



SAMPLE FORMS

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A PRESBYTERY CENTS-ABILITY PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Presbytery, affirms:

Every creature on the earth has been promised by God enough food to eat and to live. In our generation, the global hunger crisis has threatened to deny that promise to over a quarter of God's children. This tragedy impels us to a new understanding of God's covenant granting us dominion over all the earth. The need is of immediate and highest priority.

In Jesus Christ, God has called us into partnership that the poor and the oppressed may be given justice and hope: justice because so much of the tragedy of world hunger is the result of greed and tyranny; hope because it is their God-given right to be free from hunger.

WHEREAS, just as there are many root causes of hunger in the world, there is need for a variety of approaches to alleviate that hunger. These include Direct Relief, Development Assistance, Education, Public Policy and Life-style Integrity; and

WHEREAS, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) affirms in its understanding of ministry, the connectional nature of the Church leading to a partnership of local congregation, Presbytery, and General Assembly necessary in addressing hunger; and

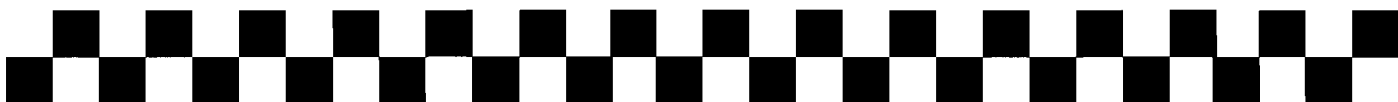
WHEREAS, awareness and funds are needed at each of these levels to fulfill this commitment,

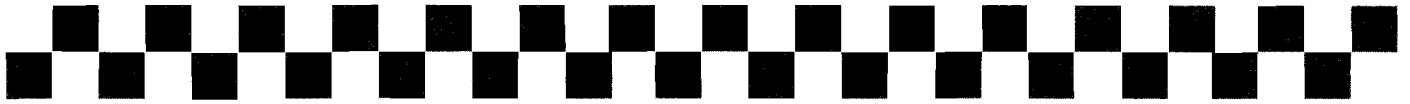
THEREFORE, we resolve that the Presbytery of _____ implement a Cents-Ability program.

This program will be coordinated by _____ with the assistance of local congregation representatives.

It is further resolved that proceeds from this program be used in a partnership model of (list percentages, projects funded, etc.) _____

_____ with evaluation on an annual basis.





**SAMPLE LETTER FROM THE PRESBYTERY CENTS-ABILITY PROGRAM
TO CLERKS OF SESSIONS**

TO: Clerks of Sessions
Session Members

FROM: _____

RE: Participation in **Cents-Ability**

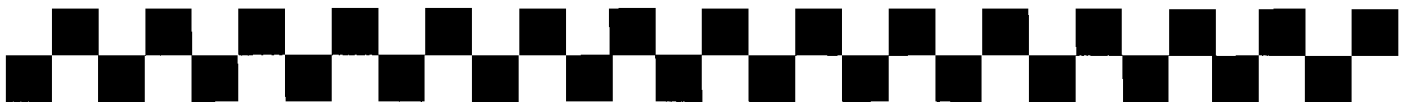
Realizing that the needs of the poor and hungry are great and hearing the clear call of God through scripture to feed the hungry and speak up for the poor and needy (Matthew 25; Mark 6:30-44; Proverbs 31:8-9), The HUNGER TASK FORCE (Mission Committee, or what is appropriate) of the Presbytery of _____ is seeking to "breathe new life" into the **Cents-Ability** (Two Cents A Meal, Nickels for Hunger, etc.) program that was adopted by our presbytery in _____.

This packet contains a description of this mission program as well as resources for participation in this ministry of our presbytery. You are asked to review the enclosed materials and prayerfully consider your church's involvement. (Contact your Hunger Action Enabler or the Presbyterian Hunger Program for resource materials needed).

Please place this item on your next Session's agenda and invite your congregation to join in as a "participating congregation." If you are already a "participating congregation," please consider this a time to "boost" your own participation in this ministry.

After the session votes to invite the congregation to join in this ministry, the Clerk of Session is asked to fill out the Congregation Covenant (see section V) in the packet and return it to _____ (HAE, Presbytery Mission Committee, or whoever is responsible for **Cents-Ability** in your presbytery). You are free to use any of the packet materials in the promotion of the ministry within your congregation. Make as many copies as you like and feel free to "rearrange" items to suit your own needs. If you need additional ideas or resources, contact _____ or the Presbyterian Hunger Program (800-334-0434).

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this vital ministry within our presbytery and denomination.





SAMPLE FOR A "THANK YOU"

NAME (ie. Presbyterian Women, Youth Group, etc.)

Thank You

for your 2002 Contributions of

\$ _____ to **Cents-Ability**.

Your contributions helps to support the following:

Presbyterian Hunger Program

HAE Name

Presbytery Name

INSTRUCTIONS TO HAES AND CENTS-ABILITY CO-ORDINATORS:

Buy some specialty paper with a fancy border or create your own on the computer. Use your computer's word processor to print out your "thank you." This can be done annually to recognize contributors to **Cents-Ability**. Most churches like to post them on their bulletin boards.



SAMPLE CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT

(as part of the Presbytery Cents-Ability program)

... A partnership program of Christian faith and compassion demonstrated through prayers, understanding, and gifts.

FROM: The _____ Presbyterian Church of _____

TO: Presbytery of _____
Address _____

We, the Session of the _____ have reviewed the **Cents-Ability** program.

Realizing that the needs of the poor and hungry are great and hearing the call of Christ to feed the hunger (Matthew 25; Mark 6:30-44),

WE NOW COVENANT:

- To (continue in/enter into) this Partnership of Prayer, Understanding, Gifts.
- To present the **Cents-Ability** Partnership to the congregation and to challenge each family to become a part of the Presbyterian answer to hunger.
- To remit the **Cents-Ability** Offerings to the Presbytery on a _____ basis with the understanding that the funds are to be distributed as specified in the resolution establishing the **Cents-Ability** program in this presbytery.
- To enter this partnership for one year, subject to an end-of-the-year review and evaluation by the session, and if the review is positive, to renew this Covenant partnership.

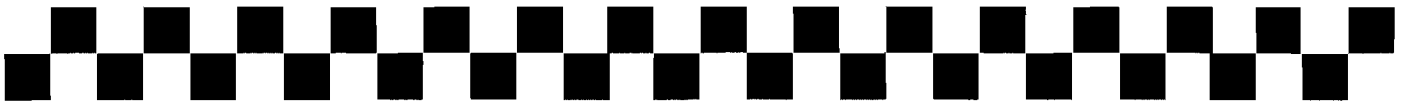
Session Moderator _____

Cents-Ability Chairperson _____

Date _____

When your Session has renewed the Covenant Partnership, please have your Moderator and your **Cents-Ability** Chairperson sign the Covenant and return to _____





SAMPLE FORM FOR HONOR & MEMORIAL GIFTS

You will find enclosed \$ _____ as a:
(please check type of gift and print all information)

HONOR GIFT in honor of:

Name of Living Person _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Occasion of Honor Gift: Anniversary Birthday Christmas Graduation

Other _____

MEMORIAL GIFT in memory of:

Name of Deceased Person _____

Kindly send Memorial Card to:
(enclose a list of any additional names and addresses)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Relationship between deceased and person being notified _____

Given by _____

Address _____

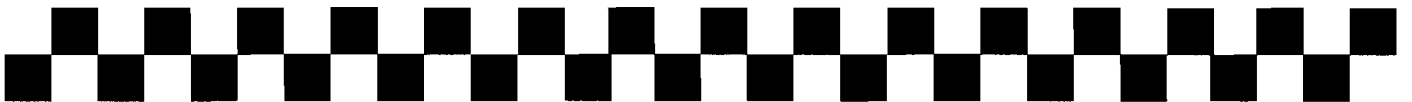
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Church _____

(Name)

(City)

This gift will be used to fight the root causes of hunger by supporting a variety of agricultural, nutritional and educational projects both in the United States and around the world.





SAMPLE CENTS-ABILITY REMITTANCE FORM

Amount received for the ___ quarter	\$ _____
Amount retained for local use	\$ _____
Amount remitted to Presbytery	\$ _____

Church _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Signed _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Date _____

Submit this form to: (Presbytery information)

Local funds were used to support: _____





ASSESSING YOUR CHURCH'S HUNGER MINISTRY

In the spaces provided to the left, enter either a plus or minus sign to indicate the level of involvement of your church. Leave blank if not applicable.

___ 1. Does your church have a hunger committee or task force?

LOCAL HUNGER

___ 2. Has your church, or a group in your church, ever tried to determine who is hungry in your community, or in a neighboring community?

___ 3. Does your church conduct or participate in a local feeding program?

___ 4. Does your church, or group within your church, assist with Meals on Wheels?

___ 5. Does your church provide financial support to any other local hunger effort?

___ 6. Do most people in your church know what happens when a hungry person comes to the church door?

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

___ 7. How often does your church receive an offering for hungry people?

___ 8. Does your church provide other financial support to the Presbyterian Hunger Program?

___ 9. Does your church participate in the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering?

___ 10. Do most people in your church know how denominational hunger funds are spent?

___ 11. Does your church budget include funds for assisting poor and hungry people?

___ 12. Do the people in your church participate in **Cents-Ability** (Two Cents A Meal, Nickels for Hunger, Penny Power) or any other similar program?

___ 13. Are offerings for hunger encouraged at church suppers?

WORSHIP

___ 14. Has your church observed a special Hunger Sunday in the past year?

___ 15. Are there special services and/or regular prayers for hungry people in your church's worship calendar?

___ 16. Does your church have banners or other displays reflecting hunger concerns?

___ 17. Are concerns for hungry people frequently lifted up in sermons? (If less than four times in the past year, enter a minus)



EDUCATION

- 18. Has your church, or a group in your church, offered a special presentation on hunger (film, video, guest speaker, etc.) in the past six months?
- 19. Has a study course on hunger been offered during the past year?
- 20. Is hunger education included in regular church school classes?
- 21. Has your church, or a group in your church, conducted a fast with a focus on the needs of hungry people during the past year?
- 22. Does your church library or resource table contain books and pamphlets on hunger?

ADVOCACY

- 23. Do the members of your church understand citizen advocacy as an important response to hunger? (If your estimate is less than 25%, enter a minus)
- 24. How many people in your church are members of Bread for the World? (If less than 5%, enter a minus)
- 25. Has your church conducted a BFW Offering of Letters?
- 26. Has your church sponsored or participated in a voter registration drive or a get-out-the-vote campaign at election time?
- 27. Has your church played host to a local BFW group meeting or event?
- 28. Is your pastor a member of Bread for the World?
- 29. Has membership in Bread for the World ever been encouraged in your church, either from the pulpit or by distribution of BFW brochures?
- 30. Is your church a Bread for the World Covenant Church?
- 31. Does your church, or a group in your church, participate in any other advocacy activity on behalf of hungry people on a regular basis?

A glance at the column at the left should give you and your committee a reasonably good idea of the strengths and weaknesses of your church's hunger ministry. Which of the five categories has the most pluses? Which has the most minuses? Are there other areas not addressed by the assessment sheet which need considering?

A careful study of the assessment sheet should indicate the areas upon which your planning needs to concentrate. Consider what resources are available for each of the five areas to assist you in your planning (e.g. the Presbyterian Hunger Program, local hunger ministries, Bread for the World, other national agencies).

Contact your Hunger Action Enabler, the Presbytery Resource Center, or the Presbyterian Hunger Program for program ideas, hunger materials and resources. Inquire especially for information on special appeals for hunger relief and "second-mile giving" projects and programs.

NOTE: This assessment sheet can be used again for purposes of evaluation. Toward the end of the year, run through the check-list again to see where progress has occurred and what needs to be worked on again next year.