

# Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

*A Joint Venture covenant between First Community Church,  
The Sentone Church Planting Team and The Great Commission Sending Agency*

Because of our common interest in fulfilling the Great Commission and our belief that working together follows the scriptural model, First Community Church (FCC) and The Great Commission Sending Agency (GCSA) choose to pool our strengths in a Joint Venture Agreement as defined in the following provisions:

1. By God's grace, we will endeavor to plant reproducing churches in \_\_\_\_\_.  
The starting point will be determined as our relationship progresses.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ will be the point person for the sending church, and  
\_\_\_\_\_ will be the point person for the mission agency.
3. The sending church and the mission agency agree to communicate regularly. The minimum frequency will be \_\_\_\_\_.
4. We agree to take ownership of these seven functional roles and responsibilities:
  - a. Selection - The sending church will affirm the character and competence of missionary candidates (in accordance with GCSA standards)
  - b. Training – The mission agency will take the lead in cross-cultural orientation, team training, leadership development, while the sending church will focus on discipleship, evangelism training, and conflict resolution.
  - c. Logistics – The mission agency will supervise on-field oversight, accountability, and administrative services (ie. payroll, insurance, retirement, etc.)
  - d. Ministry Site Selection – Due to it's global perspective and insights, the mission agency specializes in knowing the locations that are most in need of Gospel proclamation and church planting. The sending church and the missionary will work with the agency to discover the place where the Lord is calling the team to serve.
  - e. Funding – The missionary is ultimately responsible for cultivating relationships with supportive partners and maintaining them over time. The mission agency will provide training and logistical support so that the missionary is equipped with everything they need to be successful. The sending church has multiple streams of revenue and support, including but not limited to budget designations, special offerings, faith promise, stage time for open requests, mailing list for direct appeals, etc.
  - f. Missionary Care – The sending church will take the lead role in proactively caring for Her sent ones. The mission agency has secondary resources available for reactive care, along with relationships with specialists in the event there is a crisis. Personal and team health evaluations will be conducted regularly (annually/biannually) \_\_\_\_\_.
  - g. Strategy, organization, and performance evaluation – In consultation with the field leadership, mission agency and the sending church, the missionary shall take the lead role in implementing the strategy, to achieve the agreed upon objectives and desired outcomes. This shall include regular reports (monthly/quarterly) \_\_\_\_\_, with honest evaluation of achievements and challenges to field leadership, mission agency and sending church partners.

\*It is understood that primary ownership does not always indicate total responsibility in an area.

5. While on location, the team will be under the supervision of the mission agency, specifically the field leader of the region where they are serving. If the sending church, mission agency headquarters, or friends and family would like to make a personal visit to the field, the field leadership needs to provide written permission before any plans are made.
6. The team will operate using the GCSA Church Planting Principles. The mission agency will provide the sending church an annual report of progress, including the GCSA Metrics assessment.
7. The sending church and the missionary agency will jointly design and administer any needed disciplinary action, in accordance with GCSA’s personnel policy manual as well as any policy that is provided by the sending church related to church discipline and behaviors expected by pastors, elders, deacons and other church officials.
8. Members of the missionary team will be full members of GCSA with all the privileges and responsibilities:
  - a. Medical insurance
  - b. Life insurance
  - c. Retirement Planning
  - d. Biennial regional conferences
  - e. Provisions stipulated in the GCSA Member Handbook (*copy provided upon request*)
9. Team members will sign in agreement with the mission agency doctrinal statement.
10. The sending church will affirm the mission agency doctrinal statement.
11. The mission agency will affirm the sending church’s doctrinal statement.
12. The mission agency and the sending church agree to meet annually to discuss the progress and evaluate the partnership. Knowing that it takes time for the Gospel to take root in “unreached or unengaged” parts of the world, the initial term for this deployment is five (5) years from the signing of this MOU, and it is understood that the agreement may be renewed or discontinued at that time.

Enduring hardships and overcoming obstacles is the primary calling for pioneer workers. The sending church and the mission agency do hereby covenant together, to faithfully send, provide proactive care, and supply appropriate encouragement for this church planting team:

<b>Missionaries</b>	<b>Sending Church Leadership</b>	<b>Mission Agency Leadership</b>
_____	_____	_____
Team Leader	Senior Pastor	President
_____	_____	_____
Team Member	Mission Pastor	Regional Field Leader
_____	_____	_____
Team Member	Chair, Elders	Director of Church Relations
_____	_____	_____
Team Member	Chair, Mission Committee	Director of Member Care
_____	_____	_____
Team Member	Leader, Missionary Care Team	Director of Human Resources