A COVENANT BETWEEN KING COLLEGE AND THE SYNOD OF LIVING WATERS

A. Purpose of the Covenant

In order that the mission of the College and the mission of the Synod in higher education may be fully and effectively performed, King College and the Synod of Living Waters of the Presbyterian Church (USA) make the following covenant as the basis for mutual understanding and trust, and as a proper agreement which shall contain the details of the relationship between the College and the Synod.

This Covenant is entered into by King College, through its Board of Trustees, and the Synod, acting on the recommendation of its Division for Synod Ministries.

The life of both the Church and the College may be enriched, made more dynamic and relevant by the understanding of the unique role of the Church, as the Church, and the College, as the College, by the mutual exchange of ideas and resources, as well as by support of each other's mission.

B. <u>Historical Perspective</u>

King College came in to being as a result of the Civil War. During that conflict, the unity of Presbyterianism in East Tennessee was splintered into pro-Union and pro-Confederate groupings. When it became apparent after Appomattox that all three of the Presbyterian colleges located in East Tennessee had fallen into the hands of those aligned with the Union faction, the Holston Presbytery of the Southern church took action to create its own college. The Reverend James King came forward with an offer of ten acres of land and buildings located on Fifth Street in the infant town of Bristol, where he was a large landholder and the founding minister of the Bristol Presbyterian Church. The Presbytery accepted his offer and resolved to name the new institution for him, with the first session opening in the fall of 1867.

In 1915 the Synod of Appalachia was created as the major church jurisdiction for the southern mountain area and King College was immediately accepted as its primary funding obligation.

In 1917 the College moved to its present location to the east of Bristol occupying a campus of some sixty acres deeded to the institution by the Rev. Isaac Anderson, an early graduate of the College.

In 1979 the trustees of King College transferred the ownership of the College to an independent Board of Trustees who developed a new Charter and By-Laws for the institution in accord with the laws of the State of Tennessee. Within the first two years

of its governance, King established covenant relationships with its home Presbytery of Holston as well as with the Presbyteries of Abingdon, East Tennessee and Western North Carolina.

Ownership of the institution rests in the Trustees of King College. Each trustee affirms a statement of faith which covers the salient truths of Christian doctrine and stresses the inspiration and authority of Scripture.

Should the College cease operation as an institution of higher learning, the Board of Trustees would determine the disposition of all its properties, acknowledging any binding or restrictive reversion clauses associated with particular gifts to the College.

C. Statement of Purpose and Role of King College

King College has been concerned since its founding in 1867 in providing a "thorough classical and scientific training combined with moral and religious instruction." The seal of the College bears the motto "Ecclesiae et Litteris" - For the Church and For Learning - a duel commitment which is central to the life of this institution.

King provides its students with the breadth and depth of a liberal arts education informed by Biblical truth. Its position today is evangelical in the sense of holding a high view of the authenticity and authority of scripture; it is also conservative in that it maintains historic Christian values.

By bringing together faith, learning and living in an educational setting of academic challenge and Christian nurture, King College seeks to produce graduates who are competent in their chosen field of study, mature in their Christian faith and committed to responsible service in the world.

D. <u>Statement of Purpose and Role of the Synod</u>

The Synod of Living Waters is a governing body of the Presbyterian Church (USA) as defined in the <u>Book of Order</u>. Chapter XII, and is incorporated under the laws of the State of Tennessee. As a governing body of the Church, the Synod is committed to and expresses the mission and unity of the Church as stated in the <u>Book of Order</u>, Chapters III and IV.

The Synod of Living Waters has responsibility "To develop,..., a broad strategy for the mission of the Church within its bounds in accord with BO G-3.000;" and "To establish and superintend the agencies...necessary for its work."

E. <u>Responsibilities Under the Covenant</u>

King College and the Synod of Living Waters hereby enter into a covenant relationship for mutual concern and support.

1. Responsibilities of the College

King College affirms its commitment to:

- -offer a program of quality education in the liberal arts and sciences with the concept of the wholeness of life as interpreted by the Christian faith;
- -prepare students for Christian service in all walks of life;
- -establish standards of excellence and maintain accreditation by appropriate academic associations and agencies;
- -develop professional and lay leadership for the church, i.e., inquirers for the ministry, choir directors, organists, Sunday School teachers, and teachers for elementary and high schools;
- -provide supply ministers and special programs of sacred music and drama to church groups;
- -serve as a host for Church governing bodies and their agencies,
- -welcome the involvement of people, without regard to race or national origin, at all levels of the College's life;
- -provide leadership and facilities for youth groups for conferences, retreats, and rallies;
- -sponsor workshops, conferences and training sessions for church laymen, ministers and church officers;
- -provide Synod with a report of the campus ministry program and activities of the College in its Annual Report, along with a copy of the Annual Audit and such other reports as may be considered useful.
- -inform Synod of any capital funds campaign within the Synod bounds.

2. Responsibilities of the Synod of Living Waters

The Synod of Living Waters confirms its commitment to:

- -undergird the College spiritually;
- -promote understanding of the educational opportunities offered at the College;
- -promote attendance at the College by encouraging its youth to enroll as students at the College;
- -offer a source of ministers and laity as speakers for regularly scheduled chapel services, retreats, and conferences at the College;
- -encourage individuals to support the scholarship program of the College;
- -sponsor conferences, retreats, meetings and training events of the Synod in the

College facilities periodically; -provide King the Minutes of Synod and a copy of its annual audit.

F. Formal Approval and Review

This Covenant becomes effective upon formal approval at the fall 1991 meeting of the Synod of Living Waters and signing by the Synod Executive and Stated Clerk and by approval at the fall 1991 meeting of the King College Board meeting and signing by the President of the College and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

This Covenant recognizes the possibility that King College may develop other covenant relationships as the College fulfills its mission in Christian higher education. It is understood, however, that no provision of such covenants or agreements will be in conflict with the provisions of this Covenant. In the event King College undertakes to develop other relationships, it is understood that the President of the College will inform the Synod's Division for Synod Ministries of any formal action by the Board of Trustees.

This Covenant will be reviewed by King College and the Synod of Living Waters as deemed necessary by either party through a joint task force comprised of individuals appointed by the Board of King College and individuals appointed by Synod. This task force will have responsibility to review the covenant relationship and recommend possible changes in the statement to the King Board and Synod's Division for Synod Ministries. Appropriate to this review will be discussion of other matters pertaining to long-range goals and objectives. If recommended changes from the task force are acceptable to both the College and the Synod, each group, through appropriate action, will re-endorse the Covenant.

A special review of this Covenant can be initiated by the officers of the Board of King College and/or the Division for Synod Ministries of Synod if major decisions by the College or the Synod are anticipated which could change the nature of the covenant relationship.

This Covenant and any appendices shall be filed in Synod's office and the statement printed in the Minutes of Synod.

The Synod Executive shall be responsible for seeing that all provisions of this Covenant regarding Synod's responsibilities are fulfilled.

This Covenant between the Synod of Living Waters (PCUSA) and King College shall be summarized in appropriate college publications and made available to members of the College faculty and staff and other constituencies as appropriate.

The President of the College shall be responsible for seeing that all provisions of this Covenant regarding the institution's responsibilities are presented to the Board of Trustees.

The Synod of Living Waters and King College do so covenant and agree:

REPRESENTING	REPRESENTING THE
KING COLLEGE	SYNOD OF LIVING WATERS
From Dec	Zayphles
President	Synod Executive
Low a Clarke	
Chair, Board of Directors	Stated Clerk of the Synod
Date: 12/15/07	Date:

APPENDIX:

POSITION STATEMENT

- King College is a private, coeducational, fully accredited, four-year liberal arts college founded by Presbyterians and largely supported by them since 1867.
- By the provision of its new charter of 1979 the College became an independent institution no longer under denominational jurisdiction. Its position today as a Christian college can best be described as evangelical and conservative, in the Presbyterian tradition.
- The College Trustees own the institution and determine its policies. Each trustee affirms a statement of faith which covers the salient truths of Christian doctrine and stresses the inspiration and authority of Scripture.
- The faculty of the College are of proven preparation and competence as teachers and scholars. They are men and women committed to Jesus Christ.
- Students are received into the College if they are academically qualified. Once accepted they are expected to support the standards of a Christian community. Over 70% of the students are resident and up to 10% are international.
- King provides its students with the breadth and depth of a liberal arts education informed by Biblical truth. It excels in the pre-professional studies required for careers in medicine, law, education, ministry and business.
- By bringing together faith, learning and living in an educational setting of academic challenge and Christian nurture, King College seeks to produce graduates who are competent in their chosen field of study, mature in their Christian faith, and committed to responsible service in the world.

October, 1984

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