Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, by your Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit you gave to your apostles many excellent gifts.

Give your grace to Missionary name and to all members of this church, that we may with diligence and faithfulness fulfill your mission as disciples, to love the lost, clothe the naked, visit the prisoner, heal the sick, and give clean water to the thirsty. Amen

Missions Chair: As chair of the missions committee, I present to you <u>name of missionary</u>, a commissioned missionary of the United Methodist Church so that we may enter into covenant between her/him/them and <u>Name of Church</u> United Methodist Church for the next year.

Pastor: I ask you, the members of <u>Name of Church</u> United Methodist Church, to participate in our church's covenant relationship with <u>name of missionary</u>. Will you vow to support her and her mission assignment with your prayers?

Congregation: We will.

Pastor: Will you join in the commitment of <u>Name of Church</u> United Methodist Church to share your gifts for the benefit of the <u>name of mission project</u> -- gifts of financial support, gifts of time and talents, gifts of sharing meals, gathering clothes and making possible other acts of ministry, as you are able?

Congregation: We will.

Congregation: We vow to support <u>Name of Missionary</u> in her/his/their mission at the <u>Name of mission project</u> as a commissioned Missionary of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church. We will pray for her/him/them and all missionaries as they face the daily needs of the poor, the struggles of the hungry, and the light of hope in the dark corners of our world. We vow to support her/him/them in this ministry through our hands our hearts and our resources.

Pastor: Name of missionary, will you continue to serve faithfully in your ministry as a United Methodist missionary in <u>place of mission</u>, and recognize that we support you in your ministry through this covenant.

Missionary: I will. I give thanks for your love, care and support. By making a commitment to one another and sharing the loving acts of Christ with the poor, we share an outward sign of the inward transformation of our hearts by God's love. I commit today, as I become your missionary, to go boldly into the world, loving those in deepest suffering, and sharing the gospel, so that those to whom love is a stranger will find generous friends. Amen.

Pastor: As a sign of our covenant let us pray together.

Congregation and Missionary:

God of mercy, make us new each day by renewing the covenant of love you offered us so long ago. Help us to be both bound up and set free by your love in this relationship. May the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ, the mission that you call each and every one of us to, be fulfilled in our actions as well as our words. In this world so often marked by suffering and pain, may the possibilities, collaborations, and message of service and love in our covenant with our missionary be boundless. Together, may we join hands with our missionary and our loving God in bringing comfort and care, love and blessing to all in need. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.