



## Covenant Agreement of Ministries and Churches

### **The Presbytery**

We, the Presbytery of \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby agree fully with the vision and purpose of The Vital Congregations Initiative of the PC(USA). We have reviewed the Vision and the Seven Marks of Vital Congregations, and shared the information about the Vital Congregations Initiative with the pastors and church leaders of the presbytery. Together, with the Office of Vital Congregations and the Presbyterian Mission Agency, PC(USA), we will strive to uphold the values of: courage, conviction and commitment to faithful discipleship; prayerful discernment; reliance upon Scripture; persistence that leads to an emboldened faith; honest assessment; resilience; intentional pursuits of reconciliation; and hopefulness in change. We will work toward the initiative objectives to: come together as the people of God; to pray — (re)turning to faithfulness in God; to inspire openness to the Holy Spirit's transformation and change; to honestly assess, discern and act; to resource, equip and support leaders and pastors; to practice missional evangelism and faithful discipleship; to equip vital congregations and develop a praxis of sustainability and ongoing assessment; and to capture congregational stories and develop new measurements of vitality as the people of God and disciples of Jesus Christ.

Furthermore, we agree to participate to the best of our ability in the two-year initiative guidelines for presbyteries. We will show up in relationship to all pastors and congregations participating in this process of faithfulness. We will pray, support, equip and walk with these churches. We have prayerfully discerned

(a) \_\_\_\_\_,

(b) \_\_\_\_\_,

(c) \_\_\_\_\_,

(d) \_\_\_\_\_,

(e) \_\_\_\_\_,

(f) \_\_\_\_\_, to serve as Vital Congregations facilitators.

We will support, encourage and respect the voice and recommendations of these facilitators. We agree to budget \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as a presbytery for the purpose of the Vital Congregations Initiative.

### **The Pastor or Church Leader**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby agree fully with the vision and purpose of (b) the Vital Congregations Initiative of the PC(USA). I have reviewed the Seven Marks of Vital Congregations and the guidelines for churches within the two-year initiative. To the best of my abilities, I will work alongside the people of God at \_\_\_\_\_ Church. Together, with the presbytery leadership of \_\_\_\_\_ and the Vital Congregations facilitators, I will strive to work toward the values and vision the Vital Congregations Initiative sets forth. With the grace of God, I will help lead people through honest discernment and assessment rooted in Scripture and prayer. Furthermore, I will seek the Holy Spirit's will in actions that lead to (re)vitalized life together in Christ Jesus, who is the head of the Church. I will accept the assistance and support of the presbytery, and will seek to be connected and committed to my pastor cohort and colleagues in ministry.

### **The Clerk of Session**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, in full support and representation of \_\_\_\_\_ Church, do hereby express our consent and intent to fully engage and participate in the Vital Congregations Initiative. We agree to actively live into the guideline set forth for churches. With God's grace and guidance, we will seek to live into the purpose of the Vital Congregations Initiative to: "work alongside mid council leadership, and leaders of existing congregations, in a process that seeks to help assess, discern and live into transformative actions that increase vitality. Through intentional spiritual practices and relational connections, this two-year process takes us deeper into following Jesus Christ, making disciples and being the vital community of Christ throughout particular communities and the world."

Presbytery Leader: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Stated Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor/Church Leader: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk of Session: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Office of Vital Congregations: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_