, and Counseling. The primary means of delivery will be virtual; however, the facility will serve as a physical location for in-person training and equipping. Below is a sample breakdown of the future course structure.

#### Theology

Biblical Theology: Doctrine of Scripture  
Theology Proper: Doctrine of God  
Christology: Doctrine of Christ  
Pneumatology: Doctrine of the Holy Spirit  
Theological Anthropology: Doctrine of Man  
Hamartiology: Doctrine of Sin  
Soteriology: Doctrine of Salvation and Atonement

#### Culture and Counseling

Group Counseling  
Trauma, Crisis & Grief Counseling  
Sex and Sexuality Counseling

#### Marriage & Couples Counseling

Family Counseling  
Individual Counseling  
Child & Adolescent Counseling

#### Psychology & Counseling

Ethical and Legal Issues in Counseling  
Counseling and Psychology  
Techniques of Counseling  
Life Development

#### DSM-5

Common Disorders -1  
Common Disorders -2  
Common Disorders -3

### *Additional Services - \$500/ hour and upward*

Other services where the facility will generate revenue are as follows:

Private event rentals and Weddings - \$500 per hour | \$350 per hour after 3 hours

Costs to rent the facility will be based on the amount of time that the facility is needed and any additional requests by the renter (chairs and tables will be included in the rental). Currently, we have 100 folding chairs and 10, 60” round tables and can accommodate a party size of 100 people or more outdoors (and roughly 80 people indoors based on the required square footage of the meeting room). Additional supplies can be purchased.

Officiant - \$250

10’ x 10’ Tent - \$100

10’ x 20’ Tent - \$150

10’ x 30’ Tent - \$225

Cleanup and Breakdown - \$300

## Methodology: Logistics

### Logistics

- 1) Property Purchase; this will occur once funding is secured and will be conditional on the inspections that are required.
- 2) Utilities will be transferred.
- 3) Property insurance will be secured.
- 4) Repairs and updates will begin upon possession. The season in which the property is purchased will play a role in the timeline and sequence of repairs. The aforementioned necessary repairs will be done first, followed by updating and redecorating.
- 5) During the time that repairs are being made, marketing materials, strategies and timelines will be finalized. These will include a new website, written materials, a contact list, and mailing packages.
- 6) Programs and retreat packages that will be offered immediately will be tailored and updated to suit the new facility.
- 7) Policies and procedures will be updated by the Board to incorporate the running of the new facility.
- 8) Marketing strategies will be implemented.
- 9) Secure and train seasonal staff.
- 10) The grand opening will be planned. Invitations will go out to the immediate community as well as donors.
- 11) Telephone marketing to secure bookings will begin.
- 12) Grand Opening.

## **Methodology: Department Management and Staffing Needs**

### *Administration*

Terrell and Taneisha Pugh will initially both undertake much of the daily administration duties. This duty will eventually be given to a staff member.

### *Property Management*

Several inspections will be a part of the purchase agreement. The seller will be responsible for getting these done and providing complete reports for; Fire Inspection, water, septic, property, and health. These inspections will assist us in planning necessary repairs and upgrades.

Two staff will be required during the busy season. These staff will be responsible for maintenance issues, garbage disposal, landscaping needs, and general repairs. The facility will require regular cleaning at scheduled intervals in the areas of; bathroom and common areas. Floors and dusting will be scheduled throughout the week. During busy seasons there will be one full-time staff who is assigned to this task.

### *House Keeping*

Housekeeping services will be provided when there are overnight retreats and will include cleaning the rooms and bathrooms, making beds, changing linens and towels as needed. The rooms will be cleaned between guests.

### *Programs*

Programs are designed and written by the experienced staff of ALCC. Research and collaboration with other organizations who have expertise in these areas will be utilized in designing quality programs.

Programs will be scheduled and implemented according to the seasons.

Training will be based on the programs that ALCC has developed and currently uses in churches they are assisting.



## **Methodology: Department Management and Staffing Needs**

### *Staffing*

Staffing positions may be filled by interns, team members, or hired out locally.

Staffing needs will vary with the seasons and events that are planned. It is our intent to utilize our contacts, encourage internships, and hire locally for many positions.

All staff will be required to have an annual criminal records check, safety training, and agree with ALCC's Statement of Faith and Position on Marriage. Staff will be required to have First Aid and CPR Training.

## Qualifications

### Vision:

The vision of Arise and Live is to see marriages set in Godly order while influencing a global society through their marital depiction of the gospel.

### Mission:

To partner with families, churches, and ministries to advance the Gospel of Christ in the world by healing, preserving, and empowering mankind's central social institution –the marital unit.

### About Us:

We are Christ-centered counselors who believe God, creator of the human body, has gifted some with the gift of counsel and healing through the power of the Holy Spirit. We exist to provide mental, social, and spiritual health services to individuals, couples, families, and those in our community. We believe that counseling is not simply good listening, rather it is a ministry consisting of in-depth insight and the willingness to listen intently while the Holy Spirit provides the solution.

We understand that the harvest is great, and there are those that have a heart after God and for his people. Therefore, it is our desire to further equip these laborers with the sound doctrinal knowledge to synergize the Holy Spirit's fire in them with the dynamics of daily living.

### Terrell Pugh

Terrell Pugh, NCC, MS, LPC, Pastor is currently the pastor and counseling director for the practice. He is a current affiliate pastor with the House of David Ministries, in Orlando, FL and previously served as pastor of Nehemiah Teaching Ministries. As an ordained pastor since 2006, he has taught in the areas of Christian Studies (systematic theology), Spiritual Enrichment, and Ministry Training. He has also co-authored the book *God's Design for Marriage*.

As a counselor, Terrell is also a Nationally Certified Counselor (CPC) and a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) in the State of Georgia. He works with those in the areas of anger management, substance abuse counseling, and various forms of depression and anxiety. Terrell also holds a Master's degree in Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling. He is currently completing a Doctorate in Developmental Psychology and on track to become a Developmental Psychologist.

As a Nationally Certified Counselor (NCC), Terrell holds a master's degree in counseling, and has met requirements for coursework, supervision, and clinical practice hours.

### Taneisha Pugh

Taneisha Pugh, Counselor and Minister of the Gospel, has a God-given passion for helping families and marriages tackle the difficulties of the twenty-first century. Serving alongside her husband in ministry, she brings over a decade of ministry experience and several areas of expertise to ALCC, such as sexual trauma and marriage. She has also co-authored the book *God's Design for Marriage*.

Taneisha also holds a Master's degree in Psychology and is currently working on her Doctorate in Forensic Psychology and is on track to become a Forensic Psychologist. Taneisha also is an Enrolled Agent (EA) with the IRS, the highest credential awarded by the IRS.

## Qualifications

### *Position on Marriage:*

Man and woman originated from one flesh, and therefore when they come together, their “one flesh” union is restored. This is a sacred event. We have come to know this “coming together” as marriage. Established by God, this covenant exists between one man and one woman and is at the very foundation of a healthy society. We believe this institution mirrors the relationship between God and his people. Just as God’s love is entrenched into the relationship of his people, so should the intimacy exist between a husband and wife. This establishment sets the following precedents:

Complementary but opposite sexual pairing of sexes – Heterosexuality

Two-member union – Monogamy

Sacrament of male and female union – Marriage

Therefore, we hold to the truth that biblical marriage is a heterosexual monogamous covenant.

We hold to the [Danvers Statement](#) and the [Nashville Statement on Marriage, Gender Roles, Manhood, and Womanhood, and Sexuality](#).



## Qualifications

### Statement of Faith

We believe the Bible, the 66 canonical books, to be the inspired and only infallible Word of God.

We believe that there is One God (Monotheism), eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit.

We believe God created Adam (male) and Eve (female) in his own image. By disobedience, they fell from their sinless state. This fall plunged humanity into a state of sin and death, and this is brought upon all humanity. From this condition, we can be saved only by the grace of God, through faith, on the basis of the work of Christ, and by the agency of the Holy Spirit.

We believe in the virgin birth of Jesus. This event happened one time and was a supernatural miracle by which Jesus became flesh.

We believe Jesus, the second person to the Trinity, is God who became flesh to complete the atoning work on the cross at Calvary.

We believe that repentance of sin and faith in the atoning work of Jesus on the cross is the only way to salvation. There is no other way to be saved from sin and the penalty of sin. This is salvation by grace alone.

We believe in the physical bodily resurrection of Jesus, and his physical return for his church (The Body of Christ)

We believe in baptism by water and the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit aids in the regeneration, sanctification, and glorification of the believer.

We believe in a heaven where those who have been redeemed by Jesus will take eternal residence; likewise, we believe in a hell where those who have rejected Jesus will take eternal residence.

As the director of ALCC, along with my wife, we have a heart for seeing marriages and churches grow, enabling them to reach the lost. We have a fervent fire to connect with others who have this same desire, and we know we cannot accomplish this alone.

We have been married for 19 years and have been blessed with eight beautiful children, one of whom has gone on to be with the Lord. Through these years, we have personally experienced the challenge that marriage brings and the wonderful rewards it yields. However, above all, we have learned what obedience to Christ does in the life of a husband and wife and how this obedience impacts the family, the church, and the community.

We have spent our past years gaining the necessary spiritual, educational, clinical, and practical tools to help struggling marriages, encouraging their devotion to Christ and effectively increasing their mental health and realizing their potential.

We know that God has again called us to do more as He has equipped us. We believe that we can help more marriages and churches through the resource of a dedicated retreat and training facility. We believe that with your help, this vision can be fulfilled!

Marriage is under grave attack and the time for action is at hand. However, I know, without doubt, that God will cause this work to go forward and we pray you can contribute. It may take thousands of donors to raise this; it may take only a few. Perhaps this will take years; on the other hand, it could happen in days. What we do know is that God is calling us to pursue this and trust Him in it. We have taken the steps we feel God has led us to take. We will continue to pray and keep our focus on God and His will throughout this rather than the results.

We thank you for taking the time to examine this proposal and pray over it. We are praying that God will guide and direct you in the way you should go, believing He has a plan for each of us, sometimes together and others separately.

It is our hope that you see value in this ministry and the proposed project, that you too, will join with us in prayer as we endeavor to be obedient to Christ.

In Christ Alone,  
Terrell Pugh

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