

RENEWAL OF PARTNERSHIP COVENANT

A PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

BAPTIST GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA

AND

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION OF VIRGINIA

ARTICLE I - Prologue

This Partnership Agreement is established by the Baptist General Association of Virginia (“the BGAV”) and the Woman’s Missionary Union of Virginia (“the WMUV”) (individually the “party” or collectively the “parties”), for the purpose of clarifying and affirming this relationship as they seek in common commitment to promote the teaching of and participation in Christian missions.

Since the late 1800’s the WMUV has demonstrated a partnering commitment to the BGAV. By establishing this Partnership Agreement, based upon mutual trust and accountability, the BGAV and the WMUV reaffirm an integrated approach as acknowledged partners in advancing the Redeemer’s Kingdom. The parties also affirm that the WMUV will maintain its autonomous identity in the election of its corporate officers, the employment of its Executive Director/Treasurer and staff, recognition of its Board of Trustees, and maintaining its assets.

The WMUV has historically served as the mission educator in the churches of the BGAV. It has also provided and developed key leaders for state and associational work. Virginia women have informed churches and associations of ministry needs and challenged persons to pray and give to the BGAV causes.

Since 1899, the WMUV has received the BGAV funds for its administrative operations. In 1902, the WMUV established a special offering for state mission work which later became known as the State Missions Offering. Since then, State Missions has been promoted faithfully by the WMUV. Over the intervening years, various appeals were included by the WMUV for sharing in the use of this Offering, in addition to the WMUV’s own program and ministries. In 1976, this State Missions Offering became a joint venture of the WMUV and the BGAV, with the development of an annual goal and allocation of funds under the direction of a State Missions Committee.

In March 1998, the State Missions Offering became the Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions (“the Alma Hunt Offering”) by agreement of the WMUV and the BGAV and Virginia Baptist Mission Board (“the VBMB”). There was no change made to the method of allocations. In May 2002, as a part of a revised mission strategy and vision for Virginia Baptists, the WMUV and the BGAV affirmed the 1997 Working Agreement and agreed to modify the uses of the Alma Hunt Offering to include allocations for mission endeavors in Virginia, across North America and around the world.

ARTICLE II - Core Values

The parties pledge to:

- Affirm and uphold the “priesthood of the believers,” while accepting the responsibilities and privileges inherent therein.
- Acknowledge God’s call to every believer to carry the good news of Jesus Christ to the world.
- Embrace the privilege and responsibility of prayer.
- Recognize and affirm the giftedness of all believers.

- Acknowledge the biblical mandate to respond to social and moral issues as modeled by Jesus Christ, offering a message of His redemptive plan.
- Acknowledge and accept the responsibility for developing missional leaders.
- Partner with Christians locally and globally, as individually and corporately they multiply one another's efforts to lead a lost world to Christ.
- Provide diverse models through which persons may participate in mission efforts.

ARTICLE III - Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions

The annual goal and allocation of funds from the Alma Hunt Offering is prepared jointly by the Executive Director/Treasurer of the WMUV and the Executive Director of the BGAV, and each organization approves its own allocations. Both WMUV and BGAV work collaboratively to develop program materials and promote the Alma Hunt Offering.

ARTICLE IV - Commitments

- Both parties affirm their commitment to each other as ministry partners, and value this close relationship.
- Both parties affirm their dedication to teaching, equipping and mobilizing Virginia Baptist churches with a greater Kingdom vision.
- Both parties affirm a continued commitment to cultivate Christian spiritual growth in the lives of all members by focusing on lifelong learning and lifestyle involvement in missions.
- WMUV agrees to submit to the BGAV Treasurer an annual audited financial statement in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices.
- BGAV continues to honor its commitment to the WMUV that the allocations from the Alma Hunt Offering for the WMUV are to be paid in full and other allocations share the remainder on a basis to be determined annually by the respective organizations.
- BGAV continues to provide funding to the operational budget of WMUV according to processes established by BGAV.

ARTICLE VI - Term of the Agreement

This Partnership Agreement is effective as of November 15, 2022, will be reviewed every five (5) years