For South Carolina United Methodist Churches Participating in the Forward Focus Initiative

The Covenant

1) This is a voluntary agreement to study the past, present and future potential of _______________ Church/Charge in the ___________________ District of the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church.

2) The Pastor and Lay Leadership are committed to a minimum of three- to five-months' exploration of the church's history, present ministry contexts, and future potential to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

3) Each church and Pastor and Leadership Team will commit to pray for the process regularly.

4) Each church will, at minimum, recruit and train a Prayer Team and a Forward Team to facilitate the process for the three- to five-month period.

5) Each church, through its Forward Team, will share key insights and meeting times with the Congregation to keep all persons apprised of the process.

6) The Forward Team will encourage participation of all members and regular attendees of the church or charge to participate in Congregational Meetings.

7) The Forward Leader assigned by the District Superintendent will be trained to help facilitate the Forward Focus Process.

8) The Forward Leader will have a Congregational Specialist resourcing/coaching him/her during the process.

9) Upon completion of the assessment, the Forward Team, in consultation with the Forward Leader, Pastor, Congregational Specialist, and/or District Superintendent will identify next steps.

Signatures of those entering into this Covenant Agreement:

Local Church Lay Chairperson ________________________________ Date ________________

Local Church Senior Pastor ________________________________ Date ________________

Assigned Forward Leader ________________________________ Date ________________

District Superintendent of Charge or Church ________________________________ Date ________________