

**RELATIONSHIP COVENANT
BETWEEN
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN in the PRESBYTERY of the HIGHLANDS of NEW
JERSEY and the PRESBYTERY of the HIGHLANDS of NEW JERSEY**

I. Preface

This covenant is made to create a partnership in mission between Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of the Highlands of New Jersey and the Presbytery of the Highlands of New Jersey.

II. Basis of the Covenant

The Presbytery of the Highlands of New Jersey came into being as all of the Presbyteries in New Jersey realigned for mission. The Presbytery Transition/Discernment Team is working on determining the forms and structures needed for the church to do its work in the future. The Presbytery encompasses 78 churches in Northwest New Jersey.

Presbyterian Women are part of the national organization of Presbyterian Women, Inc. The stated purpose of the national organization and of PW in the Presbytery is:

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves:

to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,
to support the mission of the church worldwide,
to work for justice and peace, and
to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

Since the reorganization of the Presbyteries of New Jersey, PW is coming together to craft by-laws that recognize the current reality, define our local emphases, and build a new, reenergized organization.

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of the Highlands of New Jersey is self-funded and is the receiver and disbursing of funds from PW in the Congregations to the national organization. Funds are also received and disbursed according to a budget adopted by the members, as designated for leadership development and scholarships and as distributed by the Presbyterian Foundation.

III. Responsibilities of Each Entity

- A. Presbytery of the Highlands of New Jersey
 - a. Support the purpose of Presbyterian Women
 - b. Recognize and respect PW's independence and status as a separate organization, self-determining in its leadership, budget and program
 - c. Support PW with a communication channel at Presbytery meetings as well as in the weekly newsletter
- B. Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of the Highlands of New Jersey

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- a. Recommend a member of PW to the Nominating Committee of the Presbytery to serve on the ACT of the Presbytery.
- b. Recommend to the Nominating Committee a member of the PW to be elected to be the PW commissioner to at Presbytery meetings, and serve for a three (3) year term.
- c. The PW member to support the Mission goals of the Presbytery, especially as they relate to Mission and Social Justice, and moderates the Social Justice and Mission ACT team.
- d. Be a faithful steward of the funds given to Presbyterian Women from women in the Presbytery
- e. Provide an annual report to the Presbytery of the activities of Presbyterian Women in the past year, including the receipt and disbursements of funds
- f. Provide a copy of the PW bylaws as they are crafted and any updates as they may occur

IV. TERM and REVISIONS

- A. The term of this relationship covenant shall be three (3) years, commencing on April 1, 2024, and expiring on March 31, 2027.
- B. Either party may propose changes to this relationship covenant by written notice of the desired changes to the other party.

Subscribed by:

Moderator of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of the Highlands

Date

Presbytery Leader

Date