

47 In recognition that Camps have closed and been sold by our UCC Conferences and Associations
48 across the country; and in recognition of current sites in distress even now, (Mensch Mill
49 Conference and Retreat Center, PSE) and in light of the disturbing trend of closings of faith-
50 based camps across the country,

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52 And whereas, it would not be inappropriate to describe the state of Outdoor Ministry in the UCC
53 as the ‘Canary in the Coalmine’ for our denominational lifecycle,

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55 Now therefore be it resolved, that the Twenty-Ninth General Synod of the UCC gathered in Long
56 Beach, CA declares its advocacy and support of the Outdoor Ministries Association (OMA), and

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58 Be it further resolved that the Twenty-Ninth General Synod requests that the conferences,
59 associations and other settings of the wider church, prayerfully discerning the long term
60 consequences to the youth and future leaders of the church when considering the ramifications of
61 closing a camp or center, seek the counsel of the OMA, and

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63 Be it finally resolved that the Twenty-Ninth General Synod, requests that the conferences,
64 associations and other settings of the wider church provide timely notification to OMA in the
65 event of impending Outdoor Ministry site or program closing so OMA may have the opportunity
66 to provide resources, support and consultation to the distressed body and to programs at risk.

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68 **FUNDING**

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70 Funding for the implementation of the resolution will be made in accordance with the overall
71 mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.

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73 **IMPLEMENTATION**

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75 The Collegium of Officers, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the
76 United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.