

**A COVENANT OF GRACIOUS SEPARATION
BETWEEN
LEBANON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
AND THE PRESBYTERY OF THE MIAMI VALLEY
SUBMITTED FOR ACTION BY PRESBYTERY ON JANUARY 12, 2012**

In recognition of our mutual desire to further the peace, unity, and purity of the larger church, the living body of Christ, and to fulfill our respective roles and responsibilities towards our Presbytery, Church and congregation, we, the Presbytery of the Miami Valley, and the Lebanon Presbyterian Church, enter into this Covenant of Gracious Separation, recognizing the end of our denominational affiliation and covenanting not to pursue legal action against the other.

ARTICLE I

In furtherance of this covenant, the Presbytery of the Miami Valley acknowledges that the Lebanon Presbyterian Church as a congregation has sought to remove itself from the Presbytery of the Miami Valley and to end its relationship as a congregation within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the bonds between Lebanon Presbyterian Church and the Presbytery (and through the Presbytery, its relationship with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)). Pursuant to this understanding, the Presbytery of the Miami valley by ratification of this agreement dissolves Lebanon Presbyterian Church as a congregation within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and a member congregation of this Presbytery effective the date of the ratification of this Covenant by the Presbytery of the Miami Valley. The Presbytery agrees, for purposes of the civil law of Ohio, that the dissolution of Lebanon Presbyterian Church as a congregation within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) does not dissolve Lebanon Presbyterian Church as a not-for-profit corporation in the state of Ohio.

ARTICLE II

Further, the Presbytery, based upon its discernment of its mission, for itself and as the council of Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) relinquishes its claims upon the real and personal property held by Lebanon Presbyterian Church, and any beneficial interests therein. As Lebanon Presbyterian

Church believes that title is currently in the name of Lebanon Presbyterian Church, and it shall be an on-going Christian church regardless of its denominational affiliation, Lebanon Presbyterian Church does not seek any further transfer of title to this real property other than the assurances given in this Covenant.

ARTICLE III

Lebanon Presbyterian Church shall make no claims of membership in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and shall be entitled to no benefits of association with the Presbytery of the Miami Valley or the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

ARTICLE IV

For historical purposes, complete copies of the church records (baptism, membership, ordination verification, Session and Congregational Meeting Minutes) from the entire period of time that the church was part of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) or its predecessors shall be delivered to Presbytery representatives at the time of the signing of this Covenant. Original Records and the Lebanon Presbyterian Church name are understood and agreed to be owned and retained by the congregation.

ARTICLE V

Members of Lebanon Presbyterian Church who wish to remain as members of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) shall be under the care of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley.

ARTICLE VI

In further consideration of this Covenant, The Lebanon Presbyterian Church shall provide at the signing of this agreement the Presbytery of the Miami Valley the equivalent of Lebanon Presbyterian Church's PCUSA denominational per capita payments for the support of the Presbytery's work through the end of calendar year 2012, which sum amounts to Thirty

Four Thousand One Hundred Forty Eight Dollars and Sixty Cents (\$34,148.60), and shall pledge to spend Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) in support of the African Medical Mission project which was jointly undertaken by the Lebanon Presbyterian Church and the Presbytery.

This serves as a written covenant agreement between Miami Valley Presbytery and the Lebanon Presbyterian Church and is understood to be binding on any succeeding governing body.

We pray that each other go forth in peace, honoring Christ.

Attested:

LEBANON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CLERK OF SESSION

DATE

PRESBYTERY OF THE MIAMI VALLEY

MODERATOR

DATE

STATED CLERK

DATE

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