

**Covenant Agreement  
of  
The Presbyterian Campus Ministry of Chapel Hill, Inc.**

**with**

**Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church  
Church of Reconciliation  
New Hope Presbyterian Church  
The Presbytery of New Hope  
Triangle Presbyterian Church  
University Presbyterian Church  
Westminster Presbyterian Church**

**Revised and Approved:**

**September 13, 2011**

## **I. Preamble**

### **A. Mission**

The Presbyterian Campus Ministry (PCM) is a Presbyterian community of faith and witness with and for the students, faculty, administration and staff of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-Chapel Hill). The mission of PCM is:

- + To present the claims of the Gospel to persons within the university community, calling them to commitments of faith and life amid other competing claims for loyalty;
- + To provide opportunities for worship, study and moral discourse, in which persons will be encouraged and equipped to bring Christian resources to bear on the critical issues of our time;
- + To foster a community of Christian fellowship among students, between students and faculty/administration/staff, and between students and the Christian community in Chapel Hill;
- + To equip persons for Christian ministry and service within the university, the larger community, and the world;
- + To provide pastoral care and support to persons within the university community, particularly those availing themselves of the programs of campus ministry;
- + To offer a witness for God's justice and peace in the midst of structures and systems of injustice and fragmentation;
- + To promote interest, interaction and mutual support with Presbyterian congregations, the Presbytery of New Hope, and Synod of Mid-Atlantic, and to connect to the resources of the university for the benefit of the larger church.

### **B. History**

The University of North Carolina opened its doors to students in Chapel Hill in the fall of 1795. The first president and most of the University's early faculty were Presbyterian Ministers. The first Presbyterian Church in Chapel Hill was organized by Orange Presbytery in 1845. Prior to that time Presbyterians, Methodists and Episcopalians maintained a Union Church with a building on the property now occupied by University Presbyterian Church.

From the beginning, Presbyterians played an active role within UNC-CHAPEL HILL. For many years, this Presbyterian presence was represented by the pastors and congregation of the University Presbyterian Church (UPC), which until 1967 was called "The Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church". UPC has generally seen itself as having a campus-related mission, and for most of its history has included many faculty members and students in its membership and leadership. UPC's aim has been that of proclaiming

the gospel in terms relevant to those living in a university community.

1953 the Synod of North Carolina and the Session of UPC (then Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church) established a covenant of support and accountability, and the first full-time campus minister was called. Working closely with the pastor and the congregation of UPC, that first Presbyterian Campus Minister in Chapel Hill led in the formation of a campus ministry program that was viewed by many around the nation as a model.

In 1956 the Synod and the congregation of UPC agreed to work together for the provision of buildings that would be needed for the present and future Presbyterian mission in Chapel Hill. These joint efforts were made more difficult, but not defeated by, a destructive church fire in 1958. In the fall of 1959 the Presbyterian Student Center and Education Building were dedicated. A new sanctuary, planned for inclusion of students in worship, was completed in 1962.

The Presbyterian Student Center, held in trust by UPC for Campus Ministry under guidelines from the Synod of North Carolina (and its successors), has provided a place for student gatherings, worship, forums, study groups, prayer and fellowship, as well as an office for the campus minister.

In recent years, with the growth of the denomination in this area, the local support and supervision of campus ministry have been broadened to include Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church, the Church of Reconciliation, Triangle Presbyterian Church, New Hope Presbyterian Church, and Westminster Presbyterian Church.

The aim of the Presbyterian ministry on this campus has been and continues to be that of proclaiming the Gospel and enabling Christians to respond faithfully in this crucial and exciting environment.

## II. Articles of Agreement

The PCM of Chapel Hill, Inc. is accountable to Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church, Church of Reconciliation, New Hope Presbyterian Church, Presbytery of New Hope, Triangle Presbyterian Church, University Presbyterian Church, and Westminster Presbyterian Church (together, the “Covenanting Partners”) to provide a campus ministry that will faithfully represent the ministry of Jesus Christ in accordance with the tradition and faith of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

The Presbyterian Campus Minister is accountable to the session and congregation of UPC and to New Hope Presbytery.

Until revised or dissolved, this Covenant Agreement shall govern and guide the relationship between the Covenanting Partners according to the terms specified below.

### **A. PCM will be governed by a Board of Directors (the “Board” or “BOD”), as provided in Section III of this Covenant Agreement. The BOD will:**

1. Bear principal responsibility for the programs of PCM.
2. Bear principal responsibility for the finances of PCM including using any funds provided by the Covenanting Partners in a fiscally responsible manner.
3. Share responsibility with UPC for the use and upkeep of property.
4. Provide support and guidance to the Presbyterian Campus Minister.
5. Maintain a strong partnership with the Covenanting Partners by:
  - a. Keeping them informed of the general activities of PCM
  - b. Sharing needs, concerns and long-term goals of PCM
  - c. Communicating the needs of and opportunities with the Covenanting Partners to the PCM community
  - d. Encouraging PCM participation in the life of the Covenanting Partner congregations.
6. Review, evaluate, and make recommended changes to this Covenant Agreement to the Covenanting Partners.

### **B. Each Covenanting Partner church agrees to:**

1. Accept the call to minister to the UNC-CHAPEL HILL community.
2. Develop in the congregation an awareness of the needs of the University’s students and faculty.
3. Provide opportunities for the Presbyterian Campus Minister to be involved in the congregation’s life.
4. Welcome and encourage the integration of the university community into the life of the congregation.
5. Provide financial support to PCM with a recommended minimum annual contribution of \$1,000.
6. Elect members to serve on the BOD of PCM, as provided in Section III of this Covenant Agreement.
7. Participate in providing support for program growth and development.

**C. University Presbyterian Church additionally agrees to:**

1. Continue to hold campus ministry as one of its highest priorities.
2. Provide an Associate Pastor to serve as the Presbyterian Campus Minister for the PCM.
3. Consult with the BOD to provide a job description for the Presbyterian Campus Minister and an annual evaluation of work performance.
4. Provide for supervisory care and maintenance of the facilities commonly known as the “Student Center Wing” and the Fellowship Hall and kitchen which were made available by the former Synod of North Carolina, maintaining the center as a welcoming place for students and faculty to gather for the purposes stated above.

**D. The Presbytery of New Hope additionally agrees to:**

1. Provide for a liaison from the Committee on Campus Ministry to the BOD of the PCM.
2. Provide pastoral care and nurture for the Presbyterian Campus Minister, in keeping with Committee on Ministry responsibilities.
3. Advocate for campus ministry as a part of the Presbytery’s concern and program in higher education.
4. Provide for a share of the funding of the PCM.

**III. Governance**

The “BOD” of the PCM shall operate in accordance with and be held accountable to the Bylaws of the Ministry and to the Covenanting Partners. If there is any conflict between the provisions in the Bylaws and the provisions in the Covenant Agreement, the provisions of the Covenant Agreement shall govern.

**A. Membership of the BOD:**

1. Members appointed by Covenanting Partners:
  - a) At least two and no more than four representatives from University Presbyterian Church.
  - b) At least one and no more than two representatives from Triangle Presbyterian Church.
  - c) At least one and no more than two representatives from The Church of Reconciliation.
  - d) At least one and no more than two representatives from New Hope Presbyterian Church.
  - e) At least one and no more than two representatives from Westminster Presbyterian Church.
  - f) At least one and no more than two representatives from Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church.
2. Members elected by the BOD, in consultation with the Presbyterian Campus Minister:

The Presbyterian Campus Minister will recommend nominees for BOD-elected representatives at the October BOD meeting preceding the next calendar year.

The BOD elects the nominees no later than the December meeting preceding the next service year.

- a) At least one and no more than two representatives who are faculty or staff of UNC-CHAPEL HILL and members of a Presbyterian Church.
- b) One representative who is a parent of a student participating in PCM.
- c) One representative who is an alumna or alumnus of PCM.
- d) One representative who shall serve as Treasurer and be a member of a Presbyterian Church, if the Treasurer is not appointed from the representatives of one of the Covenanting Partners.

The Presbyterian Campus Minister will, in consultation with the PCM Student Leadership Team, identify one undergraduate student and, if appropriate, one graduate student to serve on the BOD, with a one-year term that corresponds to the academic year (July 1 – June 30).

3. The Presbyterian Campus Minister:
  - a) The Presbyterian Campus Minister shall serve as the Moderator of the BOD.
  - b) The Presbyterian Campus Minister shall be a non-voting member of the BOD.
4. Pastors of the Covenanting Partner Churches:

The pastors of the six Covenanting Partner church congregations shall be *ex officio* members of the Board, with voice but without vote. An *ex officio* pastor may be designated as one of the appointed members of a Covenanting Partner church. If this is the case then the pastor will have a vote until a replacement can be named by the partner church. Pastors are expected to attend at least one PCM event or Board meeting each year.

## **B. Terms of Service of the BOD**

1. Covenanting Partner Members:

Members elected by the Covenanting Partners shall have terms of service of three years and may be reappointed for an additional term (for a total of six years) after which they must take at least one year off before being considered for reappointment under any provisions of membership of the BOD. Terms of service of these members will begin on January 1 and end on December 31.
2. Members elected by the BOD:

Members elected by the BOD shall have a one year term of service and may be reelected for two additional terms (for a total of three years), after which they must take at least one year off before being considered for reelection. Terms of service of these members will begin on January 1 and end on December 31.
3. The Presbyterian Campus Minister and the Pastors of the Covenanting Partner Churches:

The terms of service for these members are tied to their calls from the Covenanting Partner Churches.

**IV. Review and Amendments**

This Covenant Agreement will normally be reviewed every three years. This triennial review should be initiated and facilitated by the Moderator of the BOD. A special review may be initiated by any one of the Covenanting Partners when it believes that it cannot continue to fulfill the terms of the agreement, or that the terms are not being fulfilled by another partner. Such a special review should be initiated by written notice to each Covenanting Partner.

This Covenant Agreement may be amended at any time with the approval of all the Covenanting Partners. A Covenanting Partner may withdraw from the Covenant Agreement with the approval of the governing bodies of all other partners, or by giving a full year’s written notice to all other partners of its intention to dissolve the relationship.

**V. Approval**

The signatures below certify that this Covenant Agreement has been approved by vote of the appropriate governing body of the Covenanting Partner.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
President,  
The Presbyterian Campus Ministry Board of Chapel Hill, Inc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk,  
Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk,  
Church of Reconciliation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk,  
New Hope Presbyterian Church

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Stated Clerk,  
Presbytery of Hew Hope

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk,  
Triangle Presbyterian Church

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk,  
University Presbyterian Church

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk,  
Westminster Presbyterian Church

Date: \_\_\_\_\_