

# Partnership Covenant



## The Covenant – Description & Pledge

Please read **1 Corinthians 12:12-31** and discuss the following:

The purpose of this partnership between the Red Bird Missionary and the Alabama-West Florida Conferences is to develop a **healthy relationship that is transformative and inspirational** between brothers and sisters in Christ in both conferences through God's grace.

Our goal is to develop a **collaborative partnership** which **builds strong relationships** over the long term and enables us to work together to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world in our communities and conferences of the United Methodist Church. We seek to enrich United Methodist Churches with holistic ministries **empowering people** in their context, community, and conference.

We will strive to have **honest and open interaction** with each other, **carefully listening to one another** as equal parts of the body of Christ. It is a **sacred covenant** between both conferences to support one another and participate **equally and proportionally – 50/50** – in a ministry or project.

As partners we **set aside our own agendas** and create a **collective vision** for the ministry together. As with any relationship, **each participant brings God-given gifts**, whether spiritual, physical or mental, tangible or intangible, which will **be honored and appreciated equally – 50/50** – in the covenant agreement.

This roundtable of **listeners and learners** embarks on a journey with a **vision for the mission as a whole** with God's help focusing not simply on the task at hand, but on the more significant impact of building strong relationships, **empowering local people** to improve their lives and develop their church.

We **pledge not to do for the other what they can do for themselves**. We gladly serve each other as Christ has served us, with **humility, love and encouragement**, building a strong foundation for ministry together.

We create **mutual accountability and transparency** through **patiently engaging one another**. We will be **flexible and adaptable** enabling all participants to span distance and culture **through God's guidance**.

The **ownership of the ministry or project** rests with the conference where the specific ministry/project occurs. They are the leaders called by God to nurture the church in their community. The supporting conference **seeks neither credit nor control**, and all partners share in the blessing of a job well done together!

Please acknowledge your agreement with the covenant by your signature(s):



*This covenant was modeled after the In Mission Together 50/50 Partnership Covenant of the General Board of Global Ministries.*