



## **COVENANTS BETWEEN CONVENTION INSTITUTIONS AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION**

Revised November 16, 2022

The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) has chosen to implement a portion of its ministry through Convention institutions as identified in the Convention bylaws. These institutions have a varied and unique history and have come into relationship with the Convention at various times and through various means.

The relationship between the Convention and the Convention institutions is grounded in mutual trust for the purpose of common ministry. The Convention institutions are autonomous nonprofit corporations, neither owned nor operated by the Convention. Governance of the Convention institutions is vested in their respective boards of trust in all matters.

The Convention has chosen to document the relationship with the institutions through the use of covenants. The covenants between the Convention and these institutions are not legal agreements and do not affect the right of the board of trustees of the institution to direct and control the institution in achieving its purpose.

The covenants were developed in a cooperative effort between the appropriate committees of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention (now Tennessee Baptist Mission Board) and the leadership of each Convention institution. They were then adopted by the Tennessee Baptist Convention in session on November 16, 2005. Upon adoption they replaced existing program statements which had guided the roles and responsibilities in the cooperative relationship.

Administrative updates to change the name of institutions and Tennessee Baptist Mission Board have been made over the years. During 2018 and 2019, the Partner Ministries Committee worked with leaders of the Convention institutions to significantly update and rewrite the covenants for recommendation to the messengers at the 2019 annual meeting of The Tennessee Baptist Convention. In 2022, the Convention approved an update to the covenant with Tennessee Baptist Foundation.

### **COVENANT BETWEEN TENNESSEE BAPTIST MISSION BOARD AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION**

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers of cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Convention has established Tennessee Baptist Mission Board to “have charge of all the educational, missionary, benevolent, and other interests of the Convention” and “During the interim, between meetings of the Convention... have all the powers of the Convention except as limited by this constitution, the bylaws of the Convention, and specific action taken by the Convention in session” (Article VII. Tennessee Baptist Convention Constitution); and

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Tennessee Baptist Mission Board and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Board of Directors for Tennessee Baptist Mission Board shall act as the Convention whenever the Convention is not in session in a manner consistent with and not contrary to the manner in which the Directors perceive the Convention would act in session given all information available to the Board of Directors.
2. Tennessee Baptist Mission Board shall administer funds entrusted to it by cooperating churches with the Convention as directed by the Business and Financial Plan of the Convention. Furthermore, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board will ensure accountability to the Convention and stewardship of all resources provided by the Convention.
3. Tennessee Baptist Mission Board will provide state missionary staff to assist churches in reaching Tennesseans for Christ and developing Great Commission Christians. State Missionary Staff will also assist churches to be on mission, spreading the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world.
4. Tennessee Baptist Mission Board shall provide facilities as necessary to facilitate the ministries of the state missionary staff and shared ministries of cooperating churches.
5. Tennessee Baptist Mission Board shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
6. Tennessee Baptist Mission Board shall serve as a liaison between the Convention and the Convention institutions as defined in the constitution and bylaws of the Convention.
7. Finally, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board shall nurture and coordinate Kingdom relationships with the Southern Baptist Convention, its entities, and other state conventions for the mutual good of the Convention, Tennessee Baptist Mission Board, and the glory of God.

### **COVENANT BETWEEN CARSON-NEWMAN UNIVERSITY AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION**

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers from cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, Carson-Newman University and the Convention likewise seek to cooperate together for the same purpose; and

WHEREAS, Carson-Newman University was founded to serve East Tennessee Baptists as Mossy Creek Missionary Baptist Seminary in 1851 and has been supported by the Convention since 1919; and

WHEREAS, Carson-Newman University offers a Christian, liberal arts education with a distinctive

Baptist perspective in an environment that encourages intellectual inquiry and deeper spiritual maturity; and

WHEREAS, Carson-Newman University seeks to instill Christian virtues in its students and inspire them to use their unique gifts for a lifetime of service; and

WHEREAS, Carson-Newman University has been producing committed Baptist servant-leaders, both laity and clergy, strengthening the work of the Kingdom for more than a century and a half; and

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Carson-Newman University and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Convention shall continue to support the ministries of Carson-Newman University through fervent and effectual prayer, and the encouragement of its cooperating churches to volunteer in service to our Lord, Jesus Christ, by becoming personally involved in the ministry of Carson-Newman University. The Convention pledges to support Carson-Newman University through the Cooperative Program.
2. The Convention will strive to support Carson-Newman University and seek to preserve and enhance the good name and reputation of the University.
3. Carson-Newman University shall maintain a Christian environment while providing quality education to its students.
4. The Convention will seek to promote through its cooperating churches, the matriculation of students at its cooperating educational institutions, including Carson-Newman University.
5. The Convention will work cooperatively with the University in new and creative ways to provide internships, ministry positions, and mission opportunities for students.
6. Carson-Newman University and the Convention enjoy a voluntary cooperation marked by mutual respect and support which spring from shared values and commitment to common goals, and each will seek, in good faith and diligence, to continue and enhance this cooperation for the benefit of society and the Kingdom of God.
7. Carson-Newman University commits to the process of trustee selection established by the Convention with the hope that the good of Tennessee Baptists will be foremost in the minds of all involved in the process.
8. Carson-Newman University will offer a variety of undergraduate degrees and selected professional graduate degrees with emphasis on the liberal arts and sciences from a Christian perspective.
9. Carson-Newman University shall maintain a well-trained and dedicated Christian faculty who embrace the University's mission of Christian liberal arts education.

10. Carson-Newman University will strive to maintain general accreditation, specialized accreditation, and recognition by licensing agencies as needed to ensure its graduates may practice their craft as well as maintain active membership in appropriate academic and professional societies to enlarge its impact as a Christian institution on a regional and national level.
11. Carson-Newman University shall relate to the Convention through the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board's Partner Ministries Committee, or its successor committee.
12. Carson-Newman University shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
13. Carson-Newman University will continue to prepare students for positions of Christian ministry and service, including pastors, missionaries, denominational workers, and lay-leadership for Tennessee Baptist Convention churches.
14. Finally, with this mutual covenant, Carson-Newman University and the Convention pledge to continue to strengthen the cherished relationship between Carson-Newman University and the Convention for the mutual good of the Convention, Carson-Newman University, and the glory of God.

**COVENANT BETWEEN UNION UNIVERSITY  
AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION**

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers of cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, Union University is an academic community, cooperating with the Convention, equipping persons to think Christ-like and serve faithfully in ways consistent with its core values of being Christ-centered, people-focused, excellence-driven, and future-directed; and

WHEREAS, these values shape Union's identity as an institution which prioritizes liberal arts based undergraduate education enhanced by professional and graduate programs; and

WHEREAS, the academic community of Union University is composed of quality faculty, staff, and students working together in a caring, grace-filled environment conducive to the development of character, servant leadership, and cultural engagement; and

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Union University and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Convention shall continue to support the ministries of Union University through fervent and effectual prayer, and the encouragement of its cooperating churches to volunteer in service to our Lord, Jesus Christ, by becoming personally involved in the ministry of Union University. The Convention pledges to support Union University through the Cooperative Program.

2. Union University affirms its commitment, along with all Tennessee Baptists, to its cherished Baptist heritage.
3. Union University shall maintain a Christian environment while providing quality education to its students.
4. Union University confesses its commitment to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and the saving power of the gospel as revealed by Holy Scripture.
5. Union University affirms respect for those who serve in Tennessee Baptist life; and commits to fairness in selecting guest lecturers and chapel speakers from across Baptist and evangelical constituency.
6. Union University commits to the process of trustee selection established by the Convention with the hope that the good of Tennessee Baptists will be foremost in the minds of all involved in the process.
7. Union University dedicates to leading the Union University community in spiritual renewal, personal discipleship, and faithful churchmanship. In doing so Union University seeks to create a campus context to deepen and strengthen its dedication to Union's wonderful Baptist heritage and her long-standing commitment to Christian orthodoxy and the Christian intellectual tradition.
8. Union University renews its commitment to both responsibility and freedom within the context of a denominational university; and intends to cooperate faithfully with the churches of the Convention. Primacy of Scripture and liberty of conscience are crucial ingredients for achieving the purposes of Christ-centered education at Union University. Those established principles constitute the foundation and parameters for authentic and faithful Christian higher education. In such a covenantal context Union University exists as a community of faith and learning in which freedom of inquiry rests within the context of confessional and denominational expectations. Faith seeks understanding which requires openness of mind guided by the Holy Spirit. Union University pursues its calling and responsibility with the understanding that Christian faith directs all thought and life toward God who is the source of all truth, the judge of all human thought, and the ultimate end of all Christian inquiry.
9. Union University recognizes that covenant renewal ceremonies in biblical times were dynamic spiritual experiences. These covenants proposed a common faith in God's providential direction and an affirmation of mutual responsibilities shared within the covenant community. Union University also recognizes that covenants are bilateral and not unilateral agreements. Union University expects that the Convention will enter into this covenant with a spirit of mutual respect and cooperation to help strengthen the identity and advance the mission of Union University. Union University expects that the Convention will pledge to uphold the good name and reputation of Union University with positive and constructive communication at all times. Union University also expects that the churches of the Convention as well as the Convention leadership will encourage Baptist students and their parents to pursue their education at Union University or at other Tennessee Baptist institutions.
10. Union University will strive to maintain general accreditation, specialized accreditation, and recognition by licensing agencies as needed to ensure its graduates may practice their craft as well as maintain active membership in appropriate academic and professional societies to enlarge its impact as a Christian institution on a regional and national level.

11. Union University shall relate to the Convention through the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board's Partner Ministries Committee, or its successor committee.
12. Union University shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
13. Union University affirms that the trustees of Union University are elected by and responsible to the Convention. Union University recognizes that the president is responsible to the trustees. Union University recognizes the importance for all within the Union University community and within Tennessee Baptist life to acknowledge our responsibility to the Union University charter and bylaws as the guiding and legal documents of the institution.
14. Finally, with this mutual covenant, Union University and the Convention pledge to continue to strengthen the cherished relationship between Union University and the Convention for the mutual good of the Convention, Union University, and the glory of God.

**COVENANT BETWEEN HARRISON-CHILHOWEE BAPTIST ACADEMY  
AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION**

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers of cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy is a non-profit educational corporation reaching local, national, and international students of all socioeconomic backgrounds, educating and preparing them academically, emotionally, physically, socially, and spiritually; and

WHEREAS, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy's vision is for transformed lives, empowered by Christ-like character, pursuing academic excellence and lifelong service; and

WHEREAS, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy's mission is to inspire and equip students of all cultural backgrounds to fulfill their God-given potential in a nurturing, college preparatory community; and

WHEREAS, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy has been a Christian school from the date of its initial charter as Boyd's Creek Academy in 1880, and has been cooperating with Baptist churches since local Baptist associations began supporting Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy in 1887; and

WHEREAS, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy's second charter and new name identified Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy as part of the educational mission of the Convention in 1932; and

WHEREAS, the Convention has affirmed Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy by electing its trustees and providing financial support since 1932; and

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Convention shall continue to support the ministries of Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy through fervent and effectual prayer, and the encouragement of its cooperating churches to volunteer in service to our Lord, Jesus Christ, by becoming personally involved in the ministry of Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy. The Convention pledges to support Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy through the Cooperative Program.
2. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy commits to the process of trustee selection established by the Convention with the hope that the good of Tennessee Baptists will be foremost in the minds of all involved in the process.
3. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall conduct a day and boarding school for local students in East Tennessee, and others from throughout Tennessee, other states, and foreign countries.
4. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall provide an instructional program that integrates a biblical world view in all areas of its curriculum and co-curriculum.
5. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall provide opportunities for personal response to the claims of Christ.
6. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall prepare students for a life of maximum contribution to the cause of Christ.
7. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall assist students from varied cultural and ethnic backgrounds to understand each other better and to live together harmoniously.
8. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall assist students in the discovery and development of their potential for creative expression in the arts, sciences, and physical education activities.
9. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall maintain a well-rounded program of co-curricular activities.
10. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall maintain a well-trained and dedicated faculty and staff who are committed to the Christian faith and genuinely interested in the development of each individual student.
11. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall maintain general accreditation and memberships as needed to ensure its effectiveness in accomplishing its goals.
12. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall relate to the Convention through the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board's Partner Ministries Committee, or its successor committee.
13. Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
14. Finally, with this mutual covenant, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy and the Convention pledge to continue to strengthen the cherished relationship between Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist

Academy and the Convention for the mutual good of the Convention, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, and the glory of God.

## **COVENANT BETWEEN TENNESSEE BAPTIST ADULT HOMES AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION**

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers from cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Baptists have made a commitment to care for senior adults and developmentally disabled adults in residential and camping ministries; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes is an institution supported by the Convention and its cooperating churches since 1974; and

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Convention shall continue to support the ministries of Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes and seek to preserve and enhance the good name and reputation of Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes. The Convention pledges to support Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes through the Cooperative Program.
2. Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes shall work to provide quality residential facilities and programs for senior adults and developmentally disabled adults for the benefit of their health and well-being, social interaction, purposeful life, and spiritual development.
3. Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes shall perform its ministry in a way that reflects the dignity of all persons recognizing that everyone is the handiwork of God, who created each individual in His image and for His purpose and glory, and that each person is one for whom Christ gave His life.
4. Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes shall relate to the Convention through the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board's Partner Ministries Committee, or its successor committee.
5. Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
6. Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes commits to the process of trustee selection established by the Convention with the hope that the good of Tennessee Baptists will be foremost in the minds of all involved in the process.
7. Both Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes and the Convention commit to the Lordship of Christ and to working together in the work of His Kingdom.

8. Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes and the Convention commit to open communication, respectful consideration, and collegiality among all institutions and entities related to the Convention.
9. Finally, with this mutual covenant, Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes and the Convention pledge to continue to strengthen the cherished relationship between Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes and the Convention for the mutual good of the Convention, Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes, and the glory of God.

**COVENANT BETWEEN THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CHILDREN’S HOMES, INC.  
AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION**

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers from cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Children’s Homes, Inc. was founded in 1891 for the purpose of ministering to children; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Baptists, acting in Convention in 1894, by unanimous action, made The Tennessee Baptist Children’s Homes, Inc. an institution of the Convention, thereby committing the Convention to ministering to children; and

WHEREAS, since making this commitment, Tennessee Baptists have provided prayer support and financial resources to support this ministry in meeting the growing needs of children and families in crisis through Residential Care, Foster Care, Family Care, adoption related services; and

WHEREAS, this commitment continues until the present time; and

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter into a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that The Tennessee Baptist Children’s Homes, Inc. and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Convention shall continue to support the ministries of The Tennessee Baptist Children’s Homes, Inc. and seek to preserve and enhance the good name and reputation of The Tennessee Baptist Children’s Homes, Inc. The Convention pledges to support The Tennessee Baptist Children’s Homes, Inc. through the Cooperative Program.
2. The Tennessee Baptist Children’s Homes, Inc. shall continue providing the highest quality of care to children and families in crisis.
3. The Tennessee Baptist Children’s Homes, Inc. shall provide this care to children and families in crisis through facilities and comprehensive programs of spiritual, emotional, physical, educational, and social development.
4. The Tennessee Baptist Children’s Homes, Inc. shall provide information to Tennessee Baptists on its services, responsibilities, and challenges through the *Baptist and Reflector* as well as other means.

5. The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. shall relate to the Convention through the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board's Partner Ministries Committee, or its successor committee.
6. The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
7. The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. shall commit to the process of trustee selection established by the Convention with the hope that the good of Tennessee Baptists will be foremost in the minds of all involved in the process.
8. The Convention and The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. commit to the Lordship of Christ and to working together in the work of His Kingdom in obedience to Mark 9:37 and James 1:27.
9. The Convention and The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. commit to open communication, respectful consideration, and collegiality among all institutions and entities related to the Convention.
10. Finally, with this mutual covenant, The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. and the Convention pledge to continue to strengthen the cherished relationship between The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. and the Convention for the mutual good of the Convention, The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc., and the glory of God.

**COVENANT BETWEEN TENNESSEE BAPTIST FOUNDATION  
AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION**

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers from cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Baptists have made a commitment to promote Christian Stewardship, both of current income and estates; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Baptist Foundation is an institution supported by the Convention and its cooperating churches since 1938; and

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Tennessee Baptist Foundation and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Convention shall continue to support the ministries of Tennessee Baptist Foundation and seek to preserve and enhance the good name and reputation of Tennessee Baptist Foundation. The Convention pledges to support Tennessee Baptist Foundation through the Cooperative Program.

2. Tennessee Baptist Foundation shall be available to provide quality Christian estate planning assistance to all Tennessee Baptists, assist with fund management services for all Tennessee Baptist churches and institutions, and assist all Tennessee Baptist churches and institutions in the development of endowment gifts and provide investment management for such gifts. Tennessee Baptist Foundation may also provide these same services to like-minded evangelical Christian institutions and organizations.
3. Tennessee Baptist Foundation shall perform its ministry in a way that reflects the dignity of all persons recognizing that everyone is the handiwork of God, who created each individual in His image and for His purpose and glory, and that each person is one for whom Christ gave His life.
4. Tennessee Baptist Foundation shall relate to the Convention through the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board's Partner Ministries Committee, or its successor committee.
5. Tennessee Baptist Foundation shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
6. Tennessee Baptist Foundation commits to the process of trustee selection established by the Convention with the hope that the good of Tennessee Baptists will be foremost in the minds of all involved in the process.
7. Both the Convention and Tennessee Baptist Foundation commit to the Lordship of Christ and to working together in the work of His Kingdom.
8. The Convention and Tennessee Baptist Foundation commit to open communication, respectful consideration, and collegiality among all institutions and entities related to the Convention.
9. Finally, with this mutual covenant, Tennessee Baptist Foundation and the Convention pledge to continue to strengthen the cherished relationship between Tennessee Baptist Foundation and the Convention for the mutual good of the Convention, Tennessee Baptist Foundation, and the glory of God.

**COVENANT BETWEEN BAPTIST MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM, INC., MEMPHIS  
AND THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION**

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Baptist Convention (Convention) is comprised of messengers of cooperating churches seeking to minister together for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission; and

WHEREAS, Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis ministers with the Baptist Conventions of Tennessee, Arkansas, and Mississippi who elect its Board of Trustees, and Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis seeks to provide quality comprehensive patient care, conduct medical and technical education programs, engage in research, serve health needs in a Christian atmosphere, and endeavor to give testimony to the truth of the Christian faith; and

WHEREAS, these two entities desire to enter a covenant, committing to each other their mutual goals, aspirations, and desire to spread the gospel of Christ throughout Tennessee, North America, and the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis and the Convention do hereby covenant to the following:

1. The Convention shall continue to support the ministries of Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis through fervent and effectual prayer, and the encouragement of its cooperating churches to volunteer in service to our Lord, Jesus Christ, by becoming personally involved in the ministry of Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis.
2. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall maintain a Christian ministry of Health Care as a part of Christ's ministry.
3. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall maintain all operations prudently in accordance with principles of sound financial management, solid business practices, and compassion in its ministry.
4. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall utilize its capabilities in developing cooperative arrangements, including ownership or management services, with other health care facilities.
5. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall cooperate with health care institutions, agencies, providers, and health-related organizations so that optimal health and medical services may be provided.
6. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall promote the maintenance of health and prevention of illness and disease through appropriate programs including patient education, health education, and instruction in lifestyles that are conducive to good health, based upon the philosophy of quality service.
7. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall be sensitive and attentive to the needs and concerns of the community in which Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis ministers and to Baptists as congregations, associations, and particularly to the Convention.
8. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall relate to the Convention through the Tennessee Baptist Mission Board's Partner Ministries Committee, or its successor committee.
9. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis shall support the ministries of the Convention through promotion of Cooperative Program and through participation in those ministries where it can assist.
10. Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis commits to the trustee selection established by the Convention with the hope that the good of Tennessee Baptists will be foremost in the minds of all involved in the process.
11. The Convention and Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis commit to open communication, respectful consideration, and collegiality among all institutions and entities related to the Convention.
12. Finally, with this mutual covenant, Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis and the Convention pledge to continue to strengthen the cherished relationship between Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis and the Convention for the mutual good of the Convention, Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Memphis, and the glory of God.