

Resolution "Covenant Partnership with the Haiti Methodist Church"
Financial Implications: Yes

RESOLUTION FOR CREATION OF A COVENANT PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE GREAT PLAINS CONFERENCE AND THE METHODIST CHURCH OF HAITI

Rational: Since the 1970s, the former Kansas East Conference churches have been developing a relationship with the Methodist Church of Haiti. During the 2010 Kansas East Annual Conference a resolution was passed to formalize this long relationship by approving a covenant partnership. With the formation of the Great Plains Conference in 2014, the Haiti-Great Plains partnership was created. It is time to update and renew this covenant.

Whereas, the mission of The United Methodist Church is "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world,"

Whereas, the Great Plains Conference is called "to equip and connect congregations to make disciples of Jesus Christ," with a commitment to "Christ-centered excellence" and strong global mission partnerships,

Whereas, the Methodist Church of Haiti seeks to be "a visible presence of Christ among the Haitian people through its spiritual and social proclamation and continues to strive to become a self-sustained church,"

Whereas, Jesus sent his disciples out in mission "two by two" (Luke 10:1-2, NIV), and

Whereas, The United Methodist is a Connectional Church locally and internationally with ecumenical partners near and far;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Great Plains United Methodist Conference and the Methodist Church of Haiti renews our covenant of solidarity in Christ and mutually commit ourselves to:

1. Be in ministry together in a supportive and mutual relationship for the wholistic education and leadership development of our clergy and laity, with a focus on youth and children of La Gonave.
2. Uplift one another in prayer on a regular basis.

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3. Help people in the Great Plains and Haiti to learn about—and from—one another, including our history and culture, our blessings and challenges, and our faith and life;
4. Communicate through approved channels, as established by each partner.
5. Encourage, support and learn with local farmers in La Gonave.
6. Report each year to our respective Annual Conferences through normal existing channels.
7. Review, evaluate, and adjust the approach and tone of partnering for this Covenant in whole or in part, as may be needed in the future.
8. Cooperate in developing and implementing various projects and activities. Currently, our priority is to explore projects of income generation, scholarship program for Charles Wesley school in Anse-a-galet and scholarships in partnership with Africa University and other colleges and universities in Haiti and throughout the Caribbean.
9. Develop procedures to assist in the timely and accountable, transfer of funds for use in implementing the projects and activities made possible through this covenant.

Note: This covenant shall be considered effective once approved or ratified by the Great Plains Conference and the Methodist Church of Haiti Conference. It shall then be in effect for at least four years, at which time it MAY be renewed for an additional four years or change the priorities.

“Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ....So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.”
Galatians 6:2, 10

Implemented by: Mercy & Justice Team of The Great Plains Conference

Date: April 26, 2017

Signatures:

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