

Covenant Agreement

Between

_____, the Sponsoring Church, and
_____, the New Congregation.

Each of these congregations agree to the following policies:

Membership:

All members of the New Congregation are in effect members of the Sponsoring Church. The New Congregation will receive members in the same manner and in keeping with the policies of the Sponsoring Church. The Sponsoring Church will provide a written copy of these guidelines to the New Congregation.

Finances:

- A budget will be prepared and presented annually to the Sponsoring Church for their input and approval. Any changes to the agreed upon budget must be made in agreement with the Sponsoring Church.
- The New Congregation may receive both general and designated receipts. General receipts will be disbursed in accordance with the agreed upon budget. Designated receipts will be disbursed only for what they are designated for and nothing else.
- The New Congregation may not incur additional debt of any kind exceeding a total of \$_____ without the prior knowledge and approval of the Sponsoring Church.
- The Treasurer for the New Congregation will provide a monthly financial statement to the Sponsoring Church and all other Partners.

Ordinances:

- The New Congregation is given authority to administer the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper by the Sponsoring Church.
- The ordinances will be administered in the same manner as they are in the Sponsoring Church,

Leadership:

- The pastor of the New Congregation will be called jointly by the New Congregation and the Sponsoring Church. He will be considered staff at the Sponsoring Church and be under the supervision of the pastor of the Sponsoring Church.
- The pastor of the New Congregation will serve as their moderator.
- The New Congregation shall elect a clerk and a treasurer.
- The New Congregation shall elect all other teachers and leaders as they deem necessary for the carrying out of the ministry.
- The same policies that govern the Sponsoring Church as they pertain to business practices and procedures shall govern the New Congregation.
- The New Congregation will utilize SBC curriculum as needed.

Evaluation:

- Benchmarks and mile markers will be utilized to gauge the progress of the New Congregation. These will be set forth in the Strategy.
- Regular meetings will be scheduled to evaluate the overall ministry.

Cooperation:

- The New Congregation shall cooperate with the Sponsoring Church, Association, Arizona Southern Baptist Convention, Southern Baptist Convention, and any other Partners involved in the process.

Constitution:

- The New Congregation may become a self-sustaining, autonomous church by asking for and receiving approval from the Sponsoring Church.
- Upon constitution of the New Congregation, all funds in the New Congregation's accounts, all indebtedness of the New Congregation, and all real property of the New Congregation shall be transferred to the newly constituted church.

Pastor of _____ church

Date

Member of the New Congregation

Date

Pastor or Moderator , _____ church

Date