**Virginia Synod ELCA**

**Synodically Authorized Ministry**

**Model Covenant – Congregation/Parish**

As Christians, our Lord Jesus, who came among us as a servant, calls us to faith and a life of loving service to our neighbor. We are all baptized into the priesthood of Christ to offer ourselves to the Lord of the Church in thanksgiving for what he has done and continues to do for us. It is our privilege to recognize and support those who are engaged in the work of this congregation/parish in the lay ministry of Synodically Authorized Ministry.

This congregation/parish, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, pledges its support of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, with prayer and counsel as a Synodically Authorized Minister, beginning \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(date). We understand that service as a Synodically Authorized Minister is accountable to the Congregation/Parish Council and that authorization to provide this ministry within the synod must be renewed annually by the bishop and may be revoked by the bishop at any time.

We ask God’s help in making us willing supporters and thankful recipients of this mutual ministry, so that the name of the Lord may always be glorified, and that we, as God’s people, may all live in peace.

We, therefore, sign our names in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation/Parish Name and Address:

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 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Council President

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Congregation Secretary

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