

## PARTNERSHIP COVENANT

Strategy dated \_\_\_\_\_

Name of New Congregation \_\_\_\_\_

### **The New Congregation shall:**

- Commit to give of its undesignated income according to the percentages indicated in the budget of the New Congregation.
- The New Congregation acknowledges that the budget contained in this strategy was presented to the pastor and the membership.
- The New Congregation understands that it shall assume a greater portion of the financial needs of the New Congregation each year until it is self-sufficient.

### **The Sponsoring Church shall:**

- Assist the New Congregation in securing permanent financing as needed.
- At the time the Partnership agrees that the New Congregation shall constitute, the Sponsoring Church will transfer all property and buildings to the New Congregation. At this time the New Congregation is totally liable for all of its own indebtedness.

### **The Pastor of the New Congregation shall:**

- Give proof of life, medical, and disability insurance as well as a retirement plan.
- Acknowledge that the ongoing support may be terminated earlier than at first indicated if the New Congregation grows faster than expected and no longer needs the funds. This will allow the funds to be utilized at another location.
- Acknowledge that the Partnership may be terminated if the pastor and/or New Congregation are not keeping their part of the Partnership Covenant.
- Lead in casting a God-sized vision of missions and evangelism.
- Personally model for the New Congregation the ministry of soul-winning and evangelism.
- Equip others in the New Congregation to share their faith effectively and often.
- Lead the New Congregation to have at least two major evangelistic events in the community.
- Develop an ongoing plan and projection of where the ministry will be in one year, three years, five years, and ten years.
- Develop small groups and train small group leaders.
- Lead out in sharing what God says about stewardship as it pertains to resources and giftedness.
- Clearly develop and explain the ministry budget for the coming year with the New Congregation.
- Communicate regularly the pertinent information with all Partners.

### **The Partners:**

- Membership
  - Two representatives from the New Congregation.
  - Two representatives from all Partners contributing time, money, or people.
- Purpose of the Partners
  - Solidify the relationship through Covenant Agreements.
  - Strengthen the New Congregation to help it to grow to be a self-supporting, self-governing, reproducing congregation.
  - Evaluate and update the agreed upon strategy.
  - Assist the New Congregation in the implementation of their strategy.
  - Periodically review and amend if necessary the Covenant Agreements.
- Adhere to this strategy in starting and developing this New Congregation.
- Agree to the commitment indicated in the strategy understanding it is renewable annually.

**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 [New Congregation]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member of [New Congregation]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor or Moderator of [Sponsoring Church]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Note: Brackets indicate where actual church names would be typed in a specific covenant.