COVENANT PARTNERSHIP

between

Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
and Gilmont Camp & Conference Center

A shared commitment to connection, collaboration, and faithful service through Christian hospitality across the Synod of the Sun.

I. Introduction

This covenant affirms the historic and ongoing relationship between Gilmont Camp & Conference Center (Gilmont) and the Synod of the Sun of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) (Synod). As distinct yet missionally aligned entities, we commit to mutual support, accountability, and collaboration in faithful service to God, the Church, and the world.

Grounded in God's faithfulness, this covenant expresses our shared commitment to continued partnership, building on past and present ministry for the sake of future mission.

II. Legal Standing and Governance

Gilmont is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in Texas and governed by a Board of Directors. Its mission is to cultivate a safe, sacred space where all are invited to grow closer to God, creation, others, and themselves. Its vision is that Gilmont's guests will be grounded in creation, filled with wonder, and inspired to glorify God and serve others.

The Synod is a governing body of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), serving a four-state region by fostering connection, collaboration, and innovation among presbyteries, congregations, and ministries.

This covenant reflects the relationship between two legally distinct institutions united by shared purpose. It clarifies expectations, strengthens accountability, and provides a framework for ongoing collaboration and periodic review. Nothing in this covenant changes the independent governance, ownership, or fiduciary responsibilities of either party.

III. Shared Purpose and Mission

Through this covenant, Gilmont and the Synod commit to:

- Celebrate a shared call to serve the Church and the world;
- Recognize Gilmont as a covenant ministry partner of the Synod;
- Create pathways for collaboration in Christian formation, leadership development, hospitality, service, creation care, and other shared priorities;
- Deepen relationships with presbyteries, congregations, leaders, and ministries across the Synod; and
- Strengthen the connectional life of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) through shared ministry and mutual encouragement.

IV. Commitments of Gilmont Camp & Conference Center

Gilmont, through its Board and staff, commits to:

- Offer hospitality, staff leadership, and facilities for Synod-related programs, retreats, conferences, and ministry opportunities when aligned with Gilmont's mission and capacity;
- Welcome opportunities to collaborate with the Synod on programs and initiatives that serve the Church and the Synod's broader constituency;
- Cultivate relationships with the Synod, its presbyteries, and congregations, and seek collaborative ways to align resources in service to shared goals;
- Provide regular updates to the Synod regarding significant initiatives, program developments, capital projects, and emerging ministry opportunities;
- Maintain standards of excellence in safety, Christian hospitality, stewardship of creation, and faith formation consistent with Gilmont's mission and the commitments of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); and
- Welcome appropriate participation by Synod leaders in collaborative, advisory, and ministry-planning conversations.

V. Commitments of the Synod of the Sun

The Synod, through its leadership and staff, commits to:

- Recognize Gilmont as a covenant partner in shared ministry and include Gilmont, when appropriate, in strategic conversations, leadership development, and mission collaboration;
- Consider Gilmont as a host site for Synod-led programs and encourage presbyteries and congregations to consider Gilmont when planning retreats, trainings, conferences, and ministry gatherings;
- Collaborate with Gilmont to promote, develop, or co-sponsor programs that advance mutual priorities;
- Interpret and promote Gilmont's ministry and impact through Synod communications, networks, and direct engagement with presbyteries and congregations;
- Include Gilmont among the Synod's network of ministry partners eligible for financial and connectional support, and encourage relational and financial support from across the Synod; and
- Consider Gilmont staff and Board members as valued participants in Synod working groups, networks, and advisory teams when appropriate.

VI. Covenant Maintenance, Review, and Renewal

This covenant shall be reviewed and renewed every five (5) years, or at the request of either party. A review team composed of representatives from both Gilmont and the Synod will assess progress, celebrate shared ministry, and recommend updates in response to evolving needs, opportunities, and mission contexts.

VII. Approval and Authorization

By signing below, the representatives of Gilmont Camp & Conference Center and the Synod of the Sun affirm this covenant partnership and commit to its shared purposes and responsibilities.

_____	_____
Synod Leader and Stated Clerk, Synod of the Sun	Executive Director, Gilmont Camp & Conference Center
_____ Date	8/22/2026 Date
_____	_____
Moderator, Synod of the Sun	Chair, Gilmont Board of Directors
_____ Date	10/12/26 Date