

## **A Joint Covenant Partnership Between The Synod of the Sun and The Tres Rios Border Foundation**

The Synod of the Sun is a mid-council of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with historic ties to the Tres Rios Border Foundation (TRBF) of the Tres Rios Presbytery (TRBF) which date to the foundations inception in 2020. As a foundation that serves congregations of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with in the Synod of the Sun as well as Presbyteries and congregations across the US, the TRBF now seeks to form a joint covenant partnership with the Synod of the Sun.

The Synod of the Sun serves Christ by connecting, equipping, and empowering Presbyterians for Christ's mission within and beyond the Synod's bounds of Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. Providing leadership development, grants and scholarships, and communications services because we believe when we work together across boundaries, we make visible the Good News and find wholeness as the body of Christ. In our common calling, we impact lives together.

The Tres Rios Border Foundation (TRBF) mission is to inspire, equip, and connect PC(USA) congregations on the U.S.-Mexico border and beyond – toward loving God and neighbor. We do this through Border Proximity with rented office space, in a historical, spiritual, and heavily patrolled area next to the border wall. This allows us to walk alongside our partners in the area by being in relationship and conversation. Through this proximity we offer Border Response, helping shelters and other agencies meet the most pressing needs of the moment due to policy changes and immigration shifts. We focus on narrative change, personal change, and systems change by preaching and presenting about the border with the ideal of inviting others to join a Border Encounter.

The Synod of the Sun and the Tres Rios Border Foundation embrace this joint covenant partnership and agree to mutually support one another's ministries. By signing this covenant partnership, the Synod of the Sun agrees to pray for, advocate on behalf of, and support the TRBF as it seeks to respond to the biblical charge repeated in the Hebrew Bible to “Remember, you were once foreigners...” when we meet migrants with hospitality, provision, and protection echoing Jesus’ call in Matthew 25:43-45, “I was a

stranger and you did not welcome me... just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.”

The Synod affirms the mission of the Tres Rios Border Foundation and encourages each of its member congregations to pray, advocate, and support TRBF's ministry. The Synod will provide opportunities for the TRBF to share its ministry at Synod gatherings and through its print and electronic communications. By signing this covenant partnership, the Tres Rios Border Foundation agrees to maintain a visible presence in the life of the Synod of the Sun, including their member presbyteries.

#### REVIEW AND REAFFIRMATION

The initial duration of this covenant shall be for five (5) years. Every five (5) years, the parties will review the current covenant and may recommend possible changes or amendments before renewal of the covenant.

#### **Synod of the Sun, PC(U.S.A.)**

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

By: \_\_\_\_\_

2025 Moderator, Synod of the Sun

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

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Synod Leader and Stated Clerk

#### **Tres Rios Border Foundation**

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

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Board President

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

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Border Coordinator

