RIO GRANDE
BORDERLAND

Ministry Covenant
between
Rio Grande Borderland Ministries and
St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Albuquerque, NM

Every congregation has unique God-given gifts for mission and ministry that we offer together as the Body of Christ. Carrying out God's mission through the church's ministries is the responsibility of all ministers – lay and ordained.

Having discerned a calling from the Lord Jesus Christ and desiring to serve Him through specific ministry, we joyfully enter into covenant with the body of Christ at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Albuquerque, NM and Rio Grande Borderland Ministries, Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande.

We promise, with God's help, to walk together in Christian love; to make a place in our in our prayers for this church and RGBM; to serve faithfully in discharging our commitments. St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Albuquerque, NM wishes to walk alongside the Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande and its ministries in RGBM.

*All partners will have the same opportunities and communications regardless of the level they pledge to give. We hope that parishes will discern what they are able to commit to. We are grateful for any level of support in prayer, stewardship, and time.*

**As Covenant Partners our shared values include the following specific components:**

1. The RGBM Development Team will:
   - Maintain parish partnership webpage to include up to date information and opportunities for continued conversation related to issues of migration and the borderland
   - Meet regularly with parish partners to discuss progress and the current state of the borderland
   - Provide technical assistance to build the capacity of St. Mark's to meet its strategic volunteer goals and needs
   - Provide limited project management support for skills-based projects posted on riograndeborderland.org
   - Periodically spotlight partner's work and highlight partner's volunteer opportunities via electronic and/or mailed communication
   - Offer their assets to the success of the partnership
   - Provide a monthly cycle of prayer
   - Commit to operating in good faith, prioritizing a transparent, direct and authentic relationship. This includes working in the spirit of togetherness to solve challenges that may arise.
2. St. Mark's Episcopal Church will:

- Discern commitment level of 3 commitments (stewardship, prayer, volunteer time)
- Provide stewardship funding of $5000 per year plus the plate offering from at least one service per year
- Provide additional program goals, to be mutually agreed upon
- Offer their gifts to the success of the partnership
- Commit to operating in good faith, prioritizing a transparent, direct and authentic relationship. This includes working in the spirit of togetherness to solve challenges that may arise.

3. The Diocese of the Rio Grande will:
    - Provide an annual certificate of partnership issued by the Bishop
    - Provide tax receipts and all other necessary reporting
    - Hold partnership in prayer
    - Commit to operating in good faith, prioritizing a transparent, direct and authentic relationship. This includes working in the spirit of togetherness to solve challenges that may arise.

This Covenant may be amended or revised through mutual discernment of St. Mark's Episcopal Church and RGBM. Should either RGBM and/or St. Mark's Episcopal Church wish to dissolve this covenant, they may do so at any time with written notification.

Upon entering this Covenant and the Commissioning of the Ministry Team(s), an annual certificate, to act in accord with the responsibilities of each role, will be issued by the Bishop and will remain in effect through June 30 of that year. Before a new certificate is issued, RGBM and St. Mark's Episcopal Church will review the past year and offer positive, constructive ideas and evaluative comments in order to continue building a fruitful and effective partnership.

This Covenant between The Rio Grande Borderland Ministries and St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Albuquerque, NM entered into on the (XX) day of (month) in the year 2025.

Signature: _____
Contact Name: The Rev. Sylvia Miller-Mutia
Contact Title: Associate Rector, St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Signature: _____
The Rt. Rev. Michael B. Hunn
Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande