

A COVENANT BETWEEN PRESBYTERIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE SOUTHWEST AND THE SYNOD OF THE SUN

The Synod of the Sun is a mid-council of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with historic ties to the Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest (PHSSW) which date to 1978. As an agency that serves congregations of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas and the Cumberland Presbyteries within those states, the PHSSW 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 New and find wholeness as the body of Christ. In our common calling, we impact lives together.

The Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest (PHSSW) seeks to encourage the accumulation, the preservation, and the widespread use of historical materials pertaining to the faithful and inspiring witness of Presbyterians in and from Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. The Society hosts an annual meeting in one of these four states and offers its services to congregations as they celebrate anniversaries and research their own histories. Its board is made up of a representative from each of the member presbyteries in the Synod of the Sun as well as representatives from the Cumberland Presbyterian constituent presbyteries.

The Synod of the Sun and the Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest 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 PHSSW as it seeks to respond to the biblical admonition in Isaiah 51:1 "Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug."

The Synod affirms the mission of the Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest and encourages each of its member congregations to pray, advocate, and support PHSSW's ministry. The Synod will provide opportunities for the PHSSW to share its ministry at Synod gatherings and through its print and electronic communications.

By signing this covenant partnership, the Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest agrees to maintain a visible presence in the life of the Synod of the Sun, including their member presbyteries.

This agreement in 2026 is not a legal partnership and the Synod agrees that the PHSSW may establish and maintain mission partnerships with other agencies and denominations. The Synod and the PHSSW agree to renew this covenant partnership in 2030.

Approved by:

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

Mitch Miller, Synod Leader/Stated Clerk

Date

Approved by:

Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest

Bill Wiles, Secretary/Treasurer

Date